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Wednesday, November 25, 1992

Agrahayana 4, 1914 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Fifth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



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LOKSABHA DEBATES

LOKSABHA

Wednesday, November 25, 1992/
Agrahayana, 1914 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Bench of Allahabad High Court

+

*21 SHRI RAMSAGAR
 SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH
 DRONA

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) the action taken so far by the Government for setting up a division bench of Allahabad High Court in the Western Uttar Pradesh in accordance with the recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission,

(b) the state at which the matter stands at present,

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard, and

(d) the progress made so far regarding implementation of the recommendation of the said Commission in connection with the enactment of legislation for setting up of division benches of High Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) Specific recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission for setting up permanent/Circuit Benches of the Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh were referred to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for views and comments, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court. No specific, complete proposal has been received from the State Government so far. The matter is thus, pending with the State Government.

(d) Specific recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission for establishing Benches of Madhya Pradesh and Madras High Courts were also referred to the concerned State Governments for views and comments, in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts. No specific, complete proposals have been received from these State Governments so far.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SAGAR Mr. Speaker, Sir, keeping in view the vast area of Uttar Pradesh, the long distance of Western Uttar Pradesh from the location of the High Court of

Allahabad and difference of climates and languages between the two places, the demand for setting up of a division bench of the Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh was held justified by the Jaswant Singh Commission. I would like to ask by what time the Government would set up a division bench of the Allahabad High Court in the Western Uttar Pradesh after removing the hurdles coming in the way?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, as I have said in the course of my reply to the original question, the concerned State Government is being consulted on the issue of setting up of a division bench of the Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh. The Government would look into this matter only after eliciting the opinion of the Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court on whatever decision he takes.

o

SHRI RAM SAGAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, did the Jaswant Singh Commission hold consultations with the Government of Uttar Pradesh and with the Chief Justice in the course of carrying out studies? If so, what are the problems in setting up of a bench of the Allahabad High Court on the proposed site?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: There are a few difficulties. First of all, the State Government has to locate a place where the division bench of the Allahabad High Court could be set up. There is a great difference of opinion on this point among the lawyers and judges of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Unless the State Government is satisfied as to which place would be the most suitable for the public, no progress can be made in this matter. The people of Western Uttar Pradesh are supporting this proposal whereas, on the other hand, the people of Allahabad side are opposing it. Bar is also divided on this issue. I think that it would be better if the State Government and the High Court of the State hold a thorough discussion on this issue and

arrive at a conclusion. Only then it would be proper to implement it.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Mr. Speaker, Sir it is quite clear from the reply of the hon. Minister that the people of Allahabad are opposing it whereas a solution to the problem of the people of Western Uttar Pradesh is to be found out.

Uttar Pradesh is a State of India with largest population. Many suits are pending in the Allahabad High Court. Owing to shortage of judges and overload of work, this problem was raised in the Bar Association of Western Uttar Pradesh in 1967. The issue was raised in the State Assembly of Uttar Pradesh in 1977 and in 1981 it was also raised in Parliament by hon. Mohsina Kidwai. Keeping in view the gravity of the matter, Mr. Justice Jaswant Singh submitted a report of his commission to the Central Government in 1985. It is already seven years since then. This shows the indifferent attitude of the Government. I would like to ask two questions. Firstly, whether the Central Government is agreeable to the recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission? If so, whether a reminder, to the letter sent to the Government of Uttar Pradesh earlier has been sent now? Secondly, whether on principle the Government of Uttar Pradesh proposes to set up a division bench in Agra for Western region?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, it has been suggested in the report of the Jaswant Singh Commission that the division bench be set up in Agra whereas the demand was there actually for setting it up in Meerut of Uttar Pradesh. Since the High Court was previously located in Agra, which was later shifted to Allahabad, the Jaswant Singh Commission made suggestion to set it up in Agra. For the information of the hon. Member, I would like to tell that the lawyers and other people of Meerut and the adjoining districts of Western Uttar Pradesh are not accepting

this proposal. Besides, time to time exchange of letters with the Government of Uttar Pradesh and exchange of views show that the people of Western Uttar Pradesh are not unanimous on this proposal. Secondly, as I told every State should have a High Court. In Uttar Pradesh, the High Court is already located at two places. The State Government and the Chief Justice of the High Court have the authority to set up a bench of High Court at the third place. Unless such a proposal is received from them the Government of India is helpless to take any steps in this regard. There is no question of neglecting the Western Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Gas Leakage in Fertiliser Plant at Panipat

*22. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI TARA CHAND KHAN-
DELWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of persons died following gas leakage in the National Fertilisers Ltd. plant at Panipat recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome of the inquiry, if any, made by the Government into the incident; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Ten persons died in Panipat plant of National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) on 26.8.1992 due to leakage of ammonia gas while repair work was being undertaken to change the safety valve of one of the ammonia feed pumps. Out of the dead, four were regular employees including a Management Trainee of NFL, two were Apprentices and four were employees of a contractor. Besides, eleven other persons also received injuries who have recovered after treatment.

(c) and (d). An enquiry committee, headed by an outside expert, was constituted by NFL to go into the causes of accident, fixation of responsibility, if any, review of safety procedures followed in the unit, and to recommend remedial measures. In its report, the enquiry committee has held that the accident was on account of failure of a component of the suction valve of Ammonia Pump. Since the personnel directly concerned including the officer who had issued the safety permit authorising the work also perished in the accident, the enquiry committee has observed that fixing of responsibility is not possible. The committee has suggested a number of short-term and long-term measures for avoiding such mishaps.

The report of the enquiry committee has been accepted by the Board of NFL on 30.10.1992 and a number of suggested measures have already been implemented.

The report of the enquiry committee is being examined by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has stated that fixing of responsibility is not possible. This is what has always been tak-

ing place 11 persons were killed but no officer was held responsible for it. In view of all these points I would like to know the terms and conditions of the enquiry committee. Secondly, there is question of compensation, how many of the affected persons have been given compensation. I would also like to know the amount of compensation given to regular employees and also to labourers engaged on contract basis.

[English]

DR CHINTAMOHAN This unfortunate accident happened on 26th August of this year. 10 persons died and 11 persons were injured. Among the dead, four of them were regular employees, four of them were contractual labourers and two of them were apprentices. We immediately called for the enquiry. The chairman of the enquiry committee was Dr. Paul Pothan who is an expert in fertilizer sector. The other experts also joined in that enquiry.

The main terms of reference of the expert committee were—we asked them to know why this accident took place, who are the people responsible for this accident, whether the factory followed all the safety measures, and how to stall such type of accidents in future. These are the terms of reference made to the Expert Committee.

The Expert Committee have given their report to the National Fertilizer Board on 30th of last month and the Board has sent the report to the Government, just about a week back.

The Government is examining all the details.

The hon. Member has raised the question about fixing the responsibility. The man who was responsible for authorising repair work during which accident took place also died on the spot. The man who was respon-

sible for authorising repair work during which the accident took place also died on the spot and because of this reason, we are not able to fix up the responsibility. But the Government is again asking the National Fertiliser Board to examine it and if necessary send another Expert Committee to fix up the responsibility on the superior officers who are there. That is all.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN What about compensation?

[Translation]

I would like to know the amount of compensation given to the regular employees as well as to the labourer working on contract basis?

[English]

MR SPEAKER The second supplementary

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN No I had already asked about it.

MR SPEAKER You can ask only one question in supplementary.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN No I had already asked.

MR SPEAKER In supplementary, there has to be only one point.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN In (a) and (b), I had asked only one point.

DR CHINTA MOHAN Compensation of about Rs. 22 lakh was given in total and Rs. 3,60,000/- was given ex-gratia on the spot. I also visited the spot immediately and also the hospitals where they were admitted and immediately ex-gratia amount of Rs. 10,000/- and Rs. 25,000/- was given

depending on the type of injury and the accident.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Contract labour.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Contract labour were given somewhere Rs. one lakh each. If you want the totals, I will place on the Table of the House or otherwise, if you want me to read, I am prepared to read. The contractual labour, four persons each was given between Rs. 1008 lakh to Rs. 1.13 lakhs.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, in his reply he has used the terms 'long term suggestions' and 'short term suggestions'. I would like to know what are those suggestions and how far they have been implemented. His statement is contradictory. On one side he has stated

[English]

"The report of the Enquiry Committee had been accepted by the Board of NFL."

[Translation]

It means that the report which has been accepted is, not final. He has also stated:

[English]

"Government is examining the report."

These are your words

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: I had never contradicted my statement which I have given earlier. Here they have given recommendations which is a big bundle which I am prepared to place on the Table of the House. For the benefit of the House, I would like to say that the Expert Committee suggested that there should be a switch control mechanism

to stop plants in case of that type of accidents in future. That was not there earlier. They have suggested it as a long term measures. As a short-term measure, they said that all the workers in the factory should use mask, helmet and gadgets etc. while carrying out repair work.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: That was not done and it is an internationally awarded unit.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the main things pointed out by the Enquiry Committee in its report. Because the people have yet not been able to forget the Bhopal gas tragedy. In a similar incident 11 persons died in Panipat when repair and maintenance work was being carried out there. It was the time when engineers should have been present throughout the work. But since the Managing-Director and Technical Director were Delhi-based, they could reach the site only the next day. Why such a carelessness was shown? The hon. Minister may please tell us the name of the company, who was entrusted the task of laying pipeline and the action being taken against it.

[English]

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: The recommendations of the Committee are that the yoke bush of the ammonia pump should be changed. They also suggested that emergency stop switch should be always kept in the control room to stop the plants in future. They have also observed that a number of gadgets, helmets and masks were arranged by the plant authorities to be used by the employees. Unfortunately, the contractual labour doing that repair work never bothered to use these things in spite of the precautions suggested in the safety manual. Unfortunately, this accident took place. It never happened earlier also. This factory was

started 17 years back. It was doing very well all through. The technology was given by the Japanese company. Some hon. Member asked for it. And the design was given by Engineers India Ltd. The factory was doing very well. It was producing about five lakh tonnes of urea every year. It has got, some time back, a National Safety Award also. Also, the government is suitably advising the units for taking all precautionary measures to stop such accidents in future.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH Sir, I would like to ask one question. Did the Safety Officer, posted in the NFL Branch at Panipat, have adequate qualifications or not as per the statutory requirements? Did he have that? Was he trained in safety operation or not?

DR CHINTA MOHAN The safety equipment was looked after by a number of engineers and the person who died on-the-spot was an Assistant Engineer. He was a well-trained engineer.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH I asked whether the Safety Officer who was posted at Panipat did have the required qualifications or not? Did he have the required credentials to be posted there as a Safety Officer?

DR CHINTA MOHAN Yes, he had

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH to the best of my knowledge, I came to know that the Safety Officer posted there did not have the requisite qualifications.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN It is purely a technical question. As per the report given by the Expert Committee, they said that the person who was holding this responsibility had got all the technical qualifications.

Indo-Pak Relations

24 **SHRI CHITTA BASU:**
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have taken up with Pakistan, at the diplomatic and other levels, the issue of Pak's support to terrorism and subversion in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab,

(b) if so, the results achieved in the matter,

(c) whether the Government have invited Pakistan to have bilateral talks in the light of Shimla agreement;

(d) if so, the response of Pakistan thereto, and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve further the bilateral relations with that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT

(a) Government have urged Pakistan to stop its support to terrorism and subversion directed against India in the States of Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab

(b) Pakistan continues to claim that it does not support terrorism directed against India. However, there is evidence on the ground that Pakistan's support to terrorism continues.

(c) and (d) We have indicated to Paki-

stan that we are willing to discuss and resolve all issues with Pakistan bilaterally and peacefully in accordance with the Shimla Agreement. However, meaningful discussions can only be held once a climate is created which is conducive to promoting mutual trust and confidence and purposeful dialogue. For this Pakistan must stop its support to subversion and terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab.

(e) It is our policy to continue to keep channels of communication open with Pakistan in order to keep tension in check and lower temperatures. There have been meetings at the Prime Ministerial, Ministerial and Official level. Some progress has been made including agreements on confidence building measures and resumption of talks on pending issues.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, the Pakistan National Assembly, in October last, adopted a Resolution condemning, what they thought as "Indian Atrocities in Kashmir" and termed it "gross violation of universally-accepted norms of Human Rights." The Pakistan Government's Minister of State for External Affairs, while moving the Resolution in the Assembly, also reiterated the Pakistan Government's stand on supporting the militants' movement in Jammu & Kashmir. The Pakistan National Assembly earlier also passed a Resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your question. It is becoming a speech. This is such an important question. There are other Members who want to ask questions.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I will conclude in a minute.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the point.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: You will find that I am not taking even an extra fraction of a

second. (*Interruptions*) Again, I say that a Resolution was passed by the Pakistan National Assembly condemning us. They stated that the Babri-Masjid has been desecrated and demolished in India. All these remarks constitute a gross violation of international relations by all standards. Have not these two Resolutions passed by the Pakistan National Assembly caused great strain to the relations between India and Pakistan? If that relation has been very much severely strained, how does the Government propose to improve the relation as indicated in the Statement read-out by the Minister?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, we have made it known publicly that we deplore this type of a Resolution passed by a Parliamentary Institution. It is, as the Members rightly pointed out, a gross violation of Parliamentary norms; interference in the internal affairs of another country. I would like to say that while we deplored this, we have also succeeded in putting this across to a number of countries which are friendly and which are also important in the international community that these and the other actions of the Pakistani authorities have militated against a peaceful resolution of differences and also strengthening of relation between our two countries. May I say, in this context, that we are committed to keep on the dialogue. We are committed to do all that we can to strengthen the relation. You cannot choose your neighbours. Different neighbours are there. You cannot choose your families or your brothers. Therefore, the way is to keep talking, keep improving the relations, keep doing everything on this direction while at the same time, remaining firm and uncompromising on those values on which compromise is not possible, namely, the integrity of the country and the security of the nation.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The Pakistan ruling party is facing today menacingly domestic problem particularly after the movement, which is currently on, of the

Pakistan people Does the Government anticipate fresh spate of aggressive, adventurist attitudes and stances on the part of Pakistan in order to divert the mass attention from the menacing domestic problem that they are facing now, as in the past? If that is so, what would be the reaction of the Government of India in this regard?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO I would not like to fall in the same pitfall that we have pointed out to the Pakistani authorities, namely, commenting on their internal affairs. And, Mr Speaker, you will not allow me to answer speculative questions on what and so on and so forth

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE Mr, Speaker, Sir, my question is addressed to the Hon Prime Minister He often gets an opportunity to meet the Prime Minister of Pakistan He must be fully aware of the seen of Pakistan What is his personal assessment? Does Pakistan really want to improve its relations with us and if it is so, why after every such meeting steps are taken in Pakistan which rather spoil and not improve our relations

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P V NARASIMHA RAO) Mr Speaker, Sir, I do not think that our meeting is to spoil our relations Nor do I think that everytime, such a thing happens It is a fact that in every country there are some forces which do not want peace to be established in the country though peace loving forces are also there Anti-social elements have always been there to create obstacles in the way of efforts made by the peace loving forces (*Interruptions*)

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR Today you have given a very good reply—(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO It is essential and I know that it is there in every country including Pakistan. The opinion of all the people of a country is not same They all do not have a single aim—Even the people in the Government have difference of opinion—(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE. I was unaware that Shri Arjun Singh and you have differences (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR Sir, has the Government of India considered thanking and congratulating the Government of Pakistan on having prevented Shri Amanullah Khan and his colleagues from crossing the Line of Control, if not, why not?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO On this occasion, that is, the last occasion as well as on the previous occasion—that have been the two occasions - we took up the matter at diplomatic level bilaterally and also put across the gravity of the situation and how we really cannot but be firm in safeguarding our borders from other countries As a result of these diplomatic demarche, a very ugly situation was avoided

[*Translation*]

SHRI RABI RAY Mr Speaker, Sir, the hon Minister has said in his reply

[*English*]

'Some progress has been made including agreements on confidence building measures "

[*Translation*]

I would like to know from the hon Minister, has there been any difference between the previous dictatorial government and the

present democratic government in Pakistan as the present government is also sending infiltrators to India like the previous one? Since Prime Minister of two democracies exchange views now, is there any change? Hon. Minister may kindly throw some light on it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the Prime Minister answer it? He is looking at you and the Minister is looking at him.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: I was looking at you because I presumed that you would ask him. Kindly repeat your question.

MR. SPEAKER: Repeat it, please.

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, My question is whether the hon. Prime Minister finds any difference in the previous dictatorial government and the present democratic set up, under which two Prime Ministers have been elected, as the present government is also engineering disorder in Kashmir by sending infiltrators like the previous government? Secondly, does he find any change in the attitudes of the democratically elected Prime Ministers, Mrs. Bhutto and Mr. Sharif towards India?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: There is no change in their intentions to spread disorder in Kashmir but everybody has his own style and attitude and I can say that while talking to a democratically elected Prime Minister, I find myself on a different wave length and I am happy to admit it that we have good relations at personal level.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir we have talked about meetings, discussions and dialogues and the government always reiterates that it is ready for a talk, a dialogue and any sort of agreement. On the other hand we off and on say that Pakistan is involved in such and such activities and is interfering in our internal

matters and encouraging militancy and terrorism in India by assisting them. These two types of versions make credibility gap among international community. I would like to know from the hon. Minister for foreign affairs. The action being taken in a planned manner at the international level to either reduce or to remove this credibility gap?

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: I think that there cannot be a more credible position than ours and there cannot be any other position other than ours, acceptable to the people of this country. And that is why what I have mentioned is the need for a dialogue and the need to be firm on certain values on which compromise is not possible.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I think the hon. Minister has not followed my question. I am not speaking of the impact in India; I am speaking of the credibility gap in the international community and I am asking you what plan or systematic effort he is making in order to eliminate and reduce this credibility gap.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Well, first of all, there is no credibility gap and the credibility of our position has increased. I may like to share with him in detail the position but I would not like to take the time of this House beyond saying this: Whether it is the United States Congress or the United States Administration or the European community as a whole through the TROIKA and otherwise, or the British Government or the British Parliament or other important countries, they have all now reached to the conclusion which they have delayed for quite sometime. They have now reached to the conclusion that there in Pakistan, they are supporting terrorism and, therefore, there have been statements from some of these important administration that the time has now come to declare even Pakistan as a

terrorist State, as sponsors of terrorism. This is the position as it is on the international community

If the Member would like to know more about this, I will give him all the details. I will give him also documents for his own information because I do not want to affect the sources. I would give him documents which specify incidents, dates and facts of involvement of Pakistan in terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir from May 1988 to July 1990 and from July 1990 to July 1992 in all possible details, so that he is fully convinced

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN I am convinced, for that I do not need your documents

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO If the hon Member is convinced, he could pass on this to other friends who would have it

Disposal of cases by Central Administrative Tribunal

25 SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the working of and disposal of cases by the Central Administrative Tribunal has not served the intended objective so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of cases instituted and disposed of finally by the various Benches thereof during each of the last three years, and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to improve their functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT

(a) to (c) The Central Administrative Tribunal has generally served its intended objective as will be evident from figures of disposal given below. The number of cases instituted and disposed of by various Benches of the Tribunal during the last three years is as under -

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). The Central Administrative Tribunal has generally served its intended objective as will be evident from figures of disposal given below. The number of cases instituted and disposed of by various Benches of the Tribunal during the last three years is as under:-

S.No.	Name of the Bench	1.1.1989 to 31.12.1989		1.1.1990 to 31.12.1990		1.1.1991 to 31.12.1991	
		Instituted	Disposed	Instituted	Disposed	Instituted	Disposed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Principal	3092	1580	3248	2065	3750	2261
2.	Alahabad	1634	855	1650	1640	2237	1730
3.	Ahmedabad	801	590	657	464	535	668
4.	Bangalore	1404	2266	1186	898	935	1450
5.	Bombay	1098	602	1061	848	1131	1610
6.	Calcutta	1956	1406	2161	1645	1946	1990
7.	Chandigarh	1580	957	1643	1028	1929	1914
8.	Cuttack	650	531	634	563	613	462
9.	Guwahati	239	241	275	217	457	145

S.No.	Name of the Bench	1.1.1989 to 31.12.1989		1.1.1990 to 31.12.1990		1.1.1991 to 31.12.1991	
		Instituted	Disposed	Instituted	Disposed	Instituted	Disposed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Hyderabad	1197	1179	1293	1182	1461	1187
11.	Jabalpur	1180	1195	1223	1150	1171	661
12.	Jodhpur	1146	651	796	380	979	781
13.	Madras	1215	973	1270	1131	1513	1413
14.	Patna	488	543	689	669	866	608
15.	Ernakulam	922	1417	1478	1209	2108	1392
Total:		18602	13986	19264	15089	21651	17572

(d) Steps have been taken to fill up the posts of Vice-Chairman/Members taking into account the existing vacancies as well as the vacancies likely to arise upto 31.5.1993

(d) Steps have been taken to fill up the posts of Vice-Chairmen/Members taking into account the existing vacancies as well as the vacancies likely to arise upto 31.5.1993.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I find it extremely difficult to persuade myself to share the optimism of the hon. Minister. The Central Administrative Tribunal with fourteen benches in different parts of the country was set up as a special tribunal for expeditious disposal of the grievances of employees and for speedy dispensation of justice to them. But what we find from the answer itself is that the backlog of cases goes on mounting unabated. At the time when a number of posts of members and the vice-chairmen remain vacant I say so for the reason that at a time when the Government is convinced that no extension has to be given to any officer. We find that when officers approach the age of 58, angling for jobs in the Central Administrative Tribunal starts. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would consider making amendments to the Act to ensure that people of younger age come as members, as vice-chairmen of the tribunal because today service jurisprudence by itself has become a very complex subject and we require people who could have a longer stint there in the tribunal. That would help in cutting down the delays also

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: The administrative tribunals have two members - one a judicial member and another an administrative member. We have got to get people with experience at a particular age and if they are to go to the tribunals from the service, then some incentives have to be offered to them to go into the tribunal. Once they join the tribunal, the age for the member is 62 and for the Vice-Chairman it is 65. Therefore there is probably this question of age. But if you want them to go there, we have got to provide some incentive for members to go.

The hon. Member has spoken about mounting arrears. I do not think it is correct to say that the intention for which the tribunals were set up has not been achieved. First of all there were a number of cases which were transferred from High Courts to the tribunal, to the CAT when it was set up in 1985. We have that backlog to clear. We have done very good work as far as clearing of backlog is concerned. The pendency today is 40,000 which, compared to the High Courts and the delays which were there, is very much less. I would just give one comparative figure. You take the latest as in September. The norm of disposal per court per annum is 850 cases. Based on this, for all the benches of the tribunal together it should have been 1788. But I would like to say that as far as CAT benches are concerned, we have reached 2173 disposals which is much higher than the average which has been set as a norm for the High Courts.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Four thousand accumulations are there every year. Four thousand arrears, every year.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I must say that is because there are so many people wanting to go to the tribunal because it is cheap and much quicker justice than the High Courts.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Because they are not satisfied with the departmental results.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I must say that the fee is just Rs. 50. All other applications, including the orders are all supplied free; there is no cost; it is very cheap. So there is quite a lot of pressure on the tribunals, on the benches which are now there.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: If at any time 40,000 Government employees have to wait for a decision on the point that they raised or that concern their career, I

think that we have got to do something about the matter. It is in this connection that I would like to know from the hon. Minister, firstly whether the Minister would consider reducing the age of Government employees getting into this Tribunal from 58 years to 50 years or so; and secondly, what is the number of vacancies pending at the moment and when are those likely to be filled up?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I would like to tell the hon. Member that there are no vacancies at the moment. In fact, we did have a problem of filling up the vacancies when we came in. At that time there was a large number of vacancies. I would like to inform the hon. Member that we have, in fact, made selections for vacancies which will come up, right upto, May 1993. The selections have been made by the Expert Committee and there will be no question of backlog as far as filling up of vacancies is concerned.

About reducing the age of administrative member or the High Court judges, I would say that it is a substitute for the High Court and therefore we have to have people who are at a particular level of experience to go into the Tribunal. Therefore I cannot reduce the age to 50 years, if we want the High Court Judges and others to go into it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, one of the objects of setting up of Central Administrative Tribunal was that when a case is disposed of - if there is no technical question - the party will not file SLP in the Supreme Court. But our experience is that, in all the cases, after the disposal....

MR. SPEAKER: You should ask a question please. (*Interruptions*) You may ask a question. We do not want your explanation or experience.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The object of setting up of the Central Administrative

Tribunal was, after the disposal of the cases, generally, the party will not file SLP in the Supreme Court. But our experience is that in all cases, the parties are filing SLPs in the Supreme Court.

In a case where the Central Administrative Tribunal has given a judgment in favour of reinstatement of dismissed railway employees, the Ministry of Railway has filed SLP in the Supreme Court. So, the object of setting up of Central Administrative Tribunal is void. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the object of setting up of Central Administrative Tribunal was for the speedy disposal of the cases and also for the Government not to file SLPs in the Supreme Court? May I also know whether the Minister will see that the Government is not filing SLPs in the Supreme Court where a judgment has been given in favour of employees by the Central Administrative Tribunal?

MR. SPEAKER: A long question to be responded by a brief answer please.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Yes, Sir, I would certainly like to say that no frivolous SLPs have ever been filed by the Government. They are filed after a very careful consideration and legal opinion, where matters of Law are involved. I would also like to say that the jurisdiction of the High Courts has been removed.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That depends on the vindictiveness of the officers because they are utilising the Government money to file appeals and not their own money; but the workers are to spend their own money.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The Prime Minister is here, he should reply. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I can

only give you the factual position. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Ministry of Railways is filing SLPs in all cases. Why? Prime Minister should reply.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: A very few SLPs are ever admitted by the Supreme Court. (*Interruptions*) It is only in limited matters that they are referred.

(*Interruptions*)

Indian Pepper

26. **SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to increase the price of Indian pepper for the benefit of the farmers during the last six months;

(b) the steps taken to establish a dominant position for pepper in America, Gulf, European and Asian markets after the disintegration of the former Soviet Union;

(c) the concrete results achieved after the withdrawal of pepper cess; and

(d) the amount of pepper purchased/proposed to be purchased by the Spices Trading Corporation, NAFED and other Government agencies to prevent further downfall of prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The fall in the price of Indian pepper in the last two years has been on account of over-supply in the international market. The stabilisation in the prices of pepper will eventually come only through a better balance of demand and supply. However, with a view to mitigate the hardship of the farmers, Government has taken a number of steps. These include:-

(i) The cess on the export of pepper has been waived with effect from 16th October 1992. This will improve the price competitiveness of Indian pepper and will thereby help improve exports;

(ii) The State marketing agencies such as NAFED, Spices Trading Corporation Ltd. (STCL) and State Trading Corporation (STC) have been advised to step in and purchase stocks to the extent possible.

(iii) The Spices Board has, in consultation with exporters, stepped up its efforts to promote exports of pepper.

As a result of the steps initiated, the pepper prices are now beginning to look up.

(b) Export performance is largely dependent on our price competitiveness and quality. A series of measures have been taken to improve productivity and quality of our pepper. These include production and distribution of rooted cuttings of high yielding varieties of pepper, rehabilitation of old pepper gardens, supply of input kits to small and marginal farmers and pepper protection measures including control of quick wilt disease. In order to help marketing, the Spices Board has also taken other measures such as sending delegations abroad, arranging Buyer-seller Meets, participating in international fairs/exhibitions, promoting export of value added forms to pepper such as pepper

oil and oleoresins upgrading the quality of pepper, brand promotion. Spices Board has also introduced Logo Promotion scheme to ensure quality.

(c) The export of pepper in October 1992 was 750 tonnes as against 343 tonnes during October 1991. However, it is rather premature to expect any impact of the waiver of cess.

(d) STCL, NAFED & STC propose to purchase pepper to the extent of about 1500 tonnes between now and March, 1993.

SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Sir, I am sorry to say that the reply conceals more than it reveals. In fact, Indian pepper is the livelihood of about 20 lakh families. It earns a foreign exchange of Rs. 200 crore. I am stating this in order to show the importance of this cash crop.

The problem is that the Minister has referred to price competitiveness. The price competitiveness is already there. Indian pepper is supposed to be the best in the world. If we exercise sufficient influence with the international pepper community and also if we try to make more efforts to sell this abroad, I am sure, we will be able to increase the prices.

So, what are the tangible and concrete results of NAFED, STC and Spices Trading Corporation stepping into purchase stocks? How much have they purchased? What are the results - whatever the results may be - produced by the Spices Board's sending their delegations abroad, participating in fairs and exhibitions, promoting export of value added items and then arranging buyer-seller meets and all that?

Sofar as I know, it has not produced any concrete results. I would like to know what are the results of these so-called efforts made by the Government.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, the hon. Member feels that the question conceals more than what it reveals. I do not know. I have answered specifically all the points which have been referred. Well, then this question also conceals more. Therefore, the answer conceals.

I would like to make it very clear that all possible efforts are being made to increase the export of pepper and also to see that there is price competitiveness. But the price as such is due to certain factors which are beyond our control. Most of our export was taking place to the erstwhile Soviet Union. Because of the collapse of the erstwhile Soviet Union and because of the economic problems in that country, we are not able to export our pepper to that country.

At the same time, we are making all efforts to divert our market. It is to help the farmers that we have reduced the export cess. There was an export cess of two per cent. That has been reduced to make our pepper more competitive.

It is true that Spices Board is sending delegations. The traders and exporters are also going to other countries. There are all-out efforts to strike new deals for export.

If the hon. Member wants to know what specific deals have been struck by the delegations, it is not possible for me to divulge because the deals which are struck by these exporters or these business delegations will not be divulged by them. They have business proposals. That is not available for us. So, we cannot reveal that.

At the same time, the Government is making all possible efforts by arranging buyer-seller meets, by sending delegations and also asking the STC, STCL and NAFED to buy, to enter into the market and purchase pepper on commercial considerations. We have already given the direction. NAFED

has plans for buying 600 MT. They have already purchased 200 MT. STCL has a plan to buy 1,000 MT. And they have just purchased some quantity. We have directed the STC to enter the market and buy pepper on commercial consideration. Sir, when these agencies enter the market, that chop will certainly create a spurt in the market and the price will go up.

SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: The basic problem is the low and most unremunerative price of pepper which makes it impossible for the farmer to even bear the cost of production. So, I would like to know, through you, from the Minister whether the Government would fix a minimum floor price of Rs. 60 per kilo so that it will become remunerative for the farmer. I would also like to know as to what further steps the Government will take to increase exports. Would the Government constitute a Pepper Board to increase productivity as also a pepper research centre to deal with diseases and all that?

MR. SPEAKER: He wants four in one.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, Government appreciates and fully understands the problem of the farmers. That is why, we are taking certain steps. But price is beyond our control. Two-thirds of our pepper was being exported. Unless we get export orders and unless international market prices go up, we will not be able to just announce a higher price.

SHRI PALA K M MATHEW: I asked for minimum floor price.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: So, price is beyond our control. Then, with regard to the specific suggestion of the hon. Member on minimum floor price, even if they procure at minimum floor price, where will we stand? Can we ask our people to eat more pepper? Nobody will eat more pepper. We have to only export. Therefore, it is again market or

commercial consideration. However, the Kerala Government has been asked to put up a proposal for some kind of a market intervention. For such a scheme, the State Government should bear 50 percent of the cost. If such a proposal comes, then the Government is prepared to consider that proposal.

Regarding Pepper Board, there is already Spices Board which takes care of all the activities of all the spices. All problems of pepper are being dealt with by the Spices Board. So, I do not think there is any need of having another Board. It will only duplicate the work.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: It is a welcome step which the Minister and the Government has taken in regard to cess. That will, of course, give a boost to the price. But as the Minister has said, it is very difficult to make people eat more pepper. So, I would suggest and appeal that the Government should think of starting new pepper-based industries so that we can consume and process pepper, make new product out of pepper, export it to find a very good market in the international market for pepper. Could you kindly do something on that?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: We are also trying to have more value addition to pepper. We are encouraging export-oriented units producing oleoresins from pepper. I would request the hon. Member to use his good offices to bring more proposals so that we can support such proposals.

Investment R & D

27. **SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Research and Development investment in India is low as compared to other developed and developing countries;

(b) if so, the specific steps taken to improve the situation, and

(c) the comparative figures in respect of per capital expenditure on Research and Development in the developing and developed countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVEL-

OPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARMANGALAM): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Per Capita Research and Development expenditure in India is low as compared to that of the developed countries, but is higher than what is the case for some of the developing countries. The Research and Development Expenditure in India has been increasing from year to year

STATEMENT

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(c) Per Capita Expenditure on Research and Development in some Developing and Developed Countries in US

Sl. No.	Country	Year	Per Capita R&D expenditure
1	2	3	4
1.	Australia	1987	153.85
2.	Austria	1985	110.71
3.	Brazil	1985	6.41
4.	Canada	1987	216.06
5.	Cuba	1987	30.14
6.	Czechoslovakia	1988	177.43
7.	Denmark	1987	283.30
8.	Egypt	1982	1.29
9.	Federal Republic of Germany	1987	523.98

Sl. No.	Country	Year	Per Capita R&D expenditure
1	2	3	4
10.	France	1987	364.13
11.	German Democratic Republic (GDR)	1988	383.21
12.	Guyana	1982	1.03 -
13.	Hungary	1988	60.82
14.	India	1990	2.76
15.	Indonesia	1988	0.88 -
16.	Israel	1983	246.43
17.	Italy	1987	157.64
18.	Japan	1987	558.80
19.	Republic of Korea	1988	75.21
20.	Pakistan	1987	2.91
21.	Panama	1986	0.10 -

Sl. No.	Country	Year	Per Capita R&D expenditure
1	2	3	4
22.	Philippines	1984	0.68 -
23.	Singapore	1987	68.14
24.	Spain	1987	45.97
25.	Sweden	1987	577.57
26.	U.K.	1986	226.63
27.	U.S.A.	1988	514.70
28.	USSR	1988	218.63
29.	Venezuela	1985	10.87
30.	Yugoslavia	1988	26.24

Source: UNESCO Statistical Year Book 1990

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps the Government is taking to attract talents to research and development in view of the gradual deterioration. Secondly, what steps is the Government taking to curb brain drain?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Firstly, I would like to inform the hon. Member that I would not agree with him that there is a degradation in research and development. For attraction of younger and newer talents, various schemes are there starting from what is called pool scientists scheme. We have schemes whereby scientists who have Master's qualifications with Ph.D. and two years' experience are given 3 to 5 years contract, so that they have opportunities. But more than that, I think what is really necessary is that missions in the arena of science and technology be identified. It is very important for us to concentrate on those areas because it is impossible for a country like ours with limited resources to concentrate on all areas of science and technology. It is with this objective in mind that the Government is having a serious look at whether we should have missions on specific areas of frontier technology.

I can assure the hon. Member that brain-drain is not really the problem when it comes to science and technology. If one looks at the resource base available with us, what is really required is to ensure that the resources that we have in terms of scientific talent are fully utilised for further development.

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Import of foreign technology is causing a lot of heart-burn among the Indian scientists. They feel that their work is completely ignored by the Indian industry. Will the Government assure the scientists that henceforth there will be no import of foreign technology or in any case,

that would be confined only to high technology areas?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: In a world, which is becoming more and more a global village, it is going to be impossible to say something blanket like that. One thing is definite. Repetitive imports of technology or technologies that are indigenously available are not going to be permitted. I can assure the hon. Member one thing and that is, whatever technology that is available with us, is invariably more competitive and definitely far better than most of the imported technology. In fact, we find that the Indian industrialists under the new Economic Policy are today pushing forward to tell the Indian scientists and research organisations that they are willing to invest and share in R & B because technology is extremely relevant if one has to be in the competitive arena.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Just now, we received some information from the ministry, which clearly shows that research work in India is being carried out on a very low scale as a result of which today we are importing technologies, the way we were doing it at the time of attaining independence. If you compare the data of India with the data of developing countries you will find that we are making a per capita investment of 2.76 U.S. dollars in comparison to their investment of 500 U.S. dollars. I would like to know from the government whether it will consider to increase the per capita expenditure on research and development in order to take India into a new era. Because, as per your data, even Pakistan is also investing much more than India on research and development. So, in order to stop further import of technology and to develop new technologies within the country more funds should be provided for research and development.

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do agree with the hon. Member that if one looks at the amount of R & D expenditure that we have in our country on a per capita basis, it is low because the population is rather high. That is the real truth. But if one looks at the per capita GNP, then one would realise that we are in a much better position. In fact, it is in India that such a high percentage is contributed from Government to R & D compared to other countries including Japan. The percentage of Government expenditure to R & D in terms of GNP is 0.6 per cent in Japan, whereas it is 0.7 per cent in India. The truth is, about 87 per cent of R & D expenditure is contributed by Government. The industry's contribution has been extremely little. While in the developed countries it is the industry which contributes more and the Government contributes less in R&D. What we really need is to encourage the industry to come forward. I believe the new Economic Policy has already brought these changes. The industry is coming forward and I think over a period of time there will be substantial increase in the investment in R & D.

SHRICHANDRAJEET YADAV: I agree with the Minister that the Indian industrialists' response is very poor while all over the world the maximum contribution to the Research and Development is made by the industrialists only whether it is the research and development in the field of university or in Science and Technology. I feel it will not be the case that automatically because of the new Economic Policy the industrialists will come in a big way and start contributing more in R & D. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government has come out or will come out with a scheme and will call a meeting specifically for this purpose so that it can fix the priorities and also can give certain schemes to the industrialists to see

that their contribution is much larger than it is today.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: I am obliged to the hon. Member for having raised the issue from the right perspective. The Government has already held discussion with the representatives of industry. Various schemes are being worked out, including the financial incentives that could be given to encourage R&D, as well as efforts are being made to involve the representatives of industry in the various Research Councils that are there in various Government Research Organisations. Their involvement is there at the stage of planning for the research itself. Their involvement is not just financial but it is also in the plan and in the understanding. Therefore, I can assure the hon. Member that we are going along those lines. The schemes as and when finalised will be brought to the notice of the House.

[Translation]

SHRINITISH KUMAR: (Barh): Just now, the hon. Minister said that the amount of R&D expenditure that we have in our country on per capita basis, is very low because the population is rather high but so far as the question of G.N.P. is concerned, that is much more than Japan. We would like to know from the government, what percentage of the total G.N.P. of Public sector and Private sector is spent in Japan and India respectively. If the data provided by him only pertain to the public sectors of Japan and India respectively then what is the total G.N.P. of Public sector and private sector of India as well as Japan. You should clearly state the total expenditure incurred by the Government of India in comparison to Japan.

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, I want to assure the hon.

Member that I was not playing the statistical game I have given him the actual figures On the total GNP, no private sector or public sector division is made In Japan, otherwise the per capita may not have been so low, the fact is that industrial contribution to R & D is much more than

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR We have asked about the total expenditure, not about the government expenditure alone What is the total expenditure incurred in Japan by the government and the private sector and the expenditure incurred in India on that account You just say that our expenditure is much more than Japan Do you wish to give this false message to the nation You just tell us about the total expenditure of Japan in this regard

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM The hon Member would kindly appreciate that there was no attempt to give any false message I categorically said that in Japan the participation of industry in R&D is greater than the participation of Government I pointed out that the Government's participation is more What we need as rightly pointed out by the hon Member Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav is that industry must participate more in R&D More Government participation alone will never finally meet the answer That is why I have said that if one take the Government participation as a percentage of GNP we are at a very good level What we need is to encourage industry to come forward and participate Mr Jena is also very much aware of the problem

Export Promotion Campaign in Germany

28 SHRI MAHESH KANODIA
DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Indian Mission in Germany has identified thirteen thrust items for an export promotion campaign in that country,

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

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to boost the exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE) (PROF P J KURIEN) (a) and (b) The Indian Embassy in Germany has identified 14 items for export promotion in that country A statement showing these items is laid on the Table of the House

(c) Recent policy changes and the process of economic liberalisation initiated are, inter-alia, aimed at increasing Indian exports Besides Government also facilitates other export promotion measures such as participation in fairs/exhibitions, holding buyer-seller meets and exchange of trade/industry delegations

STATEMENT

List of Items

- (i) engineering products
- (ii) computer softwares
- (iii) all leather products
- (iv) carpets,
- (v) cotton textiles and garments,

- (vi) marine products/foodstuffs and Agricultural products,
- (vii) tea,
- (viii) jute
- (ix) chemicals and pharmaceuticals,
- (x) granits and ceramic tiles,
- (xi) handicrafts,
- (xii) construction hardware and fittings,
- (xiii) industrial garments, and
- (xiv) consultancy services.

part of the funds under the JRY may be earmarked for watershed development and soil and water conservation programmes which will lead to sustained development and employment in rural areas; allocation to the villages under JRY be increased, so that durable and tangible works could be taken up while providing employment and there is need for flexibility in the implementation of JRY and other rural development programmes and integration of different schemes so as to be relevant to the field conditions in different States/Regions and local areas. Allocation under JRY should also be increased so as to achieve the objective of creating a minimum of 1000 million man-days each year in the Eighth Five Year plan. The various components of the JRY such as Million Wells Scheme (MWS), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), construction of school buildings, roads, irrigation projects etc. would also continue with appropriate streamlining. These will serve to create rural infrastructure and assets in favour of the rural poor.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

*23. SHRI V S VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana was reviewed at a conference of the Chief Minister held recently; and

(b) if so, the broad details of the discussions held and the conclusions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b): In the Conference of Chief Ministers held on 9th October, 1992, the implementation of all rural development programmes including that of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana was reviewed. The main suggestions/conclusions of the Conference were that a substantial

2. The general consensus of the Conference is to continue the JRY during the Eighth Five Year Plan with its existing objectives

Consumer Cooperatives in Urban Areas of Assam

*29. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of consumer cooperatives established in the urban areas of Assam during the year 1991-92;

(b) the target fixed for 1992-93;

(c) whether any financial assistance is being received from outside for the functioning of these co-operatives; and

(d) if so the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED).

(a) and (b) The Government of Assam has reported that Nine Primary Consumer Cooperative stores have been set up in Assam during 1991-92 and no target has been fixed for 1992-93

(c) and (d) The State Government of Assam provides financial assistance to the Consumer cooperative institution and the Government of India supplemented the efforts of the various State Governments including Assam through a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the development of Urban Consumer Cooperatives. The scheme was in force till 31 3 1992 and has since been transferred to the State sector. The financial assistance given by Government of India covers assistance to set up small sized retail outlets, large sized retail outlets and Department stores. An amount of Rs 136.56 lakhs has been released for setting up 90 units in the State up to 31 3 1992

Prime Minister's Visit to France

*30 SHRI P M SAYEED
SHRI BRISHIN PATEL

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether during his recent visit to France he held talks with French leaders on bilateral and multilateral issues including supply of enriched uranium to India,

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed and the outcome thereof,

(c) whether any agreement/treaty was signed during the visit,

(d) if so, the broad details thereof,

(e) whether he also met Non-Resident Indians residing in France,

(f) whether they have shown any interest to invest in India, and

(g) if so, the expected quantum of investment from them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO)

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The two sides agreed to strengthen relations in the economic, commercial, technological, defence, scientific and cultural fields. The two sides exchanged views on multilateral issues such as NPT and bilateral nuclear cooperation and the Indian side reiterated its well known position. Regional issues such as European integration, South Asia etc were also discussed. The two sides agreed on the need for strengthening of the global role of the UN.

(c) and (d) An Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital was signed. The Agreement was signed by Secretary, Deptt of Economic Affairs from the Indian side and by his counterpart from the French side. The Treaty is expected to bring down present rates of corporate tax levied on French companies in India and vice versa, considerably.

(e) to (g) The Prime Minister met Non-Resident Indians in the reception hosted by our Ambassador in Paris. They showed interest, in general in investing in India. However, no specific quantum of investment was indicated by anyone.

[*Translation*]**Chemical Fertilizers**

*31. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased
to state:

(a) the details of various chemical fertilizers produced in the country at present and the existing production in respect of each of these fertilizers;

(b) whether the Government have

encouraged production of fertilizers of two grades only; and

(c) if so, the precise policy of the Union Government in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: (a) The details of various major chemical fertilizers produced in the country at present and the existing production (from April to October, 1992) in respect of each of these fertilizers, is given below:-

('000' MT)

<i>Name of the Product</i>	<i>Production (April - October, 1992)</i>
UREA	7340.3
Ammonium Sulfate	303.2
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate	251.9
Ammonium Chloride	69.0
DAP	1685.8
SSP	1399.4
NP/NPK	
20:7:20	174.4
15:15:15	233.0
17:17:17	441.4
10:26:26	170.1
12:32:16	142.6
14:35:14	20.8

('000' MT)

<i>Name of the Product</i>	<i>Production (April - October, 1992)</i>
19 19 19	99 4
14 28 14	00 0
28 28	216 5
16 20	59 7
23 23	156 7
20 20	398 8
TOTAL	13163 1

(b) No, Sir

(c) In views of reply to (b) above question does not arise

Development fo Khadi and Village Industries in Bihar

*32 SHRIMOHAMMADALI ASHRAF FATMI Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the amount of grants provided during 1990-91 and 1991-92 for development of Khadi and Village Industries in Bihar is less than the amount of grants provided during 1988-89 and 1989-90 and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (PROF P J KURIEN)

(a) and (b) Grants are provided to every State for meeting rebate on Khadi/Polyvastera sale, and a part for the capital expenditure as per the patterns of assistance of the Commission to KVI Boards and directly aided institutions. The details of the total grants provided in Bihar are as under

Year	Total Grants (Rs in Lakhs)
1988-89	518 57
1989-90	506 24
1990-91	483 52
1991-92	451 71

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT FO SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND

The reduction in 1991-92 is on account of reduction on khadi sales as well as existence of rebate arrears

[English]

**Impact of Maastricht Treaty on
Indian Exports.**

***33. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:**
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have assessed the impact of the Maastricht Treaty on Indian exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) The Maastricht Treaty does not have any direct bearing on Indian export to Member States of the European Community.

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

[Translation]

Subsidy to Fertilizer Industry

***34. SHRI SUKH DEO PASWAN:**
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of subsidy due to fertilizer industry as on October 31, 1992;

(b) whether some of the fertilizer units are closed for non-availability of subsidy during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The amount of subsidy due to the fertilizer units as per claims received from the units and pending as on October 31, 1992 was Rs. 1340.62 crores.

(b) and (c) As per the information available with the Government, no major nitrogenous or phosphatic fertilizer unit was closed during the current year on account of non-payment of subsidy dues. The Fertilizer Association of India have reported that as at the end of October, 1992, 28 units in the medium and small scale sector producing single superphosphate, a phosphatic fertilizer, were closed for various reasons including liquidity problem caused by imposition of ceiling on subsidy, delay in recognition of cost escalation and delay in disbursement of subsidy dues.

(d) Within the available budgetary allocations, efforts are continuously made to clear the subsidy dues expeditiously.

Evaluation of New Industrial Policy

***35. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:**
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any evaluation of the New Industrial Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the number of the public sector undertakings in which capital investment by private sector is being made as a consequence of the New Industrial policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT
OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-
MATI KRISHNA SAHI). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The prospects are very
encouraging as per the details given
below :

Sl. No.	2	Pre - Policy		Post - Policy		
		1990-91 Aug-July	3	1991-92 Aug-July	4	1992 Aug-October
1.	Total of Industrial Approvals/Letters of Intent/Registration/Memoranda	3974	6826	1239		
2	Total No. of foreign collaboration approvals	524	1537	339		
3	Foreign Equity (Rs. in Billion)	1.6	19.5	17.2		

(c) As per information available, partial disinvestment of equity in 30 Central Government public undertakings has been made in favour of institutional investors.

[English]

Construction of Roads Under J.R.Y.

*36. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any discrepancy in the cost of construction of roads per km. under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna in various States;

(b) if so, the remedial action proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether any norms have been laid down for the construction of such roads;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any evaluation of the work done has been made by any Central agency; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) to (f). The cost of construction of roads under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) varies from State to State as it depends on a number of State specific factors, such as, type of construction undertaken (i.e. brick laying, metalling, black topping), type of soil, availability of construction material etc. The remedial action for discrepancies in the cost of construction of roads (per K.M.) under J.R.Y. is, therefore, not required.

As regards norms laid down for construction of rural roads, the roads constructed under JRY are to be as per the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) criteria. All villages with a population of 1500 and above and 50% of the villages in the population group of 1,000 - 1,500 were to be connected with all - whether roads by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan. As the population in the hilly tribal, coastal and desert areas is sparse and the settlements are located at long distances from each other, MNP norms for roads for these areas for the Seventh Plan were as under:-

Hill Areas:

i) 100% linkage during the time frame of 10 years to villages with population 500.

ii) 50% linkages during the time frame of 10 years to villages with population between 200 - 500.

Tribal, Coastal and desert areas:

(i) 100% linkage during a time frame of 10 years to villages with population over 1000.

(ii) 50% linkage during 10 years time frame to villages with population between 500 - 1000.

The evaluation of roads constructed under JRY has not been made by any Central Agency so far.

Payment of Commission by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.

*37. SHRI AMAL DATTA:
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Auditors' Report in the 5th Annual Report of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd for 1990-91 it paid a huge amount as Commission/brokerage, and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H R BHARDWAJ)

(a) and (b) The Auditors in their Report annexed to the Balance sheet and Profit and Loss Account of M/S Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), for the year ended 31st March, 1991, inter-alia, reported that 'The Company has paid Rs 14,57,25,000 (net amount after reimbursement by Department of Telecommunications is Rs 5,52,75,000) as brokerage/ commission (front end fees) to nationalised banks and their subsidiaries on private placement of bonds

Pricing System in Super Bazar

*38 **SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV
SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether in Super Bazar the prices shown in the rate list and actually charged from the customers are different

(b) if so, the details thereof , and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES , CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) to (c) According to the pricing policy of the super Bazar the packaging and pricing of the

comodities like pulses and spices procured from the market is done by lots. Every lot will be sold at the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) marked thereon. The Super Bazar has also issued instructions to their branches to ensure that prices being charged are as per the rate list displayed and printed on the packs

Industries in Gujarat

*39 **SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the number of proposals received by the Union Government from Gujarat during each of the last three years for setting up industries ,

(b) the number of proposals approved and the number of those reject during the above period ,

(c) the reasons for not approving these proposals , and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the speedy disposal of the pending proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MATI KRISHNA SAHI) (a) 142, 136 and 118 Industrial Licence applications were received during 1990, 1991 and 1992 (upto October) respectively for setting up industries in Gujarat

(b) Out of the above applications 170 were approved and 183 were rejected/otherwise disposed of

(c) The main reasons for rejection of applications are (i) existence of adequate capacity in the proposed line of manufacture, (ii) raw material constraints, (iii) proposed location not being in conformity with the Government's locational policy, etc

(d) All efforts are made to dispose of the applications for grant of letters of intent within the stipulated time limits

Industries in Backward Areas

*40 SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have offered the industrial houses, multi-national companies and non resident Indians to set up industries in the backward areas of the country under the New Industrial Policy ,

(b) if so the details thereof, and

(c) their reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MATI KRISHNA SAHI) (a) No Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Revival of Hindustan Fertilizers in West Bengal

231 SHRISANAT KUMAR MANDAL Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) The steps taken by the Union Government for revival of the Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation's plants located in West Bengal and

(b) The details regarding the re-employment of the staff working there and the utilisation of plant and machinery installed therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR CHINTA MOHAN) (a) and (b) An end to-end survey of Durgapur Fertilizer

plant and Haldia fertilizer project was got conducted by reputed consultants. The consultants had recommended that Durgapur unit could be revamped with an investment of Rs 171.30 crores (updated to Rs 213.15 crores in 1990) and the Haldia fertilizer project could be revamped at an estimated cost of Rs 500 crores (1988 prices). As the investment suggested by the consultants was very high which, if made, would make the plants economically unviable, no decision could be taken. Since Durgapur plant is in production, question of re-employment of the staff and non-utilisation of plant and machinery does not arise.

Tea Industry in Assam

232 SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the hardships being faced by Tea industry in Assam due to insurgency and export market crunch and

(b) if so the measures taken to overcome the difficulties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAI MANKHURSHED) (a) Estimated production of tea in Assam during January 1992 to September 1992 was 4.64 M Kgs higher over the corresponding period of last year. However, lesser off-take of teas by CIS countries in the current year has adversely affected the overall export of tea from India including teas of Assam origin. However, exports to areas other than CIS have been higher.

(b) Government has been encouraging diversification of tea export by sponsoring industry delegation to various countries. Trade protocols have also been entered into with some of the CIS countries including Russia. Other countries are being persuaded

to buy higher quantities of Indian tea indicating them the price and quality competitiveness of our tea.

Sanitation Programme, State-wise during the current year ?

Allocation of Funds for Household Latrines

233. DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: the total amount earmarked to provide household sanitary latrines under the Central Rural

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H.PATEL). State-wise details of funds earmarked to provide sanitary latrines during 1992-93 are given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>S.No</i>	<i>State/UTs</i>	<i>Funds provided under CRSP during 1992-93</i>
1	Andhra Pradesh	102.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	5 00
3	Assam	37 00
4	Bihar	181 00
5	Goa	5 00
6	Gujarat	50.00
7	Haryana	17.00
8	Himachal Pradesh	16.00
9	Jammu & Kashmir	20.00
10	Karnataka	82.00
11.	Kerala	74.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	121.00
13.	Maharashtra	132.00
14	Manipur	5.00

<i>S No</i>	<i>State/UTs</i>	<i>Funds provided under CRSP during 1992-93</i>
15	Meghalaya	5 00
16	Mizoram	5 00
17	Nagaland	5 00
18	Orissa	63 00
19	Punjab	18 00
20	Rajasthan	67 00
21	Sikkim	55 00
22	Tamil Nadu	111 00
23	Tripura	8 00
24	Uttar Pradesh	221 00
25	West Bengal	109 00
26	A & N Islands	5 00
27	Daman & Diu	5 00
28	Lakshadweep	5 00
29	Pondicherry	5 00
30	Delhi	6 00
31	Chandigarh	5 00
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5 00
TOTAL		1500 00

[*Translation*][*English*]

**Privatisation of Maharashtra State
Transport Corporation**

234 SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGHPATIL Will the MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the planning Commission has asked the Government of Maharashtra for the privatisation of Maharashtra State Transport Corporation, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKHRAM) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

Production of Tea

235 SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the production of tea from the tea gardens managed by Tea Trading Corporation of India in West Bengal during the last three Years,

(b) income and expenditure in each of such gardens during the above period, and

(c) the development works undertaken to improve the condition of these gardens during the above period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) The production of tea in tea gardens managed by Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd in West Bengal during the last three Years is as follows -

(*Production in Kgs*)

	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
Looksan	522253	506429	461745
Pashok	141277	139181	121327
Vah			
Tukvar	102361	104907	81622
Potong	79253	78153	78144

*Provisional

(b) The income and expenditure in each garden during the last three years is as follows -

(Rs./Lakhs)

	1989-90		1990-91		1991-92*	
	<i>Income</i>	<i>exp.</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Exp.</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Exp.</i>
Looksan	184.10	113.29	181.67	129.67	119.79	136.83
Pashok	69.45	79.62	70.43	96.73	56.53	103.64
Vah						
Tukvar	51.04	64.24	56.42	73.52	35.37	78.98
Potong	35.31	33.46	37.37	41.33	34.40	40.94

*Provisional

(c) During the last three Years, 3 generator sets, 4 tractors with trailers, 3 new withering troughs, one new CTC machine and one new pulverizing machine have been provided to the gardens managed by Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd. to improve tea production in these gardens.

Reclamation of Non-Forest Land

236. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive plan for reclamation of non-forest land ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the details of the achievements made so far and the target fixed for current year and Eighth plan, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT (COL. RAM SINGH): (a) to (c) The reconstituted National Waster lands

Development Board (NWDB) under the newly created Department of Wastelands Development has adopted a broad strategy for sustainable development of non-forest wastelands aimed at checking land degradation, putting such lands to sustainable use and increasing biomass production especially of firewood and fodder.

The following schemes have been proposed for implementation during the remaining part of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

1) Integrated Wastelands Development Scheme.

2) Investment Promotional Scheme.

3) Technology Development Scheme.

4) Support to Non-Government Organizations/Voluntary Associations for Wastelands Development.

5) Scheme for Promotional and Critical support Services.

6) Wastelands Development Task Force.

These schemes are under discussion with the Planning Commission.

