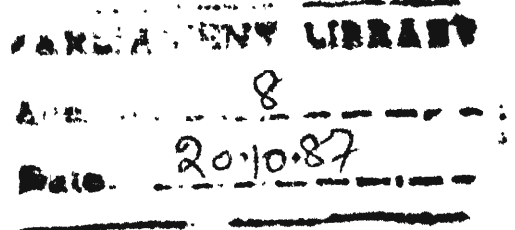


Eighth Series, Vol. XXV No. 12

Tuesday, March 10, 1987
Phalguna 19, 1987 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Eighth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)**



(Vol. XXV contains Nos. 11 to 20)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March, 10, 1987/
Phalguna 19, 1908 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you compelling me to ring the bell so early in the morning ?

[*English*]

I will have to give it a serious thought.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : You should say something to everyone.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I will have to say.

[*English*]

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Give some incentive for us !

(*Interruptions*)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Prices of groundnut and mustard oils

*183. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) what long-term and short-term measures are contemplated by Government

to keep under check the steep increase in prices of groundnut and mustard oils ;

(b) whether any new strategy is being chalked out to increase production of groundnut and mustard oilseeds ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI
H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) The long-term
and short-term measures taken by the
Government to control the prices are as
under :

(i) All efforts are being made to increase the production of edible oils to achieve self-sufficiency.

(ii) States have been asked to take stringent measures against hoarders and speculators. Checking of vanaspathi units has been intensified.

(iii) Supply management of imported edible oils to Public Distribution System and vanaspathi industry has been geared to check the rising trend in the prices.

(b) Yes, sir.

(c) An integrated strategy has been worked out for boosting oilseeds production including groundnut and mustard through expansion of area as well as increasing productivity.

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that all efforts are being made to increase the production of edible oils to achieve self-sufficiency. According to my opinion, it is not possible for us to become self-sufficient in edible oils in the coming 10 or

15 years. Today we are importing 10 to 15 lakhs of tonnes every year and the cost of the imported oil is only Rs. 5000 per tonne whereas the price of oil indigenously produced is about Rs 15000 to Rs. 16000 per tonne. Due to not announcing the import policy in time sometimes farmers suffer and sometimes customers suffer. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has formulated a long-term edible oil import policy in consultation with the Agriculture Ministry so that the farmers as well as the customers may not suffer. If any policy has been formulated, please give the details, and if not, I would like to know whether you are thinking of declaring the policy of importing edible oil in the beginning of every year.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : With due respect to the hon. Member, I would like to submit that the view of the Government is not that we cannot be self-sufficient in edible oil in 10 to 15 years. The view and the effort of the Government is that we can be self-sufficient much earlier than that provided we take certain steps and adopt a strategy. Both short-range and long-range strategies have been drawn up in this connection.

The hon. Member wants to know whether the long-term import policy has been devised or not. Obviously, the import depends on the indigenous production and various other factors. The broad objective of the edible oil policy has been formulated in consultation with not only the Ministry of Agriculture but also with the Ministry of Finance and all other Ministries concerned. Certain technologists have also been consulted. Our policy is that we cannot have any long-term import policy because the necessity for import depends on how much we produce in the country and we want to import as less as possible. The strategy is that the consumer should not suffer too much. The oilseed growers should get more incentives and, at the same time, we should try to be self-reliant as far as possible. Certain incentives have been devised in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture and other Ministries. Prices for various oilseeds were increased this year.

Secondly, a number of projects have been taken up by the National Dairy Development Corporation and a number of steps in different areas have been taken to expand the area and the productivity. The effort is that the consumer should not be too much burdened. The grower should get some incentive and we should try to be self-supporting. Suppose we decide today on a long-term basis that we will import so much necessarily. Obviously there is a gap. The gap is that our estimated requirement is 50 lakh tonnes while our estimated production is roughly about 35 to 36 lakh tonnes. There is a gap of 15 lakh tonnes. But if there is more production of oilseeds and if we also import more today, the oilseeds grower will be discouraged. We are keeping a watch on the situation. We import as and when and whatever is considered necessary.

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : The hon. Finance Minister has announced four months ago that the edible oil import will be reduced to save foreign exchange and after four months, due to some pressure of the industrialists, we have changed our policy and announced that we are going to import more edible oil. I would like to know whether it is a fact that the Government is changing its policy and programme of importing edible oils due to the pressure of Vanaspati industry lobby,

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : I would like very categorically to refute that the Government changed its edible oil policy or import, because of any pressure from any lobby. The Government has decided to reduce allocation of imported oil to the Vanaspati industry, with the idea and expectation that the production of indigenous oil would be of a certain order and after some time, we found that the price even in the flush season of edible oils was going very high, too high to be borne by the consumers. So, ultimately, it was considered neither to benefit Vanaspati industry nor to benefit any other industry and in this also, two views have been expressed. Some economic newspapers said that it is a good policy ; they

should have done it because this has brought down, to some extent, some prices of edible oils. The other view which the hon. Member said was given by one paper that the prices should have been allowed to soar but no more import should have been done. Therefore, what the situation was prevailing then, we took action. But according to the situation 4 or 5 months later, we had to revise it not in the interest of anybody but in the interest of consumers because the prices were rising too high.

[Translation]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : The hon. Minister has just now stated that imports have been cut in order to provide incentive to the indigenous producers of oil. I want to know whether the fast decline in the groundnut production in Uttar Pradesh is because of the fact that the producers are not getting remunerative prices? Has the hon. Minister got any survey conducted to find out the cost of the inputs and that of the finished products? Has the Government considered as to how to fix the remunerative price so that the farmers are encouraged to produce groundnuts?

MR. SPEAKER : You should also ask as to what would be its effect on the producers?

[English]

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : About the particular position in U.P., I must say that any study is not available with me at the moment. But the prices have been recommended by the Agricultural Cost & Prices Commission. In fact the Government has given more for various categories than what they have recommended this time for the year 1986-87.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Has it come to the notice of the Government that some noted agricultural scientists of this country are of the view that there is no shortage of mustard oil? The shortage of mustard oil has been shown because mustard oil and fat have been put together

while showing import and domestic availability. Therefore, I would like to know as far as mustard oil is concerned, what is the total requirement of the country and what is the total production.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : Separate figures of mustard oil regarding what is the total requirement and what is the production are not available with me at the moment.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Mustard oil and fat has been put together to create some artificial scarcity in this country. I would like that the hon. Minister may inform the House about this later on.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : Steps have been taken about the further production of mustard oil as well as other categories of oil. You wanted to know the exact details as to how much the production is and how much the shortage in respect of mustard oil. At present the details are not available with me. But wherever the requirement is there, wherever the people take mustard oil, we are trying to give them repeseed oil which comparatively gives the required taste.

[Translation]

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are some States in our country where edible oil is always taken to mean to be groundnut oil. I want to know whether in those States, where there are other categories of edible oils,

[English]

just as mustard oil, cotton-seed oil, sun-flower oil, these oils are also edible oils,

[Translation]

does the Government have any proposals to educate the people in these areas to consume other categories of oil so that we do not have to import oil to meet our requirements?

