

LOKSABHA DEBATES
TENTH SERIES (VOL.XXIII No. 10)

AUGUST, 10, 1993

SEVENTH SESSION



TENTH LOK SABHA

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XXIII

[Tenth Series, Seventh Session, 1993/1995 (Saka)]

No, 10

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, August 10, 1993/Sravana 19,
1915 (SAKA)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

[English]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER : Honourable Members,
I have to inform the House of the sad
demise of one of our former colleagues,
Shri Raichandbhai N. Shah.

Shri Shah was a member of First Lok
Sabha during 1952-57 representing Chhind-
wara parliamentary constituency of Madhya
Pradesh.

An industrialist and businessman by pro-
fession, Shri Shah took active part in the
independence movement. For his partici-
pation in the Civil Disobedience Movement,
he suffered imprisonment. He also partici-
pated in the 'Quit India' movement in
1942 and was detained for 14 months.

As an active political and social worker,
he held important positions in the local
bodies. He took special interest in the
development of Railways and Industries.

He passed away on 26 July, 1993 at the
age of 76 at Pandhurna, Madhya Pradesh.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend
and I am sure that the House will join me
in conveying our condolences to the be-
reaved family.

The Members may stand in silence for
a short while as a mark of respect to the
deceased.

: 1.02 hrs.

(The Members then stood in silence for a
short while)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA
(Padrauna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, A terrible
incident has taken place in the country.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We will take it up
after the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South
Delhi) : So many people have died in this
incident... (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : In Andhra Pradesh
.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We will do it after the
Question Hour.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

SEX EDUCATION

*201. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a symposium on "Adoles-
cent Education" was organised by the
National Council of Education, Research
and Training recently in New Delhi;

(b) whether the issue of introduction of
sex education was considered in this sym-
posium;

(c) if so, the views expressed by the
experts therein; and

(d) the reaction of the Government
thereto ?

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

Statement

A National Seminar on Adolescence Education was organised by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) at New Delhi on 12th and 13th April 1993, in which different aspects of the introduction of sex education into school curriculum were discussed. The major recommendations in the Seminar, *inter-alia*, were (i) introduction of suitable components of Adolescence Education into the curriculum at all stages of school education, (ii) considering the sensitivity of the subject a cautious approach should be adopted and adolescence education introduced in a 'phased manner', (iii) use of other media like electronic media to transmit necessary messages to the target groups, (iv) to launch awareness building programmes among parents, opinion-leaders, educationists and community in general, (v) to make adolescence education in a part of Population Education Programme and (vi) to include material on Adolescence Education in the pre-service and on-going in-service teacher training programmes.

2. The recommendations of the National Seminar have been accepted by the NCERT for consideration along with other academic issues of major concern, advancement in knowledge and pedagogical improvement, while modernizing the secondary education curriculum before the end of VIII Plan period.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently the National Council of Educational Research and Training has organised a Seminar and recommended for the introduction of sex education into school curriculum. The Government has accepted the recommendations for implementation during the Eighth Five Year Plan. In the light of Indian Culture and Conservative Indian Society, I would like to

tell the hon. Minister that yesterday itself, in a village in Muzaffarnagar, a lover and his beloved were beheaded on the decision given by the village Panchayat. In addition to it, AIDS is spreading in the society rapidly. Delhi alone has 10,000 HIV positive patients. In the light of all these facts I would like to say that the disease of AIDS can spread in the country like an epidemic and our country may become a second Africa. In the light of Indian Society and Culture, I would like to know whether the Government propose to create a suitable atmosphere in the country before implementing this sex education.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the anxiety expressed by the hon. Member is reasonable. There is no two opinions in this matter that special efforts should be made seriously for creating suitable atmosphere in Indian Society and every care should be taken to keep the other subjects separate from this subject so that these subjects may not intermingle. In view of all these things a seminar was organised to review the matter. NCERT will make efficient and serious efforts to include the suggestions made in the seminar into the school curriculum.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the word sex has become somewhat intolerable in our society due to our social values. If we want to adopt Froyad's views, we should make such amendments in it as these views may suit to our culture as well as our civilization. I, therefore, would like to say that sex has a vital role in our life. (Interruptions) Then all these things can be proved. I would like to say that God is in every man and woman and the soul exists in everyone and the soul attracts the soul and this is the attraction of souls and this is the way of life. This all should be transformed in such a way as it should become moral and religious education. In the ancient age too we had a subject 'Kok Shastra' to be taught in India but its teachers were 'Rishis'—the highly learned persons, so it should be taught by learned people only. (Interruptions) I would like to know whether the teachers will be given the training first to impart this education. The

second thing is that through this education we can save the youths from the diseases like AIDS but it could not be a permanent solution. It may also be possible that through this education such diseases and such problems may increase in the society. So there is a need to find out the treatment of such diseases.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now please, you have to stop it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will you make arrangements for imparting moral education through religious preaching ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Respected Mr. Speaker, Sir, neither I could reach up to the literary level of the hon. Member nor to his knowledge on the subject. In the reply of this question I would like to tell the measures to be taken on this issue. The issue has been discussed in detail and some suggestions have been received as to how this subject should be added in the curriculum. For the effective implementation of these suggestions it will be necessary to provide training for teachers for enabling them to impart this education.

[English]

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : I would like to know very specifically from the hon. Minister whether the Government shares the views of some experts that in countries where sex education has been imparted, there the population rate of increase has gone down.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : The fact is that in this country the reference to this subject has come up through the population control process. There are already many areas in which the population factor is in the curriculum even today in many of the text books. Therefore, what the hon. Member says is entirely correct. Ultimately this proper education will help in controlling population also.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is contemplating to remove all obscenities from the literature, like novels and cinema songs because

various songs have been written and are being sung like, "Choli ke peeche kya hai" and so on. I want to know whether the Government is contemplating to remove all these obscenities from the lifestyles of the people or whether such type of things will be allowed in the curriculum of the students.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Obscene texts are not something in which we are directly involved and there is a law and there are ways in which it has been interpreted. I do not want to say anything. But as far as the educational aspect is concerned, we will certainly try to see that nothing obscene creeps in through the texts.

[Translation]

MODERN IRRIGATION TECHNIQUE

*202. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether agricultural experts have evolved a modern technique of irrigation in view of the shortage of water;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the application of said technique;

(c) whether the new technique shall be cost effective; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make it cost effective so that small and marginal farmers can use it ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. A new technique of irrigation called Drip Irrigation Method has been evolved by Agricultural experts.

(b) The drip method of irrigation involves frequent slow application of water at low pressure through a net-work of pipelines. Water is released near the plant base with the help of emitters or drippers.

This system enables water application precisely and directly to the rootzone maintaining an optimal moisture condition. The system has emerged as an efficient water saving and production augmenting technique for wide-spaced orchard crops as well as vegetable and cash crops.

(c) The drip irrigation system involves a high initial cost for its installation. However, it is promising in water-scarce regions for cultivation of widely spaced high-value horticultural and other cash crops.

(d) The State and the Central Government are providing subsidy to small land marginal farmers for purchase of the drip irrigation units. Adequate Central grants have been earmarked for this purpose during the 8th Five Year Plan.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) : Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has stated about the Drip Irrigation System, but it is not a new technique in agriculture. I would like to know about the suggestions made by the Israeli delegation which has recently visited India regarding the utilisation of water resources and action being taken by the Government in this matter.

[*English*]

SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR : An agricultural delegation from India had visited Israel. The hon. Minister of Agriculture has also visited Israel and an agricultural cooperation programme is also proposed to be signed. Various breakthroughs made in agriculture in Israel are well-known. Many suggestions have been made as a result of the exchange of information. These are under consideration.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister has told just now that the delegation has made many suggestions. I would like to know whether any suggestion has been made for Rajasthan also and the cost of installing a Drip Irrigation Plant because there is no information about it in the papers laid on the Table. Will the Central or the State Government also provide assistance to small and marginal farmers for installing these plants.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Agriculture Shri Balram Jakhar belongs to Rajasthan. He knows about the scarcity of drinking water there. In my region Bharatpur and Alwar there is no water for irrigation. Due to construction of Pasana Dam the water flowing towards Bharatpur has been stopped, and the people of the region are facing heavy shortage of water there. Farmers do not have water for irrigation even then the Government is collecting revenue from them.

I would like to know the number of Drip Irrigation plants to be installed in Rajasthan and especially the number of units to be installed in district Bharatpur.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question raised by the hon. Member relates to the entire draft of the plan for future and there are so many steps to be taken in this regard. As she has told that it is an old method but it is not common in our country. Drip irrigation and sprinkler system both are profitable. I will tell about their costs. These systems will play important role in future. For Rajasthan it is a must because the level of water is going down there due to shortage of rain. Shortage of rainfall and low recharge of water level is taking place due to ecological imbalances. Water-shed programme and water conservation programme can be beneficial in this regard. We are also trying to find out as to how we can maximum utilise the water available with us and how we can recharge the ground water level and save the available water. Our department and farmers of the country would like to know as to how the agricultural production can be increased and maximum use can be taken from irrigation facilities. Without irrigation, there is no use to work hard. Dry-land farming and such seeds are being developed as will demand less irrigation. But even then water will be required, so we should make maximum utilisation of the available water, Drip Irrigation is one of the methods. (*Interruptions*) In respect of fruit production, Drip Irrigation can be sufficient for four acres to seven acres of land and in respect of sugarcane and vegetables the double area of land can be irrigated. It

will cost fifteen to fifty thousand rupees per hectare, for which fifty per cent subsidy is given by the Ministry, small and medium farmers are also given subsidy by the Rural Development Department and fifty per cent subsidy is also given for SCs and STs. I would like to say that maximum number of persons should be benefited by this scheme. At present 55 thousand hectare area was irrigated by it, this year we have made provision for Rs. 200 crores. Earlier it was proposed that the subsidy would be given to the farmers having four acres of land. But now we propose that maximum number of farmers should be brought under this scheme. I think that all these limits should be removed. For saving water I would like to provide assistance to everyone who is interested in it. This will reduce the expenditure on fertilizer and increase the production. At present Sprinkler Irrigation is much more prevalent in Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

[Translation]

If publicity is given to 'drip irrigation' it can be more beneficial to the farmers. Besides it, we can do better with Milching, Plastic culture and Green House too. I intend to bring new changes in the field of agriculture and want the farmers to adopt them and for this purpose they will be given assistance as much as we can.

We are making demonstrations about drip irrigation system, so that the farmers may be benefited by adopting it and it will ultimately benefit the nation because we may be able to make the stock of food grains for future also and it will also put an end to the disputes prevailing over the river water among the States and they can make proper use of the water. The misuse of water spoils the fertility of land. I will change the entire scene and it will give a new dimension to the nation.

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the farmers do not get adequate water for agriculture then how they are given the subsidy.

MR. SPEAKER : He has just now told about it.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we agree fully with the views expressed by the hon. Minister for Agriculture. At present, 50 per cent subsidy is being given to small and marginal farmers. In view of the national importance involved in extending the irrigation facility to more areas through drip irrigation system, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will give at least 25 per cent subsidy to other category of farmers so that they can take up farming in a large way. By doing this, you are not only helping the farmers but the nation as a whole.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Sir, I have already replied that I am going to remove all these restrictions. I am going to give all facilities to all farmers.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Thank you very much.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir the hon. Member had asked whether in view of the water shortage the Agricultural Experts have developed a technology of modern irrigation? You have told that sprinkler and drip-irrigation system can be useful for small farmers. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh are larger States where agriculture is also taken up on large scale. There is a great scarcity of water in these states as the canals get dried up and tubewells do not run due to power shortage. In these circumstances I would like to know whether the Agriculture Ministry is working on some plan to meet out the water scarcity because this is the only way to make available water to the farmers and thus saving their crops.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : This is all the same. It is not only meant for fruits or vegetables it can also be used for cotton, sugarcane and maize in every region. That is why I have told you that it may cost from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 50,000 but it only requires one time investment and it may benefit the farmers for years. I am trying to make arrangements for this money as this is in the interest of the farmers and the country as well.

FORTS IN GUJARAT

*203. SHRI RATILAL VERMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the forts in Gujarat under the Archaeological Survey of India;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat has sought permission to provide various facilities at these forts to promote tourism;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

[*English*]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) In Gujarat Sate the Fort at Pawagarh (Champaner) District Panchmahal and Garhi at Old Dhinki (District Jamnagar) are protected by Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) to (d) The State Government had approached the Archaeological Survey of India in 1987 for grant of permission to flood light the fort at Pawagarh including monuments located therein. The proposal was under consideration for sometime. After detailed examination of the proposal, it was finally agreed to.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RATI LAL VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has mentioned about only two forts one at Pawagarh in district Panchmahal and another Dhinki Fort in district Jamnagar which are under the protection of Government of India. I would like to say that very few forts have been protected by the Government of India. I feel that the Government of India is unaware about the rest of the forts in Gujarat. The forts at Ahmedabad, Pawagarh, Patan Motera, Lokham, Porbander, Shivnath, Kutch, Kari Mehrana, Sidhpeta, Dwarka, Paliwana, Shampani Balam and Daket are very important from the archaeological and tourism points of view. But the Government is not pay any attention towards these historical forts, so the condition of these forts are getting deteriorated day by

day. I would like to know whether the Government of India propose to adopt these forts under the Archaeological Department ?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) . Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question does not arise to neglect any area I have only mentioned about the present state. In view of the provisions and limitation of the jurisdiction of the Archaeological Survey of India, we can take the old forts under our protection. The evaluation of these provisions is done on a regular basis. The same process will be adopted in Gujarat too but I am unable to say whether these forts will be taken up by the A.S.I.

SHRI RATI LAL VERMA : Many of the forts there are being damaged by some people to fulfil their vested interests. By and by they are damaging these forts. Bihangaon and Chhalka forts in Ahmedabad are an example of it. Its walls may fall at anytime and cause death of many people. People are damaging these forts in order to construct their Houses. Will you give any instructions to the State Government to take some action in this respect ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : I will certainly draw the attention of the State Government towards this.

MR. SPEAKER : Lankesh :

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : He has written it in his letter also.

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI : As you have addressed me as Lankesh, so in the same context, I would like to tell you that there was also a fort in Lanka. When you go through the history you will come to know that there was a fort for the security of the entire city. Today, there is a security ring around every V.I.P. The forts of yester years are taking the shape of tourist places. Does the Government propose to rebuild these forts so that these forts may take the form of strong security centre instead of converting them into a mere tourist centres ?

*[English]**Statement*

MR. SPEAKER : It is for the Defence Ministry to reply.

(a) Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not an easy job to reply the questions asked by Lankesh.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Arjun of Mahabharat can answer him.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : I want to say this much that these forts are the heritage of our country. They may be small or big, weak or strong but their background is the part and parcel of our national legacy. We should try to protect them. Now the question is this whether efforts are made to save and protect all of them or not, I have only apprised you with the present situation.

So far as the question of security in present times is concerned, I feel that modern security measures are much different than the ancient ones and therefore it will not be practical to think on this line in respect of these forts.

[English]

IMPORT OF LOCOMOTIVES

*204. **SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :**

SHRI BOLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finally decided to import 3 Phase AC 6000 HP Locomotives from M/s ABB Switzerland;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement and the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to import High Power Locomotives from other multinational companies also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) to (d) A *statement* is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Contracts for supply of 30 Nos. 6000 HP 25 KV AC 3-Phase Electric Locomotives alongwith associated spares in the form of three loco sets and transfer of technology at a total FOB cost of Swiss Francs 169,689,970 and Detsche Marks 139,140,250 have been concluded. The transfer of technology envisages indigenous manufacture of 3-Phase Electric Locomotive at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works of Indian Railways. The main reasons for entering into contracts for supply of 6000 HP 3-Phase Electric Locomotives and technology transfer are the superiority in technological features with consequent benefits of lower energy consumption, minimum maintenance cost and higher reliability etc. This will enable the Railways to upgrade the loco fleet and meet the increasing traffic requirements on electrified routes.

(c) & (d) No, Sir. However, a proposal for bridging the gap between total requirement and availability of locomotives through hire purchase system is in the conceptual stage.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Sir, regarding the purchase of 3-phase AC locomotives from ABB, a lot of discussion took place in the other House and outside also. Here the Railway Convention Committee clearly gave a report to Parliament and in it so many things were objected from the Department's point of view. The main thing is that the locomotives that are being made in India by BHEL or CLW with Thyristor technology are better. They are better cost-wise also. If we see the costs, the ones that are made in India by BHEL or CLW are available for Rs. 3 crore or Rs. 4 crore whereas the 3-phase AC locomotive being purchased from Swiss firm ABB is costing about Rs. 45 crore. Regarding speed and other technical advantages also, the locomotives that are being made in India are good. They are very good for the Indian conditions when compared to other locomotives. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry has taken a wrong view in purchasing these locomotives from ABB, the Swiss company.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : Sir, the subject of this 3-phase 6,000 HP locomotive—as the hon. Member rightly observed—has been debated in the other House and outside also. The basic question is it is not that this Government has suddenly taken a decision on this. This was some time in 1986 when the decision was conceived. At that point of time also the same question was in the minds of everybody. The need for adoption of this new technology was gone into by the Planning Group for Railways i.e. P.G.T.R. in 1986. After that, when the first bid was in the process, the Planning Commission interfered with that.

And it appointed another independent group to go into this question and that group also went into the question and recommended that this technology is absolutely necessary and the Railways should go in for this technology.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Which group ?

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : This is Planning Commission.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Another group comprised of whom ?

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : There are the two groups—the first group is in 1986, the other group is in 1989-90 by the Planning Commission—the Expert Group constituted by the Planning Commission and they also endorsed adoption of 3-phase technology with 6000 HP rating on the basis of operational as well as techno-economic consideration.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Who are the Members of that ?

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Please just allow me to speak.

Sir, after that, the whole doubt that was created was about the other competitor as the hon. Member rightly observed, the BHEL with Hitachi, who put its claim that they also deserve it. Sir, I have explained this in detail several times individually and collectively in both the Houses,

through the media everywhere. Sir, when this claim came, the question was the funding agency, the Asian Development Bank advised the Railways to satisfy itself whether the BHEL would be able to keep the 20 per cent value addition in India for manufacturing domestic components for which the BHEL did not give any satisfactory answer. Sir, this aspect was very clearly ... (*Interruptions*). You will not allow me to answer. You can put several questions. Please allow me to tell first. Then you have the right to put the questions.

Sir, this aspect was very clearly answered by the Railway Convention Committee. The BHEL has felt that the basic controversy arose only on that; that was very clearly demolished by the Railway Convention Committee itself and thereafter, the Railway Convention Committee left the option to the Railway Ministry whether to go in for it or not. But when the decision was left to the Railway Ministry and the Railway Ministry had in fact decided based on the tender process—there are two aspects of the tender agreement. One is technical bid and the other is the commercial bid. When on both counts the ABB stood the test of the time and it won the contract, so the Railways opted that and it gave a letter of acceptance...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Did it go to the Cabinet Sub Committee ?

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Later on. (*Interruptions*). Perhaps this one purchase of electric locomotives never in the past has been scrutinised so much as any other thing that might have been scrutinised at all levels and I welcome this scrutiny by the Parliamentary Committee, by the Group of Ministers, by anybody who matters...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Don't go out of your way to support a wrong thing. You had to do this, we know. Don't go so far, don't support so much.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : What can I do, Sir ? (*Interruptions*). Sir, I have to work under his guidance, he is the convenor of that Committee. Please bear with me.

[Translation]

DR. G. L. KAHANJIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, The Hon. Member is wasting the question hour time by not replying directly. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Should I reply the question put by him or not... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Sir, this is very unfair. *(Interruptions)* Please bear with me. Sir, I would appeal to the House, through you, that since there has been some controversy on this issue, I want to clear all the doubts that are in the minds of the people of this country and I would like to say that we have adopted this technology in the best interests of the railway system. This is one of the topmost technologies which are available in the world as a whole. I would like to assure the hon. Member that there is nothing to which one can find fault with this technology. This is an excellent technology which is acknowledged the world over.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Sir, I do not agree with the hon. Minister has said. The Committee had recommended against this deal on page 90 of its report. There are so many recommendations and they are all against this deal. The Railway Convention Committee specifically said that the giving of advance letter of acceptance to the ABB on 18-3-1992 is not correct, when there is so much of controversy in the Railway Board itself. The Railway Board had negatived it, successively two Chairmen of the Railway Board have deferred it, the Committee Members have deferred it and according to the information technically and costwise also, the Department had negatived it. First it was thought that the Ministry took a decision, but later on it was known that the Cabinet Sub-Committee took a decision. Afterwards, an impression was given that the Prime Minister's Office was also involved in this matter.

Sir, we all know very well that Mr. Krishnamurthy, the then Member of the Planning Commission who is now involved in the scam, is involved in this matter.

He is responsible for holding a meeting with the ABB Company of Sweden. His company has got links with the ABB Company of Sweden. Ultimately, the direction had come from the Prime Minister's Office and then the final decision was taken. So, is it not true that all the recommendations were bulldozed by the Government and then the decision was taken by the Government against the will of the nation?

MR. SPEAKER : The simple question is, was it bulldozed?

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Sir, if one goes on attaching motives to everything, there is no end to it and I am not afraid of that. As long as we take a conscious decision seeing what is good for the country, what is good for the system and what is in the best economic interests of our country, I do not think that one should worry about it. As I have said already, the Railway Convention Committee has gone into all the details. I do agree with what the hon. Member has said. There are certain contradictions among the Railway Board Members. My predecessor Mr. George Fernandes is sitting here and there are other people who know about the Railways well. In the Railways, there is departmentalism. There is some section which represents the road lobby also. The Minister's job is not to succumb to any lobby. His job is to look to the larger interests of the country and see what is good for the country, what is good for the system and on the merits of the system we have taken a decision.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my basic doubt on this is, we have already manufactured 4,000 HP engine in this country and even with this engine, with the present speed and capacity, we are having frequent derailments and so many other accidents. So, is it necessary to go in for 6,000 HP engine? Is it mainly for increasing the speed?

What for, are we going for higher horse power engine? Even if that is the case, I have two problems. One is, whether the BHEL with Japanese collaboration of Itachi has preference over other things which have been finalised at the cheapest

price. How are the spare parts going to be costly?

MR. SPEAKER : If there are so many supplementaries, then none of them could be replied.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Is it not possible to reduce to smaller size, in view of the high cost?

If he is able to explain this, we shall be very happy.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Again I would like to appeal to the hon. Members of this House. When they do go and travel by Railways, instead of going at the last minute and getting into the compartment, you see the entire train. I am saying this so that the Members could respond. Today's capacity of our engine is 3,900 H.P. and also 5,000 H.P. engine which we have recently manufactured. We are double heading the trains. In certain gradients, when we have to carry trains with heavy goods for hauling, we club two engines together. It is here I may take liberty, with your kind permission to inform the House that the other day I was in Japan. I went in the locomotive which ran so fast, 300 kms. an hour. When I asked them why are you doing this, they said: We require this speed to gain more line capacity. Here, every hon. Member is so keen about the development of his constituency, his State where there are no railway lines. If we cannot try to build up the line capacity which is already available and think of the areas where there are no railway lines, how can we go? For that more and more modern technology which is available in the world should be acceptable to us.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : The track conditions should be improved before going for higher speed.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : All the experts who have chosen this technology, who have recommended this technology have gone into all the aspects. Since this technology is very suitable to our conditions, we have gone to this.

SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : I would like to know through you from the hon. Minister whether for optimisation,

the efficiency of this engine, a change in the present system such as railway track etc., is also required. If so, what is going to be the cost and the time-frame contemplated by the hon. Minister to do this change, especially by using locally available infrastructure?

MR. SPEAKER : The scope is getting very much wider. If the Minister is in a position to reply, I have no objection.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Modernisation and upgradation is a continuous process. Today already we have standardised our track to the Rajdhani speed. Earlier, we were having it to Calcutta and Bombay. Now, we have introduced it to the extreme South. It may go right up to Kerala. Also it is going to Bangalore and Madras. We are also introducing it to Guwahati. We are taking it to Patna. Similarly we are trying to connect the other State capitals of the country.

This technology absolutely suits to the standard of track that we are presently having. All the parameters have been taken into consideration before opting this technology.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : I was shocked over the confession by the Minister that there is a Transport lobby in his Ministry. He is still confirming it. It is a point to be noted as to how it is possible. The hon. Minister also mentioned that the trains in Japan run at a speed of 300 kilometers per hour, and there are unmanned railway crossings in our country. The reason behind the recommendations made by the Railway Convention Committee to reconsider it was that the Committee could not as to cancel it. So it asked to reconsider it as we do not have engines running with such a high speed. I want to know about the main reason due to which the hon. Minister did not accede to the recommendations made by the Railway Convention Committee.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has replied about the technology.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The hon. Minister has not replied.

MR. SPEAKER : It is written in the reply itself. If you want to repeat, you can.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : All that I have to say is, as rightly pointed out by the Hon. Speaker, it is not really the Railway Convention Committee. What is basically important is the technical experts in the field. Not one Committee but two Committees were appointed, not by the Railway, but by the Planning Commission who have gone into this question. When they have accepted, what more can we think of? The Railway Convention Committee went into other aspects of it which were not so important in the larger interests of the country and the railway system. Since technology is very important and we had already given the acceptance letter, it was not possible for the Government to go back on its commitment. So, we went ahead.

[Translation]

SUPPORT PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

*206. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

SHRIMATI SHEELA
GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently increased the minimum support

prices of different agricultural commodities including commercial crops, oilseeds and pulses ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the price of each item prior to the price revision; and

(d) the factors taken into consideration while making revision in the support prices ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (d) The Government have announced substantial increase in the Minimum Support Prices of different crops for 1993-94 kharif season. These increases range from Rs. 20 per quintal in case of coarse cereals to Rs. 100 per quintal in case of cotton, as compared to the prices fixed for the 1992-93 season. A Annexure providing details of the Minimum Support Prices fixed for 1992-93 and 1993-94 seasons is enclosed.

While revising the Minimum Support Prices, the factors such as cost of production, changes in input prices, input/output price parity, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, etc., are taken into consideration.

ANNEXURE

MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICES OF KHARIF CROPS, 1993-94

(Rs. per quintal)

Commodity	Variety	1992-93	1993-94	Increase in 1993-94 over 1992-93	
				Absolute	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6
Paddy	Common	270	310	40	14.8
	Fine	280	330	50	17.9
	Superfine	290	350	60	20.7
Coarse Cereals	FAQ	240	260	20	8.3
(Jowar, Bajra and Ragi)					

1	2	3	4	5	6
Maize	FAQ	245	265	20	8.2
Arhar	FAQ	640	700	60	9.4
Moong	FAQ	640	700	60	9.4
Urad	FAQ	640	700	60	9.4
Cotton	F-414/H-777	800	900	100	12.5
	H-4	950	1050	100	10.5
Groundnut-in-sheel . . .	FAQ	750	800	50	6.7
Sunflower seed	FAQ	800	850	50	6.3
Soyabean	Black	475	525	50	10.5
	Yellow	525	580	55	10.5
Jute	TD-5	400	450	50	12.5

FAQ—Fair Average Quality.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Whether the interests of small and marginal farmers are taken into consideration while revising the minimum support prices? If so, whether there is a lot of difference between input/output prices? If so, the steps taken by the Government to remove middlemen to avoid this difference.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : It is correct that the Agriculture Prices Commission consider the interests of small and marginal farmers while deciding the support prices. As the Hon. Member has referred to the issue of middlemen, I would like to say that the State Government always try that small and marginal farmers may get remunerative price.

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : I have asked as to what steps are being taken to remove middlemen. He is talking of the State Governments.

The Agriculture Minister (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : The State Governments directly make purchase of every type of foodgrains and that is why we have been able to make an adequate stock of foodgrains. This year the support price of wheat was fixed at Rs. 330/- per quintal by taking into account of all these things otherwise the price would have gone down and the farmers would have suffered loss.

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Had the Agricultural Cost and Price Commission

recommended the support price of wheat at Rs. 305 per quintal but the Government has fixed it at Rs. 330 per quintal including Bonus. But the support prices of other commodities are much less than prices recommended by the Commission. In the circumstances, I would like to know whether the Government propose to increase the support prices of these commodities as per the recommendation of the Commission.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to state that the hon. Member has not read that the prices have been fixed more than the prices recommended by the Commission. We have paid much more and the price is the highest price ever paid to them.

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Though you have given yet it has not reached to them, the middlemen have swallowed that amount in between.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : That is why all the powers for making purchases have been entrusted to the given State Agencies and if there are some middlemen, it is our joint responsibility to protect the interests of the farmers.

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Mr. Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit to the Minister that the prices fixed at the time of crops has increased a lot. There is a sharp fall in the production of pulses and oilseeds and its reason is non-availability of remunerative prices by

the farmers of their produce. Pulse is such a thing as has a great importance for vegetarians. Pulses are a big necessity for poor people when they don't get vegetables at the time of flood. I would like to know whether the Government propose to provide some relief to the farmers in case they don't get remunerative prices for their produce in view of the increased support price of pulses and bilseeds.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : I think the hon. Member, has not gone through the entire situation. If she would have seen it, she should have come to know that we have increase the support price by Rs. 60/- such a heavy increase has never been made in past. Nobody has thought that the interests of the farmers should be safeguarded.

[English]

SHRI P. C. THOMAS : Sir, he has mentioned about the Agricultural Prices Commission. It is unfortunate that many crops which are yielding foreign exchange do not come under the purview of the Agricultural Prices Commission. There are many cases. For example, I can quote the case of cocoa. Cocoa is one commodity which was sold at the price of Rs. 24 per kg. But the price has gone down and it has now reached the lowest point. It has come to Rs. 9 per kg. The farmers are not able to cope with that. I would, therefore, plead with the Government that the Government should take immediate steps in this regard. I pray and beseech the Government to state what could be done in this respect.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : The necessity of those things has to be looked into. But still the Agriculture Department has taken steps for market intervention in respect of so many other cash crops just like chillies, pepper, cardamom etc. We will like to safeguard the interests of farmers who produce cocoa and cocoa-nut also. But these are the things which are out of the purview of the Agricultural Prices Commission. We will try to safeguard the interests of farmers there also.

SHRI LOKNATH CHOUDHURY : Sir, There is no doubt that the Government has substantially increased the prices and

the prices are remunerative in many cases. For that, we welcome the efforts of the Government. At the same time, I want to know whether the Government is aware of the fact that the price that is fixed is not reaching the marginal and the poor farmers. They are first to come to the market and sell their produce for their daily necessity. The other issue is that the price which the Government has fixed is not reaching the poor and the marginal farmers because they have no bargaining power. In that case, I would like to know what mechanism the Government is thinking to make so that the increased food price that the Government has declared - which we welcome - reaches the poor and the marginal farmers.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : This is a most important question. We have been trying to deal with the question on a war-footing. I have been warning all the State Governments, the FCI as well as the Ministry also to take immediate steps to see that no distress sale is effected because this is something which is against the interests of the farmers. I would request all the hon. Members plus the State Governments as also the State legislatures to look into this aspect because this is a cumulative effort. We have to safeguard the interests of the farmers. It is the cumulative effort which can save the farmers from that.

[Translation]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Government has increased the support price and the Minister claims that he has increased the prices to a great extent. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the increase support price is more or less than the prices of finished goods because the prices of finished goods have gone up manifold in comparison to the prices of agricultural produce.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Mr. Speaker Sir, every thing is taken into account. There is also a check on the prices of finished goods being manufactured in the factories, so that the prices of agricultural produce and finished goods. I will not leave Mill products. In comparison to this may have relevancy to some extent. I will have a check on

the prices of goods being manufactured in the factories. Comparatively, the capital formation has also registered a heavy shortfall. It will be rectified. Its index is also very high. But our efforts are to equalize these ratios to a certain extent.

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is being said repeatedly that the prices of farmers produce have just been increased by the Government. The prices of the farmers produce have been increase one fold, two fold or three fold which the pices of finished goods have increased in Geometric progression. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he proposes to help farmers too in view of the increased ratio of prices of fertilizers.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That was exactly the question answered.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Mr. Speaker Sir, even in the last year the condition of farmers was not improved. The prices of finish goods are fixed on the basis of the cost of production, while the prices of goodgrains are fixed without considering the cost of sowing etc. What-even the prices are fixed are not helpful in improving the condition of farmers. Does the Government propose to fix the support prices taking into account the cost of production including the rate of wages paid to the labourers, consumption of fertilizers etc. So that the condition of the farmers may improve.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Mr. Speaker Sir, if the hon. Member would have made an enquiry about these things, he would have come to know that all the factors including cost of production etc. are taken into account and then the prices are fixed . . . (Interruptions) nothing has been left which has not been taken into account. If you are not a farmer then what can I do. If you were a farmer you would have known about that . . . (Interruptions) Should I read. I can give you all the account.

[English]

A to Z. Little knowledge is a very dangerous thing . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You can give it to him . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : About paddy, the hon. Minister has given to the frames common, fine and superfine varieties. You have only three varieties regarding cotton. But nothing has been mentioned about the superfine, extra-line varieties which are produced in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. There are high fluctuations in the cotton prices. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has fixed any price for the extra superfine cotton variety. Nothing has been mentioned in the answer. And how much has been the increase in the price from 1992-93 to 1993-94 ?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : We have just given the distinction between the medium staple and superfine variety. Rs. 100 per quintal has been raised for both these varieties this year. (Interruptions)

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : It is only the medium variety. But only Southern States are producing the superfine variety. (Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : That is determined according to the price situation in the market.

[Translation]

SHRI RUDARSEN CHAUDHARY : Mr. Speaker. Sir, while fixing the support price of pulses and oilseeds, particularly the nature of these crops are not taken into account. This crop is a very sensitive against the natural calamities like fog, bacteria and insects. These diseases do not spare even the stem of these crops; what to talk of corn. I would like to know from the hon. Minister while fixing the support prices of these crops, is their sensitivity taken into account? And if not the reasons therefore, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that he should take all these things into account while fixing

the prices of oil and oilseeds... (Interruptions)..... Will you please announce an increase in their prices?

MR. SPEAKER : You see, the time is running short.

[English]

MR. Minister, I think that is being done.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Whatever the Commission has recommended, we have already given more and not less than the prices recommended by the Commission.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

STEEL PLANTS

*181. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a persistent demand for setting up of iron and steel plants in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The Central Government has no proposal to put up a new iron or steel plant in the public sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan. However, with the New Industrial Policy announcement in July, 1991, the iron and steel industry has been removed from the list of industries reserved for the public sector and also exempted from the provisions of compulsory licensing under the Industries (D&R) Act, 1951 subject to certain locational restrictions. Entrepreneurs are now free to take their own decisions regarding capacity, location, technology, etc. They are only required to file Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum (IEM) with Government indicating basic details of the proposed project. A large

number of IEMs have been filed by entrepreneurs for iron and steel projects in various States including Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

[English]

TELECOM FACILITIES IN NORTH-EAST REGION

*182. SHRI LAETA UMREY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any special thrust has been given to improve telecommunication services in the communicationally backward North East region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) North-East Region mainly comprising of sensitive border areas and Tribal and Hilly areas is being treated as special focus area for providing the telecom facilities on priority basis during the 8th Plan period (1992—97). A statement giving the details of the special thrust given to improve telecommunication services in N.E. Region is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Question does not arise.

Statement

For all round and faster development and improvement of Telecom Services in the North Eastern Region the development of Telecommunications had set up High Power Focus Committee the report of which has already been accepted by the Telecom. Commission. Many of the accepted recommendations of the Focus Committee have already been implemented and the other recommendations are under implementation and planned to be implemented during the 8th Plan Period. The 8th Plan envisages :

- Provide telephones particularly on demand in rural and tribal areas
- Waiting period for telephone connections not to exceed two years
- Provide phone facility in all Gram Panchayats by 1-4-1995, some more villages to have LDPTs by 1-4-1997.

- Public call offices for every 100 households in urban areas
- Highway telephones on national highways
- Replacement of life expired and worn out equipment by electronic equipment
- Practically all new equipment proposed for induction during the 8th Plan period to be of digital type
- Replacement of all strowger MAX.III exchanges by electronic exchanges (as part of the programme to provide national subscriber dialing to all exchanges).
- Provision of Subscriber Trunk Dialing facility to all exchanges.

To achieve the above objectives addition of around 74500 lines of Switching Capacity (with replacement around 27800 lines mostly by Electronic Equipments) in Assam Telecom Circle and addition of around 31600 lines of Switching Capacity (with replacement around 15400 lines mostly by Electronic Equipments) in North East Telecom. Circle during the 8th Plan period have been proposed.

With the concerted efforts of the N.E. Task Force and the Territorial Circles of Assam and North East the department has been able to achieve the following in the modernisation and development of Telecommunication in the North East Region :

(i) *Automatisation of Telephone Exchanges :*

Full automatisation of telephone exchanges in the region has already been achieved during 1991-92 against the department's target of March, 1994.

(ii) *Conversion of Electronic Exchanges :*

The percentage of Electronic Switching capacity achieved in the region as on 31-3-92 was 66.6% had risen to 87% as on 31-3-94 against the national average of around 60%. The present percentage as on 30th June, 1993 is about 89%.

(iii) *STD Facility :*

All the district headquarters in the region have been provided with NSD/ISD

facility as on 1-4-92. Out of 163 Sub-divisional Headquarters in the region 83 nos. has already been provided STD facility as on 30th June, 1993. The remaining are planned to be covered with STD/Goup Dialing Facility during the 8th Plan.

(iv) *Trunk Switching :*

Digital Trunk Automatic Exchanges have been commissioned at Guwahati, Jorhat, Shillong and Imphal. This has resulted in substantial improvement in access of the North East Region to the National Trunk Network. Another digital trunk automatic exchange at Guwahati is under installation and is likely to be commissioned soon. This will further improve the Telecom. Services.

(v) *Long Distance Transmission Media :*

Reliable Long Distance Transmission Media viz. Microwave, UHF, Satellite have been provided extensively and plans have been drawn up for induction of more such systems and also Fibre Optic Systems in the Region.

[Translation]

POWER GRID FAILURE

*183 SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA :

DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have set up any inquiry committee to investigate the failure of the power supply system in the Northern region on June 7, 1993;

(b) whether the said committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether the Government propose to import some power equipment to provide Delhi a protective power shield against such power grid failure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the other steps taken to avoid recurrence of such failures?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE) :

Statement

(a) to (c) Government appointed a committee consisting of S/Shri V. B. Eswaran and A. K. Shah to look into the causes of the grid disturbance in the Northern Region on the night of 6th/7th June, 1993 and to suggest remedial measures. The Committee submitted an interim report on 19th July, 1993. According to the interim report of the Committee, was fault initiated either at the 400 KV switchyard of the Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station or on the 400 KV Singrauli-Kanpur Transmission Line. The bus bar protection at Singrauli Switchyard also failed to operate which caused the tripping of all the generating units at Singrauli and Rihand Super Thermal Power Stations leading to the grid failure.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal of importing any power equipment to provide a protective power shield for Delhi against such grid failure. However, various steps taken to avoid grid failure include adherence to grid discipline by the constituents to match the load with the available generation, timely implementation of transmission system elements, installation of shunt capacitors, maintenance and upkeep of electrical equipment and protective relay systems, augmentation of load despatch and communication facilities and appropriate technical measures to localise the fault such as islanding schemes, automatic under frequency load shedding to arrest fast decay of frequency, installation of static var compensator and power system stabilisers to arrest voltage decay.

**FILM AND TELEVISION INSTITUTE
OF INDIA**

*184. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the main recommendations of the Khosla Committee and the Satish Chandra Committee on the working of Film and Television Institute of India;

(b) the details of the recommendations, out of them accepted by the Government

(c) the recommendations which have not been accepted by the Government; and

(d) by when the recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c) The Khosla Committee and the Satish Chandra Committee had made a number of recommendations on the working of Film & Television Institute of India, Pune. The main recommendations along with the action taken report in respect of Khosla Committee are indicated in Statement I, while those of the Satish Chandra Committee are given in Statement II.

(d) Majority of the recommendations of the above committees have already been accepted and implemented. Implementation of the remaining recommendations like statutory status to the Institute, revision of pay scales of faculties etc. will depend upon the changing requirements from time to time and availability of financial resources.

Statement I

**MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
KHOSLA COMMITTEE REPORT**

Sl. No.

1. Recommendation

The Committee are of the view that an organisation like the Film Institute which trains young people in making good quality films cannot be relegated to the position of a mere office of a Ministry. While expressing their complete agreement with the observation of the Estimates Committee (1967-68) contained in their First Report (Forth Lok Sabha) they recommend that the status of the Institute be raised to that of an autonomous body, by an Act of Parliament, and in the Act, the aims and objectives of the Institute be clearly defined. They also feel that it may be desirable to link the Institute with the University Grants Commission.

Action Taken

The Institute has been converted into an autonomous body under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 on 1-10-1974.

2. Recommendation

In view of the peculiar conditions existing in this country, the Committee feel that the procedure followed by the National Film School of U.K. cannot be adopted by the Film Institute, and suggest that the Institute must evolve its own regulations for the admission of students and draw up a syllabus to suit its peculiar requirements.

Action Taken

The recommendation has since been accepted and implemented.

3. Recommendation

They suggest that an Academic Council consisting of eleven members, *viz.* the Principal, five Professors, who may be Heads of the various faculties, a student representative, and four outsiders drawn from the Industry of the creative Arts be set up. This would take care of all academic matters like fixing the syllabi for various courses arranging time tables, inviting guest lecturers and also generally supervise the theoretical and technical teaching imparted in the Institute.

Action Taken

The recommendation has since been accepted and implemented. The Academic Council is regularly functioning now.

4. Recommendation

The Committee are of the view that the Principal of the Institute should be a man who is intimately connected with the art of film making. They are inclined to believe that only such a Principal who has first hand knowledge of the film making process and can inspire the students and infuse confidence among the staff will be successful. They are also of the view that though the present scale of pay attached to the post is not adequate enough to attract the right type persons, if the recommendation regarding the status of the Institute is agreed to, here will be little difficulty in securing the services of competent teachers. The Committee also believe that in order to have a continuous inflow of fresh ideas and talent and also to introduce the latest developments in techniques, the post of the Principal should

be filled on a tenure basis *i.e.*, for a short term of three years. The Principal, the Committee suggest, should be allowed to produce films and granted leave without pay upto 3 months. The Committee, while suggesting that no person who is not a film maker should be appointed Principal, also recommend that he should be paid a salary equal to the salary which the Directors of Technological Institutes are paid together with free residential accommodation.

Action Taken

The Government has generally accepted the recommendation. However, experience has been that well known film makers do not want to be tied up with the Institute on whole time basis. It is only as a last resort that others are considered for such appointment. Director of the Institute is given attractive salary and residential accommodation and other facilities.

5. Recommendation

The Committee recommend the appointment of a Registrar to look after administrative matters. They believe it will relieve the Principal of dull chores which otherwise would only blunt the sharpness of his intellect in the matter of film making. They also recommend that the Registrar may be given the scale of pay which the Registrar in a centrally administered University is entitled to.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented. There is a regular Registrar in the Institute now.

6. Recommendation

The Committee are of the view that the teachers at the Institute should be appointed for short terms only. But considering the fact that the problem of unemployment is more acute here than in Britain where the British Film School appoints teachers for a short term of one year and the job seekers here look for a certain measure of security, they suggest that the permanent staff of the Institute should be slightly reduced to make room for short term appointments from the industry. These Lecturers, the Committee suggest,

should be paid a salary which will compensate the financial loss they may suffer during their stay at the Film & TV Institute. They also favour introduction in the Institute, of a special feature known as 'Sabbatical' which now prevails in most of the teaching institutions abroad under which the permanent teaching staff is entitled to one year's leave on full pay for every 6 years of completed service. This leave could be utilised by them for the purposes of study, travel creative work etc. and will be in addition to the ordinary leave admissible under the present rules.

Action Taken

It was not found possible to have the full complement of teachers on short term only. While the Institute has some permanent faculty, a few are appointed on contract basis or assignment basis for short duration. The system is working satisfactorily.

7. Recommendation

The Committee are of the view that the existing practice of holding the entrance examinations at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi etc. should continue and there is no need to have examination centres in all State Capitals. They recommend that all the students called for the final interview at Poona should be paid travelling expenses from the place of residence to Poona.

Action Taken

The entrance examination is held at 12 centres all over India. The students called for final test and interview are not paid any travelling expenses.

8. Recommendation

The Committee feel that there is no need to have a separate course for screenplay Writing and therefore, suggest amalgamation of the Screenplay Writing course with the Film Direction course. The Committee also suggest that for first two terms, all students should follow all the courses with special emphasis on the particular course chosen by them. They further suggest that guest lecturers on the creative arts and cultural subjects should receive

greater emphasis. The students should also receive elementary training in history, art, archaeology, music dance, literature and traditional and modern trends in Indian culture.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

9. Recommendation

There has been a complaint that the students are exposed too much to foreign films and they are not aware of the Indian realities. The Committee do not consider it necessary to suggest a decrease in the showing of foreign films but recommend that the students should be shown more Indian films.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

10. Recommendation

The Committee suggest that the fees for setting question papers and examining answer books should be revised and be brought in conformity with the practice prevailing in the Universities and other technological institutes. They recommend that a fee of Rs. 75/- should be paid for setting papers, both for internal as well as external examiners and the examiner for the viva-voce test should be paid Rs. 75/- per sitting.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented. The fees for setting question papers and for examining answer books is being revised periodically.

11. Recommendation

As regards lodging facilities for girls, the Committee are inclined to believe that the problem will be solved with the completion of the construction of the girls hostel, which is now under construction.

Action Taken

The recommendations has since been implemented.

12. Recommendation

The Committee feel that the question whether messing in the hostel should be compulsory or optional should be considered by the Consultative Committee which would also frame the rules. They also suggest that the warden should stay in the hostel, so that he can effectively supervise the arrangements made in the hostel.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

13. Recommendation

The Committee point out that there is a cogent need for reorganising pay scales of the teaching staff in conformity with the salaries of similar staff in technological institutes and universities. They suggest that the teachers should be allowed to make films or work in the Industry during the vacation period, even taking leave permissible under the rules and also availing of the system of 'Sabbaticals' so that they will be in touch with the latest trends in films making.

Action Taken

Revision of pay scale of the faculty members of the Institute is receiving the attention of the Government. Sabbatical leave for the teachers has since been approved and some have already availed this facility.

Statement II

Main recommendations of the Satish Chandra Committee

S. No.

1. Recommendation

The new Dean's foremost task is to ensure cohesive working of various departments for the integrated course and to start advance planning and planned execution of production programmes.

Action Taken

This recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

2. Recommendation

But the students should not expect to be spoonfed in implementation of their

production programmes. They should be taught to operate under difficult conditions demanding creativity, improvisation, flexibility and adaptability. These should be in the nature of commando exercises in which students will have to work as highly disciplined team bonding for themselves. The student will work with his hands, rely on his own efforts and grapple with all the problems attendant on film making at the basic, practical, realistic level.

Action Taken

This recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

3. Recommendation

A full length feature film under a gifted film maker should form an essential part of the training. In this both staff and students should be involved.

Action Taken

This recommendation could not be accepted due to practical difficulties particularly the different locations/dates, etc. of feature film making. However, adequate practical training is imparted in the Institute as part of the training.

4. Recommendation

The film as a medium of personal expression should be permitted only after the student has, in the earlier years, gone through the groundwork proposed in the earlier paragraphs.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented. Diploma film is made by students at the end of the course only.

5. Recommendation

After completing his course every student should acquire practical experience in his area of specialisation with an approved film company. This should be for a minimum 30 days' duration, either in one stretch or in two periods of 15 days each. Only after doing this field work to the satisfaction of the professional expert to whom he is assigned, should the student be awarded his diploma.

Action Taken

This recommendation could not be accepted and implemented. The professional experts and film companies do not extend such cooperation on a regular and permanent basis.

6. Recommendation

The system of evaluation should cover written, practical and oral tests periodically, particularly in the case of Direction students, the ability to express oneself through the written word is extremely important and a large number of written projects covering an enormous range of subjects, which necessarily come within the purview of the Direction course, should be demanded of the students. This will make it imperative for them to maintain a sustained pressure of work right through the course rather than by fits and starts. This will also impose a responsibility on the staff to evaluate the projects and to establish a dialogue with the students on the basis of such creative work.

Action Taken

This recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

7. Recommendation

There is no progressive complexity and depth in the academic programme. In any institution of higher learning, the course becomes increasingly difficult and makes greater demands on the capacity of the students in the advanced stages. In the FTII courses, there is no such development in the teaching programme and no increasing demands on the students' application, concentration and creativity. The result is that the student slackens and feels there is nothing more to learn.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been noted. The syllabus is constantly reviewed and revised on the advice of the Academic Council.

8. Recommendation

The film Appreciation Course should be so framed as to cover Indian film classics and world classics according to

genre, historical films, social documents, psychological studies, anthropological and scientific documents, comedy, satire, science fiction etc. All these should not only be viewed but also thoroughly analysed by the students as part of their examination. They should be studied from the point of view of the social responsibility of cinema, and its use as instrument of social change.

Action Taken

This recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

9. Recommendation

Documentary and education film should also form an important part of the Direction Course, not merely by way of theoretical treatment, but as practical exercises. One short documentary and one educational film should be included in the examination scheme.

Action Taken

This recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

10. Recommendation

A small committee should be appointed to talk to every teacher and work out with him how to renew, enrich and update his experience. Not only should Sabbaticals be granted to some, but assistance may also be provided when asked for placements and for working out meaningful programmes. Rules should be amended to facilitate such an eventuality and not permitted to stand in the way.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented. Grant of Sabbatical leave for teachers has been approved and some of the teachers have already availed this facility.

11. Recommendation

Staff members should also have the opportunity, consistent with their obligations to their students, to attend and actively participate in the seminars, conference and courses both in India and abroad.

Action Taken

This recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

12. Recommendation

Members of the academic staff should be taken fully into confidence regarding academic decisions of the Academic and Governing Councils both at the formulation and at the implementations stage. Copies of each decision should be given to all members.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

13. Recommendation

The induction of creative talent from the professional world should be of such duration as to create an impact. A three to six months period for a major film making assignment with the students and faculty under conditions normally obtaining in the industry, or under more difficult conditions, will be a salutary experience for all concerned.

Action Taken

Eminent film-makers are frequently invited to conduct workshops. Also a scheme of appointing a film-maker-in-residence for a short duration has been introduced since 1989 for the benefit of students and staff.

14. Recommendation

The students' mess should be run by a committee of students themselves, and there should be a mess manager working under the committee. The mess dues as certified by the treasurer of the students committee should be reported to the Registrar, if necessary, and realised with the fees. If the mess committee passes a resolution, mess dues should be realised in advance every month.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

15. Recommendation

Active sports, such as football, basketball, tennis, swimming and gymnastics should be encouraged.

Action Taken

Recommendation implemented.

16. Recommendation

The canteen and the hostel mess need to be drastically reorganised. In both cases, the kitchens are dingy, dark and unhygienic. Aluminium tables and counters, washing areas with aluminium or stainless steel sinks and running hot water, and modern food storage facilities including cold storage should be provided. These changes should be affected under the guidance of catering experts. Modern self service counters should be arranged, so that students can learn to help themselves in an orderly and disciplined manner. Tables, chairs and other pieces of furniture and fittings should be decent looking, durable and easy to clean.

Action Taken

The students' hostel mess has also been modernised and absolute cleanliness is maintained. The students' mess committee itself manages the mess and the institute provides subsidy towards the salary of the mess staff.

17. Recommendation

Each hostel should have a proper warden's office with a telephone.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented.

18. Recommendation

The Director should ensure that there is sufficient delegation of powers so that work is not held up during his inevitable absence.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been noted and implemented to the extent considered necessary.

19. Recommendation

The Governing Council should be remote from corridors of powers, and from political and other pressures. An Academic institute like the FTII should be nurtured as a centre for bold and independent thinking. Its functioning is necessarily inhibited when its Chairman is the Secretary of the I&B Ministry. The Chairman

for the Society and Chairman of the Governing Council should be the same person, a non-official of repute, preferably a respected figure from the world of cinema or of the performing arts.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and implemented. The President of FTII Society is also the Chairman of the Governing Council. Non-official eminent film makers are appointed as Presidents since 1981. The Present President is Shri Aduo Gopalakrishnan who is a renowned film maker.

20. Recommendation

The Khosla Committee had recommended a three years tenure for the Principal (Now Director), but apart from Shri Jagat Murari who stayed for 10 years, every one also had to leave much before his time. This Committee can only hope that Government will in future select the incumbent to the Director's post with great care, and not change him as frequently as in the past. The FTII Director's is not a routine post and it takes time to work out one's ideas. If changes are made as frequently as between 1975 and 1976, man of such differing academic convictions following each other, it is bound to be upsetting both for the faculty and for the students.

Action Taken

The recommendation has been accepted and is being implemented.

21. Recommendation

Besides being a film makers, the director must have the administrative ability to steer the Institute through various difficulties. And he must also be able to enjoy the confidence of both students and staff in his sense of commitment, his impartiality, and his ability to deliver the goods. He should remain in close touch with both students and staff, and should be sensitive to the atmosphere on the campus so as to be able to anticipate and impending crisis, and to take measures to diffuse the situation with tact, firmness and impartiality.

Action Taken

This recommendation has been noted and will be kept in mind while making selection of persons for the post of Director.

[English]

STD BETWEEN DELHI AND U.P. HILLS

185. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the unsatisfactory STD service between Delhi and various stations in U. P. Hills particularly the Garhwal Mandal;

(b) if so, since when the STD service has been unsatisfactory in this area;

(c) whether any complaints/suggestions have been received in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) STD services to a number of stations in UP hills were adversely affected due to fire in Agra Trunk Automatic Exchange (TAX) on 30th September, 1992. The services were temporarily restored through Moradabad TAX. The Agra TAX was recommissioned on 7-2-93 and the STD services normalised. However, the performance of STD services to some of the stations in Garhwal Mandal is somewhat deficient due to limited number of circuits available at present.

(c) and (d) The complaints/suggestions were received from the Hon'ble Member for provision of new Satellite Stations and augmentation of capacity of the existing stations.

(e) The suggestions of the Hon'ble Member have been examined. New MC-PC type (Multichannel Per Carrier) Satellite Earth Stations have been approved

for the following 10 stations in UP to be commissioned in the 8th Plan period.

District Uttarkashi.

- (1) Purala
- (2) Barkot
- (3) Donda
- (4) Bhatwari
- (5) Gangotri
- (6) Yamnotri

District Chamoli.

- (7) Ukhimath
- (8) Guptkashi
- (9) Badrinath
- (10) Kedarnath.

FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR

*186. **SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :**
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any assessment of the potential of food processing sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government are formulating a new national policy on food processing in view of this potential;

(d) whether the Government have had any consultations with the State Governments, farmers, industrialists and the representatives of other concerned sectors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) to (e) Various studies conducted from time to time indicate that there is considerable scope for development of food processing industries in the country. Government have taken several measures to attract investment for utilising this

potential. These steps, inter-alia, include granting of priority status to most food processing industries, delicensing almost all food processing industries except for distillation and brewing of alcoholic beverages and those items reserved for small scale sector, automatic approval upto 51% foreign equity participation, simplification of procedures for foreign technology agreement, reduction of union custom duties on capital goods for food processing industries, reduction/removal of excise duties on many food products as well as on packaging materials. In addition, Ministry has formulated several development plan schemes under which assistance is provided for establishment/upgradation of various types of food processing units, establishment of the post-harvest processing infrastructure, training, marketing, development of backward linkages between processor and grower, research and development for product and suitable equipment, etc. These have been done with a view to encourage the investment for increasing the production base, strengthen post-harvest processing facilities, expanding market, bringing in technology, making the industry competitive for exploiting the international market.

Agro food processing sector is identified to play an important role in helping reduction of wastage of perishable agricultural products, improve food availability for domestic market as well as for export, diversify rural economy and create employment. Government, therefore, have decided to give a thrust for development of this sector. As a policy measure, Government have already brought large number of processed food industries under the high priority list and have taken several steps to attract investment and facilitate growth of this sector. Ministry is reviewing the existing policies for giving further boost to this sector and discussions have been held with the State Governments to elicit their views on various aspects of a National Food Processing Policy which could address the issues relating to accelerated growth and development of food processing sector with a view to augment employment opportunities and incomes both in rural and urban areas, establish productive linkages between industry and farmers and

increase exports of processed foods and generally support productive efforts of agriculture and allied activities. The policy will be finalised after due consultation with all concerned.

[Translation]

REDLINE BUSES

*187. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Redline buses operating at present;

(b) whether the Redline buses in Delhi have caused numerous accidents in comparison to D.T.C. buses during the last one year;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the number of persons killed and the amount of compensation paid to the deceased and injured by the owners of Redline buses or State Transport Authority;

(d) whether there is a provision in the State Transport Authority licence for compensation to victims and withdrawal of licences in case of repeated accidents;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, whether there is any proposal to do so now;

(g) the steps taken to improve the services of Redline buses; and

(h) the details of the losses suffered by the D.T.C. on account of the plying of Redline buses during the last one year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) As on

31-7-1993 there were 2273 Red Line Buses in Delhi.

(b) No, Sir. From October, 1992 to June, 1993 the Red Line Buses were involved 291 accidents whereas the DTC buses with a fleet strength of about 3600 were involved in 1452 accidents during the same period.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) : Under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, the compensation is payable by the Insurance Company/or/and owner after an award by the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal. A compensation amounting to Rs. 25,000/- in case of death and Rs. 12,000/- in the case of permanent disablement on the basis of No fault liability, is payable expeditiously through the Tribunal by the owner/users.

(g) Government have issued instructions to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi to take stringent action against drivers driving rashly and negligently and violating the traffic rules. State Transport Authority of National Capital Territory of Delhi has been directed to cancel/suspend the licences of erring drivers.

The State Transport Authority have started refresher courses for the drivers of Red Line Buses. Red Line Bus drivers are made to undergo a proficiency test at Government Motor Driving Training School of Transport Department.

The steps taken by Delhi Traffic Police to make driving safe in Delhi are special drives/random checking against traffic violations, introduction of traffic signals/blinders in accident prone areas and strict punitive action against violators of traffic rules/regulations.

(h) The average daily earning of DTC has been reduced from Rs. 40.67 lakh per day in October, 1992 to Rs. 25.32 lakh per day in June, 1993. This has been not only on account of the introduction of Red Line Buses, but also on account of certain other factors i.e. reduction in the fleet strength and load factor etc.

FOOD PROCESSING UNITS

*188. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of food processing projects/units approved by the Union Government during the last two years, State-wise ;

(b) the number out of them implemented so far, Statewise;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties being experienced by the entrepreneurs in setting up such units; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (d) During the last two years, Government have approved 419 proposals for projects/units in food processing and deep sea fishing sector which include proposals for joint venture, export oriented units, units with NRI/OCB investments, units requiring industrial licence and proposals for which Plan assistance have been provided. As per the available information, tentatively 64 of the above have been implemented. The statewise distribution of the above are given in the statement. Ministry has taken steps to seek information about the difficulties being faced by the entrepreneurs and assistance required by them from this Ministry. Ministry has also decided to devote one day in every fortnight exclusively for attending to entrepreneurs who may meet any officer of the Ministry without prior appointment. When specific problems are brought by the entrepreneurs to the notice of the Ministry and assistance sought by them in this regard, Ministry takes immediate steps to render all possible assistance.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of proposals/units approved in last 2 years	Tentative number of proposals implemented
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	4
2.	Assam	3	—
3.	Bihar	8	2
4.	Gujarat	14	7
5.	Haryana	32	7
6.	Himachal Pradesh	12	2
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	—
8.	Karnataka	17	1
9.	Kerala	32	1
10.	Madhya Pradesh	15	1
11.	Maharashtra	46	10

1	2	3	4
12.	Manipur	—	—
13.	Meghalaya	—	—
14.	Nagaland	2	—
15.	Orissa	8	2
16.	Punjab	17	1
17.	Rajasthan	22	—
18.	Sikkim	1	—
19.	Tamil Nadu	35	6
20.	Tripura	1	—
21.	Uttar Pradesh	42	9
22.	West Bengal	23	4
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	2	—
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—
25.	Chandigarh	—	—
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—
27.	Delhi	14	5
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	17	2
29.	Mizoram	9	—
30.	Pondicherry	2	—
31.	Lakshadweep	2	—
	Total	419	64

[English]

PACKAGE FOR STEEL PRODUCTION

*189. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are considering a package of incentives to woo entrepreneurs in the field of steel in a bid to boost the country's sagging steel production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any final decision has been taken in the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) to (d) Steel production in the country has been increasing. Production of finished steel during 1992-93 was 15.1 million tonnes against

14.33 million tonnes during 1991-92 (increase of 5.4%).

The Budget for 1993-94 contains measures which help in reducing the capital and production costs of steel plants. These include :

- (i) Lowering of customs duty on project import from 55% to 35%.
- (ii) Reduction of minimum interest rate on commercial advances by 1%.
- (iii) Reduction of excise duty on specified capital goods to 10%.
- (iv) Reduction of customs duty on imported raw materials, consumables and intermediates such as from 45% to 30% in the case of semis, from 110% to 30% in the case of ferro alloys, from 110%-70% to 50%-30% in the case of refractory raw materials and from 110% to 30% in the case of graphite electrodes.

DETENTION OF INDIAN FISHERMAN

*190. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Indian fisherman have been detained in the neighbouring countries since January 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;

(c) whether the Government have taken any initiative for their early release; and

(d) if so, the success achieved so far, country-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) to (d) There have been some incidents of apprehension/detention of Indian fishermen in the neighbouring countries since January 1992. Each such incident is actively followed-up, in order to secure prompt release of Indian fishermen.

Country-wise information on the subject matter of the Question is given below :

- (i) Pakis'an : All of the fortyone Indian fishermen who were under detention in Pakistan have since been released.
- (ii) Sri Lanka : Out of the thirtyone Indian fishermen arrested by Sri Lankan Government since January, 1992, twentyfour fishermen have been released. The release of the remaining seven is also being secured after complying with necessary procedures.
- (iii) Bangladesh, Maldives and Myanmar : No incident of detention of Indian fishermen in these countries has come to our notice.

SUBSIDY FOR POWER SECTOR

*191. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the power sector in India is highly subsidised as compared to other developing countries;

(b) if so, the details of the rates of subsidy allowed for supply of power in different sectors;

(c) the amount of subsidy on power sector annually;

(d) whether the World Bank has suggested abolition of subsidy on power;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) (a) As in most other developing countries, supply of electricity to the agricultural sector and to the domestic sector is subsidised in India.

(b) On all-India basis, the rate of subsidy for supply of electricity to the agricultural sector is estimated at p. 107.72/kwh whereas in the case of domestic supply, the rate of subsidy is about p.50.65/kwh (1991-92).

(c) Computed on the basis of the difference between the average cost of supply and average realisation of revenue, adjusted by cross-subsidisation, the estimated amount of subsidy for the power sector works out to about Rs. 4,745 crores (1991-92).

(d) and (e) A World Bank study has indicated that the objective should be to levy tariff for sale of electricity based on Long Run Marginal Cost (L.R.M.C.) The World Bank also has advocated that the State Electricity Boards should adjust their tariff so as to reflect in them the structure of supply costs.

(f) Government considers that while an element of cross-subsidisation in the case of supply of electricity to different categories of consumers is acceptable, it is, at the same time, essential for SEBs to so adjust tariff as to generate the statutory minimum surplus of three per cent on the net fixed assets.

INDIA-CHINA JOINT WORKING GROUP

*192. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK :

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India-China Joint Working Group held its meeting recently;

(b) if so, the major bilateral issues, regional and international, discussed and the outcome of the meeting;

(c) whether any agreement was reached during the meeting; and

(d) if so, the broad features thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) (a) to (d) The sixth meeting of the India-China Joint Working Group and the Foreign Secretary-Vice Minister level consultations were held in New Delhi on June 25—28, 1993.

2. During the meeting the two sides continued their discussions aimed at arriving at a mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question. The focus of discussion, however, was on formulating additional measures to ensure peace and tranquility in areas along the line of actual control between the two countries. The two sides reviewed the implementation of the confidence building measures agreed upon at the previous meetings of the Joint Working Group and made progress in their discussions on additional measures, including prior notification of military exercises, prevention of air intrusions and reduction of forces along the line of actual control.

3. There was an in depth exchange of views on all aspects of India-China bilateral relations and regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest. Both sides expressed their satisfaction at the steady and perceptible improvement in bilateral ties. It was agreed in principle to open an additional border trade point at Shipkila Pass, the modalities of which are being worked out. It was also agreed to hold the next meeting of the Joint Working Group in Beijing in early 1994.

[*Translation*]

FOOD PROCESSING UNITS IN GUJARAT

*193. **SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE** : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals received from the Government of Gujarat for setting

up of food processing industries during the current financial year;

(b) the number of proposals accorded approval and the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be approved; and

(c) the amount of assistance likely to be provided to these industries during the current financial years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) to (c) No proposal has been received by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries from the Government of Gujarat for setting up of food processing industries during the current financial year. However, as per the available information, 147 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda have been filed by the entrepreneurs since the liberalisation of industry in July, 1991 till May, 1993 for setting up of food processing industries in Gujarat.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries have extended financial assistance under its Plan schemes to the following proposals received from the State of Gujarat in 1991-92 and 1992-93 :—

(i) Setting up of 7 Agro-Parlours to market Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation's products.

(ii) Setting up/enhancing storage facilities at Fruit Processing units located at Gandhavi and Junagarh.

(iii) Tuna and other fish processing.

(iv) Modernisation of Rice Mills.

Besides, another 13 proposals of 100% export oriented units and/or foreign investments have been approved for setting up of fruits & vegetable processing units, consumer food items, Guargum, fish processing units, etc. in Gujarat during 1991-92 & 1992-93.

The Plan outlay for implementation of various developmental Plan schemes formulated by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for the year 1993-94 is Rs. 47 crores. Assistance under the Plan schemes for the proposals received from Gujarat will be considered on merit.

[English]

EXPORT OF BEER

*194. SHRI P. C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of beer producing units in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether beer is being exported; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including foreign exchange earned therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) Details may be seen in *Statement—I*.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details may be seen in *Statement—II*.

STATEMENT-I

Number of Beer Producing Units	
Goa	2
Maharashtra	5
Andhra Pradesh	3
Jammu & Kashmir	1
Kerala	2
Haryana	2
Karnataka	3
West Bengal	2
Madhya Pradesh	2
Uttar Pradesh	3
Himachal Pradesh	1
Punjab	2
Pondicherry	1
Orissa	1
Total	30

STATEMENT—II

Export of Beer	April 1991 to March 1992.		
Australia	11,600	Litres	Rs. 2,46,657
Bhutan	1,48,350	Litres	Rs. 18,97,892
France	40,800	Litres	Rs. 8,75,760
Hongkong	6	Litres	Rs. 100
Japan	1,81,641	"	Rs. 16,66,278
Nepal	17,180	"	Rs. 1,74,818
Singapore	14	Litres	Rs. 200
UAE	43,546	"	Rs. 5,16,632
U. K.	1,48,080	"	Rs. 23,77,786
U.S.A.	6,33,080	"	Rs. 71,75,916
Total	12,24,297	Litres	Rs. 1,49,32,039

NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO. 12

*195. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of work done and proposed to be done in Jaipur (Rajasthan) and Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) on National Highway No. 12 during 1992-93 and 1993-94 so far and the amount spent thereon: State-wise;

(b) the names of places in Rajasthan where two lane and four lane roads are proposed to be constructed;

(c) whether it is proposed to construct any bridge on Chambal river near Kota district on this Highway; and

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be completed and the cost likely to be incurred on this work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) On National Highway No. 12 during 1992-93, 3 works costing Rs. 762.52 lakhs in Rajasthan and one work costing Rs. 12.63 lakhs in Madhya Pradesh were sanctioned. The amount spent on these works upto

March, 1993 is Rs. 0.05 lakhs for Rajasthan and Nil for Madhya Pradesh. The Annual Plan 1993-94 envisages 9 works costing Rs. 1575 lakhs in Rajasthan and 14 works costing Rs. 1645 lakhs in Madhya Pradesh. The actual sanction will depend upon their priority and availability of funds.

(b) On National Highway No. 12 in Rajasthan, no four laning is proposed but widening to 2-lane is proposed in 9 km near Ghatoli and 45 km near Jhalawar in the 8th Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

T.V./AIR COVERAGE IN GUJARAT

*196. SHRI N. J. RATHVA :

DR. A. K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether large areas of Gujarat are not covered by Akashvani and Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the transmission range of Akashvani and Doordarshan in the State during the Eighth Plan period; and

(c) the places selected for installation of high and low power T.V. transmitters during the Eighth Plan Period in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The siting of transmitters for the entire VIII Plan has not been finalised. However, the following projects were sanctioned during the Annual Plan 1992-93 :

1. Low Power Transmitter—Mangrol
2. Low Power Transmitter—Idar
3. High Power Transmitter—Surat
(Scheme yet to be formally approved)

TELEPHONE REGISTRATION FEE

*197. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have enhanced the registration fee and bi-monthly tariff of telephones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the additional income accrued therefrom so far;

(d) whether the Government propose to utilize this additional income for modernisation of the telecom service; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : Yes, Sir.

(b) With effect from 28th April 1993 the Registration fees for telephone connections under Measured Rate Exchange Systems have been revised as follows :—

OYT

Lines

10,000 & above.—Rs. 15,000/-

1,000 & above but below 10,000 lines
Rs. 10,000/-

Below 1,000 lines—Rs. 8,000/-

NON-OYT

10,000 and above—Rs. 3,000/-

Below 10,000—Rs. 2,000/-

There is no revision in respect of Flat Rate Exchanges.

With effect from 1st May, 1993, the Bi-monthly rentals of Telephones under Measured Rate System have been revised as follows :—

1. Exchange systems of less than 100 lines—Rs. 100/-

2. Exchange systems of 100 lines and above but below 1000 lines.—150/-

3. Exchange systems of 1000 lines and above but below 30000 lines—Rs. 200/-
4. Exchange systems of 30000 lines and above but below 1 lakh lines—Rs 275/-
5. Exchange systems of 1 lakh lines and above but below 3 lakh lines—Rs. 360/-
6. 3 lakh lines and above—Rs. 380/-

(c) In the financial year 1993-94, the additional income on account of these revisions would be Rs. 295 crores approximately.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. This additional income will also be utilize for increasing connectivity, improving reliability and enlarging accessibility of services and for bringing the rural and remote areas into the mainstream. The important physical targets for 93-94 are :—

1. Gross Switching Capacity (lines)—18.23 lakhs.
2. Net Switching capacity (lines)—14.20 lakhs.
3. DELS—11.00 lakhs
4. Panchayat Telephones 46800 lines.
5. TAX Capacity—37500 lines.

[English]

POWER PROJECTS

*198. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN :

SHRI SURYA NARAIN YADAV:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals of power projects submitted by various States pending with the Union Government for clearance as on 30th June, 1993;

(b) the projects cleared during the last six months;

(c) since when the remaining projects are pending and the impediments in their clearance; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE) : The proposals for power projects of various States pending with the Central Electricity Authority for clearance as on 30-6-1993 are indicated in statement-I.

(b) The State projects accorded techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority during the six months ending 30-6-1993 are indicated in statement-II.

(c) and (d) The date of receipt of each pending project is also shown in Statement-I referred to above. The time taken for according approvals to proposals received depends upon the details given by the State Governments/Project authorities and upon clearances from various concerned Central and State Government agencies.

STATEMENT—I

Power Projects pending in Central Electricity Authority for Techno-Economic Clearance

S. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Date of receipt
HYDRO			
1.	PAGLADIA (Assam)	5.5	Dec' 92
2.	BASPA St-II (H.P.)	300.0	May '92
3.	PARBATI St-II (H.P.)	800.0	Oct' 92
4.	PARBATI St-III (H.P.)	501.0	Oct' 92
5.	HIRBA (H.P.)	231.0	Oct' 92
6.	RENUKA DAM (H.P.)	40.0	Apr' 93

S. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Date of receipt
7.	GHANWI (H.P.)	22.5	May '93
8.	ANS (Dharmari) St-II (J &K)	30.0	Apr' 93
9.	OMKARESHWAR (M.P.)	520.0	Dec. '92
10.	GANDHI (M.P.)	160.0	Feb '93
11.	NAHESHWAR(M.P.)	400.0	Apr '93
12.	CHIKHALDARA (Maha.)	400.0	Mar' 93
13.	TUIWAI (Mizoram)	210.0	May' 93
14.	GORIGANGA St-III A & St-III B (U.P.)	140.0	Apr' 92
15.	TIUNI PLASU (U.P.)	42.0	Jan' 93
16.	BOWALA NAND PRAYAG (U.P.)	132.0	May '93
17.	TAPOVAN VISHNUGARH (U.P.)	360.0	May '93
18.	RAMMAM (W.B.)	60.0	May '93

THERMAL

19.	HISSAR TPS (Haryana)	500.0	07-11-90
20.	PALWAL TPS (Haryana)	500.0	02-07-92
21.	DHURI TPS (Punjab)	1000.00	16-10-87
22.	GOINDWAL SAHIB TPS (Pun.)	500.0	21-02-92
23.	DHOLPUR TPS (Raj.)	750.0	01-05-91
24.	BELTHARA ROAD TPS (U.P.)	750.0	08-11-91
25.	ANPARA 'C' TPS (U.P.)	1000.0	31-08-92
26.	ROSA TPS (U.P.)	750.0	22-02-93
27.	JAWAHARPUR TPS (U.P.)	750.0	22-02-93
28.	BAWANA CCGT (Delhi)	600/650	27-01-93
29.	GANDHINAGAR TPS Extn. (Guj.)	210.0	29-03-93
30.	WANAKBORI TPS Extn. (Guj.)	210.0	15-04-93
31.	CCGT AT NORTH GUJARAT (Guj.)	300.0	25-05-93
32.	RAIGARH TPS (M.P.)	1000.0	26-03-93
33.	SANJAY GANDHI TPS Extn. (M.P.)	500.0	27-12-90
34.	KOTHAGUDEM TPS St-V (A.P.)	500.0	29-03-93
35.	KRISHNAPATNAM TPS St-I (A.P.)	1000.0	07-06-93
36.	RAICHUR TPS St-III (Ktka)	500.0	20-04-89
37.	VIJAYANAGAR TPS (Ktka)	500.0	23-12-91
38.	CHAMALAPURA (T.P.S.) (Ktka)	500.0	23-12-91
39.	DG PLANT AT KOZHIIKODE (Ker)	126.0	06-01-93
40.	PILLAIPERUMALNALLUR CCGT (T.N.)	300.0	05-03-91
41.	NORTH MADRAS TPS (T.N.)	500.0	13-12-91
42.	TUTICORIN TPS Extn. St. IV (T.N.)	500.0	02-11-92
43.	MATTHON LB (DVC/WB)	4 × 250	10-04-91
44.	TALCHER STPS (Orissa)	4 × 500	22-04-92
45.	MUSHIDABAD TPS (W.B.)	4 × 400	26-08-92
46.	BALAGARH TPS (W.B.)	3 × 250	03-04-91
47.	TALCHER TPS Extn. (Orissa)	500.0	27-02-92
48.	ADDL. GT SETS AT NAMRUP (Assam)	50.0	Sept '91

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Date of receipt
PRIVATE SECTOR			
49.	SRIMUSHNAM (T.N.)	250.0	Nov' 89
50.	CUDDALORE TPS (T.N.)	1000.0	July '93
51.	JEGURUPADU CCGT (A.P.)	172.0	Sept' 92
52.	GODAVARI CCGT (A.P.)	198.0	Jan' 93
53.	MANGALORE TPS (Ktka)	1002.0	July '93
54.	CHANDIL TPS (Bihar)	500.0	Nov' 91
55.	JOJOBERA TPS (Bihar)	202.5	Feb '93
56.	IB VALLEY TPS St-II (Ori.)	420.0	June' 93
57.	DUBRI TPS (Orissa)	500.0	Sept. 92
58.	GOURIPORE TPS (W.B.)	135.0	Oct' 92
59.	PENCH TPS (M.P.)	420.0	July '92
60.	KORBA WEST TPS (M.P.)	420.0	Apr' 93
61.	BARGE MOUNTED TPS (Maha.)	110.0	Sept. '92
62.	DABHOL CCGT (Maha.)	2015.0	Apr' 93
63.	KHAPARKHEDA TPS (Maha.)	420.0	July '93
64.	CHITTORGARH TPS (Raj.)	500.0	Feb' 92
65.	GANDHAR CCGT (Gujarat)	615.0	July '93
66.	MANGROL LIGNITE (Gujarat)	500.0	Nov' 92

STATEMENT--II

Power Projects which received Investment Approval of Planning Commission between 1-1-93 & 30-6-93

S. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Date of Clearance
1.	Ramgarh GTPH-I (Raj.)	1×35.5	8.4.93
2.	*Rokhia GT Ph-III (Tripura)	2×8.0	22.3.93
3.	Kopili Extn. (Assam)	100.0	14.5.93
4.	Shahpurkandi HEP (Punjab)	168.0	July '93
Schemes cleared by CEA between 1-1-93 & 30-6-93			
5.	Sawal Kot HEP (J & K)	600.0	13.1.93
6.	Majana HEP (HP)	86.0	23.4.93
7.	**Marhikhera (MP)	40.0	23.4.93
8.	Teesta St-V (Sikkim)	510.0	23.4.93
9.	Brahmapuram DG Sets (Ker)	100.0	9.7.93
10.	Bakreshwar TPB (WB)	5×210	15.3.93
11.	Rayalaseema TPS St-II (AP)	2×210	8.6.93

*Scheme sanctioned by Govt. of Tripura.

**Scheme would be received approved by Govt. of M. P. as it costs less than Rs. 100 Crores.

[Translation]

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

*199. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages electrified and the amount spent for this purpose in each State during each of the last three years and so far;

(b) the number of villages yet to be electrified, State-wise;

(c) whether any target has been fixed for rural electrification in each State during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated amount to be spent on it during each year of the Eighth Plan; and

(e) the time by which total electrification of all the villages in the country is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE) : (a) and (b) The details of the amount spent for rural electrification, State-wise, during 1990-91 and 1991-92 and allocation for 1992-93 are given in Statement-I. The details of the villages electrified in each State during the last three years and during 1993-94 (upto the end of May, 1993) and the number of villages yet to be electrified in each State are given in Statement II.

(c) The total number of villages to be electrified during the 8th plan has been fixed as 50,000 (including 10,000 remote villages to be electrified through decentralised energy sources). However, statewide targets are to be decided during the Annual Plan.

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

(e) The remaining villages to be electrified in the country will be taken up for electrification in the Eighth and the subsequent Five Year Plans, subject to the availability of resources and other inputs.

Statement I

S. No.	States	Years		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,600.00	2,450.00	4,600
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	910.00	424.01	1,285
3.	Assam	2,950.00	1,850.00	1,400
4.	Bihar	4,675.00	800.00	2,295
5.	Goa	30.00	30.00	45
6.	Gujarat	2,095.00	3,125.00	2,940
7.	Haryana	2,040.00	5,316.00	3,940
8.	Himachal Pradesh	922.00	669.83	630
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	832.00	1,000.00	800
10.	Karnataka	580.00	990.00	2,535
11.	Kerala	1,246.00	513.00	930
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9,139.00	5,895.00	7,510
13.	Maharashtra	7,928.00	7,775.00	11,300
14.	Manipur	1,400.00	1,118.00	1,410
15.	Meghalaya	773.00	263.09	475
16.	Mizoram	400.00	537.87	770
17.	Nagaland	593.00	100.00	205
18.	Orissa	1,703.00	2,315.41	4,012
19.	Punjab	1,560.00	1,711.00	4,060
20.	Rajasthan	8,945.00	5,912.00	6,550
21.	Sikkim	300.00	641.63	420

1	2	3	4	5
22. Tamil Nadu		1,027.00	2,500.00	2,950
23. Tripura		1,000.00	1,029.67	760
24. Uttar Pradesh		8,240.00	7,082.00	8,700
25. West Bengal		4,310.00	2,574.00	3,150
TOTAL:		65,198.00	56,622.51	73,672

Note: Expenditure actually incurred during 1992-93 by State Electricity Boards is not available, since their final accounts are under preparation/audit. Hence details of allocation has been given.

Statement II

S. No.	States	No. of villages electrified during				No. of villages yet to be electrified (31-5-93)
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 upto 31-5-93	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Andhra Pradesh						@
2. Arunachal Pradesh		134	130	134	NA	1,498 \$
3. Assam		360	120	17	NA	514
4. Bihar		528	517	258	3	20,045
5. Goa						@
6. Gujarat						@
7. Haryana						@
8. Himachal Pradesh						@
9. Jammu & Kashmir		36	17	5		302
10. Karnataka						@
11. Kerala						@
12. Madhya Pradesh		2,980	1,856	605	15	5,869 +
13. Maharashtra						@
14. Manipur		230	150	60	6	332 +
15. Meghalaya		101	44	69	10	2,508 --
16. Mizoram		50	60	50	NA	154
17. Nagaland					0	13
18. Orissa		1,385	1,011	200	0	13,871 +
19. Punjab						@
20. Rajasthan		839	754	751	146	6,300 @
21. Sikkim		42				@
22. Tamil Nadu		2	7			@
23. Tripura		200	200	200	20	1,479 **
24. Uttar Pradesh		2,207	744	942	237	28,078
25. West Bengal		1,192	436	435	25	9,544
TOTAL (STATES)		10,286	6,046	3,726	462	90,507

@—100% electrified States, balance villages, not feasible for electrification.