During the current Year the Board is implementing the ongoing scheme under which no scheme exclusively for development of non-forest wastelands was envisaged. No State-wise targets were fixed.

[Translation]

Supply of Drinking Water in Village of Karnataka

237. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEER-APPA. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various proposals,

schemes and representations received during the period 1st January, 1991 to 30th October, 1992 from the Government of Karnataka in regard to the supply of drinking water in various villages of Karnataka;

(b) the action taken so far in each case; and

(c) the funds provided for the supply of drinking water in various villages during the afore said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H PATEL): (a) During the period from 1st January 1991 to 30th October 1992, the following schemes / Proposals were received from the State Govt. of Karnataka :-

(Rs. In lakhs)

S No	Scheme	Estimated Cost
1	Regional water supply scheme to Alwandi and 8 villages in Raichur district	90.00
2	Regional water supply scheme to Arshangi and 4 villages in Raichur district	29.22
3.	Integrated water supply and sanitation project for 1000 villages in 10 districts (250 villages in Phase I and 750 villages in Phase II) for World Bank Assistance.	
		38,800.00

(b) The two schemes at Sl. No. 1 and 2 above were withdrawn by the State Govt. for being taken upon under the Minimum Needs Programme. As regards the Project for World Bank assistance, this is under consideration in the Ministry of Rural Development as per the norms and require-

ment of World Bank.

(c) Central Assistance is not released on scheme-wise/village-wise basis. Funds are released to the State Govt. as per the Annual allocation under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme for imple-

mentation of the schemes for which technical clearance is given by the central Govt or the State Govt under the powers delegated to them. During the aforesaid period, a total assistance of Rs 47.0 crores was provided to the State Govt of Karnataka for supply of drinking water in rural areas.

Restructuring of Rural Development Programme

238 SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to restructure the Rural Development Programmes, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHI H. PATEL) (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present under consideration to make any basic change in the major Rural Development Programmes. However, Government is considering revamping of the programmes wherever necessary after discussion with the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance.

Houses Rural Labourers

239 SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have any All India Scheme for providing houses to the rural labourers,

(b) if so, the name of the agency or organisation constituted for the implementation of this scheme

(c) the State-wise details of the housing facility provided to the rural labourers so far, and

(d) the time by which the housing problem of the rural labourers is likely to be solved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) No, Sir. There is no scheme at present for providing houses exclusively to the rural labourers. Some rural labourers are however, being covered under the Indira Awaas Yojana.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Does not arise

(d) Does not arise

[English]

Restructuring of Public Sector Undertakings of Maharashtra

240 SHRI RAMCHANDRA MARO TRAOGHANGARE Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether some foreign consultants have been hired by the Government to prepare a detailed restructuring plan for some of the public Sector Undertakings located in Maharashtra with the aim to prune their workforce and shed some loss making activities in order to increase their efficiency,

(b) if so, the details of these undertakings,

(c) whether the funds have been provided by the World Bank for the consultancy, and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K.THUNGON): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Tea Plantations and Production in Uttar Pradesh

241 MAJ GEN (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply given on April 3, 1992 to USQ No 6089 and state:

(a) whether the Government have recently conducted a survey in other parts of Dehradun and Garhwal districts of Uttar Pradesh to ascertain the possibilities of production and development of tea in these areas,

(b) if so, the details thereof ,

(c) the total tea production in this region and the area covered by the tea plantations; and

(d) the efforts being made by the Government for preservation and development of tea plantations in these regions ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRISALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) and (b) Subsequent to the techno-economic survey of the Doon Valley tea undertaken by the Tea Board in 1986, the Government of Uttar Pradesh conducted a survey on the possibilities of tea cultivation in Uttar Pradesh during 1988-89. It is indicated that around 56950 Ha. of land would be suitable for tea cultivation. The

identified area is spread over 14 districts of the State.

(c) The present area under commercial cultivation of tea in Uttar Pradesh is around 876 Ha. and the production during the year 1990 was around 534000 Kgs.

(d) Steps have been initiated jointly by Tea Board and the Government of Uttar Pradesh for rejuvenation of the existing plantations and development of new plantations in Uttar Pradesh. This includes, request to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for allotment of 20 Ha of land for a private party to start demonstration plantation in the Kumaon region. A request has also been made to the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh for providing irrigation facilities for the existing tea plantations in the Dehradun area since inadequate irrigation has been identified as one of the constraints in the development of the tea industry in the Dehradun region.

Modernisation of Heavy Engineering Corporation Ranchi

242. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Officers Association of Heavy Engineering Cooperation, Bihar have demanded an amount of rupees 960 crores for the modernisation of the Corporation ;

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

(c) whether any expert committees was appointed to suggest measures for improving the condition of the Heavy Engineering Corporation ;

(d) if so, the recommendations of the Committee ;

(e) whether the Union Government have

implemented the recommendations of the Committee, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir The Expert Committee headed by Dr D V Kapoor, former Secretary, Heavy Industry in its interim report has recommended as under -

(i) Release of Rs 66 50 crores for arranging urgent inputs, part payment of outstanding bills and customs duty, etc

(ii) Assistance in securing orders from major customers like SAIL, Railways and VSP

(iii) 50% excise and 100% sales tax remission for 1992-93 and 1993-94 to be allowed a interest free loan to be paid in five yearly equal instalments commencing 1994-95

(iv) Waiver of electricity duty till 1995-96

(v) Cutting down of fixed costs including administrative and maintenance costs on township and

(vi) Further VRS in 1992-93 for 2000 more persons, etc

(e) and (f) With a view to implement the interim recommendations of the Committee, the Government have taken certain measures such as over and above the existing budget provision, an additional amount of

Rs 30 crores in being provided in Revised Estimates, Cash credit limit has been restored to Rs 150 crores upto 30.9 1993 plus a further guarantee for the bridge loan to be taken from SBI, all possible assistance in regard to securing orders in extended to the company as and when any such request is received from them, directives have been issued to the company for cutting down the fixed costs including administrative and maintenance costs on township and release of funds to the company under VRS for further rationalisation of manpower etc

Ban on Import of Computers

243 SHRIGOVINDRAONIKAM Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to lift embargo on the import of computers

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether it is also being lifted from the import of V C Rs V C Ps etc, and

(d) whether the Government have made any study in this regard and its impact on the domestic industries thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) (a) and (b) Import of computer system, including personal computers of C I F value below Rs 1.5 lakhs is permitted against a licence

(c) Being consumer electronic goods VCRs and VCPs etc are allowed to be imported against an import licence

(d) Review of Import and Export Policy is a continuous process and corrective measures are taken as and when considered necessary, in consultation with the technical authorities who are in touch with trade and industry

*[English]***Concessions to Nepal**

244 SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and Nepal recently regarding package of concessions to Nepal on liberalised terms and

(b) if so, the main feature thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL MAN KHURSHEED) (a) and (b) The Joint Communique signed during the visit of Indian Prime Minister to Kathmandu from October 19 21 1992 provides inter alia for improvement in the provisions of the Indo Nepal Treaty of Trade/Transit 1991 as follows

i The procedure relating to grant of preferential treatment for the Nepalese manufactured articles into Indian market without payment of duty and quantitative restrictions will be simplified

ii Nepal to Nepal movement of Nepalese vehicles and goods through India will be allowed without cash deposit or bond system

iii Movement of Nepalese private commercial vehicles from Nepal border to Calcutta/Haldia and back will be allowed, and

iv The Facility will be provided to the Nepalese importers to make payments in freely convertible currency in addition to the existing system of payment in Indian rupees for import of such goods as HMG may choose

Disinvestment of shares of Public Sector Undertakings

245 SHRI TARIT BARAN
TOPDAR
PROF MALINI BHAT-
TACHARAYA
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA
SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have launched a fresh round of disinvestment of shares of public sector undertakings

(b) if so the details thereof

(c) whether the assessment of such shares has been made if so the details thereof and

(d) to whom these shares are being sold ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) to (d) In 1992-93 disinvestment of shares of 8 Central Public Sector Undertakings was made by calling open tenders from companies/Banks institutions mutual funds registered brokers or any other legal entity or person acting individually or jointly who are permitted to buy/sell shares in India. In response to the advertisement, 286 bids were received in time. Taking into account the referral price which was fixed on the recommendations of three Merchant Bankers, the Government sold 12.87 crores of shares in the 8 PSEs realising Rs 681.95 crores. The names of the successful bidders to whom the shares were sold are given below

1. Bank of Borada.
2. Bank of India Mutual Fund.
3. General Insurance Corpn. of India.
4. GIC Mutual Fund.
5. Housing Development & Finance Corpn.
6. Life Insurance Corpn. of India
7. LIC Mutual Fund.
8. LN Shroff & Company.
9. Punjab National Bank.
10. PNB Mutual Fund.
11. SBI Fund Management Ltd.
12. Unit Trust of India.

[Translation]

Surplus Staff in Government Offices of Gujarat

246. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the surplus staff in some Central Government Departments, and if so, the Department wise number of such staff in Gujarat ;

(b) whether the Government have received the report of Special Committee which was constituted to go into the question of absorption of such employees ;

(c) if so, the details of the suggestions and recommendations made by this Committee and the action taken by the Government so far in this regard ; and

(d) if not, by when the report of this Committee is likely to be submitted to the Government and the reasons for the delay in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Surplus staff are identified in Central Government Departments from time to time and are redeployed in accordance with the CCS (Redeployment of Surplus Staff) Rules, 1990. The number of surplus staff in Gujarat who are awaiting redeployment at present is 21. They are from the Office of the Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industries), Ministry of Industry.

(b) No Special Committee was constituted to go into the question of absorption of such employees.

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

[English]

Indo-China Relations

247. SHRI SUBASH CHADRA NAYAK: SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen further the bilateral relation with China in various spheres

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): Since the visit of the then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi to China in 1988, there has been a marked improvement in India China relations. The high-level political dialogue with China on matters of mutual concern has gathered momentum as witnessed by the recent high

level visits of the Chinese Premier Mr. Li Peng to India in December 1991 and that of our former President Shri R. Venkataraman in May this Year. In addition Rakhsha Mantri Shri Sharad Pawar, Welfare Minister Shri Sitaram Kesari and Human Resources Development Minister Shri Arjun Singh have visited China this year. The Joint working Group on the boundary question has held five meetings so far, and has made steady progress in its discussions aimed at reducing our differences on the boundary question in order to arrive at a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement. The scale of scientific, technical, cultural, educational and trade and economic ties had been steadily expanded and we have moved onto many new areas as well such as defence exchanges. Border trade has resumed after more than 30 years and our consulate General in Shanghai will become functional shortly. Government is sincerely committed to further developing friendly, mutually beneficial and good neighbourly relations with China.

Indian Council of World Affairs

248. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the present plight of the Indian Council of World Affairs ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to take over this world famous institution ; and

(d) if so, when and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALETRO): (a) and (b) Government have seen representations/reports to

the effect that there has been deterioration in the management and standards of the ICWA and of staff grievance regarding salary and allowance entitlements.

(c) and (d) Government are considering various measures for revitalizing the functioning of the Indian Council of World Affairs.

Indo-Israeli Ministerial Meeting

249. SHRID. VENKATESWARARAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State for External Affairs met the foreign Minister of Israel in New York recently ;

(b) if so, the bilateral and multilateral issues discussed and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreement was signed during the meeting ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the impact of this meeting on Indo-Israeli relations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A review was made of possible avenues of cooperation like Science & Technology, Agriculture, Culture, Aviation, Solar Energy and Health. The Israeli Minister described the progress of the Middle East peace talks. Both Ministers considered the progress in the multilateral talks on economy, environment, water, refugees and arms control in which several countries, including India, are taking part.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) This was the first meeting between Ministers dealing with foreign affairs of the two countries after establishment of diplomatic relations. The Israeli Foreign Minister is expected to pay a visit to India, the dates of which have not yet been determined. The Indian Minister of State was invited to visit Israel.

Growth Centres

250. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of growth centres to be developed in the country, location and State-wise ;

(b) the number of such centres to be developed during 1st phase ; and

(c) the criteria adopted for selecting

places for setting up such centres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). The Government, in June, 1988, announced the Growth Centre Scheme under which it is proposed to develop 70 growth centres throughout the country during the Eighth Five Year plan period. So far, location of 65 growth centres have been identified and announced, the names of which are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The criteria followed for selection of growth centres are locations away from cities, proximity to Districts/Sub-divisional head-quarters and access to basic infrastructural facilities like National/State highways, railheads, power, water supply, telecommunication, health and educational institutions, etc.

STATEMENT

No of Growth Centres Allocated - 70

No of Growth Centres Selected - 65

NAME OF THE GROWTH CENTRE	DISTRICT
1	2
ANDHRA PRADESH (4)	
1. Hindpur	Anantapur
2. Khammam (Vemsoor Mandal)	Khammam
3. Ongole	Prakasam
4. Vizianagaram - Bobbili	Vizianagaram
ASSAM (3)	
5. Jakhalbanda	Nageon

NAME OF THE GROWTH CENTRE		DISTRICT
1		2
6.	Rangjuli	Goalpara
BIHAR (6)		
7.	BHAGALPUR	Bhagalpur
8.	Dharbanga	Dharbanga
9.	Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh
10.	Jasoria	Aurangabad
11.	Muzzafarpur	Muzzafarpur
12	Purnea Kasba	Purnea
Goa (1)		
13	Electronic City	Verna Plateau
GUJARAT (3)		
14	Gandhidam	Kutch
15	Palanpur	Banaskantha
16	Vagra	Bharuch
HARYANA (2)		
17	Bawal	Mohindergarh
18.	Julana	Jind
HIMACHAL PRADESH (1)		
19	Kangra	Kangra
JAMMU & KASHMIR (2)		
20.	Ganderbal	Snnagar

NAME OF THE GROWTH CENTRE		DISTRICT
1		2
21.	Sambha	Jammu
KARNATAKA (3)		
22.	Dharwad	Dharwad
23.	Raichur	Raichur
24.	Hassan	Hassan
KERALA (2)		
25.	Alleppey-Pathanamthitta	Alleppey Pathanamthitta
26.	Kannur-Koxhikode-Malappuram	Kannur-Koxhikode-Malappuram
MADHYA PRADESH (6)		
27.	Borai	Durg
28.	Chainpura	Guna
29.	Ghirongi	Bhind
30.	Kheda	Dhar
31.	Satlapur	Raisen
32.	Siltara	Raipur
MAHARASHTRA (5)		
33.	Akola	Akola
34.	Chandrapur	Chandrapur
35.	Dhule	Dhule
36.	Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri
37.	Nanded	Nanded

NAME OF THE GROWTH CENTRE		DISTRICT
1		2
MANIPUR (1)		
38	Kanglatongbi	Senapati
NAGALAND (1)		
39	Dimapur	Kohima
ORISSA (4)		
40	Chatrapur	Ganjam
41	Chiplima	Sambalpur
42	Choudwar	Cuttack
PONDICHERRY (1)		
43	Karaikal	Pondicherry
PUNJAB (2)		
44	Bhatinda	Bhatinda
45	Pathankot	Gurdaspur
RAJASTHAN (5)		
46	Abu Road	Sirohi
47	Bhilwara	Bhilwara
48	Bikaner	Bikaner
49	Jhalawar	Jhalawar
50	Dholpur	Dholpur
TAMIL NADU (3)		
51	Erode	Periyar

NAME OF THE GROWTH CENTRE		DISTRICT
1		2
52	Mayiladuthurai-Poomphar	Thanjavur
53	Tirunelveli (Gangai Kondan Nanur Block)	Kattabomman
TRIPURA (1)		
54	Champamura-Joginder Nagar Moley Nagar	West Tripura
UTTAR PRADESH (8)		
55	BACHAULI-BAZURG	Jhansi
56	Banthara	Shajahanpur
57	Chaudharpur	Moradabad
58	Dibiapur	Etawah
59	Khurja	Bulandshahr
60	Mungra Sathana	Jaunpur
61	Sahjanwa	Gorakhpur
62	Shivrajpur-Padampur	Paun Garhwal
WEST BENGAL		
63	Dubrajpur	Birbhum
64	Jalpaiguri	Jalpaiguri
65	Malda	Malda

** Figures in brackets shown against each State indicated the number of growth centres allocated to that State

Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation

251 SHRI HARADHANROY Will the

PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the request of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Ltd (MAMC),

Durgapur for acceptance of their offers for package -I and II of the Coal Handling plant of North Madras Thermal power Station of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board against global tender and Package -I Group C of Coal Handling plant for Raichur TPS Unit aided by OCF, Japan was taken up with the Government of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka ,

(b) if so, the details thereof , and

(c) the response to these two States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The respective State Government were requested to consider placing these orders on MAMC

(c) While no response from State Government of Karnataka was received, the State Government of Tamil Nadu's offer to get the approval of ADB for placing the order on MAMC for the project was not successful due to non provision of liquidity damages clause as per the specifications

Liberalisation Drive in States

252 SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE
SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the process of liberalisation initiated by the Union /Government has not been followed so actively by the State Governments ,

(b) whether foreign investors interested to invest in India are hesitant owing to the continuing controls and regulations at the State level , and

(c) if so, the erection of Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI) (a) The State Government have welcomed the New Industrial Policy. In the implementation of the policy measures, the response from the States has, in general been encouraging. Steps for more effective monitoring of implementation is setting up of industries have been suggested to the State Governments

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

Allocation for Khadi and Village Industries Commission for 1990-91

253 SHRI RAM NAIK Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the total amount sanctioned and the amount available after 20% economy cut ordered by the Union Government during 1990-91 for the Khadi and Village Industries Commission under non-plan expenditure

(b) the actual expenditure against the reduced grant during 1990-91 ,

(c) the reasons for the excess expenditure incurred by the KVIC if any ,

(d) whether excess expenditure was incurred for purchase of vehicles and creation of higher posts , and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE) (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) The total amount sanctioned and the amount made available to Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) during 1990-91 under non-plan administrative expenditure was Rs. 15.00 Crores.

(b) The actual expenditure incurred by KVIC during 1990-91 was Rs. 20.41 Crores.

(c) to (e). According to KVIC, the excess expenditure incurred was not for purchase of vehicles and creation of higher posts but because of sanction of additional instalments of dearness Allowance and extension of pensionary benefits to its employees irrespective of their date of retirement, consequent to Court orders.

Employment Opportunities in Small Scale Sector

254. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set any targets for enhancement of employment opportunities in the small scale Sector ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the target of exports by this sector during the current plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE) (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). At the end of VIII plan, this sector is targeted to provide employment opportunities to 150 Persons. The additional employment to be generated is targeted to be 24.50 lakhs during the Eighth Plan period. Exports from this sector are

targeted to reach Rs. 20000 crores at the end of the VIII Five Year Plan.

Per Capita Annual Consumption Growth

255. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita annual consumption growth in Eighth Plan period in view of the projected growth rate of 3.8 percent, per year for goods and services available for domestic consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) According to the Eighth Five Year Plan document the growth rate of gross domestic product (at factor cost) is expected to be 5.6 per cent over the Eighth Plan. In per capita terms it is projected to grow at 3.8 per cent assuming a population growth of 1.8 per cent per annum. Private final consumption expenditure is projected to grow at the rate of 5.3 per cent per annum which corresponds to a growth of 3.5 per cent per annum in domestic per capita consumption.

[Translation]

National Resources Centres for Rural Sanitation

256. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any suggestion from any State Government, voluntary organisation or any other social organisations for setting up of National

Resources Centres for rural sanitation; and

years in the Calcutta High Court as on 31.12.1991.

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

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT)(SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. RATEL): (a) No, Sir.

Schemes for Khadi and Village Industries Uttar Pradesh

258. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(b) Does not arise.

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the development of Khadi and village Industries in Uttar Pradesh ;

[English]

Bench of Calcutta High Court in North Bengal

257. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:

(b) whether any financial assistance has been given for this propose during 1991-92 ; and

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(c) if so, the details hereof head-wise ?

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to establish a Division Bench of Calcutta High Court in North Bengal ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) As far as KVIC is concerned it has so far undertaken development of Khadi and 27 village industries coming under its purview in Uttar Pradesh. More village industries are being taken for implementation. Programmes in U.P. State are being implemented by the U.P State Khadi and V.I. Board, 711 Registered institutions and 4126 cooperatives. The production of Khadi and village industries in U.P. during 1990-91 was Rs. 370.27 crores (Khadi Rs. 60.30 crores and V.I Rs. 309.97 crores) and provided employment to 9.57 lakh persons (Khadi 5.51 lakh persons and V.I. 4.06 lakh persons)

(b) if so, the state at which the matter stands at present;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the number of cases pending for judgment for more than five years in Calcutta High Court?

(b) and (c) KVIC disbursed the following funds for the development of khadi and village industries in Uttar Pradesh State during 1991-92 :

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) (a) to (c). The Chief Minister of West Bengal have been requested to discuss the matter with the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court and to suggest the name of an agreed place for locating the Bench of the High Court in North Bengal.

(d) 1,10,082 cases were pending over 5

(Rs. in crores)

	<i>Khadi</i>		<i>V.I</i>	
	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Loan</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Loan</i>
1991-92	18.16	1.60	0.47	7.84

Implementation of D.W.C.R.A. in Bihar

260. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in Bihar where Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas schemes have been started ;

(b) the work done in these districts during the last year; and

(c) the names of the districts in Bihar where the Government propose to start these schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT)(SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. RATEL): (a) The number of Districts in Bihar where Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) has been started is 23.

(b) During 1991-92 the number of groups formed is 468 and the number of members benefited are 8694.

(c) The named of the districts in Bihar where DWCRA has been taken up during the year 1992-93 are Dumka and East Singhbhum.

Priority to Infrastructure Development

251. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-

OUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are giving priority to the infrastructure development for the industrial development of various States;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard, specially in Bihar ;

(c) the amount allocated for the setting up of various development centres in Bihar ; so far ; and

(d) the amount proposed to be sanctioned during 1992-93 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The Government are pursuing a "Growth Centre " Scheme for promoting industrialisation through creation of infrastructural facilities. Under this Scheme , it is proposed to set up 70 growth centres throughout the country.

(b) Bihar has been allotted 6 growth centres.

(c) and (d) In a project cost of Rs. 30 crores per growth centre, the Central Government's share is Rs. 10 crores. The amount is released in instalments only after the detailed project reports for the growth centres are appraised and approved. No money has been released to Bihar as the project reports have not been appraised.

[English]

New Role for NAM

262. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new role is to be assigned to the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) due to radical changes in the World scenario;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ;

(c) whether India proposed a new role for the NAM during the recent Sunlit at Jakarta ;

(d) if so, the response of other member countries thereto; and

(e) the role proposed to be played by India to strengthen NAM in the changed world scenario ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The recent Tenth Non Aligned Summit at Jakarta re-emphasised the continuing relevance of NAM. It was agreed that NAM would need to address its unfinished agenda and pursue issues such as development, general and complete nuclear disarmament and removal of the last vestiges of colonialism, while simultaneously beginning to address new issues on the international agenda such as the restructuring and revitalization of the UN, human rights, environment and international terrorism.

(c) India suggested at the Jakarta Summit that it was imperative that the Movement concentrate on issues that unite rather than divide the Movement and that it should address both its unfinished agenda and the new and emerging priorities on the international agenda.

(d) This suggestion was endorsed by other member countries.

(e) India will continue to play a constructive role to further strengthen NAM in changed World scenario.

Code of Conduct for Judges

263. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are examining any code of conduct for High Court Judges ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the stage at which the matter stands at present;

(c) whether the Advocates Associations and other public organisation have been consulted in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Corruption Charges Against Civil Servants

264. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers of Indian Administrative Service, Indian Police Service, Indian Foreign service, Indian Forest Service and Indian Accounts and Audit Service that have been charged with corruption since January 1991 till date; and

(b) the names and designations of the officers of Bihar Cadre against whom such charges have been levelled together with the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) (a) and (b) All India Services and various Central Services are controlled by different Cadre Controlling Authorities. In respect of these services, disciplinary authority also vests with the respective Cadre Controlling Authority only. Further in case of All India Services, under the present scheme of things the Central Govt. as well as the respective State Governments both act as disciplinary authorities for the periods when the officers work with their respective affairs. Since this information is not monitored centrally by the Govt. of India, it would not be possible to give these details immediately.

[English]

Funds to States Under Rural Development Programme

265 SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the allocation made to States under the Rural Development Programmes during 1992-93, State-wise and Programme-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL) The State-wise and Programme-wise allocations under the major rural development programmes viz. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) during the year 1992-93 are given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

Sl No	States/UTs	(Rs in lakhs)					
		IFDP	JRY	ARWSP	GRSP		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1	Andhra Pradesh	4880	18693 20	2547	102		
2	Arunahal Pradesh	416	322 31	462	005		
3	Assam	1332	44888 36	1370	037		
4	Bihar	9778	37517 48	2999	181		
5	Goa	86	348 46	055	005		
6	Gujarat	2010	7891 05	1493	050		
7	Haryana	480	1879 28	559	017		
8	Himachal Pradesh	172	1107 26	630	016		
9	Jammu & Kashmir	240	1571 74	1900	020		
10	Karnataka	305/	11762 09	2342	022		
11	Kerala	1660	6238 34	1191	074		
12	Madhya Pradesh	6472	25750 93	2819	121		

Sl. No.	States/UTs	IRDP	JRY	ARWSP	GRSP
1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Maharashtra	5228	19920.80	3390	132
14.	Manipur	38	413.36	308	005
15.	Meghalaya	116	483.68	420	005
16.	Mizoram	174	203.75	129	005
17.	Nagaland	182	518.46	422	005
18.	Orissa	3198	12771.76	1335	063
19.	Punjab	406	1634.30	424	018
20.	Rajasthan	3118	12489.26	2791	067
21.	Sikkim	34	188.76	372	005
22.	Tamil Nadu	4382	16798.61	2019	111
23.	Tripura	136	536.90	350	008
24.	Uttar Pradesh	13062	49832.36	4724	221
25.	West Bengal	5460	21249.36	1824	109

Sl. No.	States/UTs	IRDP	JRY	ARWSP	GRSP
1	2	3	4	5	6
26.	A. & N. Islands	43	152.70	40	005
27.	Chandigarh	-	0.00	-	005
28.	D. & N Haveli	9	82.89	013	005
29.	Daman & Diu	17	48.83	622	005
30.	Delhi		0.00	014	006
31.	Lakshadweep	4	76.55	010	005
32.	Pondicherry	35	149.47	026	005

[*Translation*][*English*]**Essential Commodities to M.P**

266 DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the distribution of various foodgrains, edible oils and kerosene oil under the Public Distribution System in Madhya Pradesh is not being done in proportionate to the population of the State ,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor , and

(c) the reasons for not allotting Kerosene oil quota for industrial sector to Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRIKAMALUDDINAHMED) (a) to (c) Allocations of PDS items are normally made on a month to month basis taking into account the stocks in Central Pool seasonal factors and inter se requirements of States/ U T s PDS allocations are supplemental in nature and are not intended to meet the total demand of any State/ U T Allocations of PDS items are not made on population basis except in the case of levy sugar In case of levy sugar, allocations are made, generally on a uniform norm of 425 grams per capita monthly availability to the projected population as on 1.10 1986

Allocation of kerosene is made in bulk to the States/ U T Administrations for distribution to the consumers in the State Allocation of Kerosene for industrial use is made by State Governments out of the quota allotted to them

Over Charging by Certain Drug Companies

267 DR ASHIM BALA:
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL
PROF SUSANTA
CHAKRABORTY
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 2104 on July 22, 1992 regarding Overcharging by certain drug companies and state

(a) whether the instances of overcharging in the prices of formulations by various drug manufacturing companies have since been examined

(b) if so, the details thereof ,

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto , and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS (DR CHINTA MOHAN) (a) to (d) The cases of overcharging, which have come to the notice of the Government, are under examination

[*Translation*]**Fertilizer Selling Agencies in Haryana**

268 SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) the number of agencies working in the State of Haryana for selling the chemicals and fertilisers

(b) the number of agencies working under co-operative societies; and

(c) the details of the programmes launched for making the distribution of chemicals and fertilisers more effective with a view to facilitate the farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). There are 6082 agencies selling fertilisers in Haryana, out of which 2329 are in the cooperative sector.

(c) The State Government has ensured that every part of the State has adequate number of sale outlets whether in private or in cooperative sector. Presently, at least one sale point is available within a radius of 5 kms. Registration certificates are liberally granted to those who are willing to sell fertilisers and no registration certificate is required for a quantity upto 10 tonnes by any sale outlet

[English]

Implementation of Technologies

269. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVISINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a wide gap between the Bio-technology adopted in the Laboratory and the implementation of those technologies;

(b) if so, the steps taken to bridge and gap, and

(c) the steps taken to implement those technologies in the field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir ;

(b) Lab technologies are validated by mounting pilot scale experimentation to build prototypes. Field demonstrations are initiated in promising cases. The Department seeks involvement of the industry and other organisations like Biotech Consortium India Ltd. (BCIL) for the transfer of technology.

(c) The Department associates industry's representatives and BCIL for possible transfer of developed technologies. Whenever industry shows interest to be involved in the technology development from the beginning, they are associated with the institutions/laboratories on appropriate terms.

Expenditure on Micro Level Planning Through Voluntary Agencies

270. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has decided to spend a large sum of money for micro level planning through voluntary agencies;

(b) if so, the amount allocated for the purpose for the year 1992-93.

(c) the purpose and object of the expenditure ;

(d) the names of the voluntary agencies selected, State-wise and the exact tasks allotted to each;

(e) whether similar expenditure has been undertaken in the past, and

(f) if so the expenditure during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) to (c) Since 1962 the planning Commission has been giving financial support to academic institutions research bodies and voluntary agencies for research and training work. Some assistance has also been provided for institution development and for strengthening of planning machinery since 1972. During the Eighth Plan it has been decided to revamp the scheme for decentralised planning and to involve voluntary agencies in key sectors of planning so as to make plan implementation participatory in nature. In this regard three schemes have been formulated and are being processed.

(d) to (f) So far, no voluntary agency has been selected. As indicated above the planning Commission has been giving financial assistance for the purposes of research training institution building and decentralised planning. The year wise expenditure for the last three years is shown in the table below.

TABLE Expenditure on research training institution building and decentralised planning

(Rs. in crores)		
1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
3.09	2.26	1.62

[Translation]

Krishnamurthy Committee Report on Disinvestment

271 SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have since received the final report of Krishnamurthy Committee regarding disinvestment of shares of public sector undertakings

(b) if so the details thereof, and

(c) the action being taken / proposed to be taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) (a) The final report has not been received.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Requirement of Edible Oils in Bihar

272 SHRISURYANARAYAN YADAV
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the total requirement of edible oils in Bihar

(b) the actual quota of these oils provided to Bihar during the last three years

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the quota of edible oils of Bihar and

(d) if so the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON-
SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRI-
BUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED)

(a) The Government of Bihar have not made
any demand for edible oil during the year

1992 Last demand made was in February
1991

(b) The quantities of edible oils alloca-
tion to and leased by Bihar during the last
three oil years (nov to Oct) are as under -

Year	Allocation	Lifting
1989-90	10700 MTs	688 MTs
1990-91	5000 MTs	353 MTs
1991-92	6000 MTs	630 MTs

(c) and (d) There is still 700 MTs of
edible oil lying in STC depot at Patna which
Govt of Bihar has repeatedly been requested
to lift

[English]

Visit of Ministerial Delegation from Iran

273 SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL Will
the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether any Ministerial Delegation
from Iran visited India recently and held talks
with Indian leaders

(b) if so the bilateral and multi lateral
issues figured in the delegation s talks with
Indian leaders and the outcome thereof

(c) whether any agreement was signed
between the two countries and

(d) if so the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI
EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) Yes Sir

(b) The Iranian delegation led by For
eign Minister velayati exchanged views with
Indian leaders on a wide range of bilateral
issues covering economic and cultural
exchanges as well as consular matters The
two sides also reviewed th regional and
international situation They agreed to en-
hance cooperation, both bilaterally and in
international fora

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) The Memorandum of Understand-
ing signed after the sixth Session of the Indo-
Iranian Joint Commission contains decisions
taken by the two sides to intensify bilateral
cooperation in various sectors, including
trade industry, agriculture, transportation
and culture

Export of Sandalwood

274 SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT Will
the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the government propose to
export sandalwood to various countries,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the countries to which the sandalwood is likely to be exported?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAMANKHURSHED): (a) and (c). The export of sandalwood in the form of logs & billets, chips, powder, dust and flakes is prohibited as per the present Export Import Policy, 1992-97. However, handicrafts made out of sandalwood and machine finished sandalwood products are permitted for export under S.No 21(i) and (ii) of part V of Negative List of Export of EXIM Policy 1992-97 as these are value-added items.

The export of sandalwood being banned as stated above, there is no specific proposal of the Government to export to any country.

[*Translation*]

Wasteland Development

275. SHRI RAMKRISHNA
KUSMARIA:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) the extent to which the success achieved so far by the National Wasteland Development Board in planting activities, development of nurseries and afforestation;

(b) the target fixed for the afforestation and Plantation for 1991 under the 20 point programme and the extent to which it has been achieved; and

(c) the year-wise details of the assistance provided to Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh by National Wasteland

Development Board during the last three years and allocation made in the Eighth Five Year Plan for the propose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT) (COL. RAM SINGH): (a) Tree planting/afforestation over an area of 10.640 million hectares and the distribution of 265.50 crore seedlings have been achieved upto 1991-92.

(b) For the year 1991-92 a target of 1.05 million hectare for afforestation and 150 crore seedlings for distribution was fixed. Against this as area of 1.004 million hectare was covered under afforestation and 138.46 crore seedlings distributed upto March 1992.

(c) The details of allocation of funds on afforestation and tree planting activities, including the funds provided by the National Wastelands Development Board to Madhya Pradesh, Gurarat and Uttar Pradesh during the last 3 years from 1989-90 to 1991-92 are as follows:-

State	Allocation (Rs. in lakhs)
Gujarat	12482.69
Madhya Pradesh	14851.07
Uttar Pradesh	20678.16

With the setting up of the new Department of Wastelands Development from July, 1992, the National Wastelands Development Board has been reconstituted and placed under the newly created Department of Wastelands Development in the Ministry of Rural Development. An outlay of a sum of Rs. 26.40 crores has been earmarked to the reconstituted National Wastelands Development Board during the current year. For the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year

Plan commencing from 1993-94, Plan proposals of the Department of Wasteland Development have been submitted to the Planning Commission

[English]

Drug Licencing Policy

276 SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether due to unfavourable drugs licensing policy, medicines are in short supply and spurious drugs are playing havoc with the innocent people of this country, and

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR CHINTA MOHAN) (a) No instance of shortage or spurious drugs, due to licensing constraints, has come to the notice of the Government

(b) Does not arise

Solar Energy

277 SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL
KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from various State Governments and Union Territories regarding new schemes for harnessing solar energy both through solar thermal and photo-voltaic systems during the current year,

(b) if so, the salient features of these schemes, State-wise,

(c) the total solar energy proposed to be harnessed during the current plan, year-wise,

(d) the modes of utilisation thereof,

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to harness further the solar energy,

(f) whether the Government have explored the possibility of promoting solar energy in the State of Orissa, and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKHRAM) (a) and (b) The Government is implementing Solar Thermal & Photovoltaic Programmes for demonstration and utilisation of solar energy in the country. Low grade solar thermal devices and solar cookers are being made available to the user under the Extension Programme with central subsidy. Photovoltaic systems are being installed in unelectrified and remote villages under the demonstration programme. These programmes are being implemented through the State Nodal Agencies and/ or Electricity Boards in their respective States.

The Solar Thermal extension Programme and Solar Cookers Programme are drawn on an annual basis giving the State Nodal Agencies the physical targets and financial allocation for the subsidy. The State-wise targets for the year 1992-93 for these programmes are given in the enclosed statements I and II respectively. The

Government meets the cost of photovoltaic modules for the photovoltaic systems to be installed by the State Agencies. A request for providing photovoltaic modules of 1265 KW for the installation of PV system has been received from the States for the current year. Statement III giving these requests is enclosed.

(c) It is proposed to install 2,75,000 m collector area under the low grade solar thermal devices and sell 3,00,000 solar cookers during the current plan period. It is also proposed to install photovoltaic systems of total capacity of about 2.7 MW during the same period. The targets for these systems for each year are drawn on the basis of the funds allocated under the Annual Plan for that year.

(d) Solar Thermal Devices are used to

meet the heat energy requirements including for cooking whereas photovoltaic systems are being used mainly for lighting, water pumping, television, communication and small power plants in rural areas.

(e) Efforts are being made for the development of new solar technologies & applications so that demonstration and utilisation programmes could be taken up in future for techno-economically proven technologies and applications besides continuing the present programmes.

(f) and (g) Both the solar thermal and photovoltaic programmes are being implemented in the State of Orissa. The achievements made by the State under these programmes are given in the Statements IV and V.

STATEMENT - I

State wise tentative financial & physical targets under STEP1992-93

(a) Head B 2 (1) (4) Funds allocated to Solar Thermal Division under this Head Rs 616 lakhs

Sl No	States/Union Territory	Allocation for the Physical Targets Year 1992-93 (Rs in (collector area m) 2) lakhs)	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	20	1830	
2	Bihar	20	1830	
3	Chandigarh	10	915	
4	Delhi	28	2560	
5	Gujarat	78	7135	
6	Haryana	16	1465	
7	Himachal Pradesh	16	1465	
8	Jammu & Kashmir	18	1195	
9	Karnataka	36	3265	
10	Kerala	12	1095	

Sl No	States/Union Territory	Allocation for the Physical Targets Year 1992-93 (Rs in (collector area m) ² lakhs)		
		1	2	3
11	Madhya Pradesh	76	6950	
12	Maharashtra	78	7135	
13	Meghalaya	7	645	
14	Orissa	7	645	
15	Punjab	35	3200	
16	Pondicherry	7	645	
17	Rajasthan	35	3200	
18	Tamil Nadu	32	2925	
19	Uttar Pradesh	78	7135	
20	Others	12	1090	
	Total	616	56355	

B. C.2 (4) State-wise allocation under the Head: C.2 (4) Total funds available under this Head: Rs. 33.0 lakhs.

1	2	3	4
1.	Assam	4	365 ⁰
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4	365 ⁰
3.	Goa	4	365
4.	Manipur	4	365
5.	Mizoram	3	275
6.	Nagaland	2	180
7.	Sikkim	3	275
8.	Tripura	2	180
9.	West Bengal	7	640
Total:		33	3010

C D 2 (4) Union Territory wise allocation under the Head D 2 (4) Total funds available under this Head: Rs 7 0 lakhs

1	2	3	4
1	Andaman & Nicobar Island	3	275
2	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	180
3	Lakshdweep	2	180
-	Total	7	635

STATEMENT - II

Solar Cooker Physical Allocations

Sl. No.	State/Agency	Allocation for 1992-93		
		3	4	5
		Physical	Financial (Rs)	
1.	Andhra Pradesh (NEDCAP)	FSC	1000	1,50,000
2	Assam (Assam Coop Marketing Federation Limited)	FSC	50	7,500
3.	Bihar (BREDA)	FSC	200	30,000
4.	Delhi (DEDA)	FSC	4000	3,00,000
5	Gujarat	FSC	4000	6,00,000
6	Himachal Pradesh (HIMURJA)	FSC	3000	4,50,000
7	Haryana (HSCST)	FCS	3000	4,50,000
8	Jammu & Kashmir	FSC	700	1,05,000
9	Kerala (ANERT)	FSC	550	82,500
10	Karnataka (KSCST)	FSC	550	82,500

Sl No	State/Agency	Allocation for 1992-93		
		Physical	Financial (Rs)	
1	2	3	4	5
11	Madhya Pradesh (MIPUVN)	FSC	8000	12,00,000
12	Maharashtra (MEDA)	FSC	3500	5,25,000
13	Orissa (OREDA)	FSC	400	60,000
14	Punjab (PAIC)	FSC	3000	4,50,000
15	Rajasthan (RSAIC)	FSC	3500	5,25,000
16	Tamil Nadu (TEDA)	FSC	1000	1,50,000
17	Uttar Pradesh (NEDA)	FSC	4000	6,00,000
18	West Bengal	FSC	700	1,05,000
19	Manipur	FSC	50	7,500
20	Meghalaya (MREDA)	FSC	100	15,000
21	Nagaland	FSC	50	7,500
22	Tripura	FSC	50	7,500

Sl No	State/Agency	Allocation for 1992-93		
		Physical	Financial (Rs)	
1	2	3	4	5
23	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	FSC	₹9	7,500
24	Arunachal Pradesh	FSC	50	7,500
25	Dadar Nagar Haveli	FSC	50	7,500
26	Goa (RDA)	FSC	200	30,000
27	Chandigarh (DIC)	FSC	50	7,500
28	Lakshadweep	FSC	50	7,500
29	Pondicherry (DRDA)	FSC	50	7,500
30	Mizoram	FSC	50	7,500
31	Sikkim	FSC	50	7,500
	Total		40,000	60,00,000

FSC = Family Size Solar Cooker

STATEMENT - III

SPV Systems Requisition for the Year 1992-93 State wise

Sl No	State/Union	Proposals							
		SLS	CLS	CTV	DLS	SL	WPS	SPP KW	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1	Andhra Pradesh NEDCAP	50	40	40	100	1000	30	50	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	308	-	1	43	325	-	8	
3	Assam AS/EC	6	4	4	20	30	-	1	
4	Bihar BREDA	75	-	-	200	1500	15	75	
5	Goa	6	4	4	20	30	-	1	
6	Gujarat								
7	Haryana HSC&T	106	-	4	2	797	-	2	
8	Himachal Pradesh HIMURJA	23	-	-	200	700	15	-	
9	Jammu & Kashmir J&KEDA, S&TD	40	10	2	400	500	2	6	

Sl No	State/Union	Proposals									
		SLS	CLS	CTV	DLS	SL	WPS	SPP	KW		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
10	Karnataka KSCS & T	-	-	5	2	-	1-	2.5			
11	Kerala ANRT	100		17	450	200	2	2			
*2	Madhya Pradesh MPUVN	200	-	-	-	400	5	5			
	MPEB	1000						10			
13	Maharashtra MEDA	-	-	-	-	1500	1	18			
14	Manipur DST&E	-	-	-	-	550	8	4			
15	Meghalaya (MINREDA)	-	-	-	-	200	-	10			
16	Mizoram P&ED	53	-	2	142	50	-	-			
17	Nagaland										
18	Orissa OREDA	300	10	40	150	100	15	8			

Sl. No.	State/Union	Proposals								
		SLS	CLS	CTV	DLS	SL	WPS	SPP	KW	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
19	Punjab PEDAs	50	.	5	20	300	12	10		
20	Rajasthan REDA	104	-	13	-	-	-	-		
21	Sikkim									
22	Tamil Nadu TECA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	TNEB	180		
23	Tripura DST	-	30	25	30	200	28	-		
24	Uttar Pradesh NEDA	-	-	-	5000	5000	50	50		
25	West Bengal DSTWB	100	-	16	-	600	40	5		
26	A&N Islands	-	10	-	-	-	5	-		

Sl. No	State/Union	Proposals								
		SLS	CLS	CTV	DLS	SL	WPS	SPP KW		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
27	Chandigarh PEDA	20	-	2	5	-	-	-		
28	Dadra & Nagar Haveli									
29	Daman & Diu									
30	Delhi									
31	Lakshadweep									
32	Pondicherry									
	Total	2721	108	180	16784	13982	238	200		
	Total KWS	190	23	38	587	140	87	200		
	G Total KWS				1265 KWP					
	SLS				Street lighting Systems (70 Watt)					
	SLS				Community lighting Systems (210 Watt)					
	CTV				Community Television/lighting Systems (210 Watt)					
	DLS				Domestic Lighting Systems (35 Watt)					
	WPS				Photovoltaic Water Pumping Systems (360 Watt)					
	SL				Solar Photovoltaic Lantern (10 Watt)					
	SPP				Small Photovoltaic Power Plants (in KW capacity)					

‡

STATEMENT IV*Achievement by the State of Orissa in the area of Solar Thermal Programme*

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Systems</i>	<i>Nos</i>
1	Industrial Solar Water Heating Systems	97
2	solar Air Heating Systems	2
3	Solar Stills	399
4	Solar Cooker	769

STATEMENT V*Achievements by the State of Orissa in the area of Solar Photovoltaics*

1	Street lights in village	950
2	Solar Water Pumping Systems	50
3	Community Solar lighting systems	40
4	Domestic lighting systems	100
5	Community televisions	28
6	Villages level small power plants	5 (Total capacity 33.6 KW)

During current year Solar Photovoltaic modules with a total capacity of about 20 KW are being provided to the State of Orissa for various photovoltaic systems

Growth Centres to Improve non farm Employment Opportunities

278 SHRI R SURENDER REDDY
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether in the wake of steady increase in the proportion of non agricultural employment in rural areas the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry

has urged the Government to speed up the implementation of growth centres to improve the non farm employment opportunities

(b) if so the suggestions received by the Government in this regard and

(c) the action taken/being taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT
OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI
MATI KRISHNA SAHI) (a) to (c) In a paper
titled Towards rural prosperity the Federation
of Indian Chambers of Commerce and

Industry have referred to the need to support developmental activities in the non-farm sector of the rural areas by promoting the growth centre concept. Government have already selected 65 growth centres in consultation with the State Governments. Project reports in respect of 28 centres have already been approved for implementation. A sum of Rs. 44.00 crores has been released to the approved centres.

Wasteland Development

279. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER Be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have contemplated to lay emphasis or strong nodal agencies at State levels to develop Wasteland;

(b) whether involvement of non-governmental and voluntary organisations are playing any role to make the Wastelands Development Programme a success;

(c) if so, whether the Government have rendered any help to such organisations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT): (COL. RAM SINGH): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir.

(d) The details of central assistance provided to the non governmental and voluntary organisations during the last three years are as under:-

Year	Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs)
1989-90	295.95
1990-91	535.19
1991-92	521.304
Total	1352.444

[Translation]

Diversion of Funds Meant for Bhopal Gas Victims

280. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds received by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for provid-

ing relief to Bhopal gas victims have been spent on other works; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). As per the reports received, funds received by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing relief and rehabilitation to the

Bhopal gas victims have not been spent on other works

and Desalination of water and water harvesting structures in Gujarat.

National Drinking Water Mission

281 SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have introduced a National Drinking Water Mission Scheme in the State of Gujarat,

(b) if so, the targets fixed and achieved under the said Mission during the last three years

(c) the targets fixed under the Eighth Five Year Plan, and

(d) the funds allotted to the State during the last years to cover the villages left without source?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIUTTAMBHAIH PATEL) (a) Yes Sir Under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission schemes for drinking water supply have been taken up in Mini Mission Districts of Dangs, Kachchh, Jamnagar and Dharampur Taluk, Defluoridation

(b) Details of targets fixed and achieved during the last three years are as per statement given below

(c) Targets for the Eighth Five Year Plan include

- (i) Coverage of the entire rural population with safe drinking water facilities,
- (ii) coverage of all no source hamlets and habitations,
- (iii) augmenting the level of water supply in partially covered villages,
- (iv) schemes for control of excess fluoride, desalination and water conservation, water quality surveillance

(d) A sum of Rs 51- 17 crores was allotted to the State during the last three years from 1989-90 to 1991-92 for coverage of villages without source as well as augmenting the level of water supply in partially covered villages

STATEMENT

<i>Name of Scheme</i>	<i>No of villages to be covered</i>	<i>No of villages covered during the last 3 years</i>
1 Mini Missions		
Dangs	254	57
Jamnagar	205	156
Kachchh	98	85

<i>Name of Scheme</i>	<i>No. of villages to be covered</i>	<i>No. of villages covered during the last 3 years.</i>
Dharampur	237	51
2. Sub Missions		
	<i>No. of Plants approved</i>	<i>No. of plants commissioned so far.</i>
Defluoridation Plants	11	4
Desalination Plants	12	11
	<i>Amount Sanctioned</i>	<i>Amount Spent (Rupees in crores)</i>
Water Harvesting Structure	3.16	2.69

[English]

Age Limit For Entry In Government Service for Women

282. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since decided to raise upper age limit for entry in Government service for women upto 35 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

Visit of President of Sri Lanka

283. SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of Sri Lanka visited India recently;

(b) if so, the bilateral issues that figured in his talks with Indian leaders and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any issue of common interest to SAARC countries was also discussed during his visit,

(d) if so, the outcome thereof, and

(e) the agenda for the next SAARC Summit along with the venue and the time by which it is likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) and (b) His excellency Mr. Fanasinghe Premadasa, October 1-3, 1992 in his capacity as Chairman of the Sixth Summit of SAARC. The visit provided a useful opportunity for discussions covering international, regional and bilateral issues. On the bilateral side discussions covered various issues such as the ethnic question in Sri Lanka, the repatriation of Sri Lankan refugees from India, and practical problems faced by fishermen of both countries as well as bilateral cooperation in trade, industry, culture etc.

(c) Yes, Sir. Issues of common interest to SAARC countries were also discussed during President Premadasa's visit, such as Poverty Alleviation, SAARC preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA), cooperation to combat terrorism, etc.

(d) On "poverty alleviation" for which a Regional Commission has been established under SAARC, PM promised to study the interim report of the Commission and convey our reactions upon it in due course. On SAPTA, on which one country has reservations, PM said that India would go along with the unanimous view. On Terrorism, President Premadasa appreciated Indian efforts to pass enabling legislation to implement the SAARC Convention, ratified by all Member States in 1988, through our Parliament, during the current Winter Session. Both leaders

agreed on the importance of encouraging, wherever practicable, informal meetings among SAARC Heads of State and Government without any fixed agenda.

(e) The Seventh SAARC Summit will be held at Dhaka on December 12-14, 1992. It is expected to consider, inter alia, recommendations towards a more business like and functional approach to SAARC Summit meetings and a Plan of Action for observing 1993 as SAARC Year of the Disabled Persons in addition to the subjects mentioned above.

[Translation]

Production and Export of Tobacco

285 SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH
SHRI RAMKRISHNA
KUSMARIA
SHRIMATIBHAVNA CHIKHLIA
SHRIM V V S MURTHY

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the quantity of tobacco produced in the country during 1991-92, State-wise and its present stock,

(b) the value of tobacco exported during 1991-92 against the target fixed, and

(c) the names of the countries to whom it has been exported?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) (a) The figures for production of tobacco state-wise for 1991-92 are available only for some states, which are given below

<i>State</i>	<i>1991-92 (Provisional Million Kg)</i>
Andhra Pradesh	210 0
Karnataka	46 0
Gujarat	200 0
Tamil Nadu	.8 6
West Bengal	9 0

(Source Tobacco Board)

Details of present stock are not available

(b) the value of tobacco exported during 1991 92 is Rs 342 69 crores (US \$ 145 25 million) against a target of Rs 325 18 crores (US \$ 138 49 million)

(c) The names of countries -

UK, Belgium, Germany, Irish REP, Netherlands, Greece Italy, Switzerland, Finland, Portugal, Sweden Czechoslovakia, Russia, Poland, Saudi Arabia Israel, Yemen, Jordan, Dubai, Bahrain, Kuwait, Bangladesh, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, South Korea, Maldives, Indonesia, Vietnam, Philippines, China, North Korea, Egypt, Libya, Djibouti, Senegal, Tanzania, Mozambique, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Papua New Guinea and Nicaragua etc

[English]

Indians in Afghanistan

286 SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI
SHRI D VENKATESWARA
RAO
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN
SHRI ANANTRAODESHMUKH
SHRI SURYA NARAYAN
YADAV.

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a, the number of Afghan Nationals of Indian origin who have come to India after the recent incidents of attack on them,

(b) the details of assistance rendered by the Government for their well-being,

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for their safe return to Afghanistan,

(d) whether the Government have taken up with Afghanistan the questions of their return to that country and the regularisation of the flow of these persons from Afghanistan to India,

(e) if so, the outcome thereof,

(f) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(g) the number of Indian nationals residing in Afghanistan as on April 1, 1991, April 1, 1992 and October 1, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) 15, 568 Afghan nationals have entered India between June and October 25, 1992.

(b) Government are in touch with some representatives of Afghan nationals of Indian origin and will render all assistance considered necessary when required.

(c) to (f). Government expect these Afghan nation who have sought temporary refuge in India, to return as soon as the situation permits. Government are in touch with the Government of Afghanistan in this regard. The Afghan authorities have expressed readiness to take all possible steps to safeguard the lives and properties of Afghan nationals of Indian origin.

(g) The number of Indian nationals residing in Afghanistan as on April 1, 1991, April 1, 1992 and October 1, 1992 according to information available to our Embassy, was 125,118 and 21 respectively.

[*Translation*]

Cement factories in North East states

287. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some cement factories in North East States;

(b) if so, whether the site for setting up of these factories has been selected;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the detail of investment and production potential of each factory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The Bokajan

Cement factory of Cement Corporation of India in Assam is proposed to be expanded by 2 lakh tonnes per annum capacity with split grinding units in Tripura, Mizoram, and Arunachal Pradesh.

(b) The site for the grinding unit in Tripura and Mizoram has been finalised.

(c) The grinding unit in Tripura is proposed to be located at Kumarghat, District North Tripura and that in Mizoram is proposed to be located at Bairabi, District Aizwal.

(d) Out of total project cost of Rs. 81.80 crores (base Sept. '91) the investment in Tripura will be Rs. 8.47 crores, in Mizoram Rs. 8.24 crores, and in Arunachal Pradesh Rs. 7.77 crores. The balance will be invested in Bokajan (Assam). The production potential of each grinding unit will be 0.5 lakh tonnes per annum. Balance clinker will be grounded at Bokajan itself.

[*English*]

Allocation for Science and Research

288. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR:
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
DR. ASIM BALA:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA:
SHRI K. PRADHANI.
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
DR. SUDHIR RAY:
SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSAIN:
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have reduced the provisions of funds for science and research activities in Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether some of the projects are proposed to be dropped for lack of funds,

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) whether the Government propose to earmark more funds for this work to facilitate the completion of projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, (DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) (a) to (c) There is an increasing trend in the Plan allocations for Science and Technology. The Plan allocation for Science and Technology during the 8th Five Year Plan is approximately Rs 9180 Crores. The corresponding allocation during the Seventh Five Year Plan was Rs 4063 Crores.

The emphasis has always been given to completion of projects on time. New projects are taken up based on their priority.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Growth Rate of Bihar

289 SHRI LAL BABU RAI Will the

Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth rate of Bihar is less as compared to other States,

(b) if so, the reasons thereof,

(c) State-wise integrated growth rate during each of the last three years, and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the growth rate of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKHRAM) (a) to (c) A Statement giving the State-wise annual growth rates of Net State Domestic Product and All India Net National Product at constant prices for the years 1987-88 to 1990-91 is given below. Growth rates differ among the States for various reasons, like historical uneven development of infrastructure, industry and entrepreneurship in various regions and year to year variations in rainfall and the subsequent droughts and floods.

(d) The Government of Bihar have been implementing development plans for increasing the growth rate. The plans include investment for development of agriculture, industry, infrastructure, irrigation, rural development, education and health etc. In addition, some programme to generate direct employment and income to the poor are also under implementation. Such developmental programme will be re-enforced during the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97).

STATEMENT

Percentage change in Net State Domestic Product over the previous year at constant prices

Sl No	State, U T	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (P)	1990-91 (Q)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	9 19	17 25	2 91	3 16
2	Arunachal Pradesh	5 52	11 47	-2 35	9 66
3	Assam	5 50	2 02	6 32	7 53
4	Bihar	6 03	11 60	0 53	11 05
5	Goa	6 45	21 60	2 62	0 37
6	Gujarat	11 88	43 16	1 70	3 56
7	Haryana	2 07	24 34	0 72	8 53
8	Himachal Pradesh	0 21	8 50	10 81	3 36
9	Jammu & Kashmir	10 92	15 24	-4 17	-
10	Karnataka	7 40	7 94	5 85	-0 94
11	Kerala	3 94	8 95	5 23	7 25
12	Madhya Pradesh*	15 90	9 34	0 99	12 78

Sl No	State/U T	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (P)	1990-91 (Q)
1	2	3	4	5	6
13	Maharashtra	6 91	10 22	13 75	4 67
14	Manipur	5 98	5 25	0 20	7 18
15	Meghalaya	9 05	4 21	8 00	4 12
16	Nagaland	10 77	9 72	9 76	9 63
17	•O-issa	-1 44	14 95	7 53	0 14
18	Punjab	5 05	5 15	7 70	4 20
19	Rajasthan	-6 93	38 57	-3 10	15 61
20	Sikkim	20 63	6 78	-	-
21	Tamil Nadu	6 27	4 15	7 18	-0 21
22	Tripura	12 01	9 27	6 25	-
23	Uttar Pradesh	3 78	10 47	2 86	4 87
24	West Bengal	7 43	5 48	4 72	3 59

Sl. No.	State/ U.T	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (P)	1990-91 (O)
1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	A.&N. Islands	6.36	9.12	0.13	-11.73
26.	Delhi	8.96	8.75	8.60	-
27.	Pondicherry	4.74	0.70	2.04	5.49
	All India (Net National Product)	3.76	11.01	6.03	5.83

-: Not made available by the concerned State Governments.