[English]

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : The Government is quite conscious of this fact that in certain States, certain people are used to certain categories of oil. Government is keen that people should adopt, change their habits and also consume other types of oil. The plan that the Government has made is also for production of other edible oils as well as encouragement of nonconventional oil—also the oil from forests and other things. Amongst imported oils, there are various categories. On the indigenous oil, there is no control. It is open market. Anybody can go. But, so far as imported oils are concerned, we give to different States in different quantities.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : I would like to know as to how the Government is going to take steps so that farmers can organise cooperative oil mills and give the benefits of the market to the farmers ?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : What is the effect of imports on the cost of our oil-seeds ?

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil has asked a very good question.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : After we have decided to give more to the Vanaspati Industry, the prices of edible oils in the market have marginally gone down. There has been difference from January to February.

MR. SPEAKER : What about oil seeds after the imports ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : I am grateful to you for this very relevant and very good question Sir. Even now the oilseeds prices in the market are actually higher than the support prices which the Government has fixed. Our strategy is that when indigenous oilseeds are avail-

able, at that time we release comparatively less imported oil so that the farmer can get more. That is the strategy we are going to adopt.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, Mr. Vikhe Patil asked a very good question, it was not answered.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : If the farmers organise any cooperatives and establish the oil mills, what incentive will be given by the Government, so that the exploiters and the middlemen may be kept away and the direct benefit of the market may go to the farmer and the production can boast up very well ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : As I have submitted, so far as growth and production of indigenous edible oils are concerned, that matter is dealt with by the Agriculture Ministry. They have a definite policy whereby they wish to encourage the cooperative sector. Some of the cooperative societies are in Maharashtra and I have seen that their oils are of very good quality, they are very well packed and the prices are also, I believe, reasonable. The Agriculture Ministry does wish to encourage the growth of cooperative societies for growth of indigenous oil.

Hydel projects in Himachal Pradesh

*184. **SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the hydel projects in Himachal Pradesh which have been sanctioned by Union Government during the last three years;

(b) the total amount asked for by the Government of Himachal Pradesh for these projects; and

(c) the reaction of Union Government on this demand for financial help ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) The Chamera Hydro-electric Project Stage I (540 MW) was sanctioned in April, 1984 at a cost of Rs. 809.29 crores. The project is under implementation in the Central Sector.

[Translation]

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that Rs. 809.29 crores have been earmarked for this project. In this connection, I would like to know as to how many megawatts of power will be supplied to Himachal Pradesh according to the agreement with the State Government of Himachal Pradesh in this regard ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir, at present, the total installed capacity in Himachal Pradesh is 2950 megawatts which is being fully utilised. According to the clear question which he has asked, the annual energy generation is 1664 million units and 50 per cent of dependent annual capacity is 2477 million units.

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my first question has not been answered. It is right that so many units of power will be supplied to Himachal Pradesh, but I want to know specifically as to how much of it would be provided free of charge ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : It will be given according to base prepared in 1982.

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : What is the percentage according to the base ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : The Government of Himachal Pradesh will get 12 per cent of the electricity free of cost and apart from that, a part of whatever is left after distribution to those who hold 15 per cent shares, will also be supplied to Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Is the hon. Minister aware that Natpa, Jhakri, Pongdam, Vyas, Chamera, Lurgi and other projects are functioning in Himachal Pradesh ? I would like to know whether Himachal Pradesh will be provided 12 per cent share of power from these projects or not ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : The hon. Energy Minister and the Chief Minister of that State have discussed the issue in detail. Detailed discussions have also been held regarding other future projects as well. In this connection, which formula will be supplied at what stage has also been discussed.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : There is shortage of power in Rajasthan. Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan had entered into an agreement about the Sundarnagar project and 500 megawatt of power was to be produced. Has the Government sanctioned that project so that Rajasthan, which does not get its full share of power, could get it and we could overcome the shortage ?

MR. SPEAKER : No, this is not covered under this question. If you want to ask something in regard to Himachal Pradesh, you may do so.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : I want to ask a question which is relevant here.....

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Hon. Shri Vyas seems to be upset and my question has also not been allowed.....

MR. SPEAKER : We would not allow him to be upset. If hon. Shri Vyasji is upset, then what would we do over here ?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : My question has not been answered,

MR. SPEAKER : He wants you to put another question. You ask another specific question. I will get the reply for you.

Special assistance to wool Cottage Industry in famine affected areas in Rajasthan

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

(a) whether the work of spinning and weaving of wool is being carried on in rural areas of desert districts of Rajasthan by Central Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Khadi Gramin Udyog, Rajasthan and other voluntary Khadi organisations;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to give any special assistance to these organisations in desert areas keeping in view the gravity of famine situation there; and

(c) if so, when and in what way ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Considering the hardships faced by the artisans in the drought affected areas of Rajasthan, KVIC undertook special programmes and sanctioned Rs. 1.50 crores during 1985-86 as a special case. A proposal seeking financial assistance for the famine affected areas has recently been received from State Director, KVIC, Jaipur and is under consideration. Apart from the above, release of funds under normal programmes has been speeded up.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the desert areas of Rajasthan face famine conditions during most of the years. There is plenty of sheep and wool in this area. At least, 40 per cent of the total production of wool in the country comes from here. A permanent solution to the problem of famine could be found by providing spinning and knitting opportunities there. A str-

ucture, which has been established recently in order to develop the cottage industries and to set up centres for spinning and knitting in all the villages under the Khadi Commission and the Rajasthan Khadi Gram Udyog Board, is on a very small scale. I want to know whether in order to provide a permanent solution to the problem of famine, the Central Government would set up an appropriate structure and by making more resources available in every village, the Government would shoulder the responsibility of developing this spinning and knitting industry ?

[English]

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : The KVIC does not have any special programme except for this particular region, namely Barmer district and Bikaner region of Rajasthan. These two areas were affected by drought and as a special scheme the KVIC last year gave Rs. 1.5 crores. This is a special scheme and this year also the State of Rajasthan KVIC requested further enlarging the scope of this assistance given last year.

The matter is under consideration of the Government. The KVIC in actual effect does not have a special scheme. Therefore, for the hardship faced by the artisans in several parts of the drought affected areas we will do all we can. We will be taking a decision in this regard by the end of March.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this industry can provide employment to lakhs of people during famine and in this way, crores of rupees which are spent for relief work could be saved. The production of blankets and cloth produced in those areas could be encouraged and their designs could be changed and these could be even exported. In such a situation, why does not the Khadi Commission formulate a permanent scheme for providing a lasting solution to this problem ?

[English]

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : Sir, I can understand the concern expressed by the honourable Member because he happens to be from Barmer region where the drought affected people are there. Last year itself 50,000 were given employment as a result of the special assistance. We expect that this year also the Government will be taking a conscious decision on this. If the Government decides that it should be extended this year the same number of persons again would be benefited.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : We want some permanent arrangement and that is why we are making this submission.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir,

*"Sabki nazaren saki par hon yeh to zaruri hai
Saki ki nazar hum par ho yeh zaruri to nahin."*

Out of the 204 drought affected districts of Rajasthan, 196 districts are facing famine conditions. According to the 1981 census, 270 lakh acres of area is facing severe famine. You might be aware that Jhunjhunu and Sikar are important areas and in Sikar there is a place called Fathepur where there is a sheep-rearing farm. Will you make provision to encourage such industries in Jhunjhunu and Sikar or not?