**—Tripura is reporting progress as per 1971 census. As per 1971 census there were 4,727 villages, of which 3,228 villages have been declared electrified and the balance 1,499 villages remained unelectrified as on 31-3-93. However, as per 1981 Census, there is a total of 856 villages.

*—Progress as per 1971 Census

§—1981 Census was not held.

PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF MICA

*200. CHINMAYANAND SWHMI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of mica in the country during 1991-92 and 1992-93 and the share of Bihar in it;

(b) whether mica is exported to foreign countries;

(c) if so, the percentage of its total production that is exported, and

(d) the total amount of foreign exchange earned during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) Reported production of mica in the country during 1991-92 & 1992-93 (April, 92 — January, 93) was 5297 tonnes and 3363 tonnes respectively. As per records maintained by IBM, the share of Bihar in April, 91 — January, 92 and April, 92 — January, 93 was 2257 tonnes and 1445 tonnes respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During 1991-92 Export of Mica was 34,188 tonnes which is more than the reported production.

(d) The total amount of foreign exchange earned by exporting mica is as follows :—

Year	Total Qty. (in MT)	Total Value (Rs. in crores)
1989-90 . . .	42,239	51.23
1990-91 . . .	42,595	51.26
1991-92 . . .	34,188	55.51

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta)

[English]

ANTIQUES DISCOVERED IN TALKAD, MYSORE

205. SHRI KODAKANI GOWDANA SHIVAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some interesting and exciting antiques have been discovered by the

Department of Archaeology in Talkad near Mysore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the arrangements made to preserve them ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Karnataka jointly with the Mysore University Post-Graduate Department of Ancient Indian History and Archaeology have undertaken excavations at Talkad, District Mysore, Karnataka during the season 1992-93 and the excavation brought to light two ringwells of yearly period, brick structure and other sculptural pieces, an image of Jain Parswanatha, a terracotta mould of Roman coin, two stone seals belonging to the Gangas of Talkad, besides considerable number of early historic pottery, varieties of beads, bangles made of semi-precious stones, objects of shell, ivory and terracotta.

(c) Necessary steps have been taken to preserve the antiquities by the Department of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Karnataka.

[Translation]

VOCATIONAL COURSES THROUGH DISTANCE EDUCATION

*207. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :
PROF. PREM DHUMAL :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce vocational and technical courses through distance education system ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the Open Universities where such courses are likely to be introduced; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (d) Vocational

and technical courses through distance education system have already been introduced in open universities.

According to Indira Gandhi National Open University which is the apex body for distance education, the vocational/technical/employment oriented programmes which are being offered at present and the further programmes proposed to be offered by various Open Universities in the Eighth Plan are as follows :

Name of Open University	No. of Programmes on offer	No. of Programmes proposed to be offered in the Eighth Plan
Indira Gandhi National Open University	12	13
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University	4	13
Yashwant Rao Chavan Maharashtra Open University	4	25
Kota Open University	7	10

[English]

CATTLE FEED INDUSTRY

208. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to reserve certain quantity of molasses for cattle feed manufacturing units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to review the proposed decontrol of molasses keeping in view the interest of cattle feed industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the smooth supply of molasses to cattle feed industry ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Molasses Control Order, 1961 has been rescinded with a view to make molasses available freely without any control of prices and distribution to All Molasses consuming units including cattle feed units.

[Translation]

CENSUS OF WILD ANIMALS

*209. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI :
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL :

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

(a) whether a fresh census of major wild animal species including tigers, lions, elephants and rhinos has lately been held;

(b) if so, the details thereof, species wise;

(c) whether several parks and sanctuaries show a decline in wild life population;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase wild-life population ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) The census of major wild animals like tigers, lions, elephants and rhinos etc. is carried out by the State Government from time to time. During first part of 1993, census of tigers, elephants and Rhinos was undertaken by the State Governments concerned. The latest census figures available for major wild animals are given in the statement I attached.

(c) and (d) No State Government has reported an overall decline in wildlife population in its parks and sanctuaries. However, the fluctuation in the population of wildlife in general, in its natural habitat, is a normal biological phenomenon.

(e) The main thrust of the government activities with respect to wildlife management is on conservation of self-sustaining viable populations of wildlife species in their natural habitats and not merely on

increasing their populations irrespective of compatibility. The major steps taken by the government in this respect are listed in the statement II attached.

Statement I

The latest census figures of wild animals available are.

Name of species	Census year	Number	Remarks	
Tigers	1989	4334	Results of 1993 census are awaited.	
Lions	1990	284	Found only in Gir Forests.	
Elephants	1993		Results of 1993 census from other states are awaited.	
	Andhra Pradesh	46		
	Arunachal Pradesh	2090		
	Karnataka	5980		
Rhinos Assam	1991	1129	Kaziranga National park.	
	1991	100	Orang wildlife sanctuary.	
	1989	65	Pobitora wildlife sanctuary.	
	1989	03	Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary	
	1989	40	other pockets. Results of 1993 census awaited	
	West Bengal	1992	33	Jaldapara Wildlife sanctuary.
		1992	11	Gorumara Wildlife sanctuary.
	Uttar Pradesh	1992	10	Dudhwa National Park .
Leopard	1989	6763	All India census	

Statement II

Major steps taken by the Government for protection of wild animals are :

- (i) Hunting of Scheduled wild animals has been banned by law ;
- (ii) Illegal trading in wild animals and their parts, or products thereof is banned by law ;

- (iii) A network of 421 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 75 National Parks has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries; on request, to the State Governments;

- (iv) Central Assistance is provided to State/UT Governments for strengthening anti-poaching infrastructure;
- (v) Special schemes for protection and conservation of tigers, elephants and rhinos are under implementation ;
- (vi) Cooperation of Police, BSF, Coast Guard and Army is also taken as and when required, in apprehending the poachers and illegal traders ;
- (vii) India is a member of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES) and participates in the regulation of international trade in endangered species of animals and articles made thereof under the provisions of the Convention.

[English]

SUPERFAST TRAINS

*210. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) has directed Indian Railways to revise criteria adopted for classifying Superfast and passenger trains;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the details of new criteria adopted in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The NCDRC has directed Indian Railways to lay-down fresh guidelines, fixing criteria for classification of trains as superfast trains. The Railways have adopted the criterion of average speed of 55 kmph for BG trains and 45 kmph for MG trains to categorise superfast trains as announced in the Parliament in the

Railways Budget Speech 1993-94. Railway's stand on the issue will be explained to the Commission.

EXPORT OF PULSES

*211. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether provisions have been made under the National Pulses Development Plan to export pulses ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to include facilities for export of pulses under the ambit of National Pulses Development Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) to (c) The main thrust of the National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is to increase production and productivity of pulses. The increased production of pulses as a result will encourage exports apart from meeting the domestic demand. Indian Pulses have better taste and quality and are in demand in several countries and are being exported depending upon their availability.

PROMOTION OF HINDI

*212. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any new scheme for promotion of Hindi in non-Hindi speaking States;

(b) if so, the number and names of the organisations/institutions engaged therein ;

(c) whether the scheme is being funded cent per cent by the Union Government ;

(d) if so, the assistance provided during 1992-93 therefor, State-wise ; and

(e) the amount earmarked for 1993-94, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (e) No new scheme has been started in the 8th Five Year Plan for promotion of Hindi in non-Hindi speaking States. The following ongoing schemes are continuing for the promotion of Hindi :—

1. *Scheme of Appointment of Hindi Teachers in non-Hindi speaking States and the scheme of opening/strengthening of Hindi Teachers' Training Colleges in non-Hindi speaking States/UTs.*

Under this scheme 100% financial grant is provided to the non-Hindi speaking States/UTs.

During 1992-93, the financial grant was given to the States of Assam (Rs. 12.88 lakhs), Manipur (Rs. 50.00 lakhs) Mizoram (Rs. 55.81 lakhs), Nagaland (Rs. 38.00 lakhs) and Orissa (Rs. 40.36 lakhs).

2. *Scheme of financial assistance to Voluntary Hindi Organisations for Promotion of Hindi.*

Most of the Voluntary Organisations receiving financial assistance are located in non-Hindi speaking States. There are about 200 Voluntary Hindi Organisations engaged in the promotion of Hindi which are receiving financial grant under this scheme.

Under the scheme, 75% grant of the approved expenditure is admissible and 25% is met by the Voluntary Hindi Organisations. Statewise break-up of the grants given to the Voluntary Hindi Organisations in 1992-93 is as under :—

	Rs. in lakhs
1. Andhra Pradesh	20.26
2. Gujarat	2.62
3. Karnataka	58.68

4. Maharashtra	18.40
5. Goa	2.50
6. Assam	10.36
7. Manipur	8.82
8. West Bengal	7.34
9. Orissa	6.08
10. Kerala	24.02
11. Tamil Nadu	56.57
12. Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha	104.90

Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha which is declared as an institution of National Importance by an Act of Parliament is dealt with on a special footing and provided 100% grant-in-aid for some of its projects as a special case.

Besides, the Central Hindi Directorate, a subordinate Office under the Ministry, is engaged in the Correspondence Courses to teach Hindi as second language to non-Hindi speaking Indians and foreigners through the medium of Tamil, Malayalam, Bengali and English. During 1992-93, about 15,000 students were enrolled. The Directorate also brings out Hindi based and Regional languages based bilingual, trilingual and multi-lingual dictionaries and also brings out journals like Unesco Door, Bhasha Varshiki and Sahitya Mala for promotion of Hindi in non-Hindi speaking areas. Every year 16 non-Hindi speaking writers are given awards each of Rs. 15,000.

[Translation]

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TEACHER EDUCATION

*213. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI MANJAY LAL :

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

(a) the date on which National Council of Teacher Education was set up and the objectives thereof ;

(b) the number of elementary and secondary teachers proposed to be trained every year to meet the educational requirement ;

(c) the total number of trainees enrolled in Teacher Training Institutions of the country at present ;

(d) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Council or Government to meet the shortage of Teacher Training Institutions;

(e) if so the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) was set up on 21-5-1973 by a Government Resolution, with the following objectives :

- (i) To advise Government of India on all matters concerning teacher education, including pre-service and in-service training, evaluation of curricula for teacher education and periodical review of progress in revising curricula ;
- (ii) To advise State Governments on any matters referred to the Council by them ;
- (iii) To review the progress of Plan Schemes, both Central and State, concerning teacher education ;
- (iv) To advise Government on ensuring adequate standards in teacher education ;
- (v) Any other matter entrusted to the Council by the Government of India.

(b) and (c) The total number of trainees enrolled in Teacher Training Institutions of the country as per the Selected Educational Statistics compiled by the Ministry of Human Resource Development

(as on 30-9-1991) was 2,22,659 (of these, 97,313 were for elementary education leading to the award of BTC/D.Ed. diploma/certificate and 1,25,346 for secondary education leading to the award of B.Ed degree).

(d) and (e) In order to improve the teacher education system in the country, States have been provided assistance to set up District Institutions of Education and Training (DIETs), Colleges of Teacher Education (CTEs) and Institutes of Advanced Studies in Education (IASEs), under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Restructuring and Reorganisation of Teacher Education. The Scheme provides for phasing out sub-standard and malpractising teacher education institutions in the country as DIETs, CTEs/IASEs get established. Under this scheme, financial assistance has been provided for setting up of 9,346 DIETs and 75 CTEs/IASEs so far.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

CULTIVATION OF COCONUT

*214. **PROF. UMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU**: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coconut Development Board provides financial assistance to States for the cultivation of Coconut;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance earmarked for States during 1993-94, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the programmes for which the assistance is proposed to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement
STATE-WISE ALLOCATION PROPOSED UNDER THE COCONUT DEVELOPMENT BOARD SCHEMES FOR 1993-94

State	(Rs in lakhs)									
	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	Total
	Expansion of area under coconut	TxD Scheme	Irrigation Scheme	Estt. of DSP Farms	Nursery attached to DSP Farms	Estt. of regional coconut nurseries	Integrated farming	Integrated control of leaf eating caterpillar		
Kerala	82.900	13.650	60.000	16.100	8.300	—	472.597	4.323	—	657.870
Tamil Nadu	64.950	8.150	50.000	—	—	—	79.000	—	—	202.100
Karnataka	80.450	—	50.000	14.500	7.000	—	73.000	3.671	—	228.621
Andhra Pradesh	52.450	8.150	30.000	74.500	—	—	33.700	—	—	128.800
Madhya Pradesh	1.050	2.627	2.200	—	—	—	1.685	—	—	7.562
Goa	1.350	—	2.200	—	—	—	1.685	—	—	5.235
Orissa	11.000	4.827	2.200	—	—	—	—	1.510	—	19.537
Bihar	2.800	—	—	12.000	7.000	—	—	—	—	21.800
Lakshadweep	—	4.203	1.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	9.738
Assam	13.000	—	—	10.000	7.000	2.850	1.685	—	—	30.000
Tripura	2.100	—	—	9.500	7.000	—	—	—	—	18.67
Pondicherry	1.350	—	1.000	—	—	—	1.685	—	—	4.035
West Bengal	8.000	—	2.100	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.100
Manipur	0.800	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.800
Gujarat	1.200	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.200
Nagaland	0.900	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.750
A & N Islands	6.500	—	1.000	—	—	2.850	—	—	—	9.185
Madhya Pradesh	5.200	—	—	10.000	7.000	—	1.685	—	—	22.200
Arunachal Pradesh	2.000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.000
Other States	0.750	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.750
TOTAL	338.750	41.607	201.700	76.600	43.300	5.700	666.722	9.504	—	1383.883

TxD -T x D hybrid seedlings

DSP—Demonstration-cum-Seed Production

[Translation]

WHITE REVOLUTION

*215. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR :

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA
NAYAK :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of European Economic Community and World Bank has reviewed the achievements of white revolution in the country;

(b) whether the team has recommended some corrective measures to boost the white revolution in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) to (d) A joint European Economic Community (EEC)—World Bank Review Mission visited the operation flood III project during February-March 1993. The Mission visited a number of milksheds where the operation flood III programme is under implementation and held discussions with the farmers and officials of the cooperatives, the State Governments and the National Dairy Development Board on the progress of the project.

In its report, the Review Mission has appreciated the pace of project implementation and the remarkable progress in disbursement of funds, besides expressing its satisfaction over the progress in creation of infrastructural facilities and the growth in milk procurement. A summary of the main recommendations of the Review Mission is given in Statement.

Government generally agrees with the recommendations.

Statement

Summary of Mission's Main Recommendations.

1. NDDDB to continue its initiative to promote full compliance by State Federations and milk unions with the project's legal covenants relating to accounts and

audits, preparation of annual plans, maintenance of adequate equity base and adherence to Operation Flood principles.

2. NDDDB to provide a milk union-wise, service-wise annexure in the half-yearly reports citing indicative cost of services provided and cost recovery in the form of charges paid by members.

3. GOI to reimburse NDDDB's claims expeditiously.

4. NDDDB must continue its efforts to ensure that unions concentrate on reorganization and consolidation of the cooperative structure making it more effective and financially strong.

5. NDDDB to ensure that FAO cooperative development suggestions, and identification and training of core cooperative development staff, which is a key constraint to expansion of cooperative development programme, are addressed.

6. Milk unions to ensure that appropriate producer prices for milk are offered during the lean and flush seasons.

7. Milkshed dairies to attempt to sell as much of the milk procured as liquid milk in their local markets and also increasingly focus on milk products. Specific milk marketing strategies should be formulated by cooperative dairies to enhance their liquid milk market share, focussing on quality of milk, distribution system adopted and the markets catered to.

8. Work on comparative building designs to modify and develop experimental booths to house these units to be initiated by NDDDB's FAO counterpart team for Amul-3 project.

9. Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) to identify its team for operational training. This is imperative as the Gandhinagar dairy is expected to become operational in March 1994.

10. For the Kheda dairy, order placement for the cheese, whey protein and lactose plant at Kheda dairy to be expedited and NDDDB to designate an FAO counterpart officer from the Process & Engineering group for the dairy's work.

11. NDDB to continue its efforts to improve the performance of field AI programme by focussing on cluster AI center concept, modernizing sperm stations to facilitate semen packaging using the French ministraw system and training AI workers.

12. NDDB to ascertain areas where FAO consultants can make useful contributions and amounts required for future FAO consultancies.

13. NDDB to continue to make efforts to address issues relating to project dairies (transfer of facilities to milk unions, milk pricing, staffing, working capital, equity).

14. NDDB to ensure implementation of FAO suggestions relating to powder plants efficiency improvement and upgrading the Quality Assurance Programme.

LOCUST CONTROL

*216. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :
SHRI SURYA NARAIN
YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether locust swarms have been noticed in Rajasthan and Gujarat recently which have caused damage to the standing crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to control the spread of these locust swarms to other States ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. BALRAM JAKHAR) (a) and (b) :
Yes, Sir. Locust swarms have entered Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur and Jalore districts in Rajasthan and Banaskantha & Kutch districts in Gujarat.

Effective control measures have been taken to ensure that locust swarms do not cause damage to the standing crops.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government to control the spread of the locust swarms to other states :—

- (1) Deployment of ground control teams for monitoring the locust activity and for undertaking control operations in the locust infested areas.
- (2) Providing plant protection equipment and pesticides to the village level committees/farmers in the locust infested areas for controlling locust.
- (3) Mobilisation of additional manpower, equipment, vehicles and pesticides.
- (4) Deployment of aircraft and helicopters for aerial application of pesticides.
- (5) Strengthening of Survey and communication network.
- (6) Constitution of co-ordination committees at the District, Tehsil and Sub-Tehsil level.
- (7) Setting up of control rooms.
- (8) Supply of equipment and pesticides to the District authorities.
- (9) Alerting neighbouring States to take necessary preparatory steps for effective control of possible locust incursion.

[English]

OILPALM SEEDLINGS

*217. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) at Palode near Trivandrum is able to meet the growing demand of oilpalm seedlings in the country;

(b) if so, the demand and availability of the oilpalm seedlings at present;

(c) the quantum of seedlings imported during 1992-93 and proposed to be imported during 1993-94 indicating the names of the countries and costs involved therein; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government for indigenous development of oilpalm seedlings so as to meet the demand of oilpalm cultivators ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The domestic production of oilpalm seeds is at present limited to only about 4 lakhs per annum as against the Eighth Plan estimated demand of 17 million seeds/seedlings.

(c) Around 2.6 million sprouts were imported during 1992-93. During 1993-94, the quantity proposed for import is to be finalised. Seeds have been imported from different countries particularly Costa Rica, Papua new Guinea and Ivory Coast a sum of Rs. 3 Crores in Foreign Exchange was earmarked for seed imports during 1992-93.

(d) Three additional seed gardens in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala have been sanctioned to meet the future demand of Oilpalm Seeds.

[*Translation*]

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH
AUGUST, 1993
DRY FARMING

*218. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area of land under dry farming as in March, 1993;

(b) whether there is a great difference between the average rate of production

of dry farming and irrigated farming in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have taken steps to encourage the research work for increasing the production rate of dry farming;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the other measures taken to increase the production rate of dry farming ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) As per Land Use Statistics 1989-90 (latest available), the net unirrigated area in the country is 94.38 million hectares.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement giving average yield for both irrigated and unirrigated areas in respect of some of the important crops-State-wise for 1990-91 is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The concerted research efforts have been made by Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Agricultural Universities to develop high yielding varieties/hybrids in respect of cereals, pulses and oilseed crops, suitable for different soil agro-climatic regions including that grown under rainfed conditions. This has helped in raising yield rates of coarse cereals, pulses and oilseeds significantly which are mainly rainfed crops.

(f) The Government is implementing various crop specific schemes for increasing the production of rice, wheat, maize & millets, pulses, oilseeds, cotton, jute, etc. In addition, the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDP—RA) including externally aided schemes for enhancing the crop productivity of dryland are in operation.

Statement

STATEWISE ESTIMATES OF IRRIGATED AND UNIRRIGATED YIELD RATES OF PRINCIPAL CROPS

(In Kgs. per ha.)

Crop	State	Irrigated	Unirrigated
Rice (Kharif)	Assam	2274	965
	Bihar	1225	897
	Karnataka	2464	1604
	Madhya Pradesh	1643	1065
	Punjab	3240	2025
	Tamil Nadu	3718	1216
Wheat	Bihar	1885	1382
	Haryana	3503	1697
	Madhya Pradesh	2239	863
	Punjab	3780	2130
	Rajasthan	2491	1257
Jowar (Kharif)	Gujarat	475	386
	Haryana	540	143
	Karnataka	2272	842
Bara	Gujarat	1044	686
	Haryana	1015	734
	Maharashtra	963	568
	Punjab	1174	612
	Rajasthan	838	510
	Tamil Nadu	2552	904
Maize	Haryana	1312	1273
	Karnataka	2829	2395
	Punjab	2240	1334
Barley	Haryana	2175	1376
	Madhya Pradesh	1655	843
	Punjab	2981	1300
	Rajasthan	1917	1012
Groundnut	Gujarat	772	430
	Karnataka	785	573
	Punjab	1079	547
	Rajasthan	1390	824
	Tamil Nadu	1559	1092
Gram	Gujarat	860	627
	Haryana	912	638
	Madhya Pradesh	1009	739
	Punjab	1160	594
	Rajasthan	908	552
Sugarcane	Punjab	60380	41100

1	2	3	4
Crop	State	Irrigated	Unirrigated
Rapeseed and	Assam	898	652
	Gujrat	988	645
Mustard	Haryana	1367	1225
	Madhya Pradesh	1340	456
	Punjab	1050	612
Cotton	Gujarat	395	157
	Karnataka	371	138
	Maharashtra	267	108
	Tamil Nadu	435	220
	Madhya Pradesh	132	101

ASSISTANCE TO SANSKRIT COLLEGES

*219. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI :

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

(a) the names of the Sanskrit Colleges which are getting financial assistance from the Union Government;

(b) the amount released during 1991-92 and 1992-93, College-wise;

(c) whether the Govt. have received complaints about misappropriation of Central assistance by the management of some colleges;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The information is contained in the Statement annexed.

(c) to (e) One complaint has been received alleging undue favour and undue financial benefit being given to the Principal of the Himachal Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Jangla (Rohru), H. P. by certain members of the Managing Committee of the institution including the former nominee of the Central Govt. on the Managing Committee. A preliminary enquiry has been ordered to probe the conduct of the said nominee. The matter regarding appointment of the Principal is sub-judice in the Himachal Pradesh High Court. Further action will be taken on completion of the preliminary enquiry subject to the directives of the Court.

Statement

AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RELEASED TO THE MAHAVIDYALAYAS/SHODHA SANSTHAS

	Amount Released	
	1991-92 (Rs.)	1992-93 (Rs.)
1. The Principal Shri Rang Laxmi Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Vrindaban (Mathura)-281121.	6,52,014	6,71,957
2. The Principal, Jagdish Narayan Brahmachari Ashram Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Lagma (Via): Lohna Road, Rambhadarpur, Distt. Darbhanga (Bihar).	7,54,371	8,83,214

1	2	3	
		Amount Released	
		1991-92 (Rs.)	1992-93 (Rs.)
3.	The Principal, Bhagwan Das Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, PO Gurukul Kangri, Haridwar, Dt. Saharanpur-249401 (UP).	6,87,160	7,69,077
4.	The Principal, Dewan Krishan Kishore S.D. Adarsh Sanskrit College, Ambala Cantt.-133 001 (Haryana).	6,82,044	4,49,669
5.	The Principal, Shri Ekarasanand Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Mainpuri-205 001 (UP).	6,88,182	5,00,000
6.	The Principal, The Madras Sanskrit College & SSV Pathshala, 84, Royapeetha High Road, Mylapore, Madras-600 004.	8,83,118	9,05,082
7.	The Principal, Mumbadevi Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, C/o Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, K.M. Munshi Marg, Bombay-400 007.	6,30,000	6,32,127
8.	The Director, Kuppuswami Sastri Research Institute, 84 Royapeetha High Road, Mylapore, Madras-600 004.	5,04,288	6,16,648
9.	The Principal, Haryana Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, PO: Bhagola (Palwal), Distt. Faridabad, (Haryana).	7,10,862	5,73,698
10.	The Principal, Calicut Adarsh Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Balussery, PO: Balussery, Dt. Calicut (Kerala)-673 612.	14,02,232	10,56,262
11.	The Director, Vaidika Samsodhana Mandala, Tilak Vidyapeetha Nagar, Poona-400037 (Maharashtra).	5,20,887	5,67,957
12.	The Principal, Himachal Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Jangla (Rohru), Distt. Shimla (H.P.)-171207.	6,46,500	9,64,500

1	2	3
	1991—92 Rs.	1992—93 Rs.
13. The Principal, Lakshmi Devi Shroff Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Kaji Rakha, Dt. Deogarh-814112 (Bihar).	7,57,909	4,87,052
14. The Principal, Rajkumari Ganesh Sharma Adarsh Sanskrit VidyaPeetha, Kolhanta, Patori, Distt. Darbhanga (Bihar)-846 003.	6,88,977	7,42,756
15. The Principal, Swami Parankushacharya Adarsh Skt. Mahavidyalaya, Hujasganj, Distt. Gaya (Bihar)-804 407.	6,45,869	6,15,973
16. The Principal, Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Nyaya Sastra Skt. Mahavidyalaya, No. 3, East Mada Street, Little- Kancheepuram (T. Nadu).	5,39,785	5,53,332

[English]

NATIONAL SEEDS POLICY

*220. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of the National Seeds Policy particularly in regard to production of seeds by private parties/multinationals and import of seeds;

(b) whether Government have received representations from farmers regarding this policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to review the said policy in the light of above; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) The Salient features of the Seed Policy are as follows :—

(i) Provide Indian Farmers with the best possible planting material are available anywhere in the world.

(ii) Ensure that only superior disease-free material are brought into the country by subjecting pre-bulk import samples to coordinated-trials by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR).

(iii) Compulsory production of certified seed by companies having foreign collaboration agreements.

(iv) Increase domestic production of quality seeds by providing incentives to Indian Seed Industry.

(v) Strengthen quality control and quarantine facilities for the seed sector.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The provisions of the Seed Policy are reviewed from time to time in response to the developments and requirements of the Seed sector.

LAND MOBILE SATELLITE SERVICE

2065. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to sign the Land Mobile Satellite Service under the International Maritime Satellite Organisations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir, India has decided to ratify the amendment to International Maritime Satellite Organisation (INMARSAT). Convention for provision of Land Mobile Satellite Service (LMSS).

(b) International Maritime Satellite Organisation (INMARSAT) was established in Sept. 1976 primarily to provide reliable maritime Mobile Satellite Communication Services. INMARSAT operates Satellite systems for the provision of maritime communication services the world over. With the increase in demand for mobile communication services, the need

for land based mobile international communication service was felt. INMARSAT decided to introduce this service for which necessary amendment to the Convention and Operating Agreement have been proposed. India as founding member of Inmarsat has decided to ratify the amendments to the INMARSAT Convention & Operating Agreement to enable introduction of international land mobile communication facility.

FINANCIAL ALLOCATION TO ASSAM

2066. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :—

(a) the amount allocated during each of the last three years for the National Highways in Assam, road-wise; and

(b) the action plan to complete the work of National Highway Nos. 37 and 39 at Karbi Anglong portion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The amounts allocated during the last three years for National Highways in Assam are as under :—

Year	Amount allocated	
	NH Works	Maintenance & Repairs (Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	1225.00	1018.09
1992-93	1275.00	1039.625
1993-94	1300.00	474.64 (upto 4-8-93)

Allocations are made State-wise and not roadwise.

(b) National Highways No. 36 and 39 only pass through Karbi Anglong. The works on these National Highways are in progress and are likely to be completed by 1996 subject to availability of resources.

DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN KARNATAKA

2067. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of existing National Highways system;

(b) whether the allocation made in the budget on the highways during 1992-93 was fully utilised;

(c) the expenditure involved in the development of National Highways in Karnataka; and

(d) the amount allocated during 1993-94 and the amount, out of it, utilised for the development of the National Highways in Karnataka ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Total length of National Highways system is 34058 Kms.

(b) The allocation made in 1992-93 for National Highways was Rs. 62654.00 lakhs against which provisional expenditure as reported is Rs. 61400.51 lakhs.

(c) During 1992-93, the expenditure incurred on the development of National Highways in Karnataka was Rs. 1848.03 lakhs.

(d) The amount allocated during 1993-94 to Karnataka is Rs. 1900.00 lakhs. Of

this, an amount of Rs. 297.45 lakhs has been utilised up to June 1993.

ROAD ACCIDENTS IN METROPOLIS

2068. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi tops in the metropolis of fatal accidents in comparison with other metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the number of fatal accidents, indicating the number of persons killed and injured in accidents on roads in such metropolis during first six months of the current year and the corresponding figures for the same period during 1992; and

(c) the extent to which the higher rate of fatal accidents in Delhi is attributable with the induction of Redline buses in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given below :—

	1992 (January-June)		1993 (January-June)			
	Fatal Accidents	Persons Killed	Persons Injured	Fatal Accidents	Persons Killed	Persons Injured
Delhi	914	945	4043	831	892	4021
Madras	237	247	2187	208	219	1957
Bombay	185	197	3770	110(E)	110(E)	3300(E)
Calcutta	Not Available	232	1193	Not Available	300(E)	1200(E)

(c) From the above figures it will be seen that there has not been any abnormal increase in fatal accidents in Delhi due to induction of Redline buses.

BRIDGE ON N.H. NO. 9 IN ANDHRA PRADESH

2069. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken for the construction of a new bridge across

river Munieru on National Highway No. 9 at Keesara in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the estimated cost and the time-schedule for the completion; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) & (c) The estimated cost of bridge including approaches is Rs. 499,14 lakhs and the work is likely to be completed by December, 1993.

DECLARATION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN A.P.

2070. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO :

DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent proposals to the Union Government during the last two years for the conversion of State roads as National Highways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The list is given in Statement.

STATEMENT

LIST OF REVISED PROPOSALS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH FOR DECLARATION AS NEW NATIONAL HIGHWAYS DURING THE 8TH PLAN

S. No.	Name of the Road	Length (in Kms.)
1.	Machilipatnam-Vijayawada-Nuzvid-Chintalapudi Bhadrachalam-Chintur-Konta (in Andhra Pradesh)—Mothugudem Sasonpal-Jagdarpur (in Madhya Pradesh)	260
2.	Nellore-Tadipatri-Bellary-Hubli	
3.	Hyderabad-Karimnagar-Mancherial Chandrapur-connecting N.H.16 and N.H. 7	332
4.	Bellary-Raichur-Mahboobnagar-Devarkonda-Nalesgonda Suryuapet-Khammam Bhadrachalam-Sileru-Araku-Gajapatinagam-Vizianagaram (connecting NH. 7 and NH. 43)	370 900
5.	Kakinada-Rajahmundry-Bhadrachalam-Venkatapuram Jagdarpur.	360
6.	Krishnagiri to Sironcha (via) Vepanapalli-Kuppam-Venkatagiri-Kota-Gudiyattam-Chitoor-Pileru-Rayachoti-Cuddapah-Maidukur-Tokapalle-Erragondapalem-Srigiripadu-Macherla-Dachepalle-Wazfrabad-Miryalguda-Khammam-Warangal-Parkal-Mahadevpur-Sironcha.	970
7.	Ongole to Raichur (via) Podili Bestavaraipeeta-Racherla-Giddalur-Nandyal-Kurnool-Alampur-Uppal-Vergara-Raichur.	340
8.	Tumkur-Madakasira-Hyderabad-Nagaram Venkatapuram (Tumkur-Madhugiri Madakasira-Penugonda-Puttapatu-Dharmavaram-Tadipatri-Bangarapalli-Nandyal-Nandikotkur Atmakur-Rollapenta-Srisallai-Achampet-Kalwakurthy-Amangal-Tukkuguda-Hyderabad-Warangal-Mulug-Nagaram and Venkatapuram)	830
9.	Red Hill in Tamil Nadu to Bellary in Karnataka (via) Puttor-Renigunta-Tirupati-Pileru-Voyalapadu-Madanpalli-Kadiri-Anantapur-Uravakonda)	450
	Total :	4,812

TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS TO DISABLED PERSONS

2071. DR. VASANT NIWRUTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide telephone connections on priority to disabled viz. blind, mentally retarded persons;

(b) whether any special concessions are extended to these people payment of registration fee, call charges etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) There is a proposal under consideration specifically to benefit the blind.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

[*Translation*]

COMPLAINTS ABOUT 198

2072. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the telephone service No. 198 meant for registering the telephone complaints with the telephone faults control cell;

(b) if so, the details zone-wise thereof during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the persons found guilty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

LINKING ROADS OF M.P. WITH NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

2073. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a proposal demanding for allocation of special funds to connect certain roads with National Highways and other roads; and

(b) if so, the number of roads for which funds have been sought ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in view the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of State Roads of Inter-State or Economic Importance. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh have submitted six proposals under the aforesaid scheme in the 8th Five Year Plan.

CAPACITY OF DELHI TELEPHONES EXCHANGES

2074. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5544 on April 12, 1993 and state :

(a) whether the required information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The required information has since been collected and Implementation Report has been sent to the Lok Sabha Secretariat and a copy of the same is given in *Statement*.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

Statement

6th SESSION of the 10th Lok Sabha Date of fulfilment 12-7-93.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

Q. No & Date	Subject	Promise Made	When & How fulfilled	Remarks
USQ No. 5544 dated 12-04-1993 by Sh. Suraj Bhanu Solanki	<p>CAPACITY OF DELHI TELEPHONE EXCHANGE: Asking: (a) the telephone exchanges in Delhi from which new telephone connections have been stopped with reasons therefore:</p>	(a) & (d) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.	(a) Sir, New connections under different categories in Telephone Exchanges are released as and when additional capacity is added or a new exchange is commissioned. However, connections sanctioned on out of turn priority basis by MOS(C), MPs, Takkal cases, etc. are being released in all the Exchanges.	
	(b) whether the Government propose to open new telephone exchanges during the current year:			(d) Tentative plans are drawn to clear the N-OYT/Genl. waiting list as on 31-3-92 by 31-3-94 and to make OYT/Spl. waiting list current by 31-3-94. This is subject to availability of financial and material resources.
	(c) if so, the location thereof with capacity; and			
	(d) the factual position with regard to demand and supply of telephone connections after the expansion of these existing telephone exchanges and setting up of new exchanges in Delhi ?			

**ENCOURAGEMENT TO FOOD
PROCESSING INDUSTRIES IN
MADHYA PRADESH**

2075. **SHRI VISHWESHWAR
BHAGAT :**

SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment regarding investment to be made for encouraging food processing industries in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas of food processing sector which are to be encouraged in these investments ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING
INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :**

(a) to (c) No, Sir. The Ministry has not made any State specific assessment for investment requirement for encouraging food processing industries. But, under a Plan scheme formulated by this Ministry, financial assistance is provided to State Government organisation, academic bodies, recognised organisation of the industry, etc., for conducting studies to assess the potential, etc., for setting up food processing industries in various States/ regions. No such proposal has been received from Madhya Pradesh in this regard. Several developmental Plan schemes have been formulated by this Ministry for implementation during the Eighth Five Year Plan assistance under which could be availed for the project proposals for development of various food processing industries. Most food processing industries are in the private sector and in the Eighth Plan period also, it is expected that most of them will be set up in the private sector. From August, 1991 till May, 1993, 182 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda have been filed involving an investment of Rs. 1661 crores for setting up of various food processing industries in Madhya Pradesh. From the available information it appears that there is potential for setting up of certain fruit and vegetable processing units, poultry processing units, mushroom production and processing units, milk processing units, soya based units, and cereal based units etc.

**NEWS COMPILATION UNITS OF
DOORDARSHAN IN M.P.**

2076. **SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of electronic news compilation units of Doordarshan in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the number of such units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH
DEO) :** (a) There is one news unit functioning at Doordarshan Kendra, Bhopal.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

PANKI THERMAL STATION

2077. **SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :** Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of power generated by the Panki thermal power station in Uttar Pradesh during the last one year, month-wise;

(b) whether there are alleged cases of corruption in the utilisation of the financial assistance provided for the plant by the State as well as the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to get the plant's working being monitored by Central Electricity Authority or any other authority; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V.**

RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The requisite information is as follows :

Month	Generation (in MU's)	Month	Generation (in MU's)
April 1992	6	October 1992	56
May 1992	26	November 1992	47
June 1992	44	December 1992	53
July 1992	58	January 1993	47
August 1992	57	February 1993	52
September 1992	43	March 1993	80

(b) to (e) Managing affairs of the Panki Thermal Power Station is the prerogative of the concerned State Government who may conduct any inquiry into financial or other irregularities.

(f) and (g) Performance of Thermal Power Stations throughout India including those in Uttar Pradesh, is monitored by Central Electricity Authority which also provides suitable advice and assistance in achieving the targets of generation and procuring spares and other inputs.

[*Translation*]

**ROYALTY ON MINERALS IN
RAJASTHAN**

2078. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity, value and names of minerals extracted from Rajasthan during the last two years and the rate of royalty paid to Rajasthan thereon;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted to find out some new places for these minerals; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM
SINGH YADAV) :** (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

BAUXITE INDUSTRY IN BIHAR

2079. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from Members of Parliament for not establishing a bauxite based industry in Chhotta Nagpur as per an agreement with the Government of Bihar concluded some years back; and

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

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM
SINGH YADAV) :** (a) to (c) Government has received representations from Shri Lalit Oraon and Prof. Malini Bhattacharya, Member of Parliament regarding setting up of alumina/aluminium plant in Chhotta Nagpur area (Lohardaga, Gumla and Palamau) of Bihar based on bauxite deposits in the State. Specific replies to these representations have been sent informing that present bauxite reserves in the State are not adequate to set up and sustain an economically viable alumina/aluminium plant. Government of Bihar has, however, granted a number of mining leases for bauxite in favour of M/s. Hindalco Industries Ltd. and is understood to have held discussions with them for setting up

bauxite based industry in the State. The Aluminium industry is now delicensed and any party willing to set up a plant is free to do so.

[*Translation*]

STEALING OF PARCELS IN BIHAR

2080. SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several parcels have been stolen from the General Post Offices in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) the number of foreign parcels out of them;

(d) the outcomes of investigation made by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

[*English*]

REPAIRS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN MAHARASHTRA

2081. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount demanded by the State Government of Maharashtra for the National Highways repairs in the State during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount sanctioned during each of the last three years;

(c) the length of National Highways in Maharashtra which requires repairs;

(d) the length of National Highways where repairs were possible with the amount sanctioned by the Union Government; and

(e) the provisions made for 1993-94 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The amounts demanded and allotted to Maharashtra for Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways during last three years are as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	Demanded	Allotments
1990-91	1747.28	1489.15
1991-92	2056.67	1620.90
1992-93	2514.24	1506.67

(c) and (d) Total length of National Highways in Maharashtra is 2918 Kms. The entire National Highway network needs repairs/maintenance and it is generally kept in traffic worthy condition by taking up necessary repair works from time to time within the available funds.

(e) The allotment for the year 1993-94 for maintenance and repairs of National Highways in Maharashtra is Rs. 1540.10 lakhs.

[*Translation*]

INAUGURATION OF AIR STATIONS IN UTTAR PRADESH

2082. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of All India Radio stations in Uttar Pradesh completed fully;

(b) the time by which these are likely to be commissioned; and

(c) the details of construction of All India Radio Centre at Faizabad and the time by which construction is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) There is only one radio station at Obra in Uttar Pradesh which is ready for commissioning in all respects. The Station will be commissioned shortly.

(c) Radio Station at Faizabad has already been commissioned into service on 17-6-1993.

[English]

**BRANCH POST OFFICES IN
HIMACHAL PRADESH**

2083. PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of new Branch Post Offices opened in Himachal Pradesh during

the last three years and proposed to be opened during 1993-94, district-wise; and

(b) the similar details of upgradation of the Branch Post Offices into Sub-Post Offices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) The required information is furnished in the Statement.

Statement

District-wise information for the last three years regarding new post Offices opened, upgraded and proposed to be set up during 1993-94 in Himachal Pradesh.

Sl. No.	Name of District	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
		New P.O.	Up grad.	New P.O.	Up grad.	New P.O.	Up grad.	Sanc-tioned	Pro-posed to be set up
1.	Bilaspur . . .	3	—	3	—	2	—	1	1
2.	Chamba . . .	2	—	3	—	2	—	—	—
3.	Hamirpur . . .	1	—	2	—	3	—	1	1
4.	Kangra . . .	3	—	6	—	5	—	4	3
5.	Kinnaur . . .	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
6.	Kullu . . .	2	—	2	—	1	—	2	1
7.	L/Spiti . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Mandi . . .	7	—	1	—	5	—	4	4
9.	Shimla . . .	9	—	3	—	1	—	—	1
10.	Sirmour . . .	5	—	4	—	2	1	1	1
11.	Solan . . .	3	—	4	—	1	—	1	1
12.	Una . . .	1	—	4	—	1	—	1	1
TOTAL . . .		37	—	32	—	24	1	15	15

**MINI TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN
ORISSA**

2084. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received from the villages of Bhadrak district in Orissa during last two years for opening of mini telephone exchanges to get telephone connections ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the time by which these are likely to be opened ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Requests were received from following villages :

Mauda	Andhia
Bhadrakali	Sendhatira
Antara	Motto
Bholia	Dhamara
Manjuri Road	

(c) and (d) Opening of new exchanges at villages Bhadrakali, Bholia and Andhra are not justified as per the policy of the Department as they fall within the local

area of proposed telephone exchanges at Mauda, Antara and Sandhatira, respectively.

For the remaining places the exchanges are likely to be opened by March, 1995.

IMPROVEMENT IN CONDITIONS OF ROADS

2085. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Pave roads, save petrol' appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 14th September, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide cement concrete roads in place of polymer compounded bitumen to start with from Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The plea made is for paving and improvement of roads. This is a continuing activity on National Highways and is undertaken depending upon the availability of resources.

(c) and (d) Widening to 4-lane in Delhi-Mathura Section of National Highway-2 includes cement concrete pavement in the new carriageway.

PURCHASE OF CRAWLER CRANES BY BPT

2086. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bombay Port Trust (BPT) purchased seven Crawler Cranes of 35 ton capacity during 1983-84;

(b) the names of manufacturers and the price of each crane;

(c) the purchase for which these were purchased and whether they were used for the purpose for which these were purchased.

(d) the expected life of each crane and the number of years these were used by the Bombay Port Trust; and

(e) The dates when these were sold and at what price and the market price of such new cranes at the time of sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

COLLECTION OF CONSUMPTION DEPOSITS BY DESU

2087. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court in the case of Ferro Alloys Co. Ltd. V/s. Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board have held the State Electricity Boards can receive advance consumption deposit without the payment of interest;

(b) whether there is any proposal to ask the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking to take consumption deposits from persons in Delhi whose electricity bill runs in thousands and lakhs to improve its financial position; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY FOR POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A system of obtaining "Security Deposit" from consumers at prescribed rates already exists in DESU. At present, there is no proposal to revise these rates. DESU is, however, reviewing the position about the applicability and implications of the Supreme Court judgement on its existing structure of Security Deposits.

INCREASE IN CAPACITY OF TELEPHONE LINES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

2088. DR. K. V. R. CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the details with location thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) The details are in Statement.

Statement

**ANDHRA PRADESH TELECOM CIRCLE
ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES PROPOSED DURING THE YEAR 1993-94**

Sl. No.	Name of the Stn.	Type	Capacity
1. Name of the District : ADILABAD			
1.	Adilabad	C—DOT SBM	1400
2.	Sirpirkagaznagar (2nd)	512P ILT	384
3.	Bellampalli	512P ILT	384
4.	Bhajnsa	512P ILT	384
5.	Dandopalli	128P C—DOT	88
6.	Laxamanachanda	64 MILT	56
7.	Niguva	64 MILT	56
2. Name of the District : ANANTAPUR			
1.	Tadipatri	512 P ILT	384
2.	Anantapur	C—DOT SBM	1400
3.	Kudur	128 P C—DOT	88
4.	Demmanahal	128 P C—DOT	88
5.	Nalluru	128 P C—DOT	88
6.	Patnam	64 MILT	56
7.	Peddavadaguru	64 MILT	56
3. Name of the District : CHITTOOR			
1.	Puttur	512 P ILT	384
2.	Pijar	512 P ILT	384
3.	Pakala	200 P AM	192
4.	B. Kothakota (2nd)	128 P C—DOT	88
5.	Gurramkonda	128 P C—DOT	88
6.	Damajachervu	128 P C—DOT	88
7.	Horsely Hills	64 MILT	56
4. Name of the District : CUDDAPAH			
1.	Yerraguntla	512 P C—DOT	20
2.	Chilamakur	128 P C—DOT	88
3.	Eruvapalem	128 P C—DOT	88
4.	Duvvur	128 P C—DOT	88
5.	Mangampeta	64 MILT	56

Sl. No.	Name of the Stn.	Type	Capacity
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5. Name of the District : GUNTUR

1.	Mangalagiry	512 C—DOT	1000
2.	Tenali	C—DOT MAX—I	2500
3.	Vinukonda	512 P ILT	384
4.	Macherla	512 P ILT	384
5.	Sattenapalli	512 P ILT	384
6.	Rapatula	512 P ILT	384
7.	Ponnur	512 P ILT	384
8.	Kondrupadu (2nd)	128 P C—DOT	88
9.	Vatticherukuru (2nd)	128 P C—DOT	88
10.	Donepudi	128 P C—DOT	88
11.	Prathur (2nd)	128 P C—DOT	88

6. Name of the District : EAST GODAVARI

1.	Amalapuram	512 P C—DOT	420
2.	Yanam	512 P ILT	384
3.	Yeleswaram	512 P ILT	384

7 Name of the District : HYDERABAD (Including Rangareddy Distt.)

1.	Sajfabad-VI	Seimens	20K
2.	Musheerabad	E—10 B RLU	7K
3.	Charminar	E—10 B RLU	7K
4.	Secunderabad	E—10 B RLU	6K
5.	Golconda	E—10 B	5K
6.	Jubilee Hills	E—10 B RLU	5K
7.	Gachibowli	E—10 B RLU	1K
8.	Other RLU Expansions	E—10 B RLUs	6K
9.	Shamshabad	C—DOT SBM	1000
10.	Kompally	512 P ILT	384
11.	Shameerpot	512 P ILT	384
12.	Sanghinagar	512 P ILT	384
13.	Basupally	64 MILT	56
14.	Dubbacherla	64 MILT	56
15.	Ennaram	128 P C—DOT	88
16.	Mali-V. Nagar	64 MILT	56
17.	Marripally	128 P C—DOT	88
18.	V. Nagulapally	128 P C—DOT	88
19.	Yellampet	128 P C—DOT	88
20.	Gadisinagapur	64 MILT	56
21.	Kanekal	64 MILT	56
22.	K. Raviryal	64 MILT	56
23.	MDR Pally	64 MILT	56
24.	Mamchala	64 MILT	56
25.	Peddumul	64 MILT	56
26.	Rachaloor	64 MILT	56
27.	Raipole	64 MILT	56

Sl. No.	Name of the Stn.	Type	Capacity
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8 Name of the District : KARIMNAGAR

1.	Peddapalli	512 P ILT	384
2.	Karimnagar	C—DOT SBM	1000
3.	F. C. I.	512 P LIT	384
4.	Vemulavada	512 P ILT	384
5.	Ramagundam	2x128 P C—DOT	160
6.	Mukanur	128 P C—DOT	88
7.	Gangadhara	64 MILT	56

9 Name of the District : KHAMMAM

1.	Yellandu	512 P I	384
2.	Khammam	RLU	3500
3.	Khammam	D—TAX	500
4.	Satyanarayanapuram	128 P C—DOT	88
5.	Kunavaram	128 P C—DOT	88
6.	Aswarapet (2nd)	128 P C—DOT	88
7.	Burgampahad	128 P C—DOT	88
8.	DammaPet	128 P C—DOT	88
9.	Mukundapuram	64 P MILT	56
10.	Nagupalli	64 P MILT	56
11.	V. K. Puram	64 P MILT	56
12.	Annapuroddipalli	64 P MILT	56
13.	Mondikunta	64 P MILT	56
14.	Nagupalli	64 P MILT	56

10. Name of the District : KRISHNA

1.	Kaikajuru (2nd)	512 P ILT	384
2.	Hanuman Junction	512 P ILT	384
3.	Vijayawada	E—10 B RLU	10K
4.	Kankipadu	C—DOT SBM	1K
5.	Avanigadda	512 P ILT	384
6.	Bhaskarapet	128 P C—DOT	88
7.	Bhujabajapatnam	128 P C—DOT	88
8.	Putrela	128 P C—DOT	88
9.	Polavaram	128 P C—DET	88
10.	Ramavarapupadu	128 P C—DOT	88
11.	Gannavaram	128 P C—DOT	88
12.	Bandipalem	64 MILT	56

11. Name of the District : KURNOOL

1.	Nandyal	C—DOT MAX—1	2K
2.	Yemmiganur	512 P ILT	384
3.	Adoni	512 P ILT	384

Sl. No.	Name of the Stn.	Type	Capacity
12. Name of the District : MAHABUBNAGAR			
1.	Shadnagar	C—DOT SBM	1K
2.	Amanagallu	200 ESAX	192
3.	Mahabubnagar	C—DOT MAX—I	3K
4.	MoosaPet	128 P C—DOT	88
5.	Khilaghanapur	64 P MILT	56
6.	Urukonda	64 P MILT	56
13. Name of the District : MEDAK			
1.	Bolaram	512 P ILT	384
2.	ShankaramPet-I	128 P C—DOT	88
3.	Narasapur (2nd)	128 P C—DOT	88
4.	Tokmal	64 P MILT	56
14. Name of the District : NALGONDA			
1.	Nalgonda	C—DOT SBM	1400
2.	Kodad	C—DOT SBM	1000
3.	Njdamanur	128 P C—DOT	88
4.	Koyyalagudem	128 P C—DOT	88
5.	Mattampally	128 P C—DOT	88
6.	Hajida	128 P C—DOT	88
7.	Vishnupuram	64 P MILT	56
8.	Tripuraram	64 P MILT	56
9.	Dindi	64 P MILT	56
15. Name of the District : NELLORE			
1.	Sullurpet	512 P ILT	384
2.	Gudur	C—DOT SBM	1400
3.	Nellore	C—COT SBM	1000
4.	Chittammore	128 P C—DOT	88
5.	Bitragunta	128 P C—DOT	88
6.	Manubolu	128 P C—DOT	88
7.	Turimelia	128 P C—DOT	88
8.	Kaluroya	128 P C—DOT	88
9.	Damaramadugu	128 P C—DOT	88
10.	Indukurupeta	128 P C—DOT	88
11.	Udayagiri	128 P C—DOT	88
12.	Somasila	64 MILT	56
13.	Annamedu	64 MILT	56
14.	Dagadarthi	64 MILT	56
16. Name of the District : NIZAMABAD			
1.	Bheemgal (2)	128 P C—DOT	88
2.	Pitlam	—do—	88
3.	Dichpally	—do—	88
4.	Nandipet	—do—	88
5.	Bicknoor	—do—	88
6.	Nagireddypeta	—do—	88
7.	Potangal	—do—	88
8.	Morthad	—do—	88
9.	Domakonda	64 MILT	56

Sl. No.	Name of the Sin.	Type	Capacity
17. Name of the District : PRAKASHAM			
1.	Chirala	C—DOT SBM	1400
2.	Addanki	512 P ILT	384
3.	Pondili	200 ESAX	192
4.	Giddalur	512 P ILT	384
5.	Cumbum	128 P C—DOT	88
6.	Maruturu (2nd)	128 P C—DOT	88
7.	Donakonda	64 MILT	56
8.	Kondepi	64 MILT	56
18. Name of the District : SRIKAKULAM			
1.	Srikakulam	2048 P ILT	1635
2.	Allinagaram	128 P C—DOT	88
19. Name of the District : VISAKHAPATNAM			
1.	Anakapalli	C—DOT SBM	1200
2.	Gopalapatanam	C—DOT SBM	1000
3.	Visakhapatnam	E—10 B RLU	5000
4.	Sagur Estate	512 P ILT	384
5.	Madhurawada (3rd)	128 P C—DOT	88
6.	Lankalapalem (2nd)	128 P C—DOT	88
7.	Kotauratla	128 P C— OT	88
20. Name of the District : VIZIANAGARAM			
1.	Paruvathipuram	512 P ILT	384
2.	Bobbili	512 P ILT	384
3.	G. L. Puram	128 P C—DOT	88
4.	Kurupam	128 P C—DOT	88
5.	JonnaValasa	128 P C—DOT	88
6.	Pydibhimavaram	128 P C—DOT	88
21. Name of the District : WARANGAL			
1.	Warangal	E—10 B RLU	500
2.	Raghunathapalli	128 P C—DOT	88
3.	Govindaraopet	—do—	
4.	Ghanapur (M)	—do—	
5.	Warangal (Rural)	—do—	
6.	Rachannapet	—do—	88
7.	Warangal (STDPT'S)	—do—	88
8.	Kurni	64 MILT	56
9.	Gudur	64 MILT	56
22. Name of the District : WEST GODAVARI			
1.	Jangareddygudem	512 P ILT	384
2.	Eluru	ICP Extn.	1500
3.	Tanuku	C—DOT SBM	1000
4.	Palakole	C—DOT SBM	1000
5.	Tadepalligudem	C—DOT MAX—I	3000
6.	Narsapur	512 P ILT	384
7.	Mahadevapattanam	128 P C—DOT	88

**INDIAN ALUMINIUM COMPANY
LIMITED**

2089. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Aluminium Company Limited (INDAL) has a proposal for the expansion of its units;

(b) whether it also propose to increase its export;

(c) if so, the details of the proposal of INDAL; and

(d) the time limit fixed for the implementation of those proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Indian Aluminium Company Limited (INDAL), the Company has no immediate plans for expansion of its aluminium manufacturing units. However, the Company proposes to increase the capacity for the printed circuit board manufacturing unit at Nanjangud from the existing 30,000 sq. mtrs. per annum to 55,000 sq. mtrs. per annum by 1994.

(b) to (d) INDAL proposes to increase its exports of semi-fabricated aluminium products and alumina. The company has, however, no estimates of exports for 1993-94 and 1994-95 because of uncertain and weak international market. The Company is proposing to set up a 100% EOU Alumina plant in Orissa. Feasibility study for the project is expected to be ready by second quarter of 1994.

**CANCELLATION OF CERTIFICATES
OF REGISTRATION**

2090. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to reply

given to Unstarred Question No. 5069 on March 27, 1992 and state :

(a) the number of certificates of registration/fitness of the vehicles found plying unauthorisedly in Delhi were cancelled during each of the last three years ;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the certificates that have not yet been cancelled, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

ACCIDENTS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO. 8

2091. SHRI SHASHI PRAKASH :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state ;

(a) whether National Highway No. 8 between Jaipur and Kishangarh is accident prone area as has been pointed out by the authorities for a long time;

(b) if so, the number of accidents and death cases occurred during each month of the last three years;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted to know the reasons for this increase in the rate of accidents in comparison to other National Highways in the State;

(d) if so, the recommendation of the enquiry and if not whether Government propose to enquire into the matter now; and

(e) the immediate remedial steps proposed to be taken now ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) to (e) The information is being collected from the State Government of Rajasthan and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**THEFT OF TELEPHONE WIRE IN
WEST BENGAL**

2092. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of telephone wire theft in between Jalpaiguri and Haldibari in West Bengal have been on the increase;

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

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the remedial steps Government propose to improve the telecommunication services and to provide S.T.D. facility in Haldibari ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir. On the contrary, the incidents of thefts in West Bengal are on the decline as per details below :

No. of incidents of theft in 1991—
12.

No. of incidents of theft in 1992—
10.

No. of incidents of theft in 1993 (up-
to 21-7-93)—4.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Cases of wire thefts are reported to the concerned Police Stations immediately and these are also pursued periodically to prevent recurrence of theft.

(d) Special watch has been kept for guarding the telephone alignments with the help of the Police authorities by special patrol.

On 30 channel Digital Ultra High Frequency (UHF) system has been planned between Haldibari-Mekhliganj for improving the telecom services and to extend STD facility to the telephone users of Haldibari. The system is likely to be commissioned during 1994.

**TELEPHONE TO PANCHAYATS IN
ASSAM**

2093. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Gram Panchayats provided with telephone connections in Assam as on date, district-wise; and

(b) the number of Gram Panchayats to be provided this facility during 1993-94, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) As on 31-7-93, the number of Panchayat Villages provided with telephone facility is 1325. The district-wise details are given in Annexure.

(b) The number of Panchayat Villages to be provided with such facility during the year 1993-94 is 620. The district-wise details are given in Statement.

Statement

DISTRICT-WISE DETAILS OF PANCHAYAT VILLAGES IN ASSAM PROVIDED/
PROPOSED WITH TELEPHONE FACILITY.

Sl. No.	Districts	No. of Panchayat Villages provided with Telephone facility as on 31-07-1993	No. of Panchayat Villages proposed with Telephone facility during 1993-94.
1.	Dibrugarh	63	14
2.	Tinsukio	57	16
3.	Sibsagar	77	25
4.	Golaghat	49	25
5.	Jorhat	54	40
6.	Nagaon	160	70
7.	Marigaon	40	20
8.	North Lakhimpur	30	10
9.	Dhemaji	34	15
10.	Sonitpur	97	40
11.	Darrang	65	50
12.	Goalpara	20	20
13.	Kokrajhar	26	50
14.	Nalbari	40	50
15.	Dhubri	53	55
16.	Barpeta	42	20
17.	Bongaigoon	43	10
18.	Cachar	112	20
19.	Karimganj	63	15
20.	Hailakandi	31	15
21.	Kamrup	169	40
	TOTAL	1325	620

[Translation]

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

2094. SHRI ASHT BHUJA PRASAD
SHUKLA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state ;

(a) the names of the state roads and highways declared as national highways during each of the last three years; state-wise;

(b) the details of the roads in Uttar Pradesh proposed to be declared as National Highways during 1993-94; and

(c) the financial assistance given from the Central Road Fund, during the last three years for construction, maintenance and repairs of roads and bridges, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a)
The requisite details are as under :—

S. No.	State	Name of the road	Date of declaration
1.	West Bengal	Siliguri-Darjeeling road	In 1990
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool-Chittoor road	In 1993

(b) Owing to meager allocation for Central Sector Roads in the 8th Five Year Plan, it is difficult to declare new National Highways in any State including Uttar Pradesh at present.

(c) A statement indicating the details of the funds released to various States under the Central Road Fund in the last three years as per old Resolution is annexed.

Statement

S. No.	Name of State	Amount released during		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.00	50.00	33.00
2.	Assam	—	25.00	60.00
3.	Bihar	—	20.00	100.00
4.	Goa	—	—	1.00
5.	Gujarat	150.00	60.00	70.00
6.	Haryana	50.00	10.00	39.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	9.81	—	—
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	20.00	50.00
9.	Karnataka	7.00	45.00	80.00
10.	Kerala	150.00	40.00	20.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	50.00	60.00	50.00
12.	Maharashtra	4.50	90.00	100.00
13.	Manipur	10.50	1.00	—
14.	Meghalaya	—	20.00	25.00
15.	Mizoram	—	10.00	35.00
16.	Nagaland	1.19	—	—
17.	Orissa	—	30.00	7.00
18.	Rajasthan	207.00	—	25.00
19.	Tamil Nadu	—	60.00	50.00
20.	Tripura	—	5.00	11.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	250.00	—	79.50
22.	West Bengal	5.00	34.00	40.00
23.	Chandigarh/Delhi	5.40	5.70	12.00
TOTAL:		905.40	585.70	887.50

[English]

TARGET FOR TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN MAHARASHTRA

2095. SHRI ANNA JOSHI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of telephone exchanges set up in the rural areas of Maharashtra particularly in Pune region during 1992-93 is much less than the target fixed;

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

(c) the steps taken to achieve the target fully ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) 129 telephone exchanges were set up in rural area of Maharashtra (including 4 exchanges in Pune) during 1992-93 as against the target of 100 exchanges (including 7 in Pune district);

(b) and (c) Due to non-availability of suitable accommodation, three exchanges could not be set up in Pune District and the same are planned to be set up during 1993-94.

[*Translation*]

COMPENSATION OF LAND OUSTEES

2096. **SHRI RAM PAL SINGH :**

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the land acquired from farmers for constructing a proposed road in the name of bypass at National Highway No. 28 in Basti near Kuana river, have been paid compensation;

(b) whether the compensation for the land acquired for the already constructed road in first phase has been paid also; and

(c) if not, time by which this amount of compensation is likely to be paid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Uttar Pradesh State Public Works Department has reported that for Phase I of Basti bypass on NH 28, necessary amount for land acquisition has been deposited with the Revenue Authorities and for Phase II, the question of payment does not arise as the land has not been handed over so far.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

MILITARY CAPABILITY OF PAK

2097. **SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :**

SHRI BOILA BILLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the US Commando team and Pakistan SSG have conducted any joint training exercise recently;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether the Government have conveyed their concern to the US regarding Pak's acquiring military capability beyond

its legitimate requirements and its support to subversive elements in Kashmir and Punjab; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the response of the US thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A US Commando team and Pakistan SSG personnel conducted a joint training exercise in the area of Attock from 7 February to 3 March, 1993.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government have, on several occasions, conveyed to the US their concerns on Pakistan acquiring major weapon systems, from the US and other countries, which exceed Pakistan's legitimate defence requirements. Such weapons have been used by Pakistan against India and, therefore, remain a matter for continuing concern for Government. Under the provisions of the Pressler Amendment, US military assistance to Pakistan remains cut off.

Government have also repeatedly conveyed to the US their grave concern over Pakistan's support to terrorism in J&K, and Punjab and have provided detailed evidence of Pakistan's involvement with Terrorist groups in India to the US Government.

The US Secretary of State, after a full review of facts and of the law, determined on July 14, 1993 that available information does not warrant a finding for now that Pakistan has "repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism"; that Pakistan has taken a number of steps that appear to have responded to US concerns in this matter and that Pakistan have indicated to the US a willingness to address this issue. The US State Department Spokesman, however, stressed that the US will continue to monitor the situation very closely and added that under US law the Secretary of State has the legal right to list a state at any point as one which sponsors terrorism.

[Translation]

OPERATION OF TOUTS IN DELHI STATE TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

2098. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the activities of the tout operators in and around the offices of the Delhi State Transport Authority;

(b) the number of complaints received in this regard during each of the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of complaints received by the Transport Department of Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi during each of the last three years is as follows :—

July, 1990 to June, 1991	Nil
July, 1991 to June, 1992	02
July, 1992 to June, 1993	05
July, 1993	01
	08
Total :	08

(c) Officials from the Police Department and Enforcement Branch of the Transport Department, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi are posted regularly in the various branches of the Transport Department to check the interference of the tout operators. Further, a Public Relation Officer has also been appointed in the Department to attend to the grievances and for proper guidance to the public.

TALKS ON MARITIME BOUNDARY WITH PAKISTAN

2099. SHRI KESHRI LAL :

SHRI SURYA NARAIN YADAV :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government have held any talks with Pakistan to resolve maritime boundary issue with that country during the last two years; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and the outcome thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) : (a) and (b) During the last two years, Government have held two rounds of talks with Government of Pakistan to demarcate the maritime boundary between the two countries in the Sir Creek area namely, at Rawalpindi on 27-28 October, 1991 and New Delhi on November 5-6, 1992.

At the last round of talks held at New Delhi, the two sides had a detailed and useful exchange of views on the various issues involved. They agreed that the discussions would be continued at Islamabad on a mutually convenient date.

CONTRACT GIVEN FOR TELEPHONE INSTRUMENTS

2100. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA

GAUTAM :

SHRI RAMESHWAR
PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of contracts awarded by the Telecommunications Department to Bharti Telecom Company during the last two years;

(b) whether any irregularities have been committed while awarding these contracts;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to investigate the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Department of Telecommunications including MTNL have issued about 29 contracts/purchase orders during the last two years to Bharti Telecom for telephone instruments.

(b) No, Sir.

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

[English]

AMOUNT PAID BY SCI TO GREEK COMPANY

2101. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :
SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India chartered a 32 years old Greek vessel M.V. Fibi for six months to carry passengers from Madras to Port Blair without calling for any global tenders ;

(b) whether the Shipping Corporation of India have paid heavy amount in foreign exchange for failure of the vessel to obtain the mandatory 'A' certificate for sea worthness ;

(c) if so, the reasons for flouting the norms for inviting global tenders ;

(d) the total amount paid by the Shipping Corporation of India to the Greek company in accordance with the charter agreement ;

(e) whether the Government have made any inquiry into the gross irregularity committed by the Corporation ; and

(f) if so, the details thereof stating the reaction of the Government with regard thereto ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. chartered the passenger vessel m.v. Fibi for operation on mainland-Andaman services, after following their well established procedure of floating enquires through empanelled Indian and foreign shipbrokers who submit offers on a global basis. The procedure followed by the SCI is an accepted practice in international shipping market, which gives wider coverage for the particular types of ships available globally at the most competitive rates and terms.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Do not arise.

(d) The total amount of provisional charter hire paid to the owner of the vessel till 23-7-93 is US \$ 11.50 lakhs.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Do not arise.

REPATRIATION OF CHAKMA REFUGEES

2102. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI :

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been reached with Bangladesh for the repatriation of Chakma refugees recently ;

(b) whether these refugees refused to return to that country unless their 13 point charter of demands were fulfilled ;

(c) whether the Government have taken up these issues with that country to ensure the early return of these refugees ;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard ;

(e) whether the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh put forward any proposal regarding invitation to a delegation of refugees to visit Chittagong Hill Tracts; and

(f) If so, the details thereof and response of Chakma leaders thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A detailed understanding, in line with the agreement between the two Prime Ministers, was reached during the Communication Minister of Bangladesh, Col. Oli Ahmed's visit in May 1993.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government of India has taken up the issue at various levels. It was also prominently discussed during the call by the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh on PM in June 1993.

(d) Government of India is committed to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of the Chakma refugees to Bangladesh. During the discussions, Government of Bangladesh has reiterated its commitment to arrange an early repatriation of Chakma and other tribal refugees and have assured GOI that they would undertake all necessary measures to encourage their return.

(e) No, Sir. Such a proposal was not put forward by the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh. However, during his call on PM on June 12, 1993, it was suggested to him that the representative groups of the refugees should be encouraged to visit Chittagong Hill Tracts so as to enable them to see for themselves the prevailing conditions and the arrangements made for the returning refugees.

(f) The proposal of a visit to Bangladesh by a group of representatives of Chakmas and other tribal refugees is under consideration.

[Translation]

IMPACT OF G-7 SUMMIT ON INDIAN TRADE

*2103. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA
VERMA :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL :

SHRI SIMON MARANDI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) The major decisions of the G-7 summit held at Tokyo recently which have direct or indirect bearing on international trade of India ;

(b) In what ways the trade interest of India affected by decision of the summit ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAIMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) The significant achievement of the Summit was the quadrilateral agreement on a package of market access concessions in the areas of goods and services. The Political and Economic Declaration of G-7 also called for :—

(i) Curbing of protectionism in all its manifestations.

(ii) Regional integration to be complementary and supportive to the multilateral open trading system.

(b) and (c) If the decisions of the G-7 mentioned above are implemented and the Uruguay Round Negotiations are completed successfully to our satisfaction, this can have a positive impact on India's international trade.

[English]

WHEAT AS A VALUE ADDED PRODUCT

2104. SHRI M R. KADAMBUR JANTHANAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether wheat production in the country is surplus this year ;

(b) whether the Government propose to use this surplus to increase the low utilization capacity of the flour mills in the country ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether any proposal to export wheat as a value added product ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) The estimated production of 57 Million tonnes of wheat for the year 92-93 is considered adequate to meet the requirements of the country.

(b) The Roller Flour Mills in the country are free to procure their requirements from the open market for utilization of their full milling capacities. Therefore the Government has no role to play in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Government of India has released ceiling of 10,000 M.T. of wheat products such as atta, maida, suji etc. for export. So far APEDA has issued Registration-cum-allocation certificates involving export of 475.2 M.T. of wheat products.

TELECOM CENTRES IN KASHMIR

2105. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether militants have again disrupted the telecommunication centre in Kashmir ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken to avoid such recurrence in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) None, since 1-4-1993.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

GRANT FOR PUMPSETS IN GUJARAT AND BIHAR

2106. SHRI HARIBHAI M. PATEL :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

SHRI LAL BABU RAI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide grants for supply of power to farmers in Gujarat and Bihar for operating their irrigation pumps ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any target in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (d) There is no proposal under consideration of the Union Government to provide grants for supply of power to the farmers in Gujarat and Bihar for operating their irrigation pumps.

[Translation]

CONTACT BETWEEN GROWERS AND PROCESSORS

2107. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL
KATHERIA :

SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to establish contact between the growers and processors ;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the adequate supply of raw materials to food processing units and to pay remunerative prices to farmers ; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof and the amount earmarked and spent on this scheme during the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated a scheme for implementation during the Eighth Five Year Plan in which assistance is provided for strengthening the backward linkage between the processors and the growers. Under the Scheme, the encouragement by way of financial assistance is provided to those fruit and vegetable processing industries who undertake contract farming in which industry arranges for high quality inputs and provides technical know-how and support to the farmers for increasing the production and productivity of the raw-materials and purchase them at an agreed prices, thus ensuring regular supply of raw-materials of desired type to the

industry and reasonable price of the produce to the farmers. The ingredients of the scheme are as follows :

- (a) The organisation seeking assistance under the scheme must have contracts with at least 25 farmers.
- (b) The contract must specify the contracted produce, the price of each produce and the minimum quantity to be purchased.
- (c) Financial assistance upto 5% of the purchase price subject to a ceiling of Rs. 10 lakhs per unit/organisation will be available as a grant-in-aid.
- (d) In case of new unit, in the first two years of commercial production, the assistance would be upto 50% of the cost of extension subject to ceiling of Rs. 5 lakhs.

The assistance/grant is made available in the form of reimbursement at the end of the year on submission of the certified financial statements indicating the amounts spent on purchase of the contracted produce and verifications by the concerned District Agriculture/Horticulture Officer for the efforts made by the industry towards extension work, input supply, etc.

An outlay of Rs. 4.00 crores has been earmarked to the Scheme for the Eighth Plan. No assistance was provided under the Scheme in the year 1992-93 when the scheme was first introduced as the grant-in-aid is to be provided in the form of reimbursement at the end of the financial year. However, during the current financial year, an assistance to the tune of Rs. 8.67 lakhs has already been sanctioned to two fruit and vegetable processing units.

MILK PLANT IN BIHAR

2108. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHDARY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under the consideration of the Union Government in regard to setting up of a milk plant for

the production of baby food and other milk products in Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) and (b) Central Government does not set up the Food Processing Industries directly. No proposal has been received to establish a plant for manufacturing/preparing/making baby food in Bihar.

STD/PCOs IN U.P.

2109. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) The number of STD/ISD P.C.Os functioning at present in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the number of applications pending in this regard at present; and
- (c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) There are 3733 STD/ISD PCOs as on 30-6-93.

(b) 855 applications are pending.

(c) In the light of the revised policy on STD, PCOs, the pending applications will be scrutinised district-wise and eligible cases will be allotted PCOs during the year progressively subject to technical feasibility.

[English]

PAKISTAN AS SPONSOR OF TERRORISM

2110. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN :

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply

given to Unstarred Question No. 955 on March 1, 1993 and state :

(a) The details of the progress made so far in regard to the declaration of Pakistan as a state sponsor of Terrorism by various countries including the US ; and

(b) The initiative taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Government have and will continue to apprise the international community, including the Governments of USA and UK, of the factual position regarding Pakistan's involvement with terrorism and subversion directed against India. There is international appreciation for India's position.

OUTLAY FOR NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN 8TH PLAN

2111. **SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE :** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the total outlay in the Eighth Five Year Plan for the development of National Highways in different parts of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : An amount of Rs. 2,460.00 crores has been allocated for the development of National Highways for the different States in the 8th Five Year Plan.

WORK FORCE IN GOLD MINES

2112. **SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRI-YAPPA :** Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the working force of the five gold mines has been reduced to 7000 from 30,000 in the Kolar Gold Fields;

(b) whether any new industries are being set up in KGF in view of the above fact; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALARAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) The peak level employment in KGF mines was

34641 in 1907 when the mines were run by a private Company. The strength of workforce was 13,168 on 1-4-1972, when the Company was made a PSU. The present strength of workforce is 7828 as on 30-6-1993.

(b) There is no proposal to set up any new industry by the Bharat Gold Mines Limited.

(c) Does not arise.

MISHANDLING OF FUNDS BY INDIAN MISSION

*2113. **SHRI K. PRADHANI :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31 March, 1992 has made any objection on mishandling of funds by Indian Mission in Athens (Greece) as reported in 'The Times of India' dated June 7, 1993; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The facts of the case are that in September 1990, the Indian Mission in Athens, with the approval of this Ministry sold government property in Athens for Greek Drachmas 80 million. Pending the permission of the Greek Government, which was mandatory, for the repatriation of funds, that Mission deposited this amount in a local bank, in a separate interest bearing Savings Bank Account'. In November 1991, at the instance of the Audit authorities, the Mission learnt that no interest was being earned as foreign governments were not permitted to keep funds in any interest-bearing Savings Bank account. When this matter was reported to the Ministry, further remittances of foreign exchange from India to the Mission were stopped and the Mission was instructed to utilise these funds to meet its day-to-day requirements. From February 1992, the Mission implemented these instructions.

The amount of Greek Drachmas 80 million has since been fully utilised. The objection raised by the Audit authorities was that the Mission should have settled the question of interest unambiguously before putting the funds in the Bank account. In order to avoid recurrence of such instances in future, all Indian Missions/posts abroad have been instructed to take adequate precautions in handling public funds.

[Translation]

KOEL KARO HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT

2114. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position regarding construction work at Koel Karo hydro-electric project in Bihar;

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to complete the said project within the stipulated period; and

(c) the provisions made during the Eighth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c) : Construction work at Koel Karo H.E. Project in Bihar could not be commenced due to paucity of funds. The Government of India sanctioned the scheme in November, 1991 for execution by the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC). A provision of Rs. 406.20 crores had been made for the Koel Karo Project during the Eighth Five Year Plan. NHPC is expected to raise this amount, largely by issue of bonds. Given the state of the bond market during the last financial year and the current year, it has not been possible to raise resources through issue of bonds.

VACANCIES FOR SCs AND STs

2115. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lying vacant in various steel plants in the country; and

(b) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

SOFT LOAN FACILITY TO S.C.I.

2116. SHRI P. C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cochin Shipyard, which has been facing great threat due to no fresh work of ship building through Shipping Corporation of India directly, has approached Finance Ministry for the soft loan facility;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide soft loan facility to Shipping Corporation in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Shipping Corporation of India Limited placed order with Cochin Shipyard Limited for the construction of three LR-II Tankers of 86,000 DWT each in 1986. The Cochin Shipyard Limited have delivered two tankers and requested Government for revising the price of 3rd tanker to enable them to start construction work. For financing the increased cost : Shipping Corporation of India has approached this Ministry for budgetary support which is under consideration in the Government.

MODERN RICE MILLS IN WEST BENGAL

2117. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether four modern rice mills in West Bengal have been closed down recently;

(b) whether any enquiry has been made in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for their reopening ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

JOINT VENTURES IN FISHERY WITH MEXICAN COMPANY

2118. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal from Mexico Fishing Companies for setting up deep sea fishing with Indian Companies in joint venture and also to assist them in export;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to manufacture fishing vessels in India with the co-operation of Mexico under this agreement; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

EXPORT/IMPORT OF COPPER

2119. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of copper exported/imported by the Union Government during each of the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to curtail the import of copper ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) India is a net importer of copper. The total quantity of copper imported by Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) and Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL), the two Government of India Undertakings, year-wise during the last 3 years is as under :

Year	Quantity (in tonnes)
1990-91	60,000
1991-92	5,894
1992-93	17,752

(b) As per the current Import Policy, copper imported by Minerals & Metals dustries. With a view to increasing indigenous production of copper, Government have liberalised Industrial, Trade and Fiscal policies to enable indigenous industry to improve product quality and competitiveness through measures like upgradation of technology and import of better quality raw materials.

STRENGTHENING RELATIONS WITH GULF COUNTRIES

2120. SHRI SHIBU SOREN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any initiative to strengthen further the economic, trade and political relations with Gulf countries during the last two years; and

(b) if so the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of steps to strengthen our relations with Gulf countries in the past two years have been taken. Economic and trade agreements have been signed with Kuwait and Oman. Joint Commission Sessions have been held with Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and UAE. Business delegations have visited all Gulf states. Prime Minister has visited Oman and Ministerial visits have taken place to Kuwait, UAE, Qatar,

Bahrain and Oman. Consultations at Foreign Ministry level have been held with nearly all the countries in the region, including the Gulf Cooperation Council.

T.V. SERIALS ON FAMILY PLANNING AND UNEMPLOYMENT

2121. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of serials on family planning and unemployment produced and telecast by Delhi Doordarshan so far;

(b) the number of proposals of such serials still pending with the Doordarshan alongwith the name of each serial; and

(c) the time by which these serials are likely to be approved and telecast by the Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No serials on family planning and unemployment has been produced and telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi. However, programmes in various other formats having inbuilt messages on family planning and unemployment are telecast regularly by the Kendra.

(b) No proposal for a serial on these subjects is pending with Doordarshan.

(c) Does not arise.

LOSSES IN HINDUSTAN COPPER LIMITED

2122. DR. G. L. KANAUIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Copper Ltd. has suffered losses during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to check such in future.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

TELECOM URBAN DISTRICTS

2123. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the classification of urban and rural in respect of the telecommunications network;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the radius of peripheral area of telecom urban districts;

(c) if so the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) For the purpose of classification of Telecommunication network, places with a Municipality/Municipal Corporation/Contonment Board/Notified town area committee etc. and all other places which satisfy the criteria viz :—

(i) a minimum population of 5,000,

(ii) Atleast 75% male working population engaged in non-agricultural activities and (iii) the density of population is atleast 400 persons per sq. km. are treated as 'Urban' and those not confirming to the criteria of Urban are treated as 'Rural'.

(b) No, Sir. Area falling within 5 Kms. of any one of the exchanges in a multi-exchange area can be connected to multi-exchange system. The defined radius of 5 Kms. is not proposed to be increased.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

(d) Telephone connections beyond 5 Kms. call for extra investment which is financially not viable at normal tariff.

TRANSFORMERS OF DESU

2124. **SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV :**
SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI :
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA
NAYAK :
- SHRI MADAN LAL**
KHURANA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some transformers purchased by the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking broke down during the warranty period and new ones were purchased during each of the last two years and upto June 30, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith estimated loss and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty and to get such broken transformers repaired or to get claims from the manufacturers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

LAYING OF RUBBERISED ROADS

2125. **SHRI P. P. KALIAPERUMAL :** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any rubberised road in the country;

(b, if not, whether there is any proposal to lay rubberised roads;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The use of rubberised bitumen is under study but is still in the experimental stage and its propagation will depend upon the outcome of these studies.

[*Translation*]

ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES

2126. **SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to be state :

(a) the total number of electronic telephone exchanges functioning in the country at present;

(b) the number of electronic exchanges out of them commissioned during the last two years; and

(c) the total amount spent thereon and the locations thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

CELLULAR TELEPHONE

2127. **SHRI R. M. MATHEW :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position with regard to award of cellular mobile telephone service licence to operators in four metro cities;

(b) the time frame by which the tender for paging systems is likely to be decided; and

(c) the number of cities in Kerala where paging systems is proposed to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Delhi High Court has given a Judgement in the Cellular Mobile case on 26th Feb. 1993. The Judgement is being studied. Decision in this case is expected to be taken soon.

(b) Seventeen shortlisted bidders have submitted financial bids for provision of radio paging service in 27 cities. These bids are under evaluation. Decision in this case is likely to be taken shortly. Some of the unsuccessful bidders who were not shortlisted have filed a civil writ petition in the High Court of Delhi and hearings in the case continue.

(c) Two cities in Kerala, namely, Ernakulam and Trivandrum have been selected for introduction of paging system.

SETTING UP OF DRIVING TRAINING SCHOOLS

2128. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIIH :
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :
DR. D. VENKATESWARA
RAO :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Safety Road Committee set up by his Ministry in 1982 had recommended for setting up Driving Training Schools in States as well as National Level;

(b) if so the total number of schools set up so far, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons who have been provided training at national level;

(d) the number of persons to whom training has been provided in this regard, State-wise; and

(e) the extent to which it has been beneficial, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT ((SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b), (d) and (e) This falls within the jurisdiction of State Government and details are not available.

(c) The National Institute of Road Safety, Khuttabad have organised 8 programmes exclusively, and 7 in collaboration with Central Institute of Road Transport, Pune and imparted training to a total number of 309 participants in both these programmes.

TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN HARYANA

2129. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Haryana at present ;

(b) the number of electronic exchanges proposed to be set up during Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Haryana as on 30-6-1993 is 76710.

(b) The 8th Plan envisages addition of 2.9 lakh exchange lines mostly electronic in Haryana Circle. It is difficult to forecast the number of the telephone exchanges to be set up in the 8th Plan period due to demand uncertainties and other factors controlling the opening of new exchanges.

(c) The plan outlay for the Circle is worked out on year to year basis depending on the availability of resources in that particular year.

[Translation]

PROBLEMS OF STEEL INDUSTRIES

2130. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a 29.7 per cent decline in the production of steel due to scarcity of electricity during 1992-93 ;

(b) if not, the problems faced by the steel industry; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to solve these problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. The production of Finished Steel in the country during 1992-93 was 15.10 million tonnes which is 5.4% higher than the production in 1991-92.