Note: Growth rates are worked out from the estimates of Net State Domestic Product at constant (1980-81) prices for all the States except Madhya Pradesh which are at constant (1970-71) prices. Estimates of Madhya Pradesh are not comparable with other States. Mizoram does not prepare estimates of NSDP at constant prices and therefore excluded in the above comparison.

Sources: Directorates of Economics & Statistics of respective State Governments for State estimates and Central Statistical Organisation for All India income (net national product at factor cost).

[*English*]

Cooperation in Science and Technology

290. PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any agreement between India and Venezuela for cooperation in science and Technology and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Scientific Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Venezuela was signed in Caracas on 3rd April 1987.

(b) The MOU provides for (a) exchange

of information on

- technical and scientific matters,
- organisational and management matters,
- existing training facilities in both countries;

(b) exchange of experts, technicians, scientific researchers and professors within specific projects and programmes; (c) provision for training of S&T personnel in agreed upon fields and grant of research fellowships; (d) execution of joint research; and (e) other forms of technical and scientific cooperation agreed upon between the two Governments.

[*Translation*]

Tea export

291. SHRIMA DANLAL KHURANA: SHRI VILAS RAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether tea export during 1992-93 has been comparatively less as compared to the same period during 1991-92;

(b) the quantity and amount of tea exported during 1991-92 vis-a-vis in 1992-93 till date; and

(c) the measures adopted by the Government to cover up this decline in tea export?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tea exported from April to September, 1992 during the year 1992-93 is estimated at 68.522 Million kgs. valued at Rs. 381.81 crores as compared to 102.87 Million Kgs valued at Rs. 570. 32 crores during the corresponding period in the year 1991-92.

(c) Government has been encouraging diversification of tea export markets by sponsoring industry delegations to various countries. Trade protocols have also been entered into with some of the CIS countries including Russia. Other countries are being persuaded to buy higher quantities of Indian tea indicating to them the price and quality competitiveness of our tea.

[English]

Quota of Essential Commodities to States

293. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU:
SHRI N.J. RATHVA:
PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO
DESHMUKH:
SHRI P.C THOMAS:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:
SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA
PATIL:
SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIBHAI
VEKARIA:
SHRI SHIVARAJ SINGH
CHAUHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice, wheat, sugar, edible oil and kerosene allocated this year to each state so far;

(b) the quantity of aforesaid goods

allocated during 1992-93;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any proposal to increase further the quantity of aforesaid goods;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to increase the quantity of said goods; and

(f) if so, the quantity of each item to be increased and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The quantity of rice, wheat, levy sugar, edible oils and kerosene allotted to the State Governments/UT Administrations in 1992 is given in the enclosed Statement-I

(b) The quantity of rice, wheat, edible oils, levy sugar and kerosene allotted to the States during the 9 months of 1992-93 (April-December, 1992) is given in the enclosed statement- II.

(c) to (g). Demands for increased allocations of foodgrains are received from States/Ut-Administrations of PDS item from times to time. Allocations are made to the State Governments/UT Administrations are made to the State Governments/UT Administrations on a monthly basis taking into account the stocks in Central Pool, demand received from all the States/UTs and inter-se requirements of States/UTs and seasonal factors. PDS allocations are supplemental in nature and are not intended to meet the total requirements of any State/UTs.

STATEMENT - I

Figures in Thousand Tonnes

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Wheat	Rice	Levy Sugar	Imported Ed. Oil	Kerosene
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	167.1	1704.3	326.2	7.1	565.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.4	104.0	4.1	0.3	9.3
3.	Assam	275.0	466.2	124.1	0.7	246.7
4.	Bihar	597.4	247.1	431.7	4.5	459.3
5.	Goa	38.9	55.4	6.5	1.5	27.6
6.	Gujarat	780.3	330.4	208.9	7.2	777.8
7.	Haryana	198.8	35.4	82.4	1.5	151.0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	120.0	76.7	26.0	2.0	37.6
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	238.0	428.2	37.3	2.1	64.1
10.	Karnataka	326.0	754.5	229.2	8.4	456.7
11.	Kerala	312.0	1780.0	154.2	5.0	265.0

Sl No	States/UTs	Wheat	Rice	Levy Sugar	Imported Ed Oil	Kerosene
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12	Madhya Pradesh	501 0	423 4	322 9	4 6	381 5
13	Maharashtra	1215 0	780 0	386 2	10 0	1482 4
14	Manipur	33 7	88 7	9 0	1 1	20 7
15	Megha aya	24 3	118 0	8 4	0 9	85 2
16	Mizoram	13 3	100 5	3 4	0 5	6 6
17	Nagaland	25 8	90 3	5 5	1 2	10 0
18	Orissa	257 5	391 3	159 9	4 5	188 6
19	Punjab	132 5	17 7	102 5	2 1	219 3
20	Rajasthan	1083 0	46 2	218 2	2 6	200 1
21	Sikkim	7 1	54 0	2 1	0 5	7 4
22	Tamil Nadu	287 0	828 8	290 9	1 5	616 3
23	Tripura	24 3	222 9	12 9	0 7	80 8

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Wheat	Rice	Levy Sugar	Imported Ed. Oil	Kerosene
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Uttar Pradesh	713.8	414.8	682.8	4.5	209.2
25.	West Bengal	1001.0	899.1	334.0	3.0	733.8
26.	Andman & Nicobar	8.4	20.5	3.2	0.5	4.1
27.	Chandigarh	21.4	3.7	4.8	0.3	20.9
28.	Dadra & Nagar H.	2.4	5.9	0.7	6.2	3.1
29.	Daman & Diu	1.7	5.9	0.5	0.8	2.9
30.	Delhi	856.8	236.0	112.2	5.1	238.5
31.	Lakshdweep	0.2	6.3	0.9	0.3	0.9
32.	Pondicherry	9.0	23.6	5.1	1.0	4.8
Total:		9281.1	10759.8	4296.7	86.5	8302.6

STATEMENT - II

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Figures in Thousand Tonnes				
		Wheat	Rice	Levy Sugar	Imported Ed. Oil	Kerosene
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	109.1	1324.3	246.5	4.1	439.1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.3	76.0	3.1	0.2	7.0
3.	Assam	190.0	360.9	93.8	0.3	185.0
4.	Bihar	455.1	202.1	326.3	1.5	351.2
5.	Goa	28.7	40.9	4.9	0.9	20.3
6.	Gujarat	580.0	246.4	157.9	4.2	572.7
7.	Haryana	91.8	26.4	62.3	0.6	112.3
8.	Himachal Pradesh	90.0	57.2	19.7	1.0	27.4
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	180.0	323.2	26.2	1.1	46.5
10.	Karnataka	225.0	593.5	173.3	4.0	332.8
11.	Kerala	225.0	1330.0	116.6	5.0	198.8

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>States/UTs</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Rice</i>	<i>Levy Sugar</i>	<i>Imported Ed. Oil</i>	<i>Kerosene</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Madhya Pradesh	399.5	340.4	244.1	2.2	201.2
13.	Maharashtra	874.0	523.0	291.9	4.0	1100.5
14.	Manipur	26.0	67.7	6.8	0.7	15.5
15.	Meghalaya	18.0	85.5	6.4	0.5	11.3
16.	Mizoram	10.0	77.5	2.5	0.5	4.5
17.	Nagaland	11.8	63.0	4.2	0.6	7.5
18.	Orissa	185.0	316.3	120.8	1.0	110.6
19.	Punjab	60.0	13.2	77.5	0.7	230.4
20.	Rajasthan	860.5	35.2	164.9	0.7	105.3
21.	Sikkim	5.4	40.5	1.6	0.2	5.6
22.	Tamil Nadu	200.0	619.8	219.9	1.5	600.0
23.	Trnpura	18.0	174.0	9.8	0.3	15.6

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Wheat	Rice	Levy Sugar	Imported Ed. Oil	Kerosene
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Uttar Pradesh	509.8	326.8	516.1	1.5	600.0
25.	West Bengal	740.0	690.1	252.4	0.0	550.3
26.	Andman & Nicobar	6.3	16.0	2.4	0.3	3.3
27.	Chandigarh	16.2	2.6	3.6	0.1	15.7
28.	Dadra & Nagar H.	1.8	4.4	0.5	0.1	2.3
29.	Daman & Diu	1.3	4.4	0.4	0.2	2.2
30.	Delhi	648.0	176.0	84.7	2.1	175.1
31.	Lakshoseep	0.2	6.3	0.7	0.1	0.7
32.	Pondicherry	6.8	17.6	3.9	0.4	10.9
Total:		6779.6	8181.2	3247.7	40.6	6216.1

Compensation to Bhopal Gas Victims

294. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of disbursement of compensation to the Bhopal gas victims have commenced;

(b) if so, the amount of compensation disbursed so far;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in the disbursement of compensation; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d). A total of 514 cases have been decided by the Welfare Commissioner. According to the procedure devised by the Welfare Commissioner, a period of 60 days is to elapse before disbursement is made. The amount of compensation awarded is Rs. 2.18 crores.

Generation of Clean Energy

295. DR. R. MALLU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has recently given a call for the generation of clean energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the generation of clean energy;

(c) whether the Government have received several letters/representations from Members of Parliament for resorting to use of alcohol in petrol; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the

action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) Renewable and non-conventional energy sources, such as Sun, wind and small hydro are non-polluting. Generation of energy from these sources can be termed as generation of clean energy. While inaugurating the second on 29.10.92 at New Delhi the Prime Minister stressed the need of harnessing of non-conventional energy sources so that the requirements of energy are met to the extent possible without adding to the pollution.

(b) Government has taken a number of steps for harnessing non-conventional energy sources in different parts of the country. For the promotion and utilisation of renewable energy systems and devices, many of the State Governments have set up full fledged nodal energy agencies. Promotion, development, demonstration and dissemination activities in the area of non-conventional energy sources are being undertaken by these energy agencies and other institutions involved in the NRSE programmes. Financial incentives such as, subsidy, soft term loans and fiscal incentives in the form depreciation allowance and relief in sales tax, excise duty and custom duty are provided to the sures and manufacturers of Renewable Energy Sources. In addition, publicity and awareness campaign are also being undertaken.

(c) A Member of Parliament has written to the Prime Minister suggesting greater use of ethanol for transportation sector which would also improve economics of sugar industry apart from saving foreign exchange on import of petroleum products.

(d) A project entitled alcohol fuel

substitution in automobile fleets monitoring-demonstration trials' is currently under implementation for demonstrating use of 10% anhydrous denatured ethanol blended with 90% petrol for use in cars/jeeps. Delhi Administration and Indian Oil Corporation are cooperating with ITI Delhi for smooth conduct of this experiment and demonstration. Basic infrastructure for storage and mixing of petrol with denatured ethanol has been set up at petrol filling station of Delhi Admn. at Mall Road, Delhi. Field trials are expected to commence soon. Oil Coordination Committee under Ministry of Petroleum is at Present preparing a report on the use of petrol blended with 3% Methanol

The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources under its programme an Alternate Fuels for Surface Transportation has already conducted two trial operations and demonstrations on use of ethanol and methanol in diesel buses of the Delhi Transport Corporation achieving about 14 percent diesel replacement and about 30 per cent reduction in smoke emission.

Issue of Passports

296. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS
PATEL:
SHRI V. DHANANJAYA
KUMAR:
DR. ASIM BALA:
SHRI SUKHENDU KHAN:
SHRI CHANDUBHAI
DESHMUKH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passport applications received and the number of passports issued between July 1, 1992 and till date, Passport Office wise;

(b) whether the Government have issued new guidelines for the issue of passports recently;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to open any new passport office in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) A statement is enclosed

(b) and (c). Government constantly reviews procedures with a view to issuing fresh guideline from time to time as necessary. Recent guidelines cover sale of support application forms through designated Post Offices, making passports valid for all countries and the streamlining of procedures for miscellaneous services and duplicate passports.

(d) and (e). Government is reviewing the network of passport offices with a view to improving the provision of passport services. The review would consider the need for additional passport offices, their location and priority, as also the availability of necessary additional financial and manpower resources.

STATEMENT

Total Number of Passports Applications Received between 1 July to 6th November, 1992 and Passport Issued between 1 July to 6th November, 1992.

Sl. No.	Received		Issued	
	1	2	3	4
1.	Ahmedabad		39,374	41,036
2.	Bangalore		31,860	44,556
3.	Bareilly		25,958	27,040
4.	Bhopal		9,083	10,662
5.	Bhubaneshwar		3,817	2,731
6.	Bombay		87,350	94,335
7.	Calcutta		20,988	15,072
8.	Chandigarh		27,565	24,063
9.	Cochin		54,809	1,08,482
10.	Delhi		48,063	39,397
11.	Goa		6,808	6,901

Sl No	2	Received	'suev
1	2	3	4
12	Guwahati	2,921	2,263
13	Hyderabad	63,378	96,324
14	Jaipur	30,623	40,752
15	Jalandhar	26,099	5
16	Kozhikode	81,090	60,714
17	Lucknow	45,339	33,642
18	Madras	44,414	42,979
19	Nagpur	5,114	5,127
20	Patna	21,052	12,370
21	Trichy	63,987	44,929
22	Trivandrum	48,655	31,681

Bagassie Based Newsprint Units In Maharashtra

298. SHRIDHARMANAMONDAYYA SADUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Letter of Intent for setting up a bagassie based newsprint unit at Nimgaon in Solapur district, Maharashtra was issued in August, 1990 but the same has not been set up till now;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the unit is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c). M/s. Western Maharashtra Development Corporation were granted a letter of intent in August, 1990 to set up a newsprint unit for a capacity of 1.15 lakh tonnes at Nimgaon, Teh Madha, Distt. Solapur in Maharashtra based on the use of bagasse as raw material. The State Government have now decided to implement the project in the Assisted sector in collaboration with M/s. Orient Paper Industries Ltd. and an agreement between State Industrial and Investment Corporation of Maharashtra, M/s Western Maharashtra development Corporation and M/s. Orient Paper Industries Ltd. has been signed on 24th June, 1992. It is proposed to set up the project for a higher capacity of 1.35 lakh tonnes per annum for the manufacture of both newsprint and writing and printing paper. The State Government has informed that the project is expected to be commissioned soon.

Shares of Public Sector Undertakings

299. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the methodology adopted for selling the shares of public sector undertakings;

(b) the role of brokers and middlemen in selling these shares and;

(c) the precautions taken to prevent the cornering of shares by vested interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) In 1992-93 in the first tranche of disinvestment of shares of 8 PSEs the method of open tender was adopted. Notice inviting tenders from not only institutions but also individuals was published in major Hindi & English Newspapers, calling for sealed bids. The shares were sold to the valid successful bidders whose offer price was higher than the referal price.

(b) and (c). Do not arise. In view of the procedure adopted as indicated at (a).

Production of Caprolactum

300. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total production and consumption of caprolactum in the country;

(b) the quantity caprolactum imported;

(c) whether the import duty on caprolactum is reduced;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the reduction in the import duty of caprolactum has affected very badly the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore, Kerala;

(f) the quantity of caprolactum held up in the storages of the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). As per available information the production consumption and import of caprolactum in the country is as under:

(in tonnes)

Year	Production	Consumption	Import
1990-91	26,300	84,200	49,400
1991-92	46,400	77,400	14,800
1992-93 (April to Oct.)	30,200	45,200 (estimated)	21,400 (estimated)

(c) and (d). The import duty on caprolactum was reduced from 80% to 50% in the Budget for 1992-93.

(e) to (g). On account of reduction in customs duty as also subsequent fall in the international price of caprolactum, FACT has been lately, facing difficulty in marketing its caprolactum. Due to stiff competition from imported caprolactum available at much cheaper prices, FACT is forced to sell it below its remunerative price. As on 31.10.92, FACT had an accumulated stock of 7880 tonnes of caprolactum. FACT has represented to the Government for reviewing the customs duty leviable on imported caprolactum and raw materials used for its manufacture

[Translation]

Small/Heavy/Medium Industries in Madhya Pradesh

301. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the small, medium, and heavy industries in public sector in Madhya Pradesh at present;

(b) whether any request has been made by Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Union Government to provide electricity at cheaper rates for these industries, and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON). (a) Five Central PSEs have their registered offices in Madhya Pradesh.

There are:

1. NEPA Ltd.
2. Northern Coal Fields Ltd.
3. M.P. Ashok Hotal Coal Fields Ltd.

4. NTC(M.P.) Ltd.

5. South Eastern Coal Fields Ltd.

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

[English]

Export of Agriculture Product

302. SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-
DEYA:
PROF. RITA VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the export of agricultural and processed food products;

(b) whether the Government propose to bring out any policy paper on the export of agricultural goods; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). Government is keen to promote export of agricultural commodities. However, it is the policy of the Government to do so in a manner that domestic availability of items of mass consumption is not affected. Government have already taken a series of measures to improve policy environment for exports, which is a continuous process. These measures have been further re-inforced by the Import-Export Policy which has come into force with effect from 1st April, 1992, for a period of five years. Scientific steps taken or proposed to be taken to encourage exporters of agricultural commodities are as below:

(i) short-term steps: Schemes for market development, product promotion, quality upgradation, packaging improvements, competitive pricing, market intelligence, development of infrastructure, removal of constraints and simplification of procedures.

(ii) Long-Term Steps: Increasing production and productivity, penetration into new markets, product development promotion of export oriented processing industries, improving credibility and image of Indian food products.

[Translation]

Permanent Ration Cards to Slum Dwellers

303. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the permanent ration cards have been made available to all the inhabitants of slums in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to take any concrete measures to provide permanent ration cards to them without delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). Inhabitants of slums in Delhi are being issued permanent ration cards. The cards issued to Jhuggie dwellers bear a distinct colour mark. Apart from this, there is no

difference in the entitlement of specified Food Articles and the validity period of these cards. The issue of cards to Jhuggie Jhonpri dwellers has now been made a continuous exercise.

Tanneries in Public Sector in Maharashtra

304. SHRIVILASRAONAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of tanneries in Public Sector in Maharashtra and their location thereof;

(b) whether the Government propose to take over these tanneries to undertake their expansion and development, and

(c) if so, the details thereof:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON). (a) There is no Central Public Sector Enterprise in the State of Maharashtra engaged in the manufacturing and of tannery products.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Ban on Certain Benefits to Government Servants

305. SHRI SHANKERSINH VEGHELA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Development Council has recommended a ban on certain financial benefits to Central Government

employees in their recent meeting held in September, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). The NDC did not meet in September, 1992. However, certain recommendations on austerity have been made by the NDC Committee on Austerity. The implications are/under study. Details will be made available after decision in the appropriate forum.

Desecration of Indian Tri-Colour in Birmingham

306. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pro-Khalistani groups in U.K. desecrated Indian tri-colour Flag at the residence of Indian Assistant High Commissioner of India in Birmingham on Independence Day; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A group of over 30 Sikhs belonging to the Babbar Khalsa and other pro-Khalistani groups interrupted the Independence Day Celebrations at the residence of the Indian Assistant High Commissioner in Birmingham, removed the National Flag,

smashed the photographs of Gandhiji and Nehruji and raised anti-Indian, pro-Khalistani and pro-Pakistani slogans. Later, two of the intruders were apprehended by the Birmingham police.

The Government has taken up the matter with the British authorities who have assured us of cooperation in apprehending the culprits and also promised us adequate security arrangements so that such incidents do not recur in the future.

National Quality Council

307. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up a National Quality Council as an apex body governing the essential parameters of product standards, quality systems, quality testing laboratories and accreditation bodies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this Council is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). The matter of setting up of the National Quality Council is under consideration of the Government.

Paradeep Phosphate Ltd.

308. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Paradeep Phosphate Limited is running in loss;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make it a viable unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). Yes Sir; Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. has accumulated losses of Rs. 125.02 crores as on 31.3.1991, though it has registered a net profit of Rs. 13.21 crores (Provisional) during 1991-92. The losses were mainly due to poor capacity utilisation on account of inadequate availability of phosphoric acid and ammonia and industrial relations problems.

(c) With better availability of raw materials and achieving higher capacity utilisation, rationalisation of manpower, economy measures and capital restructuring, the Company could be made available unit.

Rehabilitation Programme of Haldia Unit

309. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sent programme of rehabilitation of the Haldia Unit of Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Limited to Bureau of Industrial Finance and Reconstruction;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). Government has not sent any programme of rehabilitation of the Haldia Project to Board

for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). However, the management of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) have made a reference of the Company to the BIFR. The BIFR in their hearing on 12.11.1992 have declared HFC as a Sick Company.

Claim Courts for Bhopal Gas Victims

310. SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claim courts proposed to be set up for the Bhopal gas victims;

(b) the number of courts that have actually started functioning and the number of claims that have been decided by each of the courts, and

(c) the reasons for delay in setting up the remaining claim courts and the period by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). 40 Claims Courts are proposed to be set up for the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster victims. 16 Courts have already started functioning and the number of cases decided by them so far is 514. The requisite number of judicial

officers to be appointed as Deputy Commissioners have not yet been released by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh. The Welfare Commissioner has been delegated powers to recruit retired persons, in case the High Court is not able to provide the requisite number of judicial officers.

Exports, Imports and Balance of Trade and Payments

311. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the latest figures of exports, imports, balance of trade and balance of payments for 1991-92 and upto October 1992?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): The export, import and balance of trade figures are compiled by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics on monthly cumulative basis and are available upto the period April-August 1992. The Balance of payment figures are compiled on financial year basis by the Reserve Bank of India and are available upto the period 1991-92.

The figures of exports, imports, balance of trade and balance of payments during the financial year 1991-92 and during April-August 1992 are given below:

(Value Rs. Crores)

	1991-92	1992-93 (April-August 1992)
(i) Exports	43978	19985
(ii) Imports	47813	26562
(iii) Balance of Trade	-3835	-6577
(iv) Current Account Deficit	8251	—

Exploitation of Ocean Resources

312 SHRIANANTRAO DESHMUKH
SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PAT-
TANAYAK

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to exploit various ocean resources,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government propose to import technology for the purpose, and

(d) if so, the details of the agreement signed, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) (a) Yes Sir The Government has initiated systematic survey exploration and assessment of living and non-living resource potential in different parts of the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal A first order survey of the distribution of the deep seabed polymetallic nodules in the Central Indian Ocean has also been completed Technology demonstration for desalination, harnessing of wave energy, determination of potential fishery zones and identification of drugs and chemicals from the sea have also been taken up

(b) As a result of survey India has been allotted a mine site of 150,000 sq km in the Central Indian Ocean for further exploration and exploitation of polymetallic nodules Placer deposits in the near shore areas of West Coast (Kerala and Maharashtra) and East Coast (Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa) have been identified An experi-

mental wave energy plant at Vizhinjam harbour in Kerala has been established in October 1991 A scheme for the use of remote sensing technology for delineation of potential fishery zones has also been in operation

(c) there are, at present, no proposals to import technology

(d) Does not arise

[Translation]

Drinking Water Supply Scheme In Uttar Pradesh with World Bank Aid

313 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNITHOTRI
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to undertake a new drinking water supply scheme in Uttar Pradesh with the assistance of World Bank,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the area proposed to be covered under new schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H PATEL) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The project which is still at the pre appraisal state is an integrated one with the basic estimated cost of Rs 251.79 crores for rural water supply, environmental sanitation including construction of pour flush latrines, pavements, sullage drains, refuse bins etc, health and hygiene education, community participation, training etc

(c) The project will cover 3321 villages in 28 districts in the State

[English]

SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM:

Hike in Cement Prices

314. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR (DEEPA):
PROF. PREM DHUMAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Cement Companies Ltd. (ACC) has hiked the cement prices unreasonably without any corresponding increase in the cost of production;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have instituted any inquiry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHNASAHI): (a) to (d). During the current year, there have been fluctuations in cement prices on account of market demand, input costs, excise duty, etc. In the recent months there has been a general trend of falling prices. Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC) a quasi-judicial body, has instituted an enquiry against ACC Ltd. under Section 10(b) and Section 31 of the MRTP act in order to examine whether the company has increased cement prices unreasonably.

CMS, Conference on Rural Development

315. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR
SHARMA:)
SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN
THORAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of Chief Ministers on rural development was held during October 1992; to review the progress of distribution of surplus land, maintenance of land records and various aspects of rural development;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed therein; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to implement the recommendations so made in the conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir, a Conference of Chief Ministers on Rural Development was held on 9th October, 1992 to review the progress of distribution of surplus land, maintenance of land records and various aspects of rural development.

(b) The subjects discussed in the Conference included:

- 1) Rural Poverty and poverty alleviation programmes;
- 2) Land Reforms and land Records;
- 3) Rural Employment-Jawahar Rozgar Yojana;
- 4) Integrated Rural Development Programme;
- 5) Rural Water Supply
- 6) Rural Sanitation

- 7) Rural Housing
- 8) Drought Prone Areas and Desert Development Programmes and
- 9) Development of Wastelands.

(c) The Chief Ministers appreciated and welcomed the decision of the Government to increase the allocation for rural development from Rs. 10,000 crores in the 7th Plan to Rs. 30,000 crores in the 8th Plan. On ceiling of surplus land and other matters of land Records, the Chief Ministers were of the view that a substantial part of the ceiling land had been locked up in litigation in the Courts of Law and wanted suitable measures to be devised to see the cases were quickly disposed of by the Court so that the lands could be distributed to the rural poor. The Conference also emphasized the need for follow up action to see that the lands distributed to the cultivators are properly utilised and adequate support given to them for this purpose. The Chief Ministers were advised to take special interest and initiative in pursuing all litigation cases regarding land distribution for their successful conclusions.

State Governments are taking suitable steps to implement the decisions taken in the Conference.

[*Translation*]

Allotment of FPS and Kerosene Depots In Delhi

316. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases for allotment of fair price shops and kerosene depots pending in the Deptt. of Food and Civil Supplies, Delhi Administration; as on October 31, 1992; and

(b) the time by which these are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). Delhi Administration has reported that 28 cases relating to Fair Price Shops and 10 relating to Kerosene Oil Depots were pending as on 23.11.1992. They have reported that efforts are made to finalise the allotment expeditiously. However, due to representations and counterrepresentations from applications and consumers in some cases, they are unable to specify a definite time frame for disposal of such cases.

PM's Invitation to French Leaders

317. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister invited the President and the Prime Minister of France to visit India during his recent visit to that country; and

(b) if so, the response of France thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The invitations have been accepted in Principle.

Funds for Digging of Wells In Bihar

318. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the number of wells dug under the million be pleased to state the number of wells dug under the million wells scheme in Bihar during the last two years,

district-wise and the amount spent thereon from Jawahar Rozgar Yojana fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): The

number of dug wells constructed, districtwise, under Million Wells Scheme (MWS), which is a sub-scheme of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), is not monitored at the Central level. However, the number of wells dug in Bihar and amount spent thereon during the last two years is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of wells dug</i>	<i>Amount spent (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1990-91	17884	6878.67
1991-92	50836	7764.30

Growth Centre in Sivni (M. P.)

319. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the State Government or public representatives of Madhya Pradesh for setting up of industrial growth centre at Sivni,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI). (a) The Government had received a proposal from the Hon'ble Member of Parliament who has raised this Question for setting up a growth centre in Seoni District, Madhya Pradesh.

(b) It was, inter-alia, indicated in the proposal that Seoni District was located on the National Highway between Jabalpur and Nagpur and Nagpur Districts and was rich in forest and agricultural resources.

(c) In view of the fact that based on well laid-down criteria, Madhya Pradesh has already been allotted six growth centres all of which have been selected and announced in consultation with the State Government, it was indicated that no additional growth centre would be possible in the State

Monitoring Cell for Utilisation of Funds

320. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of the cell to monitor and check the utilisation of funds allocated to States/during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Government propose to involve 'gram panchayats' for the better implementation of the schemes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY

SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). Monitoring of the progress of State Plans is carried out by the concerned specialised Divisions of the Commission as well as the State Plans Division.

The Gram panchayats are already involved in the implementation of schemes, particularly of rural development. An example is the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. Moreover, it is for the state Governments to associate the Gram Panchayats more and more in development activity.

Decline in Industrial Production

321. **SHRI SHIBU SOREN:**
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the general index of industrial production has declined by 1.9 percent as compared to the industrial production during last year;

(b) if so, the main reasons for the decline in the industrial production; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATIKRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir. According to the Index of industrial production compiled by the Central Statistical Organisation, the latest figure available for the current financial year upto July, 1992 shows average rate of industrial growth of (+) 2.1% during April-July, 1992 over the corresponding period last year. Even the figure for the 12 month period August, '91-July, '92 shows the average industrial growth rate of (+)

1.4% over the previous corresponding period.

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

[English]

Recommendations of Sub-Committee on Austerity Measures

322. **SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:** Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Sub-Committee of the National Development Council on Austerity Measures has submitted its report recently;

(b) if so, the salient recommendations of the sub-Committee; and

(c) the time by which the recommendations are likely to be implemented and the amount of budget deficit likely to be covered as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The implications are under study. The question of implementation would arise once decision is taken in the appropriate forum.

Investment by NRI/ Multinational Companies

323. **DR. G.L. KANAUIA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount invested by the N.R.Is and other multinational companies in

India after introduction of New Industrial Policy; and

(b) the details of the industrial sectors where the investment has been made by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT
OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-

MATIKRISHNA SAHJ): (a) The total amount of direct foreign investment proposed by foreign companies as well as by NRIs in the foreign collaboration approvals issued after the announcement of the New Industrial Policy totals Rs. 33688.5 million till 30th September, 1992.

(b) The details of the industrial sectors where this investment has been proposed by them is given in the enclosed statement

STATEMENT

Sector-wise Foreign Collaboration Approvals during the Post-Policy Period

(Rs. in Millions)

Sl. No.	Name of the Industry	August '91 to September '92					
		Total	Tech.	Fin.	Amount		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1.	Metallurgical Industries	71	52	19	366.2		
2.	Fuels						
	(a) Power	2	-	2	850.6		
	(b) Oil Refineries	4	-	4	12802.5		
	(c) Others	21	17	4	55.0		
3.	Boilers & Steam Generating Plants	11	9	2	8.4		
4.	Prime Movers (Other than Elect. Generators)	-	-	-	-		
5.	Electrical equipment	313	197	116	2717.9		
6.	Telecommunication	44	28	16	1306.9		

Sl. No.	Name of the Industry	August '91 to September '92					
		Total	Tech.	Fla.	Amount		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
7.	Transportation	91	66	25	1477.2		
8.	Indl. Machinery	263	194	69	1127.9		
9.	Machines Tools	29	19	10	36.8		
10.	Agricultural Machinery	9	7	2	26.3		
11.	Earth Moving Machinery	9	6	3	2.0		
12.	Misc. Mechanical and Engg. Industry	76	51	25	223.5		
13.	Commercial, Office & Household equipment	17	12	5	596.9		
14.	Medical & Surgical Appliances	9	3	6	34.2		
15.	Indl. Instruments	45	30	15	47.0		
16.	Scientific Instrument	14	6	8	272.3		
17.	Mathematical, Surveying & Drawing Instruments	-	-	-	-		

Sl. No.	Name of the Industry	August '91 to September '92					
		Total	Tech.	Fin.	Amount		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
18.	Fertilizers	4	3	1	9.9		
19.	Chemicals (other than fertilizers)	262	187	75	3018.0		
20.	Photographic Raw Film & Paper	3	2	1	79.0		
21.	Dye stuffs	1	-	1	0.8		
22.	Drugs & Pharmaceuticals	20	44	0	52.4		
23.	Textiles (including those dyes, printed or otherwise processed)	38	16	22	1242.2		
24.	Paper & Pulp including paper products.	22	19	3	19.8		
25.	Sugar	-	-	-	-		
26.	Fermentation Inds.	6	3	3	24.1		
27.	Food Processing Inds.	72	23	49	3008.4		

Sl. No	Name of the Industry	August '91 to September '92				Amount
		Total	Tech	Fin.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
28	Vegetable Oil & Vanaspati	7	2	5	29.9	
29	Soaps, Cosmetics & Toilet Preparations	1	1	-	-	
30	Rubber Goods	19	12	7	34.5	
31	Leather, Leather Goods & Pickers	13	3	10	68.4	
32	Glue & Glatin ^c	-	-	-	-	
33	Glass	12	9	3	7.5	
34	Ceramics	32	15	17	243.5	
35	Cement & Gypsum Products	12	7	5	187.8	
36	Timber Products	1	1	-	-	
37	Defence Industries	1	1	-	-	

Sl. No.	Name of the Industry	August '91 to September '92				Amount
		Total	Tech	Fin.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
38	Cigarettes	1	-	1	120.0	
39.	Consultancy Services	47	20	27	155.0	
40.	Miscellaneous Industries	134	42	92	8409.7	
	Total	173 ⁶	1077	659	33688 5	

Export of Electronic Products

325 SHRI K PRADHANI Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a vast scope for increasing for export of electronic goods from the country,

(b) if so, the possibility explored so far,

(c) the new electronic products identified for export, and

(d) the schemes drawn up for Eighth plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) (a) to (c) Yes, Sir Major steps to explore the export markets are, participation in specialised international trade fairs by the electronics industry, Seminar/Conferences to create greater awareness about the Indian electronics industry and Contact Promotion Programmes sponsored by the promotional agencies to establish contacts with potential buyers in target countries

A list of electronic items having export potential is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) To encourage software exports, Software Technology parks (STPs) as 100% Export Oriented Units have been set up in various parts of the country

In the area of Electronic Hardware exports, the Government of India, Ministry of Commerce vide their Notification No 42 (N 8)/92-97, dated the 14th September, 1992, published in the Gazette of India, has noti-

fied the Electronic Hardware Technology park (EHTP) Scheme for building up a strong electronic industry in the country with focus on enhancing its export potential and developing an efficient electronic industry in the country

STATEMENT*Electronic Items Having Export Potential**(a) Computers, Computer peripherals and Related Items*

- Personal Computers (PC, PC/XT, PC/AT)
- Printers
- Floppy Disk Drives
- Monitors
- Keyboards
- Mother Boards, Memory Modules

(b) Components and Materials

- Capacitors
- Resistors
- Semi-conductor Devices
- Monochrome Picture Tubes (36 cm and 51 cm screen size)
- Colour TV Picture Tube
- Deflection Components (for Monochrome & Colour TV applications)
- TV Tuners
- Printed Circuit Boards

- Magnetic Tapes (audio/video)
 - Floppy Diskettes
 - Audio/Video Tape Housing
 - Switches
 - Audio Tape Deck Mechanism
 - Ferrites
 - Permanent Magnets
 - Transformers
 - Telescopic aerials
 - Copper Clad laminates
 - Hybrid Micro Circuits
 - Silvered Mica Plates
 - Connectors
- (c) Communication abroad and Casting Items*
- Antennas
 - Satellite Communication Equipment
 - Telephone Instruments
 - Electronic Private Automatic Branch Exchange (EPABX) Systems
 - RAX (Rural Automatic Exchange)
 - 2MB Primatry PCM
 - Two way Communication equipment
 - TV Broadcasting Equipment
- (d) Consumer Items*
- Monochrome & Colour TV sets
 - Audio systems/Audio Cassette Recorders
 - PA Systems
 - Radio (FM/AM) and its combinations
 - Watches/Clocks. Modules thereof
 - Pre-recorded °Audio/Video Cassettes
- (e) Computer Software and Consul tacny Services*
- (f) Electronic Instruments*
- Uninterrupted Power Supplies
 - Milk Analyser
 - Oscilloscopes
 - Telecom Test Equipment
 - Electromedical Equipment
 - Office Equipments
- National Accredition Board**
326. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government propose to set-up a National Accredition Board;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the functions of the proposed Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALJUDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). The matter of setting up of the National Accreditation Board is under consideration of the Government.

Cine Colour Positive Film Unit in Udhagamandalam

327. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for setting up a unit for manufacture of cine colour positive film at Udhagamandalam in Tamil Nadu;

(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 INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). M/s. Hindustan Photo Films had submitted a Feasibility Report in March, 1983 for setting up of a project for the manufacture of cine colour films and colour paper with an annual capacity of 8 million sq. metres and 2 million sq. metres respectively in technical collaboration with M/s. Agfa Gavent of Belgium, at an estimated total cost of Rs. 208.29 crores. The project was not cleared for implementation due to resource constraints.

[Translation]

Import of Colour Picture Tubes and Manufacturing

328. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the colour picture tubes are being imported at present;

(b) if so, the figures of the import made during the year 1991-92; and

(c) the names of the companies in which such picture tubes are manufactured for exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). The demand for picture tubes is being met indigenously at present. However, in case of any shortfall in indigenous production due to unforeseen circumstances, Government may consider the possibility of permitting import of picture tubes to bridge the gap between demand and supply. Based on the data available on production/export of Colour TVs/ Colour Picture Tubes, the import of Colour Picture Tubes is estimated as 50,000 during 1991-92.

(c) The names of the indigenous companies which are manufacturing & exporting colour TV picture tubes are given below:-

1. M/s. JCT Electronics Ltd.
2. M/s. Uptron Colour Picture Tubes Ltd.
3. M/s. Samtal Colour Ltd.

[English]

Extension of Essential Commodities Act, 1955

329. PROF. ASHOK ANAND RAO DESHMUKH:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the demands made by the traders on the extension of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 after its expiry date; and

(b) the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUD-DIN AHMED): (a) and (b). Traders Organisations had represented to Government that validity of the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981 should not be extended after its tenure expires on 31.8.1992. The following are the main points generally made as arguments against the continuation of the Special Provisions:-

(a) Ted- ballable nature of offences leads to harassment.

(b) Mandatory punishment of a minimum of 3 months is harsh.

(c) Appeal against order of confiscation State Government instead of judicial authority is not proper.

(d) Summary trial in special Courts.

(e) Supply and production centres have now changed.

(d) Seizure all items rather than only those items in respect of when contravention of the Act has occurred.

After considering all aspects and views, an ordinance was promulgated by the President on 27.8.92 to extend the validity of the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981 for a further period of 5 years w.e.f 1.9.92. However, an amendment was made to

provide that no officer below the rank of an officer in charge of a police station, or any police officer authorised by him in this behalf in written, shall arrest any person accused of coming under a defence punishable under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Land Title Corporation

330. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Wadhwa Committee appointed by the Planning Commission suggested the establishment of a Land Title Corporation;

(b) If so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). Wadhwa Committee of the Planning Commission suggested the establishment of a 'Land Title Corporation' in case the States are reluctant to take the responsibility of guaranteeing title to land on account of financial burden or due to administrative reasons.

The entire issue of introduction of a system of State Guaranteeing title to land in the country is still under examination of this Ministry.

Haldia Fertilizer Plant

332. SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA:
SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:
SHRI SUKHENDU KHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the unions of Haldia Fertil-

izer Plant submitted any proposals for making the Unit viable;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR.CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. These proposals have been discussed with the representatives of workers. However, the final outcome would depend upon the technical and financial viability of the proposed investments and availability of funds through budgetary sources.

Bedthi Hydro-Electric Project

333.SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHARS: Will the Minister of Planning and Programme Implementation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent a revised Bedthi Hydro-Electric Project to the Planning Commission for its clearances;

(b) if so, whether the project has been cleared; and

(c) if not, the reasons and the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

Export of Rice to Cuba

334. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADYAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since decided to export rice to Cuba;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MIISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. An agreement between Food Corporation of India and Emoresa Cubana Importadora De Alimentos Allimport Habana, Cuba was signed on 30.9.92 for export of 10,000 MT of rice to Cuba. 10,177.188 MT of rice have since been exported.

(*Translation*)

Registration Act, 1908

335. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the Government of Uttar Pradesh to remove Article 30 (2) ad to make an amendment in Section 28 of the Registration Act, 1908; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard so far and the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS: (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The proposal is under consideration in consultation with the Inter-State Council and a decision in the matter will be taken in due course.

[English]

New Drug Policy

336. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce new drug policy soon;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). A background note on the changes being considered in the Drug Policy, 1986 has been placed on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament on 12.8.1992 for consideration of the Honourable Members and for getting their views/suggestions.

Allocation of Natural Gas to Fertiliser Plants

337. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce Natural Gas allocations to Fertiliser Plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of fertiliser plants presently utilising the Natural Gas and the quantities thereof; and

(d) the likely effect of the reduction on the existing fertiliser plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). It is proposed to maintain supplies to the fertiliser plants as per contractual obligations, subject to availability of gas from the reservoirs being as estimated.

(c) The details are given in the enclosed statement below.

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply given against parts (a) and (b).

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STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Allocation Million Standard Cubic Meter/day (MMSCMD)	Present Utilisation MMSCMD
1	2	3	4
<i>Firm</i>			
1	Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (HAZIRA)	3,000	3,900
2.	National Fertilisers Limitd (VVAIPUR)	1,500	1,650
3	Indian Farmers Fertilisers Cooperative Limited (AONLA)	1 800	1,650
4	Indo-Gulf Fertilisers & Chemicals Corporation Limited (JAGDISHPUR)	1 8000	1,650
5	Gujarat State Fertiliser Co Limited (BARODA)	0 350	0 350
6.	Deepak Fertiliser & Petro-chemicals Corporation Limited (TALQJA)	0 600	0 300 (for fertilisers)
7.	Rashtrya Chemicals & Fertilisers Limited (THAL)	3 000	3,700

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Allocation Million Standard Cubic Meter/day (MMSCMD)	Present Utilisation MMSCMD
1	2	3	4
8.	Rashinya Chemicals & Fertilisers limited (TROMBAY)	1.800	1.800
9.	Indian Farmers Fertilisers Cooperative Limited (KALCU)	0.840	0.840
10.	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertiliser Co Ltd (BAK-NADA)	0.250	0.250
11	Nagarjuna Fertilisers & Chemicals Limited (KAKINADA)	1.300	1.300
12	Hindustan Fertiliser Corpn Limited (NAMRUP Complex from OIL)	1.760	1.760
13	Hindustan Fertiliser Corpn Limited (NAMRUP Complex from NGC)	0.450	0.450
Fall Back			
14	Gujarat State Fertiliser Company Limited (BARODA)	0.450	0.450

(Translation)

**Production of Tobacco and the
Markets**

**338 SHRI RATILAL VARMA
DR RAMESH CHAND TOMAR**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the target fixed by the Government for the production of tobacco for 1992,

(b) whether the target so fixed is likely to be achieved in the current year,

(c) whether the Government have identified new markets for the export of tobacco and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) (a) Production target is fixed only for Flue Cured Virginia Tobacco Target fixed for production of PCV tobacco for the year 1992 is 124 M Kgs

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) In its report (1990) the Committee on Long Term Strategy for FCV Tobacco identified, inter alia, the following countries as potential new markets France, Portugal, Spain, Australia, Tunisia, Morocco, Finland, Norway, Indonesia, and Philippines

In addition, Vietnam and Japan could also be potential markets

Loss Making Heavy Industries

339 SHRI BARE LAL JATAV Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether most of the industrial units of Department of Heavy Industry are running in losses,

(b) if so, the details of the units running in losses, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) and (b) Out of 49 operating Undertakings under the Department of Heavy Industry, 26 Undertakings are running in losses. A statement of these Undertakings is enclosed

(c) The performance of these companies is being reviewed by the Government from time to time with a view to bringing about an improvement in their performance through rationalisation of man-power, increased productivity, reduction in sundry debtors and inventory and balancing investments wherever possible, for better utilisation of facilities. 19 sick PSUs as per list have been referred to BIFR as per Sick Industrial Companies Act

(English)

**Invitation by Prime Minister of
Pakistan**

340 SHRI ANNA JOSHI Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Pakistan extended any invitation to the Prime Minister of India to visit Pakistan for the bilateral talks on various pending issues, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Prime Minister had received an invitation from the Prime Minister of Pakistan, which is under consideration.

Support Price for Coffee and Collection of Export Duty

341. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are intending to fix a support price for coffee;

(b) whether there is any proposals to give subsidy to coffee growers to compensate fall in prices; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). As per the provisions of the Coffee Act, 1942, the Coffee Board is required to market in separate auctions for domestic and export purposes, the coffee delivered by the growers to the common surplus pool and distribute the realisation amongst the growers in proportion to the quantity and quality of the coffee delivered by the respective growers.

Ever since the suspension of quotas under the International Coffee Agreement in 1989, the prices have been falling. In order to compensate this and to give relief to the growers, the Government had reduced the Central Excise Duty on Coffee during 1990 from Rs. 105 per quintal to Rs. 50 per quintal. The repayment of crop loans granted by the Coffee Board during 1989-90 was rescheduled. Further, the Minimum Release Price

(MRP) of Coffee is being revised every year. As such, at present there is no proposal to give any compensation to the coffee growers.

Green Blood from Crabs

342. SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project is being planned by National Institute of Oceanography to extract green blood from crabs as reported in daily "Times of India" dated October 1, 1992; and

(b) if so, the details of the project and the targets fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Only some preliminary discussions have been initiated by the Government of Orissa in this regard.

(b) Does not arise.

Separate cell for Star Houses

343. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a separate cell for the Star Houses; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). No Sir.

There is no such proposal to set up a separate cell for Star Houses.

Restriction on Private Trade of Foodgrains

344. SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a result of the removal of State level restrictions of the private trade of foodgrains there are reports of rampant hoardings by farmers and traders; and

(b) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to run the Public Distribution System effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). With a view to maintaining availability of supplies and to exercise a check on unwarranted rise in the prices of foodgrains on account of any propensity to hoard on the part of traders the Central Govt. advised the State Govts./UT Administrations, early in 1992, to fix uniform stock holding limits of rice and wheat separately not exceeding 250 quintals for wholesalers, 50 quintals for retailers, and a suitable limit for rice mills and roller flour mills. These limits were fixed by the State Govts. under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. These limits are reviewed from time to time keeping in view the prevailing price and food situation. After a review the Central Govt. has advised the State Govts. that they may now consider to liberalise the stock limits on wheat and rice

The implementation of the Public Distribution System vests with the State Govts / UT Administrations. States/UTs have been taking action against persons found to be indulging in hoarding and other mal-practices in respect of essential commodities under various control. Orders issued under on

Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and similar relevant legislations.

(Translation)

Pending Cases in Courts and Vacant Posts of Judges

345. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:
SHRI KRISHAN DUTT
SULTAN PURI:
SHRI GUMAN MAL
LODHA:
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases, criminal and civil, separately, lying pending in various High Courts and Supreme Court as on date;

(b) the number of cases out of them pending for more than one, three, five, ten, twenty, thirty and fifty years, category-wise and court-wise;

(c) whether there is any time limit for disposing them;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the number of vacant posts of judges in various High Court and Supreme Court and the date since when these are lying vacant.

(g) the time by when these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ). (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) to (e). It is not practicable to impose time limit for the disposal of cases as it depends upon various factors.

(f) The information is furnished in the

enclosed Statement.

(g) The process of consultation among the concerned constitutional authorities is on. It is not possible to indicate the time by when these posts are likely to be filled up.

STATEMENT

Number of vacant posts of Judges in various High Court and Supreme Court and the dates since when these are lying vacant

Sl No	High Court	Vacancies		Dates from which these are lying vacant	Remarks
		As on 2 11 1992			
		Permanent	Additional		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Allahabad	2		02 07 92 (P)	
				15 07 92 (P)	
2	Andhra Pradesh		2	26 11 82 (A)	
				29 11 82 (A)	
3	Bombay	2	9	30 12 90 (A)	
				26 09 91 (A)	
				26 09 91 (A)	
				26 09 91 (A)	
				26 09 91 (A)	
				07 92 (A)	

Sl. No.	High Court	Vacancies		Dates from which these are lying vacant	Remarks
		Permanent	Additional		
1	2	3	4	5	6
				—07-92 (A)	
				-07-92 (A)	
				-07-92 (A)	
				11-07-92 (P)	
				30.09-92 (P)	
				25-04-91 (A)	
	Culcutta	9	1	09-01-92 (P)	
				10-01-92 (P)	
				12-01-92 (P)	
				26-02-92 (P)	
				01-03-92 (P)	

Sl. No	High Court	Vacancies		Dates from which these are lying vacant	Remarks
		Permanent	Additional		
1	2	3	4	5	6
				15-06-92 (P)	
				01-08-92 (P)	
				01-09-92 (P)	
				01-11-92 (P)	
5.	Delhi	1	5	03-09-91 (A)	
				22-01-92 (A)	
				22-01-92 (A)	
				22-01-92 (A)	
				10-04-92 (P)	
				08-05-92 (P)	
6.	Gauhati	5	.	29-11-91 (P)	
				01-02-92 (P)	

Sl. No.	High Court	Vacancies		Dates from which these are lying vacant	Remarks
		Permanent	Additional		
1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Gujarat	3		01-03-92 (P) 10-03-92 (P) 22-08-92 (P) 09-02-92 (P) 18-05-92 (P) 12-10-92 (A)	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	1	23.03.92 (I) 19.10.92 (P) 20.10.92 (P)	
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1		19-10-92 (P)	
10.	Karnataka	7	2	02-08-91 (A)	

Sl. No.	High Court	Vacancies		Dates from which these are lying vacant	Remarks
		Permanent	Additional		
1	2	3	4	5	6
				02-08-91 (A)	
				10-10-91 (P)	
				02-11-91 (P)	
				08-12-91 (P)	
				12-01-92 (P)	
				03-05-92 (P)	
				01-07-92 (P)	
				01-07-92 (P)	
11	Kerala				
12	Madhya Pradesh	1	3	15-06-92 (A)	
				15-06-92 (A)	
				15-06-92 (A)	

Sl. No.	High Court	Vacancies		Dates from which these are lying vacant	Remarks
		Permanent	Additional		
1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Madras	1	-	31.-7-92 (P)	
14.	Orissa	-	1	15-6-92 (P)	
15	Patna	3	-	22-06-92 (P)	
				05-06-92 (P)	
				04-09-92 (P)	
				22-09-92 (P)	
16	Punjab and Haryana	2	3	08-07-92 (A)	
				08-07-92 (A)	
				08-07-92 (A)	
				01-09-92 (P)	
				23-10-92 (P)	

Sl No	High Court	Vacancies		Dates from which these are lying vacant	Remarks
		Permanent	Additional		
1	2	3	4	5	6
17	Rajasthan	1	2	11-08-92 (A) 11 08-92 (A) 10-09-92 (P) 05 01-89 (P)	
18	Sikkim	1	.		
	Total	41	29		
II	Supreme Court	2		30-05-92 31-10 92	

*(English)***Manufacturers of Pesticides**

346 SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the particulars of manufacturers of chemical pesticides in the country indicating quantities and names of pesticides manufactured during 1991-92;

(b) the total marketable value of these products during the last three years,

(c) the import value of ingredients used in this manufacture,

(d) the total export value of other pesticides during the last three years, and

(e) the total value of imports of pesticides during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR CHINTA MOHAN) (a) to (c) There are over 400 units engaged in the manufacture of chemical pesticides and formulations in the country. The major chemical pesticides marketed by them include DDT, BHC, Malathion, Endosulphan, Monocrotophos, Methyl Parathion, Dimethoate, DDVP, Phosalone, Quinalphos, Synthetic Pyrethroids, Carbendazim, Mancozeb, Isoproturon, Butachlor, Aluminium Phosphide and Zinc Phosphide. Details of production by individual units, marketable value of different pesticides and value of imported ingredients used in production of these pesticides are not maintained.

(d) and (e) Details of imports and exports of insecticides are published in the "Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India" brought out by the Directorate General, Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, copies of which are avail-

able in the Parliament Library

Harness of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in Gujarat

347 DR K D JESWANI Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the new areas of Gujarat which are to be included for harnessing of Non-Conventional Energy Sources during current plan period,

(b) the area of Gujarat which are already harnessing Non Conventional Energy Sources

(c) the number of projects implemented in these area, and

(d) the amount allocated for and spent on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKHRAM) (a) Installation of different types of non-conventional systems and devices is widespread in all the districts of Gujarat. During the Eighth Five Year Plan, Gujarat Energy Development Agency (GEDA) is proposing to establish 100 MW capacity wind farms in the coastal areas. The State is also considering setting up of 30 MW solar thermal power plant in the district of Kutch. A biomass gasifier pilot plant of 500 MW capacity is proposed to be established in Kutch district of Gujarat by GEDA. The project would be supported by 630 hectare energy plantation grown in the revenue waste lands. During the Eighth Five Year Plan the State is proposing to extend the integrated rural energy planning programme in the five more blocks so as to cover all the districts of Gujarat. The State is also proposing to take up 32 numbers of

Urjagram projects. These proposals are to be considered once received.

(b) and (c) Various types of non-conventional energy systems and devices have been installed in different districts/areas of the State of Gujarat. The status of installation of these systems and devices in the

State is given at the enclosed statement.

(d) During the last three years an amount of Rs. 39.99 crores were allocated to Gujarat for promotion and utilisation of various types of non-conventional energy systems and devices. The allocated amount has been utilised.

STATEMENT

Status of Achievements in the State of Gujarat

Sl. No.	Programme	Units	Cumulative Achievement Upto 31.8.92
1	2	3	4
1.	Family size biogas plants	Nos. in lakh	1.60
2	Community/Institutional Biogas Plants	Nos.	90
3	Improved Chulhas	Nos. in lakh	6.07
4	Domestic Solar Water Heating Systems	Nos.	4863
5	Industrial Solar Water Heating Systems	Nos	1461
6	Solar Stills	Nos	5300
7	Solar Timber Kilns	Nos	17
8	Solar Air Heaters	Nos	9
9	Solar Cookers	Nos	20,532
10.	Villages provided with Photovoltaic street lights	Nos.	374*

Sl. No.	Programme	Units	Cumulative Achievement Upto 31.8.92
1	2	3	4
11.	Photovoltaic Water Pumps	Nos.	78*
12.	Photovoltaic Power Units	KWp	1*
13.	Photovoltaic Community lights /TV and community facilities	Nos.	51*
14.	Photovoltaic Domestic lighting units	No.	310*
15.	Photovoltaic Street Lights	Nos.	1537*
16.	Wind Pumps	Nos.	103*
17.	Wind Farms	MW	16.19
18.	Mini - Micro Hydro	MW	—
19.	Urjagram Projects	Nos.	110
20.	Urjagram Projects	Nos.	22

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Programme</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Cumulative Achievement Upto</i>
1	2	3	31.8.92 4
21.	Biomass Energy Plantations	Hectares	3810
22.	Biomass Gasifiers/Stirling Engines	Nos.	148

[*Translation*]

Industrial Development Centres

348 SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the purpose of setting up Industrial Development Centres and their number as on 30th October, 1992, State-wise,

(b) the target fixed for establishing the Industrial Development Centres during the financial year 1992-93, and

(c) the estimated amount likely to be spent thereon, location wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHA SAHI) (a) The Government, in June, 1988, announced the Growth Centre Scheme for dispersal of industries by creation of infrastructural facilities. Under the Scheme, 70 growth centres are proposed to be set up throughout the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan period. The number of growth centres allocated Statewise is as in the enclosed statement.

(b) The growth centres are proposed to be set up during the Eighth Five Year Plan. There are no year-wise targets.

(c) Each growth centre is estimated to cost Rs 25.30 crores.