[English]

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : I would need a separate question.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : We would ask him to give the notice again.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAS VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he had asked the question about the whole of Rajasthan which includes Jhunjhunu, Sikar and other districts

as well. Hence the hon. Minister should reply as to what arrangements would be made for those areas.

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the desert areas of Gujarat have been facing famine conditions for the last three years. There is great demand among the rural women there for spinning and knitting work so that they could earn their daily bread. I want to ask the hon. Minister whether a special scheme would be formulated for this purpose and special grants given for its implementation?

MR. SPEAKER : From Rajasthan you have reached Gujarat.

[English]

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : We know that there are two States which are facing drought—Rajasthan and Gujarat and there are various schemes of the Central Government to look forward to...

MR. SPEAKER : And Maharashtra also.

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : KVIC has asked for a special scheme and we will see, as I said, a decision on this will be taken as early as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir the wool that is obtained from the sheep, which are reared in Rajasthan is perhaps of the best variety in India and is of export quality. We get superior quality of wool from here and the economy in the rural areas of Western and Southern Rajasthan is pastoral even today. In order to develop pastoral-economy, it is essential that the wool production in these areas is encouraged and for this purpose a scheme at the national level should be formulated for processing and purchase of wool. It is an area which must be kept populated from the strategic point of view and for this purpose, it is essential to provide employment to these people there

itself. Keeping this point in view, it is essential to formulate a separate plan and consider it separately. Is it under your consideration? The Khadi Gram Udyog Scheme would not benefit much. Hence, is a separate project at the national level being considered because it is an important area from the strategic point of view?

[English]

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
The suggestion is welcome. I can pass it on to my colleague, Shri Arunachalam.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRAWA :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my constituency, a sheep and wool research institute is located at Avikanagar where good work is being done in the field of wool research for the last 25 years. I want to know whether the Government can provide figures in regard to the total production of wool in Rajasthan? Since the establishment of this institute, the wool produced is of very superior quality. I want to know as to how much is the production of the old variety of wool and how much is that of the new variety? What is the policy of the Government in regard to the establishment of wool based industries there and how many people can be employed in the wool based industries?

[English]

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
These figures are not available with me. The question that has been asked relates to the work being carried out in drought affected areas by Khadi and Village Industries Commission etc. Therefore, I will need a separate notice for this,

PROF. N. G RANGA : Do you have any information at all about Rajasthan?

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
I have, but not here.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation plan for Indian drugs and pharmaceuticals limited

+

*188. **SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :**
DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited has been suffering losses for the last several years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any rehabilitation plan has been prepared for the various units of the company to save it from closure;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The losses are due to various factors including under-utilisation of installed capacity, excess man power, technological problems, higher cost of production from basic stage and product mix predominantly comprising of essential drugs having a lower mark up.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) A statement is given below.

(e) The company is implementing such aspects of the rehabilitation plan as can be done at its level.

Statement

1. **Manpower :**

- (a) Complete ban on recruitment.
 - (b) No temporary/casual employment.
 - (c) Voluntary separation.
2. Restructuring of the capital of the company.
 3. Cash injection to increase availability of working capital so as to increase capacity utilisation.
 4. Re-orientation of marketing organisation.
 5. Reduction of costs through improvement of technology and control over consumption of raw materials.
 6. Increase in production of drugs with higher contribution.
 7. Increase in internal cash generation from reduction in outstandings.
 8. Reducing utility costs.
 9. Improved management system.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited has suffered a loss of Rs. 28 crores in the year 1985-86 and a warning was given by the Central Government and the Chairman and the Managing Director were changed. However, it has resulted in the increase in losses and it is expected that it would amount to Rs. 58 crores this year. Several wings have been closed down. The cumulative losses suffered for the last 10 year have gone up to Rs. 176 crores. Last year, sales were worth Rs. 120 crores and this year it is expected to be only Rs. 80 crores. I want to submit to the hon.

Minister through you that the actual causes of the losses have not been divulged which are bad management and mutual tensions between the officers. The Minister has highlighted other factors. If this unit is to run in this manner, then the multinationals would be easily successful in their design to get it closed. The medicines which were sold by the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited are being sold by the multinationals at a more than hundred times profit because our company is not manufacturing them. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether any efforts are being made by the Central Government to improve the working of this company and save it from sinking ?

[English]

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : It is wrong to say that we are hiding or concealing anything. If the hon. member reads the Statement that we have annexed, in Item No. 9, we have mentioned that we would need an improved management system.

MR. SPEAKER : Are the losses as stated by the hon. member ?

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : I will answer to that. The first of the hon. member has alleged is about the management system. We know that the management system was not good. Therefore, we have said in our answer itself that there is a need for improving the management system. As far as the losses are concerned, the House would be glad to know...

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : The M. D. was changed, the Chairman was also changed, but the losses have increased even more.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us hear him fully.

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
As I said, sometime in 1986 June or July, an In-House Task Force was appointed. There was a rehabilitation plan drawn up. Its report was submitted to the Company sometime in the latter part of 1986. They studied the rehabilitation plan and the Company itself came out with their own rehabilitation plan, based on the In-House Task Force which had an outside consultancy. Sometime in December 1986, the Company took a conscious decision about those areas in which improvement is needed. In that, one of the points mentioned is improvement of management system.

As far as the losses are concerned, the House will be glad that we have been able to cut down losses during the last three months and we expect that with the implementation of the suggestions given by the Company, by 1987-88 we will be able to wipe out the deficit and after 1988 we will be able to turn round the corner and have a break-through.

MR. SPEAKER : How much are the losses ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
In 1985-86, the loss is Rs. 32.21 crores; in 1984-85 it was Rs. 26.25 crores; in 1983-84 it was Rs. 19.43 crores; and in 1982-83 it was Rs. 24.01 crores.

MR. SPEAKER : What is the loss in 1985-86 ?

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
I have said that the loss in 1985-86 is Rs. 32.21 crores.

MR. SPEAKER : It is on the increase. You have to take stringent measures about this. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
Yes Sir. We have changed the M.D....
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a sad commentary on its working. It should be put on a firing line,

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : I have just now submitted against bad management. Now I want to know as to what efforts are being made by the Government in supplying raw materials to the 5 units of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited where they are in short supply. How would they produce medicines and compete with the multinationals when they are not at all prepared in this regard ?

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
It is wrong to make a sweeping allegation of this nature. In penicillin production a'one during the last three to four months, there has been a very substantial increase. In fact, it has been reported that inventories piled up. It shows that from sometime in February, we were able to produce 22 mmu of penicillin. The substantial increase has been from 7 mmu to 22 mmu. Therefore, in the production of penicillin itself which is the major revenue earner of this particular company, we have been able to raise it from 7 mmu to 22 mmu within a span of three to four months. So, we feel confident that with this rehabilitation plan we will be able to turn round the corner.

[Translation]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first I want your protection, because it is a very important question and I can challenge that if we allow a situation in which a unit with an investment of Rs. 215 crores that has already suffered losses amounting to Rs. 225 crores continue to function, then we would become bankrupt later on. I have the statistics and as it is a very important matter, so I want that an half-an-hour discussion on it may be allowed. My question is very specific. The figures of 1982-83 have been given. I want to know as to what were the losses incurred in production during the years 1982-83, 1983-84, and 1984-85 ? What were the cumulative losses and by how much did the sales increase or decrease ? I want the year-wise break-up.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS :
There has not been any increase anywhere.
[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Rs. 32 crores.