(b) Higher input prices, poor quality of raw materials, technological obsolescence coupled with outdated operational practices are some of the problems being faced by the steel industry.

(c) Government has taken various measures for the development of the steel industry. These include :—

- Modernisation and expansion of the public sector integrated steel plants;
- Delicensing and deregulation of the iron and steel industry to encourage private sector investment;
- Reduction of customs duty on project imports and reduction of minimum interest rate on commercial advances in the Budget for 1993-94 to improve the viability of industrial projects including iron and steel projects; and
- Reduction of customs duty on raw materials such as refractories and ferro alloys to reduce production cost of steel.

PASSENGER FACILITIES ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

2131. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide facilities for the benefit of passengers at a distance of 100 kms. on National Highways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Central Government has an ongoing scheme, both in Government Sector and Private Sector, for setting up passenger-oriented wayside amenities along National Highways to provide basic facilities like snack bars/restaurants drinking water/toilets, petrol outlets, kiosks, rest rooms and parking places.

[English]

ASSISTANCE TO GUJARAT FROM CENTRAL ROAD FUND SCHEME

2132. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of Central assistance given to Gujarat from the Central Road Fund Scheme during each of the last three years;

(b) the names of the National Highways for which the above assistance was given;

(c) the names of projects that are likely to be undertaken in Gujarat during 1993-94 and the financial assistance made therefor; and

(d) the names of the projects which are pending with the Union Government under the Central Road Fund Scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Funds released to Government of Gujarat for State Road projects from the Central Road Fund (C.R.F.) during the last three years are as under :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1990-91	150.00 lacs
1991-92	60.00 lacs
1992-93	70.00 lacs

(b) The above funds were not given for any National Highway in Gujarat.

(c) Nil.

(d) No proposals are pending with the Ministry under the Central Road Fund Scheme.

[Translation]

PUBLIC SECTOR STEEL PLANTS IN PUNJAB

2133. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a demand for setting up of a public sector steel plant in Punjab;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for early installation of the plant;

(c) whether the site has been selected for this plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d) Due to resource constraints and the need for modernisation and expansion of the existing steel plants, no new steel plant is proposed to be set up in the public sector.

[English]

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS IN T.N.

2134. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR) : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have provided any financial assistance to the Government of Tamil Nadu for the repairs of the National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any new projects to improve the National Highways across Tamil Nadu is being taken up;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any World Bank aided project is coming up for better maintenance of roadways across the State; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An amount of Rs. 10.48 crores has been allotted for maintenance and repairs of National Highways in Tamil Nadu during the current financial year.

(c) and (d) Improvement/development works on National Highways in Tamil Nadu, estimated to cost Rs. 111.80 crores has been included in the 8th Five Year Plan.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

ABOLITION OF OCTROI DUTY

2135. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE :

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI SIMON MARANDI :

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE :

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a committee to examine all issues pertaining to octroi and pathkar;

(b) if so, the details of the composition of the committee and its terms of reference;

(c) the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report; and

(d) the recommendations/steps suggested in the recent meeting between the P.M. and the Chief Ministers of various States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir. A committee has been set up to examine the issue of octroi only.

(b) The Committee will consist of Chief Ministers of Gujarat, Haryana, Bihar, Maharashtra, Orissa, West Bengal and Dr. Raja Chelliah, Fiscal Adviser to the Government of India. The Chief Minister of West Bengal, Shri Jyoti Basu is the Chairman of the Committee. The Committee would go into the question of collection mechanism of octroi so as to make it convenient and user-friendly.

(c) The Committee is expected to submit its report within six months from 1-8-1993.

(d) It was decided to constitute a Committee of six Chief Ministers which would go into the question of collection mechanism of octroi.

VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER TO
UZBEKISTAN

2136. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA :

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister visited Uzbekistan, recently;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed during the visit and the outcome thereof:

(c) whether any agreements reached during the visit including the one on externally supported terrorism and religious fundamentalism: and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Wide-ranging discussions were held on bilateral regional and global issues and the following documents were signed :

- (i) Treaty on the Principles of Inter-State relations and Cooperation;
- (ii) Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation;
- (iii) Agreement on the Credit of \$ 10 million;
- (iv) Agreement on Air Services: and
- (v) MOU on Measures for increasing and Enhancing Economic Cooperation and Trade.

(d) A copy of the "Treaty on the Principles of Inter-State Relations and Cooperation" is given as Statement.

Statement

TREATY ON THE PRINCIPLES OF INTER-STATE RELATIONS AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN.

The Republic of India and the Republic of Uzbekistan hereinafter referred to as High Contracting Parties,

ATTACHING the utmost importance to the further strengthening of the traditional friendship between the peoples of both countries,

RECALLING the historical affinity of their cultures and traditions of their people,

STRIVING to develop multi-faceted and mutually beneficial cooperation between Uzbekistan and India.

RECOGNISING that they share the ideals of peace, democracy and secularism,

STRIVING to achieve a Nuclear Weapon-Free and Non-Violent world,

CONVINCED that co-operation between Uzbekistan and India would further the cause of peace and international security globally and in Asia.

AGREE that :—

ARTICLE-1

The High Contracting Parties confirm their adherence to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. Their relations shall be governed by respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of their existing state borders and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

ARTICLE-2

The high Contracting parties shall develop equal and mutually beneficial cooperation in political, economic, trade, scientific spheres as well as in the fields of technology, industry, transport, culture, public health, ecology, education tourism, sports, exchange of information. The High Contracting Parties shall conclude separate Agreements on cooperation in these spheres.

ARTICLE-3

The High Contracting Parties shall accord each other the Most-Favoured-Nation treatment in their trade and economic cooperation.

ARTICLE-4

The High Contracting Parties shall develop and deepen cooperation in the field of transportation by sea, air, rail and road as well as ensure unhindered transit of passengers and cargoes of the other Party through its territory and conclude separate agreement with respect to this matter.

ARTICLE-5

The High Contracting Parties shall cooperate in the fight against international crimes, terrorism in all its forms, crimes against civil aviation security, shipping and other forms of transport, illegal and international trade in narcotics and arms and in cultural and historical objects. For this purpose separate agreements where necessary would be signed.

ARTICLE-6

The High Contracting Parties condemn all forms of hatred, violence, fundamentalism and religious extremism.

ARTICLE-7

Each High Contracting Party shall refrain from participating or supporting any action directed against the other High Contracting Party.

ARTICLE-8

This Treaty would not prejudice the rights and obligations of the High Contracting Parties under any existing bilateral and multilateral Treaties to which they are Parties and is not directed at nor at the expense of their relations with any third country.

ARTICLE-9

Regular contact would be maintained between the Govts, of both sides of different levels on issues of mutual concern with the aim of realising the objectives of this Treaty.

ARTICLE-10

Additions and amendments to the present Treaty shall be entered into by agreement by both sides.

Disputes regarding the interpretation of the Treaty shall be settled through consultations and negotiations.

ARTICLE-11

This Treaty shall enter into force from the moment of the exchange of documents or ratification of this Treaty and will be valid for a period of ten years. The Treaty shall be automatically extended for a further period of ten years unless the either side informs in writing six months in advance of its intention to terminate the Treaty.

Done at Tashkent 24th May 1993, in duplicate in Hindi, Uzbek and English, all texts being equally authentic. In case of disagreement, the English text would prevail.

Sd/-

P. V. NARASIMHA RAO
PRIME MINISTER OF THE
REPUBLIC OF INDIA

Sd/-

ISLAM KARIMOV
PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

**HEAD POST OFFICES INTO LOCAL
CLEARING HOUSES**

2137. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the head post offices which have been changed into local clearing houses in Orissa; and

(b) the names of the head post offices proposed to be included under the scheme during 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The names of the Head Post Offices which have been

enrolled as members of Local Clearing Houses in Orissa are :

1. Bhubaneswar.
2. Baripada.
3. Balasore
4. Beerhampur
5. Cuttack GPO
6. Puri; and
7. Sambalpur.

(b) The names of Head Post Offices proposed to be included under this scheme during 1993-94 are :—

1. Angul
2. Balangir
3. Bhadrak; and
4. Rourkela.

REPAIRS OF BRIDGES, ORISSA

2138. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bridges collapsed/damaged on the National Highways due to recent heavy rains and flood in Orissa;

(b) the location of those bridges in that State;

(c) the steps taken to repair and reconstruct those bridges; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :

(a) Nil.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

DEMANDS OF ALL INDIA MOTORS ASSOCIATION

2139. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting of the committee of Chief Ministers was

held in Delhi on July 13, 1993 to consider the demands of the All India Motors Association;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the committee; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to counter the threat of said strike by the All India Motors Association ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :

(a) Yes, Sir. The meeting of Chief Ministers was held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister on the 14th July, 1993 in New Delhi.

(b) It was decided to set up a Committee of six State Chief Ministers with West Bengal Chief Minister Shri Jyoti Basu as its Chairman. The other Members of the Committee are Chief Ministers of Gujarat, Haryana, Bihar, Maharashtra, Orissa and Dr. Raja Chelliah, Fiscal Adviser to the Government of India. The Committee would go into the question of collection mechanism of octroi so as to make it convenient and user-friendly.

(c) All the State Governments and concerned Central Ministries have been requested to keep watch on the situation arising out of the strike. They have been requested to make adequate arrangements for ensuring the availability of essential commodities.

[English]

CLOSURE OF INDIAN SHIPYARDS

2140. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN
THORAT :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian shipyards are on the verge of closure due to lack of orders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) shipyard-wise the details of investment proposed to be made during the

Eighth Plan period for expansion, development and modernisation of shipyards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The details of investment proposed to be made during the Eighth Plan period in Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Cochin Shipyard Ltd. and Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Ltd. are given below :—

(Rs. Crores)

Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.

(i) Augmentation of Training facilities	1.00
(ii) Renewals, replacements & additions (Ship-repair)	15.67
(iii) Renewals, replacements & additions (Shipbuilding)	19.74
(iv) Renewals, replacements & additions (OPF)	14.34
(v) Modernisation & updating of technology	0.45
	<hr/> 51.20 <hr/>

Cochin Shipyard Ltd.

(i) Modernisation of ship-repair facilities	8.00
(ii) Improvement of capacity utilisation	11.20
(iii) Renewals & Replacements	3.60
(iv) Additional shiprepair facilities	25.00
	<hr/> 47.80 <hr/>

Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Ltd.

(i) Renewals & Replacements	3.18
(ii) Modernisation of Nazirganj Unit	7.40
(iii) Balancing of shipbuilding at Salkia	1.52
(iv) Augmentation of ship-repair facilities	2.90
	<hr/> 15.00 <hr/>

ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES IN RAJASTHAN

2141. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges at present functioning in Rajasthan, district-wise;

(b) the number out of them set up during 1991-92 and 1992-93 district-wise and amount spent thereon;

(c) whether the Government propose to open such exchanges during Eighth Plan period; and

(d) if so, the details with location thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) As on 30-6-93, 766 electronic telephone exchanges are functioning in Rajasthan. The details are given in Annexure-I.

(b) The number of electronic exchanges set up during 1991-92 are 130. The details are given in Annexure-II. The information regarding number of telephone exchanges set up during 1992-93 and the amount spent thereof is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**RAJASTHAN TELECOM. CIRCLE, DISTRICT-WISE ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES
AS ON 30-6-93**

ANNEXURE-I

S. No.	Name of District	No. of Exchanges.	S. No.	Name of Distt.	No. of Exchanges
1.	Ajmer	21	16.	Jaisalmer	7
2.	Alwar	52	17.	Jalore	19
3.	Banswara	14	18.	Jhalawar	14
4.	Baran	11	19.	Jhunjhunu	45
5.	Barmer	19	20.	Jodhpur	29
6.	Bharatpur	19	21.	Kota	11
7.	Bhilwara	19	22.	Nagaur	49
8.	Bikaner	19	23.	Pali	39
9.	Bundi	18	24.	Rajsamand	15
10.	Chittorgarh	22	25.	Sawajmadhopur	28
11.	Churu	25	26.	Sikar	51
12.	Dausa	26	27.	Sirohi	17
13.	Dholpur	6	28.	Sriganganagar	48
14.	Dungarpur	14	29.	Tonk	16
15.	Jaipur	72	30.	Udaipur	21
Total :					766

**DISTRICT-WISE ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES SET UP DURING 1991-92 IN
RAJASTHAN**

ANNEXURE-II

District	No. of Electronic Exchanges	District	No. of Electronic Exchanges
Ajmer	4	Jodhpur	9
Alwar	4	Jhunjhunu	2
Bharatpur	4	Jaipur	13
Bhilwara	6	Kota	2
Banswara	2	Nagaur	6
Bundi	1	Pali	12
Bikaner	3	Rajsamand	2
Barmer	2	Sikar	6
Churu	4	Sriganganagar	13
Chittorgarh	5	Sirohi	2
Dausa	10	Sawaimadhopur	2
Dholpur	1	Tonk	2
Dungarpur	1	Udaipur	9
Jalore	3		
Total:			130

[*Translation*]

WORLD BANK ASSISTANCE FOR ROAD DEVELOPMENT

2142. SHRI SIMON MARANDI :
DR. D. VENKATESWARA
RAO :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government had entered into an agreement with the World Bank for development of certain selected roads in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including the amount of assistance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :

(a) Presumably the Hon'ble Member has in view the World Bank loan for development of National Highways in the Second package. The agreement was signed in June, 1992.

(b) The agreement covers widening to four lanes of certain selected National Highways stretches in the States of Highway Haryana, Punjab, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa and reconstruction of damaged bridges on State roads in Orissa with a total assistance of US \$ 306 million.

[*English*]

PLYING OF TRANSPORT VEHICLES IN WALLED CITY

2143. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Administration has recently taken any decision to ban plying of transport vehicles in the walled city area;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there have been protests against this decision; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

TIME-SLOT TO FOREIGN COMPANIES

2144. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign companies have applied for the allotment of time-slot of new channels proposed to be introduced by Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to telecast foreign programmes on these channels; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir. Foreign companies are not eligible to apply for time-slots on the satellite channels of Doordarshan.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The programmes on the Satellite channels would be subject to adherence to the prescribed codes, guidelines and other laws of the land, on the sourcing of programmes to be telecast in the time slots by the allottees.

[*English*]

ALLOCATION TO NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN ORISSA

2145. SHRI LOKNATH CHAUDHURY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the National Highways in Orissa for which allocation has been made by the Centre in 1992-93, 1993-94 and the amount allotted for each road; and

(b) the demands made by the State Government for each of these roads ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :

(a) and (b) The National Highway Nos. 5, 5A, 6, 23, 42 and 43 pass through the State of Orissa. The amount demanded and allocation made are as under :—

Year	Amount demanded		Allocations made	
	Original Works	Maintenance & Repairs	Original Works	Maintenance & Repairs
1992-93	3803.04	1255.63	1375.00	738.52
1993-94	6378.41	1383.00	2300.00	777.04
				(upto July '93)

The allocations are made State-wise and not road-wise.

VARAPUZHA BRIDGE, COCHIN

2146. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the Varapuzha bridge in Cochin; and

(b) the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) An estimate amounting to Rs. 26.64 crores for the construction of Varapuzha bridge and its approaches on NH-17 in Kerala has been sanctioned on 31-3-1993. Pre-qualification of contractors for the work has already been done and the tender documents are presently under finalisation.

(b) As the work is yet to be awarded it is too early to indicate the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed.

EXPANSION OF T.V. CENTRES IN EIGHTH PLAN

2147. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the outlay for expansion of T.V. centres during the Eighth Plan period ;

(b) the number of Low Power transmitters planned to be set up in Orissa during the next two years ; and

(c) by when L.P.Ts are likely to be set up at Deogarh, Pallamava and Talcher?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The Plan allocation of Door-darshan for Eighth Plan is Rs. 2300 crores.

(b) Six Low Power Transmitters (LPTs) are targetted to be set up in the State of Orissa during 1993-94 and 1994-95.

(c) Whereas the LPTs at Deogarh and Pallamava (Palabara) are expected to be commissioned into service during 1994-95, the one at Talcher is expected to be commissioned into service during 1995-96.

POWER GENERATION

2148. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state that the latest position in each State regarding the total generation of power, total installed capacity, ratio of generation to the installed capacity and the per capita annual consumption of power ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : The requisite information is given in statements I, II & III.

Statement I

**TOTAL GENERATION OF POWER AND
P.L.F. STATE-WISE**

State	Power Generated during the period April 93—July 93 (MU)	P.L.F. (%)
BBMB	4,503	—
De'hi	2,212	59.4
J&K	1,048	—
Himachal Pradesh	828	—
Haryana	883	32.6
Rajasthan	2,683	73.0
Punjab	3,864	60.1
Uttar Pradesh	15,993	63.4
Gujarat	8,520	59.0
Maharashtra	13,735	60.0
Madhya Pradesh	11,339	62.4
Andhra Pradesh	10,317	74.3
Karnataka	4,842	60.9
Kerala	1,966	—
Tamil Nadu	9,651	65.2
Bihar	1,038	25.9
Orissa	1,509	39.5
West Bengal	5,523	53.6
DVC	1,999	38.5
Sikkim	10	—
Assam	269	18.3
Meghalaya	552	—
Tribura	43	—
Manipur	220	—
All-India	103547	59.0

Statement II

STATE-WISE "INSTALLED CAPACITY" AS ON 30-06-1993 (PROVISIONAL)

(in MW)

Sl. No.	Name of the Region/ State/Union Territory	Hydro	Steam	Gas	Diesel	Nuclear	Total Installed Capacity
					Wind		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I. NORTHERN REGION							
1.	Haryana	883.90	892.50	0.00	3.92	0.00	1780.32
2.	H.P.	272.07	0.00	0.00	0.27	0.00	272.34
3.	J&K	180.31	0.00	75.00	6.76	0.00	262.07
4.	Punjab	1798.94	1700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3498.94
5.	Rajasthan	966.93	765.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1731.93
6.	U.P.	1504.55	3564.00	0.00	6.19	0.00	5074.74
7.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00
8.	Delhi	0.00	371.60	180.00	0.00	0.00	551.60
9.	Central Sect. (NR)	760.00	4820.00	1589.00	0.00	895.00	8064.00
		6366.70	12113.10	1844.00	19.14	895.00	21237.94

(in MW)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
II. WESTERN REGION							
1. Goa		0.05	—	—	0.11	—	0.16
2. Gujarat		425.00	4179.00	252.00	33.67	0.00	4889.67
3. M.P.		725.09	2807.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	3532.59
4. Maharashtra		1584.22	6842.50	672.00	0.00	0.00	9098.72
5. Dadra & N. Haveli		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6. Daman & Diu		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7. Central Sect. (WR)		0.00	3390.00	644.00	0.00	640.00	4674.00
		2734.36	17219.00	1568.00	33.78	640.00	22195.14
III. SOUTHERN REGION							
1. AP		2512.94	1612.50	99.00	0.00	0.00	4224.44
2. Karnataka		2399.20	630.00	0.00	42.64	0.00	3071.84
3. Kerala		1476.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1476.50
4. Tamil Nadu		1944.95	2340.00	10.00	15.58	0.00	4310.53
5. Pondicherry		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6. Central Sec. (SR)		0.00	4170.00	0.00	0.00	470.00	4640.00
		8333.59	8752.50	109.00	58.22	470.00	17723.31
IV. EASTERN REGION							
1. Bihar		156.60	1393.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	1550.10
2. Orissa		1271.92	470.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1741.92
3. West Bengal		46.51	3146.38	100.00	22.50	0.00	3315.39
4. D.V.C.		144.00	2007.50	90.00	0.00	0.00	2241.50
5. Sskim		26.89	0.00	0.00	2.70	0.00	29.59
6. C. Sector (ER)		0.00	1340.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1340.00
		1645.92	8357.38	190.00	25.20	0.00	10218.50
V. NORTH-EASTERN REGION							
1. Arunachal Pradesh		20.95	0.00	0.00	12.86	0.00	33.81
2. Assam		2.00	330.00	184.50	20.69	0.00	537.19
3. Manipur		2.60	0.00	0.00	9.41	0.00	12.01
4. Meghalaya		186.71	5.00	0.00	2.05	0.00	193.76
5. Mizoram		3.36	0.00	0.00	19.07	0.00	22.43
6. Nagaland		3.20	0.00	0.00	3.62	0.00	6.82
7. Tripura		16.01	0.00	32.50	4.85	0.00	53.36
8. Central Sect. (NE)		255.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	255.01
		489.84	335.00	217.00	72.55	0.00	1114.39
VI. ISLANDS							
1. A&N Islands		0.00	0.00	0.00	28.03	0.00	28.03
2. Lakshdweep		0.00	0.00	0.00	5.12	0.00	5.12
		0.00	0.00	0.00	33.15	0.00	33.15
		19570.41	46776.98	3928.00	242.04	2005.00	72522.43

Statement—III

STATEWISE PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICITY DURING THE
YEAR 1991-92 (UTILITIES AND NON-UTILITIES)

(In KWH)

Name of the Region/State	1991-92**
<i>Northern-Region</i>	
Haryana	455.18
Himachal Pradesh	209.55
Jammu & Kashmir	188.71
Punjab	615.36
Rajasthan	230.94
Uttar Pradesh	173.52
Chandigarh	754.54
Delhi	757.66
Sub-Total	265.38
<i>Western Region</i>	
Gujarat	504.01
Madhya Pradesh	266.69
Maharashtra	434.24
Goa	495.24
Daman & Diu	716.36
D & N Haveli	979.67
Sub-Total	391.23
<i>Southern Region</i>	
Andhra Pradesh	277.34
Karnataka	296.18
Kerala	195.66
Tamil Nadu	335.02
Pondicherry	782.36
Lakshadweep	172.40
Sub-Total	287.88
<i>Eastern Region</i>	
Bihar	108.02
Orissa	295.34
West Bengal	152.15
A & N Islands	117.86
Sikkim	120.00
Sub-Total	155.91
<i>North-Eastern Region</i>	
Assam	89.65
Manipur	107.14
Meghalaya	125.01
Nagaland	78.40
Tripura	52.61
Arunachal Pradesh	57.52
Mizoram	69.41
Sub-Total	87.53
Total (All-India)	267.95

**Provisional.

DYNAMIC LOCK FACILITY

2149. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided Dynamic Lock facility to subscribers having STD facility;

(b) if so, the details of functioning of this facility to be exercised by subscribers;

(c) whether Government propose to provide similar lock facility to non-STD subscribers to check misuse of their connections; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Subscribers connected to the following type of electronic exchanges can avail of dynamic lock facility:—

- E.10B
- FFTEX—100L
- C.DOT (256 Port and above)
- ILT

(b) Details are given in *statement*.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Providing dynamic locking facility even for local calls is not considered necessary, nor has there been any demand for such a facility.

Statement**i. E.10B Exchange**

(i) Subscriber having STD, desiring to have dynamic lock facility, must register his secret code for the first time. He can think of and decide any code which is a combination of any four digits (from 0000 to 9999)—say XXXX. Then he has to dial 123 (access code) followed by four digit secret code, followed again by the same four digit secret code i.e. 123 XXXX XXXX and wait for acceptance tone which is similar to busy tone. After getting acceptance tone subscriber has to replace his hand set. Secret code is registered.

(ii) *STD Control Management*: If subscriber wants to lock the STD facility, he dials access code (124) followed by his 4 digit secret code further followed by digit 1 i.e. 124 XXXX 1 and wait for acceptance tone before replacing hand set. STD facility is locked now.

If subscriber wants to open STD lock he dials access code (124) followed by his 4 digit secret code further followed by digit 0 i.e. 124 XXXX 0 and wait for acceptance tone before replacing his hand set. He can now make STD calls.

(iii) Change Secret Code

If subscriber wants to change his secret code he has to dial code (123) followed by his earlier 4 digit secret code further followed by his new 4 digit secret code i.e. 123 XXX YYYY and wait for acceptance tone. On receipt of the acceptance tone he replaces his hand set. New four digit secret code is registered.

2. FETEX-100L Exchanges**(i) Secret Code Management:**

When subscriber is to register his secret code for the first time he has to dial access code (123) followed by 1111 further followed by his four digit secret code i.e. 123 1111 XXXX and wait for acceptance tone to confirm that his chosen secret code has been registered.

(ii) STD Control Management

To bar STD calls, subscriber has to dial access code (124) followed by his four digit secret code further followed by digit 1 i.e. 124 XXXX 1 and wait for acceptance tone before replacing his hand set. His STD is locked now.

If subscriber wants to avail of STD facility he is to dial access code (124) followed by his new four digit secret code further followed by digit 0 i.e. 124 XXXX 0 and wait for acceptance tone before replacing his hand set. Now he can make STD calls.

(iii) Change of Secret Code:

If subscriber wants to change his secret code he has to dial access code (123) followed by old four digit secret code

(XXXX) further followed by new four digit secret code (YYYY) i.e. 123 XXXX YYYY and wait for acceptance tone before replacing his hand set. New four digit secret code is now registered.

3. C.DOT Exchanges :

In this case registration of secret code is not required. All subscribers having STD facility can lock and unlock STD facility as per details given below :—

(i) When subscriber wants to lock STD facility on his line he is to dial access code (11141) followed by his 4 digit secret code further followed by 112 i.e. 11141 XXXX 112 and wait for acceptance tone before replacing his hand set. STD facility is now locked on subscribers' line.

(ii) when subscriber wants to un-lock STD facility on his line he has to dial access code (11241) followed by his four digit secret code further followed by 112 i.e. 11241 XXXX 112 and wait for acceptance tone before replacing his hand set. Now he can originate STD calls.

(iii) Change Secret code :

When subscriber wants to change his four digit secret code he has to dial access code (11143) followed by old four digit secret code (XXXX) further followed by new four digit secret code (YYYY) twice followed by 112 i.e. 1143 XXXX YYYY YYYY 112 and wait for acceptance tone before replacing his hand set. Subscribers' old four digit secret code (XXXX) is now changed into new four digit secret code (YYYY).

4. ILT Exchanges :

(i) *Secret code Management.* When an ILT Subscriber wants to register his secret code for the first time, he has to dial access code (120) followed by his four digit secret code further followed by his four digit secret code i.e. 120 XXXX XXXX and wait for ring back tone before replacing his hand set. Secret code is now registered.

(ii) *STD Control Management.* When subscriber wants to lock the STD facility on his line, he is to dial access code (122)

followed by his four digit secret code i.e. 122 XXXX and wait for ring back before replacing his hand set. STD on Subscriber's line is locked now.

When subscriber wants to un-lock STD facility he has to dial access code (121) followed by his four digit secret code i.e. 121 XXXX and wait for ring back tone before replacing his hand set. Now he can originate STD calls.

(iii) Change of secret code :

If subscriber wants to change his secret code he has to dial access code (124) followed by old four digit secret code (XXXX) further followed by new four digit secret code (YYYY) i.e. 124 XXXX YYYY and wait for ring back tone before replacing his hand set. New four digit secret code is now registered.

BRANCH POST OFFICES IN CHAMOLI, U.P.

2150. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branch post offices functioning at present in Chamoli district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of post offices those are functioning in rented buildings and their locations;

(c) whether any security arrangements have been made for these post offices;

(d) whether a number of applications pending for opening of new branch post offices; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) 287 branch post offices are functioning at present in Chamoli district of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The details are given in statement.

(c) Double locking arrangement is available in all the post offices in the district of Chamoli except 11 (Eleven) post offices. In other post offices, Chowkidars are guarding post offices during night.

(d) 9 cases are pending.

(e) Total 9 applications are pending. The Post Offices will be opened keeping in view the departmental norms, subject to availability of resources and within the targets fixed.

Statement

The number of Post Offices those are functioning in rented buildings and their locations in Chamoli district of Uttar Pradesh.

No. Locations

1. Adhibadri
2. Agust Muni
3. Dabar
4. Josimath
5. Palla Bazar
6. Pupil Kothi
7. Bampa
8. Gwaldam
9. Tilwara
10. Gair Sain
11. Nand Prayag
12. Pokhri Nagnath
13. N. S. Mandir
14. Narain Bazar
15. Nauti
16. Ganchar
17. Okhimath
18. Simali
19. Ghat
20. Phata
21. Gupta Kashi
22. Mehalchauri
23. Chandrapuri
24. Talwari
25. Bheeri
26. Jekhani
27. Chopra
28. Chhinka

No. Locations

29. Kedar Nath
30. Manali
31. Tapoban
32. Maikoti
33. Tharali
34. Nalgaun
35. Bachwaban
36. Nainisain
37. Langhu
38. Karan Prayag.

POWER SITUATION IN DELHI

2151. SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of power available in Delhi as against the demand at the end of 1992;

(b) the estimated annual protection of power demand during 1993-94 to 1996-97;

(c) the estimated increase in the shortage of power supply during these years;

(d) the power projects pending in Delhi, stating the period of their pendency and the reasons for their non-implementation; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) During the year 1992, the availability of power in Delhi was 9,931 Million Units (MU) against the demand of 9,995 MU.

(b) and (c) The anticipated power supply position in Delhi during the years 1993-94 to 1996-97 is as follows:—

(Figures in Million Units)

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Requirement	11,050	12,214	13,288	14,416
Availability	10,503	12,315	13,874	16,275
(-) Deficit/	(-) 547	(+) 101	(+) 586	(+) 1,859
(+) Surplus	(-) (5.0%)	(+) (0.8%)	(+) (4.4%)	(+) (12.9%)

(d) and (e) With a view to meet the future requirements of power in Delhi, installation of 3x34.07 MW Waste Heat Recovery Units is already in progress and the units are likely to be commissioned in stages from 1994-95 to 1995-96. Setting up of 400/450 MW Combined Cycle Gas-based Power Project at Bawana is also envisaged. The project has been advertised in the Private Sector and bids received are at an advanced stage of evaluation. Delhi will also get 90% share from the 840 MW (4x210MW) National Capital Thermal Power Project coming up at Dadri (U.P.) One unit of 210 MW of this project has started commercial operation. In addition Delhi will also get its due share of power from the Central Sector Projects being established in the Northern Region. Progress of various power projects is regularly monitored by the Central Electricity Authority/Ministry of Power to ensure their early completion.

TIME SLOTS FOR AIR

2152. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-PAYEE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal and have taken a decision on the privatisation of broadcasting time slots for the All India Radio :

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the measures Government propose to ensure equitable allocation of time slots as between non-governmental organisations working for public welfare and commercial-cum-business units ; and

(d) the frame-work of the agency and policy to preview these programmes for their content and technical quality ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Government has decided to allot time slots to private producers on the FM channels of All India Radio at the four metros, of Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta.

(c) The scheme does not differentiate between business/commercial units and

public welfare organisations. The slots are being allotted on "First-Come-First Served" basis, preference being given to applications for allotment for 365, 182 and 90 consecutive days, in that order.

(d) There is no provision for preview of the programmes. The licencees will, however, have to adhere to the provisions of AIR's broadcast code, advertising code and Copyright Act etc.

[Translation]

DIRECT DIALING FACILITIES WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES

*2153. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of foreign countries with which direct dialing facility is available from Delhi, at present ;

(b) whether the Government propose to further extend the same facility to some more countries during 1993-94 ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Sir, International Subscriber Dialling Service (ISD) is available at present from Delhi for 233 countries destinations. The names of the countries are given in the Statement.

(b) and (c) ISD service is already available from India to almost all countries. With the formation of new states in former Yugoslavia, the Telecommunication Standardisation Bureau of ITU has advised allotment of new country codes for telephone services to the following Republics. The new codes would become effective from the date to be confirmed by Telecommunication Standardisation Bureau of ITU :—

Sl. No. Name of the Country

1. Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
2. Bosnia and Herezegovina
3. Coratia
4. Slovenia
5. Macedonia

Statement		Sl. No.	Country/Destination	Country Code	Country Code
Sl. No.	Country/Destination				
		44.	Christmas Islands		672
		45.	Ciskei		27
		46.	Cocos Island		672
		47.	Colombia		57
		48.	Comoros		269
		49.	Congo People's Rep.		242
		50.	Cook Islands		682
		51.	Costa Rica		506
		52.	Croatia		384
		53.	Cuba		53
		54.	Cyprus		357
		55.	Czechoslovakia		42
		56.	Deigo-Gafcia		246
		57.	Denmark		45
		58.	Dj bouti		253
		59.	Dominican Islands		1-809
		60.	Dominican Republic		1-809
		61.	Eucador		593
		62.	Egypt		20
		63.	El Salvador Rep. of		503
		64.	Equitorial Guinea		240
		65.	Estonia		372
		66.	Ethiopia		251
		67.	Falkan Islands		500
		68.	Faroe Islands		298
		69.	Fiji		679
		70.	Finland		358
		71.	France		33
		72.	French Guiana		594
		73.	French Polynesia		689
		74.	Gabon		241
		75.	Gambia		220
		76.	Georgia		7
		77.	Germany West FRG		49
		78.	Ghana		233
		79.	Gibraltar		350
		80.	Greece		30
		81.	Green Land		299
		82.	Grenada		1-809
		83.	Guadeloupe		590
		84.	Guam		671
		85.	Gautemala		502
		86.	Guinea Bissau Rep. of		245
		87.	Guinea Republic		224
		88.	Guyana		592
1.	Alaska			1-809	
2.	Albania			355	
3.	Algeria			213	
4.	Andorra			33628	
5.	Angola			244	
6.	Anguilla			1-809	
7.	Antisua			1-809	
8.	Argentina			54	
9.	Armenia			7	
10.	Aruba			297	
11.	Ascension Islands			247	
12.	Aystrakua			61	
13.	Austria			43	
14.	Azerbaijan			994	
15.	Azores			351	
16.	Bahamas			1-809	
17.	Bahrain			972	
18.	Bangladesh			8801	
19.	Barbados			1-809	
20.	Belgium			32	
21.	Belize			301	
22.	Benin			229	
23.	Bermuda			1-809	
24.	Bhutan			975	
25.	Bolivia			391	
26.	Bophuthatsvana			27	
27.	Bob na-Herzegovina			38	
28.	Botswana			267	
29.	Brazil			558	
30.	Brunei			673	
31.	Bulgaria			359	
32.	Burkina Fasso			226	
33.	Burundi			257	
34.	Byelorussia			7	
35.	Cameroon			237	
36.	Canada			1	
37.	Canary Islands			34	
38.	Cape Verde			238	
39.	Cayman Islands			1-809	
40.	Central African Rep.			236	
41.	Chad Republic			235	
42.	Chile			56	
43.	China			36	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country/Destination</i>	<i>Country Code</i>
89.	Haiti	509
90.	Hawaii	1-808
91.	Honduras	504
92.	Hongkong	852
93.	Hungary	36
94.	Iceland	354
95.	Indonesia	62
96.	Iran	98
97.	Iraq	964
98.	Ireland	353
99.	Israel	972
100.	Italy	39
101.	Ivory Coast	225
102.	Jamaica	1-809
103.	Japan	81
104.	Jordan	962
105.	Kazakhstan	7
106.	Kenya	254
107.	Kirgizia	7
108.	Kiribati	686
109.	Korea (North) (PDR)	856
110.	Kuwait	965
111.	Lao (PDR)	856
112.	Latvia	371
113.	Lebanon	961
114.	Lesotho	266
115.	Liberia	231
116.	Libya	218
117.	Liechtenstein	41
118.	Lithuania	370
119.	Luxembourg	352
120.	Macao	853
121.	Malagasy	261
122.	Malawi	265
123.	Malaysia	60
124.	Maldives	960
125.	Mali	223
126.	Malta	356
127.	Mariana Island	670
128.	Marshal Islands	692
129.	Martinique	596
130.	Mauritania	222
131.	Mauritius	230
132.	Mayotte	269
133.	Medeira	351

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country/Destination</i>	<i>Country Code</i>
134.	Mexico	52
135.	Micronesia	691
136.	Moldova	373
137.	Monaco	33
138.	Mongolia	976
139.	Montserrat	1-809
140.	Morocco	212
141.	Mozambique	258
142.	Myanmar	95
143.	Namibia	264
144.	Nauru	674
145.	Nepal	977
146.	Netherland Antilles	599
147.	Netherlands	31
148.	New Caledonia	687
149.	New Zealand	64
150.	Nicaragua	505
151.	Niger	227
152.	Nigeria	234
153.	Niue Islands	683
154.	Norfolk Islands	672
155.	Norway	47
156.	Oman	968
157.	Pakistan	92
158.	Palau	680
159.	Panama	507
160.	Papua New Guinea	675
161.	Paraguay	595
162.	Peru	51
163.	Philippines	63
164.	Poland	48
165.	Portugal	351
166.	Puerto Rico	1-809
167.	Qatar	974
168.	Reunion	262
169.	Rodriguez Island	230
170.	Romania	40
171.	Russia	7
172.	Rwanda	250
173.	Samoa American	684
174.	Samoa West.	685
175.	San Marino	39
176.	Sao Tome & Principe Is.	239
177.	Saudi Arabia	966
178.	Senegal	221

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country/Destination</i>	<i>Country Code</i>
179.	Seychelles	248
180.	Seirra Leone	232
181.	Singapore	65
182.	Slovenia	386
183.	Solomon Islands	677
184.	Somalia	252
185.	South Africa	27
186.	South Korea	82
187.	Spain	34
188.	Sri Lanka	94
189.	St. Christopher Nevis	1-809
190.	St. Helena	290
191.	St. Lucia	1-809
192.	St. Pierre & Miquelon	508
193.	St. Vincent the Grenadines	1-809
194.	Sudan	249
195.	Surinam	597
196.	Swaziland	268
197.	Sweden	46
198.	Switzerland	41
199.	Syria	963
200.	Tadjikistan	7
201.	Taiwan	836
202.	Tanzania	255
203.	Thailand	66
204.	Togolese Republic	228
205.	Tonga	676
206.	Transkei	27
207.	Trinidad & Tobago	1-809
208.	Tunisia	216
209.	Turkey	90
210.	Turkmen	7
211.	Turks & Caicos Is.	1-809
212.	Tuvalu	688
213.	U.A.E.	971
214.	Uganda	256
215.	Ukraine	7
216.	United Kingdom	44
217.	United States	1
218.	Uruguay	598
219.	Uzbekistan	7
220.	Vanuatu (New Hebrides)	678
221.	Vatican City	39
222.	Venda	27
223.	Venezuala	58

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country/Destination</i>	<i>Country Code</i>
224.	Vietnam	84
225.	Virgin Island (B)	1-809
226.	Virgin Island (US)	1-809
227.	Wallis & Futuna Is.	681
228.	Yemen (PDR)	969
229.	Yemen Arab Republic	967
230.	Yugoslavia	38
231.	Zaire	243
232.	Zambia	260
233.	Zimbabwe	263

ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES IN U.P.

*2154. DR. P. R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to change the old telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have decided to install electronic exchanges all over the State during 1993-94; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) (i) As per the objectives of 8th Five Year Plan, all small and medium capacity electro-mechanical exchanges (except uniselector type) are planned to be replaced by electronic exchanges progressively by March, 1996;

(ii) All other electro-mechanical exchanges are proposed to be replaced by Electronic Exchanges on expiry of their prescribed life.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Details are given in Statement.

Statement

LIST OF ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES PLANNED TO BE INSTALLED
DURING 1993-94.

Sl. No.	Name of Distt.	No. of Exchanges to be replaced by Electronic	New Electronic Exchanges to be installed
1	2	3	4
1.	Agra	2	3
2.	Aligarh	22	NIL
3.	Allahabad	2	4
4.	Almora	4	NIL
5.	Azamgarh	3	NIL
6.	Bahraich	2	NIL
7.	Ballia	NIL	NIL
8.	Banda	NIL	1
9.	Barabanki	NIL	1
10.	Barcilly	10	NIL
11.	Basti	2	NIL
12.	Biznore	28	NIL
13.	Budaun	16	NIL
14.	Bulandshahar	NIL	NIL
15.	Chamolj	NIL	1
16.	Dehradun	4	1
17.	Deoria	2	NIL
18.	Etah	12	NIL
19.	Etawah	1	1
20.	Faizabad	9	1
21.	Farrukhabad	1	1
22.	Fatehpur	NIL	NIL
23.	Ferozabad	NIL	1
24.	Ghaziabad	2	2
25.	Ghaziipur	NIL	NIL
26.	Gonda	3	NIL
27.	Gorakhpur	NIL	NIL
28.	Hamirpur	2	NIL
29.	Hardoi	7	NIL
30.	Hardwar	1	NIL
31.	Jalaun	NIL	NIL
32.	Jaunpur	3	NIL
33.	Jhansi	NIL	1
34.	Kanpur	1	NIL
35.	Kanpur Dehat	NIL	4
36.	Lakhimpur Kheri	10	NIL
37.	Lalitpur	NIL	1
38.	Lucknow	NIL	3
39.	Maharazganj	NIL	NIL
40.	Mainpuri	NIL	NIL
41.	Mathura	8	NIL
42.	Mau Nath Bhanjan	1	NIL
43.	Meerut	1	3
44.	Mirzapur	3	NIL
45.	Moradabad	16	NIL

1	2	3	4
46.	Muzaffar Nagar	NIL	4
47.	Nainital	16	NIL
48.	Pauri Garhwal	NIL	9
49.	Pilibhit	9	NIL
50.	Pithoragarh	6	NIL
51.	Pratapgarh	NIL	NIL
52.	Raebareli	2	NIL
53.	Rampur	13	NIL
54.	Saharanpur	NIL	2
55.	Shahjahanpur	6	NIL
56.	Sidharthnagar	1	NIL
57.	Sitapur	4	1
58.	Seabhadra	2	NIL
59.	Sultanpur	NIL	NIL
60.	Tehri Garhwal	NIL	7
61.	Unao	NIL	1
62.	Uttarkashi	NIL	NIL
63.	Varanasi	8	2
Total :		245	55

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN U.P.

*2155. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the names and the length of roads in Kms. declared as National Highways in Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years ; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No road was declared as New National Highway in Uttar Pradesh in the last three years.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

*2156. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
PROF. PREM DHUMAL :
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large portion of National Highways of the country is in a deplorable condition ;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to take concrete steps for improvement of these highways ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir. National Highways of the country are generally kept in traffic worthy condition by taking up necessary repairs from time to time within the available funds.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

T.V. SERIAL ON "VEER SAWARKAR"

2157. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to reconsider the proposal regarding telecast of T.V. serial on the life of Shri Veer Sawarkar;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be approved and telecast ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The proposal has already been reviewed in the past but not approved by Doordarshan.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

CRAWLER LYING IDLE

2158. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether seven crawler type mobile cranes purchased for handling steel and other heavy items in 1983 remained idle for more than 8 years and many other heavy machines are not in use for various reasons ;

(b) if so, the details such equipments lying idle alongwith details of corrective steps taken and accountability fixed ; and

(c) the steps taken for the optional utilisation of these equipments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Seven crawler type mobile cranes were purchased in 1983 and these cranes could not be used because of dispute in regard to manning scale and also change in pattern of traffic handled at the Port. These cranes were sold in August, 1992 without involvement of any write off of loss. Eight coles mobile cranes were purchased between May, 1983 to January, 1984 and all of these are stil in use.

(c) Does not arise.

HOUSES FOR P&T EMPLOYEES IN H.P.

2159. MAJOR D. D. KHANORIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for construction of houses for Post and Telegraph employees in Himachal Pradesh during last three years, district-wise;

(b) the number of houses, out of them, actually constructed; and

(c) the details of houses proposed to be constructed during Eighth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) :

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS

(a) No district-wise target was fixed for construction of Houses.

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Target is not fixed on yearly basis or District-wise. However, a target has been fixed to achieve 14% overall satisfaction level by end of 8th Five Year Plan 1992—97).

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS

(b) A total of 30 houses were constructed during the last 3 years.

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A total of 54 houses were constructed during the last 3 years.

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS

(c) Houses are constructed on year to year basis as per availability of funds. There are 95 houses under construction. Construction of 101 more houses have been approved for 1993-94.

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A minimum of 62 Quarters are required to be constructed to achieve an overall target of 14% satisfaction level fixed for the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97).

VISIT OF OFFICIALS TO VISAKHAPATNAM

2160. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any officials from your Minister have visited Visakhapatnam in the last three months to interact with entrepreneurs of sick deep sea fishing units; and

(b) if so, the details and the achievements made thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING
INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

POWER PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA

2161. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI DHARMANNA
MONDAYYA SADUL :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 8870 on May 4, 1992 and state :

(a) the names of thermal and hydro-electric projects of Maharashtra accorded

approval by the Union Government as on June 30, 1993;

(b) the time by which the remaining projects are likely to get clearance;

(c) the quantum of power likely to be generated by these projects; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V.
RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Ghatghar pumped Storage Scheme (2x125 MW) has been accorded Techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in March 1988 and investment approval by the Planning Commission in August, 1992.

(b) to (d) The status of certain other Power Projects is as follows :

S. No.	Name of the Project	Status
1.	Bhivpuri Pumped Storage Scheme (90 MW)	The Scheme though found to be in order from Techno-economic angle by the CEA in May 1991, has not been granted clearance for want of a satisfactory arrangement regarding Westward diversion of Krishna waters among Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.
2.	Pimpalgaoon Joge Pumped Scheme (2x300 MW)	The Project Report has been returned to State Govt. due to non submission of replies to comments of CEA/CWC.
3.	Chikal'hara Pumped Storage Scheme (4x100 MW)	The proposal has been received very recently and is under examination in CEA.
4.	Parli 'C' (2x210 MW)	Coal linkage and environmental clearance are not tied up. The State has been requested to forward a revised report for 2x250 MW or 1x500 MW.
5.	Negothane GTCC (T)	These Schemes are proposed to be taken up in Private Sector and the feasibility reports are awaited.
6.	Khaparkheda TPS Extn. 2x250 MW (Unit 3 & 4)	
7.	Paras TPS Extn. (1x250 MW)	Received by CEA in July, 1993 and is under examination.
8.	Dabhol GTCC (T) (760 MW)	Gas linkage was not tied up and hence not being pursued by CEA.

The Techno-economic clearance of Power Schemes is dependent upon availability of various inputs, certain statutory and other clearances from other Ministries/agencies and timely submission of requisite reports/clarifications from the project authorities. Hence, it is not possible to assess as to how long it may take for according techno-economic clearance to these projects. Completion of these projects is dependent upon availability of sufficient financial allocations, timely supply of equipment by manufacturers and proper management by the project authorities. CEA is conducting periodical meetings with the concerned project authorities in various States for timely completion of Power Projects and for resolution of outstanding issues.

[English]

REVIEW OF INDIAN TELEGRAPH ACT, 1885

2162. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had set up any Committee to review the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, when and the recommendations made by the Committee;

(d) whether the Government have examined the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Govt. thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Report was submitted in October, 1992.

(c) to (e) It is under examination of the Department.

SHARE OF STATES IN CENTRAL ROAD FUND

2163. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to release the revised share to each State from the Central Road Fund ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount of arrears since 1988-89 with State-wise overdue break-up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in view the share of each State under Central Road Fund (CRF) in accordance with revised Resolution adopted by Parliament on 13/5/88. Augmentation of the CRF has not taken place so far.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

EXPLORATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES IN SINDHUDURG

2164. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of assistance being provided by the Metal and Mineral Trading Corporation (MMTC) for exploration of mineral resources including granite in Sindhudurg district upto December, 1992 ;

(b) whether granite and iron found in Sindhudurg district are of good quality for export; and

(c) if so, the potential for export market available for granite found in Sindhudurg district ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) No assistance is being provided for exploration of mineral resources, including granite, in Sindhudurg district by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC). However, State Govt. is exploring mineral resources, especially granite and iron ore, in Sindhudurg district.

(b) Granite and iron ore found in Sindhudurg district are of fairly good quality.

(c) The estimated reserves of granite of Sindhudurg district are 11.00 million cubic metres but the potential for export market for granite from this district is yet to be established.

W. B. LOAN FOR POWER SECTOR

2165. SHRI ANBARASU ERA :

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-
PAYEE :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to associate the World Bank in the privatisation of power sector in the country;

(b) if so, the specifics of the proposal;

(c) whether a \$ 20 million commercial loan is proposed to be taken from the World Bank to pay the fee of consultants; and

(d) if so, the names of the consultants and their proposed terms and conditions and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) The overall purpose of the Technical Assistance loan from the World Bank is to ensure that the basic objectives of the private power initiative are achieved, i.e., that additional investment capital and management expertise are mobilized and that the potential efficiency gains in power supply are fully realized and passed on to the final consumers. In the short term, the project would help to manage the implementation of the private power policy during the present transition period, but would also set the stage for the introduction of market mechanisms in the sector as a whole. To that effect, assistance would be provided to GOI and the various central and state entities concerned for (i) the review by private power specialist of the offers currently under consideration to ensure that the projects being negotiated are executed under acceptable and sustainable conditions (ii) the introduction of competitive bidding for the selection of project sponsors; and (iii) the formulation of additional provisions in the policy and regulatory framework to achieve the abovementioned objectives, and promote other forms of private sector

participation, in addition to Independent Private Power Projects.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Consultants remain to be appointed. The terms of their appointment would be as per World Bank's procurement guidelines, and taking into account the requirements of the agencies i.e. SEBs and State Governments utilising their services.

[Translation]

NEW TELECOM. POLICY

2166. SHRI BARE IAL JATAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finalised the new Telecom policy;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which it is likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) The National Telecommunication Policy is still under consideration of the Government.

[English]

ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES WITH STD IN DAKSHINA KANNADA

2167. SHRI K. G. SHIVAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the entire district of Dakshina Kannada has electronic telephone exchanges by replacing the old exchanges;

(b) if so, the electronic exchanges out of them having STD and ISD facilities, and

(c) if not, the time by which these facilities are likely to be provided ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes Sir, except 8 electro-mechanical exchanges.

(b) 100 numbers out of total 168 electronic exchanges are provided with STD/ISD facilities.

(c) 20 electronic telephone exchanges are planned for providing STD/ISD facilities during 1993-94 and the remaining exchanges progressively by end of March, 1997.

[Translation]

DIRECT PURCHASE OF PIG IRON AND STEEL IN SMALL SCALE INDUSTRY

2168. SHRI MANJAY LAL :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the small scale industries using steel and iron had sought the facility to purchase the pig-iron and steel directly from the manufacturing projects;

(b) whether this demand has since been accepted;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government would reconsider the demand raised by the Small Scale Industries and other consumers ;

(e) the reason for which the heavy manufacturing units sell pig-iron and steel to these small scale industries and other registered consumers through the Small Scale Industries Corporations.

(f) whether on this account the prices of these items have been increasing ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Representations have been received from Associations of Small scale industries, etc. to allow small scale industries to purchase iron and steel materials directly from the main producers.

(b) to (e) Even after deregulation of pricing and distribution of Iron and Steel, Small Scale Industries Sector has been retained as one of the priority sectors. The Small Scale Industries (SSI) Sector receives assured supply of iron and Steel material as per the allocation made by the Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel (DCI&S). Main producers are required to

supply Iron and Steel materials on priority basis against these allocations through the Small Scale Industries Corporations (SSICs) of the respective states. However, in some States, i.e. Punjab, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh allocations of pig iron are also made to the recognised Associations of Small Scale units duly sponsored by the State Directorate of Industries. Individual SSI units of certain categories such as—

(1) SSI units with quarterly off-take of 100 tonnes or more steel in any quarters during the last 5 years;

(2) Bicycle and Bicycle parts/component manufacturers ; and

(3) Units holding release orders from DCI&S on account of Engineering Export Promotion Council and Deemed Export Orders are entitled to obtain their supplies of steel directly from main producers. Allocation of pig iron to Associations of Small Scale units is considered only on the recommendations of the State Government concerned.

(f) and (g) SSI Corporations are entitled to a rebate of Rs. 100/- per MT on pig iron and Rs. 310 to 440 per MT on steel supplied by main producers against allocations made by the DCI&S to meet the handling and transportation expenses so that they can supply material to SSI units at rates on par with those of the main producer.

[English]

RESTRUCTURING OF VISAKHAPATNAM STEEL PLANT

2169. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant on its capital restructuring ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon and when it is likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) The scheme for restructuring the capital base of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (VSP) as cleared by Government envisages the following :—

- (i) Conversion of Government of India's loans to the extent of Rs. 1184 crores into equity capital.
- (ii) Conversion of Government of India's loans to the extent of Rs. 1185 crores into 7% Non-cumulative Preference Shares redeemable at the end of 10 years.
- (iii) Conversion of interest due on Government of India's loans amounting to Rs. 791 crores, into interest free loan for a period of seven years.
- (iv) Conversion of Government of India's loans received after 1st August, 1992 for the year 1992-93, into 7% Non-Cumulative Shares redeemable at the end of 10 years from the date of allotment.
- (v) Waiver of penal interest on Government of India loans.

RADIO TELEPHONE CENTRES IN GUJARAT

2170. SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Radio Telephone Centres introduced in Gujarat, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to link these centres with the such nearby telephone exchanges where STD facility is available;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) As on 31-7-1993, the number of Multi Access Rural Radio Base Stations (not Radio Telephone Centres) introduced in Gujarat is 96. The district-wise details are given in *statement*.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, STD facility is proposed to be provided progressively by March 1997.

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

Statement

District-wise details of Multi Access Rural Radio (MARR) Base Stations in Gujarat (As on 31-7-1993)

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Marr Base Stations.
1.	Ahmedabad	6
2.	Anreli	6
3.	Banaskantha (Polanpur)	6
4.	Bhavnagar	0
5.	Bharuch	4
6.	Jamnagar	4
7.	Junagadh	4
8.	Kheda	9
9.	Bhuj	5
10.	Mehsana	5
11.	Panchmahala (Godhra)	2
12.	Rajkot	9
13.	Sabarkantha (Himatnagar)	8
14.	Surendranagar	8
15.	Surat	4
16.	Baroda	4
17.	Valsad	2
18.	Gandhinagar	1
19.	Dang	NIL
20.	U. T.	NIL
	Total	96

GUIDELINES FOR PRINTING TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

2171. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued to District Telecommunication offices for periodical printing of Telephone Directory, if so, the details;

(b) whether most of the District Telecommunication offices have not adhered to such guidelines, if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by his ministry to direct concerned offices to adhere to these guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. The existing instructions provide for a periodicity of one year for publication of each edition of the Telephone Directory and in the Circles/Districts which are authorised to bring out editions in Hindi/Regional languages in addition to English, the publication of different editions should be staggered so as to have an interval of about six months between two editions of the directory.

(b) No Sir, the publication of Telephone Directories has been delayed in quite a few cases due to delay in finalisation of tenders, award of contracts and failure on the part of contractors to supply on time.

(c) Constant interaction is maintained with field units and instructions reiterated from time to time so that Telephone Directories are brought out every year.

ALLOCATION TO ROAD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

2172. SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated for road research and development schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the details of expenditure on each scheme, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) An amount of Rs. 10 crores has tentatively been earmarked for Research and Development Schemes for roads during 8th Five Year Plan.

(b) Amounts released on Research and Development Schemes during 8th Five Year Plan are as under :—

S. No.	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	1992-93	1993-94
1. Road Schemes	56.66	9.60
2. Bridge Schemes	26.50	—
Total	83.16	9.60

[Translation]

PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF GRANITE

2173. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the production capacity of granite in the country as per the latest geological survey report;

(b) the total annual production of granite;

(c) whether any foreign investors have any interest in mining of granite; and

(d) the expected export potential of granite?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM
SINGH YADAV) : (a) The reserves of

granites estimated by some of the State
Governments are as follows :—

State	Estimated reserves (Figures in million Cubic Mts)	Remarks
1. Andhra Pradesh	3.0	This represents estimation of reserves in a few areas. Estimation work is going on at present to have a more comprehensive assessment of reserves.
2. Assam	43.5	
3. Bihar	19.0	
4. Karnataka	55.7	
5. Rajasthan	0.08	
6. Tamil Nadu	15.9	This represents estimation of reserves of black granite. There is no estimation of reserves of coloured granite yet.
7. West Bengal	7.0	
8. Orissa	—	Estimation of reserves not yet taken up.

(b) In 1990-91, the total production of granite was 1589 thousand tonnes.

(c) Government is not aware of interest shown by any foreign investor for mining of granite.

(d) The exports of granite by the year 1995-96 are estimated to be around Rs. 1000.00 crores.

FOREIGN AID FOR MINERAL DEVELOPMENT IN MAHARASHTRA

2174. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-
RAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of
MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any foreign assistance has been sought during the last two years for carrying out search for minerals and their development in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM
SINGH YADAV) : (a) Central Govern-
ment has not sought any foreign assistance
for carrying out search for minerals in
Maharashtra.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

POWER GENERATION IN EIGHTH PLAN

2175. SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY :
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJA-
PATHY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased
to state :

(a) the amount proposed to be invested
and the quantity of power likely to be
generated in each State during the Eighth
Five Year Plan; and

(b) the quantity of power likely to be
generated out of the above in the private
sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V.
RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) The
8th Five Year Plan envisages a capacity
addition of 30537.7 M.W. including 12,858
M.W. in the Central Sector and 17,679.7
M.W. in the State sector. Of these 2,810
M.W. is estimated to be in the private
sector. The outlay for the Power sector
for the 8th Plan is Rs. 79,589.32 crores.
State-wise capacity addition is given in
Statement.

Satatement**CAPACITY ADDITION PROGRAMME DURING VIII FIVE YEAR PLAN**

(All figures in MW)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Thermal	Hydel	Nuclear	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	840	463.6	Nil	1303.6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	280.3	Nil	280.3
3.	Assam	690	226.0	Nil	916.0
4.	Bihar	1760	56.9	Nil	1816.9
5.	Delhi	762	Nil	Nil	762.0
6.	Gujarat	1421	120.0	440	1981.0
7.	Goa	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil.
8.	Haryana	966	22.5	Nil	988.5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	567.0	Nil	567.0
10.	J & K	100	1326.8	Nil	1426.8
11.	Karnataka	416	580.0	440	1436.0
12.	Kerala	Nil	271.0	Nil	271.0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1260	264.5	Nil	1524.5
14.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
15.	Maharashtra	1960	753.0	Nil	2713.0
16.	Meghalaya	Nil	60.0	Nil	60.0
17.	Mizoram	Nil	3.6	Nil	3.6
18.	Nagaland	Nil	99.0	Nil	99.0
19.	Orissa	1840	736.0	Nil	2576.0
20.	Punjab	630	300.0	Nil	930.0
21.	Pondicherry	22.5	Nil	Nil	22.5
22.	Rajasthan	453	Nil	220.0	673.0
23.	Sikkim	Nil	72.0	Nil	72.0
24.	Tamil Nadu	1380	15.5	Nil	1395.5
25.	Tripura	100	Nil	Nil	100.0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3005	1497.0	Nil	4502.0
27.	West Bengal	2550	117.5	Nil	2667.5
28.	Sardar Sarovar Project (to be implemented in joint sector)	—	1450.0	—	1450.0
TOTAL		20155.5	9282.2	1100.0	30537.7
	Thermal	Hydel	Nuclear	Total	
Central Sector	8498.0	3260.0	1100.00	12858.0	
State Sector	11657.5	6022.2	—	17679.7	
Total	20155.5	9282.8	1100.00	30537.7	

EIGHTH PLAN OUTLAY—POWER SECTOR

(Rs. Crores)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Outlays
I. STATES		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3040.62
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	148.28
3.	Assam	1192.46
4.	Bihar	2120.83
5.	Goa	52.50
6.	Gujarat	2635.00
7.	Haryana	1701.99
8.	Himachal Pradesh	500.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1175.18
10.	Karnataka	3024.86
11.	Kerala	1226.20
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3563.36
13.	Maharashtra	4572.64
14.	Manipur	185.35
15.	Meghalaya	166.48
16.	Mizoram	101.05
17.	Nagaland	59.00
18.	Orissa	2638.30
19.	Punjab	2417.50
20.	Rajasthan	3200.00
21.	Sikkim	133.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	3000.00
23.	Tripura	116.60
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6974.76
25.	West Bengal	3016.00
Sub-Total (States)		46961.86
II. UNION TERRITORIES		
1.	A & N Islands	57.97
2.	Chandigarh	55.00
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5.11
4.	Daman & Diu	7.37
5.	Delhi	1212.00
6.	Lakshadweep	6.21
7.	Pondicherry	102.22
Sub-Total (U. T.s)		1445.88
Total (States/U.Ts.)		48407.74
III. CENTRE		
1.	Ministry of Power including D. V.C.	25920.58
2.	Nuclear Power Corporation	4261.00
3.	Neyveli Lignite Corporation	1000.00
Sub-Total (Central)		31181.58
TOTAL (All India)		79589.32

[*Translation*]

FOREIGN AUTOMATIC RECEIVERS

2176. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some people have foreign automatic receivers link it with public telephone wires during night and telephone to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the number of cases detected by the Government in this regard during 1992-93; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No such instances have come to the notice of this Department,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

PASSPORT OFFICES

2177. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

SHRI RAM TAHAL
CHOUDHARY :

PROF. K. V. THOMAS :

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI :

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

PROF. P. J. KURIEN :

SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI :

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :

DR. A. K. PATEL :

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the jurisdiction of each passport office in the country, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to open more passport offices in various States, including Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the average time taken to issue a passport;

(e) the number of passport applications received by various passport offices and the number of passports issued during the last one year;

(f) the number of applications pending for more than three months, passport office-wise; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) *Statement* is given below.

(b) and (c) The structure of the Central Passport Organisation including the number of Passport Offices is under review. Government's experience has been that mere opening of more Passport Offices does not improve the services provided.

(d) The time taken to issue a passport in the normal course varies between Passport Offices depending on the work load and the staff strength.

(e) and (f) The figures are being ascertained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(g) Government have taken a number of steps to reduce the pendency including inter alia stabilisation of the supply of passport booklets; introduction of a productivity linked incentive scheme and creation of 400 additional posts.

Statement**DISTRICT-WISE JURISDICTION OF PASSPORT OFFICES**

Sl. No.	Passport Office	Jurisdiction
1.	Regional Passport Office, Ahmedabad.	All districts in the State of Gujarat and the Union Territory of Diu.
2.	Passport Office, Bangalore.	All districts in the State of Karnataka.
3.	Passport Office, Bareilly.	Almora, Agra, Aligarh, Badaun, Bijnor, Bareilly, Bulandshahr, Chamoli, Dehradun, Etah, Firozabad, Ghaziabad, Hardwar, Mainpuri, Mathura, Muzaffarnagar, Moradabad, Meerut, Nainital, Pauri Garhwal, Pithora Garh, Pilibhit, Shahjahanpur, Saharanpur, Rampur, Tehri Garhwal, Uttar-Kashi.
4.	Passport Office, Bhopal.	All districts in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
5.	Passport Office, Bhubaneswar.	All districts in the State of Orissa.
6.	Regional Passport Office, Bombay.	Districts of Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Beed, Bombay, Dhule, Jagaon, Kolhapur, Nasik, Pune, Raigar, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Satara, Sindhudurg, Solapur and Thane in the State of Maharashtra and the Union territories of Daman and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
7.	Regional Passport Office, Calcutta.	All districts in the States of West Bengal, Tripura and Sikkim.
8.	Regional Passport Office, Chandigarh.	Districts of Bhatinda, Faridkot, Fatehgarh Sahib, Ferozpur, Ludhiana, Mansa, Patiala, Ropar and Sangrur in the State of Punjab, all districts in the States of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh and the Union Territory of Chandigarh.
9.	Passport Office, Cochin.	Districts of Ernakulam, Trichur, Alleppey, Kottayam and Idukki in the State of Kerala and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep.
10.	Regional Passport Office, Delhi.	The Union territory of Delhi and all districts in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.
11.	Regional Passport Office, Guwahati.	All districts in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Nagaland.

1	2	3
12.	Passport Office, Hyderabad.	All districts in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
13.	Passport Office, Jajpur	All districts in the State of Rajasthan.
14.	Passport Office, Jalandhar	Districts of Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Hoshiarpur, Amritsar and Gurdaspur in the State of Punjab.
15	Passport Office, Kozhikode	Districts of Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur, Pajakkad, Kasaragod, Wayanad in the State of Kerala and district of Mahe in the Union territory of Pondicherry
16	Passport Office, Lucknow	Districts of Allahabad, Azamgarh, Barabanki, Balia, Basti, Banda, Bahraich, Deoria, Etawah, Faizabad, Faehur, Farrukhabad, Gorakhpur, Gond, Ghazipur, Hamirpur, Hardoi, Jaunpur, Jalaun, Jhansi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Lalitpur, Lakimpur Khiri, Mau, Mirzapur, Maharajganj, Pratagarh, Rai Bareilly, Sitapur, Sultanpur, Sidharth Nagar, Sonbhadra, Unnao and Varanasi in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
17.	Regional Passport Office, Madras.	Districts of Madras, North Arcot, Salem, Chingleput, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Dharmapuri, Periyar, and Karaikal in the State of Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Pondicherry.
18	Passport Office, agpur.	Districts of Jalana, Nanded, Osmanabad Durg (MP), Latur, Buidhana, Akola, Amravati, Yavatmal, Vardha, Nagpur, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Bhandara and Parbhani in the State of Maharashtra.
19.	Passport Office, Panji.	All districts in the State of Goa.
20	Passport Office, Patna.	All districts in the State of Bihar.
21.	Passport Office, Tiruchirappalli.	Districts of Tanjur West, Nagaiquaide, Milleth, Ramanathapuram, Pon Muthuramalingam, Kamarajar, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai (city), Madurai (Rural), Anna (Dindigal district), Tirunelveli, V. O. Chithampanar, Pudukottai, Kanniyakumari in the State of Tamil Nadu.
22.	Passport Office, Trivandrum.	Districts of Trivandrum, Quilon and Pathanamthitta in the State of Kerala.
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Administration, Port Blair.	The Union territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ON VIR SAVARKAR

2178. DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation to issue a commemorative postage stamp in honour of eminent freedom fighter Vinayak Damodar Savarkar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, a commemorative stamp on this eminent Freedom Fighter has already been issued by the Department on 28-5-1970.

[English]

EXPORT OF C-DOT TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

2179. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN :

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a large number of enquiries from developing countries for export of C-DOT designed and developed RAX rural telephone exchanges;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) the total value of C-DOT designed exchanges exported so far during the last three years, country-wise;

(d) whether C-DOT is considering a joint marketing and development collaboration with any foreign country or any Multi-national company; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Enquiries have been received from Vietnam, Nepal, Nigeria, Yemen, Pakistan, Russia and Australia.

(c) The total value of C-DOT designed exchanges exported during the last three years is about Rs. 253 lakhs. The country-wise break-up is as follows :

Russia—Rs. 33 lakhs, Nepal—Rs. 10 lakhs, Vietnam—Rs. 200 lakhs, and Negeria—Rs. 10 lakhs.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir.

Memorandum of Understanding have recently been signed with Russia and M/s. Siemens.

WAITING LIST FOR TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN JAMNAGAR, GUJARAT

2180. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a long pending list for telephone connections in Jamnagar district, Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof, as on date ;

(c) the number of telephone connections provided during the each of the last three years; and

(d) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The total waiting list for telephone connections as on 30-6-1993 is 2432 in Jamnagar District, Gujarat.

(c) Year	No. of Connections provided
1990-91	586
1991-92	1644
1992-93	1575

(d) As per 8th Plan objective, the waiting period for telephone connection is to be reduced to two years in large telephone system and telephones practically on demand in Rural/Tribal areas, by the end of 8th Plan period (92-97). The expansion of the exchanges are being planned accordingly to meet the objective.

[*Translation*]

MAKHANA PROCESSING UNIT IN BIHAR

2181. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for setting up of any processing unit in Madhubani district in Bihar for the processing of Makhana an agro-product; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

SHIP CAPACITY DURING EIGHTH PLAN

2182. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of ship capacity built indigenously;

(b) the additional requirement of ship capacity to meet transport requirement during the Eighth Plan period;

(c) the foreign exchange requirement during the Eighth Plan to meet our ship requirement; and

(d) the policy during the Eighth Plan period to reduce the country's dependence on purchase of ships from abroad and increase ship building activities indigenously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The assessed production capacity of the two major public sector Shipyards viz. Hindustan Shipyard Limited and Cochin Shipyard Limited is about 1.125 million DWT during 8th Plan period.

(b) The Eighth Five Year Plan envisages acquisition of ships of a total capacity of 2.5 Million GRT. This includes 1.0 Million GRT as additional requirement and 1.5 million GRT on account of replacements.

(c) No firm estimate has been made regarding the foreign exchange requirement on account of purchase of ships during 8th plan period.

(d) The following measures are being taken by Government to increase ship-building activities indigenously:-

(i) The price of an ocean going vessel to be built at Indian Yards may be fixed on the basis that the public sector yard would participate in open tender and be permitted to match the lowest bid and thereafter be entitled to 30% extra price over the price, 20% being payable by the Government and 10% by the shipowner.

(ii) Loans at concessional rate of 9% to the extent of 80% of the cost of a ship may be given to Shipping Companies placing orders with Indian Yards. The interest subsidy will be administered by Ministry of Surface Transport. These funds may be routed through the Yards.

(iii) Fixation of price in terms of US \$/Japanese Yen and the ship owners to pay each stage in instalment to the Shipyard at market determined parity rate of foreign exchange prevailing on the date of actual payment. The date of payment, however, will be as per the contract schedule and the shipyards will not be entitled to any variation beyond the stipulated date. Suitable clause for paying liquidated damages for delays in completion of work will be incorporated in the contracts.

(iv) The subsidy to be released by Government will be paid along with the payments received by the shipyards for stage payments as per the prevailing market determined rate of exchange.

SUPPORT TO TERRORISTS ACROSS BORDER

2183. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the terrorists operating in North Eastern States are getting support from across the border;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the neighbouring countries concerned; and

(d) if so, the results achieved thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) Government have reports that some insurgent groups, operating in North-Eastern States, are getting support from across the border.

(b) to (d) Government have been maintaining required vigilance and taking necessary remedial measures. In addition, this issue has been taken up with Government of Bangladesh on a number of occasions and continues to be a subject of dialogue with them. As regards Myanmar, we have been promoting mutual understanding and confidence for maintaining tranquility in the border region.

[Translation]

TV COVERAGE IN BHIND AND DATIA AREAS, M. P.

2184 SHRI YOGANAND SARASWATI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the T.V. coverage in Bhind and Datia areas in Madhya Pradesh;

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

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A Low Power TV Transmitter (LPT) is already

functioning at Bhind and providing satisfactory service within its coverage area. Major parts of Bhind and Datia districts in Madhya Pradesh are also covered by the High Power TV Transmitter (HPT) at Gwalior. In order to further strengthen TV service in the area, another LPT is presently under implementation at Datia. The LPT at Datia is expected to be commissioned during the current financial year. Expansion of TV service in the remaining uncovered parts of the country including those in Bhind and Datia areas of Madhya Pradesh can be carried out in a phased manner depending upon future availability of resources and inter se priorities.

PROGRAMMES BY ICCR ON MYANMAR

2185. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : SHRI MANJAY LAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the programmes that have been carried out by the Indian Council for Cultural Relation during the last three years for strengthening the cultural relations with Myanmar;

(b) whether the Council is organising any programme, work-shop or training course in India based on the culture of that country;

(c) if so, the details in this regards; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) to (d) Cultural exchanges with Myanmar did not take place during the past three years due to political considerations. We are now in the process of reviving them in accordance with the recent discussions held at the level of Foreign Secretary/Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

ICCR, however, continue to receive students from Myanmar under the General Cultural Scholarship programme. Presently there are seven students on scholarship. Five scholars are working for their Ph.D in Pali and two scholars are studying Medicine.

[English]

**AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY ON
EXTREMISM**

2186. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reached any agreement with Turkey to fight extremism; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) : (a) and (b) The Governments of India and Turkey are in full agreement on the need to oppose the forces of extremism. However, the two countries have not signed any formal agreement on the subject.

**ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES IN
BIHAR**

2187. SHRI SHIVA SHARAN SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether electronic exchange has already been installed in the district head-quarter Muzaffarpur in Bihar;

(b) if so, the capacity thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to open electronic exchanges in rural areas of West Muzaffarpur; and

(d) if so, the details with location thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) 8000 Lines.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) New electronic exchanges are proposed to be opened during 1993-94 at locations given below

(i) Paro

(ii) Karja

(iii) Baruraj

(iv) Ajijpur

16—724 LSS/94

**T.V. SERIAL ON MAHADAJI
SCINDIA**

2188. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received representation for production of a mega serial on the life of Mahadaji Scindia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(d) the details of other mega serials selected for telecast by Doordarshan for the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A large number of Hon'ble Members of Parliament had requested Government to telecast a serial on the life and time of Mahadaji Scindia.

(c) Government has since blocked time on the Entertainment (Metro) Channel of Doordarshan from 12-2-1994 for the telecast of a serial on the life and times of Mahadaji Scindia.

(d) Presently Doordarshan are retelecasting two mega-serials, viz. Hum Log and The Sword of Tipu Sultan.

[Translation]

**SETTING UP OF LPTs IN
HIMACHAL PRADESH**

2189. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

the names of the places in Himachal Pradesh where the Government propose to set up Low Power TV Transmitters during 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : One Low Power TV Transmitter

at Sundernagar and two Very Low Power TV Transmitters (VLPTs) one each at Ajhu Fort and Palampur are expected to be set up during 1993-94.

[English]

POST OFFICES ACCORDING TO POPULATION

2190. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in some States the number of post offices, in proportion to the population and area, is much less as compared to other States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government propose to remove regional disparities in regard to post offices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The details of post offices in the country, the area served by a post office and average population served per post office State-wise are given in the *Statement*.

(b) and (c) The Government propose to remove regional disparities in the country by opening more post offices in the rural, backward, tribal, hilly, desert and inaccessible areas subject to satisfaction of norms, and availability of funds. In the Eighth Five Year Plan, a target of opening 3000 extra departmental branch post offices and 500 departmental post offices in various areas of the country has been fixed, as per the need of different areas.

Statement

Number of Post offices State-wise/Union Territory-wise with areas and average population served by a Post Office as on 31-3-1993

Sl. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Total No. of Post offices	Area served by a post office (Sq. kms.)	Average population served per post office
1	2	3	4	5
STATES				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16212	16.96	4093
2.	Assam	3780	22.31	5729
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	269	311.15	3196
4.	Bihar	11701	14.86	7382
5.	Goa	244	15.15	4795
6.	Gujarat	8884	22.07	4651
7.	Haryana	2565	20.88	6361
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2633	21.41	1941
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1583	140.23	4875
10.	Karnataka	9761	19.64	4590
11.	Kerala	4991	7.81	5834
12.	Madhya Pradesh	11174	50.42	5918
13.	Maharashtra	12161	22.32	6475
14.	Manipur	660	33.33	2767
15.	Meghalaya	470	44.65	3746
16.	Mizoram	362	58.00	1895
17.	Nagaland	294	56.11	4134
18.	Orissa	8026	19.4	3926

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Punjab	3830	20.98	5271
20.	Rajasthan	10257	33.34	4278
21.	Sikkim	170	41.75	2385
22.	Tamil Nadu	12085	10.79	4603
23.	Tripura	689	15.08	3983
24.	Uttar Pradesh	19936	14.76	6973
25.	West Bengal	8446	10.49	8049
Union Territories :				
1.	Andhaman & Nicobar	97	84.53	2877
2.	Chandigarh	49	2.41	13076
3.	Delhi	550	2.54	17037
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	34	18.78	4070
5.	Daman & Diu	15	21.01	6762
6.	Lakshdweep	10	2.24	5168
7.	Pondicherry	99	4.57	8151
All India Total		152037	21.6	5553

[Translation]

**PERFORMANCE OF STATE
TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS**

2191. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-
GAVA : Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of State Transport Cor-

porations in the country which are earn-
ing profit; and

(b) the position of Rajasthan State
Transport as compared to other State
Transports ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :** (a) and
(b) A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Sl.	State Road Transport Corporations	Net Profit/Loss		(Rs. in Crores)
		1989-90 Actuals	1990-91 Actuals	1991-92 Actuals
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh SRTC	-20.63	-11.92	-31.13
2.	Assam SRTC	-13.53	-15.36	-17.81
3.	Bihar SRTC	-13.23	-22.74	-26.87
4.	Gujarat SRTC	+ 6.23	+4.29	+0.92
5.	Himachal Pradesh SRTC	-16.56	-15.41	-18.38
6.	Jammu & Kashmir SRTC	-11.75	-15.90	-16.83
7.	Karnataka SRTC	-37.70	+ 1.30	-19.09
8.	Kerala SRTC	-25.72	-30.99	-39.54
9.	Madhya Pradesh SRTC	-18.42	+0.24	+0.27
10.	Maharashtra SRTC	-64.81	+5.58	-26.72
11.	Manipur SRTC	-1.21	-1.46	-1.70
12.	Meghalaya SRTC	-2.22	-1.69	-1.71

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Orissa SRTC	-5.85	-12.09	-11.77
14.	Pepsu RTC	-20.29	-20.88	-17.89
15.	Rajasthan SRTC	+0.15	-8.59	+13.96
16.	Tripura SRTC	-3.14	-3.12	-3.49
17.	Uttar Pradesh SRTC	-24.75	-40.42	-33.43
18.	North Bengal SRTC	-2.53	-5.75	-7.34
19.	South Bengal SRTC	-2.71	-3.98	-3.30
20.	Calcutta STC	-22.03	-23.79	-21.65
21.	Delhi Transport Corporation	-119.8456	-197.4835	-203.8184

TELECAST OF NATIONAL NETWORK PROGRAMME IN TAMIL NADU

2192. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Network telecast from 8.30 p.m. is telecast in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Doordarshan Kendra, Madras telecasts news in Tamil at 8.30 p.m. and starts relay of national programme at 8.45 p.m. The relay of National news bulletin in Hindi from Doordarshan Kendra, Madras was discontinued from November, 1992 on the request of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

[English]

T.V. COVERAGE IN ASSAM

2193. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in Assam which are not covered by Doordarshan network;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation from the Government of Assam for extending T.V. coverage ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) An estimated area of 26% and population of 18% of the State of Assam remains uncovered by Doordarshan's service at present.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In order to expand TV coverage in Assam, three Low Power TV Transmitters (LPTs), one each at Bongaigaon, North Lakhimpur and Haflong and a Very Low Power TV Transmitter (VLPT) at Digboi are presently under implementation. These transmitters are expected to be commissioned into service during the current financial year.

AUTONOMY TO ELECTRONIC MEDIA

2194. SHRI CHITTA BASU :

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to give autonomy to electronic media is under the consideration of the Government since long;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in that direction for its early implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c) Government are considering certain amendments to the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of

India) Act, 1990, which provides for the establishment of an autonomous corporation for the discharge of functions presently performed by Doordarshan and Akashvani, before the said Act is brought into force. Expeditious action is being taken to consult political parties and employees associations on the proposed amendments.

ALLOTMENT OF ADDITIONAL FREQUENCIES FOR MARINE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

2195. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has sought allotment of additional frequencies for the marine communication equipments; and

(b) if not, the response of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Fisheries, Government of Kerala, applied, in March 1990, for grant of a licence for a wireless network for regulating fishing activity. After examination an agreement to grant licence was issued in June, 1990, earmarking two frequencies. But that department has again approached the Ministry for additional frequencies. Detailed justification for the additional frequencies, was requested from the Government of Kerala (Department of Fisheries), which is still awaited.

[Translation]

REPAIRS OF HIGHWAYS IN U.P.

2196. SHRI JANARDAN MISTRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scientists of Central Road Research Institute have made any study in regard to National Highways;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take any concrete steps to repair the highways passing through Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, by what time and if not, the reason thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) National Highway in Uttar Pradesh are kept traffic worthy by undertaking repairs as and when required, within the available resources. Repair and maintenance are continuous activities and as such no time can be indicated for their completion.

[English]

MINING APPLICATIONS AND LEASES

2197. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mining applications/ leases granted by the Government during 1992 so far, State-wise:

(b) the number of applications are still pending with Government for grant of clearance from environmental angle upto March 31, 1993 and

(c) whether all these applications in this regard are likely to be cleared during the current year and if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

SHIFTING OF FILM & T.V. INSTITUTE FROM CALCUTTA

2198. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to shift the Film & Television Institute of India from Calcutta;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the progress of the proposed Institute; and

(d) by when it is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Necessary land has already become available at Calcutta. The Hon'ble Prime Minister laid the foundation stone on 10-10-1992. Construction of boundary wall is in progress. Execution of the project has been taken in hand.

(d) It is likely to be completed by the end of 1997.

PROGRESS OF PALGHAT KOZHIKODE NATIONAL HIGHWAY

2199. **SHRI K. MURLEEDHARAN :** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made by Palghat-Kozhikode National Highway so far; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT : (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) The Palghat-Kozhikode road is presently forming part of the State Road network. However, the Government of Kerala have proposed that this road be declared as new National Highway in the 8th Five Year Plan. Owing to limitation of funds under the Central Sector Roads programme, it is not possible to accede to such requests in any State including Kerala at present.

VIJAYANAGAR STEEL PLANT

2200. **SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS :** Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of share holding of the Union Government in the proposed Vijayanagar Steel Plant in Karnataka ;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka have requested the Union Government to transfer their shares to enable it

to set up the proposed steel plant in the joint sector; and

(c) if so, the shares of the Union Government that are being transferred to the State Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The Central Government presently holds 100% of the shares of Vijayanagar Steel Limited which was set up to implement the Vijayanagar Steel Plant in Karnataka.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Central Government has decided in principle to transfer its entire share holding in Vijayanagar Steel Limited to the State Government of Karnataka.

SMALL HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECTS IN U. P.