STATEMENT

GROWTH CENTRES ALLOCATED TO STATES

(a)	STATE	No of Growth Centres
1	Adhra Pradesh	4
2	Assam	3
3	Bihar	6
4	Gujarat	3
5	Haryana	2
6	Jammu & Kashmir	2
7	Karnataka	3
8	Kerala	2
9	Madhya Pradesh	6
10	Maharashtra	5
11	Orissa	4

<i>STATE</i>		<i>No of Growth Centres</i>
12	Punjab	2
13	Rajasthan	5
14	Tamil Nadu	3
15	Uttar Pradesh	8
16	West Bengal	3
		61
(b)	<i>No of Growth Centres</i>	<i>State/Union Territory</i>
1	Arunachal Pradesh	1
2	Goa	1
3	Himachal Pradesh	1
4	Manipur	1
5	Meghalaya	1
6	Mizoram	1
7	Nagaland	1
8	Pondicherry	1
9	Tripura	1
		9
Total number of Growth Centres (a) + (b)		70

[English]

**Friendship and Co-operation Treaty
with European Community**

349 SHRI S RAJASEKHARREDDY
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether India propose to sign a treaty with the European Community similar to the Indo-Soviet treaty of friendship and co-operation and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI
EDUARDO FALEIRO) a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

Bench of Supreme Court

350 SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA Will
the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are considering any proposal for establishment of a Bench of Supreme Court in South India,

(b) whether the Government propose to divide the Supreme Court in two parts viz Constitutional Courts and Appellate Courts, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H R BHARDWAJ)

(a) According to Article 130 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint No proposal has been received from the Chief Justice of India in this regard

(b) and (c) No, Sir The recommendations of the Law Commission for splitting the Supreme Court into Constitutional Court and Court of Appeal or Federal Court of Appeal were considered, in consultation with the Chief Justice of India It was decided not to accept the said recommendations

Trade with China

351 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether India and China have agreed to explore/open new areas of trade between the two countries, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-
MAN KHURSHEED) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The new areas would be

- (i) Inclusion of non-traditional items such as Electronic components and Computer software, telecommunication equipments and other engineering products like Pharmaceutical machinery, pollution control equipments, automobile components photocopers in the trade protocol,

(ii) Establishment of joint ventures, and

(iii) Participation in tenders, for projects to be financed by World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and other International Financial Organisation in either country, as well as jointly contracting projects and

establishing joint venture in third country.

through Non-Conventional Energy Sources,

Bilateral Relations with Sri Lanka

352 SHRI K P SINGH DEO Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the government propose to extend any existing agreement/accord with Shri Lanka

(b) if so the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen further the bilateral relations with Sri Lanka,

(c) whether any new agreement/accord is proposed to be signed with that country in order to promote good neighbourly relations, and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) to (d) There is no proposal to extend any existing agreement/accord with Sri Lanka or to sign any new agreement/accord with that country

There are continuous efforts to further strengthen relations between India and Sri Lanka as manifested by the state visit to India of the President of Sri Lanka from October 13, 1992 and the setting up of the Indo Sri Lanka Joint Commission at the level of Foreign Ministers last year

Power Through Non-Conventional Energy Sources

353 SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to generate additional power

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to generate additional power through wind energy during the Eighth Plan,

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise,

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to generate more power by promoting wind energy in various coastal States during the Eighth Plan, State-wise, and

(f) the number of wind mills proposed to be set up during the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) and (b) It is proposed to take up during the Eighth Plan power generation projects of about 300 MW aggregate capacity, based on wind energy, small hydro and solar energy including private sector projects

(c) and (d) During the Eighth Plan, an aggregate wind power capacity of 100 MW is proposed to be set up, including private sector projects. No State-wise targets have been fixed. Wind power projects would be implemented in different States/UTs depending upon technical feasibility and availability of funds

(e) The Ministry of Non Conventional Energy Sources has been implementing the wind energy programme comprising wind surveys, wind pumps and wind power generation in different parts of the country, including coastal States

Steps taken to promote wind power generation include identification of potential sites through wind surveys, setting up of demonstration projects with central assistance to State agencies and attracting private sector participation by making available tax benefits such as accelerated depreciation at the rate of 100% in the year of installation excise duty exemption, and, customs duty exemption of specified components for phased manufacture of wind electric generators. Loans at concessional rate of interest are also available to private entrepreneurs through the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA).

Certain State Electricity Boards are offering various facilities to encourage the private sector such as wheeling and banking of energy generated from wind power projects and purchase of surplus energy at reasonable rates. Industries are, therefore able to generate wind power at windy sites in the State and avail of the energy generated at a location of their choice after deduction of nominal wheeling charges. The energy so generated can also be banked in the grid for a certain period. Some States also provide

capital subsidies and exemption from sales tax.

(f) During the Eighth Plan, it is proposed to set up 400-500 grid-connected wind electric generators of 200-250 KW unit size aggregating to 100 MW capacity, including private sector projects 4000 wind pumps and 500 battery chargers.

Export of Tea

354 SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN
SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the total quantity of tea exported during each of the last three years, and
(b) the quantity of tea exported from Assam, West Bengal, Nilgiri and other places?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) (a) Total quantum of tea exported from India during last three years is given below

<i>Year</i>	<i>Qty. of Tea exported M Kgs</i>
1989-90	211.76
1990-91	199.17
1991-92(Est)	210.39

(b) Exports of tea from India by origin of production of different tea growing estates/districts cannot be quantified because teas are exported mainly in blended form either in bulk or packet. In the process teas of different origin are mixed and thus at the point of export, it is not possible to identify the origin of teas.

Violation of Companies Act

355 SHRI M V S MURTHY Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the details of the companies/financial institutions those have violated section 113 of the Companies Act, 1956 in Shares and debenture transfers during the last three years.

(b) whether the Government have initiated any legal proceedings against those companies/institutions, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c): During the last 3 years ending 31.3.1992, one prosecution under Sec. 113 of the Companies Act has been filed.

Limited (SHCIL), in its Annual Report for the year ending 31.3.1991, stated that the age-wise analysis of securities pending registration beyond the statutory period of two months prescribed under Section 113 of the Companies Act, 1956 was as under:-

The Stock Holding Corporation of India

No. of companies wherein securities are pending registration Delay of—

more than 180 days	71 companies
more than 150 days	25 companies
more than 120 days	100 companies
more than 90 days	118 companies
more than 60 days	175 companies
Total:	489 companies

The actual number of companies involved in delay, as per records of SHCIL, was 289 companies (200 companies are figuring in delays of different periods). The Department of Company Affairs ordered inspection of share transfer records of these companies in June, 1992 and for filing prosecutions under Section 113(2) of the Act. So far, inspection reports of 111 companies have been received by the Department, out of which no delay in transfer of shares was noticed in respect of 31 companies. The Department has ordered prosecutions under Section 113 of the Act in respect of 57 companies and no action was considered necessary in the facts and circumstances and minor delays involved in respect of the remaining companies. Further, prosecution has been filed under Section 113 of the Act against 4 companies during the period from 1-4-1992 and onwards arising out of the routine inspections under Section 209A of the Act.

[*Traslation*]

Prices of Fertilizers

356. SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a consequence of the rise in prices of gas during the last two years, the per-unit production cost of Urea, Super-Phosphate and Potash has also gone up;

(b) whether the Government have approved a new company of Tata and Birla which is likely to start to sell Urea on increased rates; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The per

unit production cost of urea has increased in gas based urea plants due to rise in price of gas since January, 1992. Gas is not utilised for the manufacture of Single Super-phosphate. Potash is not produced in the country.

(b) and (c) M/s. Tata Chemicals Ltd (Promoted by Tatas) and M/s Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd (promoted by Birlas) are implementing Babrala (U P) and Gadepan (Rajasthan) projects respectively, for production of urea. These projects are likely to start production during 1993-94. As the price of urea is controlled at present, the sale price to farmers cannot exceed the statutory price prescribed by the Government.

(English)

Import of Palmolein

357 SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE

<i>Financial year</i>	<i>Import</i>
1989-90	2.93 lakhs MTs
1990-91	5.38 Lakh MTs
1991-92	1.07 Lakh MTs

(c) and (d) Import of edible oils depends on a number of factors, such as gap between demand and supply, prices of oil in domestic as well as international market, prospects of future crops of edible oilseeds etc. During the financial year 1992-93, a quantity of 0.30 lakh MTs has already been imported till 15.11.1992.

Decanalisation of DAP Import

358 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been shortage of palmolein in the country,

(b) if so, the quantum of palmolein imported during each of the last three years,

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the import of palmolein in view of its growing demand and

(d) if so, the details thereof for the year 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) and (b) No, Sir. The quantity of palmolein imported during the last three years is as under.

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the impact of decanalisation of di ammonium phosphate import on domestic industry and

(b) the reaction of the Government to the pressure by U.S. based multinational fertilizer lobby as reported in daily 'Financial Express' dated September 27, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR CHINTA MOHAN) (a) Following decanalisation of import of di-ammonium phosphate (DAP), indigenous DAP units are faced with price disadvantage vis a vis imported DAP

(b) It is totally incorrect to say that decanalisation of DAP was done at the instace of any outside agency

Proposal from Assam Regarding Intensive Sanitation Project

359 SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals regarding Intensive

Sanitation Project in Kamrup district of Assam, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H PATEL) (a) Yes Sir

(b) The Central Government has accorded technical approval for implementation of the scheme in principle Phase I of the scheme to be implemented in two years has been approved at an estimated cost of Rs 441 31 lakhs This involves construction of 21 000 households sanitary toilets and 63 000 other sanitary facilities at a total cost of Rs 411 57 lakhs to be shared as follows

	(Rs in Lakhs)
Assistance from United Nations Children Fund	30 40
Central Government	30 40
Government of Assam	30 48
Beneficiary contribution	320 29
	411 57

The UNICEF will also contribute a sum of Rs 29 74 lakhs towards advocacy training administration and establishment charges

Rural Pipe Water Supply Schemes

361 SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to

state

(a) the details of Rural Pipe Water Supply Schemes pending with the Union Government

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

(c) the financial outlay provided for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H PATEL) (a) No scheme is pending with the Central Government in respect of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Tripura, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Delhi

The details of pending Pipe Water Supply Schemes for Kerala, Karnataka,

Mizoram and Meghalaya are given in the enclosed statement

Information in respect of the remaining States/ Union Territories is being compiled

(b) The decision of the Central Government for the pending schemes will be conveyed to the concerned States by 31.12.1992

(c) No separate financial outlay is provided for individual schemes. The cost of schemes cleared by the Central Government is met out of the normal annual allocation under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) etc

STATEMENT

Sl No	Name of Piped Water Supply Schemes	Estimated cost prepared by the State Govt	Population to be benefitted
1	2	3	4
KERALA			
1	Kidangcor	154 17	23015
2	Kilimanoor and adjoining villages	322 00	54030
3	Paradur	135 00	17778
4	Killanoor	87 00	13204
5	Kidangod and adjoining villages Phase - I	456 00	59746
6	Kidangode and adjoining villages Phase II	264 00	38516
7	Kothakulangara North	194 00	34701
8	Perumpetty	111 22	13581
9	Anicad	112 58	13563

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl No	Name of Piped Water Supply Schemes	Estimated cost prepared by the State Govt	Population to be benefited
1	2	3	4
10	Nediyanga and Chuzhat	211 20	22775
11	Kadavoor & Kailoorkad and Kularamangalam	290 00	37192
12	Kundara and adjoining panchayat	89 50	87200
MEGHALAYA			
1	Rewall Malengma	10 184	1219
2	Teorgre	5 428	304
3	Smsong Rongal	3 794	181
4	Chranggrn	6 026	213
5	Jla Rongshn	5 635	265
6	Smsung Arnja	4 364	136
7	Dcpanggre	8 720	463

Sl No	Name of Piped Water Supply Schemes	Estimated cost prepared by the State Govt	Population to be benefitted
1	2	3	4
8	Asimgiri	3 134	189
9	Dronggiri	4 378	209
10	Mawlong	8 938	400
11	Langiong	30 341	2627
12	Mawbeh combined	41 485	2226
MIZORAM			
1	Jheerliang	22 046	530
KARNATAKA			
1	Project for 1000 villages in 10 districts	38800 00	Not quantified so far

Visit of President of Uganda

362 SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the President of Uganda visited India recently,

(b) if so, the bilateral and multilateral issues figured in his talks with Indian leaders and the outcome thereof, and

(c) the impact of this visit on trade and economic relations between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) During the visit discussions were held on matters of mutual interest in the bilateral and multilateral sphere. Both sides agreed that greater scope exists for the promotion of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. A Framework Agreement was reached on the re-scheduling of Uganda's debt to India.

The two sides had a fruitful exchange of views on the changing world scenario.

(c) Both sides have agreed to further cooperate on trade and economic relations. It has been decided to set up a Joint Committee to ensure smooth functioning of our bilateral cooperation in various economic sectors. Setting up of a Joint Business Council has also been proposed.

[*Translation*]

Recommendations of Jaswant Singh Commission

363 SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the time by when the Government propose to take the decision on the recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission,

(b) whether the Government have agreed in principle with the recommendations of the Commission,

(c) the State Governments which have not agreed in principle to the recommendations of the Commission,

(d) the difficulties being faced by the Government for the enactment of an appropriate Legislation as per the recommendation of the Commission,

(e) the reasons for which the Union Government are insisting on the State Governments for providing details of the proposed division benches, and

(f) whether such procedure was also adopted for the establishment of division benches before the reorganisation of States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H R BHARDWAJ)

(a) to (e) The Jaswant Singh Commission made recommendations for establishment of Benches of Allahabad, Madhya Pradesh and Madras High Courts. Specific recommendations of the Commission were referred to the concerned State Governments for views and comments in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts. No specific, complete proposal has been received from any of these State Governments.

Entire expenditure of the High Court and its Benches are met from the Consolidated Fund of respective States. Judges have to be deputed to the Benches and its day-to-day administration has to be looked

after by the Chief Justices of the High Courts. The Government of India, therefore, consider it necessary to have specific views of the State Governments and the High Courts regarding the feasibility and desirability of establishing High Court Benches and particularly regarding its location.

It is not possible to indicate the time by when the Government would take decision on the recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission.

(f) Out of the existing High Court Benches at twelve places in different States only one Bench viz Lucknow Bench was established before the reorganisation of States in 1956. The Bench at Lucknow started functioning consequent on the promulgation of the United Provinces High Court (Amalgamation) Order dated 19th July, 1948.

Criteria for Allocation of Fund to States under J.R.Y.

365 MAJ GEN (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the norms for the allocation of funds to various States or districts under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana,

(b) whether development or backwardness of various districts is kept in view at the time of allocation of funds,

(c) if not, the reasons therefor,

(d) if so, the reasons for the less alloca-

tion of funds for the hilly backward districts of Uttar Pradesh as compared to the other districts during 1992-93, and

(e) the year-wise and district-wise amount allocated to Uttar Pradesh during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY) (a) to (d) The allocation of resources among the States/Union Territories (UTs) under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) are made on the basis of proportion of rural poor in the State to the total rural poor in the country.

Allocation of resources under the Yojana to the districts, after providing for the earmarked sectors of Million Wells Scheme (MWS) and Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), is made on the index of backwardness formulated on the basis of percentage of agricultural labourers to the main workers in the rural areas, percentage of SCs/STs population to the total rural population and inverse of agricultural productivity in the weights of 20 60 20. 6% of the funds earmarked for IAY are distributed on the basis of number of SCs/STs in a district and the distribution of 20% funds earmarked for MWS is to be done by the State Governments on the basis of irrigation potential of the districts.

Special allocations were made by the Government to the desert and hill districts of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat in view of their backwardness and the need for more employment during 1989-90. In such cases, the per-capita allocation for hilly/desert district was taken at the highest for any district in that State and the district allocation

was fixed on that basis subject, however, to a minimum of Rs. 2.50 crores and a maximum of Rs. 10.00 crores. Since the resources in subsequent years have been allocated in the same proportion, additional assistance to these districts continues

under JRY.

(e) The Central funds allocated/released to the district in Uttar Pradesh and JRY during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

Central Assistance released to the Govt of Uttar Pradesh under JRY during the period.

Sl. No.	2	(Rs. in lakhs)				
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	3	4
1	Uttar Kashi	237.85	194.03	946.54		
2.	Chamoli	230.46	196.83	225.16		
3.	Tehri Garhwal	303.46	250.71	594.68		
4.	Dehradun	226.81	194.20	241.71		
5.	Garhwal	370.89	303.86	358.19		
6.	Pithoragarh	288.53	251.84	257.45		
7	Almora	437.89	384.28	416.99		
8.	Nainital	484.28	445.16	558.07		
9.	Saharanpur	727.84	681.91	448.27		
10.	Muzaffar Nagar	674.08	614.15	569.84		
11.	Bijnor	688.47	651.83	871.10		

Sl. No.	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	
1	2	3	4	
			5	
12.	Meerut	710.72	664.80	516.21
13.	Ghaziabad	449.11	432.36	408.46
14.	Bulandshahr	794.37	759.56	694.06
15.	Moradabad	809.45	781.91	722.11
16.	Rampur	259.79	246.87	223.70
17.	Badaun	556.25	533.22	458.18
18.	Bareilly	496.92	460.92	488.02
19.	Pilibhit	290.22	277.05	308.86
20.	Shahjahanpur	477.41	456.55	431.36
21.	Aligarh	8911.68	844.02	632.89
22.	Mathura	520.47	487.79	629.84
23.	Agra	596.88	564.99	512.52
24.	Etah	507.11	505.79	379.24

<i>Sl No</i>		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5
25	Marpun	408 14	384 70	289 51
26	Farrukhabad	563 60	531 18	449 12
27	Etawah	780 14	659 56	504 68
28	Kanpur	790 10	746 07	801 55
29	Fatehpur	706 67	659 56	447 91
30	Allahabad	1626 22	1520 84	1335 51
31	Jalaun	453 54	423 19	486 03
32	Jhansi	422 46	400 96	546 11
33	Lalitpur	249 91	235 77	277 56
34	Hampur	684 67	606 32	593 98
35	Danda	840 90	753 40	509 54
36	Khen	799 36	787 18	734 61
37	Sitapur	1076 75	1067 44	490 38

Sl. No.	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	
1	2	3	4	
			5	
38.	Hardoi	1019.42	1006.41	565.18
39.	Unnao	826.83	811.83	777.50
40.	Lucknow	569.06	564.66	380.47
41.	Rai Bareilly	932.18	896.83	985.46
42.	Bahraich	818.28	748.53	687.38
43.	Ghonda	916.23	847.05	918.88
44.	Bara Banki	843.00	830.22	696.62
45.	Faizabad	969.88	929.18	490.09
46.	Sultanpur	943.88	879.34	818.86
47.	Partappur	759.88	709.81	540.22
48.	Basti	899.85	839.14	769.71
49.	Gorakhpur	1608.88	1491.35	491.86
50.	Deoria	1216.43	1127.56	1042.10

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
			1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
51.	Azamgarh	1123.05	1069.54	726.94	
52.	Jaunpur	949.17	908.29	629.67	
53.	Balija	722.46	640.94	528.61	
54.	Ghazipur	797.45	739.48	669.89	
55.	Varanasi	1167.85	1088.87	1165.34	
56.	Mirzapur	751.50	699.83	709.66	
57.	Sonbhadra	464.02	436.95	654.02	
58.	Mau Nath Bhanjan	451.79	428.87	284.87	
59.	Sidhartha Nagar	498.14	464.78	456.24	
60.	Hardwar	309.04	289.73	295.08	
61.	Firozabad	308.48	289.66	306.87	
62.	Kanpur Nagar	142.05	134.21	166.79	
63.	Maharajganj	-	-	464.38	
	Total:	41364.90	38630.87	35637.61	

Industrial Development Centres in Uttar Pradesh

centres for Uttar Pradesh have been sent for appraisal.

366. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to set up Industrial Development Centre in Gazipur, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the total number of Industrial development centres sanctioned for Uttar Pradesh by the Government so far;

(e) whether all these development centres sanctioned by the Government have been set up in Uttar Pradesh; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The Government have no proposal to set up any growth centre under the Growth Centre Scheme in Gazipur, Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). States/ Union Territories were allocated growth centres based on a combined criteria of population, area and the extent of industrial backwardness. Based on this criteria, and in consultation with the State Government, Uttar Pradesh has already been allocated 8 growth centres.

(e) and (f). The growth centres are set up after the detailed project reports sent by the State Governments are appraised and approved. The project reports for the growth

Delicensing of Industries

367. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to delicense Entertainment, Electronics, News-print and Coal industries in view of the liberal industrial policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c). Review of the list kept under compulsory licensing is an integral part of the continuing liberalisation of the Industrial Policy.

(English)

Rural Housing

368. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a new scheme for rural housing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the provision made/ proposed to be made for those rural families who have shifted to villages on acquisition of their land or for any other reason?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a)

and (b) No, Sir However the Government of India is contemplating a new scheme for rural housing, the details of which are being worked out

(c) Does not arise

Loss Making Public Sector Companies/Corporations

369 SHRI RAM KAPSE Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether some public sector companies/corporations are running in loss

(b) if so the details of such companies/corporations and losses suffered by each of them during 1991-92 in terms of productivity,

(c) the reasons for their incurring such losses and

(d) the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) and (b) 109 Central PSEs incurred losses during 1990-91 upto which period only the information is available The Company-wise list is available at Page S 47 of Volume I of Public Enterprises survey 1990-91 placed before the Parliament on 5.3.1992 The information for 1991-92 is under completion and will be due for submission before the Parliament during the next Budget Session

(c) The general reasons for their incurring such losses are- surplus manpower, outdated technology, lack of proper work culture, cut throat competition from Private Sector etc

(d) Improving the performance of Central Public Sector Enterprises is a continuous process Enterprise specific action is taken by the concerned administrative Ministry/Department and the enterprises to improve the performance Some of the measures taken are modernisation and rehabilitation plan, financial managerial and organisational restructuring, change in product-mix energy conservation, technological upgradation, signing of MOU with Government, etc

[Translation]

Integrated Development of Basic Structure for Small Scale Industries

370 SHRIN J RATHVA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to chalk out any plan for the integrated development of the basic structure of the small scale industries set up in rural and backward areas

(b) if so the time by which this action plan is likely to be finalised

(c) the number of persons belonging to the tribal rural and backward areas of Gujarat likely to be benefitted as a result thereof, and

(d) the places of Gujarat where this plan is likely to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (PROF P J KURIEN) (a) to (d) A draft Scheme of Integrated Infrastructural Development (including technological back-up services) for small scale industries in rural and backward areas has been pre-

pared and included in the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) proposals in pursuance of policy measures for promoting and strengthening small, tiny and village enterprises announced on 6th August, 1991. The draft scheme is under finalisation in consultation with the concerned authorities in the Centre and State/U.T. Governments including the State of Gujarat.

(English)

Viabie Alternatives in Marketing Operations

371. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MMTC is looking out for any viable alternatives in marketing operations to make optional use of its huge infrastructure and expertise;

(b) if so, the details of new areas identified in this context;

(c) whether the MMTC has approached international manufacturers and trading companies to explore the possibilities of marketing collaborations; and

(d) the reaction/response from the International/Foreign organisations along with the details of agreements, if any, signed in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In addition to the existing lines of activities, such as minerals, metals, fertilizers, etc., the new areas of activities identified are in the fields of agro, marine, gems and jewellery, textiles, leather and chemicals.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Proposals for set-

ting up joint ventures with buy-back arrangements and investment proposals having import substitution angle are being explored. These efforts have not so far led to any agreements being concluded.

Farmers Living Below Poverty Line

372. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers living below the poverty line State-wise;

(b) the details of schemes implemented by the Union Government so far to improve the living standard of these farmers;

(c) the extent to which the success has so far been achieved under these schemes; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) As per 43rd Round of NSS (1987-88) about 196 million people in the rural areas were living below the poverty line. Overwhelming majority of these people depend on agriculture or activities related to land. State-wise number of farmers living below the poverty line is not available.

(b) and (c). The major poverty alleviation programmes of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRIP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) aim at improving the living standard of people below the poverty line. The farmers who are below the poverty line also are recipients of the benefits under these programmes. The IRDP is a self-employment programme in which both subsidy and credit are extended. Under, JRY, supplementary wage employment is given to the targeted population.

According to the Concurrent Evaluation of IRDP carried out during 1989, 28% of the beneficiaries had crossed the poverty line of Rs. 6,400. So far, about 40 million families have been assisted under IRDP and about 2546 million mandays of employment were generated under JRY.

[Translation]

Popularisation of Non-Conventional Energy Sources

373. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government for the popularisation of Programmes relating to harness of Non-Conventional Energy Sources; and

(b) if so, the details thereof? *

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b): For harnessing non-conventional energy sources Government has taken up a comprehensive programme of research, development, demonstration and dissemination of various renewable energy systems and devices in the country. Various programmes for popularising of non-conventional energy sources are taken up on the basis of Annual Plans and Eighth Five Year Plan proposals and provisions. During the Eighth Five Year Plan it is proposed to take up installation of 7.5 lakh numbers of biogas plants, 100 lakh numbers of improved chulhas, 2.75 lakh square meter of solar thermal collector area, 3.00 lakh numbers of solar cookers, 25000 numbers of solar photovoltaic lighting systems, 600 numbers of solar photovoltaic water pumps, 4000 numbers of wind pumps

and 500 numbers of wind battery chargers. It is also proposed to take up power generation projects of about 300 MW aggregate capacity based on wind energy, small hydro and solar energy; including private sector projects.

[English]

Voluntary Retirement in Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation

374. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of workers of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation, Durgapur have submitted Voluntary Retirement applications;

(b) if so, whether all the workers have been paid their legal dues including Voluntary Retirement benefits;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K.THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). M.A.M.C. have informed that the employees who have retired under Voluntary Retirement Scheme have been paid their entitled dues comprising of Notice Pay, Leave Salary and Ex-Gratia. Provident Fund (PF) has also been paid to 555 employees out of 828 employees. Gratuity is being paid to those who have vacated their quarters and obtained No Demand Certificates from all Departments. The balance PF and gratuity dues are being arranged by the company.

(d) The company has been advised by the Government to pay the outstanding dues

the last year was used in full by the Uttar Pradesh Government; and

[*Translation*]

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

Expenditure on Rural Development Programme in Uttar Pradesh

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H PATEL) (a)

375 SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

The details of the amount proposed to be spent through Centrally sponsored rural development programmes in Uttar Pradesh during 1992-93 are given in the enclosed statement

(a) the total amount proposed to be spent on the rural development programmes in Uttar Pradesh during 1992,

(b) the amount proposed to be spent on education and health

(b) The amount allocated to Health in Uttar Pradesh for major Centrally Sponsored Schemes for 1992-93 is as under -

(c) whether the amount allocated during

<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Allocation (Rs in Lakhs)</i>
1 National Malaria Eradication Programme	291 58
2 National Leprosy Eradication Programme	215 00
3 National Programme for Control of Blindness	165 55
4 National T B Control Programme	172 00

The release of funds of Education to State Governments is made keeping in view the proposals received from various State Governments the capability of the State Governments to utilise the funds and the availability of funds with Govt of India The anticipated expenditure in 1991-92 on operation Black Board in Uttar Pradesh is Rs 412 37 lakhs Information for the year 1992-

93 is not available

(c) The amount allocated to Uttar Pradesh during the last year for major rural development programmes was utilised almost fully as per details given in the enclosed statement

(d) Does not arise

STATEMENT

Details of amount allocated and utilised for various rural development programmes in Uttar Pradesh during the year 1991-92 and allocation for 1992-93

Sl No	Name of the Programme	Amount Allocated				Utilisation	
		1992-93		1991-92		1991-92	
		3	4	5	6		
1	Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDIP)	13062 00	13857 12	16226 71	117 10		
2	Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (J R Y)	49832 36	51093 28	48146 83	94 23		
3	Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)	4724 00	4724 00	4210 00	89 31		
4	Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)	1386 00	1386 00	1363 54	98 38		

Assistance for Installation of Hand-Pumps in Orissa

376. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has sought financial assistance for installation of hand pumps in the rural and drought affected areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of the hand pumps installed so far in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H.PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

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

(English)

Export of Sandalwood from Tamil Nadu

377. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has asked the Central Government to permit the export of Sandalwood from the State to overseas recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has addressed a letter on 1.8.92 to the

Hon'ble Prime Minister for lifting the ban on export of sandalwood in all forms (including logs and billets) so that the State Government can hope to compete on a global scale to get a competitive price for sandalwood. It has also been requested that if, for any reason this is not possible, the provisions for exporting sandalwood in the form of powder, chips, dust and flakes not exceeding 50 grams may be retained in the new Export and Import Policy 1992-97.

(c) A meeting was convened of the concerned Departments to examine the above proposal. It has been decided in consultation with the Ministry of Environment & Forests and Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) to retain the ban on export of sandalwood in the form of logs, billets, powder, chips, dust and flakes on environmental grounds. Export of sandalwood in other forms, namely, handicrafts, oil and other value added items is freely permissible subject to fulfilment of certain conditions.

(Translation)

Number of Posts in Sindri Fertiliser Unit

378. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sanctioned posts in technical and non-technical cadres under category 1, 2, 3 and 4 in Sindri Fertilizer plant (Bihar), categorywise;

(b) the number of posts reserved for scheduled tribes and scheduled castes out of them in each category;

(c) the number of the officers and workers belonging to general category, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes appointed against the existing sanctioned posts in the aforesaid cadres; and

(d) category-wise details of the vacant posts reserved for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and by when these are likely to be filled up?

MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The number of sanctioned posts in technical and non-technical cadres in categories A,B,C and D in respect of Sindri Unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCI) is given below:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

Category of post	No. of Sanctioned posts	
	Technical	Non-Technical
Group A	248	84
Group B	261	69
Group C	1485	463
Group D	504	167

(b) Whenever posts are filled up by direct recruitment or promotion the reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as prescribed in the Presidential Directive is being followed by the Sindri Unit of FCI

(c) The total number of employees, number of employees belonging to general category and SC and ST in different categories of posts in the Sindri Unit of FCI are given below:

Category of post	Total No. of employees.	Number in position						
		Technical			Non-Technical			
		General	SCS	STS	Total No. of employees	No. of employees Gen SC ST		
Group A	202	182	15	5	61	49	10	2
Group B	264	252	7	5	99	92	6	1
Group C	1666	1470	127	69	568	530	8	27
Group D	431	210	152	69	292	276	7	7

(d) Due to excess manpower and stringent financial position, no recruitment from

outside is being done in Sindri unit except in critical areas. Therefore, as and when all

vacant posts are filled up reservation prescribed in the Presidential directive will be followed

(English)

Registration of Companies

379 SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) The number of companies registered under the Companies Act as on April 1, 1991 and April 1, 1992,

(b) the number of companies registered during 1991-92,

(c) the number of companies whose names were struck down from the register during 1991-92, and

(d) the break-up of the companies as on

April 1, 1992 alongwith the State in which their head office is located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ):
(a) As on April 1, 1991, the total number of 224452 companies limited by share were at work and on April 1, 1992 the number of such companies at work was 250361

(b) During the year 1991-92, 26145 companies limited by shares were registered

(c) A total number of 201 companies were reported to have ceased working during the year 1991-92, out of which the names of 108 companies were struck off under Section 560 of the Companies Act and 93 companies went into liquidation

(d) The state-wise break-up of the companies limited by shares as on April 1, 1992 is given in the enclosed statements

STATEMENT

State-wise break-up of companies limited by shares at work as on April, 1992

Sl No	State/Union Territory	No
1	Andhra Pradesh	13309
2	Assam	2135
3	Bihar	4213
4	Gujarat	16167
5	Haryana	2737
6	Himachal Pradesh	1114
7	J & K	994
8	Karnataka	11146

Sl No	State/Union Territory	No
9.	Kerala	4689
10	Madhya Pradesh	6163
11	Maharashtra	56846
12	Manipur	89
13	Meghalaya	153
14	Nagaland	185
15	Orissa	2591
16	Punjab	6249
17	Rajasthan	5675
18	Tamil Nadu	20301
19	Tripura	40
20	Uttar Pradesh	12022
21	West Bengal	35197
22	Andaman & Nicobar Island	10
23	Arunachal Pradesh	90
24	Chandigarh	2397
25	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	37
26	Delhi	43891
27	Goa	1114
28	Daman & Diu	31

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No.
29.	Mizoram	13
30.	Pondicherry	753
Grand Total:		250361

Outlay to Create Additional Irrigation Potentiality in Orissa

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

(a) the total amount of outlay fixed for 1992-93 for the Rural Development to create additional irrigation potentiality through different sources in Orissa;

(b) whether the funds allocated for the purpose has been released to the State Government; and

(c) if so, when and the steps taken by the Government of Orissa in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H.PATEL):(a) Under the two major centrally sponsored rural development programmes i.e, the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) no separate allocation is made for irrigation. However, under the Million Wells Scheme, which is a sub-scheme of JRY, 20% of the state allocation is earmarked for provision of irrigation wells to small and marginal farmers belonging to SC/ST and freed bonded labourers. The total funds allocation under the Million Wells Scheme to Orissa during 1992-93 were Rs. 25.54 crores.

Under the IRDP subsidy is given by the Central and State Government to the target group consisting of people below poverty line to purchase productive income generating assets. Minor irrigation, community, irrigation and irrigation schemes for individuals are sponsored under this programme. The amount allocated for the entire programme to Orissa (Centre+ State) for 1992-93 is Rs. 31.98 crores. Break-up of outlay for irrigation has, however, not been fixed by the central Government.

(b) and (c). Central funds earmarked under Million Wells Scheme were released to the State Government on first April, 1992. So far expenditure to the tune of Rs. 20.58 crores has been incurred by the State Government. During the year 15,374 wells have been constructed and 11,363 wells are under progress. Similarly, under IRDP an amount of Rs. 9.04 crores out of Rs. 16 crores from Central Share has been released to Orissa for the programme during the current year so far.

[Translation]

Proposal to scrap the Public Distribution System

381. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total population covered under the Public Distribution System in the country;

(b) the rural population thereof;

(c) whether the Union government have received any proposal to do away with the Public Distribution System completely;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have examined the proposals; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (e). The entire population of the country is entitled to the benefits under the Public Distribution System, of which nearly 3/4th are rural population. The State Governments/ UT Administrations have been advised to issue ration cards to such families, as may have been left out.

The Central Government is not examining any proposal to completely do away with the Public Distribution System.

[English]

Production of Edible Oils

382. SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps are being taken to increase the production of edible oils;

(b) if so, the State-wise target fixed during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken to achieve these targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). No State-wise target for edible oils has so far been fixed. However, some of the steps taken to increase production of edible oils in the country are as under:

1. Two centrally sponsored schemes namely National Oil Seeds Development Projects (NDDP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Projects (OPTP) which were operating till 1989-90 have been merged during 1990-91 into a single scheme namely Oilseeds Production Programmes (OPP). This scheme provides essential assistance to the States for production and distribution of quality seeds, plant protection measures including supply of plant protection chemicals and equipments and organising demonstration of advanced technology, with particular reference to mustard, groundnut, soyabean and sunflower.

2. Supporting oilseeds projects of the NDDB.

3. A Technology Mission on Oilseeds was established in May, 1986 for harnessing the best of production, processing and management technologies.

4. Intensification of research efforts for increasing the production of oilseeds.

5. Increasing the areas under non-traditional oilseeds crops like soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc.

6. Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.

7. Assistance for oil palm development.

8. Better incentive to producers through

fixation of minimum support prices of major oilseeds.

9 Identification of equipments for modernisation of processing units, custom duty concession on imports of certain equipments

10 Funding research and development programmes undertaken by various institutions for fuller exploitation of oil from oil bearing materials

(Translation)

Economy Measures

383 SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the details of the economy measures adopted by his Ministry for minimising the expenditure, and

(b) the results achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) and (b) Various steps have been taken to effect economy in expenditure which include abolition of posts, reduction in T A expenses, surrendering of telephones etc. As a result, considerable savings are likely to be effected during the current financial year

51% Equity Approval to Industries

384 DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the names of the industries granted 51 per cent equity approval of foreign exchange under foreign technical collaboration entered into without prior approval of the Government,

(b) whether the percentage of countries capital invested in indigenous industries is likely to be effected adversely as a result thereof, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MATI KRISHNA SAHI) (a) The names of the industries eligible for grant of 51 per cent foreign equity approval, with or without foreign technical collaboration, by the Reserve Bank of India under automatic approval scheme is given in the enclosed statement

(b) No, Sir After the announcement of the New Industrial Policy, a total of 7336 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda, envisaging total investment of Rs 176493 crores have been filed till 31st Oct, 1992 by Entrepreneurs wishing to set up industries in the country.

(c) Does not arise

List of Industries

1 Metallurgical Industries

(i) Ferro alloys

(ii) Castings and forgings

(iii) Non-ferrous metals and their alloys

(iv) Sponge iron and pelletisation.

(v) Large diameter steel welded pipes of over 300 mm diameter and stainless steel pipes

- | | | |
|--|-------------------|---|
| <p>(vi) Pig Iron</p> <p>2. Boilers and Steam Generating Plants</p> <p>3 Prime Movers (other than electrical generators)</p> <p> (i) Industrial turbines</p> <p> (ii) Internal combustion engines</p> <p> (iii) Alternate energy system like solar wind etc and equipment therefor</p> <p> (iv) Gas/hydro/steam turbines upto 60 MW</p> <p>4 Electrical Equipment</p> <p> (i) Equipment for transmission and distribution of electricity including power and distribution transformers, power relays, HT-switch gear synchronous condensers</p> <p> (ii) Electrical motors</p> <p> (iii) Electrical furnaces, industrial furnaces and induction heating equipment</p> <p> (iv) X-ray equipment</p> <p> (v) Electronic equipment, components including subscribers' and telecommunication equipments</p> <p> (vi) Component wires for manufacture of lead-in wires</p> <p> (vii) Hydro/steam/gas generators/generating sets upto 60MW</p> | <p>5</p> <p>6</p> | <p>(viii) Generating sets and pumping sets based on internal combustion engines</p> <p>(ix) Jelly-filled telecommunication cables</p> <p>(x) Optic fibre</p> <p>(xi) Energy efficient lamps and</p> <p>(xii) Midget carbon electrodes</p> <p>Transportation</p> <p>(i) Machanised sailing vessels upto 10,000 DWT including fishing trawlers</p> <p>(ii) Ship ancillanes</p> <p>(iii)</p> <p>(a) Commercial vehicles, public transport vehicles including automotive commercial three wheeler jeep type vehicles, industrial locomotives</p> <p>(b) Automotive two wheelers and three wheelers</p> <p>(c) Automotive components/spares and ancillanes</p> <p>(iv) Shock absorbers for railway equipment and</p> <p>(v) Brake system for railway stock and locomotives</p> <p>Industrial Machinery</p> <p>(i) Industrial machinery and equipment</p> |
|--|-------------------|---|

All India Judicial Service

385. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an All India Judicial Service under the Union Public Service Commission in view of the Supreme Court's judgement dated November 13, 1991 and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). The Government has filed a Review Petition on 9.1.1992 against the Supreme Court's judgement. The same is yet to be disposed of by the apex court.

[*English*]

Imprisonment of Indians in Sharjah

386. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: SHRI THYIL JOHNANJALOSE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government are aware of the recent reports regarding imprisonment of some Indians in Sharjah for staging a play; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for their early release?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b). Every effort is being made to provide some relief to those detained. Our Ambassador has continued to pursue this

matter. He is touch with the local authorities at all appropriate levels. The matter has also been raised with the UAE Ambassador in Delhi and during bilateral Foreign Office discussions. Our Consul General in Dubai and other consular officials have visited the detainees in the Jail. The matter is still subjudice. An appeal has been preferred on behalf of the accused, which will come up for hearing shortly.

Tea Industry

387. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that tea industry is passing through a crisis; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet this situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The Tea industry is facing problems on account of reduced purchases by the CIS countries, which were major buyer of Indian tea during the previous years. There has also been a loss of production to the extent of 28.59 million kgs during the period January to September, 1992 as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

(b) Government has been encouraging diversification of Tea export by sponsoring industry delegations to various countries. Trade protocols have also been entered into with some of the CIS countries including Russia. Other countries are being persuaded to buy higher quantities of Indian tea indicating to them the price and quality competitiveness of our tea.

Import of Palmolein

388. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Palmolien/Palmoil imported from January, 1992 till October 31, 1992, State-wise;

(b) the details of the agencies which imported for Kerala;

(c) whether any complaint has been received by the Union Government regarding import of Palmolien by Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The quantity of palmolein imported directly by the State under a scheme of direct import, State-wise, is:

States	Quantity (MTs)
Gujarat	5,952
Kerala	14,921
Maharashtra	8,000 (approx.)
Tamil Nadu	18,000 (approx.)
West Bengal	7,894

(b) Government of Kerala had nominated the Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd. as its agent for import of Palmolein on its behalf and this State Corporation imported Palmolein through the supplier M/S Power and Energy Private Ltd., Singapore.

(c) and (d). In the news items of 'Pioneer' (Delhi Edition) dated 9th January and 10th January, 1992 it was alleged that Palmolein for Kerala was being purchased on a

higher price and without consulting the STC in the matter of prices. The matter was taken up with the Government of Kerala who contradicted the newspaper reports and termed it as caseless.

Electrification of Villages in Assam

399. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Assam which have been electrified through non-conventional energy sources;

(b) the number of villages proposed to be electrified through non-conventional energy sources during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) the amount allocated to the State for the creation of non-conventional energy sources during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the details regarding the generation of non-conventional energy by means of solar energy in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Four villages in District Karbi Anglong, N.C Hills and Kamrup have been electrified through solar photovoltaic power plants in Assam. In addition to this, 20 villages have been provided with solar photovoltaic street lighting systems.

(b) The State Government proposes to electrify 30 villages using solar photovoltaic during the Eighth Plan.

(c) A sum of Rs. 201.00 lakh have been allocated to the State, under State sector,

utilisation of non-conventional energy sources during the Eighth Five Year Plan

(d) The State of Assam is covered under solar photovoltaic demonstration and utilisation programme. Solar photovoltaic lighting systems, water pumping systems, community television/lights, small village level power plants, etc. are installed as a part of this programme in remote and un-electrified areas. There are 33 domestic lighting systems, 2 community lighting systems, 2 community televisions and 100 street lighting systems in the State. The State has 4 small centralised SPV power plants with total capacity of about 2.5 Kw.

Prime Minister's Visit to Nepal

390 SHRI P. M. SAYEED
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAJEE
SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA
SHRI B. VENKATESWARA
RAO
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA
SHRI MATHI BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA
SHRI SHIBU SOREN
SHRI SIMON MARANDI

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether he visited Nepal recently,

(b) the bilateral and multilateral issues that figured in his talks with Nepalese leaders and the outcome thereof

(c) whether any agreement was signed between the two countries,

(d) if so, the details thereof,

(e) whether the issue of terrorist elements attempts to use Terai region in Nepal as a transit base for their operations in India was taken up with the Nepalese leaders, and

(f) if so, the outcome of the discussion in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) Yes, Sir, Prime Minister paid an Official goodwill visit to Nepal from October 19-21, 1992 at the invitation of the Hon'ble Girija Prasad Koirala, Prime Minister of Nepal.

(b) to (d) The Indian and Nepalese delegations led by the two Prime Ministers held detailed discussions on issues of common interest. During the course of these meetings, as also the earlier discussions at the official level that preceded the visit of the Prime Minister of India, number of decisions were taken and steps finalised with a view to further strengthening and expanding bilateral cooperation.

A Joint Communique was signed during the Visit enlisting the areas of cooperation between the two countries.

Trade

It was agreed to improve and simplify the regime for export of Nepalese goods to India through a number of provisions. These included - The existing proforma clearance system will be abolished and will be replaced by a system of Certificate of Origin to be issued by HMG/N.

In determining the eligibility of a Nepalese product for access to the Indian market free of customs duties and quantitative re-

striction, Nepalese labour content will also be included.

If the total Percentage of the three components, i.e. the Nepalese labour content, the Nepalese material content, and the Indian material content, exceeds 50 per cent, the product will have duty free and quota free access to the Indian market.

The above provisions will cover all Nepalese exports to India, except for a small negative list of items, for which this facility will not be available. Both sides have also agreed on procedures to ensure that the Certificate of the Origin system is efficiently and properly implemented.

A number of other issues relating to Indo-Nepal trade have also been resolved. These are listed below:

Movement of Nepalese private commercial vehicles from the Nepalese border to Calcutta/Haldia and back will be allowed on such vehicles being duly authorised by the Nepal Transit and Warehousing Company Ltd. or Nepal Transport Corporation or HMG/N and the necessary undertaking being given by them to the Indian customs authorities.

Nepal may import goods from India by payment in freely convertible currency, in addition to the existing system of payment in Indian Rupees, for the import of such goods as HMG/N may choose. The Indian exporter will be entitled to all the export benefits made available by India for such exports in freely convertible currency.

Nepal-to-Nepal- movement of Nepalese vehicles and goods through India will be allowed without cash deposit or band system upon the necessary undertaking given by the Nepalese customs authorities.

Stand-by Credit

The Government of India have further agreed to enhance the revolving stand-by credit facility extended to Nepal from the level of (IC) Rs. 35 crores to Rs. 50 crores. The term of this agreement will be extended from one year to three years. The special, concessional interest rate of 7 per cent p.a. for this credit will also be maintained during this period.

Joint Ventures

The liberalised guidelines of the Government of India for investment in joint ventures abroad by Indian entrepreneurs would greatly simplify the procedures for setting up such ventures in Nepal. Together with the Certificate of Origin system, this will promote Nepalese exports to India as also the industrialisation of Nepal and local employment opportunities.

Water Resources Corporation

Both sides have agreed on a time frame for investigations, preparation of project reports etc. on the Karnali, Pacheswar, Sapta Koshi, Budhi-Gandaki, Kamala and Bagmati Projects, as also in the installation of flood forecasting and warning systems, the construction of flood protection embankments and on power exchange. It was also agreed to explore the possibility of private sector participation in setting up of hydel Projects. Both the Governments agreed to give priority to undertake Pacheswar and Budhi-Gandaki projects. It was also agreed that supply of water to Nepal under the Sharada Barrage Agreement will be maintained.

B.P. Koirala Nepal-India Foundation

This foundation was jointly inaugurated by the two Prime Minister during the visit which provides an institutional framework for

promoting academic, cultural and technical exchanges and cooperation between India and Nepal, the specific thrust areas being agricultural research, science and technology, health, technical training, developmental and area studies and women's studies.

Indian Aid Projects in Nepal

Both sides noted with satisfaction that the various on-going Indian Projects including the establishment of the B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Science at Dharan, the setting up of a new wing of the Bir Hospital in Kathmandu, the renovation of the Jayanagar-Janakpur-Bizalpur railway, the setting up of a telephone exchange at Rangeli and some new road projects like Biratnagar-Bhadrapur and Chatara-Birpur roads were being implemented smoothly.

In response to a request from HMGN, Govt will take up a new project, the construction of 17 bridges on the western sector of the Kohalpur-Mahakali section of Mahendra Rajmarg.

An Indo-Nepal high level Task Force will be set up to ensure successful completion of the above mentioned projects as also look into any new Indian Aid Projects in Nepal that might be proposed such as B.P. Koirala Ophthalmic Institute and the proposal for linking the Kohalpur-Mahakali section of the Majendra Rajmarg to the Tankpur Barrage.

His majesty the King of Nepal has accepted an invitation from our Prime Minister to visit India at a mutually convenient date. The Prime Minister of Nepal has also accepted our invitation to visit India at a convenient date in future.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) His Majesty's Government of Nepal has assured us that they will take necessary

steps to curb anti-Indian terrorism through and from Nepal.

[Translation]

Employment Opportunities to Rural People

391. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI:
SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether various employment-oriented programmes have not provided enough employment opportunities to rural population;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the remedial steps proposed in this regard; and

(d) the various employment-oriented schemes being implemented during the last two years and the progress made in this regard State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT)(SHRI UTTAM BHAI H. PATEL): (a) to (c). Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) are two major employment oriented programmes. Since the inception of IRDP about 40 million families have been assisted so far. The target for 1992-93 is to assist an additional 18.75 lakh families. This is considered adequate at the given level of budgetary support for the programme.

The aim of JRY is to generate additional gainful employment for the unemployed and under employed persons in the rural areas

by creating Job Opportunities. About 2546 million mandays of employment has been generated during the last three years (1989-90 to 1991-92) under this programme.

(d) The progress achieved State-wise in IRDP and JRY, during the last two years is given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Achievement					
		1990-91			1991-92		
		No. of families IRDP	Lakh mandays JRY	No. of families IRDP	Lakh Mandays JRY	No. of families IRDP	Lakh Mandays JRY
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	263301	810.66	222848	680.41		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8423	8.44	10888	6.57		
3.	Assam	50345	126.02	46416	124.02		
4.	Bihar	415814	1130.05	336972	836.73		
5.	Goa	3200	8.88	2989	9.56		
6.	Gujarat	72426	188.82	72326	254.13		
7.	Haryana	34179	35.03	24756	37.49		
8.	Himachal Pradesh	17037	35.86	11819	34.16		
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13008	54.27	13581	60.37		
10.	Karnataka	125027	486.56	108841	401.64		

SI No	State/UTs	Achievement					
		1990-91			1991-92		
		No of families IRDP	Lakh mandays JRY	No of families IRDP	Lakh Mandays JRY	No of families IRDP	Lakh Mandays JRY
1	2	3	4	5	6		
11	Kerala	60877	180 96	57562	177 08		
12	Madhya Pradesh	345514	958 57	294810	945 39		
13	Maharashtra	214199	850 22	197967	771 64		
14	Manipur	4962	12 16	4908	5 11		
15	Meghalaya	3134	7 88	2874	12 02		
16	Mizoram	3366	19 69	2811	5 94		
17	Nagaland	4429	18 98	5442	27 92		
18	Orissa	149612	341 97	111712	348 86		
19	Punjab	35944	21 81	27453	19 76		
20	Rajasthan	135604	506 01	131986	387 63		
21	Sikkim	1422	8 80	1610	13 62		

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Achievement					
		1990-91			1991-92		
		No. of families IRDP	Lakh mandays JRY	No. of families IRDP	Lakh Mandays JRY	No. of families IRDP	Lakh Mandays JRY
1	2	3	4	5	6		
22.	Tamil Nadu	181642	755.21	161603	831.73		
23.	Tripura	12222	19.16	16343	20.71		
24.	Uttar Pradesh	508840	1628.27	462259	1552.14		
25.	West Bengal	226603	516.85	201476	491.99		
26.	A & N Islands	1660	2.97	1502	2.18		
27.	Chandigarh	-	0.11	0	-		
28.	D & N Haveli	311	2.84	313	3.94		
29.	Delhi	1567	0.89	550	-		
30.	Daman & Diu	600	0.83	482	0.88		
31.	Lakshadweep	139	2.83	124	2.23		
32.	Pondicherry	2078	4.89	1343	8.20		
	All India	2897775	8745.59	2536566	8081.05		

[English]

Publication of India's Map Without J&K

392. SHRISRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRIMANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent reports regarding UN's publication of India's map without Jammu and Kashmir on the front cover of its recent report;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken by the Government in the matter;

(c) whether the Government have studied/examined the UN report on 'Integrating Development and population Planning in India';

(d) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Government of India has examined the UN Publication "Integrating Development and Population Planning in India" which erroneously omits depicting Jammu & Kashmir as a part of India on its front cover as also contains other errors. The Government of India had taken up, as soon as the publication had come to its notice in August this Year, the erroneous depiction of India's borders with the senior most officials of the United Nations concerned with this publication.

Government of India have received a reply apologising for the errors and providing

an assurance that necessary steps will be taken to correct them.

[Translation]

Losses Incurred by IDPL

393. SHRI SUKHDEO PASWAN:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited is running in loss continuously for the last three years;

(b) if so, the loss incurred by IDPL in each of the last three years; and

(c) whether the IDPL has been declared as a sick unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The net losses incurred by Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited during the last three years were as under:

<i>Years</i>	<i>Rs./Crores</i>
1989-90	42.74
1990-91	66.26
1991-92 (Provisional)	112.38

(c) Yes, Sir. As per the statutory requirements, IDPL has been declared as a sick industrial company by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under Sections 3(1) (i) of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

*(English)***Improvement in P.D.S.**

394 PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT
DR AMRIT LAL KALIDAS
PATEL
DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the improvement made in the Civil Supplies and Public Distribution System in the light of the suggestions made in the last conference of Chief Ministers and Food Ministers, and

(b) the State-wise number of Fair Price Shops being run in the rural areas under Public Distribution System as on October 31, 1992 and the State-wise names and quantity of items allotted and distributed under this system during the last three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) The 13th meeting of the Advisory Council on Public Distribution System was held in August, 1991. Chief Ministers of all the States/UTs were specially invited to attend this meeting, along with the Ministers of Food and Civil Supplies in the States/UTs, who are members of the Advisory Council. Based on the suggestions made in this meeting, the Prime Minister launched a scheme on 1st January, 1992 to Revamp the PDS in about 1700 blocks identified in consultation with the States/UTs. States/UTs initiated measures to improve the functioning of the PDS, which included opening of additional

Fair Price Shops, issuing of ration cards to the entire population, creation/hiring of additional storage capacity, arrangements for delivering PDS commodities at the doorsteps of Fair Price Shops, setting up of village/shop level Vigilance Committees of beneficiaries to supervise the supply and distribution of PDS commodities and inclusion of tea, iodised salt, pulses and soaps for distribution through PDS outlets in the identified Blocks. State Governments/UT Administrations have reported significant overall progress in implementation of these proposals. The Central Government set apart 2 million tonnes of foodgrains for allocation to the identified Blocks in addition to the normal allocations being made to the States/UTs. The Central Government has decided to issue rice and wheat meant for distribution in the RPDS Blocks with effect from 1st June 1992 at reduced Central Issue Prices, which are lower by Rs 50 per quintal than the normal CIP for PDS with the stipulation that the End Retail Prices in RPDS Blocks should not exceed the CIP of rice and wheat by more than 25 paise per kg.

(b) A statement showing the State-wise number of Fair Price Shops as on 31.3.1992 in rural areas is given in the Statement-I. The commodities, which are allocated by the Central Government for distribution through PDS are rice, wheat, levy sugar, imported edible oil, kerosene and soft coke. Many State Governments and UT Administrations have reported that commodities like pulses, tea, iodised salt and soaps are also being distributed by them through PDS outlets. A statement showing the allocation and offtake of wheat, levy sugar, imported edible oils and kerosene for the months of August, September and October, 1992 are given in the enclosed statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

Statewise Number of Fair Price Shops in Rural Areas as on 31.3.1992

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of FPS Rural
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30310
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	529
3.	Assam	23880
4.	Bihar	35023
5.	Goa	431
6.	Gujarat	9693
7.	Haryana	4760
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3083
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2077
10.	Karnataka*	12815
11.	Kerala*	14409

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of FPS Rural
1	2	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14409
13.	Maharashtra	25527
14.	Manipur	1593
15.	Meghalaya	2902
16.	Mizoram	668
17.	Nagaland*	202
18.	Orissa	19589
19.	Punjab	8162
20.	Rajasthan	11714
21.	Sikkim	809
22.	Tamil Nadu	16865
23.	Tripura	1115
24.	Uttar Pradesh	63162

Sl. No	Name of State/UT	No. of FPS Rural
1	2	3
25.	West Bengal	15343
26.	A & N Islands	243
27.	Chandigarh	51
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	59
29.	Daman & Diu	20
30.	Delhi	279
31.	Lakshadweep *	19
32.	Pondicherry	167
	Total	305499

@: Relates to March, 1991

*: Relates to December, 1991

E: Kerala has reported all 13050 EPS under Urban category.

STATEMENT - II

Statewise Allocation/Lifting of Wheat, Rice, Edible Oils, Kerosene, Sugar for July 1992 - Sept. 1992 Distributed Through PDS.