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
Yes, Rs. 32 crores.

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY
(SHRI VASANT SATHE) :** He wants the cumulative figures for all these seven years.

**DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR
TRIPATHI :** I have asked a specific question regarding the losses incurred...

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
It is an arithmetical calculation. We can just add up from 1979-80. I can give him these figures. I have the yearwise break-up.

MR. SPEAKER : What Dr. Chandrasekhar Tripathi says, that is a very sad commentary and the management should be ashamed of it.

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
That is why we have had the exercise of rehabilitation plan and we are confident that we will be able to turn round the corner by 1988.

[Translation]

**DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR
TRIPATHI :** Sales have declined, production has also suffered. As I have submitted that a company with an investment of Rs. 215 crores has already suffered losses to the tune of Rs. 225 crores and I am not sure as to how much more losses would be incurred by it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second question is in regard to the rehabilitation plan for which a committee was constituted to implement it effectively. Experts were selected as members of the committee and senior officers of the company were also put on the job and a rehabilitation plan was formulated. However, a Chairman of a certain multinational company, who had never worked in any drug industry

and was totally inexperienced in this field, was brought into this unit and he threw away the rehabilitation programme into the waste paper basket and offered to prepare a fresh plan on a payment of Rs. 50 lakhs again. When a rehabilitation plan was prepared and it was promised in this House that work would be carried out on this basis, then why was it thrown away into the waste paper basket and not implemented. How long would you continue to squander away the money of the poor people of this country?

[English]

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
Sir, it is absolutely erroneous to say that the rehabilitation plan prepared by the In-house task force has been thrown away. In fact, as I said, it has been discussed upon by the company itself. There is such a thing as physical rehabilitation and financial rehabilitation. Those aspects have been looked into and I can mention just one or two items as to where the improvement in the rehabilitation plan is going to take place. (1) Increase in production: as I said, the trend has been very encouraging and we will be able to improve it. The other is...

MR. SPEAKER : His question refers to by-passing of the first rehabilitation plan. What happened to that?

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
That is what I have said. It is an In-house task force which was assisted by outside agencies. We had asked the company to study this in detail. The company has now studied this in detail and they have submitted to the Government for consideration.

MR. SPEAKER : There will be an Half-an-Hour Discussion on this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
According to your earlier figures, the production has not increased.

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH :
Even for the last 3-4 months, we have given the figures,

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I do not know, whether you are giving the population figure.

MR. SPEAKER : Next Question. Q. No. 189 Shri Raghuma Reddy. Not present. Shri Manik Raddy. No, not present. Q. No. 190 Shri Mullappally Ramachandran. Not present. Q. No. 191 Shrimati Meira Kumar. Not present. Q. No. 192 Shri T. Bala Goud. No. Next Question. Q. No. 193 Shri Kamla Prasad Rawat.

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT :
Q. No. 193.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Let there be a discussion under 193.

MR. SPEAKER : You convert this, if the House agrees.

[Translation]

Loss suffered by N.C.C.F. in a date palm deal

*193. **SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Consumers Cooperative Federation is reported to have suffered a huge loss in a date palm deal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have conducted any enquiry into this deal; if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The matter has been referred to the CBI for investigation,

[Translation]

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether this matter has been handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation ; if so, when was it done and what has been the outcome thereof ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : After the hon. Member had tabled his question and on going through the facts, I thought that this matter required investigation. It has just been referred to the C.B.I.

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : My second question is whether the firms which have bungled in a date palm deal have been blacklisted or are they being awarded some other form of punishment ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : As I have just told the hon. Member that the entire matter has been referred to the C.B.I. for investigation and it would conduct a thorough enquiry in this regard I would also consider whether those firms which have been buying, selling or procuring it fraudulently should be blacklisted.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to submit to the hon. Minister that the case was handed over to the C.B.I. after it was found that a prima facie case could be made. When you have come to know that a prima facie case could be made, then what is obstructing your department from taking any action against firms involved in bungling ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : The question was submitted to me only three or four days back. After going through the facts, which were received day before yesterday, I came to the conclusion that it should be referred to the C.B.I. for examining all the aspects of this case. I do not know whether one or two firms are under the National Consumers Cooperative Federation or not. I would conduct an inquiry and also consider seriously whether to blacklist them or not. I will take a decision on it. It has come to my notice only three or four days back,

[English]

**Utilisation of coastal shipping facilities
by FCI**

*197. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India proposes to utilise coastal shipping to facilitate the movement of foodgrains ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) to what extent it will help the movement of foodgrains to reach the tribal areas in the country speedily ;

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI
H. K. L. BHAGAT) :(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to move approxima-
te'y 2.64 lakh tonnes of wheat from
Kandla and other Saurashtra Ports to
Calcutta, Madras and Tuticorin by coastal
shipping.

(c) Increased availability of wheat in
Eastern and Southern regions will also
facilitate distribution of foodgrains in the
Integrated Tribal Development Project
areas.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : There are
reports that rotten foodgrains have been
distributed amongst tribals in different
parts of the country, by FCI. I want to
know from the hon. Minister whether it
is a fact ; and if so, the reasons therefor.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : I do not
have any such information with me at the
moment. But we have made the arrange-
ment, viz. that in the State Government
there should be a system of double-check-
ing, whether it is for PDS or Integrated
Tribal Development areas—the State
Government should check the quality of
foodgrains when they are released. If they
are not satisfied, they will not be released.

Government's policy is not to give rotten
food, I mean food which is not fit for
consumption, anywhere.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : It is well
known that foodgrains get sopilt due to
moisture while they are being carried by
ships. As such, is it a wise move to carry
them by ships to different parts of the
country ; what are the reasons why they
are being carried by ships ? Was there any
difficulty in getting them transported by
rail or road ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : The
obvious reason is this. The Railways have
been doing their job well, I must say. But
the pressure of load on them is there.
Firstly, we require these foodgrains more
quickly. Secondly, by rail it takes more
time. Therefore, we have thought it more
advlsable and these stocks have been lying
in some cases for more than a year. The
demand in that area is more. So we
thought it better to ship them more
quickly, and utilize them for various
purposes, for which they are required.

[Translation]

Justice to Poor.

+
*198. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR
YADAV :
SHRI CHIRANJI LAL
SHARMA :

Will the Minister of LAW AND
JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether justice is becoming beyond
the reach of the poor and the resourceless
people ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by
Government to make justice inexpensive,
simple and swift ?

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

(b) The Government is fully conscious
of the matter and it has taken steps over

the years to provide effective and speedy justice to the people. Also, the study of judicial reforms has been entrusted to the Law Commission. Decision as to the further steps in this direction, will be taken after the Government have examined the reports of the Law Commission.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question which was asked has not been answered. The hon. Minister is well aware that as days are passing, it is becoming increasingly impossible for the poor people to get justice, because it has become expensive. The question was clear.

[English]

"If so, the steps being taken by the Government to make justice inexpensive, simple and swift."