2201. **SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH :** Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up small and mini hydro-electric projects in the Tehri Garhwal, Uttar Kashi and Dehradun districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) Small and mini Hydro-electric Projects costing less than Rs. 25 crores do not require clearance from Central Government. Such projects are sanctioned by the State Government.

[Translation]

CONTROL OF STA OVER REDLINE BUSES

2202. **SHRI KALKA DAS :** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of control of the State Transport Authority of Delhi on redline buses; and

(b) the number of the buses among them belonging to the members of the Scheduled Castes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) State Transport Authority has been exercising strict control on the operation of redline buses in Delhi, by way of cancellation/suspension of permit wherever the buses are involved in fatal/non-fatal accidents. Enforcement Wing of Transport Department is prosecuting the erring driver/operator on road and also cancelling/suspending the driver's licence of the erring drivers. 18000 challans have been made till 31-7-93. In addition, the STA have also started refresher courses and proficiency test for the drivers and made it mandatory for each driver to appear for proficiency test.

(b) 289 bus permits have been issued to members of Scheduled Caste.

[English]

POWER GENERATION CAPACITY IN KERALA

2203. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some proposals are pending with the Union Government for approval for increasing the power generation capacity of the existing power plants in Kerala ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the power plants whose additional power generation capacity is likely to be created during 1993-94 in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) No proposals for increasing the Power Generation capacity of the existing Power Plants in Kerala are pending with the Central Electricity Authority.

(c) 15 MW of additional Hydro capacity is likely to be added in Kallada H.E. Project (2×7.5 MW) in 1993-94.

SALE OF DEFENCE EQUIPMENT BY RUSSIA TO PAKISTAN

2204. MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4592 on 29 March, 93 and state :

(a) whether Russia has agreed to sell defence equipment to Pakistan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) According to information available, no transaction for acquisition of defence equipment by Pakistan from Russia has been finalised so far.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

PIPAVAV GAS BASED PROJECT

2205. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA :

DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has recently requested for Union Government for import of gas from Australia for the Pipavav gas based power project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**DISCONNECTION OF TELEPHONES
IN HYDERABAD**

2206. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of telephones have been disconnected without written notice in Hyderabad city of Andhra Pradesh during 1993 even after payment of bills inspite of Bombay High Court judgement of 1984;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the persons responsible for the same; and

(c) the action Government propose to prevent harassment of subscribers in the matter of disconnections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) Some telephones have been disconnected in Hyderabad without written notices. The system of sending Registered Notice before disconnection of telephone has been introduced in Hyderabad Telecom. Distt. in a phased manner with effect from 11-6-1993. This scheme will cover all the bills issued from August, 1993 onwards.

In a few cases telephones do get disconnected even after payment of bills due to human errors. Immediate remedial actions are taken to rectify these errors and action is taken against the officials responsible for the lapse.

(c) The following steps have been taken to prevent wrong disconnections :—

(i) Telephonic reminders are given after the due date of payment.

(ii) Registered Notices are issued after the due date of payment giving additional two weeks for payment of telephone bills.

(iii) Computerised bill payment centres are being opened to account for the payments without delay.

LATEST TECHNOLOGY FOR SORTING MAIL

2207. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have considered to introduce any latest technology to instal automatic mail processing units in order to expedite sorting of mail, especially in the metro cities, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any trial of such mail sorting machines has been held so far in any of the metro cities;

(c) if so, the results achieved so far in this regard;

(d) the estimated capital outlay involved and the infrastructure for proper training of staff operating these machines; and

(e) when these machines are likely to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) During the Eighth Five Year Plan 1992—97 it is proposed to instal Automatic Integrated Mail Processing Systems at Madras and Delhi in addition to the one already installed at Bombay.

(b) One Automatic Integrated Mail Processing System has been installed and commissioned at Bombay on 29-4-93.

(c) The system is functioning satisfactorily.

(d) The total cost of the system installed at Bombay is Rs. 20 crores approximately, including customs duty.

M/s. Alcatel Bell Manufacturing Company provided operational training to the Project Director, three Project Managers and six Supervisors. During installation, the Company imparted operational training to all the operating staff.

(e) No firm date can be given at this stage.

[Translation]

REPAIRS OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN GUJARAT

2208. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of National Highways which require to be repaired in Gujarat;

(b) the total amount sanctioned for this purpose during each of the last three years; and

(c) the total length of National Highways repaired/proposed to be repaired with this amount and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The total length of National Highways in Gujarat is 1631 km and repairs are required on the entire National Highway network.

(b) and (c) The funds released for the maintenance and repair of National Highways in Gujarat during last three years are :

1990-91	Rs. 1043.02 lakhs
1991-92	Rs. 918.89 lakhs
1992-93	Rs. 881.37 lakhs

These amounts were for the total length of National Highways in Gujarat.

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES IN BIHAR

2209. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of bridge schemes submitted by Government of Bihar to the Union Government for approval during each of the last three years ;

(b) the schemes sanctioned year-wise; and

(c) the schemes which are lying pending and the schemes which have been rejected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) The

17—724 LSS/94

details of bridge schemes on National Highways submitted by Bihar Government during the last 3 years are as under :—

Year	No. of schemes
1990-91	12
1991-92	9
1992-93	10

(b) The details of schemes sanctioned during the last 3 years are as follows :

Year	No. of Bridge schemes
1990-91	12
1991-92	4
1992-93	4

(c) 2 schemes are under scrutiny in Ministry and 9 schemes were returned to State Govt. for modification.

[English]

EXPANSION OF MADRAS PORT TRUST

2210. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for expansion of the Madras Port Trust Container Terminal;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the expenditure estimated and foreign exchange component thereof;

(c) whether the Asian Development Bank has shown interest in extending financial assistance for the project;

(d) if so, the extent of assistance expected; and

(e) the time by which the expansion of the port is likely to be accomplished ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) A proposal for further extension of the container terminal has been sent to Asian Development Bank for study under Technical Assistance Programme. Details regarding financing etc. can be worked out after receipt of the report of the Asian Development Bank.

**SANCTION OF WORKS IN
MAHARASHTRA**

2211. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of works sanctioned in Maharashtra under Central Road Fund since 1980—90 till date and their cost thereof;

(b) as per revised estimates, the amount that has to accrue to Maharashtra under Central Road Fund since 1989-90 till date;

(c) the number of works of Maharashtra under Central Road Fund pending approval with the Union Government and since when; and

(d) the time by which these works are likely to be sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) 121 schemes were approved in Maharashtra under Central Road Fund since 1980 till date at a cost of Rs. 25.90 crores.

(b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the revised Resolution on Central Road Fund adopted by Parliament on 13-5-1988. Since revised Resolution has not yet been implemented, the accruals as per revised formula have not been assessed for Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) In 1989, the Government of Maharashtra sent 801 schemes costing Rs. 365.59 crores to be financed under augmented Central Road Fund. Out of these schemes, 42 schemes have been approved taking into account the likely accruals upto 31-3-92 as per Old Resolution. Since actual augmentation of Central Road Fund has not taken place so far, it is too early to indicate the time by which the remaining schemes would be approved.

[Translation]

**OPTICAL FIBRE FACULTY IN
GUJARAT**

2212. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce optical fibre facility for telephone lines in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Optical Fibre Systems have already been introduced in local as well as long distance networks, in Gujarat and more systems are planned to be inducted in future.

Links already commissioned :

(i) Ahmedabad-Baroda-Surat (part of New Delhi-Bombay main route).

(ii) Vapi - Valsad - Bilimora - Navsari-Surat.

(iii) Surat-Ankleshwar.

(iv) Baroda-Godhra-Halol-Dahod.

(v) Baroda - Vagodhia - Badoli - Chota-udaipur.

(vi) Ahmedabad-Modasa.

(vii) Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar.

(viii) Mehsana-Chansama.

(ix) Anand-Borsad.

(x) Ahmedabad local network.

Following schemes are planned to be executed during 1993-94 and 1994-95.

1993-94

(i) Sami-Chanasma.

(ii) Amrali-Jafrabad.

(iii) Bhuj-Mothala.

(iv) Mothala-Nakatrana.

(v) Dassa-Radhanpur.

(vi) Dhrol-Jamnagar.

1994-95

(i) Himmatnagar-Idar-Khatbrahma.

(ii) Rajkot-Amreli.

(iii) Gandhidham-Bhuj.

(iv) Mothala-Nalia.

(v) Gandhidham-Bachau.

(vi) Bhuj-Mandvi.

(vii) Ahmedabad-Rajkot.

(viii) Bhuj-Nakatrana.

**CAPACITY UTILISATION OF
TELEPHONE EXCHANGES**

2213. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in the recent report on the Department of Telecommunications, the Comptroller and Auditor General has pointed out the under utilisation of capacity of telephone exchanges in the country;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the details in regard to the capacity of different telephone exchanges in Hardoi

and Lakhimpur Kheri districts separately in Uttar Pradesh and the telephone connections provided by June 30, 1993 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Guidelines for utilisation of exchange capacity have been issued. The overall utilisation percentage, however, is declining because of larger addition of the exchange capacity in rural areas where the growth in demand takes place rather slowly.

(c) The exchange-wise details of switching capacity and telephone connections provided by June 30, 1993 for Lakhimpur-Kheri and Hardoi districts of Uttar Pradesh is given in statement.

Statement

Exchange-wise detail of switching capacity and working connections provided by the 30-6-1993

S. No.	Name of Exchanges	Type of Exchange	Equipped Capacity	Working connections
1	2	3	4	5
Hardoi District :				
1.	Baghauji	Max. III	25	19
2.	Beniganj	C-Dot	88	38
3.	Bilgram	C-Dot	88	60
4.	Ganjajalabad	MILT	56	14
5.	Gopamau	Max. III	25	11
6.	Hardoi	Max. II L/F	800	777
7.	Hardoi B.	C-Dot	88	54
8.	Harpalpur	Max. III	25	08
9.	Kachhauna	C-Dot	88	41
10.	Manpur	Max. III	25	5
11.	Mallawan	C-Dot	88	39
12.	Madhoganj	C-Dot	88	86
13.	Pajj	Max. III	25	23
14.	Pihani	C-Dot	88	35
15.	Sandi	C-Dot	88	33
16.	Sandija A	C-Dot	176	160
17.	Sandija B	MILT	56	44
18.	Semrachauraba	Max. III	25	23
19.	Shahabad	C-Dot	176	140
Total			2118	1616

1	2	3	4	5
Lakhimpur Kheri District :				
1.	Aira	C-Dot	88	37
2.	Aliganj	MILT	56	21
3.	Bankoyganj	"	56	26
4.	Barwar	"	56	9
5.	Behjam	C-Dot	88	27
6.	Belraya	Max. III	25	10
7.	Bhanpurkhajuria	"	50	7
8.	Bhira	C-Dot	88	39
9.	Bijuwa	MILT	56	11
10.	Chandanchauki	Max. III	25	8
11.	Dhaurabra	C-Dot	88	55
12.	Gauriphanta	Max. III	25	3
13.	Gola A	ILT 512	384	380
14.	Gola B	C. Dot	96	90
15.	Isanagar	MILT	56	24
16.	Jasnagar	Max. III	25	12
17.	Kariya	Max. III	25	14
18.	Kukra	"	50	5
19.	Lakhimpur A	Max. II L/F	1300	1248
20.	Lakhimpur B Mandi Samiti	C-Dot	176	169
21.	Lakhimpur C	C-Dot	88	62
22.	Majhgain	MILT	56	13
23.	Majlani	C-Dot	88	82
24.	Manhgepur	MILT	56	25
25.	Mitauli	Max. III	25	13
26.	Mohamdi	C-Dot	160	150
27.	Nighasan	"	88	70
28.	Oel	MILT	56	21
29.	Pajjakalan	Max. II U/S	400	379
30.	Phardhan	C-Dot	88	22
31.	Phoolbehar	MILT	56	14
32.	Pipariadhani	"	56	23
33.	Sampurnanagar	C. Dot	88	67
34.	Singhai	MILT	56	20
35.	Surderwal	Max. III	25	8
36.	Tikonja	C. Dot	88	72
37.	Vishanpuri	MILT	56	17
Total			4343	3253

[English]

PLAN TO MAKE RING ROAD A FREE WAY

2214. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4803 on December 20, 1991 and state :

(a) whether the draft report has since been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report envisages long term improvement of the Ring Road covering a number of Grade separators, widening, traffic management measures at an estimated cost of Rs. 475 crore at 1992 prices. The Government of National Capital Territory has initiated implementation of the various improvements in a phased manner depending upon the resource position.

(c) Does not arise.

SCRAPPING OF DOCK TRAVELLER BY BOMBAY PORT-TRUST

2215. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether 60 ton dry dock traveller crane was scrapped by the Bombay Port Trust (BPT);

(b) the number of years the crane was under use by the BPT, the estimated life of the crane and the reasons for scrapping the crane;

(c) whether this crane was out of order ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken/proposed against those found responsible in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

[English]

TARGET FOR POSTAL SERVICES

2216. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the targets fixed in the Seventh Plan towards opening of post offices, installation of post boxes, appointment of extra departmental agents and inspecting officers in the rural areas have been fulfilled;

(b) if not, the targets fixed and the extent to which the same were fulfilled with reasons for not achieving the targets;

(c) whether there is any proposal to enquire into the failure to achieve the targets and to find out of reasons thereof ;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the findings thereof together with action taken thereon be laid on the Table of the House; and

(e) the details of the targets fixed in the Eighth Plan and the extent to which progress has been made so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (d) The details of targets fixed, achievements and reasons for shortfall for various schemes, are given in statement.

(e) In the Eighth Five Year Plan, a target of opening 3000 extra departmental branch post offices in rural/tribal areas and 500 departmental sub post offices in urban areas has been fixed. In 1992-93, a total of 635 extra departmental branch post offices and 115 departmental sub post offices have been sanctioned. In 1993-94, it has been proposed to open 600 extra departmental branch post offices and 100 departmental sub post offices.

Statement**Details of the targets fixed and achievements made in the 7th Plan**

S. No.	Scheme	Target	Achievement
1.	Opening of Post Offices	6000	4305
2.	Installation of letter boxes	25000	9732
3.	Appointment of Addl. Extra Departmental Delivery Agents.	1200	Nil
4.	Appointment of Plan Monitoring Inspectors	33	Nil

REASONS FOR SHORFALL IN ACHIEVEMENTS OF TARGETS**1. Opening of Post Offices :**

- (a) Ban on creation of new posts.
- (b) Withdrawal of powers for creation of posts from DG (posts) and his subordinate officers.
- (c) The time involved in referring every case of opening of a post office to the Finance Ministry, and obtaining approval therefrom.
- (d) Inherent time lag between sanctioning and opening of new post offices which some times spills over into the next financial year.

2. Installation of Letter Boxes :

The shortfall in meeting the target was largely due to the inability of DGS&D, Calcutta to cope with our demand and ensure supply continuously.

3. Appointment of Additional Extra Departmental Delivery Agents :

This was not considered necessary as it was possible to manage the work with the existing establishment of branch post offices. After the introduction of the ban on creation of posts, priority was accorded to the opening of post offices to the extent possible rather than on obtaining sanction for posts of additional Extra Departmental Delivery Agents.

It may be mentioned here that such agents are not sanctioned separately under normal circumstances because they form a part of the establishment of branch post office. These posts are sanctioned as a part of the establishment of branch post office and on the basis of justification.

4. Appointment of Plan Monitoring Inspectors :

During the seventh Five Year Plan, no Plan Monitoring Inspector (PMI) was appointed as the existing number of Plan Monitoring Inspectors was considered adequate for the existing number of P.Os. As already stated above, after the introduction of the ban on creation of posts, priority was accorded to the opening of new post offices wherever possible rather than obtaining sanction for any additional posts.

UPGRADATION OF A.I.R. STATIONS AND T.V. RELAY CENTRES IN A.P.

2217. DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade the existing A.I.R. stations and T.V. relay centres in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH

DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following A.I.R./Doordarshan projects

will be upgraded in the State of Andhra Pradesh :

S. No.	Place	Upgradation	Target
ALLINDIA RADIO			
1.	Hyderabad	10 KW SW to 50 KW SW	Technically ready.
2.	Hyderabad	50 KW MW to 200 KW MW	March, 1995
3.	Hyderabad	Conversion of old Studio to Permanent Type IV Studio	March, 1995
4.	Visakhapatnam	Adding of VB/CBS Station with 2X5 KW XFM Transmitters & Studios.	March, 1995
DOORDARSHAN			
5	Kurnool	LPT to HPT	Subject to approval of the Schemes and availability of resources. These are expected to be implemented in about 3 years.
6	Nandya	LPT to HPT	
7.	Rajahmundry	LPT to HPT	

[Translation]

**EXPANSION OF BHOPAL AIR/
DOORDARSHAN**

2218. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes of expansion, renovation and development of Bhopal Doordarshan and Akashvani Kendras during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the total funds earmarked for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The power of the existing 1 KW MW and 10 KW SW Transmitters at All India Radio, Bhopal is being upgraded to 10 KW MW and 50 KW SW respectively. There is no approved

scheme at present for expansion and development of Doordarshan Kendra, Bhopal.

(b) The estimated cost of upgradation of the above Transmitters is Rs. 471.97 lakhs.

[English]

**SECOND CHANNEL OF AIR
CUTTACK**

2219. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to set up the second Channel of AIR Station, TRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up the second Channel of AIR Station. Cuttack in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SCHEME ON FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR IN MAHARASHTRA

2220. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some schemes relating to food processing Sector are being implemented in Maharashtra with the assistance of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the present status of these schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries have provided to the tune of Rs. 57.1 lakhs in 1991-92 and Rs. 50 Lakhs in 1992-93 for a project for the establishment of post harvest processing facilities for grapes implemented by M/s. Mahagrapes. While the majority portion of the project have already been implemented, the remaining portion is also nearing completion.

CHINESE MISSILES TO PAK

2221. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent talks between the US and China on later's supply of missiles to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have held any talks with the US in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The US Government has taken up this matter with China on many occasions. This issue was discussed by the US Assistant Secretary of State, Winston Lord and by US Under Secretary of State Lynn Davis during their visits to Beijing and, more recently, by the US Secretary of State during his meeting with the Chinese

Foreign Minister in Singapore. The US State Department Spokesman has stated that the US continues to monitor closely and carefully reports suggesting that the Chinese are not abiding by their MTCR commitments. If the US Administration concludes that China has engaged in improper transfer it will not hesitate to take action required under US missile proliferation law.

(c) and (d) Cooperation between China and Pakistan in nuclear and missile related matters and its impact on the Indian security environment has figured in bilateral discussions between India and other countries, including the US, on security related issues. Government have on numerous occasions conveyed concern about Pakistan's acquisition of weapon systems in excess of its legitimate defence requirements. Government continue to closely monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take adequate steps to safeguard national security.

[Translation]

PAK HIGH COMMISSION ALLEGATION ON INDIAN LEADERS

2222. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA :
SHRI JAGMET SINGH BRAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan High Commission in India has levelled several objectionable allegations against many Indian leaders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have taken up this with that country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the other steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

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

(a) and (b) Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi have on occasions, in recent months, made baseless allegations against Indian leaders, including the Home Minister, Shri S. B. Chavan, former Minister of State for Home, Shri M. M. Jacob, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Sharad

Pawar and BJP leader, Shri L. K. Advani. The Pak High Commission had alleged that the Indian leaders were making irresponsible and inflammatory public statements on Pakistan, the Indian political figures had links with the criminal underworld and that certain political parties in India breed religious hatred and promote bloodshed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government have repeatedly conveyed to Government of Pakistan its utmost concern over the habitual use of extreme language and personal vilification of senior leaders by the Pakistan High Commission in Delhi in recent months. We have drawn the attention of the Pakistani authorities in Islamabad to the statements by the Pak High Commission which were needlessly adversarial and provocative and we have stressed that any repetition of such unacceptable and improper conduct will be regarded seriously by the Government of India.

[English]

MULTINATIONALS IN FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR

2223. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :

SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN :

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether their is any proposal from M/s. Coca Cola for setting up a 100% owned subsidiary in India to manufacture beverages;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government propose to allow any increase in foreign equity holding by M/s. Pepsi Foods Ltd.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the policy of the Government in respect of such multinationals for the purpose of inviting foreign investment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TAKUN GOGOI) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the *statement*.

(c) and (d) M/s. Pepsi Foods Ltd. have been granted approval to increase their foreign equity upto 51% by M/s. Pepsico Inc. USA in the revised paid up capital of Rs. 105 crores. However, the company has requested for increase in the foreign equity upto 100%.

(e) Automatic approval for foreign technology agreement and for 51% foreign equity participation are granted for high priority industries listed in Annexure-III to the new Industrial Policy announced in 1991. All other proposals which do not qualify for automatic approval are considered on merits by the Government. Approval for Non-Resident Indians and Overseas Corporate Bodies, predominantly owned by them, for investment upto 100% equity in high priority, industries, are also permitted.

Statement

Government have approved the proposal from M/s. Coca Cola South Asia Holdings Inc. USA for the manufacture of beverage bases & essences. The Company will have 100% foreign equity amounting to Rs. 60 crores by itself or through its subsidiaries/associate companies. The company will maintain an export-import ratio of 3 : 1. There will be dividend balancing for seven years from the date of commencement of production and this will be over and above the 3:1 export-import ratio separately stipulated. The company offered to make the following commitments, which have been noted :—

- (i) Company does not envisage any payment of technical/licence fees, payment for the use of patents, royalties, training fees or any other consultancy, lumpsum payment.
- (ii) The projected imports of essential flavouring essences is Rs. 78 crores in the first seven years.
- (iii) The estimated inflow of foreign exchange by exports is Rs. 234 crores over the first seven years.

(g) No dividend remittance for the first seven years.

[Translation]

THEFT OF TAPES IN DOORDARSHAN

2224. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI :

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI :

SHRI SHIBU SOREN :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a press newsitem captioned "Doordarshan Main Naye Tepon Ki Chori Par Hartal" appeared in 'Jansatta' dated 10 July, 1993 ;

(b) Whether some video tapes had been recovered from the dustbin and a large number of video tapes have been stolen during the last one and a half year ;

(c) Whether the report of theft has so far been lodged with the Delhi Police;

(d) if so, the action Government propose to contemplate against the involved officials; and

(e) efforts being made by the Government to locate the stolen video pes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The matter is under investigation.

[English]

STEEP INCREASE IN DEFENCE BUDGET OF PAKISTAN

2225. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE :

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR

PATEL :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MAN-
DIAE :

SHRI B. DEVARAJAN :

SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken note of a substantial increase in Pakistan's defence budget for 1993-94 to step up of its nuclear weapons programme, acquisition of missiles from China and spares through commercial channels in the United States ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Government are aware of Pakistan's high defence expenditure, its nuclear programme and its acquisition of sophisticated arms and equipments from various countries. Our concern regarding the clandestine and weapons-oriented nature of Pakistan's nuclear programme and Pakistan's continuous efforts to acquire sophisticated arms and equipments beyond its legitimate defence needs have been conveyed to all concerned, including China and the United States.

Government monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take adequate measures to safeguard it.

[Translation]

TEHRI DAM PROJECT

2226. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA :

SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether another expert committee has been set up recently to review the viability of the Tehri Dam Project;

(b) if so, the findings of the committee;

(c) whether the construction work has been resumed at the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the expenditure incurred on the project including the amount spent on the displaced families so far and the additional amount estimated to be spent on it; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Due to a ban on blasting at the Project Site, construction of Dam and other appurtenant works are at a standstill. The work on rehabilitation is, however, continuing to the extent of availability of funds.

(e) An amount of Rs. 798 crores (approximately) has been spent on the Project so far. The expenditure incurred on rehabilitation of displaced families is Rs. 219 crores. An additional amount of Rs. 195 crores is estimated to be spent on rehabilitation.

(f) The Tehri Dam Project was envisaged for commissioning during 1996-97. However, consequent to non-availability of Soviet financing, revised completion schedule will be worked out after alternate funding arrangements have been finalised.

[English]

EXTRADITION OF LTTE LEADERS

2227. SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN :

SHRI ANBARASU ERA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5484 on April 12, 1993 and to state the progress made in securing extradition of LTTE leaders from Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) All relevant aspects of making a formal request to the Government of Sri Lanka for the extradition of LTTE leaders accused in the case

of assassination of the late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi remain under the consideration of the Government.

COAL FROM CHASNALA MINES

2228. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of excavating coal from Chasnala mine has restarted;

(b) if so, the quantity of coal proposed to be excavated annually;

(c) whether full safety measures have been provided in the mine; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. Mining operations in the Chasnala deep mine, are yet to recommence.

(b) SAIL has planned to extract coal from Chasnala deep mine, on experimental basis, from May, 1994 and to commence regular extraction from May, 1995 and sustain the production at a level of 1 million tonnes per annum from 2003-04 onwards.

(c) & (d) In addition to the normal mine safety measures, the following special steps were taken to ensure Chasnala deep mine safety :—

(i) Controlling of bore holes to tap water from old workings;

(ii) Environmental tele-monitoring of Ventilation system; and

(iii) Use of hydraulic supports in place of conventional wooden supports, etc.

RAMMAM HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT

2229. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has sought financial assistance from the Union Government for the Rammam hydro-electric project and power transmission line between Kologhat and Girat; and

(b) If so, the estimated cost involved to complete these projects and the decision taken by the Government to fund them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) The Power transmission line between Kolaghat and Jeerat has already been commissioned on 3-7-1991.

RAMMAM Stage-II Hydro-electric Project to be set up at a latest estimated cost of Rs. 108.13 crores is scheduled for commissioning in 1994-96. Rammam Stage-I Hydro-electric Project (36 MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 90.89 crore is likely to be commissioned in the 9th Plan. Provision for both the projects has been made in the Plan outlay of the Government of West Bengal.

PROCESSING OF MARINE PRODUCTS

2231. SHRI AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the steps taken proposed to be taken to increase processing of marine products for export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : I. In order to promote processing of marine products a scheme on Tuna and other fish processing is being implemented. Under the scheme grant-in-aid is given to public sector/joint sector/state level corporations etc. to the extent of 50% of the capital cost of the project. This assistance is provided for setting up modern/sophisticated processing plants for processing of quality fish like Tuna, Shrimp, Lobster and also trash fish etc.

II. With a view to encourage exploitation, processing and export of marine products by deep sea fishing, schemes on joint venture, leasing and test fishing have been introduced. Permission has been given to 30 companies under the three schemes.

III. Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) have schemes to provide financial assistance to private sector units for acquisition of processing

machinery. The authority is also operating schemes to promote export of value added/diversified products, to encourage seafood processors and to adopt consumer packaging.

[Translation]

FOOD PROCESSING UNITS IN RAJASTHAN

2232. SHRI RASA SINGH RAWAT :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount earmarked by the Union Government for Rajasthan to set up for processing units during Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government have formulated any special action-plan in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of food processing units permitted by the Union Government in the State during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (d) Ministry of Food processing have formulated a number of Plan schemes for overall development of food processing industries in the country and the total Plan allocation for the 8th Five Year Plan is 146 crores. A summary of Plan schemes is given in statement. No State-wise earmarking has been done as the Plan scheme envisaged providing assistance on the basis of specific project proposals received from each State. During the last three years five units of fruit & vegetable products and two units for manufacture of Sweetened Aerated Water have been set in Rajasthan. Approval has already been accorded for setting up/upgrading of 8 food processing units for manufacture of Guar gum powder and Guar gum meal, etc. as well as for setting up of two fruit & vegetable processing units under 100% Export Oriented Units Scheme.

Statement

SUMMARY OF PLAN SCHEMES

A. GRAIN PROCESSING SECTOR

1. Post Harvest Technology Centre, IIT, Kharagpur.

2. ~~Paddy Processing Research~~ Centre, Thanjavur.

3. Regional Extension Service Centres.
4. Research and Development Schemes.
5. Rice Milling Machinery and Allied Equipments Testing Centres.
6. Modernisation of Rice Mills.
7. Setting up of Food Engineering Centre.

B. FRUIT & VEGETABLE PROCESSING

1. Scheme for setting up food processing and training centre for the rural areas.
2. Scheme for assistance for establishment of F&VP units.
3. Scheme for strengthening backward linkages between processors and growers Testing Centres.
4. Scheme for assistance for development of infrastructure for mushroom cultivation and processing.
5. Assistance for development and processing of Hops.
6. Generic advertising on processed foods and for providing marketing assistance.
7. R & D in F&VP.

C. MEAT & POULTRY PROCESSING

1. Establishment of National Livestock Products Development Council.
2. Development of pork processing.
3. Development of sheep goat and rabbit meat processing.
4. Development of Poultry & egg processing.
5. Development of Buffalo meat processing.
6. Development of infrastructure for storage and transport of meat for export.
7. Development of marketing facility.

8. Development of trained manpower for meat processing industry.

9. R & D for meat processing and specialised packaging.

D. FISHERIES & FISH PROCESSING

1. Assistance for participation in deep sea fishing and processing.
2. Grant-in-aid providing interest subsidy on loan for acquisition of deep sea fishing vessel.
3. Assistance for diversified fishing.
4. Scheme for effective implementation of MZI Act by providing funds for installation of communication facilities for the Coast Guard.
5. Scheme for setting up of cold-chain.
6. Scheme for tuna and other fish processing.
7. Assistance to National Marine Fisheries Development Board.
8. Fishery Survey of India.

E. CONSUMER INDUSTRY

1. R&D scheme on soyabean products and Indian traditional foods and packaging.
2. Investment in Public Sector Enterprises.
 - (a) MFIL
 - (b) NERAMAC

F. SECRETARIAT ECONOMIC SERVICES

1. Scheme for strengthening of nodal agencies.
2. Scheme for strengthening of Directorate of F&VP for information, training education and quality system for development of F&VP.
3. Scheme for participation in National and international exhibitions.
4. Scheme for promoting studies in food processing.
5. Scheme for performance awards in Food Processing Industries.

[English]

SETTING UP OF DISTILLERY BY FOREIGN COMPANY

2233. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA
VARMA :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from any foreign companies for setting up of distilleries in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have agreed to their proposals;

(d) if so, the conditions on which the foreign company would set-up a distillery in the country and the implications involved in the outflow of foreign exchange as a result thereof ; and

(e) the places of production units and the time by which these distilleries are to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) to (e) The following two companies have been granted approval by Government of India for setting up of distilleries for manufacture of super for quality whisky and locally bottled scotch etc. :

(1) M/s. United Distillers of U.K. in collaboration with the U.B. Group.

(2) M/s. Seagram Company of Canada.

These approvals are subject to the condition that the companies will utilise existing licenced capacity of their Indian partners and no fresh licences will be issued. The companies, besides bringing in foreign exchange as direct investment, would also export sufficient quantities of their liquor products to maintain foreign exchange neutrality over 5 years. The joint venture projects will be located at the site of their Indian partners manufacturing facility. The approval letters issued to the two companies are valid initially for a period of two years.

TELEPHONES IN PANCHAYAT BHAVANS, U.P.

2234. SHRI ASHT BHUIJA PRASAD SHUKLA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices in Uttar Pradesh where telephone connections have not been provided so far and the number of those post offices from where telephones were removed and installed in Panchayat Bhavans ;

(b) the number of Panchayat Bhavans in the State where telephone facilities have not been provided so far ; and

(c) the number of Panchayat Bhavans with telephone facilities and the amount spent for this purpose during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

METRO CHANNEL PROGRAMMES

2235. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNI-
HOTRI :
SHRI MADAN LAL
KHURANA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the standard of programmes being telecast on Metro Channel is constantly declining ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to raise their standard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

EMPLOYMENT IN FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR

2236. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem that appeared in 'The Observer of Business and Politics' dated May 31, 1993 regarding potentiality of agro-industry in solving the unemployment problem facing the country;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps for the expansion and development of food processing industries in this regard ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) whether the Government have explored the possibilities of expansion of food processing sector as cottage industries in the rural areas ;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Food Processing Industries have the potential of generating considerable employment in the country. It is estimated that with an investment of about Rs. 12,000 crores, employment of about one million man years would be generated during the Eighth Five Year Plan period in these industries.

(c) to (g) Food processing industry has considerable scope for expansion. In order to encourage expansion and development of these industries, several measures have been taken by the Government.

These include formulation of various developmental Plan schemes for strengthening of infrastructure such as marketing, cold storages, training, transport, etc. according high priority status to most food

industries, delicensing of most food industries, grant of automatic approvals of foreign equity collaborations upto 51% reduction of customs duty on capital goods, reduction/removal of excise duty on many food products and some packaging materials, etc. These have been done for expanding the production base as well as expanding the market. In addition, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries has also formulated a scheme for establishment of Food Processing Training Centre, particularly, in rural areas under which necessary training in technological and managerial aspects of setting up an enterprise is imparted to potential entrepreneurs for making investment in these industries in rural areas.

(English)

DABHOL POWER PROJECT

2237. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have approved the proposal of the Government of Maharashtra regarding setting up of power station at Dabhol in collaboration with M/s. Enron Power Corp'n. of USA ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The proposal for setting up a Power Station at Dabhol in Maharashtra by Enron Power Development Corporation (USA) has been approved from foreign investment angle.

(b) The proposal is to set up, own & operate a Natural Gas fired combined cycle power station of a capacity of 1920 MW (which capacity may be expanded to 2550 MW at a future date) based on imported Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) at an estimated cost of US \$ 2650 million (Rs. 8480 crores). The total cost of US \$ 2650 million would be financed through foreign equity of US \$ 480 million, foreign debt of US \$ 1480 million and the rest from equity and debt raised in India, 60% of the cost amounting to US \$ 480 million

of which US \$ 200 million would be contributed by M/s. Enron Power Development Corporation and remaining US \$ 280 million would be contributed by Enron's foreign associates such as Bechtel Enterprise, Inc. and General Electric Company, USA. The project would be implemented by setting up two separate business entities—a Power Plant venture and a Fuel Supply venture. The Power Plant venture would be responsible for arranging financing for both the ventures, but would focus specifically on turn-key construction and long term operation of the power station. It will also be responsible for the development of the harbour and port facility. The Fuel Supply venture will arrange for import of LNG, operate & manage conversion, storage and supply of LNG for use as fuel to the Power Plant venture. The Fuel Supply venture will also source back-up fuel (No. 2 fuel oil) supply for the power plant venture. All fuel imports for the project will be in accordance with the Government of India policy and regulations.

The project would be set up in association with the Maharashtra State Electricity Board who may also participate in the equity capital of the proposed Power Plant venture. The Government of India would be willing to provide sovereign guarantee only for loans taken for the project from the World Bank and Asian Development Bank or any other bilateral aid sources that require such guarantee under its statutes but would not provide such guarantees for External Commercial Borrowings.

Import of capital equipment, components and raw materials will be allowed as per the import policy prevailing from time to time.

(c) Enron Power Development Corporation are discussing the details of the project viz., Power Purchase, Government

Support and other subsidiary Agreements with the Maharashtra State Electricity Board and the State Government. The commissioning schedule will be known after these details are finalised.

[*Translation*]

ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES IN PHULPUR REGION, U.P.

2238. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up electronic telephone exchanges in Phulpur region of U.P. ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) All the existing telephone exchanges in Phulpur region (Tehsil) are already electronic exchanges. As such there is no proposal for setting up electronic exchanges, at present.

[*English*]

IMPORT OF FOREIGN FILMS

2239. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering any proposal to extend the agreement with the Motion Picture Export Association of America (MPEAA) for import of foreign films; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

POSTAL FACILITIES IN GUJARAT

2240. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any significant work has been done in the field of postal facilities in Gujarat, particularly in its towns and rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the work done during the last year as a result of which postal facilities have increased in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present, 8116 post offices in Rural area and 817 post offices in Urban area are functioning to provide postal facility in Gujarat. The postal facilities are being extended by opening of new post offices under Plan Schemes progressively.

(c) 30 extra departmental branch post offices and 5 departmental sub post offices have been opened in Gujarat during 1992-93.

[*English*]

T.V. TRANSMISSION CENTRE AT MEDAK

2241. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a T.V. Transmission Centre at Medak in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be commissioned; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the present indications, the Low Power TV Transmitter is expected to be commissioned into service during 1994-95.

(c) Does not arise.

INVESTMENT IN POWER SECTOR

2242. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI :

SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN :

DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO :

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI :

SHRI RAMA KRISHANA KONATHALA :

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL :

SHRI N. J. RATHVA :

SHRI SIMON MARANDI :

SHRI SHIBU SOREN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3921 on August 3, 1992 and state :

(a) the names of the foreign companies permitted by the Union Government to invest in power projects in the private sector, so far;

(b) the total amount involved therein and the total quantum of power likely to be generated therefrom after completion, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) The

following proposals from foreign/NRI companies to put up Power projects in the

private sector have been cleared from foreign investment angle;

S. No.	Name of the Foreign Company/ NRI	Name of the Project/ State	Capacity (MW)	Provi- sional Cost (Rs. Cro.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	G. V. K. Industries (NRI-USA)	Jegurupadu GBPP, Andhra Pradesh	200	675
2.	Spectrum Power Generation Ltd. (NRI-NTPC J.V.)	Kakinada GBPP Andhra Pradesh	200	655
3.	Asak Lysland & National Power (UK)	Visakhapatnam TPS, Andhra Pradesh	1000	3000
4.	Cogentrix Inc. (USA)	Mangalore TPS, Karnataka	1000	5088
5.	Baron Power Development Corpn & General Electric Corpn. (USA)	Dabhol CCGT (LNG), Maharashtra	1920	8480
6.	AES Corporation (USA)	Ib-Valley TPS, Orissa	420	2026
7.	ST Power Systems (USA)	NLC Zero Unit, Tamil Nadu	210	750
			4950	20674

(c) The project proponents are discussing the details including commissioning schedule with the concerned State Electricity Boards/State Governments.

[English]

**BUILDINGS FOR POST AND
TELEGRAPH OFFICES IN
WEST BENGAL**

2244. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct department buildings for Post and Telegraph offices in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details with location thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SUKH RAM) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) *Department of Telecommunications :*
DTO-cum-SDO(T) Office Building Cooch-
behar costing Rs. 10.5 lakhs during 93-94.

Department of Posts :

Details of departmental buildings pro-
posed to be constructed in West Bengal
state are given in the *Statement*.

[Translation]

IMPROVEMENT OF ROADS

2243. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATHI : Will the Minister of
SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to
state the steps taken or proposed to be
taken to improve the present conditions
of roads throughout the country ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :** Central
Government are primarily concerned with
development/maintenance of National
Highways. For other categories of roads,
the respective States are concerned in the
matter. Improvements of National High-
ways is a continuing activity. An outlay
of Rs. 2,460.00 crores has been earmarked
for development of National Highways in
the 8th Plan.

Statement

Departmental Buildings proposed to be constructed in West Bengal

POST OFFICE (BUILDINGS)

1. Nayasari P.O. (Hooghly)
2. Sonamukhi P.O. (Bankura)
3. Kidderpur P.O. (Calcutta)
4. Jhargram H.O. (Midnapur)
5. Amtala P.O. (Murshidabad)
6. Burnpur P.O. (Burdwan)
7. Bhadreswar P.O. (Hooghly)
8. Banarhat P.O. (Jalpaiguri)
9. Uttarpara P.O. (Hooghly)
10. Bharatpur (Murshidabad)
11. Kalinghat P.O. (Calcutta)
12. Sech Bhavan P.O. (Calcutta)
13. Baheri P.O. (Birbhum)
14. Bangalji P.O. (Nadia)
15. Durgachak P.O. (Midnapur)
16. Durgapore-3 P.O. (Burdwan)
17. Postal, Stores Depot, Siliguri (Darjeeling)
18. S.B. Road, P.O. (Calcutta)
19. Calcutta A.P. Sorting Office Buildings (Calcutta)
20. Barasat H.O. (North 24 Parganas)
21. Postal Stores Depot, Salt Lake (Calcutta)
22. Patiram P.O. (W. Dinajpore)
23. Sandesh Khali P.O. (North 24 Parganas)
24. Hatgacha P.O. North 24 Parganas)
25. Gokarna P.O. (Murshidabad)
26. Aranghata P.O. (Nadia)
27. Barjora P.O. (Bankura)
28. Pundibari P.O. (Cooch Behar)
29. Abinashpur P.O. (Birbhum)

LEGEND

P.O.—Sub Post Office.

H.O.—Head Post Office.

*[Translation]***CLOSED MINES**

2245. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mines lying closed in the country;

(b) whether new deposits of mines have been discovered ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The discovery of new mineral deposits is a continuous process and the collection of details about all new deposits would be very time consuming and the efforts put in would not be commensurate with the results expected to be achieved.

QUARTERS FOR POSTS AND TELECOM DEPARTMENT

2246. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of residential staff quarters under each category available with the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, separately as on July 1, 1993;

(b) the total number of residential quarters allotted to the employees of each category in both the departments as on July 1st, 1993 and the number of employees out of them belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes ;

(c) the number of quarters allotted to the staff unions/associations to run their offices;

(d) the number of the Government quarters apart from the general allotment allotted to the employees belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in each category as required under 60 point reservation roster; and

(c) the steps taken to fulfil the requirements of residential staff quarters in both the departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER OF SRI LANKA

2247. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka visited India recently;

(b) if so, the bilateral issues discussed with Indian leaders and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed for bilateral cooperation between the two countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the follow up steps taken by the Government thereon;

(e) whether he sought India's assistance to deal with militancy in that country; and

(f) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Mr. Ranil Wickremasinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, paid a working visit to India from 21-23 June, 1993. This was Mr. Wickremasinghe's first bilateral visit after he became Prime Minister

on May 7, '93, in the new government of President D. B. Wijetunga, in the wake of the tragic assassination of President Premadasa. Sri Lankan Prime Minister's meeting with Prime Minister and other leaders covered matters of bilateral interest. In particular, the two sides exchanged views on the ways and means to further strengthen the economic, commercial and technical cooperation between India and Sri Lanka. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and Prime Minister agreed that the second session of the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission should meet early in order to identify further areas for such cooperation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES, U.P.

2248. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE-TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the bridges in the central sector which are under construction in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the name of the agencies which are constructing each of these bridges;

(c) the expenditure involved therein and the amount spent so far; and

(d) the time by which each of these bridges are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (d) The names of bridges in central sector under construction and their targeted dates of completion are as under :—

Sl. No.	Names of Bridges	Targeted dates of completion
National Highway Works:		
1.	Ganga bridge on Varanasi-Ramnagar-Mughalsarai Bypass on National Highway No. 2	June, 1995.
2.	Yamuna bridge in Km. 200 on National Highway No. 2 at Agra.	June, 1994.
3.	Sarain bridge on Sitapur Bypass on National Highway No. 24	December, 1994.
E & I Work:		
4.	Ghagra bridge near Manjhihat on Ballia-Chhapra Road.	Completion date will depend upon availability of sufficient budgetary provisions from State Government.
CRF Work:		
5.	Kanhar bridge on Dudhi-Wyndhamanj Road.	

(b) Public Works Department of Government of Uttar Pradesh is the agency.

(c) These bridges are likely to cost about Rs. 6058 lakhs and an expenditure of about Rs. 3269 lakhs has been incurred thereon upto March, 1993.

[Translation]

TARIFF CONCESSION IN FAULTY TELEPHONES

2249. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether concession in telephone tariff is given in case the telephone connection of a subscriber is faulty at least for more than a week; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the said concession is given to the subscriber ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. If the telephone service of a subscriber remains interrupted continuously for 7 days or more due to departmental reasons, rebate in rental is granted on the department's own initiative, without waiting for the request from the subscriber. The rebate is as under :

7 to 14 days : prorata rebate in rental.

more than 14 days : full months' rental rebate.

2250. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned "SAIL exporting at less than Home Market Rates" appearing in 'The Observer' on June 21, 1993;

(b) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has not been making supply of billets to the domestic steel manufacturing units;

(c) whether the prices of this raw material is higher in the domestic market as compared to the international market;

(d) whether using this raw material, the domestic steel manufacturing units export the finished goods at still higher prices;

(e) if not, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) whether the Government propose to impose restriction on the export of such raw material in order to encourage export at higher rates ?

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

(b) The availability of semis including Billets from SAIL for the market has been declining over the years with the sole purpose to utilise as much semis as possible in finishing mills to run them on maximum of their capacities for both technological as well as commercial reasons. The arisings which cannot be utilised in mills due to off-heat off-chemistry of short lengths are utilised under conversion arrangements to the maximum extent possible both for the purpose of value addition as well as meeting the requirements of priority sector/industries. A small quantity of Billets (15,000 mts.) has been earmarked for the Engineering Export Promotion Council.

(c) In the international market the prices of various categories of steel fluctuate from time to time depending upon the international trade in Steel. The export price of steel from countries like Japan, Germany and Brazil are much lower than their own internal market prices. Therefore, a comparison of the domestic prices of Indian Steel with the International prices will not be appropriate.

(d) and (e) Export of all items of iron and steel is freely allowed. Decisions regarding items and pricing of export goods are taken by producers/exporters keeping the commercial considerations in view.

(f) No, Sir.

[English]

EXPENDITURE ON ADVERTISEMENTS BY DAVP

2251. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure on advertisements by DAVP during 1992-93;

(b) its break-up by language and the number of newspapers utilised, language-wise; and

(c) the names of papers in each language which received the five highest payments on this account during the year, language-wise with the amount so paid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) During the year 1992-93 DAVP committed an expenditure of Rs. 29,86,27,428/- towards press advertisements released on behalf of various Ministries/Departments.

(b) The language-wise break-up of the expenditure along with number of newspapers utilised language-wise is given in the *statement I*.

(c) The *Statements-II* showing names of five papers in each language which would receive highest payments for the year 1992-93 is attached.

Statement I

LANGUAGEWISE NO. OF NEWSPAPERS AND EXPENDITURE COMMITTED DURING THE PERIOD FROM 01-04-1992 TO 31-03-1993.

Sl. No.	Language	No. of Papers	Amount (Rs.)
1.	English	230	114061800.00
2.	Hindi	2455	92978847.00
3.	Urdu	314	12232393.00
4.	Punjabi	150	8603269.00
5.	Marathi	89	12488068.00
6.	Gujarati	93	10307039.00
7.	Sindhi	14	609632.00
8.	Assamese	29	2239016.00
9.	Bengali	225	14606832.00
10.	Oriya	44	4073765.00
11.	Tamil	55	7718527.00
12.	Telugu	60	4277695.00
13.	Malayalam	52	10453195.00
14.	Kannada	40	3734311.00
15.	Sanskrit	6	16982.00
16.	Nepali	4	90347.00
17.	Mizo	2	97248.00
18.	Khasi	2	27865.00
19.	Konkani	2	5097.00
TOTAL:		3868	298627428.00

Statement II

NAME OF FIVE NEWSPAPERS IN EACH LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD
RECEIVE HIGHEST PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1992-93.

Sl. No.	Language	Newspaper Name	City	Amount (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	English	Employment News	Delhi	32266898.00
2.	English	Hindustan Times	Delhi	18493767.00
3.	English	Times of India	Bombay	8652770.00
4.	English	The Telegraph	Calcutta	6005548.00
5.	English	Tribune	Chandigarh	5212215.00
1.	Hindi	Navbharat Times	Delhi	7569532.00
2.	Hindi	Punjab Kesari	Jalandhar	7363938.00
3.	Hindi	Punjab Kesari	Delhi	3639647.00
4.	Hindi	Hindustan	Delhi	3459944.00
5.	Hindi	Rajasthan Patrika	Jaipur	2256056.00
1.	Urdu	Pratap	Delhi	517660.00
2.	Urdu	Siyasat	Hyderabad	503158.00
3.	Urdu	Pasban	Bangalore	497662.00
4.	Urdu	Quami Awaz	Delhi	422863.00
5.	Urdu	Inquilab	Bombay	383717.00
1.	Punjabi	Ajit	Jalandhar	2754887.00
2.	Punjabi	Punjabi Tribune	Chandigarh	466338.00
3.	Punjabi	Jag Bani	Jalandhar	394222.00
4.	Punjabi	Akali Patrika	Jalandhar	359048.00
5.	Punjabi	Suraj	Ludhiana	313545.00
1.	Marathi	Maharashtra Times	Bombay	2086018.00
2.	Marathi	Lokasatta	Bombay	1874905.00
3.	Marathi	Navakal	Bombay	1541374.00
4.	Marathi	Sakal	Pune	1166958.00
5.	Marathi	Lokmat	Nagpur	889656.00
1.	Gujarati	Gujrat Samachar	Ahmedabad	2968050.00
2.	Gujrati	Sandesh	Ahmedabad	1575448.00
3.	Gujrati	Sandesh	Baroda	507095.00
4.	Gujrati	Phul-Chaab	Rajkot	430673.00
5.	Gujrati	Jai Hind	Rajkot	408255.00
1.	Sindhi	Hindu	Ahmedabad	220210.00
2.	Sindhi	Hindu	Ajmer	154274.00
3.	Sindhi	Hindustan	Bombay	107953.00
4.	Sindhi	Bharat Bhoomi	Ajmer	78285.00
5.	Sindhi	Rajya Desh	Ajmer	7480.00

1	2	3	4	5
1. Assamese	.	Dainik Janambhumi	Jorhat	711732.00
2. Assamese	.	Dainik Asam	Guwahati	622192.00
3. Assamese	.	Nutan Dainik	Guwahati	258255.00
4. Assamese	.	Ajir Asom	Guwahati	233304.00
5. Assamese	.	Prajantantra	Imphal	152484.00
1. Bengali	.	Ananda Bazar Patrika	Calcutta	5299398.00
2. Bengali	.	Aajkal	Calcutta	2857219.00
3. Bengali	.	Bartaman	Calcutta	2137856.00
4. Bengali	.	Ganashakti	Calcutta	709531.00
5. Bengali	.	Uttar Banga Sambad	Siliguri	409348.00
1. Oriya	.	Samaj	Cuttack	1097475.00
2. Oriya	.	Prajatantra	Cuttack	772382.00
3. Oriya	.	Sambad	Bhubaneswar	518901.00
4. Oriya	.	Dharitree	Bhubaneswar	511966.00
5. Oriya	.	Kurukshetra	Rourkela	182504.00
1. Tamil	.	Thanthi	Madras	1778627.00
2. Tamil	.	Dinamani	Madras	567455.00
3. Tamil	.	Dinamani	Madurai	500104.00
4. Tamil	.	Dinakaran	Madras	485448.00
5. Tamil	.	Kumari Murasu	Nagarcoil	423801.00
1. Telugu	.	Udayam	Hyderabad	979945.00
2. Telugu	.	Udayam	Vijayawada	450853.00
3. Telugu	.	Andhra Jyoti	Hyderabad	330844.00
4. Telugu	.	Udayam	Tirupati	226916.00
5. Telegu	.	Vijayabhanu	Vishakapatnam	224679.00
1. Malayalam	.	Malayala Manorama	Kottayam/ Trivandrum	2847714.00
2. Malayalam	.	Kerala Kaumudi	Trivandrum	1048383.00
3. Malayalam	.	Mathrubhumi	Calicut	1031316.00
4. Malayalam	.	Mathrubhumi	Cochin	970175.00
5. Malayalam	.	Malayala Manorama	Calicut	770607.00
1. Kannada	.	Kannada Prabha	Bangalore	1316432.00
2. Kannada	.	Udayavani	Manipal	798793.00
3. Kannada	.	Samyukta Karnataka	Hubli	522817.00
4. Kannada	.	Mungaru	Mangalore	216032.00
5. Kannada	.	Samyukta Karnataka	Bangalore	158682.00

1	2	3	4	5
1	Sanskrit	Yuggati	Gorakhpur	4165.00
2.	Sanskrit	Gandiyam	Varanasi	3814.00
3.	Sanskrit	Bharti	Jaipur	3510.00
4.	Sanskrit	Arvacheena Sanskritam	Delhi	2169.00
5.	Sanskrit	Sanskritamritam	Delhi	1800.00
1.	Nepali	AJ Ko Sikkim	Gangtok	78249.00
2.	Nepali	Himali Bela	Gangtok	5313.00
3.	Nepali	Himgiri	Gangtok	3743.00
4.	Nepali	Wichar	Gangtok	3042.00
1.	Mizo	Harhna	Aizawal	94622.00
2.	Mizo	Poknapham	Imphal	2626.00
1.	Khasi	Dongmusa	Guwahati	18154.00
2.	Khasi	U Peitngor	Shillong	9711.00
1.	Konkani	Poinnari	Bombay	2940.00
2.	Konkani	Gulab	Panaji	2157.00

RECOVERY OF DUES BY CALCUTTA PORT TRUST

2252. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Calcutta Port Trust has to recover marine dues from different sources; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes Sir. Calcutta Port Trust recovers marine dues on account of towage, pilotage, berthing mooring docking.

(b) These dues are recovered because the Port provides these services.

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WORLD BANK FUNDS FOR UPGRA-DATION OF HIGHWAYS

2253. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Canada is likely to participate in a World Bank funded programme to upgrade India's national high-ways;

(b) whether any memorandum of understanding has been signed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.

(b) and (c) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Canada for technical exchange and cooperation in a number of areas covering pavement design, expressway planning and operations and management etc.

ABOLITION OF INTER-STATE TRANSPORT PERMIT

2254. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for abolishing the inter-state transport permit; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

CAPACITY OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN PUNJAB

2255. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

Sl. No.	Name of SSA	Capacity to be increased
1.	Amritsar	6000
2.	Bathinda	940
3.	Chandigarh	12424
4.	Ferozepur	8020
5.	Hoshiarpur	1704
6.	Jalandhar	13740
7.	Ludhiana	25948
8.	Pathankot	2964
9.	Patiala	3932
10.	Sangrur	1732
		77404

[English]

COMPLAINTS BY GERMAN COMPANIES ON INDIAN COLLABORATORS

2256. SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of complaints received by Indian Mission in Bonn, Germany during the current year from some German companies regarding their Indian collaborators;

(b) whether the Mission has taken any steps to resolve the issues;

(a) the existing and utilised capacity of telephone exchanges in Punjab at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the existing capacity of these exchanges; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Existing capacity as on 30-6-93—314781.

Utilised Capacity as on 30-6-93—273066

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 77404 lines capacity will be added during 1993-94 in Punjab Circle in the form of 7 urban & 67 rural exchanges as per details given below :—

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have taken up this matter with that country so as to strengthen bilateral economic relations between the two countries; and

(e) if so, the facts and details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) : (a) Complaints have been received by the Embassy of India, Bonn, Germany during the current year from some German parties regarding their Indian collaborators.

Details of the complaints are as follows:

Complainant	Against	Nature of Complaint
DM. Harald Daniel Gaublic 8 7000 Stuttgart 31	Wood Touch 813, Anna Salai, Mount Road, Madras	Non-delivery of goods
Erich Langschwager Sonnenhalde 16, 7022 Leinfelden	Tanchem India Calcutta	Non-delivery of leather goods
Mati's Vertrieb Hiddenhausen	Muthu International Karur	Agency Mgreement Claim for compensation
Pfister GmbH Augsburg	Transweigh (India) Bombay	Breach of contractual obligations.
Treuhand Anstalt	Sanjay Dalmia	Non-fulfilment of committments.
Hunger- Hydraulic- Gruppe 8770 Lohr	TMivent Structural Naini, Allahabad State Bank of India	Non-fulfilment of commitment of payment against L/C

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Embassy of India, Bonn has taken up the matter with the parties concerned as well as the Trade Dispute Cell of the Ministry of COMMERCE and the concerned EPCs. The Embassy is following up on all these cases and in one of them i.e. complaint by Erich Langschwager against Tanchem India, the matter has been successfully resolved.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) These matters have been discussed in general terms with German atuhorities. Both sides share interest in strengthening bilateral economic relations.

[Translation]

T. V. SERIALS "MAHABHARAT" AND
"CHANDRAKANTA SANTATI"

2257. SHRI SURYA NARAIN
YADAV :

SHRI GUNVANT RAMBHAU
SARODE :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to retelecast T.V. Serial on 'Mahabharat' and telecast 'Chandrakanta Santati'; and

(b) if so, by when these are likely to be telecast ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Retelecast of old serials is considered by Doordarshan keeping in mind their programme requirements from time to time. It is not, therefore, possible to indicate any firm date for the retelecast of the serial Mahabharat. The serial Chandrakanta Santati would be scheduled for telecast as soon as the producer completes the necessary formalities specified by Doordarshan.

CONDITIONS OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO. 7

2258. SHRI SHIBU SOREN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the condition of National Highway No. 7 is in bad shape for a long time;

(b) if so, the steps taken to carry out repairs of this road during each of the last three years;

(c) whether financial assistance was given by the World Bank for repairs, extension and widening of this Highway;

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard since January 1992, till to date; and

(e) the time by which improvement work of this Highway is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir. National Highway No. 7 is generally kept in traffic worthy condition by taking up necessary repairs from time to time within the available funds.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Improvement of National Highway is a continuing activity and as such question of indicating likely date of completion does not arise.

[English]

ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES IN ORISSA

2259. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4495 on December 21, 1992 and state :

(a) Whether the all proposed electronic exchanges have been commissioned;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the places where the exchanges are yet to be commissioned;

(d) the time by which these are likely to be commissioned;

(e) whether the STD facilities are likely to be provided at Barapada, and Bhandari-pokhari by the end of the 1993-94 in Orissa; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of 'a' above.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) These are very small exchanges and are not covered by the policy guidelines for priority for provision of STD during 1993-94. However, all exchanges are planned for provision of STD during the 8th Plan period.

FRENCH TENNIS FEDERATION FOR TELECAST RIGHTS

2260. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the French Tennis Federation had approached the Doordarshan for selling its telecast rights of the grand slam championship;

(b) whether telecast rights were sold to a Hong Kong based company who in turn sold the rights to a Bombay based company;

(c) whether Doordarshan purchased the telecast rights from the Bombay based company at a price much higher than the original French offer to the Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not accepting the direct offer made by the Federation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir. The move to acquire the telecast rights was initiated by Doordarshan.

(b) Such a deal had reportedly been done.

(c) No, Sir. The telecast rights were acquired by Doordarshan directly from the French Tennis Federation.

(d) Does not arise.

EXPORT OF STEEL

2261. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to increase the export of steel;

(b) if so, the target fixed for the Eighth Plan;

(c) the steps taken to gear up major steel units for increasing the export of steel;

(d) the response of the major steel units thereto; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Government are making efforts to increase the overall exports of the country. Due to sluggish domestic demand, steel producers are seeking export markets.

(b) It is expected that export of steel from India will increase to 2.5 million tonnes by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan i.e. 1996-97.

(c) to (e) Export of steel depends upon the demand in the international market and the prevailing international prices. The main producers of steel are making continuous efforts for improvement in quality and reduction of costs which will make them more internationally competitive. The export of iron and steel by main producers increased from 3.87 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 283 crores in 1991-92 to 9.1 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 708 crores in 1992-93.

[Translation]

REGISTRATION OF NEWSPAPERS AND WEEKLIES

2262. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of applications for registration of newspapers and weeklies are pending with the Office of the Registrar of Newspapers;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in disposing of the applications; and

(c) by when these are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c) A certain number of applications for registration of newspapers are pending with Registrar of Newspapers for India for want of completion of the necessary formalities required under the PRB Act by the publisher. These applications can be cleared by RNI on receipt of the required documents, complete in all respects, from the concerned applicants.

[English]

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND ENERGISATION OF PUMPSETS

2263. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI :

SHRI SOBHANA DRESSWARA RAO VADDE :

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for energisation of irrigation pumpsets for each State during the last three years and the achievement made so far;

(b) the amount received for the Rural Electrification Corporation from the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development during the above period in each State; and

(c) the target fixed for rural electrification and energisation of pumpsets for 1993-94 and Eighth Five Year Plan and the allocation for each State in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Target fixed for energisation of irrigation pumpsets and

achievement during the last three years is given in *Statement I*.

(b) State-wise disbursement of funds during the last three years by NABARD to SEBs is given in *Statement II*.

(c) The 8th Five Year Plan envisages the energisation of 25 lakhs pumpsets and

electrification of 50,000 villages (including 10,000 through non-conventional energy sources). The State-wise targets are, however, decided on year to year basis during the Annual Plan discussions, keeping in view the availability of financial resources and other necessary inputs for rural electrification programme.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	States	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	66,360	81,794	39,200	80,609	53,000	1,20,552
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	0	0	0	—	—
3.	Assam	400	137	0	161	—	—
4.	Bihar	10,000	5,514	2,000	2,712	3,955	2,592
5.	Goa	—	232	0	320	—	360
6.	Gujarat	20,800	25,063	10,100	23,771	15,500	26,286
7.	Haryana	10,200	10,313	6,700	23,316	15,000	14,478
8.	Himachal Pradesh	80	179	40	177	—	105
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	250	327	85	308	—	256
10.	Karnataka	12,660	70,138	11,420	72,879	14,000	52,537
11.	Kerala	12,920	15,902	5,075	20,837	7,500	22,200
12.	Madhya Pradesh	63,000	85,500	42,750	58,315	26,000	50,198
13.	Maharashtra	60,460	1,01,987	48,300	88,388	45,000	57,815
14.	Manipur	—	0	0	0	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	0	0	0	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	0	0	0	—	—
17.	Nagaland	—	0	0	0	45	—
18.	Orissa	3,600	5,574	2,900	4,852	5,700	3,259
19.	Punjab	14,500	44,237	10,500	20,579	11,000	17,303
20.	Rajasthan	14,200	33,987	10,450	25,100	23,000	25,014
21.	Sikkim	—	0	0	0	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	22,000	41,170	24,400	41,077	18,000	43,110
23.	Tripura	80	90	30	100	100	100
24.	Uttar Pradesh	16,100	18,506	12,500	22,134	12,200	17,524
25.	West Bengal	8,450	9,275	7,480	3,218	6,750	2,316
TOTAL (STATES)		3,36,060	5,49,925	2,33,930	4,88,853	2,56,750	4,56,005
TOTAL (UTs)		700	822	600	718	—	567
TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)		3,36,760	5,50,747	2,34,530	4,89,571	2,56,750	4,56,572

Statement-II
NABARD's Refinance Assistance for REC-SPA Scheme

S. No.	Name of the State	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		Alloc.	Ach.	Alloc.	Ach.	Alloc.	Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Haryana	250	237	566	130	190	160.186
2.	Punjab	175	175	46	36	185	21.560
3.	Rajasthan	500	462	482	376	353	24.433
4.	Orissa	270	264	—	99	210	17.280
5.	West Bengal	450	365	499	196	425	25.625
6.	Madhya Pradesh	3,123	3,123	2,500	1,414	962	218.235
7.	Uttar Pradesh	300	186	130	91	100	31.720
8.	Gujarat	800	820	1,132	1,122	1,000	532.117
9.	Maharashtra	4,100	3,832	3,752	3,209	3,500	2,967.565
10.	Andhra Pradesh	1,900	1,981	3,581	1,985	2,950*	1,879.377
11.	Karnataka	57	36	—	—	700	—
12.	Kerala	410	407	632	455	325	258.798
13.	Tamil Nadu	1,500	1,586	1,680	1,546	1,600	1,358.766
TOTAL:		13,835	13,456	15,000	10,659	12,500	7,482.662

*An additional allocation of Rs. 822 lakhs was made to A.P.

Note:—NABARD has not sanctioned any new schemes in States which have defaulted in repayments due to the Bank.

Alloc. — Allocation

Ach. — Achievement

**ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES IN
 ANDHRA PRADESH**

2264. SHRI SOBHANA DREESWARA
 RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of
 COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic exchanges in Andhra Pradesh at present, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more such exchanges in the State; and

(c) if so, the details with location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
 MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
 (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 927 electronic exchanges are working in Andhra Pradesh at present. District-wise details are given in *Statement I*.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details are given in *Statement*

II.

Statement-I
**DISTRICT-WISE DETAILS- ELECTRONIC
 EXCHANGES IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

Sr. No.	Name of the SSA	Total No. of Electronic Exchanges as on 31-7-93.
1.	Adilabad	32
2.	Ananthapur	46
3.	Chittoor	60
4.	Cuddapah	30
5.	East Godavari	82
6.	Guntur	85
7.	Hyderabad	17
8.	Karimnagar	25
9.	Khammam	53
10.	Krishna	58
11.	Kurnool	61
12.	Mahabubnagar	36
13.	Madak	12
14.	Nalgonda	22
15.	Nellore	31
16.	Nizamabad	15
17.	Prakasam	25
18.	Rangareddy	52
19.	Srikakulam	33
20.	Vishakapatnam	35
21.	Vizianagaram	15
22.	Warangal	16
23.	West Godavari	86
Total		927

Statement-II

**ANDHRA PRADESH TELECOM CIRCLE—ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES PROPOSED
DURING THE YEAR 1993-94.**

Sl. No.	Name of the Stn.	Type	Capacity
NAME OF DISTRICT : ADILABAD			
1.	Adilabad	C-DOT SBM	1400
2.	Sirpirkagaznagar (2nd)	512 P ILT	384
3.	Bellampalli	512 P ILT	384
4.	Bhainsa	512 P ILT	384
5.	Dandepalli	128 P C-DOT	88
6.	Laxmanchanda	64 MILT	56
7.	Niguva	64 MILT	56
NAME OF DISTRICT : ANANTAPUR.			
1.	Indipetri	512 P ILT	384
2.	Anantapur	C-DOT SBM	1400
3.	Kudur	128 P C-DOT	88
4.	Bemmanahal	128 P C-DOT	88
5.	Nalluru	128 P C-DOT	88
6.	Patnam	64 MILT	56
7.	Peddavaduguru	64 MILT	56
NAME OF DISTRICT : CHITTOOR.			
1.	Puttur	512 P ILT	384
2.	Pilor	512 P ILT	384
3.	Pakala	200 PAM	192
4.	B. Kothakota (2nd)	128 P C-DOT	88
5.	Gurramkonda	128 P C-DOT	88
6.	Damalacheruvu	128 P C-DOT	88
7.	Horsely Hills	64 MILT	56
NAME OF THE DISTRICT : CUDDAPAH			
1.	Yerraguntla	512 P C-DOT	20
2.	Chilamakur	128 P C-DOT	88
3.	Eruvapalem	128 P C-DOT	88
4.	Duvvur	128 P C-DOT	88
5.	Mangampeta	64 MILT	56
NAME OF DISTRICT : GUNTUR			
1.	Mangalagiri	512 P C-DOT	1000
2.	Tanali	C-DOT MAX-I	2500
3.	Vinukonda	512 P ILT	384
4.	Macherla	512 P ILT	384
5.	Sattenapalli	512 P ILT	384
6.	Baptala	512 P ILT	384
7.	Ponnur	512 P ILT	384
8.	Kondrupadu (2nd)	128 P C-DOT	88
9.	Vatticherukuru (2nd)	128 P C-DOT	88
10.	Donepudi	128 P C-DOT	88
11.	Prathur (2nd)	128 P C-DOT	88

Sl. No.	Name of the Stn.	Type	Capacity
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NAME OF DISTRICT ; EAST GODAVARI

1.	Amalapuram	512 P C-DOT	420
2.	Yanam	512 P ILT	384
3.	Yelaswaram	512 P ILT	384

NAME OF DISTRICT : HYDERABAD.

1.	Saifabad-VI	Siemens	20K
2.	Musheerabad	E.10 RLU	7 K
3.	Charminar	E-10B RLU	7 K
4.	Secunderabad	E-10B RLU	6 K
5.	Golconda	E-10B	5 K
6.	Jubilee Hills	E-10B RLU	5 K
7.	Gachibowli	E-10B RLU	1 K
8.	Other RLU expansions	E-10 RLU's	6 K
9.	Shamshabad	C-DOT SBM	1000
10.	Kompally	512 P ILT	384
11.	Shameerpet	512 P ILT	384
12.	Sanghinagar	512 P ILT	384
13.	Dasupally	64 MILT	56
14.	Dubbacherla	64 MILT	56
15.	Ennaram	128 P C-DOT	88
16.	Maji V. Nagar	64 MILT	56
17.	Marripally	128 P C-DOT	88
18.	V. Nagulapally	128 P C-DOT	88
19.	Yellampet	128 P C-DOT	88
20.	Gadisinagapur	64 MILT	56
21.	Kanekal	64 MILT	56
22.	K. Raviryal	64 MILT	56
23.	MDR Pally	64 MILT	56
24.	Manchala	64 MILT	56
25.	Peddumul	64 MILT	56
26.	Rachaloor	64 MILT	56
27.	Rajpole	64 MILT	56

NAME OF DISTRICT : KARIMNAGAR.

1.	Pedapalli	512 P ILT	384
2.	Karimnagar	C-DOT SBM	1000
3.	FCI	512 P ILT	384
4.	Vemulavada	512 P ILT	384
5.	Ramagundam	2×128 P C-DOT	160
6.	Mukanur	128 P C-DOT	88
7.	Gangadhara	84 MILT	56

Sl. No.	Name of the Stn.	Type	Capacity
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NAME OF DISTRICT : KHAMMAM

1.	Yegandu	512 P ILT	384
2.	Khammam	RLU	3000
3.	Khammam	D. TAX	500
4.	Satyanarayanapuram	128 P C-DOT	88
5.	Kunavaram	128 P C-DOT	88
6.	Aswaraopet (2nd)	128 P C-DOT	88
7.	Burgampahad	128 P C-DOT	88
8.	Dammamet	128 P C-DOT	88
9.	Mukundapuram	64 P MILT	56
10.	Mondikunta	64 P MILT	56
11.	Nagupalli	64 P MILT	56
12.	V. K. Puram	64 P MILT	56
13.	Annareddipalli	64 P MILT	56
14.	Nagupalli	64 P MILT	56

NAME OF DISTRICT : KRISHNA

1.	Kajajuru (2nd)	512 P ILT	384
2.	Hanuman Junction	512 P ILT	384
3.	Vijaywada	E-10B RLU	10 K
4.	Kankipadu	C-DOT SBM	1 K
5.	Bhackerapraopet	128 P C-DOT	88
6.	Bhujabalapatnam	128 P C-DOT	88
7.	Putrola	128 P C-DOT	88
8.	Polavaram	128 P C-DOT	88
9.	Avanigadda	512 P ILT	384
10.	Ramavarapupadu (2nd)	128 P C-DOT	88
11.	Gannavaram	128 P C-DOT	88
12.	Bandipalem	64 MILT	56

NAME OF DISTRICT : KURNOOL

1.	Nandyal	C-DOT MAX-I	2 K
2.	Yomiganur	512 P ILT	384
3.	Adoni	512 P ILT	384

NAME OF DISTRICT : MAHABUBNAGAR

1.	Shadnagar	C-DOT SBM	1K
2.	Amanargallu	200 ESAX	182
3.	Mahabubnagar	C-DOT MAX-I	3K
4.	Moosapet	128 P C-DOT	88
5.	Khilaghanapur	64 P MILT	56
6.	Urukonda	64 P MILT	56

NAME OF DISTRICT : MEDAK

1.	Dolaram	512 P ILT	384
2.	Shankarampat-I	128 P C-DOT	88
3.	Narsapur (2nd)	128 P C-DOT	88
4.	Tekmal	64 P MILT	56

Sl. No.	Name of the Stn.	Type	Capacity
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NAME OF DISTRICT : NALGONDA

1.	Nalgonda	C-DOT SBM	1400
2.	Kodad	C-DOT SBM	1000
3.	Nidamanur	128 P C. DOT	88
4.	Koyyalagudem	128 P C. DOT	88
5.	Mettampally	128 P C. DOT	88
6.	Halida	128 P C. DOT	88
7.	Vishnupuram	64 P MILT	56
8.	Tripuraram	64 P MILT	56
9.	Dindi	64 P MILT	56

NAME OF DISTRICT : NELLORE

1.	Gullurpet	512 P ILT	384
2.	Gudur	C-DOT SBM	1400
3.	Nellore	C-DOT SBM	1000
4.	Chittamure	128 P C. DOT	88
5.	Bitragunta	128 P C. DOT	88
6.	Manubolu	128 P C. DOT	88
7.	Turimella	128 P C. DOT	88
8.	Kaluroya	128 P C. DOT	88
9.	Damaramadugu	128 P C. DOT	88
10.	Indukurupeta	128 P C. DOT	88
11.	Udayagiri	128 P C. DOT	88
12.	Somasila	64 MILT	56
13.	Annamedu	64 MILT	56
14.	Dagadarthy	64 MILT	56

NAME OF DISTRICT : NIZAMABAD

1.	Bheemgal (2)	128 P C. DOT	88
2.	Pitlam	Do.	88
3.	Dichpally	Do.	88
4.	Nandipal	Do.	88
5.	Bicknoor	Do.	88
6.	Nagireddypeta	Do.	88
7.	Potangal	Do.	88
8.	Morthad	Do.	88
9.	Domakonda	64 MILT	56

NAME OF DISTRICT : PRAKASHAM

1.	Chirala	C. DOT SBM	1400
2.	Addanki	512 P ILT	384
3.	Podili	200 ESAX	192
4.	Giddalur	512 P ILT	384
5.	Cumbum	128 P C-DOT	88
6.	Muruturu (2nd)	128 P C-DOT	88
7.	Donakonda	64 MILT	56
8.	Koodoi	64 MILT	56

Sl. No.	Name of the Stn.	Type	Capacity
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NAME OF DISTRICT : SRIKAKULAM

1.	Srikakulam	2048 PILT	1935
2.	Allinagaram	128 P C-DOT	88

NAME OF DISTRICT : VISAKHAPATNAM

1.	Anakapalli	C-DOT SBM	1200
2.	Goapalapatnam	C-DOT SBM	1000
3.	Visakhapatnam	E10B RLU	5000
4.	Sagur Estate	512 P ILT	384
5.	Madhurawada (3rd)	128 P C-DOT	88
6.	Lankelapalem (2nd)	128 P C-DOT	88
7.	Kotauratla	128 P C-DOT	88

NAME OF DISTRICT : VIZIANAGARAM

1.	Parvathipuram	512 P ILT	384
2.	Bobbili	512 P ILT	384
3.	G. L. Puram	128 P C-DOT	88
4.	Kurupam	128 P C-DOT	88
5.	Jonnaivalasa	128 P C-DOT	88
6.	Pydibhimavaram	128 P C-DOT	88

NAME OF DISTRICT : WARANGAL

1.	Warangal	1-10B RLU	500
2.	Raghunathapalli	128 P C-DOT	88
3.	Govindaraopet	128 P C-DOT	88
4.	Chanapur (M)	128 P C-DOT	88
5.	Warangal (Rural)	128 P C-DOT	88
6.	Rachannapet	128 P C-DOT	88
7.	Warangal (STDPT's)	128 P C-DOT	88
8.	Kurni	64 MILT	56
9.	Gudur	64 MILT	56

NAME OF DISTRICT : WEST GODAVARI

1.	Jangare Idygudem	512 P ILT	384
2.	Eluru	ICP Exp.a.	1500
3.	Tanuku	C-DOT SBM	1000
4.	Palakole	C-DOT SBM	1000
5.	Tadepalligudem	C-DOT MAX-I	3000
6.	Narsapur	512 P ILT	384
7.	Mahadevapatnam	128 P C-DOT	88

[*Translation*]

INTRODUCTION OF MAXICAB SERVICE

2265. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Transport Authority, Delhi Administration has decided to introduce Maxicab service in congested areas of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the points proposed to be connected with the proposed service; and

(d) the time by which this service is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Transport Authority Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi issued a public notice inviting applications for grant of 100 Maxicab permits to ply in congested areas of Delhi. So far 34 applications have been received.

(b) (i) Red fort to Fateh Puri.

(ii) Red fort to New Delhi Railway Station.

(iii) Red fort to I.S.B.T.

(iv) I.S.B.T. to Shahdara.

(v) Kauria Pul to Shahdara.

(d) The services will start after the S.T.A. grants permits to the eligible candidates after the scrutiny of the applications.

[*English*]

TRANSFER OF MISSILES BY CHINA TO PAKISTAN

2266. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV :

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent reports regarding transfer of missiles and missiles parts from China to Pakistan;

(b) whether the Government have taken up/propose to take up the matter with China; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Government have consistently expressed our concern to the Chinese regarding supply of sophisticated arms and missiles to Pakistan beyond its legitimate requirements which poses a threat to India's security and is not conducive to the maintenance of peace and stability in South Asia, the latest such occasion being the sixth meeting of the India-China Joint Working Group held in New Delhi on June 25-28, 1993. Government have additionally stressed the need for avoidance of actions that may negate mutual confidence and understanding between India and China.

DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN KERALA

2267. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the scheme of the development of National Highways in Kerala; and

(b) the amount earmarked for the repair of National Highways and bridges in Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) During 8th Five Plan 1992-97 there is a programme to sanction development/improvement works costing Rs. 227.00 crores for National Highways in Kerala.

(b) During 1993-94, an amount of Rs. 525.73 lakhs has been earmarked for maintenance and repair of National Highways including bridges thereon in Kerala.

[Translation]

SUPPLY OF STEEL TO CONSUMERS

2268. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have divided the consumers of Steel into two parts namely, 'Key Customer' and 'Ordinary Customer';

(b) if so, the criterion adopted to differentiate both type of consumers;

(c) the consumer category to which the steel industry relates; and

(d) the facilities provided to the 'Key Customer' and 'Ordinary Customer' separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. However, in view of the current competitive scenario in the domestic market and in order to build up long term clientele with its customers, SAIL has introduced the concept of 'Key Customers' in the Branches.

(b) to (d) Key Customers have been identified on the basis of certain parameters, such as consistency of purchases in surplus as well as shortage period, record of sustained and smooth business dealings with SAIL, bulk buyers, current or potential etc. The list of Key Customers is drawn up at the beginning of the year and is reviewed from time to time.

While emphasis has been made by SAIL for providing best of service to all its customers uniformly, as part of its overall marketing strategy Key Customers are accorded certain facilities such as waiver of EMD, long term order booking etc.

SPECIAL CELL FOR FOREIGN CAPITAL INVESTMENT

2269. SMT KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a special cell for the speedy disposal of foreign capital investment proposals in mineral areas under the National Mineral Policy;

(b) if so, the date from which the cell will start functioning; and

(c) the time by which a final decision will be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALKAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up any special cell in the Ministry of Mines for speedy disposal of foreign capital investment proposals in the mineral sector.

[English]

TIME ALLOTTED FOR VARIOUS GAMES ON DOORDARSHAN

2270. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRI-YAPPA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of time provided by Delhi Doordarshan for telecast various games during 1992;

(b) whether telecast of cricket and tennis have been given more than 80% of the total time provided for all the games in general;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide more time for telecast the rural games;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) During 1992, Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi provided 15% of its total transmission time for sports.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) While there is no specific proposal for providing exclusive time slots for rural games, the coverage of such games is increasingly being shown in the sports hour on the regional/metro channels. Further exposure will become possible after the introduction of the satellite sports channel from 15th August, 1993.

[Translation]

UTILISATION OF DTC BUSES

2271. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of D.T.C. buses which were plying in Delhi before the Redline Service, are lying useless;

(b) if so, the scheme of the Government to utilise these buses; and

(c) the monthly revenue loss being incurred due to these buses lying unutilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

TELEPHONE BOOTHS TO SC/ST IN SEVENTH PLAN

2272. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the State-wise details of Public Telephone Booths allotted to the educated unemployed youths belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : During the 7th Five Year Plan, Public Telephones were allotted liberally to all those who volunteered for the same including SC/STs. As such category wise statistics was not maintained and hence is not available.

CRITERIA FOR NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

2273. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down for declaring a coastal highway or State Highway as a national highway; and

(b) the State-wise number of National Highways constructed during the last three years, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The criteria for declaration of State roads as National Highways are as under :

(i) Roads which run through the length and breadth of the country;

(ii) Roads connecting adjacent countries;

(iii) Roads connecting State capitals;

(iv) Roads connecting major Ports and important industrial or tourist centres;

(v) Roads meeting very important strategic requirements;

(vi) Roads carrying high density of traffic over an adequate length; and

(vii) Roads which enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achievement of substantial economy thereby.

(b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in view the names of National Highways declared during the last three years. These are as under :

Sl. No.	Name of Road	NH No.	State (District)
1.	Siliguri-Darjeeling	55	West Bengal (Darjeeling)
2.	Chittoor-Kurnool	18	Andhra Pradesh (Chittoor, Cuddapah and Kurnool)

CONDITIONS LAID ON PEPSI FOOD LIMITED

2274. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to relax conditions laid on M/s. Pepsi Foods Limited;

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

(c) whether this company has fulfilled terms and conditions laid on it; and

(d) if not, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :
(a) and (b) M/s. Pepsi Foods Ltd. had been granted Foreign Collaboration Approval/LOI subject to certain conditions. Subsequently, M/s. Pepsi Foods Ltd. requested for amendment of some of these conditions. The request for modification of conditions has been approved by the Government in keeping with its general liberalised industrial policy and in tune with permission granted to other companies engaged in similar industrial activity. The details are given in *Statement*.

(c) and (d) Out of the various terms and conditions of the FC approval, the contract relating to the export obligation is pending with the Director General Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India.

Statement

Sl. No.	Condition No.	Original conditions of Foreign Collaboration approval	Amended conditions of Foreign Collaboration Approval.
1.	(vi)	The turnover from soft drink concentrate manufacturing shall in no year exceed 25% of the total turnover of the company for that year.	Deleted.
2.	(vii)	The project shall export 50% of its total turnover each year for a period of 10 years from commencement of commercial production, of which 40% will be from the company's own manufactured products and 10% from Select List products manufactured by others. The foreign exchange inflow shall not be less than five times the foreign exchange outflow of the project during the above mentioned 10 years period.	"It has been noted that the company have projected to export products worth atleast of Rs. 400 crores over a 10 years period".
3.	(ix)	There shall be no import of proprietary ingredients to manufacture soft drink concentrates and the raw materials available within the country shall be used to the maximum extent possible. The import of any raw materials and chemicals that are not available indigenously shall be regulated by the import policy in force from time to time and no special import concessions shall be allowed.	Export to Import ratio shall all along be maintained at 3:1.