Sl No	States/UTs	(Figures in Thousand Tonnes)							
		Wheat		Rice		Levy Sugar			
		Alloc	Lifting	Alloc	Lifting	Alloc	Lifting	Alloc	Lifting
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1	Andhra Pradesh	33.9	29.2	504.8	470.6	83.4	0.0		
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2.1	1.9	24.0	24.4	1.0	0.0		
3	Assam	60.0	56.5	125.3	112.7	30.8	0.0		
4	Bihar	154.7	142.7	73.7	43.2	105.4	0.0		
5	Goa	9.3	5.8	13.6	12.1	1.7	0.0		
6	C. Jarat	195.0	176.9	84.0	79.8	53.9	0.0		
7	Haryana	30.8	28.0	9.0	6.2	20.1	0.0		
8	Himachal Pradesh	30.0	29.7	19.5	20.1	6.4	0.0		
9	Jammu & Kashmir	60.0	29.2	108.5	48.0	9.2	0.0		
10	Karnataka	75.0	73.1	205.5	194.3	56.0	0.0		

Sl. No	States/UTs	Wheat		Rice		Levy Sugar	
		Alloc	Lifting	Alloc	Lifting	Alloc	Lifting
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Kerala	75.0	68.4	478.0	517.1	41.3	0.0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	138.0	139.5	122.8	108.1	78.8	0.0
13.	Maharashtra	306.0	302.9	186.0	181.7	98.3	0.0
14.	Manipur	9.0	7.0	23.0	16.9	2.2	0.0
15.	Meghalaya	6.0	4.4	28.5	21.7	2.1	0.0
16.	Mizoram	3.3	2.6	26.5	26.2	0.8	0.0
17.	Nagaland	4.0	2.8	18.0	16.4	1.4	0.0
18.	Orissa	60.0	57.9	116.3	76.6	41.0	0.0
19.	Punjab	15.0	7.3	4.5	2.1	25.0	0.0
20.	Rajasthan	304.5	274.2	12.0	6.0	55.8	0.0
21.	Sikkim	1.8	0.5	13.5	10.8	0.5	0.0
22.	Tamil Nadu	60.0	43.6	212.5	191.2	71.0	0.0

Sl. No	States/UTs	Wheat		Rice		Levy Sugar	
		Alloc	Lifting	Alloc	Lifting	Alloc	Lifting
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Tripura	6.0	3.5	48.0	37.1	3.3	0.0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	173.5	180.8	113.5	107.9	174.7	0.0
25.	West Bengal	240.0	177.0	241.7	131.4	81.4	0.0
26.	A & N Islands	0.6	0.2	1.5	0.0	0.2	0.0
27.	Chandigarh	5.4	3.9	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.0
28.	D & N Haveli	0.6	0.2	1.5	0.0	0.2	0.0
29.	Daman & Diu	0.5	0.2	1.5	0.4	0.1	0.0
30.	Delhi	216.0	181.3	60.0	45.2	28.6	0.0
31.	Lakshadweep	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
32.	Pondicherry	2.3	0.1	6.0	1.1	1.3	0.0
Total.		2279.8	2037.0	2879.1	2521.8	1078.0	0.0

(Figures in Thousand Tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Imported Ed. Oil		Kerosene	
		Alloc	Lifting	Alloc	Lifting
1	2	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.1	0.0	146.4	147.4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.1	0.0	2.3	2.4
3.	Assam	0.1	0.0	61.7	61.7
4.	Bihar	0.0	0.0	117.9	117.2
5.	Goa	0.6	0.3	6.8	6.6
6.	Gujarat	2.7	1.0	182.4	183.5
7.	Haryana	0.0	0.2	37.2	37.2
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.5	0.4	9.1	8.7
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.5	0.0	15.2	15.6
10.	Karnataka	0.0	0.0	110.9	111.7
11.	Kerala	4.0	1.6	66.3	65.8

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Imported Ed. Oil		Kerosene	
		Alloc	Lifting	Alloc	Lifting
1	2	9	10	11	12
12.	Machya Pradesh	0.0	0.0	88.5	89.7
13.	Maharashtra	2.0	1.0	366.2	366.2
14.	Manipur	0.2	0.1	5.2	5.0
15.	Meghalaya	0.3	0.0	3.7	3.7
16.	Mizoram	0.3	0.1	1.5	1.5
17.	Nagaland	0.2	0.0	2.5	2.5
18.	Orissa	0.0	0.0	38.9	39.0
19.	Punjab	0.0	0.0	80.8	81.4
20.	Rajasthan	0.0	0.0	63.4	63.1
21.	Sikkim	0.0	0.1	1.9	1.9
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.0	0.0	163.8	163.2
23.	Trpura	0.1	0.0	5.2	5.2

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Imported Ed. Oil		Kerosene	
		Alloc	Lifting	Alloc	Lifting
1	2	9	10	11	12
24	Uttar Pradesh	0.0	0.0	229.3	228.2
25	West Bengal	0.0	0.0	183.4	183.6
26	A & N Islands	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.9
27	Chandigarh	0.0	0.0	5.2	4.8
28	D & N Haveli	0.0	0.3	0.8	0.8
29	Daman & Diu	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.7
30	Delhi	0.6	0.7	56.3	56.1
31	Lakshadweep	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
32	Pondicherry	0.0	0.1	3.6	3.5
Total		14.5	5.9	2059.2	2058.6

Lifting of levy sugar is nearly 100%

No-Source Problem Villages in Gujarat

395 SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the number and particulars of no-source problem villages identified in Gujarat under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission,

(b) the number of problem villages covered during 1991-92 and,

(c) the time by which the remaining villages are likely to be covered under this Mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIUTTAMBHAI H PATEL) (a) The details of the fresh survey to identify the status of water supply in rural habitations are under compilation. Out of the No Source Problem Villages identified in the survey carried out in 1985, 28 No Source Problem villages remained to be covered as on 14 1992

(b) 24 No Source Problem Villages were covered during 1991-92. 3 No Source Problem Villages have been covered so far in 1992-93

(c) The remaining 25 No Source Problem Villages are likely to be covered by March, 1993

Privatisation of Transport Sector

396 SHRI RAMASHARAY PRASAD SINGH Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Planning Commission has asked all the State-run transport Corporations to abandon their fleet expansion plans,

discontinue loss making routes and retrench surplus staff to pave the way for privatisation of the transport sector, and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the State Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) and (b) In accordance with the Objectives enunciated in the 8th Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission have asked the State Governments that while formulating the 1993-94 Annual Plan, they may take action to

(i) Improve efficiency of State Road Transport Undertakings (SRTUs)

(ii) SRTUs should gradually make room for the private sector in this area of passenger transport, except in those cases where the private sector is unlikely to play a significant role, and

(iii) The SRTUs should not, therefore, go in for expansion

The Planning Commission have not asked the state Govts to go in for retrenchment of surplus staff. No reference have been received in the Planning Commission from State Governments in this connection

Economic Liberalisation

397 SHRI SURENDER REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the implementation of economic reforms especially relating to industrial liberalisation and deregulation is tardy as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated August 6, 1992;

- (b) If so, the reasons therefor; and
 (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to accelerate the implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) (i) A Facilitation Cell has been set up in the Ministry of Industry to assist the entrepreneurs, both domestic and foreign.

(ii) A Conference of Industries Ministers of States was held in New Delhi on 16.10.92 to evolve effective mechanism for monitoring implementation of the New Industrial Policy.

[*Translation*]

Apex Posts Lying Vacant in Public Sector Undertakings

398. SHRI RAM BADAN:
 SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE:
 SHRI HARADHAN ROY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of apex posts lying vacant in the public sector undertakings as on date;

(b) the number of such posts likely to be filled up during 1992-93 and the names of the undertakings to which those relate; and

(c) the names of those undertakings in which the apex posts were filled up during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) As per available information as on 1.11.92, there are 28 apex posts of Chief Executives (part-time Chairman/Chairman-cum-Managing Director/Managing Director) vacant in Central Public Sector Undertakings.

(b) On the basis of available information, a list indicating names of Public Sector Undertakings and apex posts likely to be filled up during the period 1.11.92 to 31.3.93 is given in the the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) During the period 1.4.91 to 31.3.92 appointments to 61 apex posts of Chief Executives in Public Sector Undertakings were approved by the Government. A list indicating the names and the posts is given in the enclosed Statement - II.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Designation/Name of PSU</i>
1.	C M D, National Textile Corporation (U.P.) Ltd.
2.	M D, U.P. Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
3.	Chairman-cum-Managing Director

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Designation/Name of PSU</i>
	Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd.
4.	C M D Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corpn.
5.	C M D NTC(APKKM)Ltd
6.	M D Hindustan Newsprint Limited
7.	M D Rajasthan Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd
8.	C M D Gas Authority of India Ltd
9.	C M D North Eastern Regional Agricultural MKTG. Corpn.
10.	M D Orissa Drugs & Chemicals Ltd.
11.	Chairman & Managing Director Madras Fertilizers Ltd.
12.	C M D Bengal Immunity Ltd.
13.	C M D National Jute Manufacturing Corporation
14.	Chairman-Cum-Manager Dir. Projects & Equipment Corporation of India Ltd.
15.	C M D Manipur State Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
16.	C M D Indian Telephone Industries
17.	M D Nagaland Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd.

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Designation/Name of PSU</i>
18.	Chairman-Cum-Managing Dir. National Seeds Corpn. Ltrl.
19.	M D Blecco Lawrie Ltd.
20.	M D Staff Farms Corpn. of India Ltd.
21.	Chairman Oil & Natural Gas Commission
22.	C M D Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd.
23.	CM D Dredging Corpn. of India Limited
24.	M D. Hotel Corporation of India
25.	M D National Fertilizers Ltd.
26.	C M D National Hydro-Electric Power Corpn. Ltd.
27.	M D Bharat Leather Corporation of India Ltd.
28.	C M D Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.
29.	C M D Hindustan Steel Works Ltd.
30.	C M D National Mineral Development Corporation
31.	M D Hindustan Packaging Limited
32.	C M D Madras Refineries Limited

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Designation/Name of PSU</i>
33	C M D Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd
34	C M D Rites Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd
35	M D Tea Trading Corporation of India
36	M D Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd
37	M D Bharat Wagon Engineering Co Ltd
38	M D Paradeep Phosphates Limited
39	C M D Nathpa Jhakri Power Corp Ltd
40	C M D Lubrizol India Ltd

STATEMENT - II

Sl No	Designation	Name of PSU
1	2	3
1	CMD	Western Coalfields Limited
2	CMD	Hindustan Paper Corporation
3	CMD	National Textiles Corporation (Holding Company) Limited
4	CMD	National Textiles Corporation (U P) Limited
5	CMD	National Textiles Corporation (M P) Limited
6	CMD	National Textiles Corporation (WB&O)
7	CMD	Cochin Shipyard Limited
8	CMD	Burn Standard Company Limited
9	CMD	Semi Conductor Complex Limited
10	CMD	National Thermal Power Corporation
11 ^o	MD	Indian Medicine Pharmaceuticals Limited

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Name of PSU</i>
1	2	3
12	C.M.D.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited.
13	M.D.	Paradip Phosphate Limited.
14.	Chairman	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
15.	C.M.D.	National Hydro Electric Power Corporation.
16.	M.D	National Cooperative Development Corporation.
17.	M D	Tungbhadra Steel Products Limited.
18.	C.M.D.	Cochin Refinerites Limited.
19.	C M.D.	Rashtr -a Ispat Nigam Limited.
20.	C.M.D.	Engineers Projects India Limited.
21.	C.M.D.	Maruti Udyog Limid.
22.	C.M.D.	Shipping Corporation of India Limited.
23.	C.M.D.	Metals Scrap Trading Corporation.

Sl. No.	Designation	Name of PSU
1	2	3
24.	C.M.D.	Bharat Electronics Limited.
25.	C.M.D.	National Jute Manufacturing Corporation.
26.	C.M.D.	Bharat Aluminium Company Limited.
27.	C.M.D.	Telecommunication of India Limited.
28.	M.D.	Balmer Lawrie & Co. Limited.
29.	C.M.D.	Hindustan Latex Limited.
30.	C.M.D.	Kudremukh Iron Ore Limited.
31.	M.D.	Bhilai Steel Plant.
32.	C.M.D.	Jute Corporation of India Limited.
33.	C.M.D.	Neyveli Lignite Corporation.
34.	M.D.	Bridge & Roof Company Limited.
35.	C.M.D.	Coal India Limited.
36.	C.M.D.	Engineers India Limited.

Sl. No.	Designation	Name of PSU
1	2	3
37.	C.M.D.	Hindustan Selt Limited.
38.	C.M.D.	Air India.
39.	C.M.D.	Hindustan Cable Limited.
40.	C.M.D.	Hindustan Insecticides Limited.
41.	M.D.	Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceutical Limited.
42.	C.M.D.	Northern Coalfields Limited.
43.	C.M.D.	Eastern Coalfields Limited.
44.	C.M.D.	Vayudoot Limited.
45.	C.M.D.	Central Coalfields Limited.
46.	M.D.	Educational Consultants India Limited.
47.	C.M.D.	Bharat Earth Movers Limited.
48.	C.M.D.	Phyrites Phosphate & Chemicals Limited.
49.	M.D.	Braithwaite & Company Limited.

Sl. No.	Designation	Name of PSU
1	2	3
50.	C.M.D.	Modern Food Industries Limited.
51.	C.M.D.	Hindustan Machines Tools Limited.
52.	C.M.D.	MITCO-Mica Trading Corpn.
53.	C.M.D.	Hindustan Fertilizers Limited.
54.	C.M.D.	Bongaigoen Refinery & Petro-Chemicals Limited.
55.	C.M.D.	Tannery & Footwear Corporation Limited.
56.	C.M.D.	Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited.
57.	M.D.	UP, Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited.
58.	C.M.D.	Housing Urban Development Corporation.
59.	C.M.D.	Electronics Corporation of India Limited.
60.	M.D.	Hindustan Fluorocarbons Limited.
61.	C.M.D.	Manganese Ore India Limited.

[English]

Tools to Rural Artisans

399. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL
KATHERIA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H.
TOPIWALA:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched a Scheme in some districts of the country for providing modern tools to all traditional rural artisans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend the scheme to other districts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, and

(e) the amount allocated and the number of persons likely to be benefited under the scheme during the current year, State-Wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT)(SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This programme is a part of IRDP and its objectives are to enhance the quality of the product, increase the production and the income of traditional rural artisans by the use of modern hand tools in their crafts. This will also reduce drudgery in the work. This will reduce the migration of rural artisan to

the urban areas. Average cost of each tools is estimated to be Rs. 2000/- of which 90% would be Central Government share and 10% would be contribution by the artisan

(c) and (d). 57 districts in the country are being covered in the first phase during 1992-93. It is, however, proposed to cover 50 districts in the second phase during 1993-94. Gradually the scheme will be extended to the remaining districts.

(e) A sum of Rs. 18.00 crores has been allocated for this programme as a whole and the number of beneficiaries to be covered are one lakh during 1992-93 under the scheme.

Extradition of Former Chairman of Union Carbide

400. PROF. MALINI BHAT-TACHARYA:
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to seek the extradition of the former Chairman and other Officials of the Union Carbide (India) Limited in connection with the trial on Bhopal Gas Tragedy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) to (c). The matter is under examination.

Visit of Leaders From Abroad

401. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether a number of leaders/delegations from foreign countries visited India during the last three months; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof, visit-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

Tea Auctions in Calcutta, Siliguri, Guwahati and Cochin

402. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Russian buyers pulled out of the recent tea auctions in Calcutta, Siliguri, Guwahati and Cochin;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) its overall impact on the tea industry and tea exports in the international market; and

(d) the steps contemplated by the Government to avoid slump in the tea industry in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-MANKHURSHED): (a) During the current Russian year buyers have not been actively participating at tea auctions centres in India to the extent they used to participate in the past.

(b) Reasons are primarily attributable to disintegration of the erstwhile USSR, change in terms of payment from rupee to convertible currency in protocols signed between India and some of the CIS coun-

tries, foreign exchange problems being faced by some of the CIS countries etc.

(c) As a result of reduced purchase by Russian Federation and other CIS countries, there has been decline in exports of tea from India during the current year.

(d) Government has been encouraging diversification of Tea exports by sponsoring industry delegations to various countries. Trade protocols have also been entered into with some of the CIS countries including Russia. Other countries are being persuaded to buy higher quantities of Indian tea indicating them the price competitiveness and quality of our tea.

[*Translation*]

N.D.C. Committee on Medical Education

403. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up any Committee of National Development Council on medical education;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has presented its report;

(c) if so, the details of the main recommendations in the report; and

(d) the Action proposed to be taken by the Government on in respect of these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTERS OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) No, Sir.

[*Translation*]

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

[*English*]

**Development of Electronic Sound
System Industry**

404. DR. R. MALLU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any lack of innovation and development in electronic sound system industry; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to ensure future growth of this industry and scope for exports of electronic sound systems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). No, Sir. As a result of liberal industrial and trade policy, this industry is witnessing growth both in domestic and export markets. Standard value based input-output norms under Duty Exemption Scheme have been revised to help boost its export. Under the Industrial Licensing Policy, the units are eligible for automatic approval of technical foreign collaborations, which may help industry in incorporating latest technology.

Production of Urea

405. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated a scheme for raising the production of Urea in view of its increasing demand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the position of its demand and supply as on October 31, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). In view of the increasing demand of urea, Government have initiated steps to increase its production. Three new ammonia-urea gas based plants one each at Babrala (U.P.), Shahjahanpur (U.P.), and Gadepan (Rajasthan), are currently under implementation in the private sector and for them gas allocation has already been made. In addition, gas allocation for expansion of IFFCO's ammonia-urea plant at Aonla (U.P.) expansion of NFL's ammonia-urea plant at Vijaipur (M.P) and one medium sized ammonia-urea plant in Krishna -Godavari Basin (A.P.) has also been indicated.

Creation of further urea capacity will largely depend upon the availability of natural gas and other petroleum feedstock.

(c) The position of urea demand and supply as on October 31, 1992 was as follows:

(lakh tonnes)

<i>ECA allocation during 1992-93(1 10 92 to 31 3 1993)</i>	<i>Availability as on 31 10 1992</i>	<i>Sales upto 31 10.1992</i>
88 01	23 55	9 00

**Development Works in Public Sector
Undertakings of Maharashtra**

406 SHRIVILASRÃO NAGNATHRAO
GUNDEWAR Will the PRIME MINISTER
be pleased to state

(a) the details of the main developmen-
tal works undertaken during the last two
years in various public sector undertakings
in Maharashtra,

(b) whether there is any proposal to set
up any new public sector undertakings in
Maharashtra during the Eighth Five Year
Plan,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT
OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPART-
MENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI
P K THUNGON) (a) Enterprise, specific
development works are being undertaken by
different public enterpsnes from time to time
The capital expenditure incurred on expan-
sion, development and replacement during
last two years in each of the Central PSEs
having its registered Office in the State of
Maharashtra is given in the statement en-
closed

(b) to (d) Setting up of new Projects or
expansion of existing projects in the central
public sector are decided keeping into con-
sideration the techno-economic feasibility of
the projects and availability of the sources
together with the balanced regional develop-
ment of the country

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the PSE	(Rs. in lakhs)			
		1990-91	1989-90		
1	2	3	4		
1.	Air India	11307	9623		
2.	Air India Charters Ltd.	2	1		
3.	Bharat Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.	19881	20217		
4.	Cotton Corpn. of India Ltd.	14	66		
5.	Export Credit Guarantee Corpn. of India Ltd.	3878	57		
6.	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	2078	574		
7.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.	1702	1576		
8.	Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.	21448	18229		
9.	Hotel Corpn. of India Ltd.	225	121		
10.	Indian Oil Blending Ltd.	361	684		
11.	Indian Oil Corpn. Ltd.	59886	46404		
12.	Indian Rare Earths Ltd.	1146	958		

Sl No	Name of the PSE	1990-91	1989-90
1	2	3	4
13	Indo Hokke Hotels Ltd	1	0
14	Lubrizol India Ltd	1526	905
15	Maharashtra Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd	0	8
16	Maharashtra Elektrosmeit Ltd	102	111
17	Manganese Ore (India) Ltd	643	442
18	Mazagon Dock Ltd	411	676
19	Mineral Exploration Corpn Ltd	1017	,909
20	National Bicycle Corpn of India Ltd	-2	2
21	National Film Dev Corpn Ltd	23	31
22	NTC (Maharashtra North) Ltd	16	-15
23	NTC (South Maharashtra) Ltd	0	18
24	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd	4307	4751

Sl. No.	Name of the PSE	1990-91	1989-90
1	2	3	4
25.	o Richardson & Curddas (1972) Ltd.	268	261
26.	Shipping Corpn. of India Ltd.	22501	13753
27.	Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	5124	3440
28.	Wester Coalfields Ltd.	15366	14870

[English]

Captive Power Plants of Sindri Fertilizer Unit

407. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the captive Power Plant of the Sindri Unit of the Fertilizer Corporation of India is in urgent need of revamping to meet the power requirement of the unit;

(b) whether all the revamping schemes for the captive Power Plant at Sindri has been kept in abeyance for fund constraints; and

(c) if so, the time by which the funds for revamping are proposed to be released to the Sindri unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). The Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) is carrying out revamping of their Sindri unit at an estimated cost of Rs. 16.23 crores, which includes a provision of Rs. 10.078 crores for revamping of their captive power plant. So far the company has spent Rs. 3.30 crores on the scheme and further work is held up for want of funds.

No time frame can be indicated at this stage regarding the release of funds in view of the overall fund constraints.

Multinationals in Consumer Products

408. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of multi national companies earning profits in consumer oriented products;

(b) whether Indian companies engaged in consumer products have failed to create their own markets or promote their sales as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to encourage Indian companies engaged in this field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) A large number of Indian companies with foreign equity participation are engaged in consumer products and are operating successfully in the Indian market.

(b) No, Sir. A number of India companies without foreign equity participation are operating successfully and profitably in Indian market.

(c) Does not arise.

Industrial Growth Centres by Private Sector

409. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
SHRI HARADHAN ROAY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to hand over the development of industrial growth centres in backward areas to the Private Sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). The Central Government has made a sugges-

tion to the State Governments to explore the possibility of involving the private sector in the establishment of growth centres. This suggestion has been made in view of the overall resources constraint. It would also enable the growth centres to raise resources from the market more easily.

NAM Summit, Jakarta

410. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the issues raised and the consensus reached/decisions arrived at the recent Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia;

(b) the role played and the achievements made by India at the Summit;

(c) the follow-up action taken/ to be taken by the Government on the decisions arrived at the Summit;

(d) whether the issue of recent happenings in Bosnia Herzegovina was raised during the summit; and

(e) if so, the decision taken on the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) A wide range of issues of particular interest to developing countries were discussed at the recent Non-Aligned Summit in Jakarta. These included disarmament, development, decolonisation, human rights, environment, international terrorism, restructuring and revitalisation of the UN, conflict situations and other issues. The Summit took a series of decisions on these while reaffirming the continuing rele-

vance of the Movement, defining its future role and prioritising its concerns. These are reflected in the Jakarta Communique and Jakarta Declaration.

(b) India played an important role in deliberations and helped forge a consensus on several important issues including continued relevance of NAM and also its future agenda.

(c) Follow-up action on the decisions arrived at the Summit is being coordinated by the Non-Aligned Coordinating Bureau based in New York, of which India is a member.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) After considerable debate the Summit adopted a paragraph on Bosnia Herzegovina calling for an end to the "aggression" as also an end to atrocities, in particular "ethnic cleansing". Support was also extended to the UN and EC peace initiatives.

Losses by Engineering Projects Limited

411. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. has been incurring continuous losses since 1988-89;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry to assess the reasons of these continuous losses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT

OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) (a) and (b) EPI has been making operating profit (before interest & depreciation) since 1984-85. However, it has been incurring not losses after interest and depreciation. The reasons for losses is incidence of heavy interest on Government loans and loans taken from banks in earlier years.

(c) and (d) One-man Committee headed by Shri B. Swaminathan was appointed to conduct the inquiry into losses incurred by EPI. The Committee's report has since been received which is under examination.

Industrial Projects for Uttar Pradesh

412 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) the details of the industrial projects for Uttar Pradesh approved by the Union Government during 1991 and 1992 till date,

(b) whether any of these projects so approved has been reviewed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) The details of the Central Sector Industrial Projects for Uttar Pradesh approved by the Union Government during 1991 & 1992 till date are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

STATEMENT

Details of Major Central Projects approved in Uttar Pradesh during 1991 & 1992

Sl. No.	Project	Capacity			Estimated Cost	Remarks
		1	2	3		
1.	Petro-Chemical under Min. of Petroleum & Natural Gas (Propylene Recovery Unit of Indian Oil Corporation at Mathura Refinery)			24 thousand TPA	Rs. 47.53 crores	
2.	Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Ltd. (Bulandshahr)			100 million doses of oral polio vaccine per annum	Rs. 37.70 crores	
3.	Up Petrochemical Complex of M/s. Gas Authority of India Ltd. (Pata, Auraiya)			LLDPE 1.6 lakh TPA, HDPE 1 lakh TPA, Styrene 80TH TPA, Polystyrene 40 TPA.	Rs. 2941.48 crores	
4.	Expansion of Fertiliser Plant of IFFCO, Aonla			7.26 lakh tonnes of Urea	Rs. 1146.00 crores	1 stage clearance (preparation of detailed project report)

*[English]***Safety Measures in Chemical Plants**

413 SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR (DEEPA)
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce modern safety measures in chemical plants in view of the recent ammonia gas leakage at N F L Plant at Panipat, and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR CHINTA MOHAN) (a) and (b) Safety measures in chemical plants are governed by the provisions of the Factories Act, the Environment Protection Act and other related laws there is no proposal to further enhance the existing safety requirements

*[Translation]***Unauthorised Factories in East Delhi**

414 SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA
MUNDA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether some Unauthorised factories using fake ISI trade mark are being run in the East Delhi,

(b) if so the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government propose to take any step to check this, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (PROF P J KURIEN) (a) According to Delhi Administration and the Bureau of India Standards, no such case has been brought to their notice.

(b) to (d) Does not arise

Employment Opportunities in Bihar

415 SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the names of ongoing schemes for providing employment in rural areas of Bihar,

(b) the amount allocated to Bihar for this purpose during the last three years, and

(c) the targets fixed and achieved during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY) (a) Two major poverty alleviation programmes of Government of India viz, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) are being implemented in all the States/Union Territories including Bihar for providing employment opportunities in the rural areas

(b) and (c) The performance under IRDP is monitored in terms of families assisted whereas under JRY it is monitored in terms of mandays of employment generated. The funds allocated, the target fixed and achieved under IRDP and JRY in respect of Bihar during the last three years is as under -

Year	JRY			IRDP			Achievement
	Fund allocated including State share (Rs. in lakh)	Employment generation target (lakh mandays)	Achievement	Funds allocated including State Share	Physical target (No. of families assisted)	Achievement	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1989-90	38711.91	944.19	907.31	11025.89	429239	449033	
1990-91	38466.78	1125.86	1130.05	11025.89	350469	415814	
1991-92	38466.78	893.77	836.73	10361.80	33157	336972	

**Priority in Power and Irrigation Sectors
In Annual Plans of States**

416. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has asked all the States to continue giving priority in the power and irrigation sectors in their annual plans for 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. While formulating their Annual Plans for 1993-94 the States were advised to accord, among others, priority to strengthening of infrastructure facilities i.e. energy, transport, communication and irrigation in order to support the process of growth in a sustainable manner. Concern was also expressed on inadequate funding in the past of projects, particularly, in irrigation and power. The States were requested to exercise restraint and care in starting new projects so long as sufficient funds were not available for projects already in hand. A request was made to fund on going projects fully.

**Checking the Mushroom Growth of
Computer Institutions**

417. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the news item regarding computer courses appearing in

the 'Financial Express', New Delhi dated the September 15 1992;

(b) if so, the facts in his regard and reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the growth of such computer institutions all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. In order to check the mushrooming of such computer training institutions, the Government of India, Department of Electronics vide Resolution dated August 16, 1990 have announced a scheme under which private sector training institutes meeting the defined quality and service standards are given accreditation for conducting specified level of computer courses: 'O' (Foundation), 'A' (Advanced Diploma), 'B' (graduate) and 'C' (Post Graduate). The scheme is implemented through two professional bodies-Computer Society of India (CSI) and Institution of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineers (IETE). These professional bodies conduct examinations for various level of courses and the successful candidates are awarded certificates/diplomas.

[Translation]

Eradication of Poverty in Rural Areas

418. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target in regard to eradicate poverty of the rural area has not been achieved;

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

(c) the target fixed during the Seventh and Sixth Five Year Plans and the progress made in this regard; and

(d) the outlines drawn for eradication of poverty during the Eighth Five Year Plan in the rural areas and the target fixed therefor, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIUTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) to (c). The target in regard to eradication of poverty under the major rural development programmes viz. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) have been nearly achieved.

The details of targets fixed during the Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plans and also in 90-91 and 91-92 and the progress made in this regard, pertaining to IRDP and JRY are shown below:

Sl. No.	Plans/ Year	IRDPA (No. of families in lakhs)			JRY (Million Mandays)		
		Targets	Achievement	% Achievement	Target	Achievement	% Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	VI Plan	151.02	165.62	110	2093.88	2037.99	97.3
2.	VII Plan	160.38 ^o	181.77	113	3056.06	3496.31 ^p	114.4
3.	1990-91	23.71	28.98	122	929.10	874.56	94.1
4.	1991-92	22.52	25.37	113	735.44	808.10	109.9

(d) During VIIIth Plan 180 Lakh Families are proposed to be assisted under IRDP and the target fixed for 1992-93 is 18.75 lakh families. The State wise target fixed for 1992-93 is given in the enclosed statement. The statewise target for VIIIth Plan has not yet been finalised.

As regards JRY Statewise targets for 1992-93 and VIII Plan period have not yet been finalised. However, at national level, during VIII Plan it is proposed to generate about 1000 million mandays of employment per year.

STATEMENT
Allocation and Physical Targets under IRDF - 1992-93

Sl No	State/UT	(Provisional)			Total Allocation	Physical Targets (Nos)
		Central Share	State Share	(Rs in lakhs)		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	Andhra Pradesh	2440 00	2440 00	4880 00	138079	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	208 00	208 00	416 00	12519	
3	Assam	666 00	666 00	1332 00	37711	
4	Bihar	4889 00	4889 00	9778 00	276337	
5	Goa	43 00	43 00	86 00	2608	
6	Gujarat	1005 00	1005 00	2010 00	56861	
7	Haryana	240 00	240 00	480 00	13606	
8	Himachal Pradesh	86 00	86 00	172 00	4871	
9	Jammu & Kashmir	120 00	120 00	240 00	6803	
10	Karnataka	1527 00	1527 00	3054 00	86425	

Sl. No.	State/UT	Central Share	State Share	Total Allocation	Physical Targets (Nos.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Kerala	830.00	830.00	1660.00	46950
12	Madhya Pradesh	3236.00	3236.00	6472.00	183097
13.	Maharashtra	2614.00	2614.00	5228.00	147906
14.	Manipur	19.00	19.00	28.00	1092
15.	Mwghalaya	58.00	58.00	116.00	3275
16.	Mizoram	87.00	87.00	174.00	5216
17.	Nagaland	91.00	91.00	182.00	5477
18.	Orissa	1500.00	1599.00	3198.00	90457
19	Punjab	203.00	203.00	406.00	11507
20	Rajasthan	1559.00	1559.00	3118.00	88189
21.	Sikkim	17.00	17.00	34.00	1043
22.	Tamil Nadu	2191.00	2191.00	4382.00	123969

Sl. No.	State/UT	Share			Total Allocation	Physical Targets (Nos.)
		Central Share	State Share	State Share		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
23.	Tripura	68.00	68.00	136.00	3863	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6531.00	6531.00	13062.00	369554	
25.	West Bengal	2730.00	2730.00	5460.00	154457	
26.	A & N Islands	43.00	-	43.00	1304	
27.	D & N Haveli	9.00	-	9.00	261	
28.	Daman & Diu	17.00	-	17.00	522	
29.	Lakshadweep	4.00	-	4.00	133	
30.	Pondicherry	35.00	-	35.00	1043	
	All India	33165.00	33057.00	66222.00	1875135	

[English]

Amount of Compensation to Bhopal Gas Victims

419 SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the exact amount of compensation to the gas victims of Bhopal Tragedy decided by the Supreme Court, and

(b) the amount so far paid by the Government to these victims upto October, 1992 and the number of the beneficiaries involved in this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR CHINTA MOHAN) (a) In its Order of 14/15 2 1989 the Supreme Court directed Union Carbide Corporation (UCC) and Union Carbide India Limited (UCL) to pay compensation of US \$ 470 million

(b) A total of 514 cases have been decided by the Welfare Commissioner According to the procedure devised by the Welfare Commissioner, a period of 60 days is to elapse before disbursement is made The amount of compensation awarded is Rs 2 18 crores

Pak's Raising Kashmir Issue at the UN General Assembly

420 SHRISHRAVANKUMARPATEL Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) Whether Pakistan raised Kashmir issue at the 47th Session of the General Assembly held in September, 1992 and

(b) if so the details thereof and the response of Indian delegate thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) In his statement at the 47th UNGA 22 September 1992, the Leader of the Pakistani delegation made a number of references and allegations against India in the context of the situation in Jammu and Kashmir The Indian representative effectively countered all the allegations made and also highlighted Pakistan's open interference in India's internal affairs and support for terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir

Upgradation of Cement Units

421 KUMARI PUSHPADEVISINGH SHRIDHARMABHIKSHAM

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to upgrade some cement units in the country,

(b) if so, the cement units identified for the purpose,

(c) the funds earmarked for the expansion of those units

(d) whether the Government have sought World Bank assistance for the purpose and

(e) if so, the amount expected to be obtained from the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MATI KRISHNA SAHI) (a) to (e) Government have been providing all support to the cement industry for modernisation activities like conversion of wet process plants to semi dry/dry plants with or without precalcinators, energy conservation, pollution control, etc World Bank has already extended two lines of credit of US Dollar 200 million

and 300 million, respectively, for restructuring and modernisation of the cement industry. Under the former, ACC, Birla Jute, KCP, India Cements, Hira Cements, Kalyanpur Cements and Century Cements have been benefited. Under the second line of credit of US \$ 300 million, loans have been extended to TISCO, ACC, Century Cements, Gujarat Ambuja Cements and Lakshmi Cements.

OIC's Communique on Kashmir

422. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item regarding reference to Kashmir in the recent communique issued by the Coordination Meeting of Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated September 29, 1992;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to take up the matter with the OIC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An official statement on September 29, 1992 described the stand taken by the OIC as 'one sided', unacceptable, prejudiced and irrelevant and

(c) and (d) The views of the Govern-

ment of India have been made clear to all participants in the meeting and the OIC secretariat.

[*Translation*]

Special Import Licence Scheme

423. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA:
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for obtaining licence under the special import licence scheme;

(b) the names of consumer goods which are likely to be allowed to be exported; and

(c) the category of businessmen/ traders likely to be benefitted from the above scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) to (c). The detailed scheme for issue of Special Import Licences has been notified vide Public Notice No. 64/ (PN)/92-97 dated the 21st October, 1992, a copy of which is available in the Parliament Library.

[*English*]

Fertilizer Policy

424. SHRI. K. PRADHANI:
KUMARI FIRIDA TOPNO:
SHRI N.J. RATHVA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to adopt a new policy on fertilize;

(b) if so, the time by which it is going to be announced;

(c) whether the fertilizer industry is proposed to be given autonomy; and

(d) the other changes proposed to be made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d). As regards autonomy for the fertilizer industry, the industry already stands de-licensed and the obligations from the industry relate primarily to maintenance of quality and observance of environmental standards. As regards prices, phosphatic and potassic fertilizers have already been de-controlled, whereas nitrogenous fertilizers continue to remain under price and movement control. No other policy changes are currently under consideration of the Government.

Distribution of Land

425. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain the percentage of the distributed land reverted to the original owners State-wise;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the reasons contributing to such incidents; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). Central Government have not undertaken any survey to ascertain the percentage of re-distributed land reverted to the original owners in the country. However, an empirical study conducted by Lai Bhadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussorie has revealed that on an average 90.3% of allotted land continues to be in possession of the allottees in the country. The findings of the study, Statewise are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The main reasons contributing to such incidents as revealed in the above mentioned study are; forcible eviction of the allottee by original owner, the allotted land got involved in litigation, allottees sold the land as they had no means to cultivate it, allotted land was never taken physical possession of being unfit for cultivation and allottees sold the land due to migration or residing in another village.

(d) The States/UTs have been advised through the conferences of Chief Ministers' and Revenue Ministers' held from time to time to undertake spot verification whether the surplus land allotted to the beneficiary is still under his possession. If the allottees have been dispossessed, necessary action to restore the possession be taken immediately and action against those found indulging in dispossession of the allottee be also taken

STATEMENT*Statement regarding percentage of distributed land in actual possession**

<i>State / U.T.</i>	<i>Percentage of Persons with whom Physical Possession Continues</i>
1. Andhra Pradesh	87.64
2. Assam	61.44
3. Bihar	95.21
4. Gujarat	95.89
5. Haryana	69.23
6. Himachal Pradesh	@
7. Jammu & Kashmir	100.00
8. Karnataks	98.35
9. Kerala	99.83
10. Madhya Pradesh	92.68
11. Maharashtra	96.24
12. Manipur	@
13. Orissa	96.97
14. Punjab	62.50
15. Rajasthan	32.79
16. Tamil Nadu	87.79
17. Tripura	83.78
18. Uttar Pradesh	95.33
19. West Bengal	96.82
20. Dara & Naga Havell	@

<i>State / U.T.</i>	<i>Percentage of Persons with whom Physical Possession Continues</i>
21. Delhi	@ /
22. Pondicherry	@
Total	90.30

Programme for Utilisation of Ocean Resources

426. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the programme carried out during the Seventh Plan period to exploit and utilise the ocean resources and the results achieved, thereof;

(b) the Seventh Plan outlay for exploiting the ocean resources and the actual amount spent thereon;

(c) the ocean resources/minerals identified for exploitation, and

(d) the programme, if any, formulated to exploit the ocean resources during the Eighth Plan

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The Seventh Five Year Plan Programmes of the Department of Ocean Development included survey and assessment of the living and non-living resources of the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal and the Central Indian Ocean, assessment of wave energy potential, marine chemicals, drugs from the sea.

(b) An expenditure of Rs. 20.51 crores against an allocation of Rs. 39 crores under Plan and Rs. 26.20 crores under Non-Plan against an allocation of Rs. 32.11 crores was incurred during the Seventh Plan period.

(c) As a result of survey placer deposits on West Coast (Kerala and Maharashtra) and East Coast (Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa) and polymetallic nodule deposits in the Central Indian Ocean have been identified. Polymetallic nodules contain, besides manganese, iron, nickel, copper and cobalt.

(d) During the Eighth Five Year Plan it is proposed to intensify survey and exploration, run the pilot plants for extractive metallurgy of polymetallic nodules and carry out research and development for test mining. Two more wave energy plants at Thangasery in Kerala and Mus Point in Car Nicobar Islands are proposed to be established. Development of technological aids for harnessing coastal ocean resources are also envisaged.

Special Fund From Sale of Equity

427. SHRIRAMCHANDRAGANGARE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) has urged the Union Government to create a special fund

from the money raised through sale of equity of public sector undertakings,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) to (c) The Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) has suggested in one of their Board meeting held on 19 8 1991 that the funds generated by disinvestment of public sector undertakings equity should be used specifically for revamping upgradation and modernisation of Public sector undertakings and should not be used to cover the budgetary deficits. Government have noted the suggestions of the SCOPE. As per the announcement made by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for 1992-93 Rs 1,000/- crores raised by way of further sale of shares of Public Sector Undertakings during 1992-93 are proposed to be contributed towards National Renewal Fund which will be used for retraining redeployment, rehabilitation, etc of the affected workers as a result of modernisation and rationalisation.

[Translation]

Implementation of Million Wells Schemes

428 SHRI SANTHOSH KUMAR GANGWAR Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the million wells scheme is being implemented by the State Government as per directions issued by the Union Government

(b) if so, the details of the directions,

(c) whether the Union Government propose to review the directions, and

(d) if so, the action taken/being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY) (a) and (b) Yes Sir, The States/UTs are to implement the Million Wells Scheme (MWS) as per guidelines laid down in Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) Manual. Details of guidelines prescribed in the (JRY) Manual for the implementation of MWS is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has now taken up Concurrent Evaluation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana through independent institutions/organisations to assess its impact in the rural areas in relation to the stated objectives of the programme. In the Concurrent Evaluation, which has already been launched the impact of the programme on the type of assets created including that of wells under MWS its usefulness to the society in general and to the poorer sections of the community, in particular, and the contribution of the JRY to the welfare of the families below the poverty line are the main points for the evaluation.

The Government will restructure the programme if the results of the Concurrent Evaluation warrant it.

STATEMENT

Million Wells Scheme (MWGS)

- 1 The Million Wells Scheme launched with the objective of providing open irrigation wells free of cost to poor, small and marginal farmers belonging to SCs/ STs and freed bonded labourers from the year 1988-89,

- will be continued from out of the 20 per cent resources earmarked for MWS. The State Governments will allocate MWS resources to the districts with reference to the un-irrigated land with potential for well irrigation held by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The allocation is intended for open wells only and tube wells and bore wells are not to be taken up under this provision. Where wells are not feasible due to geological factors, the amounts allotted under Million Wells Schemes may be utilised for other schemes of minor irrigation like irrigation tank, water harvesting structures and also for the development of lands of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourers including ceiling surplus land and hoodan lands etc. allotted to them. The amount cannot be diverted for any other schemes nor for categories other than Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourers.
2. Where due to geophysical reasons, after digging an open well up to some depth, blasting is required to be undertaken because of the hard layer of stones or rock, and thereafter a small bore is required to be drilled to obtain sufficient quantity of water for irrigation purposes, the entire operation may be funded from the scheme provided the out flow from the MWS funds is such that the wage to material ration of 60:40 is maintained. There is no objection to supplementary material costs being met from any other public/private source.
3. Where in a particular financial year, the amount can be spent under Million Wells Scheme only to the extent of, say, 60% of the allocation, the State Govt./UT Administration should take up a larger programme so that 100% utilisation of allocation of funds in that particular year is possible and the incomplete works are completed during the next financial year within a total period of 12 months from the start of each individual work.
- 3.1 Cost-area norms for works
- 3.2 The cost/area norms in regard to works under MWS will be decided upon by a Committee comprising of Chief Secretary, Secretary (Rural Development), Secretary (Planning), Secretary (Irrigation) and Chief Engineer, Minor Irrigation, of the State.
4. Registration of wells/Irrigation Source
- 4.1 Each well/irrigation source constructed under the scheme will be located in the holding of the beneficiaries and an entry to that effect will be made into the revenue records.
5. Category not Eligible for Assistance under Million Wells Scheme
- 5.1 The beneficiaries who have already been assisted under IRDP for minor irrigation should not be given assistance under this programme. There is, however, no bar in providing assistance to those IRDP beneficiaries who were not assisted for minor irrigation.
6. Implementing Agency
- 6.1 The beneficiaries themselves will be asked to undertake the con-

struction of their wells through their own labour and the local labour for which they will be paid. In no case, the work will be entrusted to a contractor by the project authorities.

7. Provision Regarding Failed Wells

7.1 Definition of failed well

The norms for determining failure of different types of groundwater structures including well failure on account of bad quality waters and the quantum of assistance for failed wells shall be as indicated hereunder:

Failure due to poor yield:-

(a) If a dugwell constructed for a minimum diameter of 2 mts. and a minimum depth of 10 mts. has a yield of less than 2 litres per second for continuous working duration of at least 2 hours per 24 hours in "Rabbi" (to ensure proper recuperation over 24 hours period), it may be considered to be a completely failed well.

Failure of wells due to bad quality of water:-

(b) A well may be considered to be a completely failed well due to bad quality water when the quality of water is such that all or anyone of the three parameters viz electrical conductivity, residual sodium carbonate or boron is of a high value than indicated below

Sl No	Soil Texture	Electric. Conductivity (micro mho cm)	Residual sodium carbonate (ppm)	Boron (ppm)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Clay	2,000	5	2
2	Clay Laom	3,000	5	2
3	Laom	4,000	5	2
4	Sandy Laom	6,000	5	2
5	Sandy	8,000	5	2

Structural Failure of Wells

(c) A dugwell may be considered to have failed due to structural failure if during excavation any unidentified sub-surface strata caves in to cause collapse of side wells to such an extent that re-excavation would be necessary for successful completion of the well or where a sheet rock or basement rock is met with, which would make further digging futile due to non-availability of aquifer down below.

Certifying Agency:-

- 7.2 Each State Govt. will constitute a team of officials for each area in its jurisdiction on a district or block basis to be designated as Certifying Agency for the purpose of certifying failure of wells. Each such team would consist of at least one technical person viz. Hydrogeologist or Agricultural Engineer, another government official from the Block Development Office or Department of Agriculture or any other Department connected with Minor Irrigation Programme.

Satisfaction of the DRDA regarding failure of wells and quantum of assistance:-

- 7.2 If the DRDA comes to the conclusion that a well has failed, it will secure a certificate to that effect from the Certifying Agency defined in clause (ii) above. If the failure of a well is established by the Certifying Agency on the basis of norms indicated above, compensation shall be provided to the extent of 100 percent of the expenditure actually incurred by the farmer towards digging of well.

8. Provision for Lifting Device.

8.1 The list of the beneficiaries shall be passed on to the Project Director of the DRDA so that those intending to install a lifting device may be given preference under the IRD Programme.

9. Provision for Land Development

9.1 Provisions contained in paras 19.5 to 19.9 (supra) regarding land development will be applicable under the Million Wells Scheme too.

10. Monitoring and Supervision

10.1 The Collector along with the Project Director of the DRDA shall be in charge of the monitoring and supervision of the programme in the district. They shall also be responsible for maintenance of accounts and taking such steps which are necessary for speedy implementation of the project. The State level monitoring will be the responsibility of the Project Approval Board of the State. The State Secretary of the Rural Development Department will perform the nodal functions of the scheme.

[English]

Raising of Kashmir Issue by Pakistan at NAM Summit

429. SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDA
PATEL:
SHRI SHANKER SINH
VAGHELA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan raised Kashmir issue during the recent Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit in Indonesia;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to counter such moves by Pakistan at various international fora?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian delegation exercised the right of reply and stressed that Kashmir is and shall forever remain an integral and inseparable part of India. The Simla Agreement provided the frame work from any related issues which Pakistan may wish to discuss with India. The Indian delegation also pointed out that Pakistan had violated the traditions of NAM in raising bilateral issue in a forum where traditionally only issues which unite the Movement were discussed.

(c) The Government of India has and will continue to take all steps to rebuff any move by Pakistan to raise the Kashmir issue at any international fora.

Incentives to Small Scale Sector

430. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the special provisions made by the Government for augmenting the production in small scale sector;

(b) whether any special benefits like exemption in taxes, interest, subsidy on finances and marketing facilities are provided in respect of small scale industries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). For augmenting the production in the small scale industrial sector, Government have already announced a number of incentives and concessions such as exemption in excise duty, concessional rate of interest on loans upto. Rs. 2 lacs, marketing facility of their products through NSIC and SSIDCs, reservation of items for exclusive manufacture, reservation of items for purchase, price preference in purchase from the small scale sector, etc.

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Anti-Dumping Legislation

431. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce anti dumping legislation by the overseas manufacturers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) and (b). The Indian Customs Traffic Act, 1975 was amended in October, 1982 to enable Government to take measures against dumped imports by levying anti-dumping duties. The Act empowers the Government to impose anti-dumping duties in these cases in which dumped imports are found to be causing material injury to the domestic industry. Before such a duty can be imposed, an authority designated by Government has to make a finding on the existence of dumping and injury. The designated authority shall normally initiate an investigation only upon

receipt of a written request by or on behalf of the affected domestic industry.

Government has notified the designated authority before whom the application has to be filed and has put in place detailed procedures to enable the domestic industry to lodge complaints against dumped imports.

[*Translation*]

Export of Hardware

432. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Information Technology Industry have sent any scheme for the consideration of the Government to encourage the export of hardware;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to encourage the hardware industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) to (d). Government has been receiving suggestions from the Information Technology Industries from time to time on various issues and the suggestions are receiving due consideration. However, there has been no scheme, as such, given by the Indian Information Technology Industry to encourage export of hardware in the recent past.

The principal recent measure taken by the Government to encourage the hardware industry has been the introduction of a comprehensive scheme of Electronic Hard-

ware Technology Parks (EHIP) to encourage the electronic hardware industry including Computer Hardware Industry. The scheme is patterned on the lines applicable to Export Processing Zones or 100% Export Oriented Units. No value addition requirement has been stipulated in the EHTP scheme and higher sale in Domestic Traffic Area is allowed on higher value addition.

[*English*]

Assignments to Retired Judges

433. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of retired Judges of High Courts and Supreme Court who have been given assignments in Commissions and Tribunals or any other place by the Central Governments or the State Government;

(b) whether the Government propose to prohibit such appointments;

(c) whether the Law Commission has also recommended for prohibiting re-appointment of Judges; and

(d) the number of Judges of Schedules Caste and Scheduled Tribes functioning in different States and Supreme Court of India at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ):

(a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) According to the information received from the Registries of High Courts, there were thirteen Judges of Scheduled

Caste and seven Judges of Scheduled Tribe in the High Courts as on 27th July, 1992. There is one Judge of Scheduled Caste in Supreme Court of India.

Million Wells Scheme in Orissa

434. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
KUMARI FIRIDA TOPNO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any evaluation on the implementation of 'million wells scheme' in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated to the Government of Orissa during 1992-93; and

(d) the target fixed and achieved for the digging of wells during 1992-93 and the number of wells dug so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) For the year 1992-93 an amount of Rs. 2554.35 lakhs have been allocated for implementation of Million Wells Scheme (MWS) in Orissa.

(d) Under MWS, no physical targets are fixed as MWS is a package of programmes where in schemes of minor irrigation like irrigation tanks, water harvesting structures and development of lands of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourers are also permitted, if wells are not feasible due to geological factors. 15574 wells are reported to have

been constructed so far in the State during 1992-93.

Gobar Gas Plants

435. SHRI GOPINATHGAJAPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Gobar Gas Plants installed in Orissa during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have laid emphasis on the installation of Gobar Gas Plants during Eighth Plan;

(c) if so, the target set by the Government for Orissa during the current plan period; and

(d) the details of assistance being given by the Union Government for the installation of Gobar Gas Plants in various States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) A total of over 38,590 family type biogas plants (gobar gas plants) and six community and institutional biogas plants have been set up in the State of Orissa during the last three years, i.e. 1989-90 to 1991-92 under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely National Project for Biogas Development and Community, Institutional and Night-Soil Based Biogas Plants Programme, respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Targets for setting up of biogas plants are being fixed for different States and Union Territories including the State of Orissa on an annual basis. For the Year 1992-93,

a target of setting up of 11,000 family type biogas plants and one community or institutional or night-soil biogas plant has been allocated to the State nodal agency Besides, Khadi and Village Industries Commission is also setting up biogas plans in the State

(d) The financial assistance sanctioned during the period April to October, 1992 to different State nodal departments or agencies for installation of family type biogas plants and community, institutional and night-soil biogas plants are given in the statement

STATEMENT

State-wise information on Central assistance sanctioned during the period April-October, 1992 under the National Project for Biogas Development and Community, Institutional and Night-soil Based Biogas Plants Programme.

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount sanctioned National Project for Biogas Development.	(Rs. in lakhs) Community, Institutional and Night-Soil Based Biogas Plants Programme
1.	Andhra Pradesh	300.08	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.80	-
3.	Assam	20.00	-
4.	Bihar	58.92	2.25
5.	Goa	2.71	-
6.	Gujarat	621.40	2.02
7.	Haryana	31.92	0.75
8.	Himachal Pradesh	75.30	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.75	-
10.	Karnataka	107.46	2.50

Sl No.	State/UT	Amount sanctioned National Project for Biogas Development.	(Rs. in lakhs) Community, Institutional and Night-Soil Based Biogas Plants Programme
1	2	3	4
11.	Kerala	49.34	0.50
12	Madhya Pradesh	86.90	-
13.	Maharashtra	175.36	-
14.	Manipur	2.96	-
15.	Meghalaya	2.25	-
16.	Mizoram	3.60	-
17.	Nagaland	3.00	-
18.	Orissa	158.14	0.50
19.	Punjab	3942	1.90
20.	Rajasthan	95.22	-
21.	Sikkim	2.76	0.75
22.	Tamil Nadu	158.49	2.56

Sl No	State/UT	Amount sanctioned National Project for Biogas Development	(Rs in lakhs) Community, Institutional and Night-Soil Based Biogas Plants Programme
1	2	3	4
23	Tripura	2 50	-
24	Uttar Pradesh	220 95	.
25	West Bengal	35 09	0 75
26	Chandigarh	0 05	-
27	Delhi	0 17	-
28	Pondicherry	0 33	-
Total		2256 87	14 38

UT = Union Territory

Assistance to Kerala under Rural Water supply Schemes

436 PROF K V THOMAS Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether Government of Kerala has requested for central assistance for 15 schemes under Rural Water Supply Schemes, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H PATEL) (a) The Government of Kerala has requested for technical clearance of the Central Government for 15 schemes under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme

(b) Out of 15 schemes revised cost of 2 schemes for assistance by the Netherlands Government has been approved One scheme for Kozhinjampara and adjoining villages costing Rs 73 75 lakhs has been approved by the State Government under the power delegated to them The remaining 12 schemes including 1 Water Supply Scheme to Kundra and adjoining panchayat for bilateral assistance by the Dutch authorities are under technical scrutiny

Alleged Irregularities in Scooter India Ltd.

437 SHRI AMARROY PRADHAN Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether hundred of fans in the Scooters India Ltd were rejected due to the negligence on the part of the management as reported in the Hindi daily Reshtriya Sahara' dated August 30, 1992,

(b) if so the details thereof

(c) whether the Government propose, to conduct any inquiry in this regard,

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) No, Sir

(b) to (e) Do not arise

Technical Credit to Russia for Export of Tobacco

438 SHRI M V V S MURTHY Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have any proposals to extend technical credit to Russia for export of tobacco, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) and (b) The Indo-Russia, Trade Protocol for 1992 envisages grant of technical credit by India to Russia upto the limit of US \$ 285 million Out of this, US \$ 125 million has been granted for export of several commodities including tobacco from India The Russians have now sought grant of further US \$ 75 million as technical credit for the purchase of several commodities including tobacco

[Translation]

Impact of New Industrial Policy

439 SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government

have received any complaints from some State Governments regarding negative impact of the New Industrial Policy on backward States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of States where the impact is negative; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAH): (a) to (c). At the conference of Industry Ministers of States and Union Territories held in New Delhi on October 16th, 1992, representatives of some of the State Governments had expressed concern relating to regional disparities and lack of infrastructural facilities. The trend of Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda filed so far, however, clearly indicates that entrepreneurs are showing interest to locate projects in backward areas. Out of the 6581 IEMs filed during the period from August, 1991 to August, 1992, 38.5% of the IEMs are for backward areas. Moreover, the Growth Centre Scheme of the Central Government aims to promote industrialisation of the backward areas of the country.

Indo-Netherlands Joint Trade Council

440. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the report of the fifth meeting of Indo-Netherlands Joint Trade Council;

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

(c) the efforts being made for mutual cooperation between the two countries alongwith the respective fields of mutual

assistance; and

(d) the details of the fields in which the trade is likely to be formulated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The Report of the 5th Meeting of the Indo-Netherlands Joint Business Council has been received.

(b) Some of the recommendations are:-

- (1) Greater potential exists for India's export to Netherlands in certain identified areas.
- (2) There is scope for increased Netherlands investment in India in some sectors.
- (3) Netherlands being centrally located can be a gateway for movement of goods and services throughout the European market;

(c) A important initiative in mutual cooperation between the two countries is the proposal to set up a Trade Promotion Office in Rotterdam following a Memorandum of Understanding signed between The Federation of Indian Exporters Organisation and CBI of Holland which generally aims at promotion of Indian Exports.

(d) While future export trends cannot be accurately gauged, Indian exports to the Netherlands in the current year include items such as textiles, garments, fabrics, yarn, fruits and nuts, tea, coffee, tobacco, basmati rice, footwear and non-metallic mineral manufactures.

[English]

Indo-Vietnamese Relations

441. SHRIMATIVASUNDHARARAJE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the step taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen further bilateral relations with Vietnam;

(b) whether the Government have received any specific proposals from Vietnam in this regard; and

(c) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO). (a) Relations with Vietnam have been strengthened by exchange of high level visits. during the visit of H.E. Do Muoi, General Secretary of the communist Party of Vietnam, in September 1992, India and Vietnam agreed to broaden the areas of cooperation with emphasis on joint ventures in the fields of oil exploration, minerals, agriculture, hotel industry and marine products. Subsequently, a memorandum of understanding for cooperation with Vietnam in the fields of Agricultural Research and Education has been signed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government of India has examined the specific proposals made by Vietnam. A counter draft for an Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation has been forwarded to the Vietnamese authorities. Additional information from Vietnam has been sought regarding a proposed Agreement on Shipping.