[Translation]

The reply given is

[English]

"It has taken steps over the years to provide effective and speedy justice to the people".

[Translation]

Such is the evasive reply which has been furnished. Later, Law Commission was mentioned, but that relates to measures to be taken in future. The steps which have been taken at present have not been clearly stated. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what concrete steps have been taken? The fees charged by the lawyers of the High Courts and the Supreme Courts have increased enormously. How can these poor people pay huge sums of Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000? What steps are being taken by the Government in this regard?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : The question was regarding the poor people.

I want to reiterate that in the last 2 years we have cleared about 4 lakhs pending cases of the poor people through the Lok Adalats and compensation of about Rs. 5 crores has been provided to them through the mechanism of Lok Adalats. It was done by making the judges work on Saturdays and Sundays when they do not attend to their regular duty in the courts. It is up to you whether to appreciate it or not. It has been an important step which benefited the poor. Cases dealing with motor accidents, rent problems, matrimonial issues, lease issues, 'Chalan' cases about the fields of poor farmers, revenue cases etc which were pending, were settled in thousands in one day by these judges who went there personally to do so. You may also know that the poor people did not have to spend a single paisa and all cases were settled outside the courts. The parties were called and cases settled through their participation and mutual settlement. The Government has in mind a long term plan of radically changing the system. The report of the Law Commission in regard to People's Court has been received and it is being examined. We are thinking of making it a matter of debate and we would like the judges, members of the Bar Association and other people to participate in a discussion regarding changing the present system. I agree that the lawyers in the High Courts and the Supreme Court charge exorbitant fees. We had talked very recently to the President of the Bar Association of Supreme Court and he after having discussions with the senior lawyers had reduced the fees considerably. The fees of the senior lawyers, who charged Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000/- has been reduced to Rs. 2,500. Our work in the sphere of judicial reforms is progressing fast. The work of the National Tax Board, the Labour Courts has been centralised and the work of the Central Administrative Tribunal would be decentralised and handed over to them. In this session, a Bill regarding subordinate judiciary for the benefit of the poor is being brought forward which would provide considerable relief to the poor in the matter of fees.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Whatever efforts have been made are laudable. But the question is regarding

the areas where efforts are not being made. Wherever efforts are being made, we welcome them. There are people who because of their limited income fall under the category of the poor and for whom it is difficult to approach the law courts for justice and for whom Lok Adalats have been introduced. Likewise in civil, cases of false implications, murders etc. which trouble these people very much, would the Government give them free legal aid? Are the govt. deliberating upon it?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A. K. SEN) : The scheme for Legal Aid for the poor has now taken a definite shape and we have been giving legal aid to the needy through the Central Legal Aid Committee as also the State Legal Aid Committees.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : But in Bihar it is not given.

SHRI A. K. SEN : You kindly inform me as to where it is not given.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : I can say that it is not received in Bihar.

SHRI A. K. SEN : Wherever it is not received, you submit a written complaint with full details to me.

[English]

SHRI A. K. SEN : I can tell you that the Legal Aid Committee has now taken a definite shape and we hope to bring the Free Legal Aid Bill before Parliament very soon.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chiranji Lal Sharma/Prof. Dandavate.

SHRI D. K. NAIKAR : The hon. Minister has stated that...

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Shri Naikar has worked all by himself Today.

[English]

SHRI D. K. NAIKAR : If you permit me, I will ask.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : He has been permitted to talk without permission.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He believes in the policy of self-reliance.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Kindly answer the question asked by hon. Shri Naikarji.

[English]

SHRI D. K. NAIKAR : The hon. Minister has stated that some of the claims were entrusted to the Lok Adalats for decision. Now, the tendency of the litigant public has developed in such a way that they want a finality at the hands of the Supreme Court and the High Court. Even though the finality is given at the Lok Adalats, they are now physically fighting that the finality should be at the hands of the highest Court. Therefore, the physical fights are starting after the establishment of the Lok Adalats. What has he got to say so far as this aspect of the matter is concerned?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : All the cases are settled in the Lok Adalats. There is no question of anybody going in appeal because they are settled outside the court by mutual settlement. There is no question of anybody being not satisfied; everybody is satisfied.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, In part (b) of the question there is a reference as to what is being done to see

that justice is given to the people, to make justice inexpensive, simple and swift. I am glad that the hon. Minister had made a reference to the Supreme Court and he had suggested certain changes that are already in the offing. I would like to ask him, this. This is besides reducing the fees of the lawyers in the Supreme Court. It is not a fact that one of the reasons for delay in the judgments of the Supreme Court is at the present point of time there are eleven vacancies in the posts of the Judges of the Supreme Court and if that is so, in order to expedite the cases by what time will you fill up all the eleven vacancies in the Supreme Court so that justice can be expeditiously given to the poor ?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : I know that there are vacancies in the Supreme Court.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : But how long ?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : I am answering him

But it is not merely that because of the vacancies that there has been a backlog, it has been there over the years, the accumulation has been over the years, and litigation has increased hundred times more than it was. That is why another eight judges have been appointed.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Do you mean that these eleven vacancies do not matter at all ?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : You should have the patience to hear me. These vacancies will be filled very soon.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have the patience, but the clients must have the patience ;

SHRI A. K. SEN : May I answer Prof. Dandavate ?

I know your anxiety. Whatever names have been sent by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, have immediately been sponsored and we hope that the appointment, will come very soon. But if the Supreme Court Chief Justice has not sent eleven names, it is not the fault of the Government.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Throwing the blame on the Supreme Court !

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Shall we ask the question to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Sir ?

SHRI A. K. SEN : We have reminded the Chief Justice of India to send the names for the remaining vacancies of Judges.

MR. SPEAKER : It will go straight.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Anyway, your reply will be taken note of by him, I hope.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramswaroop Ram.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SWAROOP RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, justice is very expensive in the country and the common people are miles away from getting it. It is very difficult for them to get justice. The poor common citizen accepts the decision of the Lower Courts and spends 20 years in jail, he neither moves to the High Court or to the Supreme Court. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether arrangements have been made in every High Court and the Supreme Court for giving free legal aid to the poor ? If such arrangements are not available at present, then by which time would such arrangements be made available by the Government ?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : Sir, a legal aid committee has been set up in the Supreme Court and legal aid committees have also been set up in the High Courts. I would like to inform the hon. Member

that there is not a single High Court in the country where such facilities are not available. This facility has been provided everywhere.

SHRI BAGUN SUMBRUI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Ranchi High Court Bench in Bihar, not a single judge has been appointed after September. I have informed the hon. Minister about it.

MR. SPEAKER : It has already been covered.

(English)

They have already said.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Import of oil from OPEC

*186. **DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :**
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to buy oil from Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in 1987 at eighteen dollars a barrel; if so, the quantity to be purchased;

(b) whether the oil is available at a lesser rate in countries other than OPEC; and

(c) if so the reasons for buying from OPEC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) Crude oils of only those varieties, which are required in our system, are purchased in the international market. Some of these come from the traditional sources of our supply who also happen to be members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Rise in assets of large industrial houses.

*187. **DR. B. L. SHAILESH :**
SHRI BHATTAM (SRIRAMA MURTY) :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has lately been a steep rise in the assets of the large industrial houses in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The value of assets of large industrial houses increased by 19.7% 21.8% and 9.6% during 1983, 1984 and 1985, respectively over the preceding year.