[English]

T.V. TOWER AT TISSA IN H.P.

2275. MAJOR D. D. KHANORIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install TV Tower at Tissa in District Chamba of Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

UTILISATION OF IDLE DEEP SEA FISHING VESSELS

2276. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the newly constituted technical committee on Deep Sea Fishing Industry has made any interim recommendations for ensuring maximum utilisation of idle deep sea fishing vessels in various States including Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to enable the entrepreneurs to operate their deep sea fishing fleet in this season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The following incentives are being given to the deep sea fishing sector :

(i) Provision of 33% subsidy on the cost of indigenously constructed deep sea fishing vessels.

(ii) Provision of loan facility on soft terms by SCICI Limited.

(iii) Assistance for construction of fishing harbours at major and minor ports.

(iv) Training of deep sea fishing operatives for manning the fishing vessels;

(v) Assistance for diversified fishing.

(vi) Price reimbursement on FSD consumed by Export Oriented Deep Sea Fishing Vessels.

(vii) Equity participation by Marine Products Export Development Authority in deep sea fishing projects.

(viii) Rehabilitation package to sick deep sea fishing units.

(ix) Assistance under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

POWER GENERATION CAPACITY IN GUJARAT

2277. SHRI HARIBHAI M. PATEL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of power generated by power stations in Gujarat and the quantity received by it from other States during 1992;

(b) the percentage of power generation capacity utilised by the power stations in the State during 1992; and

(c) the action the Union Government propose to take to achieve full capacity utilisation of power stations in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) During the period 1992-93, the energy generated by the power stations in Gujarat was 24544 million units. Gujarat received an assistance of 209.7 MU from Maharashtra and 13.8 MU from Northern Region during the above period.

(b) The percentage of power generation capacity utilised i.e. Plant Load Factor of Thermal Power Stations in Gujarat during 1992-93 was 61.7%. Kakrapar atomic power station has been commissioned recently and it has not been taken into account for calculation of PLF. Generation from hydro and gas stations depends upon the availability of water, gas and system load conditions.

(c) Various measures being taken for optimum utilisation of installed capacity in Gujarat include Renovation and Modernisation of old units, assistance to Electricity Board in undertanking plant betterment programmes supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal, training of operation and maintenance personnel and strengthening of Transmission and Distribution System.

[Translation]

CANNED FOOD PRODUCTS

2278. SHRI KESHRI LAL : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of food products which are being processed and canned in the country;

(b) whether the production of food products which are being processed and canned is in excess of their demand; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) Processed food products which are generally sold in cans in the country are condensed milk, cheese, certain fruit and vegetable products including jams, preserves, etc., certain meat products and certain fish products etc.

(b) and (c) The processed canned food products are manufactured by the industries in private sector who are expected to assess the market demand and produce accordingly. No serious problem regarding excess production of canned processed food products has been reported.

IRREGULARITIES IN STAFF QUARTERS FOR P&T EMPLOYEES

2279. SHRI LAL BABU RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the type-wise total number of Government quarters constructed for the staff

of Post and Telegraph Department during 1992;

(b) whether any irregularities have been noticed in the construction of P&T quarters during the last three years;

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government against the persons found guilty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHI RAM) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

SANCTION OF ROAD PROJECTS IN M. P.

2280. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects sent by Government of Madhya Pradesh to be taken up under the Central Road Fund Scheme;

(b) the details of projects sanctioned during each of the last two years; and

(c) by when the remaining projects are likely to be sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The Government of Madhya Pradesh sent in all 92 proposals costing Rs. 115.26 crores covering improvement of roads, bridges, road junctions etc. to be taken up under the Central Road Fund (C.R.F.).

(b) 5 proposals costing Rs. 215.00 lakhs were approved during 1991-92. No work was approved during 1992-93.

(c) Pending augmentation of C. R. F., three proposals costing Rs. 190.00 lakhs have been approved in 1993-94 against balance of accruals upto 31-3-95 as per Old Resolution. Since augmentation of C.R.F. is yet to take place, it is too early to indicate as to when the remaining proposals will be approved.

[Translation]

SC & ST VACANCIES IN THE MINISTRY

2281. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV :
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA
NAYAK :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the posts reserved for scheduled castes/scheduled tribes were filled up

in your ministry during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to fill up the vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the table of the House.

Statement**FOR THE YEAR 1991-92**

S- No.	Posts	Vacancies						Steps being taken :
		Available		Filled		Balance		
		SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	
1	2	3						4
1.	Junior Scale of IFS (A)	3	1	3	1	—	—	No action needed.
2.	Grade I of IFS (B) (Under Secretaries)							
	(a) Departmental Promotions	—	1	—	—	—	—	1 Diverted to Exam. for SC/ST Candidates.
3.	Grade II & III of IFS (B) (Section Officers)							
	(a) Departmental Promotions (Section Officers)	8	4	2	2	6	2	Carried over to next recruitment year in accordance with rules.
	(b) Limited Departmental Exam.	1	5	1	3	—	2	Do.
4.	Grade IV of IFS(B) :							
	(a) Departmental Promotions	9	9	8	6	1	3	Carried over to next recruitment year in accordance with rules.
	(b) Direct Recruitment	4	6	—	—	4	6	Candidates not yet nominated by Staff Selection Commission.
5.	Grade V of IFS(B)							
	(a) Departmental Promotions	11	5	9	1	2	4	Carried over to next recruitment year in accordance with rules.

1	2	3				4
6. Grade VI of IFS (B) Backlog		5	5			
91 Exam.		6	3	5	1	6
						7. The vacancies will be carried forward as per rules.
7. Grade I Stenographer's Cadre of IFS (B)						
(a) Departmental Promotions		4	3	3	—	1
						3. Carried forward to next year.
(b) Limited Departmental Exam.		7	3	—	—	7
						3 Carried forward to next year.
8. Grade II of Stenographer's Cadre of IFS (B) :						
(a) Departmental Promotions		2	2	—	1	2
						1 Carried forward to next year.
(b) Limited Departmental Exam.		2	—	2	—	—
(c) Direct Recruits		1	6	6	4	—5
						2 Diverted to Direct Recruitment quota.
9. Grade III of Stenographer's Cadre of IFS (B) :						
(a) Limited Departmental Exam.		2	1	—	1	2
						— Diverted to Direct Recruitment quota.
(b) Direct Recruits		4	4	—	3	4
						1 Carried forward to next year.

FOR THE YEAR 1992-93

S. No.	Posts	Vacancies						Steps being taken
		Available		Filled		Balance		
		SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	
1	2	3				4		
1.	Junior Scale of IFS (A)	2	1	2	1	—	—	No action needed.
2.	Grade I of IFS (B) (Under Secretaries)							
(a)	Departmental Promotions	—	2	—	—	—	2	Diverted to Exam. for SC/ST Candidates.

1	2	3	4		
3. Grade II & III of IFS (B) (Section Officers)					
(a) Departmental Promotions (Section Officers)	8 3	6 2	2 1	Carried over to next recruitment year in accordance with rules.	
(b) Limited Departmental Exam.	2 2	3 2	-1 0	All vacancies filled.	
4. Grade IV of IFS (B)					
(a) Departmental Promotions	6 6	6 8	- -	-12	No action needed.
(b) Direct Recruitment	4 2	- -	- -	-	Candidate not yet nominated by Staff Selection Commission.
5. Grade V of IFS (B) :					
(a) Departmental Promotions	18 12	9 6	9 6	6	Carried over to next recruitment year in accordance with rules.
6. Grade VI of IFS (B)					
Backlog	3 4				
91 Exam.	6 3	- -	9 7		Nominations yet to be received from Staff Selection Commission.
7. Grade-I Stenographer's Cadre of IFS (B)					
(a) Departmental Promotions	3 4	3 1	- 3		Carried forward to next year.
(b) Limited Departmental Exam.	6 2	2 -	4 2		Carried forward to next year.
8. Grade II of Stenographer's Cadre of IFS (B)					
(a) Departmental Promotions	1 1	1 -	- 1		Carried forward to next year.
(b) Limited Departmental Exam.	- 1	- -	- 1		Diverted to Direct Recruitment quota.
(c) Direct Recruits	5 2	5 -	- 2		ST vacancy diverted to Direct Recruitment quota.
9. Grade III of Stenographer's Cadre of IFS (B)					
(a) Limited Departmental Exam.	- -	- -	- -		
(b) Direct Recruits	6 3	- -	6 3		Carried forward to next year.

[English]

STEEL PLANTS IN VIJAYANAGAR IN PRIVATE SECTOR

2282. SHRI K. G. SHIVAPPA : Will the MINISTER OF STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have dropped the plan for setting up of Vijayanagar Steel Plant for which the foundation stone was laid;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether some private entrepreneurs have been permitted to set up Steel Plant in Vijayanagar in Karnataka; and

(d) if so, by which time the Steel Plant is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) It has not been possible for the Central Government to set up a Steel Plant at Vijayanagar due to resource constraints.

(c) and (d) the Government of Karnataka have informed that they have selected two firms namely a Consortium led by the K. K. Birla Group and Jindal Iron and Steel Company to set up two steel plants of one million tons per annum capacity each in Bellary District. The State Government has further informed that it is expecting the project reports shortly, and it is expected that after approval of the project by Financial Institutions, it may take around 36-48 months to commission the plants.

ORGANISATION OF CHILDREN FILM FESTIVALS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

2283. PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to organise the International Children Films Festivals in the country as well as in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the countries likely to participate in such festivals; and

(d) the amount likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) The 8th International Film Festival for Children and Young People is being organised by National Centre of Films for Children and Young People (N'CYP) at Udaipur from 14th to 23rd November, 1993.

(c) and (d) Over 50 countries are likely to participate in this festival, prominent among them being France, Turkmenistan, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Burkino Faso and Israel. The Government of India has sanctioned grants-in-aid of Rs. 60 lakhs for the festival. An equal amount has also been sanctioned by the Government of Rajasthan for the festival.

TV COVERAGE OF RURAL AREAS IN MAHARASHTRA

2284. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of rural areas in Maharashtra covered by Doordarshan programmes at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the percentage coverage of Doordarshan in the country; and

(c) the expected coverage of Doordarshan during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) TV Service was available to about 72% rural population in Maharashtra at the end of Seventh Plan.

(b) TV service, at present, is available to an estimated 83.6% population of the country.

(c) On completion of various Doordarshan projects presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up under Annual Plans 1990-91; 1991-92 and 1992-93, TV service is expected to be available to an estimated 90.6% population of the country. Additional locations for the establishment of TV transmitters for the remaining years of the Eighth Plan have not been finalised.

The above coverage figures are inclusive of the service in fringe areas where elevated antennae and boosters are required for reception.

(Translation)

FREQUENCY OF BUSES IN DELHI

2285. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure the greater frequency of bus services on various routes in Delhi; and

(b) the details of the steps taken to maintain the punctuality of bus service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi introduced the scheme for operation of 3000 buses under permits issued by STA, Delhi. Of these, 2273 buses have already started operating on various routes assigned to them. As at present the frequency of Bus service is quite adequate.

Due to inadequate fleet strength DTC is not in a position to increase the frequency of its services. However, DTC have been trying to maintain the frequency of buses on different routes.

(b) The buses are being plied as per Time schedules set by DTC/STA, Delhi. Enforcement Departments of both DTC and STA, Delhi check the DTC private buses to ensure strict compliance of these time schedules.

PREPARING CASTING IN BOKARO

2286. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether casting is prepared in excess of what is required in the Bokaro Steel Plant and when again it is melted which causes heavy losses in the plant;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the month of November, 1991, 230 tonnes of casting was prepared in excess; and

(c) the details about the quantity of casting prepared from January 1992 to December, 1992 and the quantity again melted and the total expenditure incurred on the process ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. According to Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) castings are not prepared in excess of requirements in Bokaro Steel Plant and as such the question of remelting and incurring heavy losses does not arise.

(b) No, Sir. As per Bokaro Steel Plant's monthly production plan of 655 metric tonnes. Castings in November, 1991, the actual production was to the tune of 656.6 metric tonnes and nothing was remelted.

(c) During the period of 12 months from January 1992 to December 1992, the steel foundry of Bokaro Steel Plant produced 6855 metric tonnes against a plan of 7955 metric tonnes. Since no part of this production was remelted, the question of incurring any expenditure on the remelting process does not arise.

TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS OTHER THAN M.P.s. QUOTA

2287. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the category-wise total number of new telephone connections sanctioned on the recommendations of the Members of Parliament other than their prescribed quota during the current year;

(b) the number of persons to whom telephone connections have not been issued so far; and

(c) the time by which the telephone connections are likely to be issued to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Sir, the total number of telephone connections sanctioned on the recommendations of Members of Parliament other than their prescribed quota in 1989. However no category wise record of the same is maintained.

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

LINKING OF BIHAR-NEPAL BORDER AREAS WITH NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

2288. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of SURFACE Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to link the Bihar-Nepal border area with the National Highways and construct a link road during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir. Bihar-Nepal border is already linked through National Highway No. 28-A from Pipra-kotri to Razaul.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

WAITING LIST FOR TELEPHONE CONNECTION IN DELHI

2289. MANJAY LAL :

SHRI VISHWESHWAR

BHAGAT :

SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI :

SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the present capacity of telephone exchanges in Delhi, exchange wise and category-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of telephone exchanges;

(c) if so, the details thereof; exchange-wise;

(d) the number of persons on the waiting list and state when, category-wise and exchange-wise;

(e) the year up to which the new telephone connections have been provided;

(f) the number of persons provided telephone connections under discretionary quota; and

(g) when the remaining persons on the waiting list are likely to be provided with telephone ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHI RAM) : (a) The information is given in statement-A.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The information is given in statement-B.

(d) and (e) The information is given in statement-C.

(f) The total number of connections released (88 issued) during 92-93 on out of turn priority basis against sanctions issued by Department of Telecom, Head of Circles of various States out of MP's quota, CMD/CGM MTNL are 9301.

(g) Tentative plans have been drawn to provide telephones to those registered under Non-OYT General category as of 30th September, 1989 and those under OYT and Special category as of 30th September, 1992 by 31st March, 1994. This is subject to timely availability of the equipment, other materials and financial resources.

Statement-A

Sl. No.	Exchange	Code	Capacity	Type of Exch.
1.	Seni Bhawan	301	10000	Fetex
2.	Janpath-I	31	3000	PCX-Bar
3.	Kidwai-Bhawan	331/332	20000	Fetex
4.	Janpath-IV	34	2500	PC X-Bar
5.	Janpath-V	35	2600	ICP X-Bar
6.	Rajpath	38	8900	MAX-I
7.	Jorbagh-I	69	6600	MAX-I
8.	Janpath DI	371/2/4/5	15000	E-10B
9.	Jorbagh DI	461/3/9	10000	E-10B
10.	Rajpath RLU of JP DI	378	1000	E-10B

Sl. No.	Exchange	Code	Capacity	Type of Exch.
11.	Sans Bhawan RLU of JP DI	379	1500	E-10B
12.	Jorbagh RLU-I of JB DI	462	10000	E-10B
13.	Jorbagh RLU-II of JB DI	463	3000	E-10B
14.	Lodhi Road RLU of JB DI	436	4000	E-10B
15.	KBN RLU of JB DI	3724	1000	E-10B
16.	L. Nagar DII	222/3	12000	E-10B
17.	L. Nagar DI	224/1/0	28000	E-10B
18.	L. Nagar DIII	241/2	15000	E-10B
19.	Idgah-II	52	10000	LME
20.	Idgah-III	73	10000	OKI
21.	Idgah-IV	777/751/752	30000	Fetex
22.	Delhi Gate DI	326/7/8	29000	E-10B
23.	SND RLU-I of LN DI	228	7000	E-10B
24.	SAD RLU-II of LN DII	229	10000	E-10B
25.	Mayur Vihar RLU LN DII	225	7000	E-10B
26.	Yanuna Vihar RLU of LU DII	226	6000	E-10B
27.	Idgah RLU of KB DI	753	4000	E-10B
28.	Tis Hazari-II	23	10000	NEC
29.	Tis Hazari-III	251/252	20000	NEC
30.	Tis Hazari-IV	291/2/3	28000	Fetex
31.	Shakti Nagar-I	711/712	20000	NEC
32.	Shakti Nagar DI	721/2/3	23000	E-10B
33.	Shakti Nagar DII	724/725	14000	E-10B
34.	Shakti Nagar DIII	713/714	14000	E-10B
35.	Rohini Sec. IX RLU of SN DIII	726	6000	E-10B
36.	Rohini Sec. III RLU-I of SN DI	727	9000	E-10B
37.	Rohini Sec. III RLU-II of SN DIII	7260/717	3000	E-10B
38.	Badli RLU of SN DIII	729	4000	E-10B
39.	Alipur RLU of SN DII	720	2000	E-10B
40.	Narela RLU of SN DII	728	2000	E-10B
41.	Keshav Puram RLU of SN DII	718/9	11000	E-10B
42.	Mukherji Nagar RLU of SN DII	725	2000	E-10B
43.	Delhi University RLU of SN DII	7257	1000	E-10B
44.	Chanakyapuri-II	60	10000	NEC
45.	Okhla-I	63	7000	PC X-Bar
46.	Nehru Place -II	641	10000	NEC
47.	Nehru Place-III	642/3/4	30000	Fetex
48.	Nehru Place DI	646/645	13000	E-10B
49.	Nehru Place DII	647/8	11000	E-10B
50.	Hauz Khas-I	65	8000	PC N-Bar
51.	Hauz Khas-II	66	10000	NEC
52.	Chanakyapuri-I	67	8400	PC X-Bar
53.	Okhla DI	683/4/2	20500	E-10B
54.	H. Khas RLU-I of NP DI	686	7000	E-10B
55.	H. Khas RLU-II of NP DII	685/649	8000	E-10B
56.	Ch. Puri RLU-I of NP DII	687	6000	E-10B
57.	Ch. Puri RLU-II of NP DII	688	7000	E-10B
58.	Chhatarpur RLU of NP DII	680	3000	E-10B
59.	Yasant Kunj RLU of NP DI	689	9000	E-10B
60.	Tekhand RLU of Okhla DI	681	4000	E-10B
61.	Okh. RLU of JB DI	6823	1000	E-10B
62.	Rajouri Garden-II	50	6000	PC X-Bar

Sl. No.	Exchange	Code	Capacity	Type of Exch.
63.	Rajouri Garden-IV	53	10000	NEC
64.	Rajouri Garden-III	541	10000	Fetex
65.	Rajouri Garden-DI	543/545	19000	E-10B
66.	Karol Bagh-III	572/	10000	NEC
67.	Karol Bagh-IV	572/573/4	30000	Fetex
68.	Karol Bagh DI	578	3000	E-10B
69.	Rajouri Garden-I	59	5000	PC X-Bar
70.	Janakpuri DI	550/5/9	24000	E-10B
71.	Rajouri Garden DII	546	9000	E-10B
72.	Nangloi RLU of RG DI	547	4500	E-10B
73.	IGIA RLU of RG DI	5452	1000	E-10B
74.	RG Admn. Block RLU of RG DI/DII	544/2	9000	E-10B.
75.	Hari Nagar RLU of RG DIII	540	6000	E-10B
76.	Najafgarh RLU of JKP DI	5562/2/7	3000	E-10B
77.	Karol Bagh RLU-I of KB DI	575	5000	E-10B
78.	Karol Bagh RLU-II of KB DI	578	3000	E-10B
79.	Shadipur RLU of KB DI	570	6000	E-10B
80.	Pajam RLU of JP D. TAX	3295	1000	E-10B
81.	Delhi Cantt. RLU of JP D. TAX	329	5000	E-10B
82.	Sanalkha RLU of JP DI	5563	1000	E-10B
83.	Paschim Vihar RLU of JKP DI	557/8	13000	E-10B
84.	JKP RLU of RG DII	551	2000	E-10B

Statement-B

Details of exchange areawise expansion (Net) programme during 93-94

1.	Rajouri Garden	12K
2.	Nangloi	2K
3.	Karol Bagh	2K
4.	Janakpuri	13K
5.	Hari Nagar	7K
6.	Delhi Cantt.	2K
7.	Sanlkhan	1K
8.	Najafgarh	1K
9.	Paschim Vihar	9K
10.	Chanakyapuri	6K
11.	Okhla	9.5K
12.	Nehru Place	21K
13.	Vasant Kunj	1K
14.	Hauz Khas	10K
15.	Laxmi Nagar	14K
16.	Shadara	5K
17.	Yamuna Vihar	1K
18.	Idgah	5K
19.	Delhi Gate	4K
20.	Mukherji Nagar	1K
21.	Rohini	9K
22.	Badli	1K
23.	Shakti Nagar	24K
24.	Keshav Puram	4K
25.	Janpath	1.5K
Total		166K

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NORTH							
720	. . . . . ALP	30-6-93	—	30-6-93	—	30-6-93	—
729	. . . . . BDL	30-9-92	219	30-9-92	—	30-9-92	1
23, 251/2, 291/2/3	. . . . . TH	03-6-93	35	03-6-93	4	30-6-93	—
711/2/3, 721/2/3/4	. . . . . SK	30-6-92	1777	30-6-92	22	30-6-92	4
728	. . . . . NRL	30-9-92	34	30-9-92	1	30-9-92	—
718	. . . . . LWR	30-9-92	352	30-9-92	04	30-9-92	14
726	. . . . . (RHS-II)	30-9-92	341	30-9-92	8	30-9-92	21
727	. . . . . (RHN-I)	30-9-92	—	30-9-92	—	30-9-92	—
WEST							
550, 555, 559	. . . . . JKP	06-3-92	595	06-3-92	58	06-3-92	92
329	. . . . . Cantt.	30-9-92	39	30-9-92	09	30-9-92	28
571, 2/3/5/4/8	. . . . . KB	30-9-92	937	28-2-93	11	28-2-92	06
5562	. . . . . NJF	15-3-93	24	15-3-93	—	31-5-93	—
547	. . . . . NGL	30-6-92	—	30-6-92	2	30-6-92	2
50, 53, 59, 541/3/4	. . . . . RG	30-9-92	1873	30-9-92	50	30-9-92	36
570	. . . . . SPR	30-6-92	—	30-6-92	—	30-6-92	—
558, 5572/3	. . . . . PVR	18-2-92	1000	30-6-92	17	30-6-92	26
3295	. . . . . PIM	30-9-92	8	30-9-92	05	30-9-92	01
5452	. . . . . NITC	30-6-92	8	30-6-92	16	30-6-92	—
5563	. . . . . SML	30-6-92	31	30-6-92	01	30-6-92	—
540	. . . . . HNG	30-9-92	141	30-9-92	03	30-9-92	03
Grand Total					18459	1006	855

MAHANAGAR TELEPHONE NIGAM LIMITED, NEW DELHI : NO. OF PERSONSON W/L & D/O/CLEARANCE STATEMENT AS ON 01-07-1993.

LEVEL	Exch.	Conn. Released upto 'Spl'	No. of persons on W/L			Conn. Released upto 'Genl'	No. of Persons on W/L	Total
			2	3	4				5	6	7
CENTRAL								
31, 34, 35, 374	.	30-9-92	JP	34	19-12-88	2220	2383	
61, 69, 463, 462	.	28-2-93	JB	27	31-03-88	6262	5511	
331, 332, 371/2/5	.	22-01-92	KBN	85	22-06-88	4332	5919	
36, 378	.	30-06-93	RP	—	26-03-92	445	445	
301, 379	.	30-9-92	SBN	17	31-03-88	444	538	
436 (L/R)	.	30-9-92	PRX	01	31-03-88	225	271	
EAST								
326, 327, 328	.	30-6-93	DG	—	31-3-88	6488	6478	
751/2/3/777, 73	.	28-2-93	ID	57	31-3-88	15985	16083	
220/1/2/3/4	.	30-9-92	LXR	250	23-2-88	36479	58826	
226, 227	.	30-9-92	YVR	48	09-2-88	8729	9245	
225	.	30-9-92	MVR	83	31-3-88	5663	6046	
228/9	.	30-9-92	SHD	147	30-6-87	13202	13969	
SOUTH								
60, 67, 687, 688	.	28-2-93	CHY	46	05-4-88	12364	12893	
65, 66, 685, 686	.	28-2-93	HK	58	13-6-88	11966	12667	
641/2/3/4/5/6/7	.	30-9-92	NP	205	30-3-87	26564	29250	
689	.	30-9-92	VKJ	36	15-12-89	4054	4390	
63, 682, 683, 684	.	17-10-91	OKH	342	20-1-88	13406	15876	
680	.	31-3-93	CPR	01	3-5-90	1206	1249	
681	.	30-6-91	TKH	37	7-12-87	832	1124	
Asiad	.	30-9-92	.	—	31-5-88	—	—	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NORTH						
720	ALP	31-5-93	01	14-10-91	691	692
739	BDL	30-9-92	13	31-3-88	3484	3717
23, 251/2, 291/2/3	TH	31-5-93	3	8-11-89	10241	10283
711/2/3, 721/2/3/4	SK	30-9-92	235	30-3-87	32107	34172
728	NRL	30-9-92	10	29-1-90	1747	1792
718	LWR	30-9-92	40	31-12-84	6334	6744
726	RHS-II	30-9-92	41	31-3-88	—	—
727	RHN-I	30-9-92	—	31-12-84	21190	21601
WEST						
550, 555, 559	JKP	06-3-92	223	31-12-84	21710	22578
329	Cantt.	30-9-92	18	05-7-88	1198	1292
571/2/3/5/4/8	KB	21-2-93	22	09-2-90	12675	13651
5562	NJF	31-5-93	01	12-8-88	1254	11279
547	NGL	30-6-92	38	31-3-87	4444	4486
50, 53, 59, 541/3/4	RG	30-9-92	239	17-9-87	30748	32948
570	SPR	30-6-93	—	17-9-90	1194	1194
558, 55, 72/3	PVR	30-6-91	221	31-12-84	9835	11099
3295	PIM	30-9-92	—	31-8-91	72	86
5452	NITC	30-6-92	—	31-8-91	42	63
5563	SML	30-6-92	—	31-3-88	650	682
540	HNG	30-9-92	43	31-3-86	—	190
Grand Total			2622		330473	353416

[English]

ZONAL OFFICES FOR REGISTRATION
OF NEWSPAPERS

2290. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up zonal offices for registration of newspapers;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c) Three regional offices of RNI were opened at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras during the Seventh Five Year Plan and these offices cater to the needs of the newspapers in the respective regions. There is no proposal to set up zonal offices of RNI for registration of newspapers.

[Translation]

NATIONAL FILM DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

2291. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI MANJAY LAL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the objectives of establishing the National Film Development Corporation;

(b) whether the Corporation has provided financial assistance for the production of films in regional languages during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The National Film Development Corporation has been set up with the purpose of financing and promoting good cinema, encouraging talent as also promoting the integrated development of Indian film industry.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details are given in the *statement*.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

The National Film Development Corporation has provided/sanctioned financial assistance for production of 21 films in the regional languages during the last three years.

The details are as under :—

S. No.	Name of Producer	Name of films	Language
1	2	3	4
1990—91			
1.	Sanat Kumar Das Gupta	Janani	Bengali
2.	Sambasiva Rao	Mrigtrishna	Telugu
3.	Vicent Chittilappily	Ottayadipathakal	Malayalam
4.	A. K. Bjr	Addj Mimansa	Oriya
5.	P. P. Raju	Bali	Malayalam
6.	Chitrasopanam	Yamanam	Malayalam
7.	S. Bhattacharya	Arohi	Bengali
8.	Dr. Subbirami Reddy	Bhagvad Gita	Sanskrit
9.	T. K. Rajeev Kumar	Unniye Thedi Oru Unnikatha	Malayalam

1	2	3	4
10. Asit Apdi		Chandragobhan	Oriya
11. Krishna Masadi		Nambikegalu	Kannada
12. Kewal Sharma		Chann Pradesi	Punjabi
1991-92			
13. Mohan Mohammed Films		Swaroopam	Malayalam
14. Focus Films		Shradham	Malayalam
15. G. Raminadu		Yagnam	Telugu
16. Bijaya Jana		Tara	Oriya
17. A. S. Pragasam		Uchhattam	Tamil
1992-93			
18. S. Bhattacharya		Srushti	Telugu
19. Jain Movies		Gangavva Gangamai	Kannada
20. Shyam Ranjanakar		Bhoomiputra (Documentary)	Marathi
21. J. Jamuna		Dr. Mamata	Telugu

FILLING UP OF SC/ST POSTS

2292. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts for Scheduled Castes/Tribes and backward classes filled up so far and lying vacant at present in the various departments under his Ministry; and

(b) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) So far, 467 posts for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the Ministry of Power and attached office have been filled and 84 posts for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes are remained to be filled. No Reservation for Backward Classes in the Central Services is applicable.

(b) Action has already been initiated to fill up the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

POST OFFICES IN SANTHAL PARGANA, BIHAR

2293. SHRI SIMON MARANDI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down for opening of branch post offices;

(b) the number of post offices opened in Santhal Pargana division of Bihar during each of the last three years, district-wise;

(c) the places where the new post offices are proposed to be set up during the next two years;

(d) whether there is any proposal to open branch post offices at Gram Panchayat Headquarters level; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The criteria laid down for opening of branch post offices are given in statement I.

(b) the number of post offices opened in Santhal Pargana Division of Bihar during each of the last three years, district-wise is given in statement II.

(c) The names of places where the new post offices are proposed to be set up during the next two years have not been identified so far. However, it is proposed to open a total of 90 extra departmental branch post offices and 8 departmental sub post offices in Bihar during the Annual Plan 1993-94.

(d) and (e) The Department gives priority to opening branch post offices at Gram Panchayat Headquarters level subject to the fulfilment of prescribed norms, availability of resources and within the target approved by the Planning Commission.

Statement I

The following norms for opening branch Post Offices effective from 1-4-1991 have been adopted :—

(i) *Population :*

(a) *In Normal areas :*

3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO villages).

(b) *In the Hilly, Tribal, Desert and In-accessible areas :*

500 population in an individual villages or 1000 population in a group of villages.

(ii) *Distance :*

(a) *In normal areas :*

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kms.

(b) *In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and In-accessible areas :*

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

(iii) *Anticipated Income :*

(a) *In normal areas :*

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33-1/3 of cost.

(b) *In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and In-accessible areas :*

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

Statement II

Details of post offices opened in Santhal Pargana Division under Annual Plans.

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Number of branch post offices		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1.	Codda	1	3	1
2.	Dumka	—	1	4
3.	Sahibganj	—	3	5
4.	Deoghar	—	2	4

PS. One Departmental sub post office was also opened in Deoghar District, Bihar during 1992-93.

SELECTION NORMS FOR D. D. SERIALS

2294. SHRI ASHOK ANANTRAO
DESHMUKH :

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRI-
PATHY :

SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI PALA K. M. MATHEW :

SHRI VISHWESHVAR
BHAGAT :

SHRI MANJAY LAL :

SHRI SHRAYAN KUMAR
PATEL :

SHRI RAINATH SONKAR
SHASTRI :

SHRI RAMACHANDRA
VEERAPPA :

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY :

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news items captioned 'A sinister design to steal DD's satellite channel', 'A desperate Govt. bid to muzzle electronic media' and 'Notice to D D., Govt. in time slot case' appearing in the Indian Express dated 3rd, 4th and 9th July, 1993;

(b) if so, the reaction of the government thereto; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have noted the contents of the said news items.

(c) The case in the Delhi High Court is being suitably defended by the Government.

[English]

DECONTROL OF NEWSPRINT

2295. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kelkar Committee had recommended for decontrol of newsprint;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the impact of such decontrol on the newsprint import policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir. Kelkar Committee recommended de-control of newsprint with decanalisation and 40% tariff on import of standard newsprint.

(b) and (c) Import of newsprint has been decanalised with effect from 1-4-1992. Newspapers are now allowed to import newsprint directly or through handling agents in terms of the newsprint import policy announced by the Ministry of Commerce on 31-3-1992.

[Translation]

MISSILE TECHNOLOGY CONTROL REGIME

2296. SHRI KESHRI LAL :

SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI B. DEVARAJAN :

SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Russia wants India to cooperate in accepting the Missile Technology Control Regime guide lines to allay fears in the west about our Missile programme;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) the stand of the Union Government in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATTIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. President Yeltsin of Russia has suggested that India's readiness to accept the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) Guidelines would help in bringing about a positive response from the world community, including Western countries.

(b) and (c) Government's principled stand on MTCR is well established. Government maintains that till such time as arrangements like the MTCR are ad hoc, discriminatory, lacking in transparency and do not take into account legitimate developmental concerns, India will not accept such arrangements.

KELKAR COMMITTEE REPORT

2297. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the report of Kelkar Committee on import of newsprint ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action on the report ;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Kelkar Committee had submitted its report to the Government in August, 1988. The Government considered the report and most of the recommendations have been implemented. The report has also been scrutinised by the Estimates Committee of the Tenth Lok Sabha as reflected in their 18th report (1992-93) presented to the Lok Sabha on 12-8-1992.

[English]

WORLD BANK LOAN FOR UPPER INDRAVATI PROJECT

2298. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Bank loan granted for the Upper Indravati Project was suspended ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether it has now been renewed or revised and the conditions stipulated by the Bank ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c) The World Bank loan as well as the credit for the Upper Indravati Hydel Power Project was suspended with effect from 28-7-1991 and the loan was subsequently cancelled with effect from 5-12-1991, due to non-compliance of the agreed covenants by the project authorities. The credit provided by the Bank was however restored with effect from 24-12-1991 but has again been suspended from 1-8-1993 on the same grounds. Negotiations are being held with the Bank for reinstating the credit for this project on the guidelines suggested by the Bank for improving the financial health of the project authority, which inter-alia, includes releasing of budgeted subsidy for the project by the State Government, finalisation of an action plan for reduction of receivables of OSEB and preparation of a programme from relief and rehabilitation measures etc.

[Translation]

HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECTS

2299. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the hydro-power projects of Madhya Pradesh have been transferred to the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board under the Narmada Valley Development ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have decided to handover these projects to the private sectors in view of the inability shown by the Madhya Pradesh Government and Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board for completing these projects ;

(d) if so, the names of the projects handed over or being handed over along with the names of the companies;

(e) whether some projects are being taken in the joint sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (d) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had transferred Maheshwar Hydro-electric Project (400 MW) from Narmada Valley Development Authority to Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board in December, 1988. To mobilise resources and to meet acute shortage being faced in meeting peak power demand, the Government of Madhya Pradesh have decided to offer Maheshwar Hydro-electric Project to M/s. S. Kumar, Bombay for implementation of the project in the private sector.

(e) and (f) No, Sir.

[English]

ALLEGED THEFT OF DIESEL ENGINE

2300. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rly. driver charged of stealing diesel engine" appearing in the 'Financial Express', New Delhi dated July 12, 1993;

(b) if so, whether the diesel engine was stolen as reported in the newsitem;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the errant staff for the incident to prevent such recurrence in future?

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

(b) and (c) The facts have not been reported correctly. The case relates to unauthorised movement of a diesel loco by an off-duty Railway staff.

(d) Instructions already exist for not leaving a locomotive unmanned. These

instructions have been reiterated to all concerned. In this case, the errant staff has been taken up severely under the Discipline and Appeal Rules.

[Translation]

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN UTTAR PRADESH

2301. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of on going proposed railway projects in Uttar Pradesh which are not likely to be completed on time or are likely to be delayed due to financial constraints; and

(b) the names of projects in respect of which the completion period had been extended earlier also or whose construction work had been affected due to financial constraints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) (i) Katra-Faizabad New Line.

(ii) Bagha-Chhitauni restoration.

(b) Both the above projects plus Lalkua-Kashipur gauge conversion.

CLOSURE OF SUGAR MILLS IN U.P. & GUJARAT

2302. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV : SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sugar mills lying closed in Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat as on 30 June, 1993;

(b) the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) the reasons for their closure; and

(d) the remedial steps taken to revive these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that only one sugar mill, namely, Khalilabad Sugar Mills, Khalilabad, District

Basti, was lying closed as on 30-6-93. The State Government of Gujarat has informed that one sugar mill, namely, Shri Una Taluka Khedut Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandli Ltd., Una, District Junagadh, was closed as on 30-6-93. They have further intimated that three other sugar mills, namely, those at Talaja, Dhoraji and Gavadaka (Amreli) are under liquidation since long.

(c) Khalilabad Sugar Mills could not undertake crushing during the current season due to capacity expansion of the plant and financial crisis. Una sugar mill of Gujarat could not undertake crushing due to inadequate supply of sugarcane.

(d) The mill-owners of Khalilabad Sugar Mills are pursuing a proposal for sanction of term loan from financial institutions etc. for modernisation and expansion of their plant. The State Government of Gujarat is making an assessment of the cane availability position with regard to Una sugar mill after which appropriate action will be taken.

[English]

IMPORT EXPORT OF SUGAR

2303. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the production/consumption and import/export of sugar during 1992-93.

(b) the stock of sugar in the country as on April 1, 1992 and April 1, 1993;

(c) the estimated production during 1993-94 ;

(d) the estimated consumption during 1993-94 ; and

(e) the quantum of import/export of sugar envisaged this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) The required information for the sugar season 1992-93 (Oct. 92 to Sept. 93) is as under :—

(Figure in Lakh Tonnes)

(i) Estimated production of sugar	107.00
(ii) Estimated consumption of sugar	120.00
(iii) Imports	Nil
(iv) Exports (Provisional) upto 17-7-93 (including Nepal)	3.20
(v) Stocks of sugar as on 1-4-1992	73.96
	(Provisional)
(vi) Stock of sugar as on 1-4-1993	78.67
	(Provisional)

(c) and (d) Sugar production for 1993-94 season would depend upon the cane production, diversion of available cane to gur and Khandsari sectors etc. The estimates of sugar production for 1993-94 season have not yet been received from State Governments/Sugar Factories. The estimated consumption during 1993-94 season is 124.00 lakh tonnes.

(e) A quantity of 3.20 lakh tonnes has been exported till 17-7-1993 during the current 1992-93 sugar season (October-September).

[Translation]

SETTING UP OF MUSEUMS

2304. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some countries like Sri Lanka, Thailand have requested for setting up of museums of Bhagwan Buddha's relics ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the proposed locations where such museums are likely to be set up ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS

2305. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals received from the cultural organisation of Gujarat, particularly from Vadodara, Bharuch and Panchmahals districts for financial assistance during the last three years ;

(b) the number of proposals approved or still under consideration ; and

(c) the amount sanctioned so far and the amount actually provided during the above period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY OF COARSE GRAINS

2306. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate total production and procurement of coarse grains, like Jawar, Bajra, Maize etc. in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the coarse grains procured by the Food Corporation of India are likely to suffice for sale through the Public Distribution System; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to augment the supply of coarse grains ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) A statement giving requisite information is attached.

(b) and (c) Coarse grains procured in a State for Central Pool are usually allotted to that State itself, as consumer preference for such grains is mainly limited to areas in which these are grown. However, Government has recently taken steps to make these grains popular, like the reduction of Central Issue Price of Hybrid Jowar of Fair Average Quality to be used in Public Distribution System in Maharashtra and other states from the existing CIP of Rs. 199/- to Rs. 175/- per quintal for normal PDS and from Rs. 149/- to Rs. 125/- per quintal for RPDS from 6-8-1993 and upto 31-10-1993.

Statement

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Marketing Year	Production of Coarse grains		Procurement of Coarse grains for Central Pool	
	Kharif	Rabi	Kharif	Rabi
1990—91	296.00	51.60	2.03	—
1991—92	277.10	49.90	Neg.	—
1992—93	221.60	41.00	3.93*	0.01*

* As on 6-8-1993 Kharif—Jowar, Bajra, Maize and Ragi, Rabi—Barley

Production relates to Agriculture year 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively

[Translation]

EXPANSION OF OPERATION
BLACKBOARD

2307. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Operation Blackboard Scheme is proposed to be extended in some educationally backward districts of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount allocated to State Governments therefor during 1993-94, State-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) The scheme is in Operation in the entire country including educationally backward districts of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The coverage of schools in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh is as follows :—

State	No. of schools covered
Madhya Pradesh	64722 (100%)
Uttar Pradesh	70083 (99.5%)

(c) An amount of Rs. 179 Crores has been allocated under this programme during 1993-94. No State-wise allocations are made under the scheme. Proposals of the State Governments are sanctioned depending on the pace of implementation of the phases sanctioned earlier. The funds released so far during 1993-94, are as below :—

Karnataka	— Rs. 397.65 lakhs
Orissa	— Rs. 434.06 lakhs

[English]

PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS

2308. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the production of foodgrains in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains distributed from the Central Pool under P.D.S. during each of the last three years;

(c) the likely consumption requirements of the country by the end of the century;

(d) whether the Government propose to increase internal production of foodgrains to meet the needs of the country by the end of the century; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) :

(a) Production Year (July—June)	Production of Foodgrains in million tonnes	
1989—90	171.04	
1990—91	176.39	
1991—92	167.06	
1992—93 (likely)	181.20	

(b) Financial Year	Quantity distributed in Million tonnes	
	Rice	Wheat
1990—91 (P)	7.87	7.09
1991—92 (P)	10.04	8.73
1992—93 (P)	9.36	7.40
1993—94 (P)	2.11	0.95

(Upto June, 93) (P)—Provisional

(c) The 8th Five Year Plan document envisages the requirement of foodgrains at 245.0 million tonnes by 2001-02. However, the requirement of foodgrains at a given point of time depend on a number of variable factors like population characteristics, level of production, income distribution, consumer habits and availability of substitutes, etc.

(d) and (e) In order to increase the production of foodgrains, Central Sector/ Centrally Sponsored Schemes are in operation in the country viz. Integrated Programme for Rice Development, Special Foodgrains Production Programme (Wheat), and Special Foodgrains Production Programme (Maize & Millets). Assistance is provided to States for the implementation of various components of these schemes such as demonstration of technology. Farmers training as well as distribution of seeds, weedicides, plant protection chemicals, farm implements/equipments etc.

(c) Year	Average stock in storage (lakh MTs)	Quantity damaged (MTs)	Percentage (annual) stock in storage
1990—91	2.66	741	0.28
1991—92	1.65	257	0.15
1992—93	2.16	167	0.08

Due to heavy rains, hail storms, entry of water through the flap doors of wagons etc. the damages were caused to foodgrains during storage and transit.

[English]

DURGAPUR STATION

2310. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a scheme to modernise and renovate Durgapur Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

[Translation]

DAMAGE OF FOOD GRAINS IN BIHAR

2309. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foodgrains in FCI godowns in Bihar had been damaged during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantity of foodgrains damaged in Bihar in each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) A meagre quantity of 27 tonnes of foodgrains got damaged in storage during 1992-93.

(b) The commodity-wise break up is as under :—

Wheat 25 Metric Tonnes

Rice 2 Metric Tonnes

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) Modernisation of stations is a continuous process and works in this regard are taken up when so warranted by traffic needs. Accordingly, Durgapur Railway Station has recently been modernised at a cost of Rs. 63.64 lakh under the Model Station scheme. Works of provision of AC Retiring Rooms, waiting hall, cover over foot-over bridge, improvement to circulating area, improvement to water supply, development of garden, replacement of furniture in waiting rooms and retiring room, provision of water coolers, raising of platform level, modernisation of refreshment room, kit-

chen, mosaic benches etc. were completed under this scheme. In addition, works of provision of additional platform cover on Up Platform and provision of platform cover on VIP Platform have also been taken up.

(c) Does not arise.

EDUCATIONALLY BACKWARD DISTRICTS OF GUJARAT

2311. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the educationally backward districts in Gujarat; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the literacy level in these districts ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) The districts of Banaskantha, Panchmahal and Dangs of Gujarat have a literacy rate which is below the national average of 52.21% and the Female literacy rate is also below the national average of 39.29%.

(b) Universalisation of elementary education, non-formal education for the school drop-outs and the National Literacy Mission for the adult illiterates in the 15-35 age group form part of a larger strategy for the eradication of illiteracy in the country. Total Literacy Campaign have been approved in 13 districts of Gujarat including the district of Banaskantha and Dangs.

NEHRU YUVAK KENDRAS

2312. DR. VASANT NIWRATTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government contemplate any change in the existing set up of the Nehru Yuvak Kendras in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount spent on NYKs during the year 1992-93 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government is contemplating a change in the organisational structure of the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan which has grown considerably.

The change in the structure is under examination.

(c) During 1992-93, Rs. 8.86 crores was spent under Plan and Rs. 4.91 crores under Non-Plan.

PUNNAIYA COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITIES

2313. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted any Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Punnaiya to consider the matter of financing universities and to examine their resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the main recommendations made by the Committee; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken on those recommendations ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission has appointed a high powered committee under the Chairmanship of Justice K. Punnaiya to examine the present financial situation in regard to central universities, deemed universities, Delhi Colleges and technical institutions funded by the Government of India and to make recommendations about their financial needs and systems for the future. The terms of reference of the

Committee are as follows :—

- (1) To examine the present policy, norms and the pattern of providing development and maintenance grants to Central Universities, Deemed Universities, Delhi Colleges and Technical Institutions from the University Grants Commission/Ministry of Human Resource Development and to suggest policies and norms for determining grants in future.
- (2) To examine the inter-university variations in development and maintenance grants (per student, per department, and any other relevant criterion) with a view to develop objective parameters governing such grants.
- (3) To examine the pattern of utilisation of the grants.
- (4) To examine the pattern of allocations of grants between teaching research and non-teaching functions and to suggest norms relating to expenditure on the above functions.
- (5) To examine the feasibility of developing norms for individual items of expenditure under the development and maintenance grants and, to suggest such norms; and specifically, to examine whether students/research students strength should be related to faculty strength and the strength of non-teaching employees or any other criteria in this regard.
- (6) To consider the extent to which flexibility should be available to the institutions for increasing or decreasing expenditure on the individual items under the maintenance grants.
- (7) To explore and recommend ways of improving overall cost efficiency of the institutions.
- (8) To study the extent to which the institutions are raising their own resources, and to suggest specific measures for augmenting the proportion of resource raising by the institutions.
- (9) To recommend incentives to institutions that raise higher proportion of internal resources and to develop norms for utilisation of internally generated resources.

(10) To review existing scheme for financial assistance for needy students such as free studentship, scholarship, students loans and to recommend measures for initiating such a scheme with a view to assisting students from disadvantaged sections of the community, and promoting equity in higher education.

(11) To consider any other item ancillary to the above which the committee may consider relevant.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

ALLOCATION FOR ADULT EDUCATION

2314. DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the amount allocated by the Government under the Adult Education Programme to the State Governments for the year 1993-94 State-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : No allocations are made to the State Government/UT Administration for adult education programme as such. Grants are released on the basis of the requirements of the State Government/UT Administration and to the district level societies implementing Total Literacy Campaigns and to the voluntary agencies as per the financial pattern and norms governing the various schemes for Adult Education.

SHUTTLE TRAINS BETWEEN GUWAHATI AND NEW BONGAIGAON

2315. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce additional shuttle train from Guwahati to New Bongaigaon and back and also to increase the number of coaches of the existing shuttle on this route in view of heavy rush of passengers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir. However, w.p.f. 4-5-93 two additional coaches are being run by 53/54 Passenger ex. Guwahati on every Saturday and ex. New Bongaigaon on every Monday.

(b) Does not arise.

OIL MILLS IN GUJARAT

2316. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of oil mills functioning at present in Gujarat;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent a proposal for the expansion of existing oil mills or to set up some more oil mills in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) As a result of delicensing of Vegetable Oil industry with effect from 24th July, 1991, no information about the number of oil mills functioning at present in Gujarat is available. However, as per available information, the number of oil mills set up in Gujarat under Industries' Development and Regulation Act, prior to 24th July, 1991, was around 65.

(b) No such proposal from the Government of Gujarat has been received in this Ministry.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

COCOA PRODUCTION

2317. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of Cocoa during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the yield of Cocoa;

(c) whether Government propose to liberalise marketing policy by abolishing the purchase tax imposed on Cocoa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The rough estimates of production of Cocoa during the last three years is given below:

	Tonnes
1990-91	6622
1991-92	7281
1992-93	6757

(b) A Central sector scheme for the development of cocoa is being implemented for increasing the production and productivity of cocoa. The measures proposed under this scheme for increasing yield of cocoa are (i) establishment of demonstration plots in the farmers' field to encourage scientific manuring and plant protection; (ii) providing financial assistance for setting up irrigation units; (iii) establishment of demonstration plots of high yielding clones in farmers' fields; (iv) production and distribution of high yielding cocoa seedlings; and (v) rejuvenation of unproductive cocoa gardens.

(c) and (d) Government of Kerala is not considering the proposal for abolition of purchase tax on cocoa.

[Translation]

EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

2318. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHALIA:

DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 220 on February 23, 1993 and state:

(a) whether information regarding misuse of funds for earthquake victims of U. tarkashi region has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that allotment of land made by the Village Pradhan to 11 people of Village Natapani in Dehradun district has since been cancelled. Unauthorised constructions made on these lands have also been stopped.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

PEPPER RESEARCH CENTRE

2319. SHRI K. M. MATHEW : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for setting up of Pepper Research Centre in Kerala ;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the proposal research centre ;

(c) whether research work carried out in the said institute will be utilised for the benefit of pepper growers in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. KRISHAN KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir. ICAR has already the National Research Centre on spices at Calicut in Kerala. Besides Kerala Agricultural University has also a strong programme on spices research. Spices Board of Government of India has also its research centre located in Kerala at Myladumpara.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

COACHING TO SC/ST STUDENTS

2320. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coaching centres organised in Maharashtra to give coaching to the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates seeking admission to the Navodaya Vidyalayas during each of the last three years ;

(b) the number of students of these categories who were given coaching at these centres during the above period ;

(c) the number of students out of them who actually appeared for the entrance test; and

(d) the number of such students who passed the test ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has intimated that they are not organising any coaching centres anywhere in India including Maharashtra for candidates seeking admission to the Navodaya Vidyalayas.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

UMRAID-VARORA RAIL LINK IN VIDHARBA REGION (MAHARASHTRA)

2321. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to link Umraid, Makarghokra, Nand, Chimmor, Murpar, Bandar and Varora by rail to facilitate transportation of coal available in coal deposits of Vidharbha region in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Constraint of resources.

WIRELESS SETS IN DELHI ZOO

2322. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN
SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government proposed to provide wireless sets in the Delhi Zoo for its proper management;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of wireless sets proposed to be provided to the Zoo;

(c) whether the equipments are proposed to be imported from foreign countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount of foreign exchange likely to be spent thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) (a) Govt. proposes to provide only walkie talkie sets to National Zoological Park for intra-zoo communication.

(b) Initially, 3 such sets are proposed to be supplied.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

MINING ACTIVITIES IN ARAVALI RANGE

2323. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the news item captioned "Rajasthan Me Khanan Mafia Ki Loot-Khasot" appearing in the 'Blitz' (Hindi) dated June 12, 1993;

(b) whether Committees appointed to ensure the enforcement of ban on mining activities in Aravali Range including Sariska Tiger Reserve have submitted their reports;

(c) if so, the observations/recommendations made by the committees; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

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

(b) No Committees have been appointed to ensure the enforcement of ban on mining activity in Aravalli Range including Sariska Tiger Reserve.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

WORKING WOMEN HOSTELS

2324. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals for construction of Working Women Hostels sanctioned in Karnataka and other States during 1992-93, State-wise; and

(b) the places where the Working Women Hostels are proposed to be sanctioned during 1993-94 in Karnataka ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI): (a) 30 proposals inclusive of 4 in Karnataka were approved under the Scheme of Assistance for the Construction/Expansion of Hostel Building for Working Women with Day Care Centre for Children during 1992-93. The State/Union Territory-wise break up of sanctioned hostels is given below :—

S. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Hostels sanctioned
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Bihar	1
4.	Karnataka	4
5.	Kerala	5
6.	Maharashtra	8
7.	Nagaland	1
8.	Orissa	1
9.	Rajasthan	1
10.	Manipur	1
11.	Delhi	1

(b) The location of future Hostels for Working Women depends on the proposals made by eligible organisations, keeping in view the need for hostels in various places. Such Hostels are sanctioned on the receipt of complete applications from eligible organisations recommended by the State Government/Union Territory Administration concerned.

[Translation]

PANTRY CARS

2325. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total profit or loss of the Pantry Cars in the Northern Railway during 1992-93;

(b) the reasons for the loss, if any, and

(c) the remedial measures taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Profit accrued from the departmentally run Pantry Car on Northern Railway during 1992-93 was Rs. 87,264/-.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

BEED NAGAR-KALYAN RAILWAY LINK

2326. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI-SINGH PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent any proposal to the

Union Government for construction of Beed Nagar-Kalyan rail route;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision by the Union Government thereon ?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MOTHER DAIRY MILK

2327. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have increased the price of Mother Dairy milk in Delhi with effect from July 1, 1993;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of times price of Mother Dairy Milk was increased during the last two years and the percentage of increase made during this period; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check the price rise so as to make available milk to the residents of Delhi at reasonable rate ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) The Mother Dairy have revised the sale price of Toned Milk and Full Cream Milk (FCM) with effect from 1-7-1993 as under :—

(Rs. per litre)

Type of Milk (1)	From (2)	To (3)
Toned Milk	7.50	8.00
Full Cream Milk	10.00	10.50

The price increase became inevitable due to higher price being paid to the State Cooperative Dairy Federations for procurement of milk.

(c) The sale price of Toned Milk and Full Cream Milk was increased/decreased by the Mother Dairy From 1-10-1992 as under :—

Date	Type of Milk	From	To	(Rs. per litre)	
				Percentage increase (+) decrease (—)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
1-10-92	Toned Milk	—	8.00	—	
1-1-93	Toned Milk	8.00	7.50	6.25% (—)	
1-7-93	Toned Milk	7.50	8.00	6.66% (+)	
11-9-92	Full Cream Milk	—	11.00	—	
1-10-92	Full Cream Milk	11.00	10.00	9.10% (—)	
1-7-93	Full Cream Milk	10.00	10.50	5% (+)	

Prior to 1-10-1992, Mother Dairy was selling Double Toned Milk at the rate of Rs. 7.00 per litre.

(d) The Mother Dairy has to function as a commercially viable unit. The sale price of Mother Dairy is therefore, fixed, keeping in view the cost of production of milk from time to time.

PARYAVARAN VAHINIS

2328. SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI :

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD
YADAV :

SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 30, 1993 to Unstarred Question No. 4660 and state :

(a) whether the information regarding Paryavaran Vahinis has been collected,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the time by which the information is likely to be collected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The information has not been collected so far. Most of the States are yet to respond to our request to furnish information. States are being reminded from time to time.

(d) Every effort is being made to collect all the information by November 30, 1993.

[English]

COACHES ON PATHANKOT-BAIJNATH SECTION

2329. MAJOR D. D. KHANORIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of passenger coaches replaced on the Pathankot-Bajjnath narrow gauge section of the Northern Railway during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : No narrow gauge coach has been replaced on Pathankot-Bajjnath section during last three years.

[Translation]

CONSTRUCTION OF STADIA

2330. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of stadia constructed with Central assistance at various places in West Bengal and Bihar;

(b) whether any further requests of the State Governments are pending with the Union Government seeking assistance for construction of stadia;

(c) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the proposed locations thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) Construction of 37 and 12 stadia at various places in West Bengal and Bihar respectively have been assisted by the Central grant.

(b) to (d) Seven proposals of West Bengal and five of Bihar are pending. The details are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

Statement**WEST BENGAL**

S. No.	Project	Location	Position/Reaction of the Government
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Construction of Stadium	Shantipur Municipality, District Nadia.	Deficiencies intimated to State Government alongwith seeking acceptance that they are prepared to incur their share first over and above the Central assistance.
.	District Sports Complex	South Suburban Unit of Calcutta Municipal Corporation.	Deficiencies communicated on 11-2-1993 for sending proposal in prescribed proforma through State Government.
3.	Gymnasium Hall	Nandan Milan Bithi 24 Parganas.	Proposal is under active consideration of Government.
4.	Indoor Stadium	Howrah Municipal Corporation, Howrah.	Proposal is under active consideration of Government.
5.	Renovation of Netaji Subhash Indoor Stadium	Calcutta.	Proposal is under active consideration of Government.
6.	Indoor Stadium	Banamali Recreation Club, 24-Parganas.	State Government / sponsors addressed on 3-1-1992 to convey the acceptance that they are willing to incur their share first in the cost of the project

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
7. Construction of Gymnasium	Jatiyo-Krira-O-Shakti Sangha, Hooghly.		Sponsors were asked to send revised drawings and convey the acceptance that they are willing to incur their share first in the cost of the project.
BIHAR			
1. Sports Project Development Area	Purnea.		Grants Committee on 17-8-1992 recommended Rs. 22.00 lakhs on the condition that the State Government should first arrange Rs. 20.00 lakhs for construction of Sports Hostel. Decision intimated to Bihar State Sports Authority on 15-9-1992.
2. Indoor Stadium	Bokaro Steel City, Bokaro.		Bihar State Sports Authority addressed in 1991 to revise estimates/drawings deleting in essential items and to convey acceptance that they would incur first their share in the cost of the project.
3. Open Stadium	Hazaribagh		Proposal returned for affixing seal of signing authority and to convey acceptance that they would incur first their share in the cost of the project.
4. Outdoor Stadium	Khagra, Kishanganj		Deficiencies conveyed to Bihar State Sports Authority in May, 1993.
5. Sports Complex	Daltonganj, Palamau.		State Government / sponsor asked to convey the acceptance that they are willing to incur their share first in the cost of the project.

[English]

'NOISE POLLUTION'

2331. MAJOR GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the tremendous increase in noise pollution particularly in towns;

(b) if so, the legal and administrative measures taken or proposed to be taken to check this menace;

(c) whether the Government have any mechanism to ensure or check that the means of transport used both in air and ground remain within specified limits of emitting noise;

(d) whether it has come to notice of the Government that some aircraft, recently

purchased by some of the private airlines violate these norms; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, ambient noise standards and noise limits at the manufacturing stage for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipment. The Central Pollution Control Board has also evolved a code of practice for controlling noise from public address systems and have directed State Pollution Control Boards for implementing the same.

(c) and (d) Motor vehicles at the manufacturing stage are required to comply with the prescribed noise emission limits. The manufacturers have been asked to submit a certificate from a laboratory recognised by the Government for this purpose, stating that the vehicles comply with the prescribed standards.

Noise limits at the manufacturing stage for aircrafts have not been evolved.

(e) Does not arise.

WORLD BANK REPORT ON AGRICULTURE

2332. **SHRI SHRIKANT JENA :**
SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Bank has prepared a report on Indian Agriculture;

(b) if so, the broad recommendations made therein;

(c) whether Government have examined the recommendations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR) (a) The World Bank prepared a report on Indian Agriculture captioned "Agriculture—Challenges and opportunities" in August, 1991.

(b) The broad recommendations made in the report are increase in the overall allocation for agriculture, improving the efficiency of agricultural investments, rationalising subsidies and targeting them towards deserving people, diversification of agriculture, providing better incentives to farmers for crop production and revitalisation of rural banking.

(c) and (d) Government of India have examined these and are in general agreement with the suggestions which improve the production and productivity in Indian Agriculture.

[Translation]

PRICE OF UREA

2333. **SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the rate at which urea is being made available to farmers at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the price of urea;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to contain the price rise of urea for the benefit of farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Urea is under statutory price control and is sold at the uniform rate of Rs. 2760/- per tonne throughout the country.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal at present to increase the price of urea.

(d) The Government has reduced the price of Urea (46% N) from Rs. 3060/- per tonne as in 1991 to Rs. 2760/- per tonne w.e.f. 25-8-92 in the interest of the farmers.

[English]

SCHOLARSHIP TO RESEARCH SCHOLARS

2334. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of research-scholars from Bihar who have been granted scholarships for their research work by the University Grants Commission during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) the number of research scholars out of them belonging to the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) the number of research-scholars recommended for scholarship for the year 1993-94 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission has allotted 190 slots to universities in Bihar under the Scheme Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) at any one given time basis. The universities are supposed to fill these slots by appointing National Eligibility Test (NET) qualified candidates keeping in view the number of slots available. The Commission also approves NET qualified candidates for appointment and JRFs over and above the allotted slots, and the fellowships given are personal to the incumbents and such as the JRFs are to be adjusted against the slots as and when they fall vacant.

The number of Junior Research Fellowships awarded to SC/ST candidates is indicated below :—

Year	No. of Awards
1. 1989-90	4
1990-91	
2. 1991-92	1

For the years 1992-93 and 1993-94, the selection is yet to be made.

REINSTATEMENT OF EMPLOYEES

2335. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has taken a decision to re-employ forty-seven railway employees dismissed in the year 1981 for participating in trade union activities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to offer re-employment to 47 ex-employees who were dismissed or removed from service under Rule 14(ii) for participation in the Loco Running Staff agitation of 1980-81 and whose cases were not subjudice. The re-employment will be considered in the same post and grade as they were occupying at the time of their dismissal/removal.

[Translation]

VIGILANCE CASES

2336. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) the total number of complaints received by the Vigilance Department of his Ministry during the last three years;

(b) the total number of such complaints pending to be looked into; and

(c) the time by which the pending complaints are likely to be disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) 28186 complaints were received by the Vigilance Organisation of the Railways during 1990, 1991 and 1992.

(b) 1251 as on 01-01-1993.

(c) Accrual and disposal of complaints is a continuous process. Depending on the nature of the complaints, priority is given for their investigations. Some complaints take more time for investigation than others.

[English]

ATTA THROUGH P.D.S.

2337. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of non-availability of standards quality of wholemeal atta at controlled prices through Fair Price Shops in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details about offtake of atta distributed through Fair Price Shops during the last one year, month-wise and the price difference per 10 kg. bag distributed through Fair Price Shops and open market;

(d) whether the Government propose to make standard quality of atta at further reduced prices by streamlining the present distribution channels and weeding out un-called for commission agencies to reduce further the cost of atta for urban poor; and

(e) if so, the details of the steps taken/proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) No, Sir. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have informed that standard quality of Agmark Atta at the rate of Rs. 43.90 per ten kg. bag in sufficient quantity is available for distribution through Fair Price Shops in Delhi.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Month-wise *Statement* about offtake of atta distributed through Fair Price Shops during the last one year is enclosed.

The sale price of atta distributed through Fair Price Shops is Rs. 43.90 for 10 kg. bag. The average price of atta sold in open market is as under :—

Rs. 54 for 10 kg. bag

Rs. 28 for 5 kg. bag

Rs. 410 for 90 kg. bag

Statement

(d) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have informed that

there is no such proposal at present before that Government for reducing the price of atta sold through Fair Price Shops.

(e) Question does not arise.

MONTH DELIVERY (10 Kg. bag)

AUGUST, 1992	254790 bags
SEPT., 1992	381664 bags
OCT., 1992	231864 bags
NOV., 1992	396118 bags
DEC., 1992	564601 bags
JAN., 1993	567398 bags
FEB., 1993	358316 bags
MAR., 1993	406229 bags
APRIL, 1993	214670 bags
MAY, 1993	172311 bags
JUNE, 1993	118224 bags
JULY, 1993	114072 bags

[Translation]

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS

2338. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of foodgrains stored in the godowns of the country at present;

(b) the year-wise quantity of foodgrains imported out of it during 1993-94 till date and the details in this regard;

(c) the quantum of imported foodgrains distributed among the consumers through the Public Distribution System during the last three years respectively;

(d) the average cost price per Kg. of the imported foodgrains at the time of making it available to the Public Distribution System and the rate at which the said foodgrains were sold to the consumers in different States; and

(e) the loss per Kg. suffered by the Government on the said foodgrains ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) The total quantities of wheat and rice in the Central Pool as on 30-6-1993 were as under :

Rice—92.73 lakh tonnes

Wheat—149.69 lakh tonnes

(b) Against 29.90 lakh tonnes of wheat contracted for import during 1992-93, 23.80 lakh tonnes were received during

1992-93 and 6.74 lakh tonnes in 1993-94 till June. Against 2.15 lakh tonnes of rice contracted in 1992-93 for import, 0.75 lakh tonnes of rice was received during 1992-93 and 0.67 lakh tonnes was received during 1993-94 till June. No quantity of foodgrains has been contracted for import during 1993-94 till date.

(c) Details of imported foodgrains distributed through PDS during the last three years are as follows :—

I.	Year	Wheat
	1990-91	Nil
	1991-92	Nil
	1992-93 and 1993-94 (upto June)	17.39 lakh tonnes

II. During the year 1990-91, 44930 tonnes of rice was received from Vietnam against repayment of commodity loan. During 1991-92, no rice was imported. During 1992-93 and till June 1993-94, 1.42 lakh tonnes of rice was imported which includes 0.70 lakh tonnes against interest dues of commodity loan. All this rice was/

is being distributed through Public Distribution System.

(d) The present estimated economic cost of wheat and rice works out to Rs. 5.17 per Kg. and Rs. 6.34 per Kg. respectively. The present Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice for both imported and indigenous for distribution under P.D.S./R.P.D.S. are as under.

(Rate : Rupees per Kg.)

	P.D.S.	R.P.D.S.
Wheat	3.30	2.80
<i>Rice</i>		
Common	4.37	3.87
Fine	4.97	4.47
Super Fine	5.18	4.68

The end retail prices of foodgrains are fixed by the State Governments/U.T. Administrations taking into account the Central Issue Prices, transport cost and other incidentals including margins to the Fair Price Shops.

(e) Government distributes foodgrains through the Public Distribution System outlets at subsidised rates. The average estimated subsidy involved in the imported foodgrains is as follows :

(Rate Rupees per Kg.)

Commodity	Economic cost estimated	Central Issue Price for P.D.S.	Subsidy paid by Govt.
Wheat	5.17	3.30	1.87
Rice	6.34	5.18	1.16

[English]

MAINTENANCE OF COMPARTMENTS

2339. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints have been received regarding poor maintenance of the compartments of all the trains from Sealdah-Howrah to North Bengal and Assam; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Complaints were received in respect of some trains.

(b) Improvement has been affected by instituting special drives.

[Translation]

ADDITIONAL COACHES IN TRAINS

2340. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to attach additional passenger coaches in important trains to reduce the heavy rush of passengers;

(b) if so, the names of important trains in which additional coaches are proposed to be attached; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Attaching additional coaches to the trains is a continuous process depending upon traffic justification and operational feasibility.

Some of the important trains augmented by one unreserved second class coach recently are :—

1. 4265/4266 Varanasi-Dehradun Express
2. 3111/3112 Delhi-Sealdah Express
3. 3143/3144 Darjeeling Mail

4. 6029/6030 Malabar Express
5. 3151/3152 Sealdah-Jammu Tawi Express
6. 4259/4260 Durg-Varanasi Express
7. 2101/2102 Minar Express
8. 3007/3008 Udyan Abha Toofan Express
9. 7015/7016 Visakha Express
10. 7047/7048 Gautami Express
11. 7055/7056 Narsapur Express
12. 9901/9902 Delhi-Ahmedabad Mail
13. 9931/9932 Aravali Express

4517/4518 Unchahar Express and 4789/4790 Bikaner Express have been augmented by two second class unreserved coaches each. 9711/9712 Jaipur-Sri Ganganagar Express has also been augmented by one sleeper class coach.

In addition 2625/2626 Kerala Express between Palghat and Trivandrum and 4083/4084 Mahananda Express between Delhi and Katihar augmented by 7 & 4 coaches respectively.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

BANGALORE-DELHI RAJDHANI EXPRESS

2342. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints have been received in regard to Sub-standard material used in making of coaches of recently introduced Rajdhani Express between Bangalore and Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**CHITRADURGA-RAYADURGA
RAILWAY LINE**

2343. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRI-YAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in construction of Chitradurga-Rayadurga broad gauge railway line; and

(b) the estimated cost, expenditure incurred thereon so far and the time schedule fixed for its completion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) 80%.

(b) The estimated cost of Chitradurga-Rayadurga railway line (100 kms.) is Rs. 84.80 crores. The total expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 65 crores and the work is targetted for completion in 1993-94.

[*Translation*]

**EMU TRAINS BETWEEN BHUSAWAL
AND MANMAD**

2344. DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce an E.M.U. train between Bhusawal and Manmad section of Central Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Introduction of EMU trains would require massive investments which the Indian Railways are not in a position to make at present, due to constraints of resources.

[*English*]

FOOD STOCKS

2345. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO-SAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the position of foodgrain stocks at present;

(b) how it compares with that of the last year;

(c) whether there is a proposal to export foodgrains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) The stocks of foodgrains with Central Pool were as under :—

(In lakh tonnes)

As on	Rice	Wheat	Total
1-7-93 (P)	92.73	148.89	241.62
1-7-92 (P)	73.91	64.71	138.62
(P)—Provisional			

(c) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government for export of foodgrains from the Government stocks.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**EXPANSION OF OPERATION BLACK-
BOARD SCHEME**

2346. SHRI SHANTARAM POTOUKHE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken a final decision to expand the Operation Blackboard Scheme to cover the upper primary schools during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time schedule framed for the implementation of the scheme throughout the country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF

EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) The components of this sub-scheme will comprise for each upper primary school, the provision of (i) at least one room for each class, and where there is more than one section to a class, for each section; (ii) a Headmaster-cum-office room; (iii) necessary toilet facilities (iv) a contingency grant of Rs. 1000 per annum (v) library facilities (vi) essential equipment, and (vii) at least one teacher for each class/section.

It will be State Governments responsibility to provide items (i) to (iv). Salary of one additional teacher will be provided by the centre for the plan period. It is proposed to provide Rs. 50,000 to each school for essential equipment including Rs. 10,000 for library facilities. In order to promote community participation in this venture it is proposed to give preference in selection to the villages where community contributes 20% (Rs. 10,000/-) towards equipment in which case Central contribution will be Rs. 40,000. However in tribal (ITDP) areas entire 100% assistance will be provided.

(c) It was intended to cover one third of the Upper primary schools during the Eighth Plan. But due to resource constraint, it is proposed to launch the scheme only during the year 1995-96 and limit the coverage to about 5% schools each year in the last two years of the Eighth plan. The scheme, can, however, be launched earlier and coverage enhanced depending on the availability of funds.

BOGUS RATION CARDS IN DELHI

2347. SHRI MADAN LAL
KHURANA :

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH :

SHRI SURYA NARAIN
YADAV : Will the Minister of
CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS
AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased
to state :

(a) the population of Delhi as per 1991
census;

(b) the total number of ration cards issued in Delhi and the number of sugar units thereon;

(c) whether there are a large number of bogus ration cards in use in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the efforts made by the Government during the last one year to detect bogus ration cards and the success achieved in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The population of Delhi as per 1991 census is 94,20,644. The Govt. of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi has reported that the total number of ration cards issued is 25,97,434 and the number of sugar units is 1,29,48,881.

(c) and (d) The Food and Supplies Department of the NCT of Delhi undertakes verification of ration cards from time to time. During the period from 8-8-1992 to 31-7-1993, 4,07,942 inflated sugar units have been deleted. Elimination and weeding out of ration cards and inflated units is a continuous process.

MODEL SCHOOLS IN DELHI

2348. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of composite model school functioning at present in Delhi;

(b) the number of schools out of those which have Urdu medium;

(c) whether the students of those schools are being taught Urdu medium from primary classes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (d) According to information received

from Delhi Administration, so far 250 schools have been converted to composite schools. The composite schools cover classes from First standard upto Secondary/Senior Secondary level. The provision for teaching Urdu as a language has been made in 2 schools on the basis of number of students enrolled and on demand from parents.

SUGAR MILLS

2349. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sugar mills in public sector and private sector in the country at present, State-wise:

(b) whether the production of sugar has declined during 1992-93; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) The State-wise number of sugar mills in Public Sector and Private Sector in the country, as on 15-7-1993, is given in the *Statement*.

(b) There has been a decline in the sugar production during 1992-93 seasons, as compared to the previous season.

(c) The fall in sugar production during 1992-93 season has been due to the decline in cane production on account of climatic factors, diversion to other crops, etc., and also on account of the diversion of available cane to the khandsari and gur sectors.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	As on 15-7-1993	
		Number of Installed sugar factories	
		Public	Private
1.	Punjab	3	2
2.	Haryana	—	1
3.	Rajasthan	1	1
4.	Uttar Pradesh	35	42
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1	4
6.	Maharashtra	—	6
7.	Bihar	15	15
8.	Assam	1	—
9.	Orissa	—	1
10.	West Bengal	1	1
11.	Nagaland	1	—
12.	Andhra Pradesh	8	11
13.	Karnataka	3	10
14.	Tamil Nadu	3	15
15.	Poucherry	—	1
16.	Kerala	—	1
Total		72	111

[English]

ADMISSIONS IN DELHI UNIVERSITY

2350. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE :

SHRI B. DEVARAJAN :

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

(a) whether there is a demand for increasing the seats for admission in the Delhi University since long;

(b) if so, the details, thereof;

(c) whether complaints regarding alleged irregularities in admissions in Delhi University have been received;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action being taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Since the applicants for admission to various undergraduate courses of the University of Delhi have been more than the seats available in the regular colleges there has been a demand for increasing the seats in regular colleges for the past few years. According to the information given by CBSE the eligible students for admission to Delhi colleges this year is 53,528. The Delhi University has informed that they have an intake capacity of approx. 30,000 in the colleges, approx. 6,000 in the Non-Collegiate Women's Education Board and approx. 20,000 in correspondence courses.

(c) to (e) According to the information furnished by the University, they are not aware of any specific case of irregularity in admissions. However, the University constitutes, every year, a Grievance Committee under the Chairmanship of a senior professor to look into the grievances of the students regarding admissions. The cases of general grievances are taken up with the concerned colleges and the matter is resolved in most of the cases.

[Translation]

PER CAPITA PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN UTTAR PRADESH

2351. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any correlation between the per capita income and per capita supply through Public Distribution System in Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) whether any contribution has been received from other States for the public distribution system ; and

(c) if so, the names of these States along with the details of the commodities sent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) Monthly allocations of PDS commodities are made to States/UTs including Uttar Pradesh by the Central Government depending on the availability of stocks in Central Pool, inter-se demands of all the States/UTs, seasonal variations in requirements etc. Only in the case of levy sugar, allocations are made generally on a norm of 425 grams per capita per month availability to the projected population in the State/UT as on 1-10-1986. An adhoc increase of 5% in the levy sugar allocations are also being made to all the States/UTs w.e.f. August, 91. In view of this, there is no strict correlation between per capita income and per capita supply of PDS commodities in any State/UT, including Uttar Pradesh.

A statement showing the progressive procurement of wheat, rice and coarse grains for the Central Pool made by different States during the current marketing season is annexed.

Statement

(Figures in Tonnes)

Sl. No.	State	Rice	Coarse Grains	Wheat
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3307832	7387	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	395	0	0
3.	Assam	8566	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	0
5.	Haryana	909027	1235	3454458
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	1133
7.	Karnataka	108970	0	0
8.	Madhya Pradesh	687811	6369	236690
9.	Maharashtra	68282	383293	0
10.	Orissa	370181	0	0
11.	Punjab	4901209	0	6491876
12.	Rajasthan	21298	0	495918
13.	Uttar Pradesh	1186181	0	2126789
14.	West Bengal	162630	0	0
15.	Chandigarh	29807	0	2083
16.	Delhi	5403	0	19586
17.	Pondicherry	6024	0	0
18.	Gujarat	0	0	91

PROCUREMENT OF RABI CROP

2352. DR. P. R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the details of procurement of Rabi crop during the year 1991-92 1992-93, 1993-94, State-wise; and

(b) the number of temporary godowns constructed for storage of foodgrains during the above period, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP

NATH RAI) : (a) A statement giving requisite information is attached.

(b) The Food Corporation of India is not constructing any temporary godowns for storage of foodgrains but as per the requirements from time to time, FCI hire the godowns from various agencies viz. CWC/SWC/private parties and other parties on month to month basis and also on guarantee basis besides resorting to CAP storage on emergency basis.

Statement

('000 Tonnes)

State/Union Territory	Marketing Season					
	1991-92 (P)		1992-93(P)		1993-94*	
	Wheat	Barley	Wheat	Barley	Wheat	Barley
Gujarat	—	—	—	—	Neg.	—
Haryana	1834	—	1372	—	3454	Neg.
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	1	—
Madhya Pradesh	—	—	Neg.	—	242	—
Punjab	5543	—	4489	—	6493	—
Rajasthan	7	—	22	—	496	1
Uttar Pradesh	368	—	497	—	2127	Neg.
Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	2	—
Delhi	—	—	—	—	20	—
All India	7752	—	6380	—	12835	1

Neg.—Below 500 tonnes

(*)—Position as on 6-8-1993

(P)—Provisional

[*English*]

TEACHER-STUDENT RATIO

2353. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI :

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :

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

(a) the existing teacher-student ratio in respect of the primary schools in Delhi as against the prescribed or acceptable ratio; and

(b) the manner in which Government propose to bridge the gap between the teacher-student ratio in Delhi ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) According to information furnished by Delhi Administration, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Committee, they try to follow teacher-student ratio of 1 : 40. Creation of additional posts of teachers is considered when enrolment increases. However, there may be some variation in teacher-student ratio in individual schools considering the steadily increasing enrolment as progress is made in Universalisation of Primary Education.

[*Translation*]

WOMEN'S STUDIES CENTRES AND CELLS

2354. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Women's Studies has recommended assistance to some universities and colleges/university departments for setting up of women's studies centres and cells ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken so far in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) UGC has informed that, as recommended by the UGC Standing Committee on Women's Studies, the Commission is providing assistance to 21 universities and 11 colleges/university departments for setting up women's studies centres/cells.

UGC Review Committee has recommended establishment of 8 more women's studies centres. These recommendations would be considered by the UGC Standing Committee on Women's Studies and appropriate decision on the matter will be taken by the UGC keeping in view the availability of financial resources.

[*English*]

RETAILERS FOR P.D.S. OUTLETS

2355. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued guidelines to different States regarding selection of retailers for P.D.S. outlets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the States are strictly observing those guidelines ; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to monitor and issue fresh guidelines so that the objective of P.D.S. is achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (d) Central Government had requested the State Governments and U.T. Administrations to give priority to cooperatives in the matter of allotment of Fair Price Shops (FPS). More recently they were requested to consider reserving a certain percentage of FPS to women and persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST) including cooperatives and other organisations of women and SC/ST.

The implementation of the Public Distribution System (PDS) is a joint responsibility, under which the Central Government makes bulk allocation of PDS commodities to States/UTs, the operational responsibility for implementing PDS rests with the State Governments/UT Administrations. Matters pertaining to opening of FPS, licensing of FPS, eligibility criteria, viability of FPS are decided by the State Administrations.

Policy and operational issues relating to the Public Distribution System are discussed at meetings of the Advisory Council on PDS in which all the States/UTs are represented and decisions arrived at the meetings of the council are implemented by States/UTs.

[Translation]

DISTRICT PRIMARY EDUCATION PROGRAMME

2356. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :

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

(a) the names of districts, which have formulated the District Primary Education Programme for 1993-94, State-wise ;

(b) the major elements in the District Programme and their quantitative targets under the Programme for the year 1993-94; and

(c) whether the necessary inputs for implementing the district-level projects and schemes under the programme have been provided to those districts for 1993-94 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Under the District Primary Education Programme, preliminary district plans have been drafted by the State Governments concerned for the 23 districts enumerated below :—

1. Assam : (1) Darrang (2) Dhubri (3) Karbi Anglong (4) Morigaon

2. Haryana : (1) Hissar (2) Jind (3) Kaithal (4) Sirsa

3. Karnataka : (1) Belgaum (2) Kolar (3) Mandya (4) Raichur

4. Kerala : (1) Kasergod (2) Wynad (3) Malappuram

5. Maharashtra : (1) Aurangabad (2) Latur (3) Nanded (4) Osmanabad (5) Parbhani

6. Tamil Nadu : (1) Dharampuri (2) South Arcot (3) Tiruvannamalai Sambuvaraya

(b) The District Primary Education Programme seeks to reconstruct primary education as a whole in selected districts instead of a piecemeal implementation of schemes, and its components include non-formal education, minimum levels of learning, teachers training, school construction etc. The programme stresses participative processes in educational management. No quantitative targets for 1993-94 have been set.

(c) The District Primary Education Programme is in the planning stage. A National Core Team of experts from national resource institutions has been constituted to provide necessary technical assistance and inputs to the States.

ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF RAILWAY LINES

2357. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the loss suffered by the Railways as a result of operation of non-viable railway lines during 1992-93 ;

(b) whether any scheme has been formulated to make the non-viable railway lines, viable ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) The loss suffered on Un-economic Branch Lines during 1991-92, the latest year for which figures are at present available, was Rs. 123 crores.

(b) and (c) Various steps like replacement of passenger trains by mixed trains,

introduction of 'One Engine Only' system, economy in staff, curbing ticketless travel, closure of unremunerative stations and halts or converting them into contractor operated halts etc. have been taken to reduce the losses on non-viable railway lines.

[English]

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

2358. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA
PATTANAYAK :

SHRI ARVEND TULSHIRAM
KAMBLE :

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

(a) whether a meeting was held in July, 1993 to discuss and diversify the activities of the National Service Scheme ;

(b) if so, the decisions taken therein ; and

(c) the achievements made under the scheme during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a National Consultation Meeting with senior officers of State Governments, representatives from universities, senior NSS Officers of NSS Regional Centres was held on 15th July, 1993 to discuss the Action Plan for celebration of NSS Silver Jubilee Year from 24th September, 1993 to 25th September, 1994.