Research Laboratories under CSIR

442, PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of research laboratories functioning under Council of Scientific and Industrial Research;

(b) the number of prototypes developed by these laboratories during the last three years; and

(c) the investment on research and development of these Laboratories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) There are 40 Laboratories/Institutes, functioning under the aegis of CSIR.

(b) The number of processes, including Prototypes, developed by these Laboratories during the last three years is 160.

(c) The total investment on these laboratories (including the headquarters) for the last three years is Rs. 763.34 crore. This include expenditure on Salaries, Pension, GPF/CPF, Advances, Contingencies, Maintenance, Staff Quarters (their construction and maintenance) and other miscellaneous items together amounting to about 66 per cent of the total investment.

[*Translation*]

Technical and Non Technical Post In HECL, Ranchi

443. SHIR LALIT ORAON: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sanctioned posts in technical and non-technical cadres under category I, II, III and IV in the heavy Engineering Corporation Limited, Ranchi.

(b) the number of sanctioned posts for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes out of them in each category;

(c) the number of officials belonging to general category, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes appointed against the existing sanctioned posts in the aforesaid cadres; and

(d) the details of the reserved posts lying vacant and the time by which these are

likely to be filled up, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (d). The details are given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

(a) The number of sanctioned posts in technical and non-technical cadres under category I, II, III & IV in HEC are as under:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Sanctioned posts</i>	
	<i>Technical</i>	<i>Non-Technical</i>
I.	2,761	962
II.	1,486	705
III.	6,683	1372
IV.	—	2099

(b) This is as per the fixed percentage earmarked under the rules for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Categories in relation to the total in-take of the persons from time to time.

(c) The number of officials belonging to general category, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes appointed against the existing sanctioned posts in the aforesaid cadres are as under:-

<i>General Category</i>	<i>Scheduled Castes</i>	<i>Scheduled Tribes</i>
I. 3532	60	131
II. 1924	25	342
III. 5871	475	1700
IV. 117	263	1710

(d) The details of the reserved posts lying vacant are as under -

<i>Category</i>	<i>Scheduled Castes</i>	<i>Scheduled Tribes</i>
I	94	25
II	-	-
III	216	-
IV	51	-

It has been informed by HEC that the man power strength of the Corporation was frozen by the Board of Directors as on 11 11 1980. At present there are no physical vacancies available in HEC in any category, therefore, the question of filling up the backlog of reservation for SC & ST does not arise.

[English]

Free Legal Aid

444 SHRI KALKADAS Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether those persons are being provided free legal aid by High Courts whose income is upto Rs 6000/- per annum,

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to raise this limit to Rs 12,000/- per annum, and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ):

(a) Yes, Sir. The present income ceiling is, however, not applicable in case of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Vimukta Jatis, nomadic Tribes, women and children

(b) and (c) There is a proposal for enhancing the income limit to Rs 9,000/- per annum or such other amount as may be prescribed by the respective State Legal Aid & Advice Boards.

Target under MNP

445 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) the item-wise National and State-wise targets under the Minimum Needs Programme fixed for 1992-93,

(b) the achievements made under the programme during 1991-92 and 1992-93 till date and the cumulative achievement since its inception,

(c) the sanctioned/actual expenditure on the programme for 1991-92 and 1992-93, and

(d) the cumulative expenditure on the programme since its inception upto 1991-92, item-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Setting up a Commission for Science and Technology

446. SHRI RAMSAGAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a commission comprising of experts to formulate guidelines for Science and Technology so as to boost the morals of scientists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). Government is committed to encourage, promote and utilize Science and Technology for national development. In this context, keeping in view various policy changes introduced so far and the mechanisms available, efforts have also been in place to stimulate progress of science and technology and the working environment for the scientific personnel.

Financial assistance for Purchase of Mobile Vans in Gujarat

447. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided by the Union government for the purchase of mobile vans in order to reach

farflung areas under public distribution system in Gujarat during 1991-29;

(b) the number of mobile vans purchased by the Gujarat Government during 1991-92; and

(c) the amount demanded by the Government of Gujarat for the purchase of mobile vans during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). The Central Government did not receive any proposal from the Government of Gujarat seeking financial assistance for purchase of mobile vans during 1991-92.

(c) No proposal has been received from the State Government during the year 1992-93.

Quota of SCs/STs in Government Services

448. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the special steps taken by Union Government to fill up the unfilled quota of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Government services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI MARGARET ALVA): Special Recruitment Drives to fill up the backlog of reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Ministries/Departments of the Central Government have been undertaken in 1989, 1990 and 1991. Simultaneously, Special Recruitment Drives, in a similar manner, have also been carried out in respect of Public Sector Undertakings, banks and Insurance Corporations.

[English]

Trade Relations with Bangladesh

449. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to improve further trade relations with Bangladesh;

(b) if so, specific steps to so far taken in this direction; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The steps being taken in this regard include relief in customs duty wherever possible, participation in trade fairs, exchange of trade delegations and dialogues at official and business levels.

The impact of these measures would be evident from the following trade figures:-

<i>(In Rs. crores)</i>	
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Trade</i>
1987-88	201.60
1988-89	276.47
1989-90	477.63
1990-91	578.73
1991-92	823.60

Import of Palmolein

450. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

the quantity of palmolein/Palmoil imported by the State Trading Corporation from January 1992 till date?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMANKHURSHEED): During the period from January, 1992 till date, State Trading Corporation has imported quantity of approx. 71126 MTs of RBD Palmolein.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance for purchase of Mobile Vans in Assam

451. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided by the Union Government during 1991-92 for the purchase of Mobile Vans to reach remote areas under Public Distribution System in Assam;

(b) the number of Mobile Vans purchased by the Government of Assam with the Central Assistance during 1991-92; and

(c) the amount sought for the purchase of Mobile Vans during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Central Government did not provide any financial assistance for purchase of mobile vans to the Government of Assam during the year 1991-92.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No proposal from the State Government has been received so far for the year 1992-93.

Loan Licences

452. SHRI RAJESH KUAMR:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the loan licences obtained by the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. for preparing formulation during each of the last three years;

(b) the names of the products produced during the said period and the rate of payment made per packet;

(c) the year-wise total savings made in comparison to the cost standards by IDPL during the last three years; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) As reported by Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited, the company did not manufacture any formulation on loan licence during the last three years.

(b) to (d). Do not arise

Development of Poorvanchal area of U.P.

453. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide any amount for the development of Poorvanchal area of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the year-wise amount given to

the State for this purpose during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the said the amount.

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

Rural Development Programme in Rajasthan

454. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the development programmes in Rajasthan and the amount allocated for each of these during each of the last three years under the Rural Development and Planning and Programme Implementation;

(b) the amount sought by the State Government, the amount provided by the Union Government and and the amount spent therefrom;

(c) the details of the persons benefitted by such programmes;

(d) whether analysis and review of all such development programmes is made; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The major Rural Development Programme being implemented in the State of Rajasthan are the Integrated rural Development Pro-

gramme (IRDP) and Allied Programmes Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAO), and Desert Development Programme (DDP). The outlays proposed by the State Govt. and allocation made in respect of IRDP, JRY and DPAP during the last three years in the State Plan sector were:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>proposed outlay</i>	<i>Allocation (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1989-90	8295.00	4533.17
1990-91	5915.00	4575.38
1991-92	6545.81	4471.47

In addition to the State Plan sector allocations, the Centre provided the following amounts for the above mentioned Programmes and DDP also (which is fully funded by the Centre)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Allocation (Rs in lakhs)</i>
1989-90	15889.71
1990-91	16058.54
1991-92	15954.63

The total expenditure in respect of these programmes during the last three years is given below

<i>Year</i>	<i>Expenditure (Rs lakhs)</i>
1989-90	18210.11
1990-91	25986.51
1991-92	21420.60

(c) The details of number of persons/families assisted and the employment gen-

erated under IRDP and JRY during the last three years is given below:

<i>Schemes/Unit</i>	<i>Years</i>		
	1988-90	1990-91	1991-92
(i) IRDP & Allied Programmes			
IRDP (No of persons assisted)	159039	135604	131986
(ii) JRY (Employment Generated in lakh mandays)	443 77	506 01	387 63

Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) or area development programmes benefit to individuals are not monitored under these programmes

(d) and (e) The system of Concurrent Evaluation of IRDP has been introduced under which data are collected by the independent research institutions for the entire country on a sample basis. The findings of the latest concurrent evaluation suggest that the IRDP has been on the whole successful in terms of providing incremental income to the poor families. The number of households able to cross the poverty line has, however, been relatively small.

[English]

Demand of Ethylene Chemicals by Gujarat

**455 SHRI HARISHINH CHAVDA
DR AMRIT LAL KALIDAS**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the quantity of ethylene chemicals demanded by Gujarat from the proposed Gandhar Project,

(b) whether on receipt of ethylene the State Government propose to set up downstream Industries on large scale, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR CHINTA MOHAN) (a) to (c) The Government of Gujarat had asked for the supply of Ethylene from the Gandhar Complex of VCM, PVC alongwith Chlor-Alkali. The quantity of PVC and VCM proposed to be manufactured was 1,50,000 tonnes per annum and 1,70,000 tonnes per annum respectively.

State Plan for 1993-94

**456 SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH
DR C SILVERA**

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Planning Commission recently held a meeting with the Chief Ministers of the States to determine the size of the State Plan for 1993-94;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions held in the meeting,

[*Translation*]

Enclaves between India and Bangladesh

(c) whether the Planning Commission has decided to have a comprehensive review of the Plan, and

457 SHRI RAMBADAN. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(a) whether the Government held any talks with the Government of Bangladesh for the exchange of enclaves between the two countries,

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRISUKHRAM) (a) to (d) As part of the exercise to formulate Annual Plan 1993-94, the meetings of Deputy Chairman with Chief Ministers/Governors/Lt Governors started on 2nd November, 1992. Till 21st November, 1992, discussions for 20 States and U.T.s have been completed and their Plans sizes fixed. These meetings will be followed by Working group discussions at the official level. Review of the State Plans is an integral part of the Annual Plan exercise. The review is done both at the Deputy Chairmen's and officials' levels.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the number of enclaves in respect of which negotiations are going on with Bangladesh?

The Working Group discussions have started only 21st November 1992.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The issue figured in discussions held during the visit of Bangladesh Prime Minister to India (May 26-28, 1992) and Foreign Secretary's visit to Dhaka (August 21-23, 1992). Both sides agreed that the time was opportune after the leasing of Tin Bigha, to move towards the resolution of outstanding issues with regard to the implementation of the Indo-BD Land Boundary Agreement, 1974.

(c) The proposal on exchange of enclaves involves the following

Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh

<i>Enclaves</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Area</i>
Exchangeable Enclaves	119	17,157.72 acres
Non-exchangeable Enclaves	11	3,799.35 acres
<i>Bangladesh Enclaves in India</i>		
Exchangeable Enclaves	72	7,160.85 acres
Non-exchangeable Enclaves	23	5,128.52 acres

[*English*]**Rise in Prices of Essential Commodities**458. SHRI KALKA DAS:
SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of rise in prices of Rice, Wheat, Sugar and edible oils between July, 1992 and November, 1992;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to

control prices of essential commodities; and

(c) the efforts be made to make Public Distribution System more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Percentage Variation in the wholesale Price. Prices of Rice, Wheat, Sugar and Edible Oils between the last week of July 1992 (25.7.92) and November, 1992 (7.11.1992 latest available) is given below:

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Percentage Variation in</i> 7.11.92 / 25.7.92
Rice	+ 1.5
Wheat	- 4.6
Sugar	- 0.1
Edible Oils	- 1.0

(b) The Government is taking every possible steps to control the prices of essential commodities at reasonable levels. Towards this end, a Cabinet Committee on Prices (CCP) under the Chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister is functioning and meets at regular intervals to review and to take appropriate steps to control the price situation in the country. A special Action Committee of Secretaries on Monitoring of Prices (SACP) is also functioning for the same purpose. Public Distribution System is being strengthened and streamlined to reach its benefits to the most needy sectors of the population. Steps are also being taken to vigorously implement the provisions of EC

Act and other regulatory laws to punish those who are indulging in anti social activities including hoarding, black marketing etc. Imports of scarce items such as Pulses, Wheat, Rice, Edible oils etc. are being effected to make their easy availability in the market. There has been a higher production of Kharif Group and nearly record production of Edible oilseeds. As a result of all these measures, the annual rate of inflation in terms of WPI has gone down from 10.4% as on 25.7.1992 to 0.1% as on 7.11.1992.

(c) Strengthening and Streamlining the Public Distribution System (PDS) is a continuous process. Government has revamped

the PDS w.e.f. 1.1.1992 to improve the reach of the scheme to remote, tribal, hilly and inaccessible areas, for which about 1700 blocks have been identified in various States/UTs. Under this scheme, action plan for implementation by States/UTs include opening of additional FPS in identified areas, issue of additional ration cards, door step delivery of PDS commodities to FPS, setting up of vigilance level committees at the Village level, creation of additional storage capacity, introduction of additional Commodities through PDS outlets in these areas etc.

In addition to the normal allocation of foodgrains being made to the States/UTs from normal PDS, the Government has decided to allot 2 million tonnes of additional foodgrains for distribution to these identified areas.

[*Translation*]

Return on Network of Fertilizers Units

459. SHR NITISH KUMAR:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to increase the rate of return on networth of new industrial units producing fertilizers from existing 12% to 16%;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to implement this criteria on all the fertilizers production units uniformly;

(c) if not the reasons thereof;

(d) whether the cost of fertilizers production is likely to go up as a result thereof; and

(e) if so, the scheme prepared by the Government to make available fertilizers to the farmers at cheaper rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

[*English*]

Commission agents of IDPL

460. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited appoints commission agents for its institutional sales to Central government and State Government Hospitals and institutions run by Union and State Governments; and

(b) if so, the total sales of the IDPL and the commission paid to the agents during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of institutional sales and commission paid by Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited during the years 1989-90 to 1991-92 are as under:

(*Rs. Lacs*)

Year	Institutional sales	Commission paid to Institutional Agents
1989-90	4834	92.82
1990-91	4881	93.25
1991-29	3480	89.50*

12.00 hrs.

RE: DEMONSTRATION BY INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL WORKERS AT BOAT CLUB TO EXPRESS THEIR SENTIMENTS AGAINST THE NEW ECONOMIC, INDUSTRIAL AND TRADE POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basudeb Acharia.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee is one who has participated in the demonstration. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): I want to place before you that lakhs and lakhs of people have come here to oppose the economic policy of the Government. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, I have given a notice of breach of privilege. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We have given a notice for Adjournment. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. You know that we have been calling the Members to express their views on the floor of the House. We can do it one after the other. But if all of you stand up, it is very difficult to call the names. I had called the name of Shri Basudeb Acharia but nobody has headed. So, please, one after the other, you can do it. I am allowing Shri Pathak also. But it is not necessary all the time to say that I am doing it. Let us follow a procedure.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar):
Sir.....

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow after this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
Sir, we have given a notice for Adjournment.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Sir, what about our notice regarding Adjournment? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, you sit down. If you help yourself, that would be better. You shall have to speak one after the other. If you do not want to help yourselves, then call of you get up. I am ready to have a discussion on the discussion which we have immediately after the Question Hour for one hour, may be tomorrow or day after tomorrow as to how we do it here.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, we are asking as to what happened to our notice regarding Adjournment. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I am trying to help you. Don't sit down only when I raise my voice. Even without that, you should do, it is more graceful. It is you who are taking the time. You can do it one after the other. But if all of you stand up together, then it is difficult. Please help yourselves, help me and the House also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura):
Sir, today, more than ten lakh workers from all over the country have come and as-

sembled at the Boat Club. They are demonstrating there.

Sir, the workers, the people all over the country as also, we, the Members of Parliament, have been raising in this very House that the Government has adopted this policy on the direction of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the multinational Corporations. They are changing the basic policy of our country. The Sick Industry Act has been amended. They have declared 58 public sector undertakings as sick. Those 58 public sector undertakings have been referred to the Board of Industrial and Financial Re-construction (BIFR).

The Budgetary support which all these public sector units received last year, the Government have refused to give this budgetary support to all these public sector units this year.

The Prime Minister has announced a number of times that the public sector units which were at the commanding heights of the economy, that position will not be there. They are gradually privatising them. They have opened the doors of our country to foreign multinational corporations. They have changed their industrial and economic policies.

If the 58 public sector units which have been referred to the BIFR are closed down, and if the budgetary support which all these public sector units received last year is not given to them this year, then what will happen to them. (*Interruptions*) They have not received a single paisa from the Government this year. Four lakh workers have been thrown out of employment.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to draw the attention of the Government. Regular speech is not required. If you want a regular discussion on this, you give a regular notice. We will look into it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What was there in the election manifesto of the Congress (I)? What did they declare before the election? It was there in the election manifesto of the Congress (I) that when they came to power, ten million unemployed youths would get employment. That was their assurance; that was there in their election manifesto. Instead of employing ten million unemployed youths, they are now planning to throw four lakh workers out of employment.

MR. SPEAKER: This cannot go on like this. Please Shri Basudeb Acharia, you hear me first. You must hear me first. You know there are other Members who want to raise important issues. If you are making a regular speech on the broad policies of the Government of India.....

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I am not making a long regular speech.

MR. SPEAKER: You please hear me first at least what I am saying. You don't have the patience also to hear me what I am saying. I am trying to accommodate all other Members also. If you make a long speech on the entire policies of the Government of India, you will not get a reply from the Government in this kind of a debate.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I will finish it. They are now selling out the country's independence to the IMF and the World Bank. Our economic independence is in danger; our political independence is also in danger; our independence and sovereignty is also in danger now.

We had a fight of the workers and the peasants in our country. Twice the people of our country observed strikes and bands throughout the country against the anti-people, policy, against the anti-working class policy of the Government. And they are selling out this country.

MR. SPEAKER: I am now allowing Mr. Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRIBASUDEBACHARIA: The Minister is here. He should explain the policy of the Government which the Government has adopted at the dictate of the IMF and the World Bank.

MR. SPEAKER: Now whatever he is saying will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing Mr. Somnath Chatterjee; and he will speak on behalf of all of you. There are other Members also. I want to give them a chance also.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Boipur): I am happy that the hon. Prime Minister is here.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): I also want to take one minute.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: For 18 months, this Government has been implementing its policies, new economic policy, new industrial policy, trade policy.

I request the hon. Prime Minister to appreciate why lakhs of workers have come from all over India and are now at the Boat Club. They are demonstrating there; they are expressing their feelings against these policies. These policies have not brought about any improvement in the economic conditions of the people of this country. The people are facing greater problems. There is a price rise, unabated price rise. There is a stagnation in the industry, stagnation in the agriculture. Workers are losing their jobs, VRS is being pushed through the throats of these workers. There is no new employment

anywhere. The multi-nationals are coming in. IMF and World Bank's influence over our economic policies is very discernible. There is no hide and seek about it any longer.

The Exit Policy is threatened to be introduced. You can fund money for putting into the National Renewal Fund. That is not for giving a job but for taking a job. There is no plan, no policy, only we have heard what they have said about training and redeployment which is totally absent anywhere. Therefore, the result of this policy has been disastrous for this country.

The country is going backwards. There is dwindling in exports. The foreign exchange reserve is artificially being boosted by borrowing money from abroad. Therefore, the country is facing the acute economic situation. The workers are already suffering and they will be the victims of this policy. Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Prime Minister not to belittle this, do not ignore the feelings and sentiments of lakhs of workers who have taken the trouble of coming from all over the country to represent before this Government, demand from this Government that these policies should be reversed.

Sir, on the floor of the House, representing these people, we demand solemnly that the Government seriously consider that this anti-people anti-working class policy should be firstly reversed and to have a proper consultation and discussion. A new policy should be adopted which will be in tune with our national ethos and our policies and programmes.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, you are on a different point.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): No, on the same point.

**Not recorded.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, today lakhs of working class people, the builders of the nation who make major contribution to national wealth have poured into the capital from all over the country. The hon. Prime Minister is present in the House. The new economic policies of the Government have put millions of workers into the dock, as much so that they have been compelled to pour into the capital to seek redressal of their grievances.

For the past one and a half years, we have been receiving initiations and daily counsels at the feet of experts of the I.M.F. and the World Bank. The hon. Prime Minister should not break the hearts of the working class and he should give an immediate assurance today itself that he would hold talks tomorrow itself with the representatives of the Trade Unions present in the capital on the economic policies being pursued by this Government so that announcement can be made at the rally to the effect that the Prime Minister has complete faith and trust in the working class of this country. The economic policies pursued by the Government have so far indicated that the Prime Minister neither has faith in the workers nor does he care for them. Leave apart other things, certainly a message of trust and concern should emanate from the hon. Prime Minister and he should make an announcement to the effect that the Government would hold talks with all the leaders of the trade unions gathered in the capital on the issue of Government's economic policies which affect millions and millions.

Today, the Government should also clarify its stand on the Rehabilitation Renewal Fund. It is not yet clear as to the discipline in which training would be imparted and the employment opportunities envisaged, which is nil. Much is said about capital mobility. Capital can be transferred through cheques, but a family which has

been deprived of its source of livelihood, cannot be transferred through cheques. The recently introduced rehabilitation schemes are meaningless except on paper. The Government should also convince as to how they are going to do it.

Sir, workers participation in management should replace the ongoing privatisation programme. Privatisation won't bail us out of the situation. The example of Kamani Tube is before us. The workers shared that sick unit running in losses and made profits when it was handed over to them..... (*Interruptions*) I don't want to deliver a long speech. The Government also says that it proposes to privatise railway ticket sales and also good trains. Even public lavatories have been privatised. One rupee has to be paid to use public lavatories. Tax on use of lavatories in a country where even two square meals are not available..... (*Interruptions*). The Government should make an announcement in the House with regard to workers' participation in management.

Our second demand is that if capital plays a pivotal role in generation of wealth, so does the sweat of workers. The National Front Government has made an announcement in this regard. We had introduced a Bill regarding labour participation in management with the maximum support of all parties and the left parties had lent tremendous support. Our Bill is still there and the Government should convey a positive message. It should also see to it that the Bill is passed in this session. Sir, if this announcement is not made, then the toiling masses of this country will firmly raise their voice again and put forth their demand before you. It should be announced today itself. This has become the policy of the working class, our industries and also our labourers and farmers. One fails to understand the praises showered on the industrial policy, wherein the small scale industries have taken a back seat. Even Shri Advani got enchanted for a while, but now he

has been disillusioned. They went to as far as America and said..... *(Interruptions)* such an industrial policy should be formulated which would make even the industrialists say that it is an excellent slaughter house or for that matter, a major high tech slaughter house. If they don't require it, the Government may use it. The small scale industries will be wiped out soon. The Government should concede the demand of the working class and make an announcement in this regard. This would be a major step towards winning the confidence of the working class, in the noble task of building a new India..... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, already some of my colleagues have mentioned the principal issues on which this demonstration is taking place. I am marching straight from Lai Quila to Boat Club and the rally has come here. I have seen lakhs of people, with anger in their eyes, agony in their mind about losing their jobs and getting our country completely immersed in a debt trap.

Therefore, I would like the Prime Minister to have a look at them, not only calling them here to discuss, but also to have a look at them and then decide that he must change this policy if he wants to give any peace to these workers, peasants, as well as *khet mazdoors* who are marching.

MR. SPEAKER: I want to bring to your notice that yesterday you wanted to discuss a very important issue. We have fixed that important issue for discussion and now you want to have a regular discussion on this topic which cannot be allowed. There are other matters which I have to allow. I am allowing Shri Harin Pathak to speak.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): We have given notice of an

Adjournment Motion. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: We have given notices. *(Interruptions)*

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): This is not the place only to carry out bureaucratic decisions..... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Let the Prime Minister say something on this issue so that the message goes to the workers of this country..... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If you all sit down, I can help you. Please sit down first.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Members of the workers' Union are sitting on a dhama.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not shout like this. Do you want the House to be adjourned?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): We have given a notice for Adjournment Motion. Let the Prime Minister respond. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Surya Narayan Yadav, please sit down. You are going beyond a certain limit. I will take action against you if you do not go back to your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Well, the leaders should see that their Members take their seats. I should be allowed to regulate the House.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow us also to speak. Members of the workers union are sitting on a Dharma.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister is present in the House.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow each and every Member to speak on this point provided you give me a regular notice. Do you want the matter which you raised yesterday to be discussed on the floor of the House or not?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Surya Narayan Yadav, you have to go back to your seat. You go back to your seat. This is not correct.

(Interruptions)

(interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: May I request the Prime Minister to say something on this?..... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, We have also given notice. Please allow us to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I can help you.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Surya Narayan Yadav, you are not keeping quiet. I have noted what you have been doing. If you had given me a notice and if you want that the matter which you wanted to discuss today should not be discussed, I can take up this matter.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): We want to censure the Government..... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have given a notice.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: We have given

a notice for Adjournment Motion (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER I can take up the Adjournment Motion

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SŪRYA NARAYAN YADAV Mr Speaker, Sir, please allow us also to speak, we have given a notice

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER Shn Surya Narayan Yadav, you keep quiet I have noted what you have been doing without understanding Yesterday you wanted that certain matter should be discussed in the House and I have fixed that matter for discussion today Do you want that matter to be discussed or not?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) That is at 2 P M (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER So, you want that matter to be discussed today If you want this matter to be discussed, please give me a notice as Mr V P Singh has said and then I will consider it

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR SPEAKER Please allow me to speak First, I said it in English Now, I will say in Hindi You yourself had yesterday demanded a discussion on a matter of public importance I accepted your notice and placed the discussion on the agenda. Today you are giving a notice to adjourn the House If you forget what you said yesterday and start giving notices, how will it do? You can give

notices for tomorrow, day after tomorrow or for any day you may like It can be taken into consideration

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH Lakhs of workers from all over the country have come to the capital So, please give a patient hearing to the workers' problem till 2 p m and take up other topics thereafter. (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER There has been an assault on an hon Member He has given those photographs to me and they are with me You are not in possession of these documents, but I have them with me It also calls for our attention

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH Please refer the matter to the Privileges Committee

MR SPEAKER I am doing just that, but you should allow me at least to listen to it

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) You can refer this matter to the Privileges Committee (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER I cannot talk to each one of you.

[*Translation*]

Listen, this matter is not before you It is with me I need some time for it, taking everything into consideration You should do justice to that hon Member also If he has sent me photographs showing him being beaten up by some one, I will look into it You are getting agitated, because you are not aware of it

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): We know that it is a serious matter. Please refer the matter to the Privileges Committee. The hon. Member should not have any objection to it... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: We are demanding that the Prime Minister should speak. Why is he not responding?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): The Prime Minister should respond. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Paswan should go to his seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You see, the Prime Minister is sitting there to listen to you. He will speak, if you request him to do so, but first of all, you should create an atmosphere so that he may speak. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barackpore): They do not care for the working class of the country.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAY CHAUDHURI (Serampore): The Prime Minister should respond *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Every time you are shouting like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Let the Prime Minister respond. You kindly

admit the adjournment motion, as Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh has suggested. That can be a way out. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow two or three Members to speak. Later on, we will go to the next topic.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDARSAN RAY CHAUDHURI: This is a very serious situation.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the wish of the House that we continue with this point a little longer and then Mr. Harin Fathak will be called to speak?

[Translation]

SHRI LOKNATHJI: Please speak. All of you please sit down. Shri Loknathji only will speak..... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Shri Pathak has given a notice. He should be allowed to speak first. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Let the Prime Minister respond, Sir..... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Somnathji, you should ask your members to resume their seats.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, the Prime Minister should respond..... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Well, these are very important matters and you are legitimately raising them on the floor of the House. The only thing is you please follow the procedure

which will help you also. If all the time everybody is standing up and speaking, one does not know what you really want and how do you want..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Somnathji, what is the demand of your party, please let me know. I cannot hear everybody, let me hear you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I had made a request that this is an important matter and I hope the Government is not taking it lightly.

MR. SPEAKER: No, certainly not. That is why the Prime Minister is sitting here.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, so many workers have assembled here to express their feelings and sentiments. There are some very basic issues they are raising. Therefore, we expect that when the Prime Minister is here, there should be some response to this as to whether the Government has any thinking on this at all or whether these workers will have to go back with a feeling that they have come to Delhi and the Government is totally insensitive and they are assigned to their own fate and they have to find out a solution on the streets. Is that the decision of this Government or what is the feeling these people will have and will go back with? Therefore, I expected that when the hon. Prime Minister is here, when he has been kind enough to spend some time even after 12 o'clock, he should kindly respond to this..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Somnathji, I have understood you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: And, Sir, I can assure my friends here that we have nothing against them. We shall support immediate reference of the matter to the Privileges Committee. Why is it not being done? Let it be done and let the Prime Minister respond to this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: That means you will not allow our Member to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me. I am allowing him.

[*English*]

Somnathji, I want to know one thing. Do you want the Prime Minister to respond immediately or you want some Members of yours to speak?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Some Members to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: O.K., how many Members?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Shri Lokanath Choudhury from CPI wants to speak, Shri Chitta Basu is there, Shri Saikia is there, Shrimati Suseela Gopalan is there. Four or five persons will speak, Sir..... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am speaking, please listen.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): We are just wasting the time in this manner. How can the business of the House be transacted here?

MR. SPEAKER: Look, I am assisting you.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Once you have called the name of a Member, let him speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I am trying to help you, please co-operate.

(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: See, if you do not help me, I cannot help you..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already allowed the representatives of many of the parties to speak on this.

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. I am speaking to you.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: How can I speak to all of you? I am speaking to you. I do not speak much. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am trying to help you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We are also trying to help you. But on this issue we are not going to be divided. We want to say that this is a matter where Members' rights are involved. Let it go immediately to the Privileges Committee. We do not mind.

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, Let Shri Pathak's issue be taken first. I will be happy.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHQUDHURY

(Katwa): Sir, if you want let Shri Pathak's issue be taken first.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not like this. You are adopting a different position.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Please dispose off his issue first then you may take up the other issue.

(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER. Shri Paswan, you are a very senior and seasoned member. All of you are very good parliamentarians. You forget this?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow two-three more Members to speak and then if the Government want, they may respond. It is upto the Government. Shri Pathak, I am not going to leave the House until I hear you and properly finish this.

It should not be necessary for me to explain these things every day on the floor of the House. You should take it for granted. Now Shri Lokanath Choudhury will speak.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appeal to the hon. Prime Minister, through you, that today lakhs of workers from all over the country have come to Delhi. The Prime Minister has taken a new economic policy. That has already worked for one-and-a-half years. It is enough to realise from the expression of the people outside the disaster brought by the economic policy to common man during the past one-and-a-half years. We

are bringing temporary and unproductive loans. What would be the amount of structural adjustment? How to meet it? The workers are apprehending retrenchment. Already some are retrenched. The prices have gone so high that I would tell the hon. Prime Minister that the thing which was costing one rupee is now - costing five rupees in the market. This is the outcome of the economic policy.

The Prime Minister must take this into consideration and stick to the policy which the nation propounded under Mahatma Gandhi and Panditji. It is not correct to say that they have thrown away the Nehruvian models. They take the name of Pandit Nehru who saved this country. This is unfortunate.

I would request the Prime Minister that at this time, at this juncture of the country where very communal forces are dividing the country, the discontent among the working people is not good. This gives them an opportunity to divide this country. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the Prime Minister today to keep the country united and take it in the path for which the country stood for. Therefore, the time has come for the Prime Minister to review the policy. He should hear the demands of the workers and he should also see what disaster his policy has already brought to this country. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA (Tonk): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please call Shri Pathak also.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already told him. I will listen to him also. You please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I will take a proper action in the matter.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you said that you would listen to Shri Pathak also. I request you that after Shri Lokanath Choudhury you should listen to him also.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pandeya, you please sit down. I have told him. I will listen to him also. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Sir, I urge upon the Prime Minister to take note of the sentiments that are being conveyed through lakhs of industrial and agricultural labourers who have come over to Delhi to express their serious discontent against the new economic, industrial and trade policies that have been pursued by the present Government.

Sir, I would request the hon. Prime Minister to kindly bring a drastic change in the present policies of the Government. Till now, this Government is showing a step-motherly treatment towards the agricultural sector. So, the country is paying a very heavy price due to the Government's negligence towards the agricultural sector. Apart from that on the industrial front also, due to the present policies of this Government, the doors are being opened for big multi-national companies and *core-patis*, but small industries are being closed and are going to be closed in the future also, as a result of which lakhs of people are going to be rendered jobless, in addition to the crores of people who have already registered them-

selves in the Employment Exchanges. Unless labour-oriented policies are adopted, this country will be going down the path of disaster.

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your points. Please conclude now.

SHRI SHOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: So, we urge upon the Prime Minister to take note of these points and bring about the necessary changes in the policies of the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Alipurduars): Mr. Speaker, Sir, economic policy is formulated for the benefit of common people. But the new economic policy of the Government is rendering the common people and particularly, the workers in factories jobless. Today, price of every commodity is rising. There is loot everywhere. Now the ruling party has turned into a looting party. It is essential to change such policies. Our hon. Prime Minister is sitting here. If he thinks that the new economic policy which has been adopted for this country will benefit the people here, he should rise and say that it will be advantageous and beneficial for the poor and the common people of the country. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to discuss the economic policy during the Zero Hour? You must know that it is not proper to discuss economic policy during the Zero Hour.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today workers particularly Railway Workers from all over the country have come here. All the Railway employees, the Guard Council Union, the Running Staff and Hawker's Union are sitting on a dharna here since the 24th. One month back a memorandum was given to the hon. Minister of Railways, but he took no

action on it. Today there are a number of disparities in the Department of Railways. The employees are being retrenched there. But the Government is not ready to pay any attention to it. The present policy of the Government and arbitrary changes in the duties of the workers are adversely affecting all of them. The industrial policy of the Government is also against the interest of workers. The Government should pay attention to it promptly and take certain concrete action and the hon. Prime Minister should make a statement on it.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you give time to speak to the Members who make noise in the House. You had said that you will give time to speak to our party whip but so far he has not been given time to speak..... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with all humility let me appeal to the Prime Minister who is here in this House to take a response. We want a response from the Prime Minister because of his assurance.

MR. SPEAKER: All members have asked for Government is response. Now why are you folding hands for that.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, the economic and industrial policies of the Government has led to unemployment, price rise, privatisation and selling away of the sovereignty of the country, both economic and political. Our demand is that the Government should work towards the reversal of the entire policy and save the country from the impending disaster.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Mr. Speaker, Sir, very briefly I would like to assure the House that the Government is fully conscious and sensitive to the problems of the working class. I would like to repudiate in most categorical terms the allegations that have been levelled against the Government. I am prepared for a debate if the Members so wish. We could have a detailed debate in which every aspect of the new policy, and the new reforms programme which we have elucidated, will be re-elucidated. There will be no problem on that score. But I would certainly like to tell the hon. Members that it is not fair that when some people have come, in the name of those people with whom we have full sympathy, you are hurling charges after charges. This is not proper. This is not fair. I would like to know if any of those workers have been actually retrenched. I would like to meet them.....

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Yes, Sir.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: Please listen. If actually some workers have been retrenched on grounds which are not fair, I would certainly like to look into those cases.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: You are qualifying it.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: There is no qualification.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pathakji.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VIALS PASWAN (Rosera): When there will be privatisation, what will

happen to reservation?

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Then, why have you stopped budgetary support?

12.45 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

Alleged assault by Police Officers on Shri Harin Pathak, M.P. in Ahmedabad on 23rd November, 1992

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister is present here. I would like to request him to stay here for two minutes to listen to the atrocities committed against women.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question is not that a Member of Parliament has been beaten before the public at a road crossing and I happen to be that M.P. This is not the question..... *(Interruptions)*. I narrate the incident which took place with me. Hon. Prime Minister, the question is not that a Member of Parliament is beaten while performing his duties as an M.P. and the Police officer treated him in this manner. Unfortunately I am that M.P. But in this Parliament I had pledged to protect the poor and the women. I was discharging this duty of mine.

Women were organising a programme at 5 p.m. in Ahmedabad on 23rd. Making a human chain they were standing on Nehru bridge. I had to come here to attend the session of the House by the night flight. I was standing there as a people's representative. I reached there late. Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I reached there I saw that some police officers and personnel were illtreating the

women. There were about 20-25 women and 50 youths. They forcibly pushed the youths in the van. There was no lady police. Blouses of women were torn..... (*Interruptions*) Police was dragging them. How could I remain a mute spectator to all this. It was happening in my own constituency. I asked the police officers that why they had not called the lady-police as the police personnel are not behaving properly with the ladies. They have torn the blouse of Subhadra Behan. They are taking them forcibly into the van. But nobody was prepared to listen. I at once sat near the police van. I said that it will not be allowed in the country. Bring lady police and if they have committed any crime take legal action against them and take them away in police van. Nobody listened to me. As I sat near the police van and said I cannot see injustice against the women, an S.P. Mr. Desai started beating me with a lathi. He also lathicharged the women. Women started running here and there. Some women came to save me and they were also hurt.

Meanwhile a Deputy Police Commissioner came to my rescue. I stood up and said to him that I did not want anything; I only wanted that lady police should be called and these women should be protected; if they would not do so then I will report this incident to the hon. Speaker of Lok Sabha. As soon as I completed this sentence, that same officer Mr. Desai who had done this, said — I categorically quote his words. "Teri Lok Sabha Ki Aisi - Taisi" and started beating me. He beat me up badly. The journalists, press persons, photographers were present there. All newspapers have reported this incident. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask in the House as to how long the women of this country will have to tolerate all these things. I, myself said that if I had violated the law, shoot me. (*Interruptions*) It is alright that they beat me before the people and say "Teri Lok Sabha Ki Aisi - Taisi." I don't bother about that but I can't remain an M.P. like this. If all these things happen before me then how

can I remain a mute spectator. I said that he should be suspended. Hon. Prime Minister, Sir, I am presenting these photographs before you. First of all he should be suspended. This incident has not happened for the first time. Prior to it also a police officer had beaten the people's representatives. He does not lathicharge. He insults them. I want justice for women against the atrocities committed on them. Now this House should see as to what action should it take.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I remember that earlier also a police officer was brought before the house because he had insulted an M.P. I don't remember as what the M.P. was doing, but it had been mentioned here that the M.P. was discharging his duties as a Member of Parliament. For this reason it is high handedness. Such cases are sent to the Privilege Committee. But the incident narrated by Shri Harin Pathak, M.P. from Ahmedabad constituency, who was discharging his duties as an M.P. and whatever the police officer said in insulting words is contempt of the Parliament as well as of the M.P. Therefore, I think all the Members will support whatever Shri Harin Pathak has said and authorise you to true moto refer such cases to the Privilege Committee of the Parliament for making inquiry and necessary action should be taken and if contempt of the Parliament is proved, then the police officer should be awarded suitable punishment.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a serious issue. It should directly be sent to the Privilege Committee.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are the Speaker of the House and if any hon. Member is insulted while discharging his duties as a Member, in this case on an hon. Member was slapped, it needs no witness. Therefore, we request you to send it directly to the Privilege Com-

mittee and the Government should be directed that action should be taken against such a police officer so that no other police officer ventures to insult a Member.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): It has been said. We had also heard about it yesterday. We had read about it in the newspaper today. We have heard the hon. Member himself today. What he has said naturally causes greatest concern to all of us. We have to function here. We have to represent the people's views, their problems etc. Therefore, this is a fit case, no doubt, and I am sure, in your wisdom, you will immediately refer it to the Privilege Committee.

But I request you also that there is a pending matter before you, Shrimati Suseela Gopalan's matter. She was also assaulted in Kerala. That case may be disposed of early by you.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): We fully agree for the reference to the Privileges Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, we are very sorry that we had to hear this thing on the floor of this House that this thing happened to one of the hon. Members of the House. The House is unanimous on the action that is to be taken. I am also of the view that such action, which will not allow these kinds of incidents to happen in future, should be taken in the matter. I would go through all those things. As to how I have to deal with it, I will decide. If anything more is required from Shri Harin Pathak, I will take it. I will decide it properly. But you can rest assured that on the facts which are before us, the action has to be such as to give a message that this thing should not be happening to the Members.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in connection with the case, the details of which have appeared in the newspaper and in which it is said that the hon. Member has been beaten, it is our demand that before the evidence begins, the S.P. should be suspended.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, regarding the Public Sector Policy, the Prime Minister has not responded properly. Why is the Government not giving the monetary support to the Public Sector Undertakings? Why has the Government withdrawn the Budgetary Support? The workers are not getting their salary. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will now allow Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, you must be on a different issue and not on the same issue. Because, if you continue, others will also continue. So, you must be on a different point. Otherwise, I will call someone else.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want an information from the hon. Prime Minister through you that there is a provision of reservation for the people of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the public sector but what about reservation in the private sector.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): I will state the position during the course of discussion. (Interruptions)

*Alleged assault by police officer on
Shri Harin Pathak, M.P.*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pall): Mr.

(Interruptions)

Speaker, Sir, on 2nd November, some people were gunned down by police personnel in a village in district Murshidabad of West Bengal but nothing has been done so far against the culprits and no one has been given compensation. (Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Zero Hour is over. We can take up Papers to be Laid on the Table.

12.57 hrs.

(Interruptions)

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRIBASUDEB ACHARIA: Thousands of workers are not getting their salary. The Prime Minister has not replied properly. The Government have stopped the Budgetary Support. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for lunch to meet once again at 2 o'clock.

13.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch
till fourteen of the clock*

SHRIRUPCHADN PAL (Hooghly): Has this Government any sympathy for the working-class?

(Interruptions)

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch
at five minutes past Fourteen of the
Clock*

SHRI SUDARSAN RAY CHAUDHURY (Serampore): The Prime Minister has responded in a cavalier manner. The entire gamut of this policy should be withdrawn immediately lock, stock and barrel.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

12.58 hrs.

Notification Under Companies Act,
1956

*At this stage, Shri Sudarsan
Raychaudhuri and some other hon.
Members came and stood near the Table*

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDARSAN RAY CHAUDHURI: It has caused great resentment among the workers. The Prime Minister has not responded properly. Under the circumstances, we cannot sit quiet at all. Unless this policy is withdrawn, we cannot allow this House to function like this. The workers are not getting their salary. The Adjournment Motion should be taken up immediately. We demand the withdrawal of this Policy of the Government.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Company Law Board (Fees on Applications and Petitions) (Amendment) Rules, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 787(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 1992 under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Placed in the Library. See No. L. T. 2704/92]

Notification Under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Review on the Working and Annual Report of the National Co-operative Consumer's Federation of India Ltd., New Delhi for 1991-92

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): Sir, on behalf of Shri Kamaluddin Ahmed, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (3) of section 6 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:-

- (1) (i) The Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Third Amendment Order, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 612(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th August, 1992.
- (ii) The Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Fourth Amendment Order, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 730(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st October, 1992.

[Placed in the Library. See No. L.T.2705/92].

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Cooperative Consumer's

Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92.

[Placed in the Library. See No. L.T.2706/92].

Review on the working of and Annual Report of the National Facility for Animal Tissue and Cell Culture Pune for 1991-92 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, I beg to lay on the table -

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Facility for Animal Tissue and Cell Culture, Pune, for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts.
- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Facility for Animal Tissue and Cell Culture, Pune, for the year 1991-92.

[Placed in the Library. See No. L.T.2707/92].

- (3) A copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabha:-

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Statement No XXII - Ninth Session, 1987
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2709/92] (ii) Statement No XXX - Tenth Session, 1988
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2709/92] (iii) Statement No XXVI - Eleventh Session, 1988
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2710/92] (iv) Statement No XXIII - Twelfth Session, 1988
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2711/92] (v) Statement No XXIII - Thirteenth Session
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2712/92] (vi) Statement No XIXI - Fourteenth Session, 1989
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2713/92] | } | Eighth Lok Sabha |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (vii) Statement No XVI - First Session, 1989
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2714/92] (viii) Statement No XVII - Second Session, 1990
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2715/92] (ix) Statement No XIII - Third Session, 1990
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2716/92] (x) Statement No XI - Sixth Session, 1990
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2717/92] (xi) Statement No X - Seventh Session, 1991
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2718/92] | } | Ninth Lok Sabha |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (xii) Statement No IX - First Session, 1991
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2719/92] (xiii) Statement No VI - Second Session, 1991
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2720/92] (xiv) Statement No IV - Third Session, 1992
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2721/92] (xv) Statement No II - Fourth Session, 1992
[Placed in the Library See No L T 2722/92] | } | Tenth Lok Sabha |

Review on the Working of and Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd., Vadodra, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, Vadodra, for the year 1991-92.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, Vadodra, for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in the Library. See No. L.T.2723/92].

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92.

[Placed in the Library. See No. L.T.2724/92].

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi

and English versions) of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92.

[Placed in the Library. See No. L.T.2725/92].

Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India Union Government - (No. 15 of 1991) (Commercial) - Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd. Under Article 151 (1) of the Constitution.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India - Union Government - (No. 15 of 1991) (Commercial) - Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited under article 151 (1) of the Constitution. [Placed in the Library. See No. L.T.-2726/92].

Review on the Working of and Annual Report, audited Accounts of Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd, Calcutta, 1990-91 and Statement for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, on behalf of

Shri Salman Khursheed, I beg to lay on the Table.

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1990-91.

(ii) Annual Report of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. L.T 2727/92].

14.07 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the following eight Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the last session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 20th August, 1992:-

- (1) The Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Bill, 1992.
- (2) The Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Bill, 1992.
- (3) The Jammu and Kashmir Appropria-

tion (No. 2) Bill, 1992.

- (4) The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1992.
- (5) The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1992.
- (6) The Rehabilitation Council of India Bill, 1992.
- (7) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Bill, 1992.
- (8) The Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Amendment Bill, 1992.

Sir, I also lay on the Table copies, duly authenticated by the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha, of the following ten Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the last session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 20th August, 1992:-

- (1) The Constitution (Seventieth Amendment) Bill, 1992.
- (2) The Constitution (Seventy-first Amendment) Bill, 1992.
- (3) The Jammu and Kashmir State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1992.
- (4) The Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Bill, 1992.
- (5) The Indian Ports (Amendment) Bill, 1992.
- (6) The Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Amendment Bill, 1992.
- (7) The National Waterway (Kollam-Kottapuram stretch of West Coast Canal and Champakara and Udyogmandalam Canals) Bill, 1992.

- (8) The Capital Issues (Control) Repeal Bill, 1992.
- (9) The Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Bill, 1992.
- (10) The Army (Amendment) Bill, 1992.

14.08 hrs.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON COPYRIGHT
(SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL MOTION
RE. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT

[English]

SHRISHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do extend up to the last day of the Budget Session 1993, the time for presentation of the report of the Joint Committee on Copyright (Second Amendment) Bill, 1992 further to amend the Copyright Act, 1957".

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do extend up to the last day of the Budget Session 1993, the time for presentation of the report of the Joint Committee on Copyright (Second Amendment) Bill, 1992 further to amend the Copyright Act, 1957."

The Motion was adopted

14.08 1/2 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Twenty Second Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-second Report of the Business Advisory Committee, presented to the House on the 24th November, 1992."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-second Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 24th November, 1992."

The Motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi.

14.09 1/2 hrs.

MATTERS UNDEDR RULE 377

- (I) Need to take steps for stopping Mining operation inside the Simlipal wildlife sanctuary, Orissa

[English]

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Bhampur): Sir, Mining operation in the soapstone mines, located inside the Simlipal Wildlife Sanctuary in Orissa pose a threat to the flora and fauna of the famous park. Cracks, fissures, ravines, landslides and siltation of water resources have been increasing in the entire forest due to increasing mining operation in contravention of the Forest Conservation and Wildlife Protection

Act. The Government intends to give the Sanctuary legal status of a national park, but this will be possible if the entire area is kept out of mining operation. Otherwise the sanctuary will be turned into a barren land and the entire eco-system will be disturbed and destroyed. Besides, the inmates of the sanctuary, a large number of migratory birds, come every year to Simlipal as they find the sanctuary very safe place to stay. It is, therefore, necessary to stop mining operation altogether. The mining operation is also not economical.

Hence, I urge the Government to prevail upon the State Government of Orissa, to stop the mining operation inside the Simlipal Forest.

- (ii) **Need to provide reservation facility at Seoni Railway Station and also to introduce a Super-fast train from Jabalpur to New Delhi via Beena**

[*Translation*]

KUMARI VIMLA VERMA (Seoni): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the headquarters of my Lok Sabha constituency, Seoni, is connected by the metre-gauge railway line. In order to travel to other parts of the country, one is supposed to take the train from Nagpur (Maharashtra) or Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh). Reservation quota from Seoni on the trains leaving from Nagpur and Jabalpur to Delhi-Bombay-Calcutta-Madras etc. should be fixed and the reservation should be made at the Seoni Railway Station itself. The public has been making a demand for it since long. The members of the D.R.U.C.C. have also made this demand at the meeting. The representatives of the people have also written a letter to the hon. Minister, but no progress has been made in this direction so far. So, there is great resentment in the area. A delegation of the Members of Parliament

has met the hon. Minister in connection with starting a new superfast train from Jabalpur to New Delhi via Bina, but despite their meeting, the new train has not been started. This has caused great public resentment. Therefore, an action on both the matters should be taken in the public interests at the earliest.

- (iii) **Need to consider the proposals of Maharashtra State regarding transmission of Gas from Bombay High to North India**

[*English*]

SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH (Washim): I wish to raise the following matter under rule 377.

It is learnt that Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and ONGC are working on a proposal for diversion of the additional availability of gas from Bombay High and other Western off-shore area to Hazira for onward transmission in North India. Under these circumstances, I would urge the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to consider the proposals of Maharashtra State also:

- (1) To withhold consideration of all proposals involving transport of excess gas to Hazira.
- (2) To declare Usar, District Raigad (Maharashtra State) as the site for the setting up of a second gas terminal immediately.
- (3) Afford the Government of Maharashtra an opportunity to present a more viable alternative for reduction of gas flaring at Bombay High and for more effective utilization in a shorter time span of the gas likely to be available.

- (iv) **Need for extending natural gas pipe line to Agra for improving power generation and setting up of new Industries in Agra**

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Sir, Agra is an International Tourism Centre. Many restrictions have been imposed on the coal based industries to control the environmental pollution in the name of protecting Taj Mahal from it due to which unemployment is on the rise there. Almost no new industries are being set up there. Due to this reason only the Central Government has neither set up any industry there after the independence nor any industry is proposed to be set up.

Even after approving the proposal to provide alternative energy by the Central Government the Gas pipeline is not being laid by the Central or State Government upto Agra so that the industries there may get pollution free energy and the Taj may also be protected from the environmental pollution.

Permission to set-up a coal based power plant in Agra is not being granted and the setting up of a gas based power house is not possible without the availability of natural gas.

Therefore, I would like to demand the Central Government to provide adequate electricity supply as an alternative energy to Agra and other districts which fall under Taj Trapezium area. Electrification of all the villages of the entire area should be done for the purpose of supplying electricity in these areas. Electricity should be made available to the present industries as an alternative energy as well as to set up new industries. Schemes should be prepared to improve the transmission and distribution system of electricity and financial assistance should be provided for their implementation. The pro-

posals and schemes and electricity projects for these areas submitted by the Uttar Pradesh Government and pending with the Centre should be cleared immediately so that those could be implemented without any further delay.

- (v) **Need for setting up of gas based power plants at Aonla, Shahjahanpur and Jagdishpur, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Fertiliser Factory of IFFCO at Aonla runs by the natural gas supplied through HBJ pipeline. The factory has been unable to use the full supply of gas for the purpose. As a result of that the gas is wastefully flared up in Gujarat. To avoid such a situation permission should be granted to set up a power House based on the natural gas near HBJ pipeline which will give a new life to the glass, ceramics, foundry and to the fertiliser industry at Aonla (Bareilly), Shahjahanpur and Jagdishpur in Uttar Pradesh. At present, Bareilly district is one of the backward districts and it has been decided by the Government to put special efforts to renovate old industrial districts under new industrial policy. Besides removing the electricity crisis it will revitalise the Industrial units at Aonla (Bareilly) and the area will also be saved from the environmental pollution.

Therefore, I would like to urge the Central Government that natural gas based power house each in Aonla (Bareilly), Shahjahanpur, and Jagdishpur should be set up immediately.

- (vi) **Need to set up Industries in Saharasa Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar**

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharasa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to give a notice under rule 377 regarding

unemployment in my constituency Saharasa. Since there is no industry in the public sector or private sector in the area, the poor people have to go outside Saharasa to earn their livelihood.

I have also raised many questions in the house regarding setting up of industries in Saharasa but no scheme has been prepared in this regard so far. With the result unemployment is on the rise. The area is very backward and flood-affected also.

Therefore, I would like to submit that the Government of India should prepare a scheme to set up industries in Saharasa and implement it as soon as possible so that the problem of unemployment could be solved.

- (vii) **Need to open more LPG outlets in divisional/district town, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal**

[English]

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the acute crisis of LPG connections in the divisional/district town, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal. There are more than 10,000 applications seeking LPG connections pending till 1987. Only one dealer is operating on temporary basis there. The people of the area are agitated over this. The district administration has also brought this issue to the notice of the authorities concerned. There are so many applications for dealership, etc., pending, of which the Wholesale Consumers' Cooperative Society is only one recommended by the district authority. Under the circumstances, I urge upon the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas to appoint at least one more dealer in

this area, which would solve this burning problem of the district.

- (viii) **Need to announce higher procurement price for Narma Cotton**

[Translation]

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar). Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, last year the sale price of 'Narma' cotton was Rs. 1450/- per quintal. But this year the rate is ranging between Rs. 1075/- and Rs. 1125/- per quintal whereas there has been a great increase in the rates of fertilisers and pesticides. Apart from this the rate of pesticides has increased from 20% to 25% as compared to last year.

The rates of diesel, labour and spray etc. have increased. Therefore, I would like to request the Central Government that the rate of 'Narma' cotton should be at least Rs. 2000/- per quintal.

14.19 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Situation Affecting Agriculture and Farmers Interests due to Increase in Re Prices of Fertilizers and Wheat Import

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up the discussion regarding the serious situation affecting agriculture and farmers interests due to increase in the prices of fertilizers and import of wheat.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, these are two topics which are, to some extent, interconnected. But each in its own right is an extremely important matter - policy of the

Government regarding import of wheat and the cut in the subsidy of fertilisers.

The entire country has been rightly agitated by a sudden shift, what appears to be a shift in the policy of a Government which has always assured everybody that they have the interests of the farmers and the interests of agriculture primarily at heart and nothing will ever be done which is detrimental to the interests of the farmers. Sir, as citizens of this country, for the last few years, all of us have been proud to share the claim that after so many years, India has become self-sufficient in food and it is no longer necessary for us, as it was at one point of time, to go on depending on imports of foreign foodgrains particularly wheat. We remember those years of PL-480 when we went on spending large amounts of foreign exchange year after year in order to purchase wheat from US. That period has passed. That was like a nightmare and we were able to stand up with our heads held high and say that at least thanks to the boost in our production, green revolution, hard work of our farmers and other things. We have reached a stage where India is no longer depending on imports and we can say now quite proudly that we are self-sufficient in foodgrains. Now, all of a sudden - I do not know if it is really sudden but anyway the decision is sudden - we have to go in for substantial import of wheat. It began with one million tonnes but now, it has come to 2.5 million tonnes which is proposed to be imported from USA, Canada and Australia. The combined figure is 2.5 million tonnes. Sir, I wish Dr. Manmohan Singh was here because it appears to me that what is happening is the first taste that we are getting of the so-called global free trade of which Dr. Manmohan Singh is a big votary power and a champion and it is the basic philosophy, after all, of the western countries, of the World Bank and of the IMF that we must tie

up our economy with the global economy and global free trade is something which we cannot opt out of. We cannot afford to indulge in luxuries like saying that we must be self-sufficient, self-reliant and try to stand on our feet and all that. These are supposed to be all out-of-date ideas and theories and we must become integrated with this global free trade.