(b) Assets of undertakings may increase due to various factors like expansion, diversification, establishment of new undertaking, modernisation, amalgamation, etc.

Oil deposits in Gujarat

*189 **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :**
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

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

(a) whether heavy oil deposits of about 110 million tons have been traced near Mehsana town in Gujarat;

(b) the number of Pilot Projects which have been taken in hand by ONGC in Gujarat for locating oil and gas; and

(c) the fund spent during 1984-85 and 1985-86 on this account in the State of Gujarat ?

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

(b) There are no pilot projects for locating oil. Eight pilot projects have, however, been taken up by ONGC for enhanced oil recovery in Gujarat.

(c) The amount spent on these pilot projects was Rs 0.13 crores in 1984-85 and Rs. 2.19 crores in 1985-86.

Setting up of thermal power stations in Kerala

*190. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal/representation has been received from Kerala Government for installing thermal power stations at Baliapatam in Cannanore district and at Nilambur in Malapuram district, Kerala;

(b) if so, whether any study/survey has been made by Government in this regard; and

(c) the decision taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) The Kerala State Electricity Board had requested Central Electricity Authority to prepare, as Consultants to the Board, a feasibility report for setting up a thermal power station in the State. The Central Electricity Authority are engaged in the preparation of the report.

Petrochemical complex at Manali near Madras

*191. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to set up a petrochemical plant at Manali near Madras;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) the time by which it will start functioning; and

(d) the funds allocated for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) and (b) A letter of Intent has been issued to M/s. Madras Refineries Limited (MRL) on February 6, 1987 for the manufacture of following petrochemicals at Manali near Madras :—

(i) Ortho-xylene	30,000 tonnes
(ii) Benzene	30,000 tonnes
(iii) Purified Terephthalic Acid	1,50,000 tonnes

(c) Madras Refineries Limited have indicated that the plant is expected to be commissioned 42 months after obtaining the clearances of all approvals.

(d) The estimated capital cost of the project will become known after completion of the feasibility report. The mode of financing will be decided thereafter.

Communication facilities in Nizamabad district, Andhra Pradesh

*192. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges being set up in Nizamabad, Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the additional facilities in the field of communications proposed to be extended to Nizamabad district ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Installation of 25 line capacity exchanges each at Mandora, Dharmaram and Makloor; 400 line electronic exchange at Armoor by 1986-87 are in progress.

(b) The following schemes are planned during the remaining period of 7th Plan.

1. Automatisation of Nizamabad exchange by a 3000 line Crossbar exchanges.
2. Coaxial line connecting Nizamabad with Nanded and Bodhan for providing stable and reliable media.
3. Linking Nizamabad with Hyderabad TAX for providing direct dialling facilities.
4. Coaxial dropping station at Armoor for providing S.T.D. facility in future.
5. Setting up of 4 numbers of small capacity exchanges and 10 long distance public telephones.
6. 2 VFT systems and 5 three channel carrier systems to be provided.

'New process for enhanced oil recovery'

*195. DR V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Institute of Reservoir Studies of the Oil & Natural Gas Commission has advised on a new process to tap more oil from existing fields;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the said Institute has carried out laboratory tests and studies in methods of enhanced oil recovery; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (d) The Institute of Reservoir Studies (IRS) of the ONGC has identified and recommended seven undernoted enhanced oil recovery techniques for evaluation in various fields of ONGC through implementation of pilot projects :

1. Caustic Flood
2. Co 2 Flood
3. Micellar/Polymer Flood
4. In-situ Combustion
5. Steam Injection
6. LPG Pilot
7. Polymer Flood

The Institute of Reservoir Studies has carried out extensive and in-depth laboratory studies for the selection of optimal enhanced oil recovery techniques and optimisation of process parameters for a specific field. As a result of these studies, following pilot projects have been designed, which are under different stages of preparation and implementation in the field :

1. In-situ Combustion pilot, Lanwa
2. Steam flood pilot, Balol
3. Polymer flood pilot, Sanand
4. Polymer flood pilot, Jhalora
5. Caustic flood pilot, Sanand
6. Co2 Miscible flood pilot, Kalol
7. Micellar/Polymer flood pilot, Adkleshwar field
8. In-situ combustion pilot, Balol field
9. LPG pilot, Geleki field in Assam,

[Translation]

Lok Adalats

*196. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to organise Lok Adalats to dispose of cases pending in Supreme Court and different High Courts in the country; and

(b) if so, the efforts made so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes constituted by Government, there is no immediate proposal to organise Lok Adalats to dispose of cases pending in Supreme Court and different High Courts in the country.

[English]

Gap between projected demand and supply of power

*199. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH :

SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the gap between the projected demand and supply of power is widening and the projects are lagging behind;

(b) whether work has started on all the power projects cleared by the Central Electricity Authority for implementation during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the funds made available for these projects; and

(d) the steps taken to improve power situation in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) The gap between the demand and supply of power in 1984-85 before the beginning of the Seventh Plan was 6.7%. It is estimated that the gap will be reduced to 5.2% by the end of the Plan in 1989-90. Implementation of power projects cleared by the Central Electricity Authority is taken up after funds have been identified and investment decisions have been taken. The outlay for generation projects in the Seventh Plan is about Rs. 21,303 crores. All possible efforts are being made to recover the delays which have occurred in some power projects, and a total capacity of about 22,245 MW is expected to be commissioned in the Seventh Plan as envisaged.

(d) The steps taken to improve power availability include expediting commissioning of new capacity, better utilisation of existing capacity, implementing short gestation projects, reducing transmission and distribution losses, implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit States.

Rigs used by ONGC on charter hire

*200. SHRI T. BASHEER :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

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

(a) the number of rigs/jack up being used by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission for offshore drilling on charter hire ;

(b) the annual amount being paid as rent for each rig/jack-up;

(c) whether it would not be more economical to have own rig/jack-up, with the expertise that the country possesses than going in for hiring; and

(d) the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :
(a) At present 12 charter hired rigs are operating with the ONCC for offshore drilling, of which 10 are jack up rigs.

(b) The total charter hire charges payable during 1986-87 are \$75.838 million. The day rates including cost of operation and management of individual rigs range from US\$ 13,695 to US\$ 23,500 depending inter-alia on the type and capacity of the rig.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. A mix of owned and charter hired rigs is considered more economical. In addition, this arrangement helps ONGC to take advantage of the latest developments in drilling technology.

(Translation)

Conversion of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam into an Authority

*201. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to convert Mahanagar Telephone Nigam into an Authority so that the employees working in telephone and telegraph offices all over the country can be brought under it; and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof and when it will start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(English)

Telephone connections in Kerala

*202. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the back log of applications for new telephone connections in Kerala; and

(b) when it is likely to be cleared ?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) There are 88,092 applications pending for telephone connections as on 1. 1. 1987 in Kerala.

(b) Most of the backlog is likely to be cleared by 1990.