(c) As per Statement.

Statement

Achievements of NSS during 1990-91, 1991-92 & 1992-93

Year	Enrolment (Target)	Enrolment (Achievements)	No. of Special Camps (Targets)	No. of Special Camps held
1990-91 . . .	10,95,620	9,97,009	5000	4811
1991-92 . . .	10,29,370	10,82,549	5000	5133
1992-93 . . .	10,26,400	11,07,369	5000	5981

Apart from the achievements in enrolment and special camping programme, significant achievements have been achieved in the following areas :—

(1) LITERACY WORK

The number of NSS volunteers involved in this work since 1990-91 is as under :—

1990-91 ..	2.76 lakhs
1991-92 ..	4.73 lakhs
1992-93 ..	3.60 lakhs

(2) ECO-CONSERVATION

(i) The State NSS Cell of Madhya Pradesh has undertaken an Integrated Wasteland Development Pilot Project at Mhow in Indore in an area measuring about 135 sq. km. in which 24,000 man-days per year by NSS volunteers is invested.

(ii) The NSS Unit of Rajarishi Government College, Alwar in Rajasthan has taken up an all-round development project like desilting and deepening of village tanks, construction of check-dams, tree plantation, construction and development of village Primary School in Rawandera Village (an adopted village) in collaboration with Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP), Asia Centre, Chandigarh.

(iii) Universities Talk AIDS (UTA)

Programme Expansion : The Department of Youth Affairs & Sports launched in 1991-92 a nation-wide sensitisation campaign on AIDS called 'Universities Talk AIDS Programme' for student youth in Universities in collaboration with Ministry of Health and World Health Organisation (WHO).

[Translation]**FIRE AT GHAZIABAD SIGNAL ROOM**

2359. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEER-APPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a fire in the Signalling Relay Room at Ghaziabad Station recently and the entire signalling system had failed as a result thereof ;

(b) If so, the main causes of the fire; and

(c) The special steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) A fire incident took place simultaneously in the Power supply room of Route Relay Interlocking cabin and basement of goods yard cabin at Ghaziabad. Supply to the Signalling System was thereafter disconnected to avoid spreading of fire and damage to the signalling equipments.

(b) A Committee of Senior Officers has been appointed to find out the causes of fire.

(c) Till recommendations are available, as an interim measure earthing of equipments, Traction bondings and fuses have been thoroughly checked and strengthened.

SETTING UP OF CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

2360. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a new Central university in Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) if so, whether the site for setting up the university has been identified ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the time by which the university is likely to be set up ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE

DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) :

(a) There is no proposal to set up a new Central University in Uttar Pradesh. However, the Government has decided, in principle, to convert Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University at Lucknow into a Central University.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

STEAM LOCOMOTIVES

2361. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of steam locomotives phased out during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the number of steam locomotives proposed to be phased out during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) The condemnation of steam locomotives during the last three years has been as under :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Locos condemned</i>
1990-91	392
1991-92	425
1992-93 (Prov.)	786

(b) 495.

ACCIDENT OF DELHI-HOWRAH RAJDHANI EXPRESS

2362. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the inquiry reports of the accident of the Rajdhani Express (New Delhi-Howrah) and the East Coast Express in January last, have since been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) to (c) Though the Final

Inquiry Reports on the two accidents by the Commissioners of Railway Safety, Northern and South Eastern Circles, respectively, are still awaited, their preliminary reports have been received. According to the preliminary report, the collision of 2302 Dn. Rajdhani Express with the derailed wagons of UP DSJ Goods between Rura and Ambiapur stations of Northern Railway on 16-1-93, occurred due to 'Failure of Railway Staff', whereas the derailment of 8046 Hyderabad-Howrah East Coast Express between Kotabommali and Naupada stations of Visakhapatnam Division of South Eastern Railway on 18-1-93, occurred due to 'equipment failure'.

The follow up action would be taken on receipt of Final Inquiry reports of the Commissioners of Railway Safety.

[English]

IMPORT OF LOCOMOTIVES

2363. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of locomoties imported during the last three years;

(b) the cost of these locomotives and the name of the countries from where these were imported;

(c) the reasons for such import; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken to improve the quality of Indian locomotives so that such imports can be avoided in future ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b) No locomotives were imported during the last three years. However, contracts for supply of 30 nos. of 6000 HP 25 KV three phase AC Electric locomotives alongwith spares and transfer of technology have been awarded to ABB Switzerland in July, 1993 at a total FOB cost of Swiss Francs 169,689,970 and Deutsche Marks 139,140,250, equivalent to Rs. 608 crores (approx.).

(c) and (d) The Contracts referred to above have been placed with a view to obtain the state-of-art technology so that

series manufacture of these types of locomotives may be taken up at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works to avoid imports in future.

[Translation]

ASSISTANCE FOR RETAIL SALE AND PURCHASE CENTRES

2364. SHRI GABHAJI MANGHAJI THAKORE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the States which have sought financial assistance from the National Cooperative Development Corporation for setting up retail sale and purchase centres of the Horticulture Producers Cooperative Marketing and Processing Society Ltd;

(b) the quantum of financial assistance provided to them by NCDC during 1992-93, State-wise; and

(c) the details of retail sale and purchase centres proposed to be set up during the current year, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Karnataka had sought financial assistance from the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for setting up retail sale and procurement centres by the Horticulture Producers Cooperative Marketing and Processing Society Ltd., Bangalore.

(b) The NCDC has released an amount of Rs. 146.77 lakhs as financial assistance for the purpose during 1992-93.

(c) The details of retail sale and procurement centres expected to be set up by the society during the current year is as follows :

Retail sale Centres	Procurement Centres
39	3

MOUNTAINEERING TRAINING PROGRAMME

2366. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the Indians succeeded in scaling the Mount Everest so far;

(b) the number of women among them;

(c) whether the Government have organised any training programme for mountaineering, keeping in view the zeal of the people for mountaineering; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : (a) Twenty-nine.

(b) Eight.

(c) and (d) Government assists various mountaineering institutes for conduct of their programmes which includes training, programme for mountaineering. There are three national institutes of mountaineering viz. (1) Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling (West Bengal); (2) Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarakashi, UP and (3) Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering, Batote (J&K). In addition there are a number of state mountaineering institutes which train in mountain climbing, allied sports and adventure activities in the country.

[English]

ELECTRONIC TELEPRINTING MACHINES AT SOLAPUR

2367. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Electronic Teleprinter Machines have been installed at Solapur and other Stations of Central Railway for transmission of reservation messages to main channel of computer system at Bombay; and

(b) if so, the name of Stations on Central Railway being taken up for installation of Electronic Teleprinting Machines during 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Electro Mechanical Tele-

printer machines, which serve the same purpose as Electronic Teleprinters, have been installed at Bhusawal, Jhansi, Solapur, Manmad, Nagpur and Jabalpur.

(b) There is no proposal to install Electronic Teleprinter Machines during 1993-94 at any of the Stations on Central Railway.

SAVING-CUM-RELIEF SCHEME

2368. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE :

SHRIMATI SUSELLA GOPALAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representation has been received from the Government of Kerala to include inland fishermen also under the Saving-Cum-Relief Scheme which is at present applicable only to marine fishermen;

(b) whether the Government have received such representations from other coastal States also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Amongst Coastal States, besides Kerala, only Orissa and Pondicherry have expressed their willingness to extend the Saving-cum-Relief to Inland Fishermen on the existing pattern. Govt. of India has asked all participating States to intimate not only their willingness but also as to whether they are observing 'closed season' during which fishing activity is banned and, if so, whether they have adequate legislative measures/administrative machinery to implement the extended scheme.

CLEARANCE OF NTPC THERMAL POWER PLANT MANUGURU

2369. SHRI VADDE SOBHANADRE-SWARA RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has cleared the proposal of setting up of 100 MW NTPC Thermal Power Project at Manuguru in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) National Thermal Power Corporation was advised to identify an alternate site, in conformity with the guidelines of this Ministry as the site selected was not found environmentally compatible being located close to the ecologically sensitive areas.

[Translation]

ALLOCATION OF F.P.S.

2370. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down for allocation of Fair Price Shops to the applicants;

(b) whether special consideration is being given to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in this regard; and

(c) if so, the number of Fair Price Shops allocated so far to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN

AHMED) : (a) to (c) The operational responsibility for implementing the Public Distribution System (PDS) rests with the State Governments and U.T. Administrations. Decisions relating to opening of fair price shops, eligibility criteria, viability of the fair price shops etc. are taken by the States/UTs. The Central Government has requested the State Governments/UT Administration to consider reserving a percentage of fair price shops to women and persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST) including co-operatives run by women and SC/ST. Statistical information regarding allotment of fair price shops to women and persons belonging to SC/ST communities are not maintained by the Central Government.

[English]

PRIVATISATION OF EDUCATION

2371. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

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

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to privatise and commercialise the education;

(b) if so, the level up to which education is proposed to be privatised and commercialised;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the impact of privatisation and commercialisations; and

(d) if so, the circumstances led to take such a decision ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

PURCHASE OF FOODGRAINS BY FCI

2372. **SHRI S. N. VEKARIA** : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the targets fixed by the Food Corporation of India in regard to purchase of various foodgrains during the last three years till date and the quantity actually purchased during the same period, year-wise;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains lost during transit and damaged in the godowns due to rotting and eaten away by rats during the last three years and the measures being taken to save the foodgrains from such losses;

(c) the reasons for which the FCI has been supplying sub-standard, rotten and unclean wheat to the Fair Price Shops under Public Distribution System; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to supply clean and good quality of wheat to the public ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) The procurement of wheat, paddy and coarsegrains for Central Pool under price support scheme being totally voluntary, and the procurement of levy-price from millers/traders being dependent on quantum of paddy purchased by them, no targets, as such, can be fixed for procurement of wheat, paddy and coarsegrains.

Statement I showing quantities of foodgrains (wheat, rice and coarsegrains) procured during the last three years is attached.

(b) *Statement II* showing quantities of foodgrains lost in transit and damaged during the last three years is attached.

As regards measures taken to save the foodgrains from such losses, foodgrains stocks are not allowed to rot in FCI godowns as all FCI godowns are built on scientific principles and are rodent proof. However, in some of the hired/ARDC godowns, rodent control measures are undertaken to avoid and minimise losses due to rats and other field animals. Various other recurring steps are taken to curtail and minimise such losses, such as sound wagons fit for transport of foodgrains are selected for loading foodgrains stocks, no movement in open wagons is undertaken during monsoon season; surprise inspections are conducted to check the quantity and quality of foodgrains during transit and at the time of loading and unloading; periodical prophylactic and curative measures are taken to preserve the foodgrains; double line machine stitching of foodgrains bags has been encouraged; etc.

(c) and (d) Wheat stocks conforming to prevention of Food Adulteration Act standards alone are issued to the State Governments and their authorised agencies under Public Distribution System.

Truck-wise sealed samples (kept in polythene covers) are drawn from the foodgrain stocks and given to State Government and their agencies for display at the place of sale/issue to the consumers under Public Distribution System. Joint surprise checks along with State Governments administrations are conducted to verify the quality at various stages of issue of stocks and State Governments and their authorised agencies do check the quality before taking delivery and also acknowledge the receipt of foodgrains stock conforming to PFA Act standards.

Statement-I

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Marketing Year	Wheat	Rice (Including Paddy in Terms of Rice)	Coarse grains
1990-91 (P)	110.65	117.50	2.03
1991-92 (P)	77.52	92.36	Neg.
1992-93 (P)	69.80	117.75*	3.98*
1993-94 (P)	128.35*	Yet to start	0.01*

*As on 6-8-1993;

(P)—Provisional;

Neg.—0.5 tonnes.

Statement-III

(Figures in lakh MT)

Quantity of foodgrains lost in transit			Quantity of foodgrains accounted against damaged stocks		
Year	Accounts for 1992-93 are not yet finalised to work out the quantity lost in transit.	Year	Qty. of food-grains transferred from sound to damaged grains	Average stocks holdings of FCI godowns	%age of damage due to average stocks in storage
1989-90	. . . 2.38	1990-91	0.21	132.31	0.17
1990-91	. . . 3.44	1991-92	0.19	122.96	0.15
1991-92	. . . 4.12	1992-93	0.13*	97.38	0.13

*Provisional and accounts are yet to be finalised.

[Translation]

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NATIONAL LITERACY MISSION

2373. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHRY & SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

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

(a) the achievements made by the National Literacy Mission so far;

(b) whether the Government have constituted a committee of experts to assess work done by the National Literacy Mission;

(c) if so, the composition of the Committee;

(d) the terms of reference of the Committee; and

(e) the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) The National Literacy Mission which was launched in May, 1988 created an environment conducive for launching Mass Literacy Campaigns. At present 213 districts have been covered by Total Literacy Campaigns and 75 districts by Post Literacy Campaigns.

(b) An expert Group has been constituted for Status-cum-Impact Evaluation of Total Literacy Campaigns.

(c) The Group is chaired by Prof. Arun Ghosh and consists of Prof. Veena Mazumdar, Prof. Andre Beteille, Prof. U. R. Ananthmurthy, Prof. S. M. Kansal and Shri Achin Vanaik.

(d) The objectives of the Group are given in *Statement*.

(e) The Group is expected to submit its report in a period of one year.

Statement

(a) (i) To measure the outcome of literacy campaigns among learners/participants with respect to prescribed levels of literacy as per NLM norms.

(ii) To analyse the estimated number of persons made literate by gender, age groups and social groups (SC/ST and others).

(b) The processes and effectiveness of environment building/mass mobilisation through mass literacy campaigns.

(c) Involvement and partnership between government bodies and voluntary groups in literacy campaigns.

(d) Duration of implementation of the campaign with special emphasis on the duration of teaching/learning.

(e) Resources available and mobilised for mass literacy campaigns including the cost effectiveness of the campaign.

(f) To study and assess the fall out and impact of the literacy campaigns on related socio-economic development programmes such as primary education, health, nutrition family welfare, gender sensitivity, women and children development programmes, national integration etc.

LOSS IN SUGAR MILLS

2374. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the number of public sector sugar mills in the country which are running in loss at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to privatise these sugar mills;

(c) whether some private companies have come forward to take them over; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (d) The profit and loss accounts of public sector sugar mills are maintained by the respective administrative Ministries/State Governments. Since most of the public sector units are under the management of the State Governments, it is upto the State Governments to take a decision regarding privatisation of such public sector sugar mills which are running in losses.

[English]

STRIKE BY FCI AT BANGALORE

2375. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the godown staff of the Food Corporation of India at Bangalore are on strike;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken to fulfil their demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) No, Sir. However, a Cooperative Society, which has been entrusted with the handling work in the FCI Godown at Bangalore on contract basis, had stopped to attend to the work w.e.f. 14-6-1993 to 1-7-1993 on the plea that the Society should be awarded the contract for handling the stocks in FCI Godowns all over Karnataka Region. The FCI did not accede to the request of the Society. The workers of the Society have now resumed the work w.e.f. 2-7-1993.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME PROJECT FROM KERALA

2376. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Govt. of Kerala has submitted any project as a part of the World Food Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Kerala have submitted two project proposals as follows :

Project	Food aid sought (In tonnes)	
1. Irrigation and command area development in Kerala	Wheat	90,700
	Vegetable oil	5,444
	Pulses	9,071
2. Marine Fishing Villages in Kerala	Rice	21,432
	Edible Oil	2,143
	Pulses	2,143

(c) Government of India have forwarded these project proposals to World Food Programme for their consideration.

WOMEN'S STUDIES CENTRES AND CELLS

2377. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of women's studies centres and cells functioning in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether a number of such centres and cells are proposed to be closed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SEELJA) : (a) According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission is providing assistance to 21 universities and 11 colleges/university departments for setting up women's studies centres/cells. A statement showing the State-wise break-up of women's studies centres and cells is attached.

(b) and (c) UGC has informed that no such proposal is under consideration of the Commission. The continuance or otherwise of the women's studies centres and cells depends upon their performance as assessed periodically by the Expert Committee of UGC.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	Women's Studies Centres	Women's Studies Cells
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	1
2.	Assam	1	—
3.	Chandigarh	1	—
4.	Delhi	1	—
5.	Goa	1	—
6.	Gujarat	1	—
7.	Haryana	1	1
8.	Karnataka	2	—
9.	Kerala	1	1
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1	1
11.	Maharashtra	2	—
12.	Orissa	1	—
13.	Rajasthan	1	2
14.	Tamil Nadu	1	1
15.	Uttar Pradesh	1	4
16.	West Bengal	2	—

ERNAKULAM-ALLEPPEY-KAYAMKULAM RAILWAY LINE

2378. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work on Ernakulam-Alleppey-Kayamkulam section has been completed; and

(b) if so, when this section is likely to be commissioned for train services and the details of the trains proposed to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) The work is completed and section opened for passenger traffic on 21-11-92. 7 pairs of trains are presently running on this section.

**RAIL ROAD OVER BRIDGE AT
VIJAYAWADA**

2379. **SHRI SOBHANADRESWARA
RAO VADDE**, Will the Minister of
of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a rail-road over-bridge in lieu of level crossing near Ajit Singh Nagar at Vijayawada on Vijaywada-Howrah line has been approved by the Government;

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

(c) whether the work has been started, if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the time schedule fixed for its completion ?

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

(b) Construction of Road over-bridge in lieu of level crossing at Ajit Singh Nagar was included in the Railway's Works Programme 1987-88. Cost as per sanctioned estimate Rs. 3.05 crores Railway's share Rs. 1.44 crores and State Government's share Rs. 1.61 crores.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Work on approaches has not yet been started by State Government. Scheme was changed by them from Road under-bridge to Road over-bridge in September 1988. The estimates for road over-bridge were sanctioned in 1991. State Government has now requested for revision in estimates. The Railway has asked the State Government to furnish itemwise reasons for increase in cost. No time schedule can be fixed at this stage.

[Translation]

PADDY CULTIVATION IN M.P.

2380. **SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total areas of land covered under paddy cultivation in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the target fixed by the Government of paddy cultivation for the year 1993-94. in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether the Government have chalked out any programme in order to increase paddy production and to encourage the farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The total area under paddy cultivation was 50.98 lakh hectare in Madhya Pradesh during 1991-92.

(b) The Government of India have fixed a production target of 58.80 lakh tonnes of rice in Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94.

(c) and (d) For increasing the production of paddy, a centrally sponsored Integrated Programme for Rice Development has already in operation in the State. Through this scheme, assistance is being provided to the farmers on the use of certified seeds of High Yielding varieties. Micronutrients, Herbicides, Plant Protection chemicals, Improved Farm Implements. Plant Protection Equipments, etc. to encourage them to adopt improved rice production technology. Besides, for quick transfer of newly developed crop production technology demonstrations on farmer fields are conducted and also training is imparted to the farmers/farm labourers.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN OF GUJARAT

2381. **SHRI N. J. RATHVA** :

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

(a) whether the Government have received a plan from the Government of Gujarat for cleaning of rivers and environmental improvement of cities in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

CIVIC SERVICES UNDER C.P.A.

2382. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to bring civic services, like water supplies, health cover and house construction under the Consumer Protection Act;

(b) if so, the measures being initiated in this regard; and

(c) the names of other services proposed to be brought under this Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) The High Power Working Group, which was constituted to suggest suitable amendments to the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 to make it more effective and purposeful, had suggested to bring civic services like water supply, health cover, housing constructions under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. In the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993, the services relating to housing construction have been included in the definition of "services" to make it more clear. However, civic services like water supply, health covers which are not hired or availed of for a consideration are not covered under the Act ordinance.

[Translation]

SUPPLY OF COARSE GRAINS THROUGH P.D.S.

2383. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI :
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to supply coarse grains through Fair Price Shops under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the varieties of grains proposed to be included in the category of coarse grains; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) Allocation of Coarse grains like jowar, bajra and maize is already being made to some States for distribution through the Public Distribution System (PDS).

KHALILABAD-BALRAMPUR RAILWAY LINE

2384. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 8180 on 11-5-93 regarding railway line from Sajanwa to Balrampur and state :

(a) whether a fresh survey is proposed to be conducted in regard to length, cost and rate of return for linking Khalilabad and Balrampur via Menhidawal and Bansi;

(b) if so, by what time;

(c) whether new railway lines are laid in the country on the basis of length, cost and rate of return without taking into account the incongruous conditions and backwardness of the area; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

NATURAL CALAMITIES IN ORISSA

2385. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA
NAYAK :

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJA-
PATHI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to

Unstarred Question No. 5106 on April 6, 1993 and state :

(a) whether information regarding the natural calamities in Orissa has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be collected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c) Information sought in Unstarred Question No. 5106 on April 6, 1993, is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

STATEMENT

The details of districts and cropped area affected, damage to public properties and loss to livestock due to cyclone/floods/

hailstorm in Orissa during the last three years are given below :—

Year	Districts affected	Cropped area affected (lakh ha.)	Estimated value of damage to public property (Rs. in Crores)	Animal lost (Nos.)
1990—91	12 (Flood) 7 (Hailstorm)	3.57	644.17	21688
1991—92	11 (Flood)	6.62	446.71	1145
1992—93	12 (July Flood) 8 (August Flood) 9 (Hailstorm) 5 (Cyclone)	2.33	204.09	1408

2. The State Government has also reported that during 1992-93, 6097 villages in 11 districts sustained crop loss of 50% and above due to drought conditions.

3. In response to a Memorandum submitted by the State Government seeking additional Central assistance, a Central Team visited Orissa in December, 1990 to assess the situation in the wake of cyclone/floods. On the basis of recommendations

of the Team, Government of India had released an amount of Rs. 21.88 crores as advance from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) in addition to Central share of Rs. 35.25 crores.

4. The details of Central assistance sought by Government of Orissa and assistance provided by Government of India to the State Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) during the last three years are given below :—

Year	(Rs. in Crores)	
	Assistance Sought	Released to State (CRF)
1990—91	294.00	57.13
1991—92	249.00	29.78
1992—93	175.00	29.78

[English]

CNC MACHINES

2386. **SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of CNC (Computerised Numerically Controlled) Machine Tools imported during the last three years as part of the modernisation programme of Railway workshops, names of countries from where imported and the capital outlay involved;

(b) the number of CNC Machine Tools purchased from indigenous manufacturers during the above period; and

(c) what are the current plans of the Railways for acquisition of CNC Machine Tools during 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) A total of 23 nos. of CNC machines were imported during the last three years from Japan, Germany, France, Belgium and U.S.A. involving an outlay of Rs. 2539.87 lakhs.

(b) 29 Nos. CNC machines were procured from indigenous source.

(c) 17 CNC machines at total estimated cost of Rs. 1517 lakhs.

[Translation]

OUT AGENCIES IN GUJARAT

2387. **SHRI N. J. RATHVA** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Out Agencies in Gujarat alongwith their locations ;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up such Agencies at some more places in Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these Agencies are likely to be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Only one Out Agency is functioning at Ambaji in Banaskantha District in Gujarat.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) New Out Agencies are opened on public demand depending on traffic requirement and financial justification.

RAILWAY PROJECT IN BANGLADESH

2388. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bangladesh has requested India to construct a 132 Km. double-line stretch on the Dhaka-Chittagong section; and

(b) if so, the Government's response thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under examination.

EXCHANGE OF YOUTH DELEGATION

2389. **DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO** :

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

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

(a) whether the Government have started a plan for exchange of youth delegations at international level;

(b) if so, the total number of delegations so far sent abroad for cultural activities and the countries they have visited during the last one year;

(c) the criteria laid down for selecting youth from the States; and

(d) the total number of cultural exchange programmes between India and other countries held during the last one year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Youth Affairs & Sports sends youth delegations abroad for promotion of friendship and mutual understanding. It had sent three youth delegations to Japan during 1992-93.

(c) The criteria laid down by the inviting countries are followed. However, at the time of selecting youth delegations regional representation is given due consideration.

(d) 14 Cultural Exchange Programme between India and other countries have been signed during 1992-93.

[English]

COMMITTEE ON ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMME

2390. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Committee had been constituted by the Government for suggesting improvements in the Adult Education Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the main recommendations made by this Committee;

(e) whether these recommendations have been implemented;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) The Government has constituted an Expert Group for status-cum-impact evaluation of Literacy Campaigns and to gauge the qualitative aspects of the programme. The group is chaired by Prof. Arun Ghosh and consists of Prof. Veena Mazumdar, Prof. Andhre Beteille, Prof. U. R. Ananthmurty, Prof. S. M. Kansal and Shri Achin Vanaik.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (g) Do not arise.

IMPORT OF PLANTS AND SEEDS

2391. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to simplify quarantine procedures for import of seed and plant materials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations from the foreign seed companies in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Simplification of quarantine procedures has been taken up in a pragmatic manner. Details of simplification of procedure for import of seed and plant materials are as under :

(i) Issuance of import Permits (IPS) has been decentralised.

(ii) The Plant Quarantine clearance period in case of seeds has been reduced from 45 days to 30-35 days and in case of bulbs/tubers from 50 days to 35-40 days.

(iii) The Plants/Plant materials requiring post-entry quarantine (PEQ) condition are released within 1-3 days at the port of entry.

(iv) Tissue culture materials are released within six hours at the port of entry.

(v) The requirement of IP in case of Plants and plant materials meant for consumption and the IP & Phytosanite certificates (PSC) in case of the materials imported through foreign post channels and as air accompanied baggage has been done away.

(vi) The requirement of IP in case of the import of Mushroom Spawn culture by 100% Export Oriented Units has been dispensed with.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

LOSS OF FOODGRAINS

2392. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned, "Trainloads of foodgrains may go waste" appearing in the Pioneer dated June 19, 1993;

(b) if so, the details of the wagons loaded with foodgrains shuttled around for want of storage space; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent any wastage of foodgrains ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There has been no shuttling of foodgrains special for want of storage space. As a matter of fact that despatch instructions for planned rakes are given to the Railways well in advance. Despatch instructions are given only for those destinations which have the storage space available. Even after loading the rakes, destinations are allocated keeping in view the operational convenience and movability of type of the rakes supplied. As such, the question of shuttling of loaded rakes on FCI account does not arise.

(c) No wastage of the procured foodgrains is allowed to take place. However, due to very heavy procurement both in the Rabi and Kharif seasons, foodgrain stocks have accumulated in Punjab, Haryana and U.P.

These being the major procuring States, comfortable storage space is required to be created there before the commencement of Kharif 1993-94. The following steps have been taken to ensure clearance of stocks from the procuring States before the commencement of the Kharif 1993-94.

(i) Planning of foodgrains movement from North has been enhanced;

(ii) Zonal Managers have been advised to ensure 90% utilisation of the available storage capacity;

(iii) Storage capacity of 19.11 lakh tonnes both in covered and open has

been hired in the consuming states to accommodate the additional stocks;

(iv) Orders for approximately 13000 new polythene covers have been placed to properly cover the wheat stocks lying in the open;

(v) Punjab and Haryana Regions have been allowed to undertake road movement of wheat lying in open to Rajasthan region where additional space has been hired.

[Translation]

DRIP IRRIGATION SCHEME

2393. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of financial assistance earmarked for States under drip irrigation scheme for the year 1993-94, State-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the said assistance in view of the demand made by various States especially, Gujarat; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) An amount of Rs. 27.0 crores has been allocated for 1993-94 under Central Sector Scheme on Promotion of Use of Plastics in Agriculture which includes the component of drip irrigation. However, the State-wise outlays would be finalised only after the scheme has been approved by the competent authority.

(b) and (c) Yes. Government has proposed higher allocation in the current year subject to final clearance by the competent authority. State-wise details would be worked out subsequently.

[English]

ICDS SCHEME

2394. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary agencies alongwith their locations approved in

Karnataka to implement Integrated Child Development Services Scheme funded jointly by the World Bank and the Planning Commission;

(b) the amount proposed to be spent through voluntary agencies under ICDS Scheme during 1993-94; and

(c) the number of persons likely to be benefitted under the above scheme during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) :

(a) No voluntary agency has been approved for implementing the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme in the State of Karnataka. However, instructions have been issued to the State of Karnataka for allocating 2 ICDS projects out of 19 newly sanctioned projects during 1992-93 to registered voluntary organisations. Out of 167 sanctioned ICDS projects in Karnataka 13 projects (sanctioned during 1992-93) are being funded under Social Safety Net Adjustment Credit from the World Bank. The remaining 154 ICDS projects are being funded out of Central and State Plan funds.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the ICDS Scheme, around 16.93 lakhs beneficiaries are likely to be covered during 1993-94 in the State of Karnataka.

[Translation]

NAGBHEED-NAGPUR RAILWAY LINE

2395. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal in regard to gauge conversion of railway line from Nagbheed to Nagpur in Maharashtra is under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be finalised ?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SECOND SHIFT IN KENDRIYA VIDYALAYAS

2396. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the second shift has been introduced in some Kendriya Vidyalayas in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of such Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(c) the number of Vidyalayas where it is proposed to be introduced ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has informed that second shift system has been started in two Kendriya Vidyalayas of Bhopal and Kendriya Vidyalaya Chhatarpur in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) The proposal for introduction of Second Shift depends upon the demand and the availability of infrastructural facilities in the Vidyalayas. There is no further proposal at present.

DIRECT TRAIN BETWEEN PURULIA AND NEW DELHI

2397. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no direct train between Purulia in West Bengal and New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce any direct train between the above stations in the near future;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) to (d) 2801/2802 Puri-New Delhi Purushottam Express (tri-weekly) via Purulia has been introduced w.e.f. 2-7-93.

[English]

MISUSE OF PASSES

2398. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether railway passes are being misused in large scale;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during the last three years, zone-wise; and

(c) the action taken to stop such misuse of passes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) No, Sir. Such cases are very few.

(b) Zone-wise number of cases detected during last three years are as under :—

Railway Zone	No. of cases detected
Central	9
Eastern	7
Northern	14
North Eastern	26
North-East Frontier	—
Southern	28
South Central	20
South Eastern	12
Western	37

(c) Vigilance Organisation as well as Anti-fraud Organisation of Commercial Branch conduct surprise checks/raids frequently both in trains and Reservation Offices to prevent such cases and deterrent action is taken against the defaulting pass-holders under DAR Rules.

[Translation]

CONVERSION OF NEEMUCH-RATLAM RAILWAY LINE

2399. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated cost, funds allocated for 1993-94 and progress made so far in the gauge conversion work of Neemuch-Ratlam railway line; and

(b) the time schedule fixed for its completion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) The details are as under :—

(i) Estimated cost—Rs. 6.5 crores.

(ii) Funds allotted—Rs. 2 crores for 1993-94.

(iii) Physical progress—Preliminary work just taken up.

(b) By 1995-96, subject to availability of resources.

[English]

RANIGANJ-MEJIA RAILWAY LINE

2400. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a railway line is being constructed from Raniganj to Mejia in order to transport coal for Mejia Super Thermal Power Station;

(b) whether there is also a proposal to extend this line upto Bankura; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**"CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
LAW"**

2401. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN
THORAT :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN :

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

(a) whether the Government have re-
cently established a Centre for Environ-
mental Law (CEL) in the Capital;

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

(c) whether some more centres are pro-
posed to be established in other parts of
the country by the Government or in
collaboration with any international orga-
nisation during the Eighth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a)
and (b) No, Sir. The Centre for Environ-
mental Law has been set up by World
Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) with some
financial assistance from this Ministry:

The objectives of the Centre are to
develop a central repository of legal infor-
mation, monitoring, implementation of
Environmental Laws and organise policy
research for formulation or amendment to
Environmental Laws at National, Regional
and International levels. The Centre
intends to serve the need of India, South
Asia and developing countries in general.
The Centre will have six units—education,
networking, litigation, publication and
media, information and library units.

(c) and (d) The Government has no
plans to establish other centres for environ-
mental law either by itself or in collabo-
ration with international organisation
during the Eighth Plan.

[Translation]

**INDIAN STUDENTS IN FOREIGN
COUNTRIES**

2402. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR :

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NA-
YAK :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESO-
URCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to
state :

(a) the total number of students gone
abroad for higher studies during the last
two years, country-wise;

(b) the number of students out of
them belonging to scheduled castes/sche-
duled tribes community;

(c) whether the Union Government have
issued any directive to the Indian students
studying in foreign countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a)
and (b) A large number of students go
abroad for higher studies on individual
basis. Information for such students is
not available with the Govt. The Govt.
implements some schemes/programmes of
fellowships and scholarships for which the
information is given in the *statement* an-
nexed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

(a) Number of students gone abroad for higher studies in the two years—Country-wise, under the schemes operated in the De'tt. of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Dev.

S. No.	Country	1991-92	1992-93
1.	Arab Republic of Egypt	—	1
2.	Australia	—	12
3.	Bulgaria	1	—
4.	Canada	21	20
5.	China	9	—
6.	Czechoslovakia	5	—
7.	France	—	2
8.	Germany	10	7
9.	Hungary	1	—
10.	Ireland	2	2
11.	Indonesia	1	—
12.	Italy	9	10
13.	Japan	11	14
14.	Norway	4	8
15.	Newzealand	—	3
16.	Poland	3	—
17.	Romania	—	1
18.	Turkey	2	—
19.	U.K.	54	42
20.	U.S.A.	15	—

Number of students gone abroad during the last two years; country-wise, under the scholarship schemes operated by the Ministry of Welfare.

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	1991—92				1992—93			
		SC	ST	Ors.	Total	SC	ST	Ors.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	U. S. A.	5	3	3	11	3	3	—	6
2.	U. K.	2	2	2	6	5	3	2	10
3.	Canada	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
4.	Hungary	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
5.	Australia	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
	Total	8	6	5	19	9	6	2	17

[English]

NEW RAILWAY LINES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

2403. DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for the Kottagudem-Kovur and Kotipalli-Kakinada railway lines on South Central Railway;

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

(c) the action proposed to be taken thereon ?

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

(b) Survey carried out in 1971 for Kottagudem-Kovur and in 1987 for Kotipalli-Kakinada revealed that these lines would be unremunerative and also owing to constraint of resources these could not be considered.

(c) Owing to persistent public demand an updating of the survey for restoration of Kakinada-Kotipalli line has been taken up in 1993-94. Further consideration of this project would depend on the results of the survey and availability of resources in the coming years.

CONVERSION OF HOSPET-HUBLI RAILWAY LINE

2404. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRI-YAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated cost, funds allocated for 1993-94 and progress made so far in the gauge conversion work of Hospet-Hubli Railway line; and

(b) the time schedule fixed for its completion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) The work of conversion of Hospet-Hubli (144 kms.) has been included in the Budget 1992-93. The estimated cost of conversion of the

section is Rs. 87.62 crores. An outlay of Rs. 8 crores has been made during 1993-94. The work on long lead items like land and bridges has been taken up. Conversion of Hospet-Hubli is planned to be completed by 1995-96, subject to availability of resources.

[Translation]

PROCUREMENT OF WHEAT IN U.P.

2405. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of wheat procured in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the storage capacity of wheat is less as compared to the quantity of wheat procured this year;

(c) if so, the quantity of foodgrains destroyed during the last three years due to the lack of proper storage facilities, year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the storage capacity of foodgrains and the amount spent for this purpose during the last three years, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) The total quantity of wheat procured in U.P. by Food Corporation of India (FCI) during the last 3 years is as follows :

(Figures in lakh MTs)

1991-92	3.7
1992-93	5.0
1993-94	21.27 (upto 30-7-93)

(b) There is no separate storage capacity for wheat. However, the total storage capacity of 35.42 lakh tonnes available with FCI in U.P. as on 1-7-1993 is adequate for holding the foodgrains stocks available with the Corporation on that date.

(c) No quantity of foodgrains was destroyed during the last 3 years for lack of proper storage facilities in U.P.

(d) The present storage capacity available with FCI in U.P. is adequate. However, to meet the future requirements as also to provide food-grain storage facilities in remote, hilly and inaccessible areas, FCI proposes to construct additional

capacities at Harrewala, New Tehri, Gopeshwar, Kothwar, Chamba and Mau etc. depending upon the availability of land/funds. The amount spent by FCI for construction of its own storage capacity in U.P. during the last 3 years is as under :—

Year	Capacity (M.T.)	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)
1990—91	2500	22.16
1991—92	15000	145.00
1992—93	39310	177.72

DRCC IN MAHARASHTRA

2406. DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Divisional Railway Consultative Committees have been re-constituted in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees of 6 Divisions whose Headquarters are falling in the State of Maharashtra were constituted for a two-year term ending on 31-3-1994 and are functioning.

[English]

'NATIONAL FORESTRY ACTION PLAN WITH UNDP ASSISTANCE'

2407. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEE TOPE :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to implement a National Forestry Action Plan with the UNDP assistance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) The Government of India, appreciating the spirit of the global Tropical Forestry Action Programme, has decided to prepare its own National Forestry Action Programme (NFAP) in consonance with its National Forest Policy of 1988. The exercise, to be implemented with technical cooperation of FAO will result in :—

(i) A forestry sector review paper covering critical issues affecting forestry development in the country.

(ii) A perspective action programme for the long and mid-term for development of forestry sector at National and State level, together with a short term priority action programme for the next five years.

(iii) Integration of approaches based on local initiatives, including projects supported by external donors.

While the focus of the NFAP would be the increase in and sustainable management of forest and tree resources contributing to biodiversity and conservational and climatic needs, this will be harmonised with the national development goals.

Apart from the Government of India's contribution of Rs. 65 lacs to the scheme, US \$ 716000 are being provided as UNDP assistance. Project Document has been signed on 21-6-1993 and the formulation of NFAP has become operational from 1-7-1993. The project period is two years.

LITERACY IN DELHI

2408. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA :

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

(a) the number of illiterate persons made literate in Delhi during each of the last three years;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon during the above period year-wise;

(c) the number of persons proposed to be made literate in Delhi during 1993-94; and

(d) the funds allocated for the purpose ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Under the Adult Education Programme in Delhi the number of persons made literate during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 are 81384, 37522 and 32175 respectively.

(b) The expenditure incurred under various schemes of Adult Education during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 is Rs. 89.45, Rs. 121.46 and Rs. 71.19 lakhs respectively.

(c) 1,05,755 persons are proposed to be made literate during 1993-94.

(d) A project with an outlay of Rs. 73.91 lakhs has been approved.

[*Translation*]

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS

2409. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of trains cancelled in Maharashtra during the last one year;

(b) the number of Maharashtra bound trains which have been cancelled during the above period;

(c) the reasons for their cancellation; and

(d) the time by which these trains are likely to be restored ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) During the last one year no passenger carrying train serving Maharashtra has been cancelled permanently.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

ELECTRICITY ARRANGEMENT AT STATIONS IN U.P.

2410. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether proper electricity arrangement is not available at several second class railway stations on metre gauge lines in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to do the needful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) to (c) There are no such stations with classification as 'second class stations' on Indian Railways. However, there are 354 stations and halts in Uttar Pradesh state on metre gauge sections. Out of 354 stations/halts on metre gauge section in Uttar Pradesh state, 271 have already been provided with electricity. Of the remaining 83 stations work for electrification of 8 stations is in progress and proposal for electrification of another 9 stations is under consideration. The balance 66 stations will be taken up as and when electricity becomes available in the vicinity and subject to availability of funds.

(English)

STATIONS IN ORISSA

2411. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI ARJUN CHARAN
SETHI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) The number of railway stations identified for modernisation in Orissa;

(b) The names of stations out of them likely to be modernised during 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(c) The details of works proposed to be undertaken on major stations in the State alongwith estimated cost and time schedule fixed for the completion of the work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.
C LENKA) : (a) 31.

(b) and (c) Details of major modernisation works which have been taken up at stations in Orissa are as under :—

S. No.	Name of Station	Details of Works	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	Target Date
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. Cuttack		i) Computerisation of Passenger Reservation System	55.89	31-3-94
		ii) Train Indication Board	3.74	31-3-94
		iii) Provision of 3 bays of IRS covers on Platform No. 1	8.83	Not fixed
2. Khurda Road		i) RCC overhead tank	10.23	31-3-94
		ii) Extension and improvement of II Class waiting hall and removal of RPF Post	3.76	Not fixed
		iii) Improvement to circulating area	6.25	—do—
3. Puri		i) Provision of platform cover on Platform No. 4 & 5	3.78	31-3-94
		ii) Computerisation of Passenger Reservation System	18.98	31-3-94
		iii) Retiring Room 4 beds Dormitory 4 beds	8.70	Not fixed
4. Roukela		i) Rail level platform on Line No. 5	6.67	31-3-94
		ii) Computerisation of Passenger Reservation System	28.00	31-3-95
		iii) Provision of washable apron on Platform No. 2	32.71	31-3-94
		iv) Proposed additional Foot-over-bridge	8.86	31-3-95
		v) Improvement to passenger amenities and circulating areas	10.00	Not fixed

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
5. Jajpur Keonjhar Road	i) Provision of IRS Shed		13.30	31-3-94
	ii) Raising of platform No. 2 from rail level to high level etc.		14.79	Not fixed
	iii) Extension of existing foot-over-bridge		8.14	Not fixed
	iv) Repair to road and improvement to passengers amenities		4.97	Not fixed
	v) Provision of platform shelter on Platform No. 1 and provision of 3 Nos. retiring room (1 AC & 2 Non-AC)		17.33	Not fixed
6. Sambalpur	i) Improvement and renovation of station building.		17.94	Not fixed
	ii) Provision of new refreshment room		7.93	Not fixed
	iii) Provision of New Parcel Office.		6.71	Not fixed
7. Titlagarh	i) Provision of dormitory		5.09	Not fixed
8. Balasore	i) Raising of platform No 1, 3 and 4		11.90	Not fixed
	ii) Widening of platform		14.85	Not fixed
9. Bhubaneswar	i) Improvement to station building Phase III.		115.53	31-3-94
	ii) Provision of centralised water cooler		22.64	31-3-94
	iii) Provision of washable apron on platform No. 1 & 3		24.62	31-3-94
	iv) Parking facilities and illumination in front of new annexe building.		9.95	31-3-94
	v) Computerisation of (Passenger Reservation System.		65.89	31-3-94
	vi) Improvement of platform cover, extension of platform No 1 by 4 bays, platform shelter on Platform No. 2 & 3		13.28	Not fixed
	vii) Raising of platform No. 4 from low level to high level.		4.59	Not fixed
	viii) Boundary wall around station.		4.99	Not fixed

For 1994-95 and thereafter, similar works wherever warranted by traffic needs would be taken up subject to overall availability of funds and comparative needs of various stations.

FCI CENTRES FOR PURCHASING GROUNDNUT IN GUJARAT

2412. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India purchases Ground-nut and other commodities in Gujarat;

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(b) if so; the details of such centres in the State;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to open such centres of FCI to purchase Ground-Nut and other commodities in the State; and

(d) if so, the decision taken so far by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) Food Corporation of India does not procure groundnut. It procures wheat and coarse grain in Gujarat under price support scheme. The procurement of coarse grain/wheat in Gujarat is undertaken through Gujarat State Cooperative Marketing Federation Limited, Gujarat which operated 53 centres for procurement of wheat and coarse grain during rabi 1993-94.

(c) and (d) No request has been received to open purchase centres for procurement of Groundnut in Gujarat. However, the State Government of Gujarat has requested to undertake procurement of coarse grain in coming kharif marketing season 1993-94. FCI will take necessary steps in this regard.

ICF, MADRAS

2413. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to modernise Integral Coach Factory, Madras; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) The modernisation of Integral Coach Factory, Madras has been completed recently and, as such, there is no proposal for its further modernisation at present.

(b) Does not arise.

TILICHERY-MYSORE RAILWAY LINE

2414. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study/survey has been conducted for construction of Tellichery-Mysore railway line ;

(b) if so, when and the details of the survey report ;

(c) whether the Government have decided to construct this railway line via Wayanad district ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) A survey for new line between Tellichery-Mysore has since been taken up in 1992-93.

(c) This would depend on the results of the survey and availability of resources in the coming years.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

CATERING SERVICES IN RAJDHANI EXPRESS

2415. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI:

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given contract to provide catering services to the passengers of Rajdhani Express to some private hotels; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the tenure of the contract ?

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

(b) As a pilot project, a contract has been awarded to M/s. Nirula Corner House Ltd. Connaught Circus, New Delhi. for supply of meals to the passengers of 2954-August Kranti Rajdhani Express for a period of one year from 1-7-1993.

[English]

DISPOSAL OF OLD RAILWAY LINES

2416. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total weight and value of old railway lines received in railway stocks/

godowns during the last three years, as a result of gauge conversion of metre-gauge and narrow-gauge railway lines; and

(b) how these rails have been reutilised or disposed of?

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

GRIEVANCES REDRESSAL MACHINERY OF CENTRAL RAILWAY

2417. SHRI DHARMANNA MOND-AYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of complaints lodged with all zonal railways especially of Central Railway remained unattended for a considerable time;

(b) if so, the details for the last two years;

(c) whether there is any plan to streamline the public grievances redressal machinery; and

(d) if so, salient features thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Streamlining of the Public Grievances Redressal Machinery is a continuous process. However, the existing 3-tier Grievances Redressal Machinery at Ministry's, Zonal and Divisional levels is functioning satisfactorily and is also considered adequate.

[Translation]

WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

2418. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take steps for further expansion of Women and Child Development Schemes launched with the Central and UNICEF assistance in Bihar and other States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has taken a number of steps for further expansion of Women and Child Development Schemes with the Central as well as UNICEF assistance in Bihar and other States. As against the seventh Plan outlay of Rs. 740.62 crores for the Department of Women and Child Development, the outlay for the 8th Plan has been increased to Rs. 2000 crores. UNICEF Master Plan of operations envisages assistance of Rs. 525 crores (US \$ 175 million) under General Resources for health, nutrition and education programmes for children and women. In addition, supplementary funding up to Rs. 870 crores (US \$ 290 million) could also be available for these programmes.

During the year 1993-94, it is proposed to sanction 200 additional blocks under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, extend the Scheme of Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) to 50 more districts, and implement the Adolescent Girls Scheme-II. While the Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme (CSSM) is being implemented in all districts of the country, additional activities related to Acute Respiratory Activities (ARI) control alongwith training of medical and paramedical personnel are being expanded from 51 districts in 1992-93 to 103 districts in 1993-94, and setting-up of First Referral Units (FRUs) is being extended to another 30 Districts in 1993-94. The budget provisions for the schemes of Working Women's Hostel, Support to Employment Programme, Short Stay Homes and Education Work for Prevention of Atrocities against Women, have been increased.

Besides, the Government have set up the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh on 30-3-93 with an initial capital of Rs. 31 crores with a view to extending productive credit to poor women through Non-Governmental Organisations. A new scheme for the

welfare of Street Children has been started, which provides facilities for their health, nutrition and vocational training need. The allocation for the year 1993-94 under the Scheme is Rs. 3.00 crores.

In the State of Bihar, it is proposed to extend the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme to 23 more tribal blocks during the period 1993-94 to 1999-2000, expand the scheme of DWCRA to two more districts during 1993-94, extend the safe mother-hood component to another six districts and child survival component to another nine districts under the CSSM programme. The National Literacy Mission has approved proposals for Total Literacy Campaign in eight districts in Bihar. An UNICEF assisted Basic Education project has also been launched since 1991-92 and so far 7 districts have been covered under this Project.

STOCK LIMIT AND TIME LIMIT ON RICE

2419. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a demand for removing the stock limit and time limit imposed on rice;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Recently, no such demand has been received.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Year	SFSC, Burnihat Intake capacity	Burnihat No. of officers admitted	SFSC, Coimbatore Intake capacity	Coimbatore No. of officers admitted	SFSC, Dehradun Intake capacity	Dehradun No. of officers admitted
1992-93	40	Nil	80	20	80	17
1993-94	40	Nil	80	12	80	27

(c) and (d) Keeping in view the non-utilization of the intake capacity of the SFS College, Burnihat over the past few

[English]

STATE FOREST SERVICE COLLEGES

2420. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of State Forest Service Colleges and the intake capacity of each college;

(b) the total number of students admitted in each college during 1992-93 and 1993-94 session;

(c) whether the Government propose to wind up some of these colleges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) There are three State Forest Service Colleges located at Dehra Dun (U.P.), Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu), Burnihat (Assam). The intake capacity of the three State Forest Service Colleges is given below :

1. State Forest Service College, Dehra Dun—80
2. State Forest Service College, Coimbatore—80
3. State Forest Service College, Burnihat—40.

(b) The total number of students admitted in each of the three colleges is given below :

years, the question regarding alternative use of the college facilities is being contemplated.

NEW TRAIN BETWEEN KANYA-KUMARI AND MYSORE

2421. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a new train between Kanyakumari and Mysore via Alleppey;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to lack of traffic justification.

I.G.N.O.U.

2422. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether degree issued by the Indira Gandhi National Open University is recognised by the Delhi University;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the students of the Indira Gandhi National Open University have been given admission in various courses by the Delhi University during the year 1992-93;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) According to information furnished by the University of Delhi, its Equivalence Committee has approved the equivalence of B.A. (formal stream) and B.Com. (formal stream) of IGNOU to BA (Pass) and B.Com (Pass) Degrees of Delhi University respectively.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As the first batch of B.A./B.Com. became eligible for the award of Degrees of IGNOU only in 1993, there is no 31—724 LSS/94

question of students seeking admission on the basis of B.A./B.Com Degrees of IGNOU in University of Delhi during the year 1992-93.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

IMPORT OF EDIBLE OIL FROM U.S.A.

2423. SHRI SOBHANA DREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 47,000 tonnes of edible oil has been imported from U.S.A. and the same quantity is likely to be imported in the near future; and

(b) whether the import and release of edible oil in the market has led to crash in the prices of oilseeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) In terms of agreement signed between Government of USA and Government of India, a quantity of approximately 47,000 MT of degummed soya-bean oil was received as gift in the OY 1991-92. A supplementary agreement has been signed on 16th June 1993 with the Government of USA for accepting as gift approximately 44,000 MT of crude degummed soyabean oil during US fiscal year 1993.

(b) No, Sir. The quantity imported is too small compared to the domestic consumption to have any significant impact on the price of oilseeds/oils.

Translation

CONVERSION OF GORAKHPUR-GONDA RAILWAY LINE

2424. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum has been submitted to him by the people of Sidharth

Nagar district to convert the Gorkhpur-Gonda rail line into broad-gauge; and

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

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

(b) The Railways have formulated an Action Plan for conversion of NG/MG lines into BG. Owing to limited availability of resources, this work is being taken up in a phased manner. Conversion of Gorkhpur-Gonda MG loop into BG is included in the first phase of the Action plan and will be taken up in the coming year as per availability of resources.

WAREHOUSES IN GUJARAT

2425. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing storages/warehouses of the Food Corporation of India and the Central Warehousing Corporation in Gujarat, particularly in Vadodara, Bharuch and Panchmahals districts;

(b) whether these storages/godowns are not being maintained properly and food-grains get perished in these godowns; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The total number of existing storage godowns available with the Food Corporation of India in Gujarat as on 1-7-1993 are as under:—

	Covered	Cap	Total
FCI Owned	13	7	20
Hired from :			
State Government/Port	2	—	2
C. W. C.	9	—	9
S. W. C.	1	—	1
Pvt. Parties	6	5	11
Total	31	12	43

Particularly in Vadodra, Bharuch and Panchmahal Districts, the existing number of godowns are as under:—

	Covered	Cap	Total
VADODARA			
Owned	1	1	2
Hired from :			
C. W. C.	1	—	1
S. W. C.	1	1	4
Total	3	1	4
BHARUCH			
Owned	—	—	—
Pvt. Party	1	—	1
Total	1	—	1
PANCH MAHAL			
Owned	2	2	4
Hired	—	—	—
Total	2	2	4

Besides, CWC was, on 15-7-1993 operating 26 warehouses in the State of Gujarat including one Container Freight Station. Of the above, 4 are situated in Baroda District and one each in Bharuch and Panch Mahal Districts.

(b) All storage and godown complexes of FCI/CWC in Gujarat Region are well maintained and foodgrains are stored scientifically and preserved properly. Hence no foodgrain stocks got perished in FCI godowns except 41.772 MTs accounted against damages due to various other reasons like entry of rain water through the flap doors of the wagons during transit, spray leakage of rain water from the asbestos roof etc., in FCI during 1992-93 financial year. The percentage of damages works out to 0.01 against the average stock of 3.81 lakh tonnes stored during the year.

(c) Periodic maintenance of storage complex has been undertaken by arresting leakages from the roof before the onset of monsoon, white washing (both inside and outside) and preservation of foodgrains by arranging fortnightly prophylactic treatment and curative treatment of fumigating the stocks whenever live infestation is noticed.

[English]

"NOTIFICATION REGARDING BENZIDINE DYES"

2426. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "PMO questions ministry bid to postpone ban on carcinogenic dyes" appearing in 'The Economic Times' dated May 17, 1993 ;

(b) if so, whether clarification has been sought from his ministry on a proposal to postpone implementation of notification banning manufacture of benzidine-based dyes which have been proven to cause Cancer ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Comments of the Ministry of Environment and Forests had been sought on a memorandum received from Indian Chemical Manufacturers Association, Bombay, dated 1st September, 1992. The memorandum in question had indicated that the Gujarat Dyestuff Manufacturers Association had made a representation to defer the prohibition on the use of benzidine dyes stipulated in the Government Notification on the subject, and the Indian Chemical Manufacturers Association had opposed any proposal to extend the three year period allowed in the said notification for ensuring discontinuance of such dyes.

(d) No order or notification granting any extension in the three-year period for discontinuance of use of benzidine based dyes has been issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

ENVIRONMENTAL ORIENTATION TO SCHOOL EDUCATION

2427. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) When was the scheme of "Environmental Orientation to School Education" initiated;

(b) the main features of this scheme;

(c) whether the scheme is being implemented with cent percent Central assistance to States/Union Territories;

(d) the extent to which the scheme has been implemented in the States, particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) the number of schools covered so far under the scheme since its inception, State-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF

CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a)
In 1988-89.

(b) Infusion of environmental concepts in different subjects, review of curriculum and text-books to build in environmental information and concepts and development of innovative teaching methods and learning materials largely through voluntary agencies.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Rs. 6.55 crores have been sanctioned to 21 States and UTs for implementation of the scheme.

In so far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, a sum of Rs. 74,15,876/- has been sanctioned for taking up various program-

mes under the scheme in the following four districts :

- Ranga Reddy
- Vishakhapatnam
- East Godavari
- Chittoor

In addition, a voluntary agency, namely, M. Venkatarangaiya Foundation, Secunderabad, has been conducting various programmes under the project, "Environmental Orientation to Children of 16 Non-formal Education Centres and 4 Social Welfare Hostels" in Ranga Reddy District of Andhra Pradesh since 1990-91.

(c) A *Statement* indicating number of Schools assisted in States and Union Territories is enclosed.

Statement

S. No.	State/UT	No. of Schools
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1534
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	102
3.	Assam	300
4.	Bihar	1770
5.	Goa	1430
6.	Gujarat	5405
7.	Haryana	150
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1377
9.	Karnataka	All Primary and Upper Primary
10.	Kerala	26
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2758
12.	Maharashtra	All Primary and Upper Primary
13.	Mizoram	170
14.	Orissa	750
15.	Rajasthan	All Primary, Upper Primary, Secondary & Senior Secondary
16.	Tamil Nadu	3908
17.	Tripura	580
18.	Uttar Pradesh	6012
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	All Primary and Upper Primary
20.	Delhi	900
21.	Pondicherry	18

[Translation]

AYURVEDIC/UNANI DISPENSARIES

2428. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries are being run by this ministry any where;

(b) if so, the total number of such dispensaries;

(c) whether any facility is provided by the department to its employees/officers for medical treatment from the recognised medical practitioners in Ayurvedic or Unani system of medicines;

(d) whether medical reimbursement facility is also available to them in this behalf; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Only Ayurvedic dispensaries are being run under the aegis of Railways' Staff Benefit Fund Scheme, as a measure of Staff Welfare.

(b) Twenty-two Ayurvedic dispensaries.

(c) Facilities for consultation/provision of medicines free of cost to the extent feasible is being provided to the Railway employees/officers by the qualified Ayurvedic Physicians engaged under the prescribed scheme.

(d) and (e) Railways have adopted only Allopathic system of medicine for medical treatment. Therefore, reimbursement is not permissible for undergoing treatment in Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine.

FPS AND KEROSENE DEPOTS IN ORISSA

2429. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to reply given on 23-2-92 to USQ.

No. 137 regarding grants of licence to fair Price Shops and kerosene oil deposits in ORISSA and state :—

(a) whether the information in this regard has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Orissa has reported that 22,481 Fair Price Shops (FPS) and 170 Kerosene Oil Depots have been issued licences till 22-2-93. The number of FPS allotted to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively are 1913 and 1584. In addition, 7 kerosene oil depots were allotted to SC/ST persons. The Government of Orissa has reported that preference is given to SC/ST candidates in the matter of allotment FPS and that there is reservation for SC/ST for allotment of kerosene oil depots.

The Central Government had requested the State Governments and U. T. Administrations to give priority to cooperatives in the matter of allotment of FPS. More recently they were requested to consider reserving a certain percentage of FPSs to women and persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST) including cooperatives and other organisations of women and SC/ST.

RAILWAY PROPERTY

2430 SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the damage caused to the railway property in Maharashtra by anti-social elements during the last one year;

(b) the persons found responsible in this regard and action taken against them; and

(c) the details of the concrete steps taken to protect the railway property in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Rs. 13.80 lakhs approx.

(b) 102 persons found responsible were arrested by G.R.P. Cases against 98 persons have already been filed in the court and action against the remaining 4 persons will be taken on the basis of investigation reports.

(c) The steps such as guarding of vital installations, security arrangements at vulnerable points in co-ordination with GRP Patrolling of the track and escorting of Mail/Express trains in affected sections are taken during bandh, agitations and other disturbed conditions. Security arrangements in Railway premises are tightened in liaison with the GRP and Civil Police to protect and safeguard Railway property.

[English]

TRIBAL DIALECTS

2431. **SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL** : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any scheme for introducing tribal dialects for primary education in the Tribal areas in different States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated cost of the scheme ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) It has been the policy of the Government to provide adequate facilities for instruction in mother tongue at primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority/tribal groups where atleast 40 students in a school or 10 in a class so desire.

As school education is being managed by States, they have been following this

policy and have initiated action at their level. There is no proposal to introduce any new scheme.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

PROMOTION OF SPORTS

2432. **SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK** : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to seek the assistance of private industrial houses for promotion of sports in the country;

(b) if so, whether any policy paper has been prepared in this regard; and

(c) the response of industrial houses thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) to (c) With a view to seek assistance of private industrial houses for promotion of sports in the country, the scope of Section 55AC of the Income Tax Act 1961 has been extended to include, 'Promotion of Sports' as an item, for eligible projects, contribution to which will be entitled for 100% deduction from the taxable income of the contributor.

The Government have taken up the issue for promotion of sports with the confederation of Indian Industry and Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. These bodies have shown interest in extending assistance to the projects for Sports Promotion.

NAVODAYA VIDYALAYAS

2433. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN** : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala or any other State Government has objected to the opening of more Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the reasons for such objections;

(c) whether all the Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala have been provided the necessary infrastructure; and

(d) if not, the details of schools where infrastructure is deficient?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUM. SELJA) : (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, the State Government of Kerala has not objected to the opening of Navodaya Vidyalayas. However, the State Govts. of Tamil Nadu West Bengal have not yet opted for the scheme and as such, no Vidyalaya has so far been opened in these states.

(c) and (d) Navodaya Vidyalayas are opened only on the basis of offer of suitable proposals by the State Govt. concerned in terms of land, temporary accommodation and other infrastructural facilities for 2-3 years for running the Vidyalaya till the Samiti constructs its own buildings. The present position of construction of buildings of Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala is given in *Statement*.

Statement

THE PRESENT POSITION OF JAWAHAR NAVODAYA VIDYALAYAS IN KERALA

1. **JNV KASARGOD :** Zero phase and Phase I buildings completed. All development works and external services also completed. Phase II awarded. Work to be started.

2. **JNV CANNANORE :** Zero phase and Phase I completed. Phase-II to be started. All development works and external services completed.

3. **JNV CALICUT :** Zero phase completed. Phase I works is in progress. Additional accommodation facilities provided by construction semi permanent (S.P.) Sheds.

4. **JNV MALAPURAM :** Zero phase completed and phase I nearing completion. Development works are to be taken up by the agency. Works is in good progress at present.

5. **JNV PALGHAT :** Phase I (Part) is in progress. Development works yet to be taken up by the agency. To meet the immediate requirement S.P. Sheds sanctioned and is nearing completion.

6. **JNV TRICHUR :** Zero Phase completed. S.P. Sheds completed. Phase I works is in progress.

7. **JNV KOTTAYAM :** S.P. Sheds completed. Phase I works in progress.

8. **JNV IDDUKKI :** Land has not been transferred to the Samiti (forest land) Vidyalaya functions in the buildings handed over from K.S.E.B.

9. **JNV ERNAKULAM :** Zero Phase and Phase I works and Development works completed. Phase II nearing completion.

10. **JNV PATHANAMTHITTA :** Zero Phase completed. Phase I nearing completion. Development work in progress. Phase II works yet to be started.

11. **JNV ALLEPPEY :** Vidyalaya sanctioned in 1991-92 and functioning in the donated buildings (S.P. Type Sheds) and the works of Additional S.P. Type Sheds are in progress.

12. **JNV KOLLAM (Quilon) :** Vidyalaya opened in July 1992.

CURTAILMENT OF HALTS OF SOLAPUR-BOMBAY TRAIN

2434. **SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to minimise the duration of stoppages and curtailment of halts of train No. 1024 (Solapur-Bombay); and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

J&K ADMISSION POLICY

2435. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the J&K Government's admission policy to educational Institutions has been amended;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some seats in professional colleges have been reserved for migrant students; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) : (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected.

(c) and (d) No seats have been reserved for migrant students in any Engineering Colleges outside J&K.

SHEEP FARMING

2436. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka Government has sought the assistance from World Bank for the development of sheep farming in the State;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank has sanctioned the amount; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes Sir, Karnataka Government has sought assistance under Agricultural Development Programme from World Bank in which one of the components on the Project is of Animal Husbandry sector, mainly for the development of Sheep Farming in the State.

(b) and (c) The Karnataka Agricultural Development Project is presently under formulation. The Project has been pre-appraised by a World Bank mission in May, 1993; final appraisal of the Project

is likely in September, 1993 and it is expected that it would be negotiated with World Bank 3-4 months thereafter.

SCIENCE EDUCATION

2437. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Improvement of Science Education in Schools' was started in 1987-88;

(b) if so, the main objectives of this scheme;

(c) whether the scheme has been introduced in various States, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the achievements made so far under this scheme, State-wise; and

(e) the break-up of the total amount provided to Andhra Pradesh since the inception of the scheme year-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The specific objectives of the scheme are : Strengthening laboratory and library facilities in schools, teachers training and involving voluntary organisations for innovations in science education at school level.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A statement is enclosed.

(e) The year-wise break-up of the total amount provided to Andhra Pradesh since the inception of the scheme is as under :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount (Rs.)</i>
1987-88	99,25,000/-
1988-89	1,07,15,130/-
1989-90	4,00,37,400/-
1990-91	1,32,25,310/-
1991-92	93,95,890/-
Total	8,32,98,730/-

Statement

ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER SCIENCE EDUCATION SCHEME

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of institutions covered			
		Upper primary Schools (Science kits)	Secondary/Sr. Sec. School Upgradation of labs	Supply of library books	Setting up of District Resource Centres
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4,785	1,248	1,023	23
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	35	—	22	—
3.	Assam	1,909	771	811	—
4.	Bihar	4,000	1,200	1,200	11
5.	Goa	451	335	335	2
6.	Gujarat	488	370	370	5
7.	Haryana	1,005	1,040	1,040	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1,437	1,146	1,138	12
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2,290	1,161	1,161	9
10.	Karnataka	10,869	2,908	2,908	8
11.	Kerala	2,699	1,418	1,418	2
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6,291	650	625	—
13.	Maharashtra	8,367	3,385	3,385	9
14.	Manipur	209	204	205	4
15.	Meghalaya	200	40	40	—
16.	Mizoram	587	237	237	3
17.	Nagaland	151	44	56	3
18.	Orissa	3,494	1,437	1,747	8
19.	Punjab	2,557	2,452	2,632	12
20.	Rajasthan	6,087	2,248	2,248	21
21.	Sikkim	188	66	66	2
22.	Tamil Nadu	5,150	3,302	1,302	19
23.	Tripura	100	75	75	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3,359	1,337	1,337	36
25.	West Bengal	506	803	803	9
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	100	64	64	2
27.	Chandigarh	13	63	63	1
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	26	10	10	1
29.	Delhi	262	564	596	4
30.	Daman & Diu	30	17	17	2
31.	Lakshadweep	13	9	9	—
32.	Pondicherry	89	82	82	1

CRUSHING CAPACITY OF SUGAR MILLS

2438. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study conducted by the Centre of Advanced Development Research has revealed that the existing crushing capacity of the Sugar Mills is inadequate resulting in heavy loss to the Sugar Industry;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the present crushing capacities of these mills in order to overcome the loss; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) It is a fact that at present only about half of the cane production is utilised by the vacuum pan sugar industry for the manufacture of sugar. The remaining cane is utilised for the manufacture of Khandsari and Gur, as also for seed, chewing etc.

(b) and (c) The present licensed capacity of sugar industry is 175.79 lakh tonnes. The target of licensed capacity to be achieved by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan period, i.e. 1996-97 is 198.67 lakh tonnes.

In order to increase the crushing capacity, the Government has initiated the following measures :—

(i) Processing of pending applications for grant of letters of Intent/Industrial licences for establishment of new sugar factories/expansion projects has been taken up on priority to achieve the aforesaid target of licensed capacity.

(ii) The procedure for grant of Letters of Intent for expansion projects has been liberalised.

(iii) A revised Incentive Scheme has been announced for new sugar units/expansion projects in order to enable them to repay the term loans taken from the financial institutions.

(iv) The molasses produced by sugar factories has been decontrolled which would improve the economic viability of sugar factories thereby enabling the existing units to carry out expansion and also induce entrepreneurs to set up new factories.

(v) Financial assistance at a concessional rate of interest is provided from Sugar Development Fund for modernisation/rehabilitation/expansion of the existing units.

[Translation]

NATIONAL PARK IN RAJASTHAN

2439. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI :
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN :

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

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal to make a National Park by merging three sanctuaries for the preservation and promotion of wild life and rehabilitation of tigers in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) The Government of India have not received any proposal for merging three wild life Sanctuaries in Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

THEFT OF COAL AND BOOKED CONSIGNMENTS

2440. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of cases of thefts from coal wagons and booked consignments in Maharashtra during the last one year;

(b) the number of persons arrested and the value of goods recovered from them; and

(c) the concrete steps taken to check such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C.

	No. of cases	Value of property recovered	Persons arrested
Theft of coal from wagons	205	Rs. 10,400	215
Thefts of booked consignments	622	Rs. 2,78,580	110

(c) The following steps are being taken to check such incidents in future :—

1. Escorting of trains carrying valuable and important consignments as far as possible.

2. Intensive beat patrolling in yards and other vulnerable areas/sections.

3. Joint checking at interchange points to take stock of the condition of wagons carrying consignments vulnerable to theft etc. for localising the place of occurrence.

4. RPF armed pickets are posted/ deployed in vulnerable sections as far as possible.

5. Plain clothed RPF personnel are also deployed to collect crime in elligence with a view to tracking down the criminals and receivers of the stolen railway property.

6. Dog squads are deployed for patrolling in vulnerable yards and areas as per their availability.

7. Close co-ordination between the RPF, the GRP and local police is maintained at various levels to deal with criminals and receivers of stolen property.

[English]

ZONAL CULTURAL CENTRES

2441. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

LENKA) : (a) and (b) The number of cases of thefts from coal wagons and booked consignments, property recovered and persons arrested in Maharashtra during 1992-93 is as under :—

(a) whether the Government have received the report on the working of the Zonal Cultural Centres set up in different Zones of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the report has given any suggestion to improve the working of the centres; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) The Government has not set up any committee to report on the working of Zonal Cultural Centres. However, the High-Powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri P. N. Haksar to review the working of the National Academies has recommended that the Zonal Cultural Centres should have closer links with the National Academies and their counterparts in the States and Union Territories. They should also set aside a substantial portion of their resources for the creation of infrastructure facilities for cultural activities and take up documentation and dissemination of authentic folk art forms.

(d) The Haksar Committee recommendations regarding the Zonal Cultural Centres have been accepted by the Government.

ALLOCATION OF EDIBLE OIL TO GUJARAT

2442. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a shortage of edible oil in Gujarat resulting in higher prices;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted any demand for allocation of imported edible oil; and

(c) if so, the monthly demand of the State and allocation of edible oil made during 1992-93 and 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED):

(a) No shortage of edible oils has been reported by the State Government in Gujarat. The prices of edible oils are lower than those prevailed in the corresponding period last year.

(b) and (c) Government of Gujarat had demanded edible oils to the extent of 8000 MTs a month for the year 1992 upto October. No specific demand for edible oil has been received thereafter. A quantity of 6150 MTs imported palmolein was allocated to Gujarat during the financial year 1992-93. No allocation has been made during the current financial year.

ARASIKERE-HASSAN BROAD GAUGE RAILWAY LINE

2443. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for laying of broad-gauge railway line between Arasikere and Hassan;

(b) if so, whether the Government have started the construction work of this railway line;

(c) the estimated cost of the project and the amount provided for the above work during 1992-93; and

(d) the time schedule fixed for its completion ?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The approximate cost of this work will be Rs. 176 crores. No outlay was provided in 1992-93.

(d) Work is yet to be included in the budget and therefore the time schedule for completion is not yet fixed.

MARKET INTERVENTION OPERATION FOR VEGETABLE OIL

2444. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee under the chairmanship of Shri P. V. Desai, Chairman, Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has recommended some measures to contain losses under Market Intervention Operation for vegetable oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on recommendations made of the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Committee, in order to contain losses in future under Market Intervention operation (MIO), recommended that consumer prices of "Dhara" oil at retail end under MIO should be fixed only on commercial considerations and a ceiling may be prescribed on Government obligations towards recoupment of losses under MIO.

(c) The Empowered Committee on Oil-seeds Policy (ECOP) considered the divergent views expressed by the members of the "Desai Committee" on various aspects of the matter and recommended that the losses suffered by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) in MIO may

be reimbursed after obtaining approval of Government. ECOP has also recommended modified terms and conditions for MIO in FY 1993-94 limiting the Government's liability to reimburse the losses on MIO to NDDB.

NRI/FOREIGN INVESTMENT

2445. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI :

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to seek investment from NRIs and other foreign investing agencies for expansion/development of Railways;

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

(c) the response received so far from the NRIs/other foreign investing agencies ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

NEW COACHES

2446. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of passenger coaches required during the 7th Five Year Plan period zone-wise;

(b) the number of coaches made available during that period zone-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken to fill the gap between requirement and availability ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Requirement of passenger coaches for a 5-year plan is worked out for the Indian Railways as a whole and not for the Zonal Railways separately. During the VII 5-year plan the requirement was assessed as 12,914 coaches.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) A Rail Coach Factory with a production capacity of 1000 coaches per annum has been set up at Kapurthala.

Statement

(b) Zone-wise allotment of new coaches during VII five year plan is given below :—

Zonal Railway	Number of coaches
Central	556
Eastern	583
Northern	1566
North-Eastern	574
Northeast Frontier	283
Southern	878
South Central	593
South Eastern	530
Western	727
	6290

"KAYAMKULAM HYDRO ELECTRIC AND SILENT VALLEY PROJECT"

2447. SHRI P. C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kayamkulam Hydro Electric and Silent Valley Projects of Kerala have been accorded clearance by his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have received any representation from the State of Kerala in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) While Kayamkulam Hydroelectric Project has not so far been referred for

environmental clearance. the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project was accorded environmental clearance in April, 1992. The Silent Valley Project of Kerala, however, was not approved due to its location in ecologically sensitive areas of the Western Ghats. No proposal for these two schemes have been received under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) Since the revised Silent Valley Scheme was also proposed in the same area the State Government was advised to explore alternative site outside the Virgin Valley.

MOVEMENT OF RICE AMONG STATES

2448. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have asked the State Governments to give their consent for scrapping of the Inter-State rice transport regulations to facilitate free movement of rice among the States :

(b) if so, the States which have already given their consent :

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has given its consent ; and

(d) what the action proposed to be taken against those States who have declined to give their consent to above regulation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (d) According to the present policy of the Central Government, the entire country is treated as a single food zone for inter-state and intra-state movement of foodgrains (wheat, paddy, levy-free rice, coarsegrains and pulses). On 26-3-93, all the State Governments/UT Administration were informed of this national policy of treating the entire country as a single zone. They were requested to ensure that there were no impediments in the movement of foodgrains. They were also advised to remove statutory restrictive provisions which may be

impeding the inter-state and intra-state movement of foodgrains by sending formal proposals to Government of India for obtaining prior concurrence under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. In response to this, Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Orissa, Pondicherry, Rajasthan and West Bengal have informed that they have some sort of movement restrictions on foodgrains. These States are being requested again to remove the existing restrictions on movement of foodgrains so as to fall in line with the national policy of free movement of foodgrains throughout the country. Reply from the Governments of, Tamil Nadu, Nagaland, Jammu & Kashmir, A & N Islands, Dadra Nagar Haveli, Chandigarh Administration and Lakshadweep has not been received and they have been reminded. The remaining States & UTs have informed that they have no restrictions on movement of foodgrains.

WAREHOUSES IN SRINAGAR

2449. MAJ. GEN. (RETD). BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to reply given to unstarred Question No. 3376 on December 11, 1991, and state :

(a) whether the proposed construction of 5000 MT capacity Warehouse at Srinagar in district Pauri Garhwal has been completed ;

(b) if so, the details thereof :

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (d) Tenders have been invited by Central Warehousing Corporation for the construction of the godowns of 5000 MT capacity at Srinagar in district Pauri Garhwal. As soon as the tenders are finalised the construction work will be taken up and the work is expected to be completed by December, 1994.

[Translation]

JAMRANI BANDH PROJECT

2450. **SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA** : Will the Minister of **ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jamrani Project in Nainital district of Uttar Pradesh has been cleared by his Ministry ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) The Jamrani Project was rejected from Environmental angle in December, 1992 due to non-submission of comprehensive Environmental Management Plan by the project authorities. As regards diversion of forest land, formal proposals have only been received in July, 1993.

[English]

FOODGRAINS HANDLED BY FCI

2451. **SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN** : Will the Minister of **FOOD** be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of foodgrains handled by the FCI during each of the year 1989-90, 1990-91, 1991-92 and break up of different types of foodgrains handled ;

(b) the handling charges incurred by the FCI per tonne of the wheat, rice and other foodgrains, if any ; and

(c) the handling charges as percentage of profit or loss incurred by the FCI during these years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) The details are as under :—

(Quantity in Lakh Tonnes)

Year	Wheat		Rice	
	Purchase	Sales	Purchase	Sales
1989—90	84.61	77.27	109.28	76.32
1990—91	102.16	88.93	188.61	81.19
1991—92	84.94	107.87	93.80	105.76

(b) Handling charges incurred by Food Corporation of India for loading/unloading operations on wheat, rice during the period from 1989-90 to 1991-92 are as under :

(Rs. / Tonne)

Year	Wheat	Rice
1989—90	78.00	78.00
1990—91	83.70	83.70
1991—92	95.60	95.60

(c) As the FCI handles foodgrains for Public Distribution System on behalf of Government of India at prices fixed by Government of India for purchase as well as sale, the question of profit or loss does not arise.

STUDY OF U.S. NATIONAL CENTRE FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

2452. **SHRI SRIKANTA JENA** :
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI SHARVAN KUMAR PATEL :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "India may face more floods, drought : Study" appearing in the *Economic Times* dated June 7, 1993 ;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the study of the United State National

Centre for Atmospheric Research, Colorado (USA) predicting that the country would face more floods and droughts despite greater rainfall;

(c) if so, whether the Government have made any analytic study of the report; and

(d) if so, the details thereof stating the regions likely to face more floods and drought; and

(e) the preventive measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) to (d) The studies conducted by US National Centre for Atmospheric Research is on Asian summer monsoon under doubled carbon-dioxide conditions with a global coupled ocean-atmosphere climate model. Their studies have shown an increase in monsoon precipitation by 6.3% under doubled carbon dioxide conditions. This lies within the natural variability of the south west monsoon's rainfall. Thus, inference brought out in the study has limited practical significance. Moreover, such model studies are more relevant in the context of establishing the dependability of the model rather than actual predictions at this stage, as applicability of such models is yet to be established.

(e) Does not arise at this stage.

EFFECT OF RAINFALL ON FOOD-GRAIN PRODUCTION

2453. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

SHRI ANNA JOSHI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the States where there has not been sufficient rainfall during the current monsoon;

(b) the extent of foodgrain production likely to be affected as a result thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[*Translation*]

PRODUCTION OF MAKHANA

2454. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Euryle Forex (Makhana) producing farmers in different areas of Bihar;

(b) whether the Government are formulating any scheme for providing adequate remunerative price of Makhana to these farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c) The Government announces each season, minimum support prices for 22 major agricultural commodities, which are of all-India importance. These support prices are uniformly applicable to the entire country.

For commodities not covered under the Government's price policy for agricultural commodities the Government arranges for market intervention operations if a specific request to that effect is received from the concerned State Government on the mutually agreed terms and conditions.

POLLUTION IN GANGA AND YAMUNA

**2456. SHRI RAM BADAN :
SHRI SIMON MARANDI :**

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

(a) the number of samples taken at various places in Ganga and Yamuna during the last three years;

(b) the details of polluting elements detected during testing of such samples

and the extent upto which, they are not found harmful for human use; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred so far on the related work plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) The samples are collected from 27 locations on river Ganga and 13 locations from river Yamuna for analysis of various

Name of the Pollutant	Maximum Levels Detected	Prescribed Safe Levels
Cadmium	1.478	0.005 Miligram per ltr.
Chromium	3.742	0.050 "
Lead	0.630	0.050 "
Mercury ,	10.00	0.001 "

(c) On the work of collection and analysis of water samples, the Ministry of Environment & Forests and the Central Pollution Control Board have spent a sum of Rs. 56.46 lakhs. Information about expenditure incurred by the Central Water Commission is being collected.

[English]

STORAGE CAPACITY OF FCI IN BIHAR

2457. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has acquired requisite storage capacity for foodgrains in Bihar;

(b) whether the Food Corporation of India is utilising its full storage capacity of its godowns in various areas;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to increase the storage capacity during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALAP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The total storage capacity (Owned and Hired) available with the Food Corporation of India

pollutants. 2178 samples from these rivers were drawn and analysed during the last 3 years.

(b) The polluting elements detected in some stretches of the river in the water samples are Cadmium, Chromium, Mercury and Lead amongst the Heavy Metals. The maximum levels of these elements detected in the water samples and their safe levels as prescribed by WHO for drinking purposes are as follows :

(FCI) in Bihar as on 1-7-1993 was 5.85 lakh tonnes, against which the stocks held were 3.24 lakh tonnes.

(b) and (c) The utilisation of storage capacity in Bihar as on 1-7-1993 was 55%. The low utilisation in East Zone including Bihar is due to constraints in rail movement and labour problems.

(d) Although the capacity available is adequate on a macro level, FCI would consider proposals for additional storage capacity to remove regional imbalances and to cater to the needs of backward and inaccessible areas. However, such construction would depend on the socio-economic viability and be subject to availability of suitable land and funds etc.

SUGAR MILLS IN UTTAR PRADESH

2458. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether licence for increasing present crushing capacity upto 2500 TCD of Meerut and Shahganj Sugar Mills of Uttar Pradesh is pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALAP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) The proposal for grant of Letter of Intent/Industrial Licence for effecting substantial expansion in the existing sugar factory at Meerut upto 2500 TCD was considered by the Ministry of Food and it was decided to recommend grant of a Letter of Intent in favour of U.P. State Sugar Corporation Ltd., Unit Meerut, for establishing a re-structured/new unit at a new location in its area of operation, away from the city limits, with a capacity of 2500 TCD by closing down the existing sugar factory at Meerut. Thereafter, the views of the State Government in regard to the new location as well as the closing down of the existing unit at Meerut were asked for. No reply has so far been received.

The proposal for grant of Letter of Intent/Industrial Licence to Shahganj Sugar Mills for effecting substantial expansion upto 2500 TCD was also considered by the Ministry of Food. The views of this Ministry have already been communicated to the Department of Industrial Development for taking a final decision in the matter.

DISTRICT MILK UNION IN KARNATAKA

2459. SHRI CHANDRA PRABHARS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought any financial assistance from the Union Government for setting up of District Milk Union in the State ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

LOSS IN FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

2460. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARARAO VADOE : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the losses incurred by the Food Corporation of India on handling of Rice and Wheat during each of the last three years ;

(b) whether an indepth study has been made to find out the main reason for the losses ;

(c) the steps taken to prevent/minimise the losses; and

(d) the action taken against erring officials responsible for the losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) The transit and storage losses incurred by FCI during the period from 1989-90 to 1991-92 are indicated in *Statement I*. Losses incurred during 1992-93 are yet to be determined.

(b) The shortages generally occur on account of driage, metabolic changes, insect, mould or fungal attack, bird and rodent trouble especially when stored in CAP storage, multiple handling, different mode of weighment at the time of receipt and despatch, movement in open wagons and due to transhipment of wagons.