Now, what is happening here? We find from the picture of wheat position that actually we are facing a crisis and I suppose one can describe it only as a major crisis. Production is down, procurement is down and buffer stocks are down. I need not go on quoting Government figures here. Statistics are available. The question is why has the production gone down so much. We are not have any successive years of drought or anything. We had a good monsoon. Last year, we had a bumper harvest. At least, it was claimed that it was a bumper harvest. I do not know. In spite of that, production is stagnating. I would not say that it has declined very sharply but it has become stagnant. It is not growing. As a result of that, procurement has also gone down and buffer stocks have also gone down. I think, yesterday, the hon. Minister was saying that we are having to import because prices here have risen very high in the internal domestic market and in order to protect the consumers from these very high prices, we are having to import wheat so that prices can come down. I think, according to press reports, when the Government first started thinking of importing wheat from USA, and perhaps was having some negotiations, they were hopeful that this US wheat would be supplied to us at subsidised rates. But then the world has changed. So many things have changed in the world. The balance of forces is changed and the United States is in no mood nowadays to supply subsidised food to countries whom they consider to be not part and parcel of their world design. The result is that the imported US wheat, which we are contract-

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Situation affecting agriculture & farmers' interests due to increase in
ing for, is at the rate of somewhere between
\$ 163 and \$ 205 c.i.f....

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN
GOGOI): That is not correct!

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Please correct me, if it is not correct. The landed cost of that works out to so much. Here again, somebody says that the landed cost works out to Rs. 424 per quintal and some people say that it would be Rs. 526 per quintal. The exact figures and calculations can be supplied by the Minister. The fact is that this price is far far higher, much higher than the price at which we are asking the farmer in our own country to supply wheat to the market or to the Government for procurement purposes.

There was a rumour at one time - a couple of months ago - that the American attitude, rather a rigid and hard attitude, was due to its displeasure at the reported agreement or decision of the Indian Government to sell rice to Cuba, Cuba being a country against whom, the United States is practising a trade embargo for the last so many years - I do not know how many years - and trying to prevent any kind of food or other essential supplies from reaching Cuba. It is a political question. Later on it was made clear that the Government of India is not selling any rice to Cuba.

Whatever it may be, the decision of the Cabinet taken on the 15th of January this year to import one million tonnes of wheat, was the first decision in four years. It was the first time that such a decision was taken in four years. The last time was in 1988. For the last four years, we have never imported any wheat from outside. And now, suddenly, this decision was taken by the Cabinet! There is no doubt that a lot of the wheat was being held back from the market in anticipation of getting a higher price later on. It was being

held back by traders, by merchants - by hoarders in other words - and also perhaps by a section of farmers in the more prosperous areas of the country where they have got some holding capacity. There is nothing strange about this, because they were all calculating that later on they would be able to get a better price. So, they were holding on. I don't think the Government has been very vigorous or serious about trying to bring out any hoarded stocks. Some kind of anti-hoarding operations in some States were carried out, but they were very marginal. Most of the stuff which is being held back, leading to this rise in prices, was never tackled seriously. Rather, the Government has gone in for adopting softer option. The tough or difficult option would be to deal with the hoarders. The softer option is to go in for import, paying huge amounts of foreign exchange out, at the time when we have got an adverse trade balance, when everyday, the Finance Ministry is reminding us that there is a huge foreign exchange deficit. Why have they gone for a softer option of paying out huge amounts of foreign exchange in order to import wheat, despite this adverse trade balance and despite the fact that the wheat crop has been a good one and there has been good monsoon?

In 1991-92, the wheat procurement was 7.7 million tonnes, that is, 3 million tonnes less than in 1990-91. My question is 'Why?'. Why was it so much less? 3 million tonnes less! Some explanation has to be given for that. On the 1st of January this year, the wheat in our buffer stock was 5.27 million tonnes as against 9.20 million tonnes on the same date last year. So, the buffer stocks are being seriously depleted. There has been a combination of speculation and hoarding, even of movement of foodgrains from one State to another - whether you call it smuggling or not, I do not know - but all this has combined to bring about such a situation. At the same time the government has announced, that announcement was welcomed,

that the Public Distribution network was going to be expanded and strengthened and a large number of PDS outlets in various States are going to be opened which would require an additional 4 million tonnes of foodgrains. To feed the entire Public Distribution System; to keep it growing an additional 4 million tonnes is required not perhaps only of wheat but of all foodgrains. At the same time last year some 6.5 lakh tonnes of wheat was exported at Rs. 240 per quintal to some African and other countries. So, what I am saying, Sir, is that the whole policy appears to be paradoxical and it is full of all kinds of contradictions. We would like to know whether some different Departments and Sections inside the Government are working at cross purposes.

There was a headline report in the newspaper, which to my knowledge the Minister concerned has never contradicted, that the hon. Minister in charge of Agriculture and Food was in principle opposed to this large scale import of wheat. He is present here. He can clarify his position. I would like to know what has happened to the after-effects or aftermaths of the Green Revolution? Is it a time for second Green Revolution? If so, what are you going to do about it? The fact remains that the production is declining. Since 1988, 54 million tonnes to 56 million tonnes is a sort of stagnant level at which the production of wheat remains today. The Government which no doubt has been very panicky, did not think of concrete measures to stimulate production. They cannot, of course, stimulate production also because they have raised the prices of fertilizers so much that all the farmers are suffering. These two are definitely interconnected. Because of this Fertilizer Policy, not only production of wheat but production of so many other crops is going to suffer heavily. So, we have turned from a net exporter to an importer within less than two years. I think it

is a matter of great concern. If this does not add up to a serious crisis what else does, please tell us.

I understand there is a problem as to how to satisfy the farmer and how to satisfy the consumers from the less affluent section for whom the PDS is supposed to function. The issue price from the PDS shops has also been increased, I think three times, in the last couple of year. The prices of wheat; the prices of rice issued against the ration card, from the PDS shops, are also having to be put up. Why? I think it is because they say "We are giving higher procurement prices to the farmers". But, obviously those higher procurement prices are not adequate to stimulate the farmer to part with more grain. He is holding back because there is something wrong with the Price Policy. You cannot expect a farmer to give you grain at a certain price when he knows that the price will rise in future. The imported wheat is being brought at much higher price which the Government is paying to the American Grain companies. I think the immediate beneficiaries of this policy will not be either the Indian farmer or the Indian agriculture at all, but the immediate beneficiaries will be those people who will be involved in the import business viz. importers, exporters, shipping companies, insurers, commission agents and brokers. So, they will of course be the immediate beneficiaries but not our farmers. They are going to lose heavily. And the Indian agriculture as a whole has received a body blow because you had not outlined any measure by which in the next couple of years, you are going to increase production sufficiently or to gear up your procurement machine.

So, Sir, as far as this matter is concerned, I very strongly condemn this policy of the Government which has turned upside down the course which we were following for last few years. It is something which I think the whole community of farmers is up in

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Situation affecting agriculture & farmers' interests due to increase in arms against and will be more and more opposed to it.

Then, as far as fertilizers are concerned, this policy of de-control, again we are told, was against the advise of the Agriculture Ministry and against the advise of the Fertilizer Department. It has led to a steep rise in the prices of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers. Last year, when it was announced in this House, there was a general disapproval and opposition. It was assured here that as far as the poor and marginal farmers are concerned, they will continue to get the fertilizers at the previous price, the new price, as a result of removal of subsidies will not affect the small and marginal farmers. But subsequently, reports came from everywhere that it is only on paper, in actual practice, the small and marginal farmers are also having to buy fertilizers at the new and enhanced price. That machinery does not exist. It does not work. You cannot implement the decision like that. Either you have to buy from the blackmarket or you have to buy at the original price and not at the renewed - price or the enhanced price.

Now, I realise that after partial abolition of the subsidy, there is still quite a substantial subsidy remaining, deficit is remaining, and they will continue because of the condition of indigenous production of fertilizers and all that. All the public sector fertilizer companies are on the verge of closure. Mr. Sangma is sitting here behind you, he is tackling this problem as far as labour side of it is concerned. Every public sector fertilizer undertaking, whether it is Sindhri or whether it is Gorakhpur or Durgapur or Barauni or whether it is FACT, Travancore in Kerala which employees 10,000 people are on the verge of closure. They are on last gasp. Even the Budgetary allocations which have been made for these companies, have either been withdrawn or have not been given in actual fact. So, the life is being squeezed out of these factories. Sometimes, they do not even have

money to pay the salaries every month let alone to buy raw materials and all that. This seems to be a calculated policy of the Government as far as public sector fertilizer concerns go. No doubt, this policy will help the private sector viz. Mr. Birla and others who run their own private sector fertilizer companies would be happy. I think, a Report was submitted by the Sub-committee on fertilizers - Committee on Public Undertakings - where there were some notes of dissent. It made it quite clear that the Members of the Committee were being pressurised in various ways to see that this policy was carried out which would directly lead to a closure of the public sector units.

Thousands of those workers are now, at this moment, at the Boat Club, demonstrating because their jobs are at stake; they have no job security left; they do not know how long these factories will be allowed to operate.

The private sector factories, of course, will gain, benefit, profit. But what will be the total picture of the fertiliser market? So, my plea is that the subsidy which was removed last year - after all these subsidies are not permanent things; they are temporary things; sometimes they are increased; sometimes they can be lowered; sometimes they can be abolished; sometimes they can be restored - should be restored. But, at the present moment, the condition which has been created, I would plead for a restoration of the subsidy, which was removed last year on fertilizers.

Don't do all these things together. It will deliver a body blow to the agriculture of this country. The combination of this, removal of subsidy plus this import of wheat is going to deliver a crippling blow to the agriculture of our country and to the farmers. And what have they done to deserve this, we do not know. These are all things which are following from the policy now on liberalisation and

global free trade and all that. Otherwise, how this thing has come about suddenly? The removal of subsidy, nobody hides the fact that it is a very strong prescription; and repeatedly that prescription is being administered by the World Bank. The President of the World Bank was here only the other day. They are repeating all the time that without further cut in your subsidy you cannot expect to get assistance from us. Now where that will stop we do not know.

Now, it is subsidy on fertilizer. Subsidy on food has also begun to be cut in stages, which means the Public Distribution System will be affected, which is meant for the poorer section of the people, not people sitting in this House, I am sure. You and I go and buy from the open market. We do not need to line up and stand in queues holding ration cards. But what about the other section of the community which is going to be hit by this constant rise in the issue price of things like wheat, sugar, rice, edible oil and all that. Therefore, these two matters must be treated as a single whole because they are most important components of our agricultural system as we have developed. One is fertilizer without which there would have been no Green Revolution. It was not due only to fertilizer I know; it was a combination of fertilizer, good seeds and water and all that. But fertilizer is a very essential part of it and you are removing it and making it go beyond the reach of every average farmer. Secondly, by importing wheat at these prices half of which even you are not prepared to give to our own farmers, why should we pay this money, this foreign exchange to these big American grain companies I do not know.

We can build up our production. We have done it already. Even two years ago, it was not necessary to think of import any more. We were in a position to feed our people. It is a different matter that a large

section of our people do not have the purchasing capacity to buy even this subsidised food. It is a fact, all those who are living below the poverty line and so on. But that is another problem; and we have to deal with it separately how to increase the purchasing capacity of those people. But the fact is that whatever offtake is there was coming directly from our own domestic production; and it was not necessary to go on saying that there is a shortfall and therefore we have to bring in grains from outside.

Therefore, I strongly condemn this policy of the Government. I demand two things. One is that the fertilizer subsidy cut should be restored. Fertilizer production in this country should not be allowed to go down. Public sector fertilizer plants should not be allowed to be closed down; they should be rehabilitated; they should be revived with the help of the management and the workers both who are prepared to cooperate in this matter.

And as far as wheat is concerned, this contract which is being signed, I feel it is a thin end of the wedge; this is not the first contract that is going to be signed. This should be reviewed; it must be reconsidered. And I think a senior and veteran farmer like Mr. Balram Jakhar pits himself also rightly on the back that he is such an experienced farmer. I do not know how this thing he is following. It should go against his very grain, that this government having reached a stage of self-sufficiency should now have to go and again beg for food-grains from America, mind you on their terms, on terms which they are in a position to dictate. This is our ill advised policy, totally against the interest of Indian agriculture and Indian farmer and the whole matter should be reconsidered.

I hope that the Prime Minister, the Food Minister and others who always claim that they have to make themselves free, they

have to liberate themselves from whatever grip is on them, in the interest of our own country, that will be done. Otherwise we are in for some very hard times and agriculture and farmers in this country are going to suffer for no fault of their own, may be due to wrong policies here which are suffering from dictation by foreign agencies and that is not the thing which we can reconcile ourselves to.

The economic policy of this country must be determined freely by our own sovereign country, by our own independent Government and not to be dictated by foreign agencies.

This is all I have to say. I hope that the House will support the idea of reversing these disastrous policies which the Government have undertaken.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The total time allotted for the subject is two hours.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No, Sir, minimum ten hours.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: It is a very serious matter and it should continue. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there should be a debate for 10 hours on this issue. The rural areas of the entire country are disturbed. People are curiously waiting for the outcome of this debate. I would like to submit that there should be a debate on this matter at least for two days or 10 hours..(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are a number of hon. Members who want to participate in this debate, therefore, those

Members who get a chance, if they cut their speeches short, more Members can participate, because this is a very serious debate.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHURAM MIRDHA (Nagaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, for a little while I would like to draw your attention to that Government which was then supported by both Shri Indrajit Gupta and Shri Khurana. I was a Cabinet Minister in that Government and remained in that position for nearly 11 months. Later, the Government was voted out of power by the grace of the party to which Khurana belongs. The report of Agriculture Commission prepared by me in the background of the situations prevailing at that time and on the basis of my experience in the field of agriculture, will remain relevant for 100 years to come. Shri Indrajit Gupta just expressed his views saying that in this regard the policy of the Government is wrong. There has always been a difference between the viewpoints of the Government and that of the opposition parties and this has to be there always. The members of opposition blow both hot and cold at a time. But those who are assigned to work.

[*English*]

They cannot blow hot and cold at a time.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Are you supporting this policy?

SHRI NATHURAM MIRDHA: Yes, I am going to support this for very intelligent and hard reasons. You try to understand, you will also come to the same conclusion. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

It is not necessary that I should tread your path all the time...(*Interruptions*)...I was submitting and as has also been referred to

[Translation]

by Shri Indrajit Gupta, the production of foodgrains has fallen in the last four-five years. It did really fall down for one year and in the rest of the years it has been stagnant. At present the production of wheat is around 54—55 million ton..(Interruptions)

[English]

I will explain the whole position, what is wrong and how it is to be corrected. If you hear me, I will try to explain everything...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Please speak like Two-in-one...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: I have not followed what you have said.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): What we mean is you are the right person in a wrong place.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: I know where I should be because, I have been for 13 years where I claimed that I could do something, but when I came to the conclusion that I could not do anything, I had to return. I have tried to do something with Shri Charan Singh, with you and with everybody. We did something temporarily but we could not succeed permanently because there are so many heterogeneous elements, just like Shri Kharana. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): When did you realise it?

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: I realised it when they left us.

There were only two Members of the B.J.P. in the Parliament, then its number rose to 36 and now it is 117. It is a great malady and I am here to find a remedy to this malady. It is, however, a political thing...(Interruptions) I am ready to get my name changed if even a single candidate of the B.J.P. wins election next time...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let there be no cross talk. Let us hear him.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Nathu Ram Mirdha was saying that not even a single candidate of the B.J.P. would win the election; on the contrary, twelve candidates have won the election from our State...(Interruptions)

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Now, I would like to present data on the procurement and production of the last four years. During the year 1988-89 the production was 169.9 million ton, during 1989-90, it was 172.1 million ton, during 1990-91 it was 176.1 million ton and during the year 1991-92 it was 167.2 million ton. During my tenure as Minister the total production was 169 million ton. At that time the production of wheat was 54 million ton and the procurement was eleven million ton as against the target of ten million ton. The real procurement thus exceeded the target by 1.6 million ton...(Interruptions) please listen me first. The procurement exceeded the target. Similarly, the procurement of rice was eleven and a half million ton where as the target of its procurement was 10 million ton. The procurement was maximum during my tenure and so was the stock position. We pro-

vide foodgrains according to the demands and requirements of the Chief Ministers of different States, irrespective of their party affiliation. This is on record. If our Government had not gone out of power, the country's foodgrains position would have been very happy. I was submitting that oil and sugar also come under food supply. The maximum production of sugar in the country was 90 lakh ton but when I became Minister it rose to 103 lakh ton and now it is going to touch 130 lakh ton. Now, I am asked to explain the contradiction as to why did we resort to exporting? At that time there was a paucity of oil whereas we were having palm oil in abundance. The position of foreign exchange was very poor which later on completely dried up. So in a bid to earn foreign exchange we decided to export rice and wheat and in return we decided to import oil. Under a contract we exported wheat and rice and by the foreign exchange thus earned we imported oil. There was a great shortage of oil during that period. Farmers are very clever. They know their economics. The cultivation of mustard and black mustard increased. Now you ask as to what is the cause of this stagnation. The reason is-

[English]

diversion of areas from wheat to oil seed crops. We have to deal with this. That is another philosophy.

[Translation]

Now I would like to say that we did export at that time. Mr. Khurana made all sorts of hue and cry that some irregularities were committed in the export of wheat. Wheat and rice were exported during that time. I know how Khuranaji was playing a drama at that time.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: A guilty conscience is always suspicious.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: I was just saying that the export of wheat was considered proper. Now the Sugar production has gone upto 130 lakh tonnes and there is no worry on that account. There is no question of exporting it. The edible oil production is almost okay. The production of pulses, wheat and rice has also gone up, but it needs to be further increased, because the population is on the rise. You may remember last year's situation. There was drought during the months of Jyeshth and Ashadha, something unprecedented. Similarly, there was rainfall during Sawan. It was very late. The Government was very anxious. The stocks had depleted. Our Prime Minister Shri Narasimha Rao has always stressed upon the need to strengthen the Public Distribution System (P.D.S.). The stocks got depleted, as a result of releasing additional foodgrains. Now, as a result, they were left with no option, but to import foodgrains. You have questioned the justification of importing wheat, but if they were brought from within the country, the prices would have skyrocketed. Therefore, the government was left with no option, but to import wheat. Thus, first, it was decided to import one million tonne and then it was revised to three million tonnes and now it has been fixed at 2.8 million tonnes. This was necessary to keep the Public Distribution System working and more imports would be necessary to make more foodgrains available. There has been no deal with any private companies abroad, all deals finalised so far have been on a Government to Government basis. We have reached agreements with the Governments of Australia, Canada, U.S.A. etc. Therefore, we had to purchase wheat, at the current international prices.

AN HON. MEMBER: You have signed deals with private companies.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: I am sorry, your information is incorrect. I know every-

thing. All the deals signed so far have been on a Government to Government basis and the American Government has given us a huge concessions. They take less price from us, but sell at a higher price back home.

15.00 Hrs.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It's all bungling.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Your opinion is incorrect. I won't agree with everything you say. The wheat purchased by the Government was at a reasonable price and there has been no bungling in it. Rather, wheat prices would have further gone up, if we hadn't imported three lakh million tonnes of wheat. Now you tell me whether it was a fair deal or not. I have had talks with them and now this Government won't import anymore wheat. Let me tell you that this year's production is unprecedented.

[English]

Today my expectation of this year's foodgrains production, Kharif and Rabi, will be nearly 183 or 184 million on tonnes.

[Translation]

Please listen to me. It is equivalent to Brahma's words. You can see for yourself that the production will be 184 million tonnes. I know this. I have got experience. Our Kharif production will be very good. The dams are full, there is enough water in the rivers and except for the drought affected regions, more areas will be irrigated. What I mean to say is that we will have very good production this year. More wheat will arrive in the market. Let us together put pressure on the Government to fix remunerative procurement prices.

It is also essential to mention Fertilizers

here. I would like to say a couple of things in this regard also.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Only now, you have come to the real point.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Please allow me to speak.

[English]

Fertiliser is a very essential part of production of foodgrains and all crops.

[Translation]

According to the recommendations of the National Commission, the production should have been 180 million tonnes by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan and to achieve that a quota of 14,000 million tonnes of fertilizers should have been released. This didn't materialise as a result of which the production fell short of the target.

15.02 hrs.

[SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA *In THE CHAIR*]

The Fertilizer prices have gone up because the prices of phosphate and Potash have gone up. Further, we have all along been importing phosphate and potash, and in future too, it will continue to be imported. There is no potential for the production of phosphate and potash fertilizer in the country and hence it will continue to be an import item and this means shelling out precious foreign exchange. After all, how many thousand crores rupees of subsidy can the Government provide? It won't be possible for the Government to make such comprehensive arrangement and the farmers will have to pay for it. In the final reckoning, it is in the petroleum sector that the country is in trouble. Our consumption is 50 million tonnes and this increases annually by two mil-

lion tonnes. Once, three years back, we had achieved an annual production of 35 million tonnes but today, we have come back to 25 million tonnes. We are making maximum efforts to hike the production. This is very essential for petroleum products and fertilizers. Even the import of this, is a very costly affair. So far as the question of Naptha and Nitrogen fertilizer production is concerned, please keep it in mind that these prices have been reduced by ten per cent. Therefore, it would be unreasonable to demand that everything should remain cheap. How long can you keep it going? I know very well that, had your Government been in power, you would not have been able to do even this much. What I mean to say is that we should not lose sight at reality.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please address the chair?

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: You know everything, what is there to tell you, but these people don't understand. You know everything and you are a brilliant Parliamentarian. However, now I shall address the chair. I was submitting that the problems in this country are very serious. (*Interruptions*)

I have never had this kind of problem with them before. They used to understand me and I used to understand them, so, there was no quarrel. Now, there is no need for any details here. What I express outside is a reflection of my feelings inside. There is no quarrel between us. They understand me very well and I understand them very well. I understand Atalji very well, but 'Atalji' and Khuranaji are very different from each other.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to submit that in the matter of fertilizers, it was not appropriate on the part of this Govern-

ment to double the prices of phosphatic fertilizers. It would not have made much of a difference, had they not done it. They could have done it after the current season, when D.A.P.'s necessity would have been over. Both Nathu Ram and the farmers face difficulty on account of the money swindled by the middlemen. The Government failed to manage it in the proper way and consequently, the farmers had to pay a higher price. It would have been alright, had this been done at the proper time, after the sowing of the seeds and the use of D.A.P. The farmers would have become mentally prepared to pay a higher price next time and the middlemen would not have succeeded in their nefarious activities.

Therefore, it would be a wrong policy to hike production by providing heavy subsidies on fertilizers. The farmers should pay a reasonable price for fertilizers, on the basis of the cost of production. They shouldn't always rely on subsidies. It is also correct that the farmers should get higher prices, on account of the high and ever-increasing prices of petroleum products, diesel, fertilizers etc. I have been saying this right from the beginning and I repeat that it's high time for the Government to ponder over this issue, because it will be announcing the procurement prices soon. Before that, as an hon. Member stated just now, last time, the Government, after taking everything into consideration, had fixed the price of wheat at Rs. 280/- per quintal, but now it won't do. It is true that last time, you increased the price by Rs. 50/-, something unprecedented, but this time the price should be further increased. (*Interruptions*)

What I mean is that the country's farmers lost a great deal on account of the inopportune timing of the decision. Later on, the government did provide a thousand rupees or some subsidies, but the benefits did not reach the rural farmers, rather, the co-operative societies, middle men and others shared

the loot. I would like to say only this much that the timing of the decision was inappropriate, which resulted in the present mess.

I explain the position to the farmers every day that they should not depend much on subsidy. At the same time, since prices of every commodity has gone up, the economic condition of the country deteriorated and prices of machines and agricultural inputs gone very high, it is not justified that one should expect getting rice, wheat, millet etc. at cheap rates. Now-a-days prices of agricultural produces are being fixed by bureaucrats sitting in air-conditioned rooms. But the political decision taken thereafter is more important and gives political colour to those decisions afterwards. The political leadership should take a bold decision. It should not have any weakness while taking a decision. The farmer must get remunerative prices for his produces. (*Interruptions*)

I have taken a lot of time. Therefore, without taking any more time I would urge the Government to give more thrust to agriculture. We have to increase the production of edible oils, pulses and foodgrains. We would certainly succeed to increase them in the near future. At the same time population growth will also have to be controlled. Every year we add a population equal to Australia's total population to our country's population. The Members of the House and the Government will have to think over the matter. Today the country is passing through a crisis. We have made widespread changes in our policies and still there is a need to modify them. The blessings of God are always with us. This was the reason that the agricultural output was good this year. I am hopeful that the situation would further improve in future...(*Interruptions*) The Government should closely study the prevailing situation in the world and formulate its policies accordingly. How the communist party was

thrown out of power in Russia. (*Interruptions*) I am deeply disturbed to see all this. I am relating the fact to you. I know a lot about Russia. The Government was completely out. (*Interruptions*) The world has changed but not the BJP. (*Interruptions*) They say that it is the people's mandate, so they would perform 'Kar Seva'. (*Interruptions*)

Stringent measures will have to be taken and the past mistakes will have to be rectified to overcome the crisis our country is passing through at present. During the rule of Shri V.P. Singh we had imported about 18 lakh tonnes of palm oil. It was a blunder, otherwise the position of edible oil would not have been that bad today. Mistakes have been committed by this side as well as that side. Therefore, we will have to be cautious in future. I think that the Government at present is adopting right policies. You may point out as many mistakes as you like, but these policies are right. I wanted to make this much submission only.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mirdhaji, for a very entertaining intervention. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji will speak now.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Madam, I wanted this matter to be discussed under an Adjournment Motion. I am sure that there would have been a serious discussion had it been taken up under that Motion. There is a need to think deeply and extensively on the prevailing crisis of foodgrains.

Shri Madan Lai Khurana will be the Chief participant in the discussion on behalf of our party. I rise to make only a brief speech. Shri Khurana deserves the credit to be the first Member to raise the issue of export and then import of wheat. He drew the

attention of the country to the matter and today it has been a matter of controversy. I know that he wanted to speak more on that issue.

I am in a dilemma. The Government and the country are also in the same position. How co-ordination could be established between the interests of consumers and producers. Production is necessary. The production must be increased, and for this, the interests of the farmers will have to be safeguarded because if the farmer is the producer, he is also the consumer. He purchases the equipments manufactured in factories. The production cost of agricultural products is calculated and the Government decides the profit the farmers should get on the cost. But the Government never took into account the cost involved in the production of essential commodities in big factories and on what profit they sell the commodities. (Interruptions) You are right. Because the Government has no pricing policy. There should be some co-relation between prices of agricultural commodities and the items manufactured in factories.

The Government has to safe-guard the interests of the consumers. The statement given by the hon. Minister makes at least one thing evident that our agriculture is still dependent on rain. It means that we are not yet self-reliant. Whatever self-reliance we have attained is largely due to rain God's grace. I am not among those persons who would oppose import of food-grains. I am not among those persons who would oppose import of food-grains if there is drought and there is real need for it in the country. But the Government will have to prove why the recent import of foodgrains was necessary. Do not the farmers have sufficient quantity of foodgrains? It is not a fact that the farmers were prepared to sell wheat, had the Government increased the prices a little more? A delegation of farmers met me only yesterday and told me that they were not getting even

the cost price of their produce though they have to purchase other commodities at comparatively higher prices. Since the Government has increased the prices of fertilizers and diesel, there will be price rise of different commodities and the farmers would naturally demand remunerative prices for their produce. If the Government refuses to give remunerative prices, the big farmers who can afford to store their foodgrains will not sell, but the small farmers cannot afford to do so. This creates difficulties for the Government.

The Government has to purchase it to run the distribution system because consumers interests cannot be ignored. The huge demonstration staged today was an expression of people's anguish who are burdened heavy price rise. Now the Government is in difficulty. I would like to cite an example how the policies of the Government are wrong. I got up to speak in the same context.

My friend Shri Dignvijaya Singh knows it very well that soyabean is produced in abundance in Madhya Pradesh. But the price of this product has fallen this year. As compared to its rate at Rs. 750-800 per quintal last year there has been a fall in its rate to Rs. 635 this year. Why did it happen? The Government imported soyabean oil from America. About 50,000 tonnes of this unrefined oil has been imported from that country in the form of help with a condition that it would be auctioned publicly. The hon. Minister should confirm it. But so far as I know, a part of the money earned from this auction would go to the Renewal Fund. This is an evidence of how the policies are related to these matters. Now the prices of soyabean has gone down. The farmer is suffering a loss of about Rs. 1000/- per tonne. About 30 lakh tonnes of soyabean is produced in the country and the farmers suffer a loss of about Rs. 300 crore every year. This is the overall situation of this product in the current year in the country.

Was it necessary to import 50,000 tonnes of unrefined oil this time? Could it not be stopped? Could no other alternative be found? Was the Government bound to obey the conditionalities of putting it in public auction?

If it is true that a part of the money will go to start Renewal Fund, have not the interests of the farmers been sacrificed. Sir, there is another instance. We import palm oil from Malaysia. This time we are importing 3 lakh tonnes of this oil from that country because it is essential to fulfill the requirements of people with the view that they have developed a habit of eating fried stuff whatever damage it may cause to their heart. But was it very necessary to publicly announce that we are importing palm oil from Malaysia? Couldn't this news be kept secret? Soyabean crop is reaching the market. Out of the total 3 lakh tonnes of palm oil being imported from outside, 50,000 tonnes of unrefined oil has come from America and being sold at cheaper rates. Under the prevailing circumstances will the prices of soyabean not come down? Does the Government deeply think over the matter? Are the decisions taken immediately or on *ad hoc* basis? Are decisions taken on a piece meal basis? There is total lack of Coordination in the ministries. No guidelines are issued by the Hon. Prime Minister. That is why the situation is going to worsen further.

Groundnut production has also fallen and it has resulted in fall in prices and the farmers say that apart from the lower prices, they are getting from the market, which are lower than that of last year, and the Government has liked the prices of fertilizers and diesel also. Prices have gone up on all fronts and what can we expect from you?

I would like to submit that it is necessary to maintain balance between the interests of

the consumers and producers. Government's success or failure on food front depends on whether the Government is able to maintain co-ordination between the interests of the consumers and that of producers. The present crisis is due to the absence of any such co-ordination. It is also due to the non-coordination between the Ministries. I have a great deal of respect for Mirdhaji, but I would like this discussion to take place in a more serious atmosphere (*Interruptions*). I am sorry that the matter is so serious that the farmers don't sell their produce to Government agencies and the Government is compelled to import foodgrains to teach its farmers a lesson and an opportunity is being given to us to compel us to say that the Government is more concerned about the interests of the American and Canadian farmers than to their Indian counterparts. The fact that this is gaining currency fast is a matter for the Government to gues for itself. When the Government takes a policy decision, you don't consider it necessary to take the nation into confidence. Why are the Television and Radio there for? It is to educate the masses, but why its services are not being utilised? However, the Government feels that it can take such decisions off hand. 50,000 tonnes of Soyabean oil have been imported and the Government is least bothered if the price of Soyabean within the country falls, if the farmers of Madhya Pradesh suffer, let them suffer. (*Interruptions*) Why have you stood up, on the very mention of the word 'Soyabean'? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): Since, he has mentioned my name, I would like to say something. The Soyabean crop has been excellent this season, but some other reasons are responsible for the fall in its price. Oil is produced from only 18% of the total soyabean production and the prices vary from quality to quality. We have been demanding that the Madhya Pradesh Government should start soyabean procurement immediately in the state, but the Tilhan Sangh,

which does the purchases is yet to start its work. Patwaji has not briefed him correctly. The import of 50,000 tonnes of Soyabean oil doesn't make any difference. Please excuse me for my intervention, but he has been incorrectly briefed. We charge the Madhya Pradesh Government, it is in connivance with the Mill processors and has not started its procurement which has resulted fall in Soyabean prices.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I have not been briefed by anyone. I have myself collected these facts. 50,000 tonnes of unrefined oil has been imported.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: But the prices have fallen on account of the non-procurement of Soyabean.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You tell me whether the price of Soyabean has fallen or not?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: The price has fallen, only because the State Government hasn't commenced its purchases. The Tilhan Sangh has not started procuring Soyabean from the farmers.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You are giving this reason, but I say that it is because 50,000 tonnes of unrefined oil have been imported from the U.S.A. You tell me whether it was imported or not?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: But it doesn't have a bearing on the prices.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You tell me whether Soyabean oil has been imported or not?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: That's for the Government to answer (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): It is correct that the farmers should

get higher prices, at any cost, but the Madhya Pradesh Government has put an embargo on the inflow and outflow of rice and paddy, just to benefit about 120 mill owners, due to which farmers are not getting remunerative prices for rice. You please ask Patwaji to lift the embargo so that the farmers get remunerative price. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Madam, Chairperson, if anybody else from that side wants to speak, kindly listen to him also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you speak.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: What I am saying is the other side of the coin. If you want to refute it, you are free to do so. (*Interruptions*) I fail to understand the silence on the part of Shri Pilot.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): I am listening to you.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I don't want to give this issue a party or parochial colour, but at the same time, you cannot isolate yourself from it. The facts have been brought to me. The hon. Minister is present in the House, and Shri Digvijaya Singh says that he cannot reply to the facts, that the Government will respond to it

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: How do I know whether 50,000 tonnes of oil have been imported or not?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: If you don't know, then have the courage to patiently listen instead of saying that the import of 50,000 tonnes of Soyabean oil is not responsible for the fall in Soyabean prices. I say that it is responsible for the fall in prices. There can be disagreement on it. (*Interruptions*)

tonnes of oil was not imported for sale or for the public distribution system, it was imported for the benefit of the labourers working on the Rajasthan Canal Project. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHARIMAN: Mirdhaji, you are a very senior parliamentarian. Please take your seat. Vajpayeeji, please continue.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Madam Chairperson, it seems that there is something faulty about my manner of speech itself. They are reacting as if a hornet's nest has been quelled. I don't think I have delivered any provocative speech. Then, why are you getting provoked?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Since you mentioned my name, I had to respond.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: When the name is mentioned, you get provoked and when it is not mentioned...

AN HON. MEMBER: Then they yearn to hear their name.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Madam Chairperson, I would like to conclude on the point from where I began i.e. the situation confronting the nation today is very serious. This is not the time to score a debating point. As such, we have been opposed to all kinds of restrictions and we are in favour of free flow of trade. It would be better if there is a uniform policy for the entire country. The existing restrictions are not limited to Madhya Pradesh only. Chandu Lalji, being the Congress Spokesman, you are not aware of even this much... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): The Madhya Pradesh Government has also imposed restrictions.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: If the other states have also done it, why don't you call a meeting at all the states and thrash out a uniform policy?

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Why is the Madhya Pradesh Government being a party to it?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is being a party to it, because you are a representative from the state. Madam Chairperson, I would like to repeat that we should formulate a uniform national policy on distribution and it should ensure the protection of consumer interest, the provision of remunerative prices to farmers and a fair Government food stock. We cannot depend on imported foodgrains for long, the production will have to be increased and for this, the farmers should be provided remunerative prices. Unfortunately, today the farmers have developed this feeling that a policy opposed to their interests is being adopted by the Government. Therefore, the current policies require some change and clarifications are very essential. Thank you.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Madam Chairperson, the discussions taking place here should take place in the context of the new economic policies of the Government. Because whether it is the question of the procurement prices being given to the farmers at the moment or the question of foodgrain import or the question of withdrawal of subsidies on fertilizers and other items or the question of subsidies, all the three things are the outcome of the Government's new economic policy. Whether the government makes attempts to camouflage it and succeeds for some time or not, it is clear from the agreements reached at the Government level and the talks that the Government has had with the international institutions, that the country's economic policy is not being steered by the Government, but

by the International Monetary Fund and GATT. So far as this issue of imports is concerned, the International Monetary Fund and the GATT have imposed a condition that the country will have to import 3.3% of the total foodgrain consumption within the country. I am not aware of the extent of information available with the Food Minister because he is not aware of the GATT talks. The hon. Minister is nowhere in the picture as far as the talks are concerned. Some others hold discussions. If any proof is required in this regard, both the Food Minister and the Agriculture Minister are present in the House. When the Government took a decision to import 10 lakh tonnes of wheat, as early as January, Jakhhar Saheb condemned the decision in the strongest possible terms and described it as disastrous for Indian agriculture, at a meeting of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, which took place, immediately after the decision. Therefore, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that he should not defend the Government on the decisions on economic policy matters taken together by the Prime Minister, the Finance Minister and the Commerce Minister, at the dictates of foreign countries and imposed on our country.....

Shri Jakhhar had shown courage in the month of March, 1992. Such a courage needs to be shown again and task performed with firm determination. This is a policy issue and nothing else. The GATT put four major conditionalities in connection with agriculture. Its first suggestion was:

[English]

The Indian Agriculture must be made a part of the Global agricultural regime.

[Translation]

I would like to know the opinion of the hon. Minister of Food in this regard. Is it a fact that the Indian Agricultural policy is influ-

enced by the American and European policy even though farmers in our country till their fields with ploughs and produce one third or half of the quantity produced in other countries. Can the Indian agriculture compete with the foreigners where money and subsidy are given for not cultivating in America and Europe. The foreigners will deliver a lecture here and we will keep quiet and withdraw subsidy whereas they give subsidy for not cultivating the land. They throw the grains into sea and entire agricultural policy in America and Europe is formulated on the basis of subsidy payment. The Government is now being asked:

[English]

Integrate your agricultural policy with the Global agricultural regime.

[Translation]

Whatever may be its implications, it is known to those who are in the Government. What I said regarding import is very much written here. It is a fact and not a talk in the air. It has been written therein.

[English]

3.3 percent of the internal consumption shall be imported.

[Translation]

Today you may ask as to how far it is linked with the decision of import. The hon. Minister of Finance should be called here and asked to make a statement in this regard because he will not be able to reply it. It is not known as to what actually is happening.

[English]

Withdraw the Fertilizer subsidy, water subsidy, electricity subsidy and diesel subsidy.

[Translation]

[Translation]

Subsidy on these four items has been withdrawn. Then comes the turn of the Public Distribution System. Levy foodgrains are distributed through the Public Distribution System. It should be stopped. These foodgrains should be purchased on market price irrespective of the fact that it is manipulated by big traders. Today the Public Distribution System is functioning for the poor people in cities of the country. It should be stopped and it should be decided on the basis of international scrutiny whether foodgrains could be supplied to all people on subsidised rates. These are the conditionalities and the Government has agreed to these. The hon. Minister of Finance or Agriculture should know about it better. The GATT and the I.M.F. are formulating our economic policy. The Government wants to convince them that it is following the policy much before the agreement is signed. Yesterday, there was a question on food-grains. The hon. Minister of Food made his statement here and the hon. Prime Minister rose up in the meantime and further elaborated the point. Those are the proceedings of yesterday. The hon. Minister stated that the import was of the order of 30 lakh tonnes and some decisions too have been made in this regard. The hon. Prime Minister had no knowledge of it. He said that there was no rain in the month of June and July last year and it seemed that there will be famine in July. So, the Government had to take some decisions during August and September.

[English]

He said:

"It was at that time that agreements were made for the import of one or two million tonnes, three million tonnes and nothing more."

Again he says that 3 million tonnes were imported but so far as I have the information the actual deal was struck for 3.5 million tonnes. The Government decided to make the import in two instalments. First instalment of the order of 1 million tonnes was to be made from Australia and second of 1.05 million tonnes from Canada. The deal with America was struck recently. I am not prepared to accept that the hon. Prime Minister had no knowledge of this fact. He wanted to mislead the august House deliberately. He should not have misled the House on such matters. Was he not aware when the deal was struck? The Government had initiated a dialogue with the USA regarding the deals in the month of January. When USA fixed prices with the Government, the representatives of Cuba came here and requested for some food-grains stating their children were dying for want of foodgrains. They asked for one lakh tonnes of foodgrains and finally it was decided to export 20 thousand tonnes of rice to Cuba. They asked for the foodgrains, at least for their children. When America knew it, their Food Minister said that since India was going to export rice to Cuba, America will not give wheat to India on subsidised rates. Shri Gogoi is sitting here who made a statement outside this august House in the month of March. The hon. Ministers forget after making statements. If he wants, I can show him the proof. America said that it would not supply wheat to India on subsidised rates. Then the government was puzzled and floated international tenders. It did not make any headway as in the past. Thereafter, a deal was struck with Canada and Australia. The Presidential elections were due on the 6th and the 7th September and Shri George Bush, the American President wanted to get farmers votes. He decided to supply wheat to India on the basis of his decision to supply wheat to 20 other countries on subsidised rates. Russia was given the largest quantity of 50 lakh tonnes. It also

decided and announced to supply 15 lakh tonnes of wheat to India in accordance with its earlier decision. The Government succeeded in striking the deal of 10 lakh tonnes wheat with great efforts.

[English]

"The Congress Government had only been fulfilling the contracts signed by the previous Government in 1990 and 1991.

[English]

Which is still a little less than one million tonnes.

[Translation]

It seems that the Government would strike a deal for a further half million tonnes of food-grains. In all a total of 35 lakh tonnes of wheat would be imported. A deal to import 2.5 lakh tonnes of rice has been struck with Vietnam which itself has been experiencing hardship for years. The Government is not prepared to pay reasonable price to our farmers to purchase rice, but it does not find any difficulty to import foodgrains from foreign countries or much higher a price. In his statement the hon. Prime Minister said:

[English]

It was a decision based on timely anticipation of what could happen and the anticipation was that.

[Translation]

There can be famine in our country because there was severe drought and there was no rainfall. Therefore, it took such a decision. I have nothing to say about the decision of the Government. We are anguished and it will continue, but we have nothing to say in this regard. On the 6th November the General Secretary and the spokesman of the Congress Party who spoke on behalf of the Congress President and the Prime Minister said.

[Translation]

The Statement made by the hon. Prime Minister inside the House and his submission yesterday as to how and why the Government was compelled to import food grains are contradictory. The written statement of the leader of the party is also there. This statement was not made either out of anger or fun. It was a written statement that the Government had no other way out. The previous two Governments of Shri V.P. Singh and Shri Chandra Shekhar had done the right thing.

AN HON. MEMBER: In which newspaper did it appear?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It appeared in all the newspapers in the country. What connection is there between the newspapers and the Congress party? Every one has gone through the newspapers. I was anguished a lot because I was not aware that there will be an opportunity to refer to those names in the House. What was spoken outside the House was already spoken.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would certainly like to make it clear that the Government will play a political game regarding this import and will try to defame the previous non-Congress Governments. Why does the hon. Prime Minister make such an announcement inside the House regarding the compulsion under which the Government had to import wheat. It is an issue linked with the Public Distribution System. The Government did not procure wheat from our farmers by paying higher prices. The Government should not make such a statement in the House

Just a while ago, Shri Nathuram Mirdha went out. In this very august House he had said that the Kharif crops for the year 1992-93 have been harvested and the Rabi crops have been sown. There is going to be a record harvest this year. According to him Rabi the production of crop is going to reach 180 to 183 million tonnes. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I agree with him regarding the production of Kharif crops this year:

[English]

It is already 100 million tonnes and this 100 million tonnes of Kharif harvest is an all time record in the history of agriculture of India.

[Translation]

And seeing the production of the Rabi crops this time, I believe that even if the production does not reach 183 million to 184 million tonnes, we are going to produce at least 180 million tonnes as compared to highest ever production of 176 million tonnes upto last year. I have no doubts about it. Therefore, when sufficient foodgrains are being produced in the country, where does the question of import arise. There is conditionality of 3.3 per cent. GATT has said that the Government has to fulfil this import commitment. It has been mentioned in the Dunkel proposals also. I am raising another issue before you. For a moment even if I agree that the Government was in trouble which I am not bale to comprehend, the data does not show it. The Anglo-Saxons in America, Australia and Canada pressurise us. You have to purchase wheat from them at a high price. Why does not the Government purchase it from European Community? European Community asked you to purchase from its member countries. They also provide susidy on it. The hon. Minister said in his statement that the average price

per quintal of wheat is around Rs. 501.74 after adding subsidy to it. The government can get it at an average price of Rs. 400 per quintal from European Community. This has been stated in a written statement that average price of wheat imported from Canada, Australia and America is Rs. 501.74. Why could it not be got at Rs. 400 per quintal from the European Community? Why has the Government not imported it from the European Community. It has not purchased because there was conditionality of GATT.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): The wheat was not acceptable to our consumers. We brought it in 1977. It was very difficult to sell it also.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: This is your argument. We are not ready to accept it. You people visit Europe at the cost of Government exchequer and make merry.

[English]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: It was very different variety. I can bring the variety and show you.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It is not a different variety. We do not accept this argument. I am of the opinion that it is because of American pressure on India that the Government has decided to purchase wheat from America.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am concerned about one more issue and that is about the attack on the Public Distribution System. The issue of subsidy is not limited to only fertilizers. This would be applicable to electricity, water

like to point out here and the hon. Minister will agree as he has provided the data that gradually the Government would withdraw the Public Distribution System as has been suggested in the Dunkel proposals. I know this is against your wishes. They are pushing you on the verge of destruction. Last year 16 lakh 62 thousand tonnes foodgrain was distributed through the P.D.S. while this year it was reduced to 14 lakh 80 thousand tonnes. Yesterday, an hon. Member said that though population is increasing and more population needs more foodgrains. Yet why did the Government forget this and reduced the allocation from 16 lakh 62 thousand tonnes to 14 lakh 80 thousand tonnes. Last year in April the Government had provided 15 lakh 19 thousand tonnes. Whereas this year it was 12 lakhs 43 thousand tonnes. In May last year it was 14 lakh 69 thousand tonnes, whereas it was 14 lakh 52 thousand for the corresponding period this year. Last year in June it was increased to 14 lakh 40 thousands tonne and this year it was 15 lakh 41 thousand tonnes. Last year in July it was 16 lakh 19 thousand tonnes whereas this year it was reduced to 15 lakh 62 thousand tonnes. It was 16 lakh 61 thousand tonnes in August last year and this year it was reduced to 15 lakh 87 thousand tonnes. The policies of the Government reveal that it has been decided to do away with the P.D.S. Just as I.M.F., GATT and America are pursuing policies in the industrial sector in India which would ruin the future of workers, similarly, these policies are paving way for the destruction of farmers and poor consumers in the agriculture sector.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, therefore, I would like to emphasize that this debate should not be concluded here under Rule 193 today. It can be concluded only when the Government shows some readiness to change its policy. Some Members of even your own party are against the new economic policy. I don't know what is their number but mem-

bers who are associated with agriculture, workers and poor do not support your new economic policy. We would like that if the Government takes some steps to do away with this policy only then this debate will be meaningful. The Government can speak of doing away with this policy only when it shows readiness to stand against America and other international institutions which are putting pressure. Agreed that the country is in deep debt but why does not the Government come out categorically that we cannot repay back the loans in next ten years. Why does not the Government come out in the open and say that it cannot repay back the loans. Will America attack us if we say like this just as it did against Iraq. The government should clearly tell that it is not in position to return the debt. Somebody has taken debt, we don't know for what purpose but will the Government ruin the lives of farmers and labourers for it. Therefore, the Government should courageously take a stand and face the reality.

Last but not the least about the prices. Atalji has raised it here. The government will have to make a firm policy about prices. The Government should fix the prices of inputs to be used by the farmers. Besides there should be a policy to maintain balance between the prices of industrial products and agriculture produce. The Government should take steps in this direction also.

On our part we would like to say that against the policy of the Government and the situation created by it the workers of the country have staged a massive demonstration. Now the time has come when the workers in the country have come to the streets. The farmers of this country will also have to come to the streets in their support. When both will agitate together, then either the government will have to give up its policies or will have to go out of power. Only then these policies will be changed.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT (Rajpur): Madam Chairman, for the last one hour we are witnessing an exercise in rhetoric, a rhetoric tailored and coloured with dogmatism, political bankruptcy which led to the bankruptcy of this country.

I remember, in June 1991 a situation arose wherein two years of utter mismanagement brought this country to the very brink of bankruptcy, where the farmers of this country, where the poorer sections of this country..(Interruptions)

We can never forget the circumstances under which this Government came to power and elections were held. Economic policies are something which require time to give effect. The new economic policy of the Government was launched after this Government came to power. We cannot expect that the Government will have a magic wand to resolve all the problems. Unfortunately what we are witnessing is that the esteemed leaders of the opposition are still living in the world of pre-cold war. They are totally unrelated to what is happening in the world today.

16.00 hrs.

[SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG - IN THE CHAIR]

What we must decide today is whether we are going to accept isolation of India as the basis of our policy or whether there is a requirement for us to integrate with the realities of the present post-cold-war world. The reality of the pre-cold-war, where we had a powerful alliance - an alliance on which we could rely for many things - no longer exists today. In the present days, what Mr. George Fernandes has just brought out is true whether the United States is the only super power in this world. Whether we like it or not, we will have to survive. We will have to

sustain ourselves in the realities of the present world order. It is no doubt and it is well realised by everyone and especially the present Government, that the arm-twisting tactics, in which the capitalist world has indulged in, has serious repercussions for this country. But what is of essence is that we have to tailor our policy. We have to chart a course for this country taking stock of the present world order. We cannot live in isolation. From where are we going to get the technology? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address to the Chair. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not listen to them.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Whatever has happened in the election, these people are expecting dramatic changes in the American policy. I am sorry, that is not going to happen. But I come down to the basic fact.

The primary duty of this Government is to ensure one thing, that is, the basic essential requirement. And that is food wherein we come to think about import. Why import? Why was the wheat imported? (Interruptions)

Traditionally, all Congressmen, I think, are of socialist mindset. That is what we are propagating here also. Firstly, why was the wheat imported? There are three reasons. First is the fall in production of total foodgrains. There are many reasons. I will not go into the reasons. But in 1990-91, from 176.3 million tonnes, we came down to 1991-92 figures of 176 million tonnes when the annual demand increase was 3 per cent. In such a situation, what was to be done? The available quantity of wheat in this country was not going to increase. So, this is the basic parameter under which it must work. The wheat production also fell down. The procurement for PDS was 9 million tonnes whereas the procurement was only 6 million tonnes against the

requirement of 9 million tonnes. Then, we were faced with a serious drought condition wherein the wheat was required in this country.

In a drought situation, what has the Government to do? It has to apply its mind, foresee the future possibilities and take decisions. Accordingly, the decisions were taken. We cannot do fire-fighting every time. Government rightly decided at that particular time that it was essential that wheat was to be imported. It is not because of some GATT restriction or IMF restriction. It was a practical decision taking into account the situation wherein a situation could occur where there could be a Somalia. We cannot start buying wheat or we cannot start going in for world tenders when there is no food in the country. The Government must essentially ensure that at a particular time, there is a continued supply of foodgrains and in this sense, it was the primary reason that the wheat was imported. I am certain that no IMF or GATT restrictions or conditionalities of 3.3 per cent were there. I do not know from where these figures have come.

The second point which I would like to present here is the economic cost. When the Government had decided to import wheat, procurement price was increased by Rs. 50. So, this benefit has gone to the farmer but after procuring at Rs. 275, what is the economic cost? The economic cost comes to Rs. 455 per quintal. So, what they are saying that we can buy from the open market will not hold good. The cost of wheat may be Rs. 275 per quintal. But the handling charges, distribution charges and stocking and all that accounts to the real economic cost of Rs. 455 per quintal. Let us look at the economic cost in relation to what is being imported. We have imported one million tonnes of wheat from Canada, Australia and US and the average works out to Rs. 517 per quintal..(Interruptions)..

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): He is an urbanite and therefore he does not know much

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: No, I am not an urbanite.

[English]

So, Rs. 517 is the economic cost which works out for the imported wheat. They are propagating to buy it from the open market. If we buy at, say, Rs. 350 per quintal, as they are propagating from the open market, then what would be the actual cost? The economic cost is Rs. 545 per quintal. So, what they are propagating that we can buy from the open market is not true as Rs. 517 is the economic cost per quintal. If we buy at market cost, it comes to Rs. 545 per quintal.

The second point is whether there has been any damage to the farmers. I am certain that this Government will not do anything which will cause any damage to the farmers. The farmers were assured of the minimum support price of Rs. 275. Selling it to the Government at that rate is totally the secretion of the farmers. If they are getting a better price in the market, say, Rs. 350 or Rs. 325, the farmers are totally free to sell it. So, I do not understand why they are saying that the farmers are being harmed by import of wheat. The farmer is getting at the existing market rate as on today also. They have not clarified as to how this import of wheat has affected the farmer in real terms. There is no effect totally.

In March 1992, we did not want to import wheat. The Agriculture Minister is himself a farmer. In March 1992, there was a proposal for importing wheat; he himself opposed it and the Government had rescinded it and

the decision to import wheat had been shelved.

We must realise one thing about the public distribution system, that is, the effect of purchasing wheat at market price. On the one hand, we are talking about pricing and inflation. What happened? Last time, when the Government did not import wheat from May to October 1991, there was a cost price of 16 per cent in foodgrains. Now what has happened is that the cost price from May to October 1992 has just been 0.2 per cent. The question is of demand and supply. There is going to be no magic because the quantity of wheat produced in this country is going to be the same. If the Government is going into the market to buy wheat at market price, then two things will happen. Firstly, it will be unjust to those farmers who have sold wheat to the Government at the procurement price. The second thing is if the Government goes to buy in the market, the cost of wheat is going to increase manifold. There is going to be increased and tremendous demand from the Government side and if the market price today is Rs. 350, it will automatically and certainly beyond Rs. 400 thereby affecting those who are marginal farmers and farmers living in my constituency. My constituency does not produce wheat. We are dependent on Punjab and Haryana for wheat. If the Government is going to the market to buy wheat at the market price, what will happen to poor and marginal farmers and landless labourers who are dependent on the market? Mr. Fernandes has said that we want to do away with the Public Distribution System. I do not understand how. He quoted some figures which have nothing to do with the ground reality. As far as I know, Public Distribution System is functioning in my State of Maharashtra, very effectively and efficiently even today. Just by giving some figures how can one make an allegation that the GATT and the IMF have imposed certain condition-

alities on the Government that they must do away with the PDS? Since the Congress Government and Congress Party are committed to the Public Distribution System which is functioning quite satisfactorily, this allegation is totally unfounded and unwarranted.

Sir, now I come to the question of subsidy. As far as farm subsidy is concerned, it is not something unique to India alone. In all the countries of the world, there are subsidies. In the European community, farm subsidy per capita in dollar terms is 238.4 and in the United States, farm subsidy in dollar term is 148.5, whereas in India, per capita subsidy is as little as \$ 4.3. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translition*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: That is what we want to tell you.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: I will restrict myself to that subject.

[*English*]

When we talk of subsidy, there is nothing wrong in giving subsidies. As far as subsidy is concerned, it is a universal practice because agricultural production is affected by many factors and it requires State intervention. So, for this particular purpose, subsidy scheme has been existing in this country.

But the only factor is that this subsidy for fertilizers, which was about Rs. 375 crore in 1981-82 has gone upto Rs. 6, 219 crore in 1991 and by March 1993, this figure will not be anything below Rs. 9,000 crore. The only factor that I want to highlight is that as far as fertilizer production is concerned, we must provide the inputs to the farmer at a low cost, and everyone agrees to it. But how are we going to do so? There are two methods. One is the subsidy method. The second method

is the reduction in the cost of production. And here, I must compliment the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Fertilizer Pricing because they realised this factor and they went on the right course, that is, to decrease the cost of production of the fertilizers so that the farmers could be given the fertilizers at a low price. I say this because ultimately subsidy is not the answer, if you have to be really competent and self-supporting, resiliency must be built within the economy. The Committee have given certain recommendations. I would like to know from the Government whether these recommendations have been implemented or not. This is very important because the impact of this fertilizer subsidy will be such that it would go from the present level of about Rs. 6200 crore to nearly Rs. 9000 crore by next March. Unfortunately, the reason for the increase in fertilizer prices is that all the recommendations of the Committee are not being implemented. The Committee recommended that the gas price be reduced by 35 per cent. This would have effected a saving of Rs. 560 crore. This has not been implemented. In fact, the committee has also recommended that the price of naphtha and LPS must be frozen but these prices have increase by 35 per cent. You see the impact. The committee has recommended that the rail freight be reduced thereby effecting a saving of Rs. 280 crores. I would like to know whether this recommendation of the Committee has been implemented or not.

Similarly, for imports, the foreign exchange was to be provided at the Government rate and not at the market rate. This would have effected a saving of Rs. 675 crores. By making these recommendations, the Committee attempted to reduce the cost of production by Rs. 2,000 crores. But what in fact has happened is that all the recommendations of the Committee have not been implemented and only minor, suitable recommendations have been implemented.

When there was decontrol of the prices, there was an increase in the prices of phosphoric fertilizers. I would request that when the Government has accepted the report of the Committee in principle it should implement it sincerely. The recommendations given by the committee should be accepted in its entirety. By implementing some of the recommendations only, the Government is not going to solve the problem.