Programme for manufacture of electronic exchanges in Seventh Plan

1996. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any definite and comprehensive programme for the manufacture of electronic exchanges for speeding up the provision of telecom facilities has been undertaken during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, a brief outline of the plan including the target for each year of the Plan and the achievement in the first two years of the Plan; and

(c) if not, whether such a programme would be drawn up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Exploitation of coal mine at Bagrakote

1997. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accorded sanction for leasing out and exploitation of coal mine at Bagrakote in the District of Darjeeling to the West Bengal Mines and Mineral exploration Corporation Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) After considering the proposal of the State Government of West Bengal, approval of the Central Government was accorded in February, 1985, under section 5(2) (a) of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, to the grant of mining lease in favour of West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited for exploitation of coal in isolated small pockets in Bagrakote and Dalinkote areas in Darjeeling District of State of West Bengal over an area of 12.58 sq. kms. for a period of two years.

Installation of community gobar-gas plants under supervision of Panchayats

1998. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to instal community gobar gas plants under the supervision of the Panchayats;

(b) whether one such plant will be set up on experimental basis in each State; and

(c) if so, when this will be done ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has already started an experimental scheme for setting up large size biogas plants for the benefit of communities in the villages and institutions. So far 225 such plants have been set up in 18 States, out of which 125 are community bio-gas plants and balance 100 are for institutions.

The Panchayats are closely associated in the selection of sites, construction and operation/management of community bio-gas plants. More such plants are proposed to be set up depending on the suitability of the village site and the wishes of the villagers.

Implementation of better communications mission

1999. DR. A. K. PATEL :
SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently Prime Minister expressed his dissatisfaction with the implementation of the Better Communications Mission and has urged for a definite timetable to accomplish its well defined objectives; and

(b) the targets fixed for the current year and the next year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS : (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Targets are given in the statement below ?

Statement

	Status		Targets
	March, 86	March, 87	March, 88
1. Delivery of telegrams between 500 large cities and towns.	20%	39% to be delivered within 12 daylight hours.	60% to be delivered within 12 daylight hours.
2. Faults per 100 telephones per month.	35%	32%	20%
3. Call success rate : (%)			
(a) Local	90%	91%	93%
(b) Junction	70%	75%	80%
(c) STD	20%	30%	40%
4. Trunk Call success rate.	73%	74%	75%
5. Computerisation of 197 service	—	2 cities	9 cities
6. Billing (itemised list of STD Calls)	—	Covering 63,000 subscribers	Covering 1.54 lakhs subscribers.

Tuning up public sector management

2000. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD
SETHI :
SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government have taken major steps to tune up public sector management through

the provision of better training facilities for managers; and

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

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

(a) and (b) Having regard to the importance of management training for improving the management and operations of

the public sector, Government is endeavouring to strengthen and upgrade the existing training programmes sponsored by it. No guideline has been issued.

Manufacture of commercial vehicles which run on compressed natural gas

2001. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to manufacture commercial vehicles which run on compressed natural gas in collaboration with Soviet Union has been agreed to; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal indicating the unit with which collaboration is to take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No such proposal has been received by the Government.

Progress on Indravati Hydrel Project, Orissa

2002. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of Indravati Hydrel Project in the State of Orissa; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The Upper Indravati Hydro-electric Project (4×150 MW) in Orissa is under execution by the State Authorities. Work on the dams, dykes, link channels and the head-race tunnel is in progress. Orders for the generating units have been placed.

Exploration for hydrocarbons by ONGC in Kerala

2003, SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has proposed to explore for hydrocarbons in the Konkan-Kerala offshore area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have cleared the proposal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) One well in Cochin-High is planned for drilling by ONGC during 1987-88.

(d) Does not arise.

Allocation of rice and foodgrains to West Bengal

2004. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that West Bengal is facing serious crisis in view of inadequate supply of rice and foodgrains to that State;

(b) if so, the details of rice and foodgrains made during November and December, 1986 against the demand of that State, item-wise and month-wise; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to meet full demand of the State ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) No, Sir. There

are adequate stocks of rice and wheat for the public distribution system in the State, though there was some shortage of wheat to meet the demand of the roller flour mills.

(b) The demand, allotment and offtake of rice and wheat in respect of West Bengal during the months of November and December, 1986, item-wise was, as under :—

(In thousand tonnes)

Month	Demand		Allotment		Offtake	
	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat
November	150.0	130.0	125.0	126.0	54.8	73.8
December	150.0	150.0	125.0	126.0	51.2	78.5

(c) The roller flour mills in West Bengal have been permitted to lift wheat from FCI depots in Madhya Pradesh by road movement. FCI is also undertaking coastal shipping of wheat from Kandla and some other ports on the West Coast to West Bengal.

Conversion of Araria manual telephone exchange

2006. SHRI D.L. BAITHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Microwave Tower is ready for commissioning at Araria in Bihar since last one year;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in commissioning it; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to convert local Araria manual telephone exchange into an automatic exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. However, a UHF tower meant for Katihar-Forbesganj UHF scheme exists since 1984, 2 Kms. away from Araria.

(b) The above UHF scheme has since been commissioned in March, 1984.

(c) No, Sir.

Incentive scheme for improvement of power generation

2007. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had announced any special incentive scheme for the improvement of power generation in different States;

(b) whether this scheme has worked well; and

(c) the percentage of improvement in power generation and transmission as a result of this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) With a view to foster competitive spirit amongst the thermal power stations so as to improve thermal generation, a meritorious reward scheme is being implemented since 1983. It is not possible to quantify specifically the increase in generation as a result of this scheme since improvement in generation depends on a large number of factors. However, total power generation has increased from 139.9 billion units in 1983-84 to 170 billion units in 1985-86.

Setting up of automatic mail handling plants in metropolitan cities

2008. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision has been taken by Government to set up automatic mail handling plants in metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what would be the cost of the project and by what time all metropolitan cities are likely to be covered ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) There is a proposal in the VII Five Year Plan to set up automatic mail handling schemes in the 4 metro cities.

(b) and (c) The Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 23.75 crore for setting up integrated mechanised mail processing system for the four metropolitan cities. The Government appointed Messrs Telecommunication Consultants India Limited, New Delhi in 1985 to carry out a feasibility study for setting up such a system in Bombay. The TCIL has submitted its report in May 1986. Necessary and appropriate further action on this report

is under process by the Department with particular reference to the evaluation of appropriate technology used in setting up similar machinery as in the advanced countries, from the angle of Indian environment.

**Expansion of telecommunication facilities
in rural areas of Maharashtra**

2009. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE ; Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of programmes drawn up to expand telecommunication facilities in rural areas of Maharashtra during the Seventh Plan; and

(b) the progress made in their implementation during the first two years of the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The details are given in the statement below.

Statement

	Target	Achievement
(1) Small capacity exchanges	3,2000 lines approximately	Upto February, 1987. 7,200 lines.
(2) Carrier Channels on Open Wire lines.	620 Channels	220 Channels.
(3) Long Distance Public Telephones on Open.Wire Lines.	950	246

[Translation]

Drilling operations for oil and gas in Madhubani, Bihar

2010. SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether geological survey of Madhubani Parliamentary constituency in Bihar has revealed oil and gas reserves at six places and drilling operations are going on at one place, Dullipatti; and

(b) if so, the names of the remaining five places and the time by which work is likely to be started there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Geological surveys cannot by themselves reveal presence of hydrocarbons. At present, a well is under drilling at Madubani. So far no discovery of hydrocarbons has been made in Bihar.