(c) FCI has taken various measures to prevent/minimise the losses. Some of the important measures taken in this regard are :—

(i) Strict enforcement of quality specifications relating to moisture during procurement of foodgrains ;

(ii) Reduction in the quantum of foodgrains filled in each bag ;

(iii) Installation of weighbridges in depots having capacity of 5000 tonnes or more ;

(iv) Minimising the use of open wagons;

(v) Augmentation of covered storage tightening of security at depots, intensifying surprise checks, ensuring regular stock verification etc.

(vi) Augmentation of covered storage capacity ;

(vii) Encouraging machine stitching of bags.

(viii) Installation of inmotion wagon weighbridges at Sahnewal, Panipat, Naraina and Dhankuni.

(ix) Installation of Electronic weigh-bridges at many places.

(xi) Regular inspection of depots by SRM.

(x) Induction of CISF at vulnerable depots.

(d) Details of the action taken are indicated in *Statement II*.

Statement I

STORAGE LOSS :	W H E A T			R I C E		
	Quantity (Gain)	Value	%age of loss to Sales+ transfer out (Qty.)	Quantity of loss	Value	%age of loss to Sales+ transfer out (Qty)
1989-90	(-) 0.26	(-) 7.47	(-) 0.15	0.70	23.21	0.42
1990-91	(-) 0.24	(-) 6.90	(-) 0.12	1.03	37.90	0.58
1991-92	(-) 0.09	(-) 2.87	(-) 0.04	1.57	63.40	0.72

TRANSIT LOSS :

Year	W H E A T			R I C E		
	Qty. of loss	Value	%age of loss to Qty. moved	Qty. of loss	Value	%age of loss to quantity moved
1989-90	1.15	26.58	1.17	1.22	40.87	1.39
1990-91	1.71	45.71	1.56	1.71	63.72	1.80
1991-92	1.99	59.25	1.84	2.12	87.10	1.94

Statement II

The category-wise details of cases against employees of the Corporation during the last 3 years is given as under :—

CATEGORY	C A S E S		
	1991	1992	1993 (Upto June)
1. Acceptance of illegal gratification/possession of disproportionate assets.	63	57	46
2. Misappropriation of Foodgrains	210	211	215
3. Defaultation of accounts misappropriation	45	61	64
4. Shortages/losses	181	206	164
5. Misappropriation of dead stocks/construction of godowns.	49	45	84
6. Purchase of sub-standard stocks	199	236	133
7. Award of Handling and Transport Contract	33	34	36
8. Admn. lapses/Misc.	74	88	72
9. Transit Storage losses.	6	4	6
	860	942	820

Nature of penalties imposed on the delinquent officials during the last 3 years is as under :—

Nature of Penalty Imposed	1991	1992	1993 (Upto June)
(i) Dismissal/Removal/Compulsorily Retired	12	14	5
(ii) Reduction in Rank	23	18	13
(iii) Reduction in Time Scale of Pay	45	41	24
(iv) Withholding of increment/Recovery from Pay	173	166	258
(v) With holding Promotion	20	3	—
(vi) Censure	87	69	110
	360	311	410

DAMAGE OF RICE IN PUNJAB

2461. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge quantities of wheat and rice procured by the Food Corporation of India have been damaged by floods in various districts of Punjab as reported in the Economic Times dated July 26, 1993 ;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made of the actual losses so suffered by the Food Corporation of India as a result of floods and other calamities :

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by the Government to accommodate these stocks with the storage facilities available in Punjab ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Due to unprecedented rains and floods from the 11th to 19th July, 1993 in Punjab, wheat and rice stocks stored in some storage complexes of Ropar, Patiala, Ludhiana, Sangrur, Amritsar, Kapurthala and Ferozepur

Revenue Districts got affected. The details are given in *Statement*.

(b) and (c) The actual loss suffered due to floods will be known after the segregation, salvaging and disposal operations of damaged stocks are completed. It cannot be precisely quantified for the present unless all operations are completed.

(d) The following steps were taken to accommodate the stocks with storage facilities available in Punjab and other regions :—

(i) Expedited movement of stocks to consuming areas to clear the centres where stocks were stored temporarily.

(ii) The sound stocks were segregated from the flood affected stocks and moved to safer places for further aeration, preservation and storage.

(iii) The affected stocks are being salvaged by segregation, drying, aeration etc., to arrest further deterioration.

(iv) Movement of foodgrains from one place to another is done in covered wagons as far as possible. Whenever stocks are moved in open wagons the same are covered properly with tarpaulins to avoid damages in transit.

Statement

	Approximate quantity affected		Approx. qty. likely to be retrieved as sound/FAO after segregation/salvaging/drying.		Approx. qty. likely to be declared damaged after salvaging/drying/segregation/areation operations	
	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
FCI	3246	29680	2100	1400	1146	28280
Agencies	89000	—	63000	—	26000	—
Total	92246	29680	65100	1400	27146	28280

The above stocks are mostly of Kharif and Rabi Crops years of 1992—93 and 1993—94.

**INDO-ISRAEL AGRICULTURAL
CO-OPERATION**

2462. **SHRI SARAT CHANDRA
PATTANAYAK :**
SHRI RAM KAPSE :

Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Memorandum of Understanding on agricultural co-operation has been signed with Israel recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether promotion of drip irrigation scheme has also been included in the MOU ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
ARVIND NETAM) :** (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a Memorandum of Understanding between India and Israel is under discussion for strengthening mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of agriculture.

(c) and (d) The proposed cooperation between the two countries will inter-alia, include activities in the field of water and soil management including use of advanced irrigation systems, such as drip/sprinkler irrigation.

**COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL YOUTH
PROGRAMMES**

2463. **SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMA-
IAH :** Will the Minister of **HUMAN RE-
SOURCE DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to
state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Committee for National Youth Programmes ;

(b) if so the main aims and objectives of this committee ;

(c) the details of recommendations made so far by this committee ; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) :** (a) Govern-
ment has passed the Resolution constitut-
ing the Committee for National Youth Pro-
grammes.

(b) (i) To suggest policy measures and programmes for youth.

(ii) To advise the Government on measures for the implementation of the Plan of Action of the National Youth Policy.

(iii) Review the coordination between various departments of Central/State Governments and all voluntary organisations/other Agencies involved therein; and

(iv) Provide a feedback on the implementation of the National Youth Programmes.

(c) and (d) The members on this Committee are yet to be nominated and therefore, the same is yet to be functional. It has, therefore, not so far made any recommendations.

'CLASS' PROJECT

2464. SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (Class) Project was initiated in 1984-85 jointly by Departments of Electronics and Education;

(b) if so, the main objectives of the project;

(c) the number of schools benefited therefrom so far, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which such facility is likely to be provided to the remaining schools in the States, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) The Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) Project was initiated in 1984-85 jointly by the Departments of Electronics and Education with the objective of providing, to the Secondary level students, a broad understanding of Computers and their use and "hands-on" experience and to "demystify" Computers. From 1984-85 to 1989-90 a total of 2598 Secondary/Sr. Secondary Schools were covered under the Project. No new schools have been added since 1990-91. The number of schools covered under the Project, State/UT wise is given in the statement attached. During the 8th Plan, a modified strategy is likely to be adopted for which a budget provision of Rs. 146

crores has been suggested. With this provision, it will not be possible to cover more than 1500 Senior Secondary Schools in the country. To cover all the schools in the country, considerable time and resources are required. The schools will, therefore, be covered in a phased manner depending upon the availability of resources in the subsequent Plan periods.

Statement

Number of Schools Provided with Computers under the Class Project-State/UT-wise.

S. No.	Name of State/UT	Number of schools covered
1.	Andhra Pradesh	159
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11
3.	Assam	112
4.	Bihar	150
5.	Gujarat	153
6.	Haryana	64
7.	Himachal Pradesh	39
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	52
9.	Karnataka	140
10.	Kerala	104
11.	Madhya Pradesh	145
12.	Maharashtra	237
13.	Manipur	12
14.	Meghalaya	13
15.	Mizoram	10
16.	Nagaland	14
17.	Orissa	126
18.	Punjab	116
19.	Rajasthan	120
20.	Sikkim	12
21.	Tamil Nadu	155
22.	Tripura	12
23.	Uttar Pradesh	276
24.	West Bengal	228
25.	A&N Island	9
26.	Chandigarh	11
27.	Goa	13
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6
29.	Delhi Admn.	80
30.	Lakshadweep	9
31.	Pondicherry	9
32.	Daman & Diu	1

SUBARNAREKHA BARRAGE PROJECT

2465. **SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :**
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

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

(a) whether the Subarnarekha Barrage Project of West Bengal has been cleared by his Ministry from Environment and Forest angles ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) The Subarnarekha Barrage Project of West Bengal was rejected from environmental angle in July, 1989 due to non-submission of necessary Environmental Action Plans. The project does not involve diversion of any forest land and as such no clearance from forestry aspect would be required.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FERTILISERS

2466. **SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :**

Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Joint Committee on Fertilizers in its recent report have made some recommendations to the Government ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement their recommendations in toto ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) The Joint Parliamentary Committee on Fertilizer Pricing had submitted recommendations relating to the Ministries of Agriculture, Chemicals & Fertilizers, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Coal, Finance, Railways, Mines and Non-conventional Energy Sources, in its Report presented to Parliament on 20th August, 1992.

(c) and (d) Ministries of Agriculture, Chemicals & Fertilizers, Mines, Railways and the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources have accepted the recommendations for implementation. Ministry of Finance has implemented most of the recommendations whereas Ministry of Petroleum and Ministry of Coal have not been able to implement the recommendations pertaining to them citing techno-economic constraints.

SUBSIDY ON PHOSPHATIC FERTILIZERS

2467. **SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :**
Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently taken a decision regarding higher subsidy on phosphatic fertilizers ;

(b) if so, the quantum and amount of subsidy announced/proposed to be announced on the phosphatic fertilizers ; and

(c) the details of the subsidy announced by the Government on various types of fertilizers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c) The sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers, with concession to the farmers which was initiated in Rabi 1992-93 is being continued in 1993-94, with no change in the rate of concession for DAP, MOP and Complexes. However, SSP has been included in the current year's scheme. The details are as follows :—

Product	Rate of Concession
	(Rs. per tonne)
indigenous DAP	1000/-
MOP	1000/-
indigenous Complexes	435-9990-
SSP	340/-

**SUBSIDY ON NON-NITROGENOUS
FERTILIZERS**

2468. **SHRI D. VENKATESWARA**

RAO :

SHRI BOLLA BULLI

RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been urged to take final decision on the modalities to be adopted for the disbursement of subsidies on non-nitrogenous ;

(b) whether modalities on fertilizers subsidies disbursement has been considered ;

(c) if so, whether the Government have considered the view of State Government in this regard ;

(d) if so, the time by which these modalities are likely to be finalised ; and

(e) the extent to which it is likely to be beneficial to the farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (e) The scheme for concessional sale of decontrolled fertilizers to the farmers initiated in Rabi 1992-93 is being continued in 1993-94 with a provision of Rs. 756 crores comprising Rs. 356 crores for Kharif 1993 and Rs. 400 crores for Rabi 1993-94. The rate of concession will be Rs. 1000/- per tonne each for MOP and indigenous DAP, Rs. 340/- per tonne for SSP and between Rs. 435-999/- per tonne for indigenous Complexes. Detailed guidelines for implementation of the scheme during Kharif 1993 together with the funds earmarked for Kharif 1993 has already been intimated to all the concerned States/Union Territories. The amount earmarked for different States/Union Territories for Kharif 1993 is based on the requirements projected by them and their past trend of consumption.

PRESERVATIVES AND FOOD ADDITIVES FOR ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY PRODUCTS

2469. **SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to

refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 4125 given on August 4, 1992 and state :

(a) the findings of the Technical Committee on the presence of artificial colours and flavours which are deleterious to human health ; and

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) The criteria for Eco-labelling of Food Additives under the Scheme on Labelling of Environment Friendly Products has been notified on 15th February, 1993 for filing objections.

**BACTERIA AS SUBSTITUTE FOR
FERTILIZER**

2470. **SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether bacteria can provide a viable solution to the vexed problem of cutting down fertilizer subsidy as reported in the 'Business Standard' Calcutta dated July 12, 1993 ;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ; and

(c) the steps taken to explore the possibilities of developing these bacteria ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c) Bacteria or Bio-fertilizer serve as a good supplementary source of some of the nutrients required by crops. However, Bio-fertilizer cannot totally replace inorganic fertilizers meeting the entire nutritional requirements of various crops thereby making a substantial impact on the quantum of fertilizer subsidy. Bio-fertilizer usage is being promoted as they are cost effective, eco-friendly, contribute to soil health. The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a National Project for Bio-fertilizer for production, distribution and promotion. Research on improved strains of Bio-fertilizer etc. are being taken up by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and the Department of Bio-technology.

12.00 hrs.

RE : BOMB BLAST AT THE RSS
HEADQUARTERS IN MADRAS ON
8-8-93

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention as well as the attention of the House to the tragic bomb-blast that occurred at the RSS Headquarters in Madras on 8th August. Eleven innocent persons were killed and many injured in this explosion. This explosion is also a part of Bombay and Calcutta bomb blasts and similar to those explosions. Whatever happened in the office of RSS in Madras is the work of the external forces. That is why we have demanded for a CBI inquiry into it and punish the persons responsible for it. We are demanding a CBI inquiry into it because there is also possibility that the persons involved in this conspiracy are from outside Tamilnadu. (Interruptions)

The terrorist activities are increasing because of the criminalisation of politics in the country. The Government may please clarify as to whether it had prior information about the smuggling of RDX explosives in Tamilnadu and if so, what action was taken by the Government? Had the Central Government exposed the conspiratorial alliance for bomb blasts between the mafia and the international gangs and arrested them, the recent bomb blast could have been averted.

I have one another point to raise that Parni Baba, the leader of the Jihad movement in his speech—as referred to in the newspapers recently—threatened to blow off the RSS office and 'Kanchhi Math'. It was not a mere threat but some persons were working in this direction. A bomb blast has already occurred at the RSS office and I would like to say that 'Kanchhi Math' should be saved... (Interruptions)

...

An international agency has been involved in the Madras bomb explosions, and they want to destroy the unity and integrity of the country. Therefore, I would like the Government to give a statement

on it and save the country. I would also like to know the measures being taken by the Government to check the tendency of criminalisation in politics in the country.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Is the Government interested in responding to it? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Anbarasu Era to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you after him.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

AN HON. MEMBER : A CBI inquiry should be conducted into it.

MR. SPEAKER : Look, there is no use to speak like this.

[English]

SHRI ANBARASU ERA (Madras Central) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the ghastly incident of bomb blast in the RSS Office in Chetput falls in my own constituency, that is, Madras Central. It is really very unfortunate and a heinous crime has been committed. Whoever it may be, Sir, I wish the Government of India should take serious steps to find out the culprits.

Sir, I really appreciate the effective steps taken by the Prime Minister by sending Shri Rajesh Pilot immediately to Madras. (Interruptions) I am coming to the point; please wait for one minute.

Sir, the Prime Minister of this country promptly and immediately sent Shri Rajesh Pilot whereas the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu was more interested in the election campaign. Therefore, I appreciate the steps taken by the Central Government. (Interruptions)

The bomb blast took away the lives of eleven persons. (Interruptions)

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunneveli) : It is natural calamity.

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : Do not politicise this kind of an issue (Interruptions)

SHRI ANBARASU ERA : I request and appeal to my AIADMK friends to reply after I finish what I want to say. At 1.45 p.m. the bomb blast took place. It was promptly briefed by the Press people and the Government officials to the Chief Minister. But the Chief Minister did not understand the gravity of the incident. She was simply interested in the campaign for the elections and went away. Only after our PM sent the hon. Minister of State for Home Shri Rajesh Pilot that she came back.

SHRI A. ASOKARAJ (Perambalur) : I am seriously objecting to this, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I am allowing you.

SHRI ANBARASU ERA : This is the offshoot of the hatred and venom preached by the BJP. This is nothing short of their own making. It is because of the BJP preaching hatred and violence... (*Interruptions*)... that this incident took place in Calcutta. This RDX culture is now spreading in Tamil Nadu also. I, therefore, appeal all my brothers not to resort to preaching violence and hatred. Please come to the path of peace. It took away the lives of eleven persons in my constituency... (*Interruptions*)... I caution our BJP friends about what is happening in Bosnia. Let them think about it. I caution our BJP friends to take lessons from Bosnia and Serbia where Christians and Muslims are fighting. Let us not divide our society on the basis of religion.

MR. SPEAKER : I think you have done it now.

SHRI ANBARASU ERA : I do not object to the enquiry by CBI. But at the same time I want to inform the Central Government that since..

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down now.

SHRI ANBARASU ERA : I do not have any objection for investigation by the CBI. But at the same time, I want to know why the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu wants to pass on the baby to the Central Government. Is she admitting that her Government is incapable of conducting the enquiry? (*Interruptions*)...**

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down now. If you do not sit down, it is not going on record now.

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : They are alleging anti-national activities to us, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : It does not look nice to talk to each other like this.

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN : Mr. Speaker Sir, the unfortunate tragic bomb blast which occurred the day before yesterday at Madras killed eleven people and injured several persons. It was a powerful blast which caused extensive damage to the building also. I submit that it is an act of anti-nationals and it is highly condemnable. At this stage we cannot say whether RDX was used or not. As soon as hearing about the blast the State Police rushed to the spot with bomb disposal squad.

They recovered all bodies and the injured were sent to the hospital immediately. The Chief Minister has ordered the Crime Branch (CID) to take up the investigation immediately. She has taken all the steps to ensure peace in Tamilnadu and that law and order in Tamilnadu is well-maintained.

First, she was under the impression that the incident was a minor one. But, on reaching D'indigul, she understood the severity of the incident. So, she rushed to the spot and met the injured also. She also announced ex-gratia amount of Rs. one lakh to each of the bereaved family. (*Interruptions*). She has taken all the steps. Though the State Police is well-known for its efficiency, this investigation should be entrusted to the CBI because this blast has inter-State ramifications. It may be the continuation of the Bombay and the Calcutta blasts. It has links with the March explosion. So, it is proper to... (*Interruptions*) We are doing. We have immediately ordered investigations. We have done everything (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANBARASU ERA : You are incapable of doing that. So, you want to pass it on to the Central Government. You have totally failed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN : We are capable. (*Interruptions*) This kind of a blast occurred because of the Government's failure to take proper action in the Bombay blast. They have not arrested the culprits; the important culprits are allowed to escape from India. They have not taken stringent action against the real culprits. That is why, these kinds of blasts occurred in other parts of the country. So, the action of the Government of India is condemnable. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANBARASU ERA : Sir, what is it that he is saying? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN : Yes. You have not taken proper action in March. You have allowed them to escape. (*Interruptions*). The main culprits are allowed to escape from India. That is the reason that this kind of a blast occurred. (*Interruptions*) So, I condemn this action. The CBI should take up the investigation immediately (*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, I will take only one minute.

MR. SPEAKER : Why is it necessary for you? No. It is not necessary. There are other issues; I must take them up. You are not coming from Tamilnadu. Please sit down. It is not necessary. There are other issues.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, I will take only two minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : Why is it necessary?

SHRI E. AHAMED : I may be permitted to speak for only two minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : Why? You do not know anything. You do not have the personal information. It will not go on record. Please sit down now.

SHRI E. AHAMED : **(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : Sir, you have not allowed him to speak. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down now; Mr. Ahamed, I cannot compete with you. Please sit down. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Ahamed, please sit down now, Shri Advani may speak. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : (*Gandhinagar*) : Mr. Speaker. Sir, day before yesterday a tragic incident took place in Madras and when a Congress Member from Tamilnadu was participating in the discussion I felt very sorry to see that instead of joining others in condemning the incident, he was using this incident for attacking the State Government and the RSS. But this will not solve the problem. I think that the prevailing situation in the country is favourable to such anti-social elements and they have spread all over the country. They are convinced that they can easily escape after committing a crime in such a vulnerable situation. Yesterday, I went there and met the Chief Minister, Governor, the Chief Secretary and also the police officers. In the prevailing circumstances, it is not possible to ascertain whether RDX was used or not. However the explosion was very severe. If at all guillotine sticks were used, it is surprising that two floors of the office building were demolished. Out of the 11 persons died in the incident, the two persons could not be identified. I saw the body of one person in the hospital whose lower part had blown off and the upper part was left. His photo has also been published in the newspapers so his relatives may identify him. I would like to submit that since I feel that the incident is related not to Tamil Nadu and RSS alone, therefore, at least those who have been the victims of terrorism at one time or the other, should not speak like this. Just now Shri Anbarasu was speaking. The Congress party cannot forget that two former Prime Ministers belonging to their party had fallen victim to this terrorism. Does it mean that they were at fault, and they spread hatred. Some hon. Members levelling allegations against the RSS and saying that the RSS has created an atmosphere that led to the bomb explosion. That is why

I have requested at the very beginning that a CBI inquiry should be ordered into it...

[English]

SHRI ERA ANBARASU : I said 'BJP', not 'RSS' (*Interruptions*) I said BJP preached hatred and violence. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : These allegations will be levelled against all those who become victims of this kind of senseless violence. When even people who have been in your party and who have fallen victims are accused in this manner, what would be your reaction? You realise the sensibilities.

[Translation]

All those 11 persons killed in the incident may not be very famous as far as Bharatiya Janata Party or other political parties are concerned but...

[English]

They have been dedicated workers of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh.

[Translation]

All of them led a dedicated life and much more can be said about their life story as to how they dedicated all their lives in the service of the country. I met their family members and felt their pain and agony. In such a situation if allegations are made against them or any propaganda is made against them, it would give rise to resentment and agitation. The Government should realise this fact.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I proposed for the CBI inquiry into it, I was aware that it was not possible without concurrence of the State Government. When I met the Chief Minister Jayalitha the first thing I said to her was that I could not say anything about its ramifications. In reference to Madan Baba she said that she was aware of the speech delivered by him. I hope that an action would be taken in this regard. I do not want to go into the exact wording or language of the speech but there was a reference of both the RSS and Kanchhi Math. Therefore, I would like the Government to take action in this

regard. At the same time adequate security arrangement should be made in the 'Kanchhi Math'. Because if similar accident takes place there, the consequences will be serious. When asked about the CBI inquiry, she pointed out that though the concerned department of the State Government was quite efficient and could do the entrusted work however, it might have ramifications outside Tamil Nadu and therefore, she was also in favour of it. She also told that when the hon. Minister of Home Affairs went there, she discussed the matter with him but he did not make any commitment, because he was not in a position to do so. CBI is not under him and the Government will have to take a decision in this regard.

I would also like to submit that so long as such signals are not given to such elements all over the country.

[English]

That crime of this nature does not pay and they are solitarily punished for this.

[Translation]

So long as the Government does not give such signal, the prevailing tendency cannot be checked I would like to say that there is great resentment all over the country because the Government has not taken any appropriate action with regard to the Bombay and Calcutta bomb blasts so far. Last week during the discussion on no Confidence Motion, our colleague Shri Jaswant Singh raised this matter but the hon. Prime Minister did not feel it necessary to give even a single word reply to it. The incident of bomb blasts in Bombay occurred in March in which hundreds of people were killed. At that time the Government had promised to apprehend the culprits and punish them. But till now no culprit has been apprehended and punished by the Government. I do feel that failure of the Government in dealing with the incidents of Bombay and Calcutta give encouragement to such happenings that has occurred in Madras. I do not know as to who are those elements but they do get encouragement. Therefore, the first and foremost thing is that

unless the culprits and the politicians, who have links with them, in the Bombay and Calcutta bomb blasts are punished, the process would not stop, rather it would continue and may lead to disastrous consequences.

The hon. Prime Minister has referred to lawlessness and we all of us are witnessing it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would conclude after making my submission about bomb blast. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the Chief Minister of Maharashtra alleged Pakistan's involvement in it, however, no evidence or other facts were given to the Parliament in this regard. Today I would like to submit that Pakistan has been interfering in the matters of Kashmir and Punjab and it has also been suspected to be involved in the Bombay bomb explosions. So much so that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the Chief Minister of the State have made this allegation publically. I would like the Government to take the House in confidence and issue white paper on the involvement of Pakistan in spreading terrorism and violence in India during last few years. It would make the factual position clear to the people and the House and it would strengthen our position in the world. With these words I conclude.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Such an important issue is being raised here and the hon. Home Minister should have known that this question will be raised here. Shri Pilot had visited Madras but even then he is not present in the House. Even Shri Chavan is not here. Who is going to reply on behalf of the Government ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA-

CHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, I will convey the feelings of the honourable House and honourable Members to the Prime Minister and the Home Minister, I am sure that the statement would be forthcoming from them on this matter.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :
When ? (Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : As soon as we get sufficient material in our hand, we will come forward and inform the House. We will certainly share the information with the House... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Such a serious incident has happened. When the statement is going to be issued ?

MAJ. GENERAL (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please ask them at what time they are going to make the statement ?... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Look, if you feel happy in speaking, then you can continue to do so.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot allow you to talk in this way. Please sit down. Mr. Minister, the statement has to be made today itself. Please get the information and ask Minister to make the statement.

SHRI D. VENNKATESWARA RAO (Bapa'la) : Mr. Speaker Sir, on 7th August, a murder took place in Hyderabad in the very heart of the city during a marriage function. The murdered person was not an ordinary man. He was a sitting MLA and he was a former Minister too.

His name was Shri Shiva Reddy. He was an elected MLA for three terms. He was the district head of the Telugu Desam Party in Cuddapah District.

Sir, this man was attacked several times. He was first attacked on 8-5-1991 at Jammalamadugu in front of the revenue office. He was again attacked with bombs in 1992 in front of a police station. He pleaded several times with the State Government that he should be given security. But the Government security was withdrawn on 13-7-1992. Later on, he went to the court on 9 December 1992 seeking additional security. The court also ordered the Government to give him additional security. He made several representations to the State Government to implement the court orders. In spite of all this, the Government did not give him any security. On Friday, the 6th of August, this matter came up for discussion in the Assembly and he pleaded once again that the Government should provide him additional security. But the Home Minister of the State Government refused to give him any additional security. Then all the Opposition parties in the State Assembly demanded that he should be given additional security stating that while Sarpanchs and even those who are below the rank of Sarpanch are given security if they happen to belong to the ruling party, it is refused to opposition party members, even if they happen to be MLAs. This representation was made by all the opposition parties in the Assembly. Finally, the Speaker gave an order from the chair that he should be given additional security.

But immediately, within 24 hours after this incident in the Assembly, Mr. Reddy was killed brutally in the very heart of the city in broad daylight at 12 noon on 7th of August. The Home Minister of the State is also from that district. Before

implementing the order of the Speaker, he sent a message to the culprits to advance their murder plan. So, the murderers, resorted to this ghastly attack in front of thousands of people. This happened with the connivance of the State Government. The State Government has not reacted in any way till now... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. G. REDDY (Chittoor) : Sir, he is misleading the House. The murdered MLA was provided security. He was given two gunmen by the State Government and he had also kept his own private gunmen. But on that day, when he left for the Galyanamandapam, he asked his gunmen to stay back at the MLA quarters and attended the marriage alone, without any security. Had he taken his security personnel along with him, this unfortunate incident would not have occurred. The hon. Member is misleading the House. Moreover, the murdered person was also involved in several criminal cases, which are still pending in High Court and other courts. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Sir, another MLA, Shri Venkata Rao and a former Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Shri Suryanaravana Raju were also injured in this brutal attack. This is nothing but a collusion of State Government with the killers. I would say that the Government is not discharging its duty properly.

We demand that the Home Minister should be brought to book for this criminal assault and the State Government should be dismissed. We also want that a sitting High Court Judge should inquire into this matter and take appropriate action.

MR. SPEAKER : You have made all the points. Take your seat. I think the Government will make a Statement today or tomorrow on this also.

(Interruptions)

12.31 hrs.

RE.: VIOLENCE BETWEEN THE UNDERGROUND NAGAS AND THE UNDERGROUND KUKIS IN MANIPUR RESULTING IN SEVERAL DEATHS

[English]

PROF. M. KAMSON (Outer Manipur) : In the hill district of Manipur, which is my constituency, a lot of killings have taken place during the past three-four days. Within three days about 40 people have been killed and 50 houses have been burnt rendering so many people homeless. This is due to continuous fight between the Nagas underground and Kukis underground. Because of this violence between the Nagas and Kukis so far more than 1000 houses have been burnt and more than 150 people have been killed. I would request, through you, that the security forces should be put in all these areas so that they can curb the activities of these two forces equally. These two forces are in touch with the neighbouring countries and so they are a threat to our national integrity. I, therefore, request that the security forces should be asked to suppress the activities of both these groups and not incite one tribal group against another. So far as our knowledge goes, the neighbouring countries—I do not want to name them, you know very well whom I mean—have a great interest in this fight between the two groups. Some countries are helping the Kuki undergrounds while the other countries are helping Naga undergrounds. These neighbouring countries are supplying a lot of heavy arms and ammunition to them which poses a great threat to the security of our country. Therefore, security forces should be asked to take action against both these tribal groups.

MR. SPEAKER: If I have allowed you to speak, that does not mean that you should prolong your speech.

PROF. M. KAMSON: Sir, the Home Minister should come here in this House and make a Statement today itself so that we are assured that something is being done. This is a very important matter as thousands of innocent people are being killed in the hill district of Manipur.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) : Sir, in Manipur, there is no security at all. There is panic among the people. As Prof. Kamson has said, within the last three days a number of people have been massacred. The people have been killed not only by the gun fires but also have been attacked with swords. The activists surrounded the village and then burnt the houses. Anybody who tried to come out was fired by gun. Even the children and women were also not spared. It is because of the feud between the Kukis and Nagas. This is happening in the hill area. If it is left like this, Manipur will be flared up. Even in the valley, there had been heavy killings. It has become a daily feature to kill somebody. The insurgents are killing people; the extremists are even taking advantage of this situation... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a regular speech. You are attracting the attention of the Government to this particular incident. Please you be very brief. We had agreed that at 12.30 p.m. we will be completing this activity. I have allowed a Calling Attention Motion on a very important issue which you wanted to highlight. You bear that also in mind.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, whenever I rose and whenever I wanted to say something I was always put to such limitations. This problem had arisen in the North-Eastern region. If it happens in Tamil Nadu or if it happens in Maharashtra or some other State, you allow everybody to speak but when it happens in Manipur, you are not allowing. Why? I do not like this. Taking advantage of this situation, political killings are taking place. So many killings are taking place in Manipur. What are you doing? Why did not the Government come out with a statement? Why are they not taking measures to bring normalcy in the State?

— Please allow us to express our feelings. It is because I am also a Member of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. That is why I allowed you.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM : I belong to the North-Eastern region. Please don't think only for the bigger States, you think for the smaller States also. This is what I wanted to say.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice of Calling Attention Motion today morning. The House does not want that our friends from North-East should develop the feeling that as they are living in far-off places, any incident can take place there and neither the country nor this House will take any notice of it. That is why. I gave a notice to the hon. Speaker today morning.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, near about 150 persons have been killed there till now. A bloody struggle is going on between the Kukis and the Nagas. Innocent people are being killed there. A number of Houses have been demolished. But neither the Government of Manipur is able to take stringent measures nor any effective step has been taken to check the Naga rebels. I would request that this issue should be discussed in the House. The hon. Speaker may allow the Calling Attention.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this House should respect the feelings of the Members from Manipur. This country has always adopted an indifferent attitude towards the North-Eastern States. Manipur is the recent example of it. It is being said here that 130 persons were killed there. But this House has never discussed about the number of soldiers killed there during the last six months. There is no control over the entire More Road, which comes through Burma to our country. But this fact has never been discussed in the House, Criminal elements are active there and a situation of terrorism in the form of civil war is prevailing there. They are not fighting with the Centre, but there is a situation

of infighting between the inhabitants itself. Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the questions are raised here about these issues, the Home Ministry does not have any answer and the representation of North-Eastern States is so scanty that they cannot raise their voice effectively in this regard. So, alongwith Shri Atalji, I would also request the hon. Speaker that this issue should be discussed in the House. This issue is not limited only upto Manipur, but is concerned with the entire-North-Eastern Region also. On one hand, there is a situation of terrorism and on the other hand, the menace of drugs has overtaken the entire population there. Who are trying to destroy the entire population of the north-eastern region? We cannot overlook the importance of this region in the security of our country, otherwise we will have to face the consequences. This matter may be taken up for discussion in the House in any way.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I was about to say that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Very very important issues have been raised today. All the three issues are important. You have already directed the Government to make statements on them, on the Tamil Nadu incident and the Hyderabad incident. Ghastly incidents have taken place. He condemn them and we demand stringent action and proper investigation.

So far as Manipur is concerned, certainly, apart from the fact that the incidents are very serious, the feeling of alienation which is there, apparently there, we may deny it, but that is a dangerous feeling of alienation. Therefore, every step should be taken by the Government of India—and this House should concern itself probably more frequently and in a more, coordinated manner—so that this feeling is not there; and their problems are attended to.

12.43 hrs.

[English]

RE : CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS ARISING OUT OF THE ORDERS BY THE CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER POSTPONING ELECTIONS IN THE COUNTRY

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : The other matter on which I have given you a notice is also a very serious matter because there is a continuing constitutional crisis in this country. There had been a commitment and a statement made by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, namely, that the Government was going to approach the court. The statement was made on the 5th that they were going to approach the court tomorrow; that was 6th; and he categorically stated : "We are seeking stay and we hope that we will get it". My definite information is that no prayer for stay was made at all; no application was made in writing, not even an oral prayer was made by the Government of India. Solemn assurance was given on the Floor of this House. The crisis is continuing. This is the first time, believe, subject to correction, under the High Court, elections are being held at the highest forum of this country—legislative forum, Rajya Sabha elections were held under court order, Assembly elections were held under court order, Council elections were held under court order.

We had a discussion in your Chamber. All parties were there. There was a total inaction. It seems that—as I have said elsewhere—it is a vested interest, the Government has a vested interest in the matter being prolonged and dragged so that—I do not know what arrangement they are coming to with the Election Commission—it is being said that there will be a reference to the Supreme Court under Article 143; and *quid pro quo* some election will be permitted to be held. We have no statement from the Government; we have no response from the Government. Government has accepted on the Floor of this House the opinion given by the learned

Attorney-General. Thereafter, there is no scope for a reference to the Supreme Court. If the Government was under some doubt, if the Government could not make up its mind, then the question could have been sent to the Supreme Court.

What is going to happen? How is this crisis going to be solved? We have met Rashtrapati. A number of Opposition Parties have met the hon. Rashtrapati. We said, we are even prepared to cooperate with the Government in passing the Constitution (Amendment) Bill or any other Bill that may be necessary to resolve the crisis.

This country is waiting from the 2nd of August. Today is the 10th of August. The entire electoral process has come to a halt. Parliamentary democracy is under severe strain. I cannot think of any greater constitutional crisis in the recent years. But the Government is sitting like a Sphinx, either they are unable to think or they are unable to come to a decision; they are not taking the Opposition Parties into confidence. What is going to happen in this country I would like to know, through you, from this Government? Why did not the Government apply for a stay in spite of the clearest assurance given on the Floor of this House? (Interruptions) They must consult with regard to this.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa) : We want to know in categorical terms from the Government whether they are going to take a decision about the multi-member Commission, which is already provided in the Constitution.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) . It is a breach of privilege of the Members of this House.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : Why are they delaying on this? No action has been taken by the Government. We cannot allow this. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What action the Government has taken? A statement was made by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. (Interruptions)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore) : We want to know what

direction you have given to the Government. It is a contempt of House committed by the Minister. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The Minister has very categorically said that they would approach the Supreme Court and would ask for stay order but after 6th what steps Government has taken in this regard. (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, Will you allow this to continue ? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee has put the matter very clearly before the House. You should not have the pleasure of just putting the same thing again and again.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let me direct...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If all of you stand up together and speak, what can we do ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down and understand that there was one very important matter on which the senior members of the House had expressed their views. Let us not mix these issues together. Let us take up one by one. We are supposed to be the highest institution in the country which make down the laws for others. Should we not follow our own rules ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If you are going to talk like this then you can talk like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot compete with you in talking like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am about to say something. They should sit down. If the members want to say that something should be done according to the rules then they should not stand up, they should sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to say a few words in this regard. On that day in response to my question, Shuklaji had replied that they were going to the Supreme Court and would ask for a stay. But they did not move the Supreme Court. Even if they moved, they did not ask for stay.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : They are not even parties. They are just intervening.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : They have insulted the House.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : You are the custodian of the prestige of the House. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Whatever was assured in the House was not actually implemented. My complaint is not to the hon. Minister only, but I have to make some request.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you also have any complaint against me ?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I have no complaint against you, but I want to make a request...

MR. SPEAKER : No, you can also complain against me.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : When this issue was raised that day, whatever you had expressed in the end was very meaningful and had showed your farsightedness. The Government should have got the message from it that if it does not take effective steps to end this Constitutional deadlock and the Court also delays this issue, the House which is the Supreme body in its own functioning will use its power and find out some solution in this regard. Mr. Speaker, Sir, do you not think that that time has come ?

MR. SPEAKER : I will tell you after talking with them.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : As it was mentioned just now that a meeting was held in your Chamber and it was advised to take the opinion of the Supreme Court. In the light of the opinion expressed by the Attorney-General here, I think that there is no need to take the opinion of the Supreme Court. We have expressed our objections on the statement given by the Attorney General. We cannot accept this situation that the Election Commission should be guided by the Government. We all know how the election was conducted in Assam.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Loknath Ji, please sit down. As you know, as per rules, when one member is speaking another member should not stand up. Why do you need to be told time and again? Please sit down.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lokanath Choudhury, please sit down.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur) : Let me make my submission.

MR. SPEAKER : I will call you. You can go on making your submissions. I have no objection.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Supreme Court's advice is to be taken on this issue. I would like to know whether the Government have decided anything about it and what does the Government want to do in this regard? How is this impasse going to be resolved? The House should be taken into confidence in this regard. As I said, an opportunity to hold a discussion on it should be given.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : A promise has been broken.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Shri Vidyacharan Shukla has gone back on this word.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum) : What are you trying to convey to them? it is a simple point. Where is the scope for arguing? Ask them a straight question, what they are going to do.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I am enforcing... (Interruptions)... All of you are speaking after your leader has spoken. What were you doing? .. (Interruptions)... It is a serious matter. If I wish I can bring a Motion for breach of privilege, but the matter is so delicate, I believe, the interests of this House and our own interests are safe in your hands. The Government must be asked to give a clarification in this regard. The clarification should be clear. Otherwise, Mr. Shukla would be pulled up. He may move the Court later, but first, he would be put in the dock here.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir the concern expressed here does not relate to the House alone. You have yourself understood the problem and we have full confidence that the Government will definitely take appropriate action. But it is distressing that the Government, instead of taking the House into confidence, as per your instructions they are taking it very lightly. It was not within their rights to do so. If they have introduced those matters, then they are answerable whether the matters put before the House were correct or false. It becomes their duty to explain the spirit with which they put those matters. A doubt was expressed on that very day that a big constitutional impasse had been created. But they are making it look like a small personal rift among some private people. Is the Government going to intervene or not? It was said at that time that the Government would also become a party to it. So far I can remember, it was categorically stated that the Government would be a party to it. Then, why were they not a party to it? Today, they say that they were mere interveners and not a party to it. Secondly, it was stated that they would seek a stay and move the Court and it was said right

in front of you. Then, it was not raised later on. They should give a clarification as to why the facts were misquoted here. It is not Shri Seshan who has put a stay on democracy, rather it is they who have put a stay on their minds. They repeatedly seek the advice of the Supreme Court. One final reference should be given to say that this Government is not capable of running the country. A case should be filed in the Supreme Court under Rule 143. There is no other alternative before this Government. You said that this problem is not only judicial but executive and legislative. What is the role of the Executive in it? What are they doing. Such a constitutional impasse cannot be tolerated. Categorical instructions should be issued to them to know as to what are they doing in their Executive capacity. The Members in this House represent the political will and the mandate of the country. This political helplessness and inertia being shown by the representatives in whom the 90 crore Indians have vested their power, is not being tolerated by the masses. They should be made to give the reasons for misquoting the facts and the action which is being proposed to be taken by them.

[English]

SHRI LOKNATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir our country has never faced such a constitutional crisis before. Sir, you had taken initiative and called all the leaders. They reached a consensus. But the Government is still silent on the consensus. When this issue was raised again, the Government gave a statement, to which we did not agree. The Minister categorically stated in this House that they will go to the Supreme Court. But the Government have not gone to the Supreme Court so far. In spite of the commitment given to this House by the Government that they will go to the Supreme Court. They have not gone to the Supreme Court. I would like to know whether it is a breach of privilege on the part of the Government or not.

When this issue was discussed last time in the House, Sir, you gave a historic ruling, which was hailed by all sides. The historic ruling was that this problem is not

only judicial but it is executive and legislative also and thereby you observed indirectly that the executive has something to do. But the executive remains mum. I would like to know if the Government is paralysed or the executive is a party to this constitutional crisis. That is the doubt which has come to everybody's mind.

Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs had made a statement in this House but had not implemented it and he had violated it. He should come under privilege.

Thirdly, this Government is a paralysed Government, which is not acting to solve such a constitutional crisis and like other issues, it is delaying this issue also. We are saying that this crisis is the worst crisis in our history. On many issues, even on Ayodhya and other issues, this Government always took time and never acted, which puts the nation into a crisis, Sir, the Government is paralysed in its mind, in its action and in its approach to the national interests and Constitution. It is a matter of great concern, which the nation should take into consideration and Sir, I urge upon that your ruling...

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not repeat.

SHRI LOKNATH CHOUDHURY : Sir, you should also see that your ruling is enforced.

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, is that your direction to me?

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, the Minister would respond to this issue (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Aandaman and Nicobar Islands) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to add something to what the former Prime Minister Shri V. P. Singh and other Members have said. It is a fact that the decision taken by the Election Commission has created a crisis in the country in its wake and the honourable Members of all the parties should consider that so far as the elections are

concerned. Election Commission is supreme in the country. So, we will have to make sure that he enjoys all the powers... (Interruptions)... Let me speak, please. I am not disturbing you. (Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

I, therefore, feel that the matters relating to this procedure should not be decided in a haste. I want to make a submission that there was a three-member Election Commission at the time of Rajiv Gandhi but the V. P. Singh Government reverted back to one member Election Commission. Now, those very people are demanding a multi-member Election Commission. Did they not find it necessary during their tenure?

I, therefore, submit that this is a serious matter and it should not be dealt with in a haste. The Government should make a statement on the present situation. Actually, the Government should have given a *suo moto* statement even before the Members demanded it.

It is my submission to all hon. friends that this is a serious matter without concerning any particular party.

It is a law and order situation and nothing should be done which might create an atmosphere of distrust.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, certain honourable Members have expressed their concern in this regard. I would like to bring to your notice that all the hon'ble Members have received a letter on behalf of the Election Commission alongwith a printed copy of the orders of the Chief Election Commissioner and the annexure contains a correspondence that took place between then the Cabinet Secretary and the Chief Election Commissioner and the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, from all these papers it becomes clear to hon'ble Members that the Chief Election Commissioner always acted under Rule 324(6), demanded explanations from the Government and briefed the Prime Minister about it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, these things are happening

since April but the Prime Minister has treated them casually. The Election Commissioner has not issued any order out of the blue. The news-papers have kept us informed. When the elections had been postponed till 18 December it resulted in a constitutional crisis. The electorate were deprived of their right to elect their representatives. We had expressed our concern here about the constitutional crisis. The more important thing is that he repeatedly informed the person holding such an important post as that of the Prime Minister and sought a statement from him time and again but no such statement was given by the Government. That's why this crisis was created. This is not less important. You had made some meaningful observations two days back that if it is not decided by the Executive then it would be finally decided by the legislative.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole matter is before you. And the way Mr. Shukla treats this House does not need to be repeated. At first he said that he would move the court for seeking a stay but did not. The motion of privileges is being discussed in this regard. Mr. Shukla will not change his ways unless you intervene. We are all expressing our concern in the House and so you are, yet, no action is taken. Now the Executive is not likely to take any action. And, I think, the Congress Party is going to be the final beneficiary. The Congress Party is not in favour of elections. The Congress Party has its own inner rifts regarding Mr. Sharad Pawar and they will find a way to nominate him, though that is a different matter and is not open for discussion. But it is clear that the Congress Party is the final beneficiary. They want to postpone the elections. This attitude is against the country, parliamentary process and the Constitution. You are requested to intervene and exercise your powers to tide the country over this constitutional crisis.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, you have expressed the common concern of the House

and of all the parties on the basis of which you convened a meeting of all party leaders which was also attended by the Prime Minister of India. After discussing this, we were considering this matter along with the officers and experts from the Law Ministry about this matter when I was told that this matter had again been raised in the House. And then I came to the House and informed the House that we were discussing this matter and we will move—whatever has been reported in the record; that I am not denying. That is accurately reported there. I said we will move the Court for stay. We were hopeful of getting that stay. After I went back from here, the information was received by us that the stay of the Election Commission's order was given by the Calcutta High Court and the Madras High Court and the Bombay High Court. Actually the Bombay High Court had given it earlier. (*Interruptions*) Kindly hear me. I will answer all the questions that you have.

The Bombay High Court had given the stay earlier. When we were discussing it, the information about stay being granted by the Madras High Court and the Calcutta High Court came a little later. Similar petitions are moved in the Gujarat High Court and the Patna High Court. These five High Courts are seized of the matter. They have stayed the orders of the Chief Election Commissioner and in all these States the election process is going on, on the basis of the stay granted by the High Courts. Now the election process in the country has not come to a halt. It is going on because of the stay orders given by the Courts. (*Interruptions*) Let me give you the information that you are asking me and then I am available to answer all the questions that you ask.

After getting this information we decided not to approach the High Court for stay because the stay were already given in various High Courts.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Was it High Court or Supreme Court? What impression did you give? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : I said that we would like to move the Supreme Court and get the stay. But when we found that similar stays have been given by the High Courts, then we decided not to move the Supreme Court for stay. (*Interruptions*)

I had said we would like to do that. But later on the decision was changed because we got the information that other High Courts have stayed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Sir, that is not the point. The point is actually the Government is leaving everything to the fate of private litigation and is not ready to take the responsibility and intervene in these forums. That is the point. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Let me tell my point. After we got the news of the stays that have been given by the High Courts, we decided not to move the Supreme Court. Secondly the Supreme Court also made an observation that the Chief Election Commissioner must come up with a considered opinion before the Supreme Court of India on the 13th. They were given that direction by the Supreme Court. On that basis the Chief Election Commissioner is going to make a submission to the Supreme Court of India on the 13th of this month.

Sir, this is an unconfirmed report but we are told that a Special Leave Petition has been moved today in the Supreme Court by the Chief Election Commissioner. This is the information we have received. I am not standing here to say that that has been done or not. But this unconfirmed report was also given to us.

Sir Dipankar Gupta, the Solicitor General of India intervened on behalf of the Union Government in the Supreme Court and he put forward the Central Government's point of view there.

Ultimately it was decided that we will wait for the submission that the Chief Election Commissioner has to make to the Supreme Court of India. And on the basis of it we will then take up the matter

with the Supreme Court in the light of this developing situation. I would like to assure my colleagues here that the election process in West Bengal, in Gujarat, in Maharashtra and in Madras is going on.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Not after Shri Sharad Pawar has withdrawn his petition. How is it going on?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : It is going on.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : How is it going on, because the stay order operates?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : May I say to my lawyer friend Somnath Chatterjee...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We have been told that...

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : I am completing it. Let me complete it. If I don't give enough information, then you can ask for it.

It was offered on behalf of his client, i.e., Mr. Sharad Pawar, by his lawyer, Shri Nariman, that he is prepared to withdraw his petition if the permission is given for the plea etc. But according to my information, I am speaking subject to correction that that petition has not been withdrawn so far. This is the position today at this time. Upto now I have....

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Dissolve the election Commission. The Election Commission has nothing to do with the High Court and the Supreme Court.

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, when the Supreme Court makes an observation that the Chief Election Commissioner must come and give his point of view on this particular thing—on 13th they fixed a date on which he is supposed to give this information. High Courts had taken certain actions on this matter. Then it was not considered later on that it is not proper for us to move the Supreme

Court for the stay which has already been given by three High Courts and two more High Courts are seized of the matter where some similar petitions have been moved. And I would like to say, Sir, that we have no vested interests in this crisis to go on. We want this crisis to be resolved and it was clearly stated so by the Prime Minister in the Meeting that was convened by you that there is no question of *quid pro quo* and I will request the hon. Member particularly Nitish Kumarji to clear his mind and thinking on this matter that there is no question of any difference of opinion between the hon. Member sitting on that side and this side, we are all anxious that a proper system and proper law should be laid down and proper conduct of election should take place in a manner which does not cast doubts on the impartiality of either the State Government's candidates or the Chief Election Commissioner or his conduct of the situation. As Shri Nitish Kumarji has said that for many months he had been agitating on certain points on which he had some correspondence with the Government which has been made available to all the Members, and, they had the benefit of knowing the entire background of this crisis. This crisis has not developed because of any inaction. This crisis has developed because of certain differences in approach and difference of opinion, interpretation of the various statutes and if there is any difference in such things, they have to be resolved by discussion between the statutory authority concerned and the Government and that we are trying to do.

As far as this matter is concerned, the question of the Congress being benefited is so far away from truth. Actually, hurting the process is hurting the Congress more than any other Party. We are not at all being benefited by this. We want this process to go on and therefore, Sir, I would request you, we will have to wait until the next hearing takes place before the Supreme Court which will be on the 13th and the opinion of this hon. House is being represented in the Supreme Court by the Solicitor-General of India and he has got all the material that we have provided with him and he will certainly bring forward the viewpoint of the Government.

As far as the stay is concerned, I have explained to him under what circumstances I had made the Statement and under what circumstances the stand that we had proposed to take had to be changed. This is what I have to say, Sir. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We want a clarification.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : Is there any point of order at this point of time ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Yes, Sir. I am asking a question.

MR. SPEAKER : To whom are you asking the question ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am asking this question to the Minister through you, and to you also.

MR. SPEAKER : Under what rule you can do that ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That rule which refers to the statement of the Minister. A Minister has made a statement on one day saying that he will do a certain thing. Now, he does not do that thing and he does not come to the House on his own saying that I am unable to do what I have promised to the House. In our paper today, there is no reference that the promise has not been kept for whatever reason. There is no mention that the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will make a statement on what he had said on the 6th of August. So, what, under this rule, should be punishment meted out to the Minister ?

MR. SPEAKER : Under which rule are you talking about ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I want to benefit from your wisdom, because upto now we were referring to the constitutional crisis. Sir, the problem now is, it is the crisis of the Parliament. Please allow us, the Members of this side of the House to treat at least our colleagues of the Cabinet rank of that bench with honour and with respect so that we can

consider them to be our colleagues who are simultaneously trying to uphold the prestige of, what you referred to as, the highest institution in the country. I want your ruling on this.

MR. SPEAKER : What ruling do you want ? Which provision of law is violated ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am not talking about law at all.

MR. SPEAKER : Then, what are you talking about ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am referring to the rules.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me know which portion of the Constitution has been violated ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The Minister makes a statement and he does not do anything. So, what kind of punishment is provided for that ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I want to seek a clarification. Is it the intention of the Government of India that this matter will have to be resolved only through Courts ? I would like to know that very categorically. Let us assume that there is no Stay Order ultimately. Stay Orders are vacated by the Supreme Court. It can very well vacate the Stay Orders passed by the High Courts. Then, the 2nd August Order will be revived and there will be no elections. What will happen to the so-called ongoing elections ?

Sir, this is a very serious matter. Supposing the Stay Orders are confirmed by the Supreme Court, then elections will be held under the orders of the Court. Then, what will be the functions of the Election Commission ? I would like to know that. Is this a matter to be resolved by judicial processes ? As you said, Sir, very correctly—with all humility I agree with you—this is not only a matter for judicial determination. The Executive has to take a decision and the Legislature, if necessary, has to intervene. Therefore, will this matter depend on the exigencies of a Court litigation ? How elections, in future, will

be held? Who will hold these elections and in what manner? What will be the ambit of the rights of the Election Commission in this country? Can the entire election process in this country be stalled by an Election Commissioner? These are very important matters and until they are decided, nobody can control. We cannot control the Supreme Court and the Government cannot control the Supreme Court, as it ought not to control. Therefore, if it takes two months, three months or four months, we cannot dictate to the Supreme Court. Then the whole matter will remain in Limbo and we can only proceed with the conclusion that future elections will not be held in this country till the 18th of December, because, Sir, except the ongoing elections, no other election can be directed to be held by any agency other than the Chief Election Commissioner in this country. In future, no elections will be held because the Courts cannot direct the holding of elections. The Courts have only stayed the operation of an Order preventing the continuing of elections, because after the election process had started, the Chief Election Commissioner halted it. That temporary halt has been removed by temporary Orders.

Is the Government satisfied with this? Is it the solution of the problem? This has to be dealt with.

I would like to know from the Government how did they take the hon. Speaker's ruling and observations which we believe, are of far reaching importance for a solution of the crisis that has developed in this country. What is your response to the ruling?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : This issue has arisen today essentially because of the assurance given by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to the House in response to what Shri A. B. Vajyapee had suggested. Listening to the speech or the statement made by the Minister just now, it would seem that, according to the Government, the deadlock that was created has been practically resolved by the High Court, something which I cannot agree. I do not think that the deadlock was confined only

to these byelections. As we have pointed out on the very first day, the order said, "So long as the Government is adamant in respect of its interpretation of article 324 (6) and is not willing to accept the Commission's interpretation or is not willing to judicially determine it, there should be no elections including these byelections".

All of a sudden, we listen to the Minister telling us that because of the High Court has given this stay—Bombay High Court, Calcutta High Court, Madras High Court have given—therefore, we did not think it necessary even to come to the House. In fact, he should have come to the House on 6th August. After all, on the 5th August evening, if you came to know what Government in its wisdom thought that these High Court judgements are sufficient and there is no need or fulfilling the promise given to the House that we shall move to the Supreme Court for vacation of this order, or for stay of this order, you should have come on the 6th itself.

I can tell you yesterday I was in Madras and the Chief Minister told me that though the Single Judge has given a stay, he was inclined not to proceed further and he was thinking of referring the matter to a Bench because he was not willing to take all the responsibility so that for all practical purposes, the deadlock continues. And yet here we see, the promise is not fulfilled because they say, after the High Court judgements, the deadlock seems to be practically solved and there was nothing for this Government to move the Supreme Court.

This is a totally unconvincing reply and it only confirms the feeling of this House that there has been a categorical breach of promise.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Actually, there is no difference of opinion between the Opposition and the Government as far as this particular matter is concerned.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : There is very basic difference of opinion. There is a fundamental difference.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA :

There is a broad agreement on this, which was actually borne out by you. I would like to clarify that we are bound by your ruling and we follow the ruling or whatever observations that you have made in this matter.

When I talk of the stay, what I have talked of the stay, it was of the temporary stay. It was not for resolving the deadlock. (*Interruptions.*)

Whenever we think about it, we always take your advice on this. We take your advice with full respect. Your advice is always available to us. We have never said anything contrary to such things. (*Interruptions.*)

When I have said about the Supreme Court, we wanted that the temporary stay should be taken so that the election process is not halted. When we found that the stay has already been given, the kind of stay that we wanted from the Supreme Court has already been given by various High Courts. It has been given by the other two High Courts also. Five High Courts have given this order. Therefore, we decided not to move the matter in that manner.

Secondly, the question of deadlock comes. That is not a permanent solution. We all know, this is not a permanent solution. It is only ongoing process of elections which has been halted. That has started moving now because of the temporary stay order which the High Courts have given. The permanent solution has to be found and we can do something about this, when the matter is brought up in the Supreme Court of India.

When the Chief Election Commissioner comes there with the suggestion to the Supreme Court of India, at that time, we will have to take a stand on this matter which will resolve this crisis. When the Supreme Court gets the response from the Chief Election Commissioner, then only we will be able to go to the Supreme Court and I can assure the hon. Members of this House that our stand will be in consonance

with their feelings. There is no difference between your feelings and our feelings as far as this particular matter is concerned.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia) :
I have no quarrel with the hon. Minister. He has every right to change his mind every minute. That has been the prerogative of this Government. They are not able to form their opinion on any crucial or critical matter.

The hon. minister has been repeatedly saying that there is no difference of opinion between what he says and the Opposition. I am not at liberty to discuss what happened in your Chamber. When all the Opposition leaders were present—fortunately or unfortunately, I was also present there—this matter was discussed in detail. I shall leave it to the Chair to give his own judgment and his own impression. What I ask is whether the impression that we got in that meeting has been fulfilled or even an initial step has been taken by the Government in that direction. I do not know what prompted the hon. Minister to make a statement. I was not present here. When I saw it in the press, I was not very much satisfied with it because the executive cannot derelict its own responsibility. I do not know whether my friends will be happy or unhappy. But the situation was the same before 6th of December when the Government of India all the time was referring everything to the Supreme Court and the judiciary. Executive has certain responsibility. They say that the Chief Election Commissioner will go with his point of view before the Court and they will react. Election Commission has, as I told you that day, given its categorical charge-sheet against your Government. You are known before the whole world that you are in the way of the proper functioning of the Election Commission. You are not allowing the free election. Have you to say anything on this point? I want to know whether the Government is satisfied with this situation that till the judiciary comes to their rescue they will not even defend themselves. I do not have any expectation from you that you will defend the Constitution, the Parliament

and the high norms of parliamentary behaviour. But cannot you defend your own or not?

This is not the Government of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao. This is the Government of India. He is the Prime Minister of this country. The opinion is there in the whole world that here is the Government which, according to constitutional authority, is not allowing free and fair elections. We are concerned about it. You have not come out even with a word. What have you to say on this? What have you said on that day in the Chamber? What have you said on the floor of the House? How have you changed your mind? It is for the people of this country and for the Members of Parliament to judge. It is your responsibility. With all humility, I can say, that on certain critical matters you will have to make your own observations. If you say there is no difference between the Government and the Opposition, it means there is no hope for this country.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa) : What came out of this?

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore) : What is the result of this discussion? What are we to understand from it?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : You are presiding over this House and this Constitutional crisis will continue and we will be sitting here.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : You give your ruling.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister should have apprised the House on 6th itself of the opinion of the Government that it does not intend to move the Supreme Court after the High Court judgement because nothing is clear in the newspapers. On 5th evening, we were thinking that the Government might have moved the Supreme Court. But when we enquired, we came to know that no application had been filed. Had you explained it on the 6th morning that the

Ministry of Law and you in your wisdom have decided that there was no need to move the Supreme Court, the matter would have ended there. Today, at least you should have expressed your regrets for not fulfilling your assurance and could have given reasons thereof. But you are not ready to do that also.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I have ascertained from lawyers who appeared in that matter that no prayer was made.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : The hon. Minister is well aware of the fact that the Government is on bail.

SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA (Bankura) : The hon. Minister is well aware of that fact.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Why don't you take up this responsibility?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : There is one more fact. It is very important. The Government of India is only an intervenor before the Supreme Court. An intervenor cannot even ask for a stay before the Supreme Court. It is well-established that only a party can do it. They have not even bothered themselves to become a formal party. They have not initiated any proceedings. The decision of the Election Commissioner could have been challenged substantively by the Government of India by a Special Leave Petition on its own. Nothing has been done. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister does not take the decisions and....**

**Not Recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : It is a deliberate lapse.

MR. SPEAKER : On two points, I have to say something. On Manipur, I have to say that the Government should make a statement, please. The views expressed by the hon. Members also be taken into account while making the statement.

As far as this issue is concerned, I think it is not always good for the Speaker to go on saying things on matters like this. The Speaker should also restrain himself in pronouncing his decisions or judgements. All the same, if I have understood what you have said on the floor of the House, it is this that the steps that can be taken to hold the election should be taken. This is what you wanted to convey. If the elections have to be held, they should be held.

The second thing which, if I have understood correctly, is this that steps which can be taken should be taken to see that the stay order given by the Election Commission is removed. For this, you can have a recourse to the court of law or you can use your own machinery to see that it is withdrawn. As to how it has to be done, it is for the Government to decide.

The third point which comes out of this is the interpretation of Article 324(6). And, interpretation of Article 324(6) is something which cannot be done by the Government. It is something which cannot be done by the Parliament also. It has to be done by the Judiciary only. If it is done by the Judiciary at the apex, it is the proper thing. I hope that the final pronouncement on the authority will come from the Judiciary.

I think the House feels concerned because the constitutional crisis should not be continued. Anything which certainly can be done in this respect should be done by the Executive. I am sure that the system which we are following in India has the resilience to solve these kinds of problems. Maybe, there is a time and yet I do feel that it will be solved.

(Interruptions)

13.33 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT GIVING REASONS FOR IMMEDIATE LEGISLATION BY THE CONSUMER PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1993

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY) : I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4276/93]

NOTIFICATION UNDER WATER (PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION) CESS ACT, 1977; ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW ON THE WORKING OF THE PADMAJA NAIDU HIMALAYAN ZOOLOGICAL PARK, DARJEELING FOR THE YEAR 1990-91 ETC.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) (ON BEHALF OF SHRI KAMAL NATH) :

(a) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 377(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th April, 1993 making certain amendments to Schedule I to the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977 under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4277/93]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, for the year 1990-91, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Padmaja Naidu

Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, for the year 1990-91.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4278/93]

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955 ETC.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 :—

(i) The Fertiliser (Control) (Amendment) Order, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 354(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd June, 1993.

(ii) S.O. 355(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd June, 1993 making certain amendments in the Order published in Notification No. S.O. 977(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th November, 1987.

(iii) S.O. 396(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1993 making certain amendments in the Order published in Notification No. S.O. 977(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th November, 1987.

(iv) The Fertiliser (Control) (Second Amendment) Order, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 397(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1993.

(2) A copy of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4279/93]

(a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1984-85.

(ii) Annual Report of Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1984-85, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4280/93]

(b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1985-86.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1985-86, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4281/93]

(c) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1986-87.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1986-87, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4282/93]

(d) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1987-88, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4283/93]

(e) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1988-89, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(3) Five statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4284/93]

ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW ON THE WORKING OF THE HIMACHAL PRADESH AGRO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LIMITED, SHIMLA. FOR THE YEAR 1991-92 ETC..

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) (ON BEHALF OF SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 1991-92.

(ii) Annual Report of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 1991-92, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4285/93]

ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW ON THE WORKING OF THE TECHNICAL TEACHERS' TRAINING INSTITUTE, WESTERN REGION, BHOPAL FOR THE YEAR 1991-92 ETC.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) :

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Western Region, Bhopal for the year 1991-92, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Western Region, Bhopal, for the year 1991-92.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

13.34 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 1993, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 5th August, 1993."

13.34½ hrs.

[English]

CONSUMER PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 1993, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 5th August, 1993.

13.35 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Narmada Sardar Sarovar Project

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Water Resources to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :—

“Issue relating to Narmada Sardar Sarovar Project for review and rehabilitation measures and Government’s reaction thereto.”

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : The Central Government constituted on 6th Oct. 1969 under Section-4 of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT) to adjudicate upon the water dispute regarding the inter-State river, Narmada and the river valley. The NWDT investigated into the matter referred to it and gave its Award on 7th December, 1979. The NWDT Award was notified by Government of India on 12th December, 1979, whereupon it became final and binding on the parties to the dispute. The Award specified quantum of utilisable waters to be shared by the four States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. The Tribunal specified in detail, various provisions for effective resettlement & rehabilitation (R&R) of the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) due to the submergence behind the reservoir in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Some of these provisions are as follows :

- (i) Allotment of a minimum of 2 hectares of irrigable land to each land-oustee.
- (ii) Allotment of house plot free of cost to each oustee family, measuring 18.29 m × 27.42 m (60 ft. × 90 ft.).

(iii) Resettlement & Rehabilitation grant of Rs. 750/- per family in addition to grant-in-aid of Rs. 500/- per family.

(iv) Compensation for land and houses as per Land Acquisition Act.

(v) Provision for specified civic amenities.

The project has been planned, designed, approved and is being implemented by the Party States in conformity with the Award parameters. There have been persistent demands for improvement of R&R measures and a review of the project which is at an advanced stage of implementation. According to Clause 16 of the final orders of the Tribunal, the parameters of shares of utilisable waters by the States, FRL, MWL of the reservoir and FSL of Nava-gam Canal are made subject to review at any time after a period of 45 years from the date of publication of the decision of the Tribunal in the official gazette. According to Sub-clause-6 of Clause-11 relating to submergence, land acquisition and rehabilitation; alteration, amendment and modification of any of the provisions of the Clause-11 is permitted by agreement between all the Party States.

Various provisions of the R&R package stipulated by the Award have been significantly liberalised by the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh during implementation as per States policies. These packages are being implemented by the States in a coordinated manner in consonance with progress of construction.

The Resettlement & Rehabilitation Sub-group of the Narmada Control Authority comprising States representatives and Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Union Ministry of Welfare monitors the implementation.

Discussions were initiated towards end of June, 1993 on all issues related to the Sardar Sarovar Project. A five member group was constituted by an Office Memorandum of Ministry of Water Resources

on 3-8-1993 for continuing these discussions. The Memorandum was slightly modified on 5-8-1993. The group has already started functioning and is required to give a report to the Government within a period of three months. Copies of the two Memoranda are enclosed as Annex I & II.

ANNEXURE-I

F. No. 6/4/93-PP

Government of India

Ministry of Water Resources

New Delhi, the 3rd August, 1993.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Constitution of Group to continue discussions on Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP).

The Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India hereby constitutes a "Five Member Group" to continue discussions initiated during end of June, 1993 on all issues related with the Sardar Sarovar Project. The Group will continue to function till further notification. The Group will have following composition :

1. Dr. Jayant Patil, Member, Planning Commission Government of India—Convenor.
2. Shri L. C. Jain, Former Member, Planning Commission, Government of India.
3. Dr. Vasant Gowarikar, Former Adviser (S&T) to Prime Minister of India.
4. Prof. Ramaswamy R. Iyer, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi.
5. Dr. V. C. Kulandaiswamy, Vice-Chancellor, Indra Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi.

The Group will have following working procedure :

- (i) *Status* : The Group will hold discussions with different opinion groups and will make a consensus report to the Government of India within a time frame to be decided by the Group.
- (ii) *Visit to the Site* : The Group will visit the Project area, if necessary.
- (iii) *Venue* : The Group will hold discussions in New Delhi or if required in project area.
- (iv) *Discussions* : All concerned opinion groups can request for and make presentation and give their suggestions in writing to the Group.
- (v) *Expenditure* : TA and DA will be paid to the non-official members of the Group as per Government rules.
- (vi) *Secretarial assistance* : It will be provided by the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India.

The Group will frame any additional modalities, if required, in consultation with Government of India.

The consensus report will be considered after receipt, by the Government of India within two and a half months. The Government may refer the report back to the Group for reconsideration of any, of the issues.

Sd/-

(A. K. BARUA)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

ANNEXURE-II

F. No. 6/4/93-PP

Government of India
Ministry of Water Resources
New Delhi, the 5th August 1993

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Constitution of a Group to continue discussions on Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP).

The Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India hereby constitutes a "Five Member Group" to continue the review discussions initiated during end of June, 1993 of all issues related with the Sardar Sarovar Project. The Group will continue to function till further notification. The Group will have following composition :

1. Dr. Jayant Patil, Member, Planning Commission, Government of India—
Convenor.
2. Shri L. C. Jain, Former Member, Planning Commission, Government of India.
3. Dr. Vasant Gowarikar, Former Advisor (S&T) to Prime Minister of India.
4. Prof. Ramaswamy R. Iyer, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi.
5. Dr. V. C. Kulandaiswamy, Vice-Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi.

The Group will have following working procedures :

- (i) **Function :** The Group will hold discussions with different opinion groups and will make a report to the Government of India within a time frame to be decided by the Group or three months which ever is earlier. After presentation of the Report to the Government it will be released to the public within one month.
- (ii) **Visit to the Site :** The Group will visit the Project area, if necessary.

(iii) **Venue :** The Group will hold discussions in New Delhi or if required in project area.

(iv) **Discussions :** All concerned opinion groups can request for and make presentation and give their suggestions in writing to the Group.

(v) **Expenditure :** TA and DA will be paid to the non-official members of the Group as per Government rules.

(vi) **Secretarial assistance :** It will be provided by the Ministry of Water-Resources, Government of India.

The Group will frame any additional modalities, if required, in consultation with Government of India.

The report will be considered after receipt, by the Government of India within two and a half months. The Government may refer the report back to the Group for reconsideration of any of the issues.

This supersedes Office Memorandum of even no. dated 3rd August, 1993.

Sd/-
(A. K. BARUA)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banas-kantha) : The Government has added something therein on the 5th. What is that?

MR. SPEAKER : The Member whose name has been included in the list can only ask the question and he too can ask only one question and cannot make a speech.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will read out the rule for you and if you do not follow that then, I cannot held it.

SHRI CHITTA, BASU : It is too much.

MR. SPEAKER : What is too much? What do you mean by too much? You make the rules, you do not follow it and you say it is too much.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : That is not the question. You can say that the Member may complete his question within five or six or eight minutes. Otherwise, there is no need for asking any questions.

MR. SPEAKER : You have to ask a question please. I will read out the rule. You have to follow the rules. You make the rules for the entire country but, you do not follow it yourself.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may say that the Member may take five minutes. That is all.

MR. SPEAKER : I will read out the rule for you.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : If you say one question, then that one question can take ten minutes also. Any way, I do not like ...

MR. SPEAKER : You shall have to follow the rules. Otherwise, I will be discontinuing this method of allowing the Calling Attention Motion. I am repeating it and it is for the benefit of all of you. If you want a pointed response from the Government, the Calling Attention Motion is the device. You have to follow it according to the rules. If you do not follow it according to the rules and if five Members are to be allowed and each of them is speaking for five or ten minutes, then, I cannot have this Calling Attention Motion luxury in the House. Now, the rule says that :

"A member may, with the previous permission of the Speaker, call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the Minister may make a brief statement or ask for time to make a statement at a later hour or date :

Provided that no member shall give more than two such notices for any one sitting.

There shall be no debate on such statement at the time it is made but each member in whose name the item stands in the list of business may, with the permission of the Speaker, ask a clarificatory question and the Minister shall reply to it at the end of such question.

Provided that names of not more than five members shall be shown in the list of business."

These are the rules made by you and you are expected to follow them. I am also bound by them. And if you follow the rules, you will have many more Calling Attention Motions and you will pinpoint the Government. But, if you do not follow the rules, you will have the luxury of making long speeches, getting nothing from the Government.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Sir, I will agree with the ruling that you have given. But, I think, we have got a right of seeking clarification.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a clarificatory question. These are the rules; you make the rules for the entire country.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : I shall seek a clarification.

MR. SPEAKER : My point is, you make the rules for the entire country, you expect them to follow it and if they do not follow, you penalise them. But, you do not follow the rule you made for yourself.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Sir, I cannot change the rule now. But, anyway, I want to seek certain clarifications from the Government.

MR. SPEAKER : "Certain!" Please come out with one question. You are a senior Member and I should not like to remind you about all this.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : I want some clarifications. You cannot say that I should ask only one clarification. If you say that it should be only one question, then, let all this be taken as one clarification.

MR. SPEAKER : This is the rule please.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : That is all right. Firstly, I want to have this clarification and I also want to make my position clear that we are not opposed to the implementation of the project because that must be beneficial to the four States. I am not opposed to that particular approach. During the implementation of this project, I want to know, whether there will submergence of huge quantities of land, which comes to about 3,60,000 acres of forest land, 2,00,000 acres of agricultural land, and about ten lakhs of people will be ousted, constituting a majority of *adivasis*, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Although there are certain provisions for the rehabilitation, I want to know from the hon. Minister, whether it is a fact that those provisions have not been properly implemented and the provisions for the rehabilitation and resettlement needs proper amendments, some kind of changes so that the oustees can be properly resettled and rehabilitated.

May I know from the Govt., after the withdrawal of the World Bank from funding this project, who is going to fund this project? Does the Central Government want to fund the total project or has the State Government been given the responsibility of funding the project? What are the components of the Central Government and what are the components of the State Government? May I also know from the Minister whether a five member Review Committee or Core Committee has been set up? If so, what are the terms of reference for that five member Committee? I would like to know whether that Committee would be entitled to review the whole project or a part of the project and whether its recommendation, which is called a consensus recommendation, would be binding on the Central Government. What follow-up action would the Government take with regard to the consensus report as it is expected?

Lastly, would the Government stop the way of repression let loose on the Narmada Andolan activists? This has created a

great apprehension among the democratic minded people of our country that any genuine movement in tune with the hopes and aspirations of the downtrodden sections of our people are going to be crushed by the way of repression. Would the Government assure the House that the repression already let loose would be stopped?

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister with regard to the Morse Committee set up by the World Bank to make an independent review. The Committee has reflected many things on the entire project in its report because of which the World Bank has decided not to finance this project. Has the Government paid any attention to it? The Morse Committee has said that almost all the prescribed conditions have not been fulfilled by the Central Government as well as by the State Governments. The conditions which had been accepted by the Government were regarding rehabilitation and usage of water. The World Bank has informed the whole world that these conditions have not been fulfilled by the Government of India. What is your reply in this regard? Have you reconsidered these questions so far? In this context, I would like to know the major points regarding this dispute. What is the height of the dam? The demand of agitators of reducing it by 50 feet cannot be acceded to because Gujarat will not get adequate water. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there was a proposal to reduce the height of the dam by 50 feet when the project was being formulated but keeping in view the depth of the river it was not agreed to as it would not have been possible to set up a power station. Sweden has set up several such projects in its country and has assisted in launching such projects abroad also. Is it a fact that Sweden was consulted at that time but the things could not materialise? Is it also a fact that the total supply of water to be made to West Gujarat, Saurashtra and Kuchh as per the agreement was to be about 18 per cent.

But today it appears that only 2 per cent water would be made available to Gujarat and that too by 2025 A. D. which means, it will take 35 years to reach water there.

Is the Government prepared to refer all these problems to the Committee set up for this purpose ?

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that he had said in his statement last Friday that there will not be any change, not even of a coma or a fullstop in the Sardar Sarovar Project. Therefore, I want to know as to what kind of review will be undertaken by this committee. Neither height is to be changed nor any other thing is to be changed then what kind of review is to be made? The notification of the 3rd instant does not have the word 'review'. And in the second notification of 5th, the references made to the Committee for reviewing have already been given. It clearly states :

[English]

"Discussions were initiated towards the end of June, 1993, on all the issues related to the Sardar Sarovar Project." ...all the issues..."

[Translation]

The words "all the issues" have been used here. I want to know as to what are these "all the issues"... (Interruptions) Is there any reference to the displaced persons because the condition of the displaced persons is very miserable there. No arrangement has been made for them. Neither any resettlement facility nor any arrangement regarding their land has been made. The land and other assets they are leaving behind is of lakhs of rupees but no arrangement has been made regarding all this... (interruptions)... Therefore, the hon. Minister should clarify the entire situation. I would like to know as to what he wants to say regarding this review committee because the decision of the Tribunal is final and is binding on everybody. In spite of the binding decision, the hon. Minister has made such

statements outside the House that they can consider certain changes in this regard. Is it possible? Such statements create misunderstanding among the people in our country and abroad also and it provokes the people. Please clarify it. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have raised a very good question.

[English]

What is it that they want to review. That is the main question.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : The people of Gujarat are worried over this. They have certain doubts and these should be dispelled. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, the figures of submergence of land and forest have been given many times to the House. I will again submit the figures to the House about the land which has been submerged in various States and the amount of forest land that is included in the 'land'.

As far as the number of people affected are concerned, I will give the figures of the people who are affected, State-wise—in Madhya Pradesh, in Gujarat and in Maharashtra.

In Gujarat, a total of 4500 families are to be affected by the construction of the Project of which 301 families are likely to be affected by temporary floods in the current year.

Only 56 families will be affected in the monsoon by permanent bondage—by construction of the dam.

In Maharashtra, an estimated total of 2,731 families are likely to be affected by the construction of the project out of which only 28 families are likely to be affected by permanent bondage in monsoon and about 500 families by temporary floods. As against this, a total of 469 families have been resettled in Gujarat by allotment of agricultural land. House-plots have been given to 301 families.

In Madhya Pradesh, a total of 33,014 families are estimated to be affected by construction of the project. There is no submergence up to the current year. The State has, however, rehabilitate 606 families by allotment of land out of which 371 families have already been allotted house-plots.

The environmental safeguards have been taken as suggested by the Morse Committee. As a matter of fact, the benchmarks that were fixed by the Morse Committee were fulfilled to the expectation of the World Bank which are funding it. They, in their report, had stated that various State Governments have done a good job. They were satisfied with the job that was done in pursuance of Morse Commission's observations by the various State Governments.

But looking to the controversy that was raging about the project in the country and outside the country in various parts of the world, we decided not to utilise the remaining parts of the World Bank assistance in this matter. We decided to fund it ourselves through our resources. Our own resources will be utilised. Central Government's resources and the State Government's resources will be utilised. We will certainly discuss with the States—in the Narmada Review Committee meeting—the percentage of the responsibilities that will be given to each State and what Central Government will do in this respect.

The question of review has been raised. According to the Tribunal's decision, no review in terms of the Inter-State Water Dispute Act can take place before 45 years. But when the Narmada Bachao Andolan people wanted to discuss all these matters with us, we said there was no problem in discussing this. We can review all the things that you want to raise here but not in terms of the law. But for a review, we can sit and give all the papers, all the documents, all the maps and everything. There is nothing in this thing which is classified as 'confidential' or 'secret'. Therefore, you please come to us. We gave all the papers and all the information they

needed. We discussed the whole thing very widely for two days. After that, it was decided to continue this matter so that such questions, which arise from time to time, are settled properly. It was decided by the unanimous consent of all those people who were present in this two-day meeting that five-member group should be set up. It has now been set up with Dr. Jayant Patil, Member, Planning Commission as Convenor and other eminent people in this Committee. They have held one meeting. The next meeting will be attended by Narmada Bachao Andolan representatives. We are sure that this exchange of views will certainly benefit the project-affected persons and environmental issues and other issues connected with this.

We cannot and will not do anything to change the award. The award has a legal binding. As I said earlier that day when this matter was first raised in the House, it can be changed only by the consent of the four party-States. If even one of the States objects to any change, the change cannot be made.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : What about the Central Government ?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Central Government also cannot make any changes without agreement of the party-States.

14.00 hrs.

When the discussions were started, we had made it clear to them that this discussion does not mean reconstruction of the project; the project will go on as it is; we are not going to stop the work on the project; we are not going to reconsider any matter. But we want to discuss this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : (Interruptions) Regarding talks with the agitators, Shri Shukla is saying something

in this House and something else outside the House. That is why he is finding himself in difficulty.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : The hon. Netaji stands up without hearing me fully and starts speaking. Please listen to me first. If you ask me something, I will be answering that. I had stated in the beginning that the legal position is that we cannot make any change in it at all. If they want to talk on environment and rehabilitation and if they want to have some information or want to go through any document, we are ready to furnish the same. The legal position should be understood. This is not a review. We will sit together and discuss the matter. This was the basis of our discussion with them. I am stating what we have talked. There is no discrepancy at all in it. They were kind enough to decide the issue by holding a dialogue with us. I think Shri Vajpayee and other hon. Members will to agree that instead of starting various kinds of agitations in jungles and hills, we should hold a dialogue with a person who is knowledgeable and whose impartiality and integrity is unquestionable and should present all kinds of problems before him and after understanding the difficulties regarding the Narmada Tribunal Award, efforts should be made to make him understand these difficulties. Efforts have been made to remove the hurdles so that the dialogue continued smoothly. The Government of Gujarat and the representatives of the people there apprehended that something will be done against the interest of the State. Again, I would like to clarify that the interest of Gujarat will not be harmed at all, nor will the interests of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh or Rajasthan be affected. Any change in the Tribunal Award is possible only when the Government of India and the State Governments all agree to that change, otherwise not. The activists of the Narmada Bachao Andolan understand this and have come to discuss with us only after understanding it well. This group has already held a meeting and the next meeting has been convened on the 14th August regarding which the Narmada Bachao Andolan activists have stated that they will come and

resume the dialogue. The discussion should be held in such a manner that the issues concerning the rehabilitation of the people and protection of environment are solved. We should not reduce any thing provides benefits to the States. Our efforts are that in the present situation the discussion may continue and the improvement may be made where the common grounds exist. Shri George Fernandes had asked about the height of the dam. It is linked with the Narmada Tribunal Award. If all the States are not ready for any change, neither the Central Government nor the State Governments can do anything. The activists of the Narmada Bachao Andolan have studied the Moth Committee Report thoroughly and they have studied the Inter State River Dispute Law also and they are discussing the things after understanding them properly. Their object is that the people of India should suffer minimally and environment should be protected and displaced persons should be rehabilitated. They want that minimum land should come under water. During the discussion, we will try our best to reach at a consensus on as many issues as possible. Action can be taken under the law on the points that are agreed upon between the Centre and the four States. Otherwise, we will go on persuading each other as far as possible to reach at certain consensus. Therefore, I hope that the process of peaceful dialogue which they already started instead of agitations in forests and hills attracts the cooperation of all the hon. Members to resolve the issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now adjourn for Lunch to reassemble at 15.05 hours.

14.06 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Five minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

15.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at twelve minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

[English]

INDIAN TELEGRAPH (AMENDMENT) BILL**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SUKH RAM : I introduce the Bill.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up matters under Rule 377.