As far as fertilizers are concerned, the entire Potassic and Phosphatic fertilizers are imported. But in this situation are we going to survive for long? It is not a question today. A subsidy can answer only current problems but it cannot answer the future problems. By 1996-97 the content of subsidy is going to go up to Rs. 11,000 crores and it is going to increase progressively. I would like to know the action taken by Government to contain the import and to see that there is no increase in the cost of fertilizers.

Devaluation is another reason. The partial convertibility of rupee has suddenly gone up. The international cost of fertilizers, when you calculate it in terms of rupee, has gone up by 30 per cent. Subsidy is going to increase if the cost of fertilizer increases. Hence something concrete must be done in this regard.

Another important point is that when you implement a Committee's report, it should be implemented in its entirety even by the State Government. For example, the price of a DAP bag went up from Rs. 4000 to Rs. 8000 per tonne. There was a sudden jump. The Government immediately took action and announced a subsidy of Rs. 1000 per tonne and gave it to the State Government. But the State Government failed to distribute the subsidy in an equitable way. As far as Maharashtra is concerned, this subsidy has gone to Western Maharashtra. It has not gone to Konkan or Vidarbha because it was

distributed on the first-come-first-serve basis. Only those farmers who could immediately purchase the fertilizers could get the benefit of this subsidy.

These are some of the lacunae and the State Government will have to take action in this regard.

The BJP Government in Uttar Pradesh has suddenly from Ram come down to fertilizers and food. I do not understand why the U.P. Government has not implemented the recommendations of the Committee. I do not know why the Uttar Pradesh Government is not reducing the Sales Tax of 6 per cent and why it has levied certain charges on the co-operatives. The JPC also recommended the same thing. When there was de-control of prices, a bag of DAP used to cost Rs. 247 and it was to go to Rs. 450 but because of the intervention of Central Government the price was brought down to Rs. 350. Had the U.P. Government done what the committee has recommended the price of DAP fertilizer would have come down to Rs. 300 which is within the manageable limits.

So, it is not correct to blame the Central Government in its entirety. One fact is that we are all seized of the matter that the fertilizer industry must prosper.

In Haldia, the cost of fertilizer per tonne is Rs. 20,000. I would like to ask my friends who are sitting here, what they are doing to reduce this. We agree that labour must be looked after but at the same time, the labour must also produce. You cannot demand overtime without working. That is what is happening in Haldia. So, who is going to pay the subsidy? Shri Indrajit Gupta has said that all the public sector undertakings are running at a loss. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. The

Business Advisory Committee had allotted two hours for discussing this very important matter. Now, the allotted time for this discussion is over. Is it the sense of the House to extend the time for this discussion? If so, by how many hours?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: The time for this discussion should be extended by another three hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. We will try to limit our speeches as far as practicable. The Leaders of most of the political parties have already spoken.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): The Leaders of other smaller parties have not yet spoken. At least, Mr. Chairman, you must give chance to one person from every Party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sawant, you take two more minutes. Is it the sense of the House that we shall extend the time till we finish the discussion?

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Let us first extend it upto 6 'o' clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Let us continue tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. We have to discuss other items tomorrow. We have to finish this discussion today. Please co-operate.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, we will sit upto 6 'o' clock and then we will continue tomorrow. Let us not sit beyond 6 'o' clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am again putting it before the House- is it the sense of the House that the House sits till we finish this item?

609 *Disc. Under rule 193 AGRAHAYANA 4, 1914 (SAKA) prices of fertilizers and wheat import* 610
Situation affecting agriculture & farmers' interests due to increase in
SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK ANAND RAO DESHMUKH (Parbhani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussion on Fertilizers and prices is very important. Therefore the Time should be extended.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is why I said that let us continue today. Let us not take it tomorrow. Let us finish it today.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): What happened was that two subjects were clubbed and the discussion started.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Business Advisory Committee decided to allot two hours for this discussion and all the Leaders agreed.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The allotted time for this subject was two hours. Now, we have clubbed two subjects- import of wheat and fertilizers. So, we are discussing at the moment two important subjects. Generally, the time allotted for discussing subjects under Rule 193 is two hours but the discussion has never been completed within the allotted two hours.

Therefore, what I suggest is - as two subjects have been clubbed together- that let us extend it by another two hours. For discussing these two subjects, we will require a minimum of two hours. Today, we will sit upto 6'O' clock and let us see whether we will be able to finish this by tomorrow.

Kisan Leader, Mr. Rajesh Pilot has not spoken. Mr. Digvijaya Singh is there. You must extend the time for this discussion.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: The time for this debate should be extended

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will co-operate. All of us will co-operate. We will continue till six'o' clock. After that, we will again continue.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Not today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the sense of the House that we should sit till we finish it?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will sit upto six 'O' clock; and then again tomorrow we will start discussion on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Should we continue this discussion upto six O' clock?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA. Today only.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the sense of the House that we should continue our discussion till six O' clock today on this issue?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes. Then again tomorrow we should discuss this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr Sudhir Sawant, you can again start speaking on this issue.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: I would like to state that the commitment of the Congress Party and the Congress workers is to ensure that the farmers get profit out of their produce. No other person than the esteemed Minister of Agriculture is committed to calculate the cost of production there by ensuring that when farmers get the ultimate price of their produce, they will get profit out of it and not what is happening today. For this, some more time is required. We do not have a magic wand by which we can achieve the results quickly, because the economic policy of this country has just taken a shape, just started. It would require a momentum to be

generated. And what is happening today is that the non-issues are dominating the real issues. For example, Ayodhya issue and other issues.

The Government imported wheat to fulfil its primary responsibility to the people to ensure that there is a continued supply of foodgrains to the farmers. There is no other intention, no other agreement, as has been propagated. The farmers have not been affected. I do not know how the farmers have been affected adversely.

The Government is committed to decrease the cost of production of the fertilizers thereby decreasing the cost of fertilizers, thereby decreasing the subsidy. I do not understand why these things are being politicised again and again. Suddenly, the BJP has shifted its stand from Ayodhya issue to this subsidy issue. I do not know from where they got this concern. For the first time, in the history of Jana Sangh and the BJP, they are talking about the farmers. The only reason for this is that they know that the Ayodhya issue no longer holds water and they must find some other alternative to catch the eyes of the people; and that is the only ploy which they are raising today.

I would request all the political parties to co-operate with the Government in implementing its agricultural, industrial and economic policies. The Prime Minister has said that within two years he will decide about the course of action whereby when this country enters the 21st Century it will be second to none.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): There are two issues before us. One relates to the import of wheat by the Government, which from the very beginning has been trying to save foreign exchange and clamp down an enormous amount of control

on imports. And suddenly we find that the Government goes out to import wheat.

Initially it said it would import one million tonnes of wheat. But, now, it appears that at least three million tonnes of wheat they would be importing. This is a very curious aspect of this issue. The other matter concerns the price of fertilizers becomes an issue because of the Government's effort to take away the subsidies on the basis of which Indian agriculture has been continuing, at least, for the last eleven years. Suddenly this Government tries to change everything all commitments, all assurances, all practices, all procedures, everything in every walk of life, in a part of the economy which is very basic to the survival of this country and which is basic to the need of the country to be self-sufficient and self-reliant which had acquired in the 60s and in early 70s at great cost to the people and particularly to the farmers. So these two issues that have been combined together for no reason, perhaps then just to see that matters are disposed of as quickly as possible. But that is doing injustice to both the issues because none can be discussed properly.

However, let me first concentrate on the wheat import. Fertilizer subsidies, we have been discussing earlier, last year and in the earlier Sessions of this year also. Wheat import is something which perhaps has been in the air even before January 1992. But actual decision appears to have been taken only around 15th of January 1992 by a Committee of the Cabinet, called Cabinet Committee on Prices, chaired by the Finance Minister. Of course the Agriculture Minister and the Civil Supplies Minister were party to it. Now the decision it appears, because we have never been told the actual words of the decision, is to authorise this Ministry of Civil Supplies to import one million tonnes of wheat with the formal authorisation to import more if necessary. That is what we have found in newspaper reports. Now how much

more, that is not precisely spelt outland I am told now that a decision has subsequently been taken by this Ministry to go and import 3.5 million tonnes of wheat. I do not know whether it is correct, but I hope that the Minister in his reply will make it clear what actually was the decision and when that decision was taken in the Ministry.

Now again we have been told, we have been given various reasons by other people including the Prime Minister as to the time and the compulsion for taking this decision.

Yesterday in this House, the Prime Minister said that the decision was taken in last July-August because it was at that time that there was an apprehension that the procurement has been so meagre that there might actually be a famine condition in India. Therefore that decision was taken. If that was taken then that had not seen the light of the day. What we have now been told that the decision was taken in January and not in July-August at all.

I mention it because July-August, perhaps, has been a good time to take such a decision. Of course, the procurement has been very low in the April-June procurement season for wheat. It has been lower than the targetted quantity by 35 lakhs or 3.5 million tonnes. Naturally an apprehension could have been there that after meeting the operational requirements, the buffer stock will probably come to a very low figure, if all the operational requirements can actually be met. But when the decision was taken, that is on 15th January 1992, within a fortnight before that, the Minister concerned, Shri Gogoi had been going and giving public speeches that the stock position of wheat was quite comfortable. And within a short time, he was a party to this decision taken. I would say that this was a very bad time to take this decision because the stock position was not so bad. In fact, the Government, two or three months before that had the re-

leasing wheat to the people for which the Government does not procure and does not build up the stock. The stock is built up for the Public distribution System. In earlier times when the Government had a lot of buffer stock, the Government had sometimes supplied wheat to flour mills and to the people. But when the Government has already apprehended that famine conditions might arise and the Government said that the stock of wheat may not be there, at that time, the Government went of re-leasing wheat for flour mills for purchasing atta and all kinds of purposes to see that prices do not go up. Now in this way the Government has depleted its own stock. Then they took this decision. The Government had actually exported during this period, .8 million tonnes of wheat and .6 million tonnes is released to the open market and to flour mills. So, 1.4 million tonnes the Government had frittered out of the stock and then they took the decision to import 1 million tonne. they have to explain when the condition of stock or operational requirement was so bad, then why did they go on to export wheat? In the same year, 8 lakh tonnes of wheat had been exported and 6 lakh tonnes of wheat had been released to the market. That is something, which they must explain. Then, as I said, the timing was very bad because if the Government succeeded at that time to procure wheat, that would have arrived just at the time when the Indian farmers were bringing their wheat to the mandis -the wheat would start coming in late March onwards and that is exactly the time when the middle of January decision could have been given effect to. Moreover that conditions in countries from which the wheat was to be imported and in fact are being imported now are such that those are the months when the prices were the highest. This is a very funny situation I think, the hon. Minister, Shri Tarun Gogoi has enough to answer, why did they go for this at that time when the prices were so high. I know that they had an idea that they could get US wheat cheaply. In fact, the

US have been giving the wheat to some countries very cheaply. I see from the newspapers that the China got it 80 or 90 dollars per tonne last year. But this was last year and that was not this year. By the time they took the decision, the wheat prices had already gone up. Anyway, a team had gone there under a Secretary for a long tour. They came back with the news that America was not going to give us the benefit of the export enhancement programme subsidy. So, whatever be the reason, we had not accepted it. The reason given by them is that India is a one-time buyer whereas China and Russia are not one-time buyers. So, they can get subsidy and India is not entitled for that. That was the official reason given. But, we know that the reason was that we were going to export rice or wheat to Cuba and they wanted us not to do that. That was the reason at that time. Later on when, in fact, the Government of India did not export the rice which they had committed to export to Cuba, then they brought down the price. Of course, there was an electoral compulsion of the part of the then Presidential candidate Mr. Bush also to bring down the price or to allow the subsidy in this case. But they went to the market. They took the decision at the wrong time and they went to the market to buy at a wrong time when the price was the highest. Ultimately when the American thing failed, they invited global tenders from various countries, including the European Community countries. Just a few minutes ago, Shri Gogol said here that the European wheat is not good and people in this country do not like that wheat, but they did invite those countries to bid. Why did they do so? If that wheat does not qualify the Indian taste, then why did they do so? So, I do not think that is a proper explanation. They should think of something more. Then that thing fell through and ultimately they must have again invited tenders. I do not know when because I did not find any reference in these papers.

Also the reply which he gave yesterday to a question, does not say exactly when they had invited the tenders, when they negotiated and the price prevailing in which month was taken into account when the contract was entered into. But anyway, the contract prices show that they have got at a very high price from Canada and at a very low price from USA because of the subsidy, but the U.S. price is not so much lower than the Australian price. So, they need not have waited for the American subsidy to come through but they could have, if they wanted to, buy the entire quantity from Australia, which could otherwise be the lowest bidder. I do not know what prevented them from going into that. In fact, when such questions are asked, I think our Minister should remember that we always have this Bofors fobia in this sense that we always think and in fact, sometimes quite justifiably—that some commission may have been involved. So it is better to give all the details of the offers received and the offers that have been ultimately selected or chosen. That would have made things more clear also for us.

In any case, because of the timings and because of the various contradictory explanations given by the Government, this has always been a matter which arouses great suspicion in our minds.

Then, the question is that the Government wanted to import the wheat in January because they thought the the stock will be very low by the 1st of April, or there will be no stock at all. But once April came and once they have gone through one more procurement season when the wheat output has not been too bad, why were they not able to procure the necessary amount of wheat from the market? This is something which requires explanation again. I can understand that they can put some blame on the previous regime of Shri Chandra Shekhar, which was there from April to June, 1991, for having failed to procure enough wheat, having in-

curring a shortfall of 35 lakh tonnes in wheat procurement. But what happened in 1992 season? Well, obviously what happened is that they did not offer the correct price. I was speaking on the Budget and I said that the price of Rs. 250 which had at that time been declared by the Government was too low. I knew that FCI had already suggested a price of Rs. 280.... (*Interruptions*).

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): Yes, they got it also.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: They got Rs. 280 much later. I can tell you the sequence.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: First we decided Rs. 250, then we announced Rs. 25 bonus, then the State Government gave Rs. 5. So, it came to Rs. 280 from the very beginning.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: All these decisions came one after the other. Yes. F.C.I. has suggested Rs. 280. But what were the prices the farmer's organisations were asking for?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Whatever we offered was offered before the procurement seasons.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: The question is that you have to arrive at a price at which you can buy, not just offer a price where you cannot buy. You did not offer them that price. In one way or the other the price should have been more. Otherwise this wheat is shown as exposed. It is quite clear that at that price the farmers were not attracted to sell or you do not have the mechanism to buy. I do not know what is correct. It may be that you offered the price but there was nobody on your behalf to go and buy on the spot with ready cash. It may be that also. I do not know what happened. But you have failed to procure even when you found that the farmers were not willing to buy. You did not increase

the price so that you could buy the necessary quantity. You were buying around 15 per cent of the total produce. You had only to get another 3-4 per cent more. Then you do not have to look to foreign source at all. But you failed to do that. This is sheer mismanagement of funding. Why will they not be able to procure another 3-4 percent extra? This is my question. The Government is so inept in its handling of economy that such vital thing as procurement of food which is the backbone of PDS system was not done properly.

Anyway there is a suspicion that there is mala fide somewhere also. In any case, they were keen in import something because whenever there is an import matter, there is always a chance of money leaking out.

Sir, I will come to the other part of the issue now. One of the reasons why there is stagnation in the production of wheat is that in spite of the fact that productivity per hectare is going up substantially in the last five years, the wheat production has been stagnating at around 64 million tonnes. The reason is the land is diverted to other cash crops which are giving the farmers more return. But this is something on which the Agriculture Ministry or other concerned Ministries have to decide upon that the price to be paid should be remunerative price on the basis of which procurement can be made. But they have not been contended with these things earlier. Earlier the situation of farmers having an alternative to divert the land was not there. But it has come now. Therefore, this is an input which must be there for those who make the decision as to remunerative price to be offered to farmers.

I request the hon. Minister Shri Tarun Gogoi to kindly note down my points. If you do not give remunerative price to farmers this year, they will put the land on some other cash crop next year. You should be aware of this thing.

Sir, the fertiliser prices had been increased by the Government; again decreased at our pressure. The increase was 40 per cent; the reduction was 10 per cent. The net increase was 30 percent so far as urea is concerned. The other fertilisers have been enjoying the subsidy. There was price control. All this has gone pursuant to a report of a Joint Parliamentary Committee. So far as the phosphatic and potash fertilisers are concerned, the J.P.C. recommended lifting of the price control entirely. This was, of course, a unanimous decision. I must keep it on record that our party Member, Shri Saifuddin Choudhury, submitted a note of dissent to this decision that the control be lifted from potash and phosphatic fertilisers. So, that should be kept on record because we are not a party to this decision or the recommendation of the JPC. However, when the JPC Report came with this kind of majority recommendation, then the Ministry started acting on it so fast that one cannot believe. Sir we have been in various Committees which have given recommendations. In most of the cases, the Ministry never looks at the recommendations unless they have to give response to the recommendations to the Committee itself, for which they take time—six months. These six months roll by, then they get another six months. In this case, within a week they started acting. What they were waiting for is to have a recommendation for lifting these price controls and then they immediately lifted them. And apparently people outside were waiting for this. The DAP's control was lifted as well as the canalisation of DAP was cancelled. So, any trader could import DAP after that. Apparently this particular decision was known in American business circles, the American fertiliser manufacturers, at least three days before it came to light in India—a very peculiar thing—*as they were getting ready to sell to India. The prices went up. As already stated by my friend, my predecessor here, the*

prices went up from Rs. 4000 to Rs. 8000 straightaway. Then the government had to make some effort to bring it down. So, this was happening because as Mr. Fernandes said earlier, it is the pleasure of these foreign bodies, the IMF and the World Bank, which make us take a certain path and this path of lifting the control on DAP and potassium fertilisers as well as decanalising them was part of the instructions that our rulers have received.....

AN HON. MEMBER: Directions, not instructions.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Yes, directions they have received from the IMF and World Bank. Otherwise, it cannot happen. The decisions were known there earlier than they saw the light here and they have started acting on the decision being made known here. This is the kind of thing which is happening. That is why we say that today the fate of the Indian farmers and for that matter, the food requirement of India hangs on in the hands of IMF and the World Bank. They will decide whether there is to be subsidy for fertilisers; they have decided that there cannot be any subsidy, or in any case the subsidy is so low, the budget deficit would be so low and, therefore, our Government has to scrap the subsidy immediately. They must go on paying the other part of the budget, namely, the public debt. But they can scrap the subsidy without understanding what is going to be the effect of this. Already land is being diverted for other purposes, land has not been cultivated and where marginal farmers and small farmers are concerned, they have not been able to buy the fertilisers themselves and their production has gone down. I am just giving it at random. Is the Government at all concerned as to what has been the effect of the rise in fertiliser prices? Can they tell us? Can they inform us? Is it not their duty to inform the people and also the representatives of the people as to what has been the effect of this? The price of fertiliser has

gone up at least more than a year ago and some fertiliser's prices have gone up also in this week.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: This is the duty of the Government to keep us informed because we cannot have any investigation agency, you have that. You will find out and you will inform us. What has been the thing with which we are concerned? We are concerned really with the fact that the grain output at least is going to fall in the near future. If at all the farmers are going to use fertilisers, they are going to use them for other purposes, for cash crops and others. Many of the things are to be available, thanks to the development of agriculture. So, they will go for that and what will happen? This is probably the first year that we have imported, but not the last. If you follow this course of action, in terms of increase in fertiliser prices, in terms of your not giving remunerative prices to the farmers, then this is just a beginning of a series of years when we have to go on importing more and more quantities of foodgrains. This is what you must be aware of and concerned with and also give us the information so that at least if we do not support you, we will not be so hostile as we are today. Today, we are in the dark and when you keep us in the dark, we naturally suspect that you are doing something behind the back and the results are bad. We think that you are destroying the economy. It is for you to prove that you are not doing so. It is for you to prove that your increase in fertiliser prices has not depleted the foodgrains production of this country. It is for you to prove that the farmers are not diverting their lands or keeping their lands fallow. So, I expect that the government should keep us informed about the progress that has made in this field.

Sir, there are many other things that can be done. Of course, some extra allocation

has been made apparently on the basis of the JPC's report, for bio-fertilisers. It is a good thing. When bio-fertiliser is available, one can substitute inorganic fertiliser by organic fertiliser. Only in one sphere, it has been mentioned in the JPC's report that in alga fertiliser, nitrogen is acting as a substitute or supplement for urea. There are many other things in this field which can be explored. Other countries are doing that. But the main thing is that the Government is acting on a certain path dictated by the IMF and the World Bank. But, there are many other things which you have to do which they will not tell you. For a moment assuming that you are compelled to do so, you are compelled to carry out all the diktats of the IMF and the World Bank, that is not all, but there are many other actions which you have to take to safeguard the country against the destructive effects of those actions of IMF and the World Bank. You are not taking that also. The foodgrains production can be increased in so many other ways, but you are not adopting that. That is the problem. You are only following those diktats which they are giving to you and which is to their advantage, but there are many other things you can do to our advantage, even after doing those harmful things on their diktats. You are not following that path at all.

So, I stop on a note of caution to the government that they are leading the country on a destructive path, unknowingly, blindly or perhaps, knowingly also. But, they have to take a lot of action, supplementary action, effective action to safeguard the country from the destructive effects of some actions which have been taken on the diktats of our new-found foreign masters.

SHRIC. SREENIVASAN (Dindigul) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for providing me an opportunity on behalf of the AIADMK to participate in this discussion on price increase in fertilisers and import of wheat at higher prices.

India is basically an agricultural country and the policies of the Government must be oriented towards farmers and their interests. The withdrawal of fertiliser subsidy has greatly affected the small and marginal farmers. These small and marginal farmers use only fertilisers and they do not use tractors and other farm implements for increasing agricultural production. The increase in fertiliser prices can be easily absorbed by big farmers since large scale agriculture is profitable and otherwise also they may be able to compensate the price rise by employing efficient mechanical tools. Therefore, the small and marginal farmers are the worst affected by the increase in the prices of fertilisers.

Our Constitution is socialist Constitution and as Madam Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi worked for the poorest of the poor, this government should also work for the poor and in the farmers' interests.

17.00 hrs.

I want that the report of the Joint committee on fertilizer Pricing should be discussed by the whole house at length. A member of the Committee has strongly recorded his note that the SSP and DAP fertilizers should not be decontrolled. These are the common fertilisers used by the poor farmers. The Hon. Minister of Agriculture was very correct when he said at the ICAR meeting that around 40,000 to 50,000 crores of rupees value of agricultural production remained untapped. He expressed his anguish at the import of wheat. If the agricultural production to the tune of Rs. 40,000 to 50,000 crores is tapped, then there would be no need to decontrol fertilizers. The statistics point out that the agricultural production in the country has increased to the level of self-sufficiency only because of enormous increase in the consumption of fertilizers. This consumption at large scale was possible

because decontrol was there. If the fertilizer prices are increased, then the consumption would decrease and consequently agricultural production will also decrease. Then, we would have to resort to imports. We are importing wheat at very high price like Rs. 400 to Rs. 450 per quintal when we are paying only Rs. 250 to our farmers. I can say with surety that many more such occasions would be created if the Government continues with the high pricing of fertilizers. The Government must immediately revert back to de-control of fertilizers, encourage small and marginal farmers, provide free electricity to them, provide interest-free loans so that in this land of Mahatma Gandhi, there are only Indians, Indian interests and not multi-nationals. This is the time when the Government could think again to choose the Socialist path on which it has been treading for all these years. But the present Government has chosen to be anti-farmer and anti-poor. A government which is elected democratically favours a foreign company, firm and exporter but not its own farmers. This is highly condemnable. What is the logic behind such a step?

The government consults the Chief Ministers in the National Development Council and two days later hikes the fertilizer prices and petrol prices. I earnestly request the Government not to take unilateral decisions on hiking prices of essential commodities, petrol and other vital items without consulting our hon. Parliament and also the Chief Ministers.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. It is a brief and sweet speech.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for granting me an opportunity to speak. First of

all, I would like to take up the issue of wheat import and export which I have been raising right from the month of March. I would not like to quote figures authentic or unauthentic for the purpose. I would only like to present five documents. Now it is for this House and you to decide whether this whole affair has taken place in a scandalous manner or not.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister had issued an statement in March when I had raised this matter in the House. I have the copy of statement with me and I would quote only two points from there. He had stated two things one that after the new Government took charge the stock position of wheat was reviewed. It was informed that the procurement of wheat during April June 1991 and been less by thirty five lakh metric tonne as compared to the corresponding period last year. This is the first question. It was estimated in Oct. 91 as you stated that there would be shortfall in the production of kharif and coarse foodgrains by five lakh metric tonnes. This was stated on 17 August. If you had imported food grains because of shortfall in kharif production or low procurement it could have been justified. I have with me a photostat copy of your press conference statement held in January this year where in you have stated and I quote:

"No. 1. Stock position of foodgrains in the Central Pool is quite comfortable reaching over million tonnes.

2. For the first time, we have allowed FCI to deliver about 8 lakh tonnes of wheat for export."

[Translation]

On the one hand you have said that in the month of October procurement has been low and the production had been low. At the same time you are issuing a statement on January 1, to the effect that the position of stock of foodgrains in the country is very

good and that is why for the first time, the country is in a position to export. Previously you stated that the decision was taken by Chandra Shekhar Government, but now you are taking the credit by saying that "For the first time we have allowed FCI to export". Now it is for you to decide.

SHRI DIGVJAYA SINGH: It is for the people to decide.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I am only placing the facts. Initially you stated that the production and procurement is low, but on 6 January 1, you stated that the position of foodgrain is good and the country is in a position to export foodgrains. Exactly fifteen days afterwards on 15 January another decision is taken to import ten lakh tonnes of foodgrains. What happened in these 15 days? Initially you stated that the foodgrain production is low, then you said that the country is in a position to export for the first time and fifteen days later you say we will import foodgrains. What happened within these fifteen days?

If the procurement was low why did you export the foodgrains and secondly as Shri Amal Datta has referred why was six lakh tonnes of wheat given to the flour mills in the country at a subsidized rates at which it was procured from the farmers. There was no control over its price. Between Oct. 1991 to Jan. 1992 on the one hand statements were issued that the stock position of foodgrains in the country was not good whereas on the other hand wheat was provided to the flour mills in the country at concessional rates. Had the Government provided it at fair price shop rate it could have been justified but instead it was provided at the subsidized rate of Rs. 250 per quintal.

17.09 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

Wheat was sold to the flour mills at the rate of Rs. 250 per quintal while it was allowed to be sold in the open market at the rate of Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 per kg. Is it not a scandal?

I would like to ask that if the foodgrain production in the country was low as stated in March then why did the Government sell the six lakh tonnes of wheat to the flourmills in the country. The people of this country would like to know about it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the month of March, tenders were floated for wheat import and the Secretary of the Department Mr. P. Tripathi was sent to America. He was sent to America. He stayed there for several days, spent lakhs of rupees and returned empty handed. Tenders were floated. At that time the international market rate of wheat was around 130 to 168 dollars per quintal. Not only this, it was also reported in the newspapers that:

[English]

"While the discussion between the officials of the Indian Team and the U.S. Agricultural Department was on, a Los Angeles-based Non Resident Indian has offered to sell about 2 million tonnes of wheat said to be 'A' Grade quality on prices lower than the American Market price...."

[Translation]

I want to know the rates of the tenders which were received. Global tenders were floated and generally order is placed to only one of them but you did not place order to anybody. I have already said that at that time the price in the International Market was 130 to 168 dollars. The following reply was given in the house in response to Unstarred Question No. 381, dated 14th July, 1992

" The government entered into a contract with the Canadian Wheat Board on 19th June, 1992 for import of 10.05 lakh tonnes of wheat. The landed-cost of the Canadian Wheat has been estimated at Rs. 5260 per Metric Tonne...."

[Translation]

I have already quoted the international market rate prevailing at that time. When that was the rate the Government exported wheat at the rate of 95 dollars which is equal to nearly Rs. 240, in the month of January. Later on, when the international price shot up, tenders were called. How and why import was made at the rate of Rs. 526 per tonne as per the tender.

I want the hon. Members of the House to see whether it is not a scandal if some thing is purchased at a higher rate by ignoring the invited tenders. Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not for the first time that the Hon. Prime Minister has said that now we are not in need of wheat. In reply to my another question No. 2330 dated 10th March, 1992, he had said two things.

[English]

" The Government has recently decided to import one million tonnes of wheat during 1992...." Secondly, it has been stated:

" There is no proposal at present to import wheat during these two years."

[Translation]

First, it was said that only 10 lakh tonnes of wheat would be imported in 1992. In a second reply it was stated that no wheat would be imported during the next two years. On the one hand, it was said in the House that there was buffer stock. Then production went down. But the Government exported

Just after 15 days it was again said that import is to be made. Tenders were invited when the international rate of wheat was between 130 to 168 dollars. But ignoring those rates wheat was purchased at Rs. 526 per quintal which amounts to 200 dollars. The house was assured that only 10 lakh tonnes of wheat would be imported this year and no import would be made for next two years. Then why did the Government import 30 lakh tonnes of wheat. These are some of the questions which the House wants to know. What were the reasons that prompted the Government to take this action. The facts were placed before you, but they have not been replied. It could be said that it all happened during Shri Chandra Shekhar's tenure. If it was, so then why wheat was supplied to the mill owners. I have put five questions which should be replied...*(Interruptions)*. This is the impact of import made by the Government. It has been reported in the third annual report of an Institute of America that due to this import debt will increase further. The debt burden on the country has reached the staggering figure of 70 billion dollars. When the American and Canadian farmers can be paid at the rate of Rs. 526 per quintal in foreign exchange for the import, why cannot the Government pay the same price in our own currency to our own farmers. The official figures show that there has been bumper procurement. It all happened due to pricing system of the Government. Had some more price been offered we could have purchased Indian wheat. It was thought wise to pay more to the farmers of Canada, America and Australia, but this offer was not made to our own farmers. It appears that the Government does not get much kickback from Indian farmers whereas there were large scopes for the same from the foreign countries. This is my charge against the Government...*(Interruptions)* Not only wheat but rice has also been imported. Why it was not exported, while earlier export was made. Good quality of Basmati rice was being

exported. That has not been done uptil now. The same quality of rice has been imported.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: There is no restriction on export of Basmati rice.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: It should be allowed. Please let me know as to how much has been exported this year?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: We do not keep the record.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: You must be having the record.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: We do not have the record of Basmati rice.

[English]

We have not put any restriction. There is restriction on export of other quality of rice and I do not have the record about it.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Vajpayeeji has said that there is no co-ordination. I have definite information that quality rice has not been exported this year. How much of rice was exported last year? This year it is nil till date. Often it is said by the government that it would fulfill the promises made in its manifesto. A promise was also made to bring down the prices within 100 days:

[English]

" Arrest the price rise in essential commodities and in particular roll back the prices to a level obtaining in July 1990"

[Translation]

This promise was made. Is it not a fact that during the last 15 months the prices of essential commodities have gone up by 50

or 100 per cent? Rupee was devalued to promote export and to check import, but while export has increased by 5 per cent, at a slow pace, import has increased by 22 per cent. Our foreign debt has gone up from Rs. 25,000 crores to 2 lakh 50 thousand crores. It has increased by 10 times in years. The annual rate of interest has increased from Rs. 4,000 crores to Rs. 32,000 crores. Though agriculture is a state subject, the Central Government has taken many steps against the farmers without the consent of the State Governments. Subsidy on fertilizers has been curtailed by Rs. 4 billions and due to this the farmers of the country and their agriculture is suffering. The price of petroleum, used in manufacturing fertilizers, has gone up, by 54 per cent. The high price of fertiliser have badly affected agriculture production. My charge is that just to obtain a loan of a billion dollars, the subsidy on fertilizers has been withdrawn under pressures of the World Bank and the I.M.F. Lastly, I would like to submit that a parliamentary committee should be set up to investigate into the Scandalous way the wheat was first exported on lower price and later it was imported on the double price as also into the supply of wheat to big flour-mill-owners on controlled price, the period from October, 1991 to January, 1992.

My second submission is that the increase announced in the price of fertiliser and petroleum products should be withdrawn. Subsidy on fertiliser that has been withdrawn should be restored.

Thirdly, wheat should be purchased from Indian farmers on priority basis ensuring the remunerative price to them.

I would like to thank you for providing

me an opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRIDIGVIJAYA SINGH(Rajgarh): Sir, the discussion on the subject is certainly timely and of course necessary also. These two subjects, although, they are very much related to the farmers, but they are in fact quite unrelated in nature.

I quite appreciate the concern of the BJP and Shri Madan Lal Khurana. If the wheat has been imported, it is imported for whom? It is for the consumers. And what has been the consequences? The prices have fallen. The traders of this country who were expecting a steep rise in the prices, who could have made a killing in an event of drought, stand to lose. And that is why, the concern of the BJP is that their prime supporters could not make a killing in the open general market. We must appreciate their concern because we all know ultimately what is their support. The new messiah of farmers is Shri V.P. Singh. Till now he was a messiah of the down-trodden and minorities of this country. Now he has suddenly become the messiah of farmers and he wanted to sell wheat at Boat Club.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): He should speak before him and not at his back.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I am aware that his representatives are sitting here.

[English]

What was the increase in the support price during the tenure of this messiah of farmers? A handsome increase of Rs. 10 per quintal. And they were being supported by their, of course, permanent friends—they are not temporary friends.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) Does the wrongs committed by them, give a right to the government to also do the same? If they had increased the prices, should the present Government also increase prices? If they had indulged in unscrupulous activities should the present Government also indulge in the same? It does not give freedom to the Government to do anything

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH I am not talking of the intention I simply want to draw the attention to the fact that how great a messiah he is that during his tenure as Prime Minister he increased the price of wheat by only ten rupees per quintal

[English]

The increase during the tenure of Shri Rajiv Gandhi was Rs 32 a quintal because of which we had a record procurement in the year 1989-90 when we procured 11.06 metric tonnes

What is the attitude of Janata Dal and Shri V P Singh? He is definitely an opposition leader. He is the ex-Prime Minister of this country and he should have the statesmanship to see the problems of this country in the right perspective and not act as a partisan petty politician

The government always has a very tricky task. It has to balance between the producer and the consumer. The hon. Prime Minister came to know that he was faced with a situation where because of the stagnation in the agricultural production and because of the poor procurement condition, in spite of an unprecedented increase of Rs 50 per quintal in the support price, never before a Government had given such an increase in procurement prices—because of certain market forces the procurement was confined to only 6.4 million tonnes. In that even-

tuality if the Government decided to import the wheat, it was done with the best of intentions and as per the best traditions of the Congress Party and its election manifesto the mandate for which we have received

Where did we buy it from and at what rate? Hon. Khurana himself said the prevailing market price was not 168 dollars, but 137 dollars per metric ton. He quoted from a non-resident Indian who wanted to supply 2 million metric tonnes at prices much below the prevailing US market prices. I do not know from where he got this fact. Okay, I am not contesting that. But the fact remains that we got wheat at 111.83 dollars per metric tonne

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA Can he prove that wheat was imported from Canada?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH He is talking of the U.S.A.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA What is the quantity of wheat imported from Canada? Is it mentioned in the manifesto?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH He should speak a bit sensibly. A wrong statement has already been made on behalf of the hon. Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. He should therefore make statements sensibly.

[English]

Sir, what happened in 1991? We did not import wheat in that year, and what was the consequence? A stupendous rise of 48 per cent in the wheat price was there. They are going in for *Bharat bandh*. I am sorry, they could not get support. Sir, they will never get support. These are the two faces of BJP.

Situation affecting agriculture & farmers' interests due to increase in [Translation]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Have 119 Members come without support?

[English]

SHRIDIGVIJAYA SINGH: They run with the hare and hunt with the hounds. This has been the character of BJP. What are the facts? I will show you the facts. The fact remains that when we were in power, because of our correct price policy, the wheat procurement was 8.94 million tonnes in 1988-89; 11.06 million tonnes in 1989-90. Then suddenly, it came down to 7.7 million tonnes during the period when Shri Khurana supported a Government. These facts tell the tale of the performance of the Government which Shri Khurana had the pleasure to support. I was surprised when Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Shri George Fernandes said that for industrialists, there is no system to regulate the price of their products. Are they not aware of the fact that there is a Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices? Have they heard of this? Shri Khurana will not know and I do not blame him for that. *(Interruptions)* He is confined to petty traders and not higher people. *(Interruption)* The point is that BICP is already there which is regulating the prices of industrial products. *(Interruptions)*

PDS is essential. Shri Indrajit is correct. In a socialist country where there are 42 per cent of the people living below the poverty line, there has to be some... (Interruptions) Sir, please ask them to be quiet. Sir, PDS is essential; prices of the essential commodities have to be contained. But, there is an urgent need to review the public distribution system itself. How much wheat are we giving through the public distribution system per unit? In my State- I do not know about other States- one family is getting one kg. of wheat per unit per month. If there is a family of five, the total wheat or rice comes to five kgs. per

month. How much are we subsidising? A handsome of Rs. 10 or Rs 15 per month. It has an effect; I do agree that in a poorest of the poor family, it has an impact. But, there is an urgent need to review the public distribution system itself. There is no need to give us subsidised wheat, the people sitting in this House. There is an urgent need to confine PDS to the poorest of the poor families. A subsidy of Rs. 25 may be important to a family which is earning Rs. 300 per month. But a subsidy of Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 to a family of those sitting here, is not a concern. So there is an urgent need to review the PDS itself. This is very unfortunate about everything which the Government does. If it exports wheat, we are doing at the behest of the World Bank and the IMF. If we are importing wheat, we are doing it at the behest of the IMF and the World Bank. If we are doing away with subsidy for fertilisers, we are doing it at the behest of the IMF and the World Bank. What about our 'kar Save'? Are these people also doing it at the behest of their friends across the border? *(Interruptions)* Mr. Madan Lal Khurana, please wait for five minutes.

Mr. Khurana made an allegation that the Government of India gave subsidised wheat to the flour mills.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Why not control their products?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: For once, I agree with him. It should be made obligatory on the flour mills, which were given subsidised wheat, to give that by-product, that flour to the PDS system.

But in the State of Madhya Pradesh- I must bring the fact before you- all the wheat that was to be distributed through the PDS system, for six months till November, 1991, lakhs of tonnes of wheat was diverted to the flour-mills which were related to the BJP President and people there in the State.

farmers' interests due to-increase in
When we made allegations in the State. when we asked for an inquiry, it has not yet been completed. I totally agree with you that you must set up an inquiry against all those flour mills.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I agree.

[Translation]

Let there be an inquiry in both the cases.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: I would like to know whether F.C.I. is the concern of the Centre of the state.

[English]

SHRIDIGVIJAYA SINGH: I totally agree that an inquiry should be set up to find out who were the people who have made crores of rupees from the PDS wheat which was given to the flour-mills.

I did not want to interrupt a senior leader like Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee. But there are certain facts which must be brought before the House. Madhya Pradesh grows 85 per cent of the soyabean in the country. For price intervention, the State of Madhya Pradesh started *Tilhan Sanghs* so that the private processors did not control the market forces. That is why *Tilhan Sanghs* were created; societies were created. But I am sorry to say that in spite of our repeated demands purchases by the primary societies of *Tilhan Sangh*-it is my allegation-the BJP Government in Madhya Pradesh did not start purchasing soyabean till the processors have not filled their godowns. (Interruption)

I would not have replied. It was Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee who raised this issue. (Interruption)

As far as wheat is concerned, the decision of the Government of India was not only timely but necessary. And it was in the best

interest of the consumers of this country. Where is the fertiliser subsidy going?

(Interruptions)

Seventy per cent of the subsidy to the farmers is being cornered by six developed States, namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Haryana and Punjab. And it was going to those established farmers who had irrigation potential. How much are we spending on subsidy? Had we not lifted the control, the total subsidy on the Central Government would have gone upto at least Rs. 10,000 crores this year. Could this country afford this kind of a subsidy? After lifting the control, still this Government will have to pay nothing less than Rs. 5000 crores of subsidy on fertilisers. 67 per cent of the total fertiliser consumption in this country is still subsidised, that is, urea. How much are we spending today on that target group which is the poorest amongst the poor? The total money that we are spending on employment programmes of the poor is only Rs. 2600 crores and the subsidy that we are giving to the farmers is Rs. 4000 crores. Where is the justification? Today, the target group of this country needs maximum attention. They are the people coming from the poorest of the poor families and there is an urgent need to review this programme and raise money for employment programmes of the poorest of the poor. I am sure our friends from the Communist Party will appreciate what I am saying.... (Interruptions) The unfortunate part is the attitude of our friends here is really atrocious. Pardon me for saying so. They are asking for reduction in prices of fertilisers and they are making beg statements and going for *Bharat bandh* as if *Bharat bandh* would reduce prices of fertilisers and essential commodities.... (Interruptions)... No. We never go for bandh since I have become the PCC President. We do not believe in that.... (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude as it is getting time.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: They are interrupting. What can I do? If they are genuine and if they are really concerned with the farmers of this country, will they remove the sales tax on fertilisers in the BJP-ruled States. I ask this question to them. They are not prepared for that. Not only that, as my friend was telling me, they did not spend the subsidy which was given last year. Honourable Minister, you had given subsidy to the States so that small and marginal farmers, harijans and adivasi farmers would get fertilisers at old prices. But I can say with authority that in Madhya Pradesh not a single small and marginal farmer could get the fertiliser at a subsidised price. Again you had given instructions that if the stocks were available on that day, it would be sold at the old prices, prices prevalent before the controls were lifted. Sir, let me tell you that in Madhya Pradesh the... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do not use the name. I remove the name.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I am sorry or taking the name. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): It should not go on record, Sir. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: O.K. Sir, I will not take his name. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The entire thing may be removed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Sir, the hon. Member is making accusation by name. He is not a Member of this house.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That name is being removed already.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I will not mention his name. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Sir, he is converting this house into Assembly of Madhya Pradesh. He should be reprimanded for that (*Interruption*)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: This is my allegation, Sir. Kindly have it inquired into. A subsidy of Rs. 1000 per tonne was given by the Government of India to the States to be given to the farmers in the prices of super phosphate and potash. But the M.P Government had the guts to announce that it has been given from their funds. I will show you a press release of Madhya Pradesh Government. The subsidy given by the Government of India was claimed by the M.P Government as subsidy given by them.

Sir, I will conclude with some suggestions. My suggestions are simple. I urge upon the hon. Minister to give remunerative prices to the farmer, taking into full consideration the rise in prices of the fertilizers after the control is lifted. Then and then only, you will be known as the real friend of the farmer.

Sir, my second suggestion is that free movement of grains in the country is essential. There should be no checks and balances by the States. Checks by the State Governments are putting a sort of ban on the free transit and hence these checks should immediately be removed so that there can be free movement in the country. On market prices, you must intervene and then only we will be able to find a solution.

I urge upon you to implement all the recommendations of the JPC. They have

arrived at these recommendations after a great deal of deliberation and thought. The State Governments must be asked to waive sales tax on fertilizers. Gas price and the price of naphtha should be reduced. Railway freight charges should also be reduced. Until and unless you implement the recommendations of the JPC in toto, farmers will not be helped. Only partial implementation of the recommendations will not do justice to the farmers.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are discussing on an issue which is very important for country. Whenever there is any discussion on the problems of the farmers, it seems that all the problems of the farmers would be solved in one day but as a matter of fact all the members who have spoken on these problems are not farmers. There is no farmer in any Government that comes to power. Our party had also come to power but it too did not do anything in the interest of the farmers. During the 45 years of rule, Congress has also hardly paid any attention to the problems of the farmers. Actually, that party even failed to understand the real problem. Proper attention has actually never been paid to safeguard the interests of the farmers. This Government has always been hesitant in giving remunerative prices to farmers. Agricultural policy has not so far been declared by the Government in spite of the fact that the farmers in the country constitutes 80 per cent of the total population that is why we have to import wheat from Canada, America, Russia and France. When the price of farmers' foodgrains is about to be fixed, the Government starts importing wheat with the intention of lowering and controlling the prices. Farmers are so baffled by statistics that they are unable to understand any thing. They do not understand as to what is the real statistics, and how much foodgrains has been imported. The import of wheat is

opposed by all the parties including ours, but I would welcome the import of wheat if it is on the same prices as we are giving to our farmers. The Government should purchase the wheat of farmers on the same rate. I challenge the hon. Minister to reply it today itself. The farmers have no objection, their only demand is that if the Government imports wheat from America at the rate of Rs. 500 per quintal, then their wheat should also be purchased at the same rate of Rs. 500 per quintal. They are ready to meet the requirement of wheat.

Next comes the pricing of fertilisers. In this regard I would not like to say much. We met the hon. Prime Minister with a delegation of farmers. He asked the delegation to see the Agriculture Minister. We tried to impress upon him that the double policies in regard to fertilisers should be removed who are big farmers? Mr. Jakhar is a big farmer. Has he ever purchased a bag of fertiliser from market? I know that only tenants would be looking after his farming. Only poor farmers would be ploughing his fields. Small and marginal farmers do the farming for the landlords, the are all poor. If in the family of a farmer who has thirty to forty bighas of land, there is no one in the service then he does not have grains even for sowing.

I agree with Digvijaya Ji but I do not fully endorse the views of the B.J.P. and Shri Madan Lal Khuranaji that bungling has been committed in the import of wheat. As Shri Digvijaya Babu was saying that wheat was purchased from the farmers by big businessmen on lower rates. The Government has imported wheat with a view to check those businessmen for selling that wheat on higher rates. It is good thing it is not bad. I support it. But I would like to submit that the Government will have to purchase the wheat of Indian farmers at the same rates. The double policy of selling fertilisers to different farmers on different rates is not good. The Government also stopped giving subsidy.

I would like to cite an example. The Jute Corporation of India purchases jute from the farmers. I also belong to jute-growing area. Two days ago, while returning from my area, I found thousands of farmers from Purnea, Saharasa, Madhepura, Katihar, Araria and Kishanganj districts of Bihar standing in a queue to sell their jute. The Corporation was not buying it. Those farmers were there for the last four to seven days with the intention of selling their jute and with the money, thus earned, they wanted to purchase fertilizers and use the same for agricultural purposes but they were unable to do it as the corporation was not buying their jute. When my car reached there, people gheraoed me. On asking officials of J.C.I., I was told that they did not have any capacity to purchase jute. I would like to know, when the Government has fixed rates for jute, why does it not buy jute from the jute growing farmers and Government officials openly declare that they do not have any capacity to purchase the same, can it be true? Then the government talks of farmers and villages. The Government has spoiled everything

In brief, I demand, the Government should instruct the J.C.I. to purchase jute from farmers immediately. The Government is selling fertilizers to the farmers at higher rates. There are hardly seven big farmers in every hundred farmers and the rest are marginal and small farmers, they cannot afford buying fertilizers at such higher rates. The Government should provide them fertilizers at cheaper rates.

Whole of Bihar is reeling under drought. The farmers there irrigate their fields with boring pumps then they plough the fields and sow seeds. They are getting seeds at higher prices and they don't get fertilizers as the fertilizer available in the market is adulterated. Mr. Jakhar, you are also a farmer and if you have any sympathy with the farm-

ers, then still there is time to take necessary action and make arrangements to make it available at every place. With this, I conclude and request the Government as well as this House to fix the rates of wheat or any other produce, equivalent to the rates at which we import foodgrains.

17.57 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have come here, missing a meeting being held on the first floor. I have asked you to provide me time to speak either just now or later on, whichever you feel suitable.

MR. SPEAKER: Let him speak. You will be given a chance to speak later on.

[*English*]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for allowing a discussion on this very important matter. The Government has to consider very seriously the repercussions of these decisions. Only last year and before last year, we were able to export rice and earned foreign exchange. This year, we are compelled to import nearly 3 million tonnes of wheat by spending nearly Rs. 1500 crores. Added to this, we are going to import hundreds of crores worth of rice also which my colleagues have already mentioned. I would like to say that this clearly is an antifarmer policy of this Government. It is most unfortunate. I have a lot of respect as well as affection to our Agriculture Minister Dr. Balram Jakhar. I don't doubt his sincerity or his love towards farmers. Can this Government dare to do such a harm to any one section of the population other than farming community? Only a year back, you had enhanced the fertilizer prices by 30 per cent and now immediately after the Monsoon Session, the Joint Parliamentary Committee

on Fertilizer Pricing's Report was presented. And immediately, the Government has announced the decision to de-control prices of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers. Is it not a fact because our Finance Minister is going to borrow the third tranche of loan from IMF under Extended Fund Facility to convince those foreign money lenders that this Government is very sincere in implementing their conditions and committed to honour its commitments to implement the conditionality that his decision has been taken? Or else please tell what are the reasons? Why at a particular point of time, the Government has taken a decision? The price of murate of Potash has been increased from Rs. 88/- to Rs. 210/-. This price of DAP went up from Rs. 230/- to Rs. 4440/-.

My colleague Mr. Sawant as well as Mr. Digvijaya Singh have again stressed the need for implementing certain recommendations made by the JPC on Fertilizer Pricing. We appreciate it. But why has not this Government examined those things and why has the Government failed to implement those recommendations of JPC?

18 00 hrs

MR. SPEAKER: Mr Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde, please wait for one minute. It is now six 'o' clock. What is the sense of the House with regard to this discussion?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Let us continue it tomorrow also.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: So many hon. Members have to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your view Mr. Minister?

MR. SPEAKER: Let us take it up tomorrow also. After Mr. Rao finishes his speech, we will adjourn the House. Now you can complete your speech.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JHAKAR): We cannot finish it today then let us take it up tomorrow.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: While the Government has not considered those recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, in haste, it has withdrawn the control on fertiliser as a result of which the farmers are compelled to pay heavy prices for the fertilizers.

After that decision some other decision have been taken. These are not going to help the farmers. Even your decision of subsidy of Rs. 1000 per tonne of super phosphate and other phosphatic fertilizers has helped only the traders or the influential politicians, not all the farmers.

Shri Digvijaya Singh has said something about the U.P. Government and the Madhya Pradesh Government. I would like to inform the House that the Andhra Pradesh Government also is not lagging behind. Last year when Rs. 60 crores were sent by the Union Government, not a single farmer, small or marginal, in Andhra Pradesh got a single rupee. Even now, the Government has given Rs. 1000 per tonne for the fertilizers with good intention. But if it had taken a decision before the decontrol of the fertilizers, most of the farmers would have been benefited. Had the Government thought of the serious consequence of the decontrol of those fertilizers. Even before the decontrol, even before 30 per cent enhancement of the fertilizer prices, the farmers would have been benefited. The price of fertilizer in our coun-

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try is much more than the price of fertilizer in Pakistan and Bangladesh which are our neighbours even at that point of time.

While a farmer in our country is made to part 3 kg of paddy or wheat to purchase one kg of nitrogen, a farmer in Pakistan sells 2 kg of paddy for one kg of nitrogen. A farmer in Korea has to give only 8 kg of paddy to fetch one kg of nitrogen. A farmer in Japan has to give .3 kg of paddy for getting one kg of nitrogen.

Right at the moment, our fertilizer consumption is much less. We are hardly consuming per hectare 73 kgs of fertilizers. The farmers in Pakistan are consuming 82 kgs. Last year, because of your wrong policy -of course, it is not hundred per cent reason; but it is one of the main reasons of enhancement of 30 per cent prices of fertilizers, we produced 9 million tonnes less of foodgrains; and you are well aware of it. And even this year, according to the latest estimate, we may be slightly better. The situation in South, especially in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and some other States is not encouraging because of late arrival of monsoon and again cyclonic storm. In spite of all these things, we have to produce 240 million tonnes of foodgrains to meet our requirement by 2001 AD. How are you going to produce it unless you enhance the consumption of fertilizers? Unless you enhance the consumption of fertilizers, you cannot increase per acre yield.

Even during the Seventh Plan Rs. 8000 crores were spent on irrigation, but only four lakh hectares of additional irrigation facilities were provided. So, we cannot depend upon extension of irrigation facilities in spite of our best efforts. The only alternative left to increase the per-acre yield and the total production is through increased utilization of the fertilizers. Your decision of decontrolling and enhancing prices to a great extent is

going to come in the way of our meeting our requirement. Even now, several hon. Members have said that we have achieved self-sufficiency. It is not a fact. It is due to the fact that one person in every three persons in this country is below the poverty line. Because they do not have adequate purchasing capacity. We are having enough stocks. That is the position. If really we can supply 181 kg. per head per year, which is the minimum nutritional requirement that has been recommended, we are very far off the mark. Even in terms of calories also the per capita availability of calory intake is only 2200 whereas 2600 is the minimum that should be there. In spite of these things why this Government is going ahead with such faulty and wrong advices of the IMF and the World Bank.

My friend, Shri Sawant has said that in America and in European countries their per capita subsidy yield is around 200 dollars. That is quite mistaken because that does not give the correct picture. In India 75 per cent of the people are directly or indirectly dependent on the agriculture and and if we calculate the per head subsidy the so called subsidy that is made available to Indian farmers, it comes to around 6 dollars per head. Where as in America, because only 2 per cent people are dependent on the agriculture, it comes to 22000 dollars per American farmer and in the European Economic Community countries it will come to around 16000 dollars per farmer. Those people, who are giving 22000 dollars per farmer are advising the Indian Government to do away with the subsidy small pittance to the farmers. Is it justified? Are you thinking of the real consequences, long term consequences? Not only that we are importing now, in future also we have to depend compulsorily in importing the foodgrains from those countries. You are a doctor, you are a good economist, tell me what you feel. What do you mean by subsidy? When you are giving higher price than the international price, it may be called subsidy but in India the farmer

is not given a subsidy but he is being exploited. The differential co-efficient of protection offered to the farmer was 0.8, whereas for the industrial sector it is 1.4. That means the Indian farmer's production is taken at a lesser price than the price which he can get if he sells in the international market. When that is the situation, pretty knowing that previous Government has been continuing this policy of giving fertilizer at a low price, the farmer in this country is not a beggar. He is a man with self-respect. We do not want the Government to do any charity.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): I will not let you remain a beggar.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: But the increase should be reasonable. It should be in such a way that the farmer can bear it. Of course, you have done, to correct the imbalance to some extent, by increasing the support price. But how many farmers can be compensated for their higher payment of fertilizer prices, only such farmers who get marketable surplus to sell either to the F. C. I. PDS scheme or in the open market. 80 per cent of the farmers are small and marginal farmers. They produce enough to meet their requirement and hardly they may be having four quintals or five quintals to sell in the market. For such farmers you are not going to help by increasing the minimum support price.

So, my suggestion to the Government is, please reconsider it. You know in your heart of hearts that what you have done is wrong but this Government, because of its commitment to IMF and World Bank, have succumbed to their pressure and they have done this greatest injustice to the farmers of this country.

Please reconsider and restore the pre-enhancement level and you may enhance it by 10 per cent or something like that and not

by 100 per cent or 90 per cent because in the long run the country will be paying a very heavy price, not only the farmer of this country.

My suggestion is please remove all controls and restrictions on movement of paddy and other agriculture produces, which you are good enough to say the other day at Hyderabad that the Government intend to do it. But till now, the practice, the rules that are in vogue or that from district to district the farmer cannot move his paddy or wheat and from State to State they cannot move. The traders are exploiting the situation and they are trying to purchase the paddy or wheat at throw away prices from the farmers. All that should be removed

I request the Government to create conditions where the farmers will be happy. If the Government does not bring down the prices of fertilizers, how can they stop the farmer from selling his paddy or wheat to other countries where he can get a better price? The Government cannot compel them to sell them at throw away prices to it. When the Government is speaking of liberalisation and economic policy and high sounding words, the farmer alone cannot pay the price. That is my demand from the Government.

In the CACP computations also, actually, in the matter of fertilizer you are giving 12 per cent post-tax profit on a plaque to the fertilizer manufacturers, even though they have really not produced and they have shown you wrong statistics for getting more and more subsidy money. But the farmer is not assured of any percentage of profit and I am sure that at least 12 per cent profit should be given to the farmers.

It is very well known that the CACP computations are based of figures that have been supplied five or six years back, not the latest figures. Lot of changes have taken place in the agricultural labours wages and

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other agricultural inputs. So, my suggestion to the government is to kindly refix the price of paddy, wheat and other agricultural commodities keeping in view open the parity prices, taking 1970-71 as the base year. The only some justice can be done to the farmer and he can co-operate with the Government in giving his production to the public distribution system.

I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: I think tomorrow we may resume this discussion at 4 P.M. because other business is also there.

18.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
of the Clock on Thursday, November 26,
1992 Agrahayana 5, 1914 (Saka)