15.13 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) *Need to lay a new Railway line from Kottayam to Madurai*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : The people of Kerala have been demanding for a new railway line from Kottayam to Madurai for a number of years. The proposed railway line will cover the backward hilly areas of Kerala such as Kottayam and Idukki districts. This will enable the development of the area as well as a boost to the rubber and cardamom plantations. Farmers in these areas are facing a lot of hardships due to the lack of transport facilities.

**Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 10-8-93.

I urge upon the Minister of Railways to take necessary urgent steps for laying of a new railway line between Kottayam and Madurai without delay.

(ii) *Need to extend the benefits available under the Central Government Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme to Goa Freedom Fighters also.*

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAUAN (Karad) : Government of Maharashtra gives a special Freedom Fighter Sanman Pension to Goa Freedom Fighters and Satyagrahies. These people who risked their lives to liberate the Portuguese-occupied territory of Goa are freedom fighters in every sense of the word.

I, therefore, request the Union Government that the benefits under the Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme of the Central Government should be extended to the Goa Freedom Fighters without delay. The information about these freedom fighters can be obtained from the Governments of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Goa.

(iii) *Need to provide compensation to the farmers whose crops have been affected by flood of Ghaghar river in Rajasthan.*

[Translation]

SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH (Bikaner) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently 42,000 cucecs of water has entered Rajasthan from the O-II Headworks in Haryana as a result of floods in Ghaghar river. The flood-water has broken all the previous records. This flood-water has spread over an expanse of 170 kilometres in Rajasthan. Many villages have submerged and crops of paddy and Narma Cotton worth crores of rupees have been damaged due to these floods. Few days back, the hon. Prime Minister conducted an aerial survey of the flood-hit areas of the Ghaghar river in Haryana and announced a compensation of Rs. 1000 per acre to the farmers whose crops were damaged.

I, therefore, urge that the hon. Prime Minister may make an aerial survey of the 170 kilometre flood-hit area of Rajasthan and announce compensation for the affected farmers on the lines of compensation given to the Haryana farmers.

- (iv) *Need to set up electronic telephone exchanges in tehsil headquarters of Amroha Parliamentary Constituency.*

[English]

SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN (Amroha) : There are five Tehsil headquarters in Amroha parliamentary constituency. But surprisingly the electronic telephone is commissioned and functioning in one Tehsil i.e. Amroha only. In the other four Tehsils of Hasanpur, Dhanaura, Chanopur and Dhampur the old exchanges are operating with the result that STD facility is not available there. These areas are more or less separated from other parts of the country. Most of the time these exchanges do not function. As a result the telephones are out of order for a long period. A proposal to purchase land for setting up an electronic exchange and microwave Tower at Dhampur in district Bijnor is pending with the authorities for clearance. This may be sanctioned early. In Gajraula C-DOT exchange is set up but Microwave Tower with UHF link is not erected. At three centres, 2 to 4 S.T.D. lines are provided through Moradabad which are insufficient compared to the heavy demand. The Government had earlier assured that all Tehsil Headquarters would be connected by STC facility.

I, therefore, request the Minister of Communications to look into the matter and see that electronic telephone exchanges with STD facility are installed at Masanpur, Dhanaura, Gajraula in district Moradabad and Chandpur and Dhampur of district Bijnor.

- (v) *Need for reconstruction of Torsa bridge at the entry of Cooch-Behar and Assam.*

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : Floods of abnormal magnitude in Jalpaiguri and Cooch-Behar caused complete dislocation of rail and road communications. A number of railway bridges and road bridges were damaged completely. One railway-cum-road bridge at the entry of Cooch-Behar town and Assam is in a dilapidated condition. At any moment this bridge may collapse causing total dis-

location of communication. It is surprising that after so many days of devastation by flood in Jalpaiguri and Cooch-Behar no step has so far been taken by the railways for the restoration of the communication which is very important way to send relief materials to the affected places.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take immediate steps for restoration of the rail communication in the area and reconstruction of dilapidated Torsa railway-cum-road bridge.

- (vi) *Need to lay pipeline in Southern region particularly in Andhra Pradesh from western off-shore for supply of gas.*

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO (Bapatla) : Sir, the southern region and in particular Andhra Pradesh is suffering from power shortage. There is also shortage of coal and other sources of power.

Natural gas is a good substitute for generation of power. It is also necessary as feed stock for the manufacture of fertiliser for the production of pig iron and downstream industries. Gas found in Krishna-Godavari Basin have not been upto the expectation. While the production on date is about 2 million CMD it is not expected to rise beyond 3.5 million CMD even by 1994-95. The demand is not less than 8 million CMD.

The Government of India have agreed in principle to the concept of laying a pipeline to the southern region from western off-shore for the supply of gas. A feasibility study and project report has already been prepared and forwarded to the Union Government, but no action has so far been taken.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister for Power to take immediate steps in this regard.

- (vii) *Need to construct a bridge at Chaharlari Ghat between Sitapur and Baharaich in Uttar Pradesh for permanent solution to the problem of erosion caused by Ghaghra river in Baharaich.*

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI (Kaiserganj) : Thousands of

acres of agricultural land and hundreds of villages are affected due to erosion caused by Ghaghra river in Baharaich in Uttar Pradesh. The Government should construct urgent a bridge on Chahalari Ghat between Sitapur and Baharaich in Uttar Pradesh to permanently solve the problems of erosion caused by Ghaghra river. It will not only establish direct link between Sitapur and Baharaich but also prevent erosion of land on both the sides. For this purpose, some extra amount will have to be given in addition to the expenditure made on prevention of erosion. With the construction of this bridge, both the erosion of villages and agricultural land can be checked. I earnestly demand from the Government for a survey by experts and ensure the construction of the bridge there so that large-scale erosion of agricultural land and villages may be prevented and a direct link between Baharaich district and Sitapur may be established.

15.23 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DIS-
APPROVAL OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS
DUE TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS ORDINANCE AND
RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO
BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITU-
TIONS BILL—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Sribal-
lav Panigrahi was on his legs. You may
please continue.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deo-
garh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise to
support this Bill which has provided for
setting up of tribunals for speedy recovery
of dues of the banks and other financial
institutions.

Sir, such provisions in the relevant Act
were overdue. There can be no contro-
versy about it that there should be speedy
recovery of the outstanding dues of public
financial institutions like banks, LIC, etc.

Otherwise, huge amounts of the institutions
are blocked which also adversely affect
the overall development of the country.
Therefore, S.r, I welcome the Bill and as
I said regarding the details, there is scope
for some improvement and some sugges-
tions can be made there. But on the
whole there cannot be any opposition to
the Bill as such.

Sir, two Committees one headed by Shri
T. Tiwari as early as in 1991 and the
other famous Committee, i.e. Narasimham
Committee, have gone into the working of
the banks. These two committees have
gone into different hurdles and bottle-
necks including legal ones facing the
banking industry. They have come out
with the recommendation for establish-
ment of special tribunals with sum-
mary procedure for speedy recovery of
their dues. But one thing is not clear and
I would like a clarification from the hon.
Minister when he replies to the debate, as
to what is the thinking of the Government
about the number of tribunals. Of course
it will be a two tier tribunal, one the
original and other appellate. Large num-
ber of cases are pending in courts. Figures
are given as on 30-12-90. This is a very
staggering figure. From 30th Decemba,
1990 till now, about three years' time has
elapsed.

Meanwhile, these figures must have gone
up further with more number of cases
piling up. By that day i.e. the 30th Sep-
tember, 1990, more than 15 lakh cases
were filed by the public sector banks and
about 304 cases by the financial institu-
tions which have been pending in various
courts. All these cases after the passage
of this amending Bill, would naturally be
transferred to such tribunals which are
going to be set up in pursuance of the Act.
The amount involved in these cases is as
much as Rs. 5,622 crores for banks and
Rs. 390 crore in respect of the financial
institutions.

According to the present procedure of
our courts, these cases may go on, with-
out the special tribunals or summary pro-
cedure, for centuries. These cases number-
ing 15 lakhs, involving five to six thousand

crores of rupees, can go on for a long time, civil litigation in our country being what it is. There is no way other than going for such a provision. That is the order of the day even now. Whenever we want a speedy disposal of cases the system is such that we have to go in for special courts. In Bombay we have special courts in connection with the financial scam. Sometimes in some criminal cases, for crimes committed during riots etc. also special courts are established. Our judiciary is known for its delays. Somewhere there is a procedural delay. The procedure itself is such that we cannot get away from it. There are provisions where the delay can be avoided. But a lawyer or a party may resort to a different procedure and the case may get delayed. Sometimes it happens because the courts are overpressed, or overloaded and they do not have time. Adequate number of judges are also not there.

So, this is a welcome measure. But I would like to know the thinking of the Government. What action is proposed to be taken by the Government? Has the Government any thinking about it? By what time would they like these cases to be disposed of and what is the number of tribunals that would be required for such work? It is not going to be five or ten. A large number of tribunals are needed now, something like one in every district. Accordingly you have to make provision for such number of tribunals.

There was some opposition from the other side as to why the Government promulgated the Ordinance without waiting for the Monsoon Session of Parliament. But it clearly shows the anxiety and sincerity of purpose in this matter on the part of the Government.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I am just beginning. I will require five more minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You had taken ten minutes on the other day also.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : On Friday, you yourself were there and saw what an ordeal I had to go through.

I stood like this for half an hour on that day with your instruction to speak. But I was shouted down by the other side Members when the raised Narmada dam construction issue.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now the atmosphere is very calm and nobody is interfering you.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, you must be considerate to me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have withstood that onslaught.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I will conclude in another five minutes. The required number of tribunals should be established.

I have already dealt with the Ordinance. The Government means business and they are very sincere about it. That is very clear from the action they took, by way of this Ordinance. We should approve and ratify their action.

Sir, one apprehension was expressed by some learned hon. Members. Of course, there is one law that if there are huge arrears...

SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI (Amreli) : May I point out, Sir, that there is no quorum in the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The bell is being rung—

Now, the House enjoys the quorum. You may continue Mr. Panigrahi.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : So, Sir, about the Special Tribunal, I was saying that this proposal for the creation of Special Tribunal for the recovery of debt due to banks, which has now been given legislative shape, was going on for quite long but it is now taking shape. This is the most important recent development relevant to the business of banking. The

banking industry in our country has suffered a serious set back recently after the occurrence of the scam. This is the largest scam that has taken place ever in the world, not only in India. As you know, Sir, a Joint Parliamentary Committee is looking into it and I am sure, the recommendations of the JPC will be viewed seriously by the Government and the Government, while bringing about improvement by implementing the Narasimham Committee Report, will also give serious thought to this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Panigrahi, the time allotted to you is over and there are others also to participate in this.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I would just raise some points, Sir.

There is some study that indicates that nearly Rs. 20,000 crores of bank credit is non-performing. The RBI has estimated bad and doubtful debts at 14.16 per cent of this figure but other estimates put this figure at fifty per cent even higher than this. This also was considered by the Narasimham Committee and it came out with its recommendation for the establishment of one Assets Reconstruction Fund. A sum of Rs. 5,700 crores has already been proposed in the current budget for meeting this sort of debt. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether out of this Rs. 5,622 crores which is blocked by way of outstanding arrears, the Government has made any assessment as to how much of it is bad debt.

One very important point is that we may create Special Tribunal but there are some other difficulties also which need to be looked into. About this hypothecation in favour of banks, a statute is essential to define this. Otherwise there are different interpretations of this. Even law courts are not inclined to pass orders for confiscation of different properties, say, vehicles, etc. hypothecated to different banks. So, this should be clarified. Also, if the cases will be there, these will be decrees. Then how to execute such decrees in the present system? I feel there should

be a separate agency for this to trace the assets of the borrowers and to trace the borrowers themselves. In some cases they are running away from their declared places of work. Of course now the scam also has exposed the weaknesses of our banking system. So, all these weaknesses and loopholes should be plugged.

Lastly, I would say that banking industry has got to be competitive. Since nationalisation, our public sector banks are doing a good service. They are doing a commendable job in financing different project of poor people and they are being benefited. There is an apprehension here. There is a provision of Rs. 10 lakh maximum and a minimum of Rs. 1 lakh and cases involving amounts less than that will not be referred to the tribunals. There is a lot of harassment being done to these poor and unemployed people for recovery of their dues. We have to see that these people are left out and a sympathetic consideration is meted out to them.

Secondly about the loan waiver scheme, during the 1989 elections, Shri V. P. Singh and his Janata Dal had this in their election manifesto about waiver of loans. They gave general waiver of loans upto Rs. 10,000 in all sectors—artisans, agriculturists, upto Rs. 10,000. You know what happened thereafter. They could not comply with it. They did not honour their commitment in its entirety. This is an important and serious matter. They could not meet their obligation. There is an impression and a message throughout the country that the money need not be paid. Those who were in arrears, even if they wanted to pay,—I know of certain cases—the borrowers, the debtors went to the banks to repay the money. But the banks sent them back saying that there is a loan waiver scheme and they may wait for some time. It happened in that way. Meanwhile that amount has piled up and multiplied. What will happen to such cases?

I want to make one suggestion for the consideration of the Government. A limit in all such cases the interest part should

be waived. I know of cases where people were ready to pay but the banks and financial institutions sent them back referring to the waiver scheme. The amounts multiplied. Why should these people suffer now? They should not suffer for the mistake of the authorities. To that extent the interest should be waived and they should not be asked to pay it. This is one thing. This is the reality. I can name persons who are victimised in my constituency.

This is a serious matter. I hope that the points made by me would be considered by the Government. Finally I want to say that there is overlapping of banks. Banks have to be competitive. We have the concept of grameena banks—regional rural banks. They are banks only for namesake. Even for transaction like stipend of SC/ST students they are not dealing with it. They are not competent and authorised to deal with such things. What for these grameena banks exist? They are not serving the real purpose underlying the banking industry. Therefore, there is lot of pressure—on me at least, may be on some other Members also—not to have more branches of these grameena banks but to have more branches of regular banks i.e. commercial banks. This point also should be considered by the Government with all seriousness.

With these words, I submit that this is a good piece of legislation and I welcome this Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : Sir, I am on a point of order. The time allotted for this was two hours. Time taken till we started now was 2 hours and 19 minutes. Now we have taken another 30 minutes with the quorum bell and so on. We have crossed the time. We have not extended the time. That is the first

point. Without extension of time continuing the discussion would not be proper. It is necessary to point out that all the major opposition parties—the B.J.P., the Janata Dal, the C.P.M.—have crossed their time limit allotted to them. They have completed all their time. The ruling party had some time left which, I think, hon. Member Shri Panigrahi has more than satisfied the limit. This being the situation and considering the fact that we have a number of Bills and a lot of legislative business to be done, I would request—through you—to the House that we complete this Bill. I understand that there are number of people who have given their names for this Bill. Similar subjects can be raised later. I know why this Bill is so attractive—not for the Bill itself, but more because it deals with the financial sector that many people want to voice their views on quite important issues. I am not saying that the issues are irrelevant. But the point which I am making is...

[Translation]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : You are not providing equal time to all the Members. The day before yesterday Shri Charles spoke for half an hour. [English] At that time you did not raise this point.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM : I have a lot of respect, but...

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Raising the point in the middle, that is not proper, Sir.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I will have to. I have a lot of respect for Anna Joshi. In fact I have a special soft corner for him because he is offering me a lot of assistance in NCL in Pune. So, I do not want to say anything against him at the moment, but the point which is important is that the Congress Party was allotted 52 minutes, only 32 minutes' time is being taken. The BJP was allotted 25 minutes, it has taken 33 minutes; the Janata Dal was allotted 8 minutes, it has taken

14 minutes. Like this, everybody has accepted that his party crossed the time limit and even the Congress Party cannot have any more grouse because we have completed 20 minutes extra. Considering that all the parties have taken their time, may I request that we complete the debate now and call the hon. Minister to finish it? Otherwise we will never do any business in this House.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : For the last five minutes he is on a point of order. In which party's account this time will be adjusted.

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I would also ask you for a Ruling. I think he is aware that a point of order does not form part of the debate. The hon. Member does it on the Chair often for us and we are very happy when he sits in the Chair because that is a different Member we see. But the point that is important is... (Interruptions)... I think a Ruling is called for that a point of order never comes within the time taken in discussion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In the beginning also I told, the time allotted was two hours and at that time you have taken two hours and twenty minutes and subsequently our friend has also started. Anyhow he brought it to the notice of the entire House that the time allotted was so much and we have just exceeded. There are two or three Members more. So, kindly oblige and limit yourself to the time.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) : A statement on bomb explosion in Madras was likely to be made by the Government, as they said in the morning. I would like to know the time by which it would be made.

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : Yes, the Statement will come. I do not know whether it is 5.30 p.m. or 5.00 pm., I will check up. But I believe a notice has gone to the Speaker's office. I will inform the hon. Member whether it is at 5.00 p.m. or 5.30 p.m.—one of these two. (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can check it up and come back.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : I will check up the time and inform you the exact time, but definitely before we rise, the statement will be made, honourable Khuranaji.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, Mr. Anna Joshi. My request is, kindly limit to the time. Only two or three minutes each. Kindly oblige.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, I have noted down. Of course you are all very matured people, you know and you are fully aware of the timings also.

15.18 hrs.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the disapproval motion of the Ordinance, and at the same time to raise some points in respect of this Bill here introduced by the hon. Minister.

Sir, in the statement it is stated that banks and financial institutions find it very difficult with regard to the present procedure of getting the dues to banks and financial institutions and therefore, the recovery of loans has become a big problem and a huge amount of the public money is lying idle and it cannot be utilised for public purposes.

Sir, this point is being discussed in the banking system for long. A Commission was appointed under the chairmanship of Shri Tewari in 1980. At that time also.

the Tewari Committee had suggested establishing of tribunals for recovering the loans due to the banks and the financial institutions. But it remains unanswered as to why, at that time only, these tribunals were not established. That is one query I would like the hon. Minister to answer. It is stated that even now the banks and the financial institutions are snowed down under mountains of bad and doubtful debts. The Nationalised Banks would probably have gone down without a trace if the Government had not come to their rescue. The Finance Minister has decided to interject Rs. 5,700 crore for covering up the loss due to these contaminated debts or bad debts which are estimating more than Rs. 10,000 crore.

Sir, one would like to ask as to why these loans of more than Rs. 10,000 crore have become bad debts or doubtful debts or contaminated debts. Has this something to do with your loan melas or with the political gimmick you were out to play with the banking system? The banking system has not its own norms and it has got its own rules. But you have compelled this banking system to overrule all their systems and therefore, they have to stand Rs. 10,000 crore loans as bad debts and then you have to give that amount from your budget now. How have you decided that? Is it the right way for recovering this Rs. 10,000 crore loans by only giving the amount from the budget? You will have to answer that question.

Sir, the second point which I would like to place before the House is that, in spite of the Tewari Committee report and in spite of the experience from these loan melas, the Government is still playing with the banks or it is not paying proper attention to the working of the banks and therefore, it happened that during the period of one year, that is, from March, 1991 to April, 1992, one man named Harshad Mehta and his group of companies were looting the banks for the whole year and all your responsible banks officers, banking system and the Government officers were helping them with political backing. So,

this one man was looting the banks for one full year. First it was said that the Securities Scam was a fraud of Rs. 100 to Rs. 600 crore. Then it has risen to Rs. 3,000 crore and when the CBI has filed cases against Harshad Mehta, his five family members and three bank officers it has risen to Rs. 17,000 crore. It is stated here that the report has indicated public sector banks, foreign banks, financial services companies and public sector undertakings for misusing public funds involving a nexus amongst the brokers, bank officers and senior bureaucrats with political backing. Actually, they were looting Rs. 17,000 crore and the RBI officers and other Government officers were just helping them. You must have heard what hon. Member, Shri A. C. Charles has said last time that if an young entrepreneur goes to the bank asking for Rs. 5000 loan, he is asked to bring so many certificates and so many forms. These people on fake security go to the bank and get Rs. 5 crores, Rs. 6 crores. Do Mr. Harshad Mehta and his allies do it alone? Therefore, before coming with this Bill that the banks are in danger and so we have to establish tribunals, as if those people are responsible for all these things, the Minister should have explained what he is doing against those people who are responsible for the fraud of Rs. 17,000 crores.

You have appointed the Janakiraman Committee and the JPC. They have given their interim reports. The reports say, we do not know where this money has gone. Fraud has taken place, crores of rupees have been looted. But we do not know who have looted it and where the money has gone. When you do not know about Rs. 17,000 crores and where it has gone, what right you have got to say we are now appointing tribunals and that tribunals would be given tremendous power.

During my speech in the Budget discussion, I have said, security scam was a peanut compared to the fraud that may reveal losses of thousands of crores of rupees. It could be even Rs. 50,000 crores when

the reconciliation for the nationalised banks which is pending for years and years together is completed. Out of the 20 nationalised banks, 19 banks are not able to complete their reconciliation. They do not know where they stand. They do not know how much is the loss. The Chartered Accountants' Association which is a very prestigious institution has said that this fraud may even go to Rs. 150,000 crores.

You have shown in your statement that Rs. 6,000 crores are lying under recovery of loan. There are 15 lakh cases amounting to Rs. 5,000 crores and 304 cases of loan recovery from the financial institutions amounting to a sum of Rs. 904 crores, totalling about Rs. 6,000 crores. You are worried for Rs. 6,000 crores only. You do not worry for Rs. 10,000 crores which are under bad and doubtful debts. You do not worry for Rs. 17,000 crores which has been looted by Harshad Mehta and his allies. You do not care for Rs. 50,000 crores frauded of the 19 nationalised banks. You are worried about only Rs. 6,000 crores. Of course, you are not sure whether the tribunals also will help you in recovering of these loans and debts.

I have raised these three points which have jeopardised the whole banking system as well as shaken the very faith of common men in the banking system.

15.59 hrs. (Shri Peter G. Marbaniang—in the chair).

Up till now, all of us were thinking that at least in banking system, there was no fraud. We could believe in them and we could have good dealings with them. But there also these types of things have happened. Therefore, before appointing the tribunals, I want an answer from the Minister on all these points. Tiwari Commission has suggested in 1980 for appointing tribunals. Why have you not gone for that then?

16.00 hrs.

We have given relief to you ten years earlier. You have made provision for

Rs. 10,000/- without attending any tribunal. You have straightaway given the money from the Budget.

How are you going to recover Rs. 17,000 crores from Shri Harshad Mehta? Who is responsible for that? What have you done against this? That is my third point.

The fourth point is about conciliation of nationalised banks. Why is it not being carried out? Why are you afraid of this?

I want your answer on all these points.

We come straightway to the Bill itself. Some of my colleagues have referred to p. 5 Clause 21. While making the appeal in some cases, the condition is that :—

“Where an appeal is preferred by any person from whom the amount of debt is due to a bank or a financial institution or consortium of banks of financial institutions, such appeal shall not be entertained by the Appellate Tribunal unless such person has deposited with the Appellate Tribunal 75 per cent of the amount of debt so due from him as determined by the Tribunal under Section 19.”

If he has that capacity of paying, why should he go to Appellate Tribunal for 75 per cent of the loan? He can himself solve the problem. Therefore, if you really want to do him justice, the condition of his going to the Appellate Authority should be waived or at least it should be somewhat watered down. Further, it is a source of corruption. It can be.

“Provided that the Appellate Tribunal may, for reasons to be recorded in writing waive or reduce the amount.”

Why is this permission necessary? If you want to give relief, give it to all those who are going to the Appellate court. Why only to some of them? It means some of them who will just satisfy that he cannot pay that much amount, and if the Presiding Authority allows, then it will be waived. Why this condition should be there?

Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Minister through you that if you want to give this concession, then that concession should be given to all. Therefore, this clause should be reconsidered.

This Tribunal will be only for the cases above Rs. 10 lakhs. How have you decided that it should be for Rs. 10 lakhs? what are the cases? What is the principle? We can be satisfied if those details are given.

I am not opposing this Bill.

But, at the same time, before speaking on this Bill or before taking the decision, the Government should explain its position and the efforts it has made. The Government should explain the four points that I have raised.

Then I can support this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Prof. Susanta Chakraborty will now speak. We are running out of time. I can allow only three minutes for you to speak.

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY (Howrah) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it cannot be completed in three minutes time.

Sir, next year, we will be having Silver Jubilee celebrations of the nationalisation. In July 1969, 14 private sector banks were nationalised to control our economy to serve heights and cater to the needs of the development of our economy. After 24 years, the view is that, after all, banks should run commercially and the Government, perhaps, is not in a position to control it.

The question of non-performing assets, the question of sticky advances and the question of bad debts are some times used by the banking division to justify their claims.

The present position is surely alarming. Non-performing assets and advances are to the tune of Rs. 20,000 crore, bad debts are to the tune of Rs. 10,000 crore.

There are more than 15 lakh cases of the public sector banks pending with the courts and with regard to the financial institutions, there are some 304 cases. So, the number of cases, with the advancement of days, are mounting up.

Now, for the purpose of speedy recovery of those bad debts, the Government, through this Bill, has sought to set up two Tribunals; one is debt recovery Tribunal and the other is Appellate Tribunal, in accordance with the advice of the Tiwari Committee and the Narasimhan Committee.

Sir, the question is, whether there was any absence of law, whether there was any absence of rule that the Government or the banking division could not control it. The Banking Regulations Act, Section 35 (A) gives enough powers to the Reserve Bank of India, to monitor the things, to initiate mandatory action. But, why did they remain silent? Why did it give room for hair splitting on whether circular was an instruction or any advice issued under the Act? These are certain important questions, which the Government should surely answer.

Sir, from the securities scam, the Government should learn certain lessons. How does these bad debts occur in our country? From the draft report of the JPC, what we find is this.

The irregularities in the securities transactions of some banks were noticed as early as 1986-87. Yet, the top management of the Reserve Bank of India failed to initiate timely action. Now, here is a Tribunal. If this is the attitude, do you believe Mr. Minister that the things will be improved?

Second, the Follow up action on the findings of the RBI inspection took a couple of years to materialise. Thus, it is obvious that the entire thing was an exercise in futility.

The Finance Minister himself made a deposition before the JPC and it came to the Press that the diversion of funds from banking system for deployment

in other areas including financing of securities transactions in the stock market is primarily a fraud, which was perpetuated by collusion between certain brokers and some officials who deliberately violated the established rules.

So, Sir, the question is, in which way the Government wants to function. Does it want to function in the model as laid down by Shri Janardhan Poojari and organise loan melas or does it want to develop a system where some Dalals and Mehtas can loot our country, encouraged by some political, by some Minister, by some politicians of the ruling party, who, today, feel encouraged by political blood truly contaminated by defections? It is running this way. So the Government should answer those questions. What about the reconciliation of grants? This question also should be answered. What about the advances and loans that have been given to the companies which made them sick and for which Mr. Ganapathi, the ex-Chairman of the BIFR made the remark that to make a company sick is business with some people? What about the sticky advances? What about the recommendations of the Ghosh Committee on fraud that people holding high offices in the banking division should not be permitted to hold high offices in certain private sector companies? What is the Government doing with that? What is the attitude of the Government with regard to the recommendation that if a person, three or four months before his retirement, gives some sticky advances to some persons, this type of advances and grants should not be permitted? The Government should take certain positive stand on these things; otherwise things cannot improve.

One more point to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government is that in order to show good health the bad debts actually provided for are written off or depressed as much as possible. This is known to everybody. The very fact that banks do not have to disclose the actual position or the state of health of

their debts in their annual balances help them towards this end. We are speaking of accountability; we are speaking of transparency; we are speaking of profitability. Then why is there the secrecy clause? Bad debts amount to Rs. 10,000 crore. Which are the banks which are responsible for these things? If you go to the courts, the names of those persons are known. I do not know what is the difficulty of the Government to make those names public?

As regards the Bill I think there are certain lacunae and I draw the attention of the Minister towards them. By the very definition of the Bill, interest is included in it. What I apprehend is that because it refers to any liability which is owed to a bank or a financial institution or a consortium of banks and financial institutions during the course of any business actively undertaken by them under any law for the time being, shear of a legal jargon this means debt arising out of both banking and non-banking sector operations would be transferred to this tribunal. That is not the wish of this Bill. So while framing rules, I would request the Government to consider this aspect.

Secondly, there is no provision in the Bill to determine other interests in the mortgaged property. As a result, the first creditor who obtains a recovery may pocket the entire proceeds of the sale. This should be given due attention.

Lastly, large projects may have a number of creditors; many of them are foreign lenders and multinational agencies. These creditors who are not covered by the Bill will have to press for proceedings in a civil court. If that is so, in that case lawyers feel that there would be a cause for conflict of interests between the tribunals and the civil courts. So while framing the rules I would request the Government to look into these lacunae.

Again, I would request the hon. Minister to see to the recommendations of the Ghosh Committee on fraud and to realise that the system which they have developed

and the practice which they have developed. Those are the main causes behind such a state of affairs. It is no, that there was no institution. Surely tribunal is necessary; surely some mechanism is necessary and you are setting it up. But first make up your mind and decide that you are not going to interfere in the banking procedure. Please see that political persons do not interfere in this.

Thank you; I conclude, Sir.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Sir, I rise to support the Bill. In fact, this is a Bill which should have been brought forward much earlier. I will not repeat what my colleagues have already said, that is about Tiwary Committee and the Narasimhan Committee.

I want to know certain things from the hon. Minister when he is replying to the discussion. He has mentioned that 15 lakh cases have been filed by the public sector banks; and under section (1), the provisions of this Act shall not apply if it is less than Rs. 10 lakhs. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether each one of these 15 lakh cases is involved in Rs. 10 lakhs and more; or is it between Rs. one lakh and Rs. 10 lakhs. That information, I want to know from the hon. Minister.

This Bill is very essential because it is so happening that—I do not say that each and every company or industrial unit is doing that—a good number of them are doing in such a way that they are escalating the cost estimates of the project proposal—value of the land, machinery, buildings, etc. They escalate it to get sometimes subsidy or higher loan from the commercial institutions, as a result of which the viability aspect is being eroded and several units are becoming sick. I know that there are some cases where the unit has become sick and the same person is starting some other company, again taking a loan of Rs. 15 lakhs or Rs. 20 lakhs or sometimes Rs. 1 crore from the commercial institutions.

So, I support this Bill. Unless you recover the money from these people, you will not be in a position to give loan to the farmers or small traders or petty traders or some small scale industrialists. I would like to say that after the nationalisation of the banks, by and large, the banks are compelled to cater to the needs of the farmers, traders or small scale sectors. Priority sectors are fixed for them. But, in spite of that, the practical aspect is that till today, 25 per cent of the farmers are not covered by the bank loans. What is happening is that every bank—either State Bank or any other bank for that matter—is trying to give the money to a small number of big people and then they say that we have given so much amount of money to so and so sector; we have given so many crores to so and so sector. That is because some influential persons at Delhi are greasing the palms of the Regional Manager or the General Manager or the Deputy General Manager. By this one is able to get crores of rupees as loan whereas, the small farmers, the small scale industrialists—even in the towns it is happening and it might have come to your knowledge also—or the fruit vendors and other small people are not getting the loans from the banks. They will have to pay in our area—I am saying about my area, I do not know what is happening in other areas—an exorbitant interest. Sometimes it will be 120 per cent, you will not believe. Out of the 100 rupees, the person who gives money to them, the financial company or the creditors, holds back Rs. 10 and give them only Rs. 90 which they have to pay back every day as one rupee, in the following three months. Like this, they are charging exorbitant rates.

So, my suggestion to the Government is that you may kindly cater to the needs of the small people and you can insist on security, without that sometimes the possibility of recovering the money will be very weak. The point is that the needs of those people should be taken care of. Otherwise, the nationalisation of banks will have no meaning. Sir, our Agriculture Minister is going out now; in the coming

few years, we have to increase the agricultural production from 180 million tonnes to 210 million tonnes. How are we going to achieve it unless you help the farmers, mostly the small farmers? Similar is the case with other trades also. My suggestion to the Government is that you may take security, surety; but give loan to the needy people—small farmers or petty traders, etc. In the urban areas, it help them to stand on their own legs. Self-employment will help them. So far, no sincere efforts have been made to recover the money. I will not go into what Mr. Anna Joshi has said. My suggestion to the Government is to ensure and take all possible steps and give clear directions to all the banks to cater to the needs of small people in particular. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) : Mr. Chairman, sufficient discussion has taken place on this Bill. I would like to make only three or four points in short. Of course, in order to recover the debts of banks and financial institutions, it was necessary to establish some speedy remedy tribunals though I do not always subscribe to this view that establishment of tribunals is the real answer to the delays in civil courts but that subject is not here today for discussion. So, I would not dwell on it for a long time. What I want to submit is this. In our enthusiasm to create a speedy machinery for recovery of national securities and assets, we should not make poverty as justice as casualties as far as this machinery is concerned. In the first place, we are trying to establish tribunals for speedy recovery of debts. Now, the jurisdiction is initially Rs. 10 lakhs and the Government has the power to increase the jurisdiction to Rs. 1 lakh only. That means, several cases will be covered by these tribunals if the Government thinks of making the jurisdiction of these tribunals to Rs. 1 lakh debt only. Therefore, the Government will have to think as to how many tribunals they are going to establish for dealing with such cases. Unless Government takes a very bold stand

of establishing as many tribunals as the lower civil courts are there it will not serve the purpose but this will work as hardship to the poor debtors. Now, Rs. 1 lakh is comparatively a small amount from the debtors point of view and if it includes the interest also, then the principal amount must be a very small amount and if a debtor, having taken this principal amount has to go even to a district from a village or far-off place, it will work a great hardship and we shall be unnecessarily establishing or having establishment charges of establishing these tribunals; we will be working hardship as far as the poor people are concerned.

Then, the second casualty as far as the poor people are concerned is this. No specific procedure has been laid down in this Bill for trying these matters by the tribunals. It merely says that certain provisions of the civil court will apply and the tribunal will establish its own procedures. What procedure they will be establishing is not known to us. From the cursory glance, it appears that show cause notice will go to him and he has to show cause within 30 days and for that purpose, he will be given an opportunity to be heard. I do not know what kind of hearing he will get. If a very summary hearing is given, perhaps hardship will be there as far as the poor debtors are concerned.

We should never presume that banks are always correct and that their accounts are to be accepted by the courts. There may be cases where hearing will be necessary and justice will have to be done in a proper way. Therefore, it must be ensured that rules of natural justice are followed by the tribunals and as far as framing of these rules are concerned, subordinate legislation will have to take care of these aspects.

My third point to which serious attention has to be paid is about the power given to the recovery officers. This Bill empowers the recovery officers to detain a person for not paying his debts. Now Sir, I submit that detention for a civil debt has been outdated and even

during the British regime, this provision was removed from the Civil Procedure Code. Nobody has ever been detained for civil debt in this country and so was the case even in British Raj too. But here, we are providing civil prisons and civil detention for a person who may not be able to pay debts. There may be some persons who cannot repay debts only because of poverty. So, we are providing civil prisons even for poverty! This step that we are taking is very dangerous. Secondly, to whom is this power given? Under this Bill this power is given to the recovery officers. As to who are going to be appointed as recovery officers, nothing is stated in this Bill. As far as the qualifications of the recovery officers are concerned, are they going to be given the status of district judges or are they going to be the bailiffs of courts? I say this because in civil courts, there are bailiffs who go for the attachment of property. Their only duty is to go and attach the property. Are these recovery officers going to be bailiffs? Will they be armed with this wide power of detaining a person for not paying debts. Mr. Chairman Sir, this provision which is going to be introduced is very serious and the Government should have a second look as far as the civil prison is concerned. If this provision were to be retained, I would submit that the recovery officers should be people with high qualifications and they should be very highly responsible persons, as far as such matters are concerned.

Many people have spoken about the deposit of 75 per cent of the dues before filing an appeal. Of course, court has the power to waive. Mr. Anna Joshi has also referred to it. What I submit is that making the debtor deposit 75 per cent of the amount is tantamount to denying him the right of appeal completely. In other words, we are denying natural justice and the right of appeal as far as debtors are concerned. Even though the power is given to the court, we just do not know whether it is used in a *mola fide* or *bona fide* manner. Therefore, this provision also requires to be gone into properly and a

second look will have to be given to it by the Government.

These are some of my observations as far as the Bill is concerned. I support the Bill.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Chairman, I rise generally to welcome the Bill. But I find a lacuna in the statement of objects and reasons. The statement gives us the figure of nearly 6,000 cases, ending 30 September 1990. In a reply to Parliament on 6 August 1993, the hon. Minister has given us the latest figures as available on September 1992, and of September 1991. I do not see any reason why in this Bill old statistics of 1990 have been relied upon. The reason might lie in this, Mr. Chairman, that the figure show—on a comparison of 1991 and 92 figures, that the overdues of SBI increased from Rs. 5884 crore to Rs. 6216 crore; of other nationalised banks from Rs. 1283 crore to Rs. 14281 crore and the total thereof, of the banks alone, rose from Rs. 17967 crore to Rs. 20498 crore; which implies, Mr. Chairman that while for the last 10 years we have been talking about the best way of recovering the overdues, they have been piling up such dues merrily. Even in the last two years, when perhaps this Bill was being drafted, the banks were unheedful of any other restraint placed on them, and they were simply piling up these dues. I do not know who is responsible for this. The Minister has said in his reply that certain executive directions have been given to the banks. Of course, Government does not have a direct control of the banks except through their Directors. I assume that the RBI has some control. But, obviously, those were only executive instructions and they have had no effect. So, during the last 2 years it is found that nearly Rs. 3000 crores of overdues and bad debt have been added. I would like to know whether the Ministry propose to take any action to fix the responsibility that

while the entire country is shouting about the piling of irrecoverable and bad debts by the banks, why should these be piled up.

In several replies in the past the Hon. Finance Minister has said that confidentiality of the banking system must be respected. Confidentiality, Mr. Chairman, has become a cover for, shall we say, mismanagement. In fact I do not see any reason why those who are bad debtors; who are not in a position to repay or are considered by the bank to be evading repayment on one pretext or the other, at least the Parliament cannot be taken into confidence once in a year that overdues above a certain level can be compiled into a statement and that statement can be placed before the country. I recall, Sir, that in France a system was adopted for reducing the Municipal Tax evasion. The system was that a typed list of Municipal Tax evaders was placed in the Town Hall and the result was that by sheer social pressure the evasion came down. I feel, Sir that if the information is made public that such and such individuals or companies owe so much to the banking system, the level of evasion will go down.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay-North) : Even M.P.s do not pay till it is published in the Press.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : M.P.s are a class by themselves.

There is also a lack of mutual communication among the banking system. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the banks have some system of consulting each other because the same party which is evading repayment to one bank may go to another bank and take another loan. So, is there any system of cross-checking or any system of monitoring so that this sort of persistent bad debtors can be brought under some control?

Thirdly, and this I say from my own personal experience, the banks suddenly

wake up after year and then send notice. This particularly happens in the case of small borrowers, some came running to me and said that had they been given any notice once in six months, they would have been in a better position to repay. The bank has not sent any notice to them for the last 10 years and then suddenly it woke up and sent out notice. I think that is also another reason for piling up of bad debts. I think there should be some system whereby every borrower is told, at least every six months, what is overdue against him.

I find there are certain lacunae in the Bill. I draw your attention to Section 19. Section 19 says that a bank may make an application. Why are we giving this option? If we are establishing a system for the collection of debts and we are fixing a certain financial limit, we should also fix a time limit and tell the banks that if any amount above a certain limit is owed to a bank for a period of 6 months, or for a year, two years, five years or six years then the bank has a duty to go to the tribunal.

The bank must have a mandate to go to the Tribunal. The bank must take the step. The bank cannot lend itself to the situation in which corruption can play its own role. It takes action in some cases and it forgets the other. I think, there should be a very clear cut rule that the banks have no option in the matter and that if a debt above a certain limit is due for a period above a certain limit then the banks must approach the Tribunal and file a suit.

Similarly, there must be a certain personal responsibility and that must be fixed in the rules. If the Manager or the Director of that bank does not take action, then he is somehow colluding with the debtor and therefore, there should be a possibility of an action against him.

Secondly, Sir, I have read the Bill. Perhaps, I may be wrong but I do not find any time limit for the Tribunals' wheels to turn. They give a notice. But how long after filing a case. That is not

laid down. How soon do they take cognizance is not laid down. How much time will they take in coming to a final decree is not laid down. I think, both these positions have to be clarified, otherwise, once again, the Tribunal themselves will become subject to this corrupting atmosphere.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Within six months, they have to complete.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I am sorry. Then, I missed it.

Thirdly, there is no provision for making an Annual Statement. After all, we are going to pass this Bill in the hope that the system would be remedied. Now, we would like to know every year how far has it been remedied. We would like to have a provision or a promise or at least an assurance from the hon. Minister that once a year, he will come and tell us, without our asking questions, that the number of pending cases and the total amount due has come down from a certain level to a lower level within a certain period of time. At least there should be a provision to that effect.

Fourthly, I would now like to come to a point that has already been made regarding the number and location of banks. I personally disagree with Mr. Dighe. I do not think that a man who owes a lakh of rupees asked to come to the Districts Headquarters faces a big handicap. I think, they do come to the District Headquarters for many a reason. Now, the districts are getting smaller and smaller. Therefore, so long as the Minister has such a Tribunal, at least at the district level, then I think, there shall be no particular handicap.

Fifthly, there should be a limit—this is the other side of the story—on the expenditure on litigation by the banks. I know, all banks, Mr. Chairman, have some times been spending much more than the amount over due on the process of collecting it. To collect a lakh of rupees, they were prepared to spend the taxpayers' money up to Rs. 5 lakh or Rs. 10 lakh.

That includes fat fees to the lawyers. I think, within the rules, there should be some provision somewhere that a prudent decision may be taken as to how much can be spent on recovering a certain loan. If the cost of recovery is going to exceed the amount that the bank is finally going to get, it is better to write it off and the write off rules must be brought up to date.

Finally, I would like to make one point and that is with regard to the management of the banks at the higher levels. Many of us, Sir, have been asking questions in the Parliament about the vacancies on the Boards of Directors. That the banks have been mis-managed, are being mis-managed does not require any commentary. I think that is a well known fact that the country is aware of. One of the reasons why this is so is that, in their wisdom, the Government do not fill the vacancies on the Board of Directors. For some reason or the other—I do not know with what political motivation—they keep these places vacant. Sometimes, they fill it with people who are not qualified or represent a particular group or constituency that they are supposed to represent. So, either the directors are wrongly selected or the selection becomes such a heavy burden on the political will and wisdom of the Government that they do not make any selections at all. I do not know how many such vacancies have been filled during the last two years by the present Government. My personal feeling is that, perhaps, hundreds of posts of such vacancies exist in the banks and financial institutions. I do not think they can run the banks prudently and wisely only with the help of Government-appointed managing Director and with the help of one of your officers in the Government who sits in the Board of Directors.

I think banks have to be brought under social control. The banks were nationalised with a purpose. There has to be an effective measure of social control on the banks. Therefore, I would suggest that—whatever tribunals you may set up and

whatever system you may introduce, I welcome it; I welcome the establishment of the tribunals; I welcome the summary procedure; I welcome the possibility that through this method you may be able to bring back all the frozen money back into circulation—unless banks are managed properly, the banking system will continue to suffer and the bank credibility; and the confidence which they should inspire in the public, regarding the economic health of the country shall not rise to the level that we desire.

With these words, I welcome the Bill. I hope the hon. Minister will reply to some of the points that have been raised on the Floor of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. chairman, Sir, a lot has been said on this and now a statement also has been made. The question is that he had made a request to provide security, in the House and all the opposition parties had supported him. But he was not given security and in the meantime this mishap occurred. You did not say anything on this aspect... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Perhaps, you did not listen to my statement carefully. I said that the security was given but he sent the security personnel to his quarters... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : It was his private security.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : No, it was provided by the Government.

[English]

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO (Bapatla) : Sir, only one gunman was given.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Allow the Minister to make the second statement.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : It is very clearly mentioned in the statement... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : The security was denied to him by the Government. Sir, the Government included here, informed the culprits and asked them to bomb him. The Home Minister of Andhra Pradesh is doing all this. The Home Minister belongs to the same district where late Shri Siva Reddy belongs. He himself has ordered these people to go and bomb him. This is what has happened in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Even after 24 hours of the orders of the Speaker of the Assembly, security was denied to him.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Chairman Sir, just because the hon. Member has pointed out this thing, let me also put it on record. I had a word with the hon. Chief Minister. He said there is frictional rivalry among groups. There are nearly 23 cases registered against late Shri Shiva Reddy—8 murder cases, 8 other criminal cases and 7 other cases, total 23 cases. The security was given to him as I have said in the statement. The State Government have informed that he left the security and told them to go home and he said that he would go without security. This is the information given by the State Government.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : It is said that the Home Minister of the State is involved in this incident. He has been accused for it. He has a hand in it... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no explanation need be given.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : All these queries can be answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Nitish Kumar, you are a very senior member, please do not interrupt. Minister may now make the statement regarding bomb explosion at Madras.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : May I, with your permission make a statement about the bomb explosion which occurred at the R. S. S. Headquarters at Madras on 8 August 1993 ?

Statement by Minister

16.40 hrs.

(i) *Fatal mob attack on Shri P. Siva Reddy, Telugu Desam Party, M.L.A.*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : As per the information received from the State Government, Shri P. Siva Reddy, Telugu Desam (TDP) MLA from Jammalamadugu was attending the Monsoon Session of the A.P. Legislative Assembly. He was provided with two State Police guards. He also had two private gunmen who accompanied him.

On 7-8-1993 at about 9.00 A.M. Shri P. Siva Reddy, MLA (TDP) alongwith the official gunmen Shri K. Nathaneil, Head Constable-477 and two more private gunmen visited the house of Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, M.L.A. (TDP) and from there he visited the house of Shri D. Venkateswara Rao, MP (TDP) at Banzara Hills, at 10.30 A.M. At 11.40 AM, Shri P. Siva Reddy asked Shri K. Nathaneil and his two private gunmen to go back to his quarter, No. 135, New MLA Quarters, and he proceeded with Shri Kala Venkata Rao, M.L.A. (TDP) in a maruti car to attend a marriage at Shri Satya Sai Kalayana Mandapam, Srinagar Colony, without taking any securitymen with him. The gunman of Shri Rao, was also not with him. Around 12.00 noon, when he was coming out of the marriage hall and getting into the maruti car, some unidentified persons hurled bombs at Shri P. Siva Reddy, who died on the spot. Shri Rao, and Shri A. Suryanarayana Raju, former Deputy Speaker, A.P. Legislative Assembly, were also injured in the bomb attack and they were admitted in Hospital and they are progressing. Two

culprits have been apprehended so far. The Police have registered a case, under relevant legal provisions, which has been entrusted to the State CID for investigation.

On the afternoon of 8th August, 1993, Shri P. Siva Reddy's body was buried in his native village in Gundlakyunta near Jammalamadugu with police honours in the presence of senior officials. The Bandh call given by T.D.A. on the August, 1993, passed off peacefully but for a few minor incidents.

16.47 hrs.

(ii) *Bomb explosion at the R.S.S. headquarters in Madras on 8th August 1993.*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : As per the information received from the State Government, an explosion occurred in the office of the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh at No. 1 and 2, M. V. Naidu Street, Chetpet, Madras, on 8-8-93 at 13.45 hours. This explosion ripped through the vital columns of the building premises and brought down the ceiling of the first and second flour halls. Caretaker of the RSS office and some members of the organisation, who were then in the premises, bore the burnt of the explosion.

On receipt of information, the Commissioner of Police and his personnel, alongwith Fire Brigade personnel, rushed to the blast site and started relief operations. They discovered 16 persons from the shattered building. Of them 11 persons were declared dead. The bodies of 10 persons have been identified and enquiries are being made to identify the remaining deadbody. Of the nine injured persons, 5 were treated as in patients and 4 as out-patients.

On a complaint from Thiru Srinivasan, Organiser, Madras District Hindu Munnani, a criminal case in F-5 Chetpet Police Station Crime No 1137/93, u/s 120-B, 302, 326, 153-A IPC, section 9(b) (1) (a) (b) of Indian Explosives Act, 1884 and Section 3 and 4 of Explosive Substances Act, 108 has been registered. The State Crime Branch, C.I.D., has taken up the investigation of the case. Sniffer dogs have been used to find out the cause of the explosion. Central Govt. Forensic experts have reached the State, to provide expert evaluation.

The State Government of Tamil Nadu has announced an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 1 lakh each to the families of those who were killed and Rs. 10,000/- to those who were injured in the blast.

The State Government has alerted the district administration to take immediate steps to maintain law and order and communal harmony. It has instructed the Administrative and Police officers to provide full bandobust to all religious and other institutions including Government buildings and to intensify patrolling to ensure that no untoward incident takes place.

I would like to inform the House that in the first week of July 1993, I along with senior officers of Ministry of Home Affairs had visited the State and held discussions with the Chief Minister and State Govt. Officials on the security scenario and urged the State Govt. to take adequate precautionary measures to ensure against acts of militancy taking place.

Along with the Official of my Ministry, I visited the site of the explosion, at Madras, on 9th August 1993 and held discussions with the Chief Minister and other State Govt. Officials. The Chief Minister had also visited the site of the explosion.

During discussions the State Govt. Officials showed me a small container with some used explosive, copper wire and transformer which were recovered from the site. The explosion did not appear to have been caused by use of RDX explosive. However, explosive experts would be able to determine the nature of the explosion.

On my enquiring about the security arrangements in the building, the State Govt. officials informed that it was guarded by the State Police personnel till the ban on RSS was in force. I was told that after the revocation of the ban, the RSS office bearers did not allow the State Police personnel to guard the premises and stated that their own volunteers will guard the building.

We have offered the State Government all assistance to enable expeditious investigation of the case and apprehension of the culprits. The Chief Minister, during discussions, suggested that the case may be investigated by the CBI. Considering the nature of the explosion, it is felt that the State Police can efficiently investigate the case. However, if the preliminary investigations by the State Govt. reveal wider ramifications, calling for a CBI probe, we shall review the matter.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar) : Mr. Chairman, I want to draw the attention to the last paragraph of his statement and I regard it as ironical that while in the case of Maharashtra the Maharashtra Government was saying that their police was very efficient and the hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs wrote to the Prime Minister urging him that there should be a CBI inquiry into the bomb blast in Bombay, here in this case, the State Government itself is requesting the Central Government to hold an inquiry by the CBI and the Minister of State of Home Affairs is certifying that

the local Government is very efficient ! He says, "It is felt that the State Police can efficiently investigate the case." Of course, he has indicated that the Government is open to review.

What I would like to emphasise is that it would be wrong to view these incidents piecemeal. It would be right to take a comprehensive view of the security climate in the country and all these elements who are indulging in Bombay blasts of this kind have come to be convinced that in the present set-up they could do anything and get away with it. Is it not true that in respect of the bomb blasts which took place in March, till now not even a charge-sheet has been filed, no one has been booked, and no one has been punished for it ? Is it not a contributory factor to incidents of this kind ? Whether there is a nexus or not can be established only after a thorough investigation and here is a case where the Chief Minister herself suspects—it may not be established after a preliminary inquiry that there may be ramifications outside Tamil Nadu, may be, and who knows even outside the country and therefore it would be proper if the CBI undertakes an inquiry. Why should there be a hesitation in this matter, particularly, from a Minister who has been insisting that there should be a CBI inquiry in respect of Maharashtra ?

And secondly, I do not know if the hon. Minister in his talks yesterday was apprised of the fact that a person by name Palani Baba had made a public speech some time back that the RSS headquarters and the Kanchi Mutt should be blown up. Is he aware of it and if so, has he advised the State Government to do anything in that regard ?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am really surprised to hear the statement of my senior friend, senior

parliamentarian, Shri Advani, which is totally giving an impression that the total security scenario is so bad that everybody can take the people for a ride. He had seen the security scenario on 25th Feb. I need not go into the details. (*Interruptions*).

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : Your valour is seen there only.

[*English*]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Let me explain... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : Please stop for a minute. You made a mention of the valour of your party. You can show your valour on a political party which is committed to peaceful means and not in Bombay, Madras or Srinagar. You show your valour here.

[*English*]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Shri Advani, you have spoken. Give me a chance to speak... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : You have started on a wrong note.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sir, he is talking of the security scenario.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : Let him show his security scenario in Kashmir, Bombay and Madras. He thinks that he displayed his great valour on 25th... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, I am just telling that the security scenario in the country is not that the people in this country can be taken for a ride. Sir.

the situation in Kashmir is also improving. Because of you, the situation in Kashmir is going bad. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) : They are responsible for Kashmir. Situation in Kashmir is worsening by his visits to that area.

[*English*]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : I charge, because of the BJP, the situation in Kashmir is going bad; because of your slogans and statements, the situation in Kashmir is going bad.

Now, let us talk about the facts... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Kashmir remained closed for seven days. For the whole last week it was closed and they are showing us the security scenario in Delhi... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Why do you jump on Kashmir? What have you been saying in Doda? (*Interruptions*) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have just given an explanation to what Shri Advani has said that everybody can take the law in their hands. This is not possible under this Government. The security scenario is sound. The situation is under the control of the Government. When the State police was saying that they would guard the house and the State Government officers informed the Chief Minister that the police was not allowed to enter the house: then, how can you ask them now how this bomb blast had taken place? One has to bear it out.

The second point that he made is on CBI. About Bombay scenario and Bombay blast, I had gone there personally and seen what had taken place; what was the scenario; how did it take place; and what were the complications. But it was totally different. It cannot be compared with the scenario at Madras. I had gone there personally and seen Shri Advani was also there. (*Interruptions*)

41—724LSS/94

SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN (Amroha) : Do you want the Bombay things to be repeated in Madras? Will you open your eyes then only? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : I have said in my statement that if the State Government feels or the State Government investigation reflects wider ramifications, then we have an open mind. But this also should not be viewed separately. I have told her that personally. When I talked to her, she agreed with me on these lines. She had shown me a component of the exploded bomb, which she had received, and mentioned that it did not link with RDX. I had told her that we would give all the help that she needed. She wanted explosive experts. We had flown them from Delhi. We will give her all help. It is much easier for the State Government to investigate about the individual, to whom Shri Advani has referred to. This was mentioned to me in the RSS headquarters by some gentleman there. Immediately I reported this to the Chief Minister. I am told that he has been arrested today. I have been telling the Chief Ministers that if anybody says 'kick the Muslims out', put him behind the bars. And so also, if anybody says 'kick the Hindus out', put him behind the bars. The State Government has to do this. You have got to put 'him behind the bars. And we are firm that no anti-national person will be permitted in this land to speak anti-national language.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANBARASU ERA (Madras Central) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, kindly give me one minute. This had happened in my constituency. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The rules do not permit. We are here to follow the rules.

(*Interruptions*)

17.00 hrs.

SHRI ANBARASU ERA : Only one minute, Sir... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : No one minute. The rule does not permit that.

Now, the hon. Minister of Finance.

17.01 hrs.

[Shri Sharad Dighe in the Chair]
STATUTORY RESOLUTION REGARD-
ING DISAPPROVAL OF DEBTS DUE TO
BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITU-
TIONS ORDINANCE
RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO
BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITU-
TION BILL—Contd.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINIS-
TER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR.
ABRAR AHMED) : Sir, I am grateful to
all the hon. Members who have partici-
pated in the debates on the recovery of
Debts due to Banks and Financial Institu-
tions Bill, 1993. The hon. Members have
given many suggestions and have asked a
number of questions. There was a need
to take action in this regard and to con-
stitute a tribunal for it much earlier. Even
the hon. Members themselves have admitted
that the committee headed by Shri
Narsimhan and the committee headed by
Shri Tiwari have strongly recommended to
set up such a tribunal, and these committees
also felt that the recovery of loans
advanced by Banks and other Financial
institutions is not being done properly, and
there is a lot of delay in the recovery of
loans and a lot of outstanding amount be-
comes bad debt, so some arrangements
should be made to ensure the recovery of
Bank loans in a proper way. Sir, for a long
time a need was being felt to set up such
a Tribunal as may help the smooth recovery
of outstanding loans of Banks and Finan-
cial Institutions from the customers parti-
cularly from big industrialists in a mini-
mum possible time. To meet this particular
end, this Bill has been brought. Several
hon. Members have inquired in this regard.
There were 15,33,387 cases till March,
1990-91 and an amount of Rs. 5622 crores
of Banks loans was involved in these cases.
In this Tribunal which has been set up to
recover this huge amount, only these cases
which involved more than Rs. 10 lakhs are
being taken up for recovery.

Sir, through you, I would like to inform
the hon. Members that there are only 6570

cases out of 15,33,387 cases where out-
standing amount of Rs. 10 lakhs or more
is involved. This is only 0.4% of all
the total cases i.e. less than 1/2%. But
if we see the outstanding amount of
Rs. 5622 crore, an amount of Rs. 3147
crore is involved in these cases where an
amount of Rs. 10 lakhs or more is involved.
It means 56% of the total outstanding
amount of loans is due against less than
half percent borrowers. So through this
Tribunal and through this Bill the out-
standing amount can be recovered very easily
because very few borrowers have big
amount outstanding against them. Simi-
lar is the case of the Financial Institu-
tions. There are 204 cases pertaining to
the financial institutions. In these cases
Rs. 390 crores are outstanding and there
are only 32 cases which involve less than
Rs. 10 lakhs and the total amount involv-
ed in these cases to Rs. 1.55 crore. A
sum of Rs. 389.43 crore is involved in
the remaining 172 cases. It means that
very few people have to repay the maxi-
mum amount to Financial Institutions
and Banks. So there is an impression
that there is a continuous fall in the re-
covery of the loans by the Banks and
Financial Institutions.

Many a time it has been seen that the
borrowers somehow try to bring the
matter under litigation. In this way the
matter will go to one court after the other
and it will take a long time for its deci-
sion and the money will remain pending
the decision of the courts. Thus the
money cannot be used by Banks and
Financial Institutions. That is why this
Bill has been brought to make the re-
covery of the loan-amount smoothly.

Some common points have been raised
by the hon. Members during the discus-
sion particularly Shri Charles has made
an objection to the provision regarding
75 percent of the amount with the Appel-
late Authority. The intention behind
this bill is that there should be no delay
in the recovery. Once the tribunal
awarded its judgement and if anybody
wants to make an appeal against the said
judgement, he has to deposit 75% of the

amount. But there is a provision too in this Bill through which the Appellate authority has been empowered to reduce this amount or can give total exemption from depositing the amounts. All these provisions are there to make recovery in time.

Similarly the hon. Members have made an objection against the provision 25 B under which any person can be arrested. (*Interruptions*)

If Recovery officer has no right to arrest the concerned person after the judgement, he will be unable to make recovery. That is why the provision has been made in the Bill. If there is no recovery even after the judgement of the Tribunal, the defaulter can be arrested. Such provisions are already existing in income tax and custom Act etc. (*Interruptions*)

Some hon. Members have raised the issue of natural justice that the provisions of this Bill will violate the principle of natural justice. I would like to tell the hon. Members that everyone has a right to follow the civil procedure of tribunal, tribunal will hear all the parties and will give judgement afterward. Therefore, there is no chance that natural justice will not be done. If any hon. Member has any doubt, I can clear that too.

Hon. Member Chetan Chauhan was speaking. It seems that he has a sound knowledge about Banking. He has raised some very important points. In his speech he had raised the point about wilful defaulters. It is right that due to wilful defaulters we need such type of tribunals. If a person who borrows money from the Banks etc. does not repay the loan intentionally even though he has the capacity to repay, these problems crop up. There is now growing tendency among the borrowers not to repay the loans taken from Banks and financial institutions. Such tribunals are needed to ensure the timely recovery of loans. As the hon. Member has said that the people take loan and thereafter intentionally declare the unit sick. I too admit

this. Practically after the sickness, the goodwill and the property of that unit increase. We have to find out the relation between these too. The loan amount can be recovered through the tribunal from those borrowers who do not repay the loan on the plea of sickness of unit. If the unit is really sick, it will get the financial help.

An hon. Member had made a point in the context of appraisal. I admit it. A number of units become sick and money is not recovered from them because proper appraisal of several units is not done at times. Banks and financial institutions give loans to set up units and they also make recovery of these loans. If the money is not refunded, the matter goes under litigation, or it is recovered through tribunal. When any unit becomes sick the target of our economy receives set back. The target of economy is related to Industries of import export, consumption of raw material or employment, so the target of economy is disturbed following the lack of appraisal due to sickness of units. That is why the appraisal must be conducted strictly. I believe that the ill effects on the economy following the sickness of industries can be prevented. We are considering seriously as to how appraisal should be made properly and how to fix the individual accountability.

If appraisal is correct the results will also be correct. Besides all that, one point has also been made that the benefit provided to sick industries increases sickness. There are two reasons for giving benefits to them. Sick industry is not only related to the owners, but it is also related to the people because thousands of workers work in that. It is the main objective of the Government to take care of the workers' livelihood; so the Government tries its best to reopen the sick units. The Government tries to help the sick units with the assistance of BIFR, AIFR or Banks or financial Institutions. Besides, no one can deny its second aspect. Some people intentionally make the units sick,

therefore, provision has been made to recover the loan through the tribunal. An hon. Member has asked about the rate of interest to be charged and the procedure to be followed when the matter goes to tribunal.

I would like to tell you that the rate of interest on the loan will be charged at the rate given in the agreement unless the matter goes to tribunal. Once it goes to tribunal, the rate of interest will be charged at the same rate as fixed by the tribunal. Shri Panigrahi and some hon. Members have asked about the number of benches. There is a provision in the Bill that the number of benches or tribunal can be increased in due course. But at present there will be only four benches which will be set up at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. An Appellate tribunal will be constituted at Bombay. The number of these tribunals can be increased according to the need. It has been asked about the status of Recovery Officer. In this context I can tell you that he will be appointed, amongst the senior officers of Banks and he will enjoy all the powers for which I have mentioned.

Hon. Member Anna Joshiji has left. He has mentioned so many things and asked some questions. He has made a point regarding bad debt which is increasing constantly. Efforts are being made to recover that amount. The main target to get this tribunal is to reduce bad debts and doubtful debts and to recover the outstanding amount within a time frame. He has made a point about Harshad Mehta and Bank scam. He has said that when the scam had already taken place, what is the use of all such things and what is the need of recovering the amount of Rs. 6 thousand crores involved in the scam. I cannot expect such type of reaction at least from my learned friend Anna Joshiji. If any Bank Scam etc. has taken place and a certain amount is involved therein, should we stop the recovery of that amount or should we allow the Banks to provide more and more finance to the unit and let the whole economy of the country destroy

and should not take any remedial measures? This is not correct. Bank Scam has taken place. Joint Parliamentary Committee represented by all the political parties is looking into it. Whatever action will be taken, it will positively be taken in the Committee. Shri Annaji Joshi has asked four points and wanted their reply from me. Now he is not here, he has left the House. Firstly, he has asked about Tiwari Committee which was set up in 1980. Why did not you bring such type of Legislation earlier. This Committee was set up in 1980; it gave its report in 1984 and the Government was pondering over it. In the meanwhile, the Congress Government was changed, other Government came into power but it did not take it seriously. After that when we came into power again we have taken it seriously and we brought an ordinance for the purpose. We are trying to set up tribunal as early as possible through passing this Bill.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : It was your Government in 1984.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : If hon. Members were very much concerned about it, then the other Government might have taken action on this. They had also got a chance to implement the recommendations of the Report. But I don't want to go into the details regarding this.

Secondly, Shri Anna Joshi has mentioned about the Budget provision made for Capital adequacy and to maintain the liquidity ratio. It was not meant for making good the deficit suffered due to Bank Sam. If there is some such misconception in the minds of any hon. Members, it should be removed.

Shri Anna Joshiji has mentioned one more point about the provision of 75 percent. As I have already said that the Appellate Tribunal is empowered to reduce this 75% or to exempt the whole amount. He had said as to why this power had been entrusted to them only and why the others should not get this

exemptoin. I am of the opinion that it is the discretionary power of the Tribunal and to whom the Tribunal considers as genuine, it can be given exemption because it is not a fresh case it is an appeal which is going to Appellate Tribunal after the decision of the Tribunal. If it will be given to everyone then there will be no use of appeal and Appellate Tribunal. Apart from this, Shri Sharadji had asked some questions regarding the procedure adopted in this matter. In this regard I would like to inform that the procedure of civil court will automatically be applied to the procedure of Tribunal. Every party has a right to say, to listen and to takes its decision, so far as 75% recovery is concerned, I have already told about this.

Shri Syed has stated that there is an increase in the outstanding amount. I really admit it. We are taking it seriously because the tendency of taking loan from Banks and financial institutions and to slip away is increasing. Therefore, we are setting up Tribunal and trying to recover the loan. This is a serious step in this regard.

In-section 19, the word 'may' has been used. If any bank wants to approach the tribunal it can do so. The reason behind it is that when any Bank feels that the loan amount which is more than Rs. 10 lakh is either not being recovered or the borrower has become a defaulter, it can go to the tribunal. It may also be possible that several borrowers who have taken loan of more than Rs. 10 lakh, would themselves refund the loan amount. Several Banks may recover their dues through negotiation with the borrowers. But in case the Bank finds no alternative to recover the amount and the loan amount in the Tribunal involved is more than Rs. 10 lakh or the intention of the borrower is not to repay the amount despite having the money, it is the discretion of the Bank whether it moves to the Tribunal or not.

Sir, I welcome the suggestions put forth by all the hon. Members and I have tried to reply all the queries as much as possi-

ble raised by the hon. members and I hope that all the hon. Members would be satisfied with my reply.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I had seriously asked you to present a complete picture about recoveries every year before the Parliament.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : I cannot give an assurance in this regard but when Triounals are set up and start functioning then only I will be able to tell you the number of cases received, number of cases decided out of them and the number of the rest of the cases within the time limit of 180 days.

DR. G. L. KANAUIA : I would like to ask as to what was the difficulty in publishing the defaulter's name. If their names are published then we will come to know that how many defaulters have to pay their due and the amounts thereof. So far as the matter of Tribunal is concerned, there is no difficulty as you have a list of those persons. If the Government has a clear intention then what is the hitch in making the names of defaulters public.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : As you have said that the disclosing of the names of defaulters is meant to recover money from them, but so far as the question of publishing their names is concerned, the Banks and fiancial Institutions have their own rules and provisions in this regard.

DR. G. L. KANAUIA : The names of these people will be published only after allowing three months time to them.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Such issues are dealt with as per the provisions laid down in the rules made in this regard. That is why I do not want to give any assurance in this regard.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now the hon. Minister has said a lot about this Bill, it may be a good Bill but such a weak Government which is unable to take right decisions and lacks moral force to take action against the economic offenders cannot do anything even if it has a powerful law to do so.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to stress one more point that this Government has developed a tendency to take action only. According to the reply given by the Minister the Tiwari Committee was set up in 1981 and it submitted its report in 1984. You ruled for the next five years and in the meantime after the gap of 13 months the Government supported by you was in power and thereafter you have been in power for the last two years. During these 8 years, you could not implement the recommendations of Tiwari Committee regarding recovering the Bank Loans and dues of financial Institutions, which clearly tells about your working. I feel that only this tendency of yours had led to the banks scam, involving an amount of Rs. 17 thousand crores. How this amount is going to be recovered? The previous defaulters are also there and as you have told that there are more than 1,50,000 such defaulters and the financial Institutions have such 30+ cases, involving a sum of Rs. 5622 crores & Rs. 391 crores respectively. Let the JPC report come, it may establish the involvement of at least 7 Ministers. Who is responsible for putting pressure on Banks to sanction loans and taking of commission by the bank officials? The Minister did not throw any light on the responsibility of misappropriation of funds, arbitrarily sanctioning of loans which are not recoverable. Today the Banks are losing their credibility. What effective wages and means can be adopted to restore the credibility of Banks among the people? The big guns, who are responsible for the Rs. 17,000 crores Bank scam used to say previously that we are making progress and the prices of shares are increasing, which is a result of our new economic policy and what not. Today, by and by new facts are coming up before IPC about them. Tulsidas ji writes that :

"Jas Jas Sursa Badan Barhawa.

Tas Doon Kapi Roop Dikhava."

It means that when Hanuman ji visited Lanka then Sursa opened her mouth to swallow him but Hanumanji went on ex-

panding his body. The enquiry is disclosing more and more about our economic policy and more about the banks scam which makes them dumbfounded.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will conclude in a minute time. I want to know that what effective steps are being taken to remove the question mark over the credibility of banks. What disciplinary action are you going to initiate against the guilty officials of the Public Sector Banks? Which officers are responsible for taking commission and sanctioning loans to wrong persons? During Mr. Pujari's period loan melas were organised and as you have said that crores of rupees are due on some persons. On the other hand, in order to recover loans from the farmers their properties, even their pet animals which provide them their livelihood are mortgaged and no action is being taken against the big institutions and industries for the recovery of loans. You do not take any action against the big defaulters. Therefore, you must gather courage to take action against big defaulters. Who is responsible for a fall in the performance of the banks after their nationalization? With the prevalence of this suitcase politics, will we be able to recover these loans fully? How much of the loans have been recovered by the Banks so far during last three years? It will be better if you could provide data in this regard and also give information about the Appellate Tribunals to be set up in near future, then only we may feel that they are going to be effective. I also want to know the amount of loans recovered and cases settled during last three years by your officials. I want to say that the Government could not do anything in this regard and now it has come up with this ordinance and thereafter this Bill is brought to the House and discussed. Therefore, I will request the House to put a check on Government's tendency to bring ordinances. This ordinance do not have any clear directions to put a check on such scams and no action is being taken against the bank officials. Therefore, I request that this ordinance should be disapproved.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put the Statutory Resolution moved by Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat to the vote of the House. The question is :

“That this House disapproves of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Ordinance, 1993 (Ordinance No. 25 of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 24th June, 1993.”

The motion was negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That the Bill to provide for the establishment of Tribunals for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and financial institutions and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

“That clauses 2 to 18 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 18 were added to the Bill.

Clause 19—Application to the Tribunal.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : I beg to move :

[English]

“Page 5, line 4—

for ‘an’ substitute ‘sufficient’ ” (4)

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far we have providing loans to the people by organising loan melas which gave a feeling to the people that they were getting something free and now through this Bill we are bringing such stringent provision which will break the backbone of the society. A

point regarding depositing 75 per cent of the amount has been mentioned in it, this amount should be made as 50 per cent in the Appellate tribunal. I am saying so because the C. P. C. and the procedure which we are going to adopt and ‘CONTIM’ act and precedents of court also support the point that only 50 per cent of the amount is deposited. Therefore, I think that instead of leaving it to the whims of the appellate tribunal we should adopt a rational attitude and make it as 50 per cent.

Secondly, I want to point out that he has put an amendment here.

[English]

“share of Joint holders in such amount shall be presumed, until the contrary is provided, to be equal.”

[Translation]

Instead of “provided”, “proved” word should be used for giving equal share to every share holder, then only legislature can fulfil its purpose.

Thirdly, that I have given an amendment in Chapter 4 is like this :—

“after giving the applicant and the defendant an opportunity of being heard, pass such orders on the application as it thinks fit to meet the ends of justice.”

[Translation]

In the above sentence ‘an’ word should be substituted by “sufficient” because “an” means one. Suppose applicant or his lawyer falls sick and he cannot come to the court on the particular date then it will not be a reasonable opportunity. Therefore, sufficient opportunity is essential. It is in the constitution that unless giving sufficient opportunity prosecution and a decree can not be done against anybody. “An opportunity” word is against the spirit of the Constitution. Hence it should be substituted by the word “sufficient”. I have given three amendments and I request you to accept all of them so that injustice is not meted out to the poor and the society does not face disharmony and an increased amount of

atrocities. Till date we have been giving high hope to accomplish the poor but now we are bringing a change in this philosophy so as the society may adopt it. Therefore it is very essential to accept these amendments.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : The first two amendments in which the Member has asked to use the word "sufficient" and reduce the amount of 75 per cent, I want to tell you that the word "opportunity" is already there which shows that they are being provided and opportunity and I have already told you in details about the second amendment about 75 per cent. Therefore, we do not accept them but we will accept the third amendment as it is about a typographical error.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will now put amendment no. 4 to Clause 19 moved by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 4 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :
"That Clause 19 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 19 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :
"That clause 20 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 20 was added to the Bill.

Clause 21—Deposit of amount of debt due, or filing appeal.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : I beg to move :

Page 5, line 45 and 46,—

for "seventy-five" substitute "fifty" (5)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will now put amendment no. 5 to Clause 21 moved by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat to the vote of the House.

Amendment No 5 was put and negatived.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : Sir, I am on a point of order. The hon. Minister is from Rajya Sabha and he is also saying "no". He has no authority to say, "no".

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :
"That Clause 21 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 21 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :
"That clauses 22 to 27 stand part of the Bill"

Clauses 22 to 27 were added to the Bill.

Clause 28—other modes of recovery

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : I beg to move :

Page 7, line 49,—

for "provided" substitute "proved" (6)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This amendment was accepted by the Minister. I will now put the amendment no. 6 to Clause 28 moved by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat to the vote of the House. The question is :

"Page 7, line 49,—

for "provided" substitute "proved" (6)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 28, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 28, amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clauses 29 to 35 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 29 to 35 were added to the Bill.

Clause 36—Power to make rules.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is Amendment Nq. 2 to be moved by the hon. Minister, Dr. Abrar Ahmed under Clause 36.

Amendment made :

Page 10, line 5,—

*after "Appellate Tribunal" insert—
"under section 7, 12 and 13" (2)*

Dr. Abrar Ahmed :

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 36, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 36, as amended, was added to the Bill.

New Clause 37

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is a Government amendment under new Clause 37.

Amendment made :

Page 10,—

after line 24, add—"37".

- (1) The Recovery of Debts Dues to Banks and Financial Institutions Ordinance, 1993 is hereby repealed.
- (2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance, shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of this Act." (3)

(Dr. Abrar Ahmed).

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That New Clause 37, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 37, was added to the Bill.

Clause 1—Short title, extent, Commencement and application.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is an amendment under Clause 1 to be moved by the hon. Minister, Shri Abrar Ahmed.

Amendment made :

Page 1,—

Amendment made :

for lines 8 to 12, substitute—

"(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 24th day of June, 1993." (1) (Dr. Abrar Ahmed)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Enacting Formula and the long Title stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula and the long Title added to the Bill.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.43 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DIS-
APPROVAL OF THE CONSERVATION OF
FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND PRE-
VENTION OF SMUGGLING ACTIVI-
TIES (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE**

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) :
I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993 (Ordinance No. 26 of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 25th June, 1993."

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to know where the hon. Minister of Finance is. I am asking this because I wanted to welcome him and I would have been glad if he would have been present here. I wanted to welcome him for...

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : For your information, I would tell you that the hon. Finance Minister has written to the Speaker that he shall be grateful if his colleague, Mr. M. U. Chandrashekhara Murthy, Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance is permitted to handle the legislative business, namely, Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities (Amendment) Bill, listed in his name at Sl. No. 15 in the list of business as he will be busy in Rajya Sabha.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, Sir. I am thankful to you. But I wanted to welcome the hon. Minister of Finance because 5-6 days ago, the prestigious financial journal, Euro-Money has declared Dr. Manmohan Singh as the best Finance Minister of the year. We may have dif-

ferences in other matters, but he has been given award and I wanted to congratulate him for this. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : We will convey your feelings to him. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK : I have this feeling, what I am submitting and what I am going to submit may kindly be conveyed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the ordinance which has been issued. At the same time I would also like to express my views with regard to the Bill.

I oppose the ordinance because I feel that there was no need to issue it. The Constitution provides us the facility to issue ordinance. Whenever there is any crisis, the ordinance is issued. The President has been given the power to promulgate it whenever required. The Government has to formally request the President to do so. This is what our Constitution provides. However, it is being observed that this provision is being misutilized. It is a bad practice. Therefore though the Finance Minister has been awarded.

[English]

but I feel that the Finance Minister has become ordinance addict.

[Translation]

I would like to point out another aspect. The Ordinance in discussion is No. 26. Three more ordinances have been issued thereafter. The Government issued 29 ordinances in total by the month of July 1993. I would like to ask whether there was any need to issue ordinances in such a large number? In its comparison, the number of ordinances issued in 1992 was 21. Even seven months have not completed yet and 29 ordinances have already been issued. Therefore, it is a wrong practice. I would like the hon. Minister of Finance to explain whether it was really essential to issue the ordinance. I

would like to submit that a small amendment in Section 9 of this Ordinance proposes to extend the duration by three years from July 31, 1993 till 1996. It is evident that this is not a new ordinance. It is going to expire on July 31, 1993 and proposed to be extended for three more years. Could the Government not afford to bring the Bill during the Budget Session in March-April. Was it not possible to get the required Amendment passed at that time? This could have been easily done in the Budget session. But an ordinance is being issued without any rhyme and reason. This practice should be checked at the earliest possible. Therefore, I oppose the ordinance.

I would like to submit something about the salient features of the ordinance. As per its new policy the Government has been assuring for the last two years that steps would be taken to check smuggling and it is for this purpose that the Bill has been introduced. As per the measures proposed to be taken in this Bill, gold and silver can easily be brought from outside the country. The hon. Minister of Finance has been claiming repeatedly that this has helped controlling the smuggling in a big way. The hon. Minister of State may clarify the situation in this regard. I do not know whether the hon. Minister of Finance remembers or not, however, he had emphatically pointed out during the Budget discussion last year that the new policy adopted by the Government has done a great deal in checking the smuggling.

[English]

But now the Minister has stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill.

"However, the menace of smuggling has not abated in any way despite the import of 5 KGs of gold and 100 KGs of silver per passenger allowed by Government on payment of nominal customs duty in convertible foreign exchange."

[Translation]

In other words, you are admitting here that the smuggling is going on large scale, but the Government has been claiming throughout the year that the smuggling of gold and silver has been controlled. We do not know whether we should believe in your speeches or the objects and reason given above. As regards to this contradiction, I would like to submit that the hon. Minister should clarify the position when he gives his reply.

Sir, now the Government claims to have taken effective measures as a result of which the smuggling is reducing. However, there are contradictions even in this regard. I have got a copy of the Annual Report—92-93 of the Ministry of Finance. I would like to read out the contradictions in it. It states that—

[English]

"The success of anti-smuggling efforts could be discerned from the fact that contraband goods worth Rs. 502.41 crore have been seized."

[Translation]

In other words, the measures taken with regard to smuggling have shown positive results.

[English]

"The value of contraband seized in 1990 and 1991 stood at Rs. 760 crore and Rs. 774 crore respectively. During 1992, the seizures were of the order of Rs. 502 crore."

[Translation]

In other words the contraband goods seized during 1992 were worth Rs. 502 crore and the Government consider it a success of the policy whereas the contraband goods seized during 1990-91 were worth Rs. 774 crore. It means that more contraband goods were seized during 1990-91 as compared to those in the current year. How can we conclude to have succeeded in our attempt? Similar situation

prevails with regard to narcotic drugs. The figures given with regard to it show that the narcotics seized during 1992 was of the order of Rs. 18 crore, seized during 1991 was worth Rs. 21 crore and in 1990 it was worth Rs. 25 crore. It reveals that the action being taken against smugglers is not effective. Has the drug trafficking stopped? Another ordinance has been introduced with a proposal to extend the duration with regard to narcotics, to which I would like to refer to afterwards. Why the measures being taken by the Government are not proving successful. Why the seizure of contraband goods has been reducing? Not only the narcotics seized is less, but there has been a considerable decline in the number of persons arrested in this regard. The number of persons arrested during 1990, 1991 and 1992 was 3300, 2300 and 1800 respectively. It means that from 1990 to 1992 the number of persons arrested was so less that the difference become 100 per cent. What the Government has been doing? Why do you need more powers? The Government must have powers—there is no doubt about it but how effectively the law is being implementing is evident from the figures given above. The hon. Minister of Finance receive international acclaim, but what is happening in his own country is of great importance. The hon. Minister should give clarification in this regard. I would like to know as to why the Government has been so inactive in taking action against smugglers and how the prevailing tendency is proposed to be checked.

One thing more needs to be pointed out. The section proposed to be amended refers to 'highly vulnerable areas'. Since I have proposed the amendment I would like to speak in detail about it. With regard to highly vulnerable areas it has been said :
[English]

Explanation 1 :

"in this sub-section, area highly, vulnerable to smuggling means the Indian Customs border contiguous to the States of Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra

tra, Tamil Nadu and Union Territories of Daman, Diu and Pondicherry."

[Translation]

I do not know whether the hon. Minister has got the copy of the Bill or not. But I would like to know what definition has been given of the vulnerable areas in the Bill on Narcotics Drugs? What is the difference between the smuggling of drugs and smuggling of other commodities? The hon. Minister might be aware that this Bill was first passed in 1974 while the Narcotics Drugs Bill was passed in 1988. In 1974 smuggling activities were more prevalent at the western coast and the commodities were smuggled from Abu Dhabi and Arab countries. However, with the passage of time the Government continued its efforts to abate this tendency there, as a result of which these activities have now been taking place at eastern coast also. That is why there is no mention of the States of eastern coast in the Bill passed in 1974. But Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal etc. have been mentioned in the Narcotic Drugs Bill. Is smuggling not taking place in these three States? These states should also be included in the list of highly vulnerable areas.

Similarly, 50 km width areas of border States like Gujarat Jammu-Kashmir, Punjab and Rajasthan linked with Pakistan has been considered as highly vulnerable area. Whereas in Narcotic Drugs Bill this area has been extended to 100 km. Why there is so much difference. These factors have not been given due attention while drafting the Amendment Bill

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time is over. You can continue next time. The House stands adjourned to re-assemble on Thursday, the 12th August, 1993 at 11.00 a.m. 18.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. on Thursday, August 12, 1993/Sravana 21, 1915 (Saka).