(English)

Reduction in delivery of post at Tenali in Andhra Pradesh

2011. SHRI S. PALAKONDRAYUDU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to close some post offices, retrench ED staff, stop door delivery system and reduce the number of deliveries at Tenali post offices in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the reasons for taking such decision; and

(c) the number of ED employees being retrenched due to the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

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

HMT's contracts with Bulgaria, USSR and Algeria

2012. SHRI SRIHARI RAO :
CH. RAM PRAKASH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that HMT Limited has signed contracts recently with Bulgaria, USSR and Algeria for thirty two crores indicating a spurt in demand for

its machine tools and technical services abroad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b) HMT has signed contracts with the USSR, Bulgaria and Algeria for orders worth about 32 crores. This includes supply of machine tools to the USSR and Bulgaria worth about Rs. 28 crores and provision of technical services to Algeria at a value of about Rs. 4 crores.

Opening of new post offices in Greater Bombay and Thane District

2013 SHRI ANOOP CHAND SHAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken decision to open new post offices in Greater Bombay and in Vasai Taluka of Thane District in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of reply (a) above, the question does not arise.

(c) Heads of Postal Circles have been asked to examine proposals for opening of post offices in rural areas in the light of revised norms issued recently. Moreover because of the present ban on creation of new posts the opening of such post offices will depend on their clearance by the Ministry of Finance.

Import of Palmolein bleached oil
2014. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Palmolein bleached oil is being imported through State Trading Corporation; and

(b) if so, the names of the countries from where this is being imported ?

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

(b) RBD Palmolein is generally imported from Malaysia and Indonesia.

Shortfall in generation target of electricity producers

2015. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether fifteen electricity producers including the National Thermal Power Corporation have failed to achieve their generation targets during April-November 1986;

(b) if so, the total shortfall of power during 1986-87;

(c) the names of the fifteen electricity producers which have not achieved their targets and the reasons for the same; and

(d) the steps taken by Union Government to improve power generation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGT) : (a) to (d) During the period April-November, 1986, there was a shortfall of 3475 MU in power generation vis-a-vis the target. The electricity producers who did not achieve the target during this period were as below :—

- National Thermal Power Corporation.
- National Hydroelectric Power Corporation.

— North Eastern Electric Power Corporation.

— Nuclear Power Board.

— Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board.

— Haryana State Electricity Board.

— Punjab State Electricity Board.

— Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board.

— Maharashtra State Electricity Board.

— Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board.

— Karnataka State Electricity Board.

— Karnataka Power Corporation.

— Damodar Valley Corporation.

— Bihar State Electricity Board.

— Orissa State Electricity Board.

— West Bengal State Electricity Board.

— Assam State Electricity Board.

— Meghalaya Electricity Board.

— Ahmedabad Electric Co.

The shortfall in hydro generation was mainly on account of low hydel reservoir levels and delay in commissioning of new hydel capacity. The thermal generation was less than the target mainly on account of longer time taken in bringing back units under scheduled maintenance, higher incidence of forced outages, etc. The nuclear generation fell short of the programme due to forced outage of units at Madras Atomic Power Project.

The measures taken to improve the power generation include implementation of a centrally sponsored renovation and modernisation programme, early stabilisation of newly commissioned units, stress on proper maintenance of the units to reduce unscheduled outages, upgradation of skills of operation and maintenance personnel.

The shortfall in generation during 1986-87 (April-February 1987) is 2538 MU.

Shortages in items supplied to Fair Price shops in Delhi

2016. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Administration under the Public Distribution System forces the fair price shops to accept supplies of the specified food items at their door steps through their trucks without satisfying them the weight contained in the bags;

(b) whether the bags generally contain much less weight than entered in the weighment sheet issued by Food Corporation of India; and

(c) if so, how Government propose to safeguard the interests of the fair price shops and whether fair price shops are reimbursed the amount for the short weighments and if not, reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Wheat and rice are delivered by the Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited at the door-steps of fair price shops in Delhi after weighing each bag at the Food Corporation of India godowns. Regarding sugar, only machine stitched bags supplied by sugar mills are delivered. A system of 100% weighment of wheat and rice and delivery of machine stitched bags of sugar has been adopted to eliminate cases of short supplies. In spite of the above precautions, if any fair price shop holder reports shortages to the Circle Food & Supply Officer within 72 hours after receipt of the stocks, the shortages are replenished by Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited through the Food Corporation of India. The Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited also maintains a buffer stock of 200 qtls. each of wheat and rice for making good short weighments.

Orders for off shore structures on Indian shipyards by ONGC

2017. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission are not placing orders for off-shore structure on the Indian shipyards, particularly Mazagon Dock, Hindustan Shipyard and Burn Standard;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures Government have taken or propose to take to ensure that the huge investments made in our shipyards do not go waste ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) No, Sir. ONGC have placed a number of orders for offshore structures of Mazagon Dock Limited, Hindustan Shipyard and Burn Standard Company Limited.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Manufacture of re-inforced thermoplastic granules

2018. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Non-Resident Indians have made any contribution towards the project of manufacturing re-inforced thermoplastic granules; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) No proposal has so far been received from any Non-Resident Indian for the manufacture of re-inforced thermoplastic granules. Also, there is no Non-Resident Indian participation in the units already approved for the manufacture of this item.

Sale of Indira Vikas Patras

2019. SHRI V. S. KRISHANA IYER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) total amount realised so far from the sale of Indira Vikas Patras in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal to introduce these Patras in Rs. 10 Rs 50 and Rs. 100/- denominations to enable middle and poor class to purchase them; and

(c) whether these Patras are allowed to be encashed in any Post Offices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The total amount realised from the sale of Indira Vikas Patras at the close of January, 1987 is Rs. 475,72,65,000.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. These Patras can be encashed on maturity at the Post Office of issue or at any other Post Office after verification from the Post Office of Issue.

[Translation]

Licence to manufacture anti-rabies vaccine

2020. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hoechst India Limited has been granted a licence to set up a project for manufacturing anti-rabies vaccine; and

(b) if so, by what time the construction work of this project is proposed to be started and the expenditure likely to be incurred on it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS, AND

PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) M/s. Hoechst (India) Ltd. has been granted a letter of intent for the manufacture of anti-rabies vaccine.

(b) The company has intimated that construction work is expected to begin in the second quarter of 1987. The project cost estimated by the company is around Rs. 200 lakhs.

[English]

Health insurance for public sector employees

2021. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are proposals to introduce health insurance for employees of public sector undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b) Under the present dispensation, majority of the employees of public enterprises are deriving medical attendance benefits under employees State Insurance Scheme or through hospitals and dispensaries owned by the public enterprises. Medical Attendance Rules of other public enterprises permit reimbursement of expenses upto certain ceiling. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to introduce any other Health Insurance Scheme for public sector employees.

Import of oilseeds

2022. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to allow import of oilseeds;

(b) whether it would affect production of oilseeds in the country; and

(c) whether import of oilseeds would be in addition to normal imports of edible oils or in lieu of edible oils imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) At present the import of edible oilseeds is not permitted.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Training of officials of public sector enterprises

2023. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have given attention to the effective training of officials of public sector enterprises in view of their rapid growth;

(b) if so, the number of entrepreneurial training centres working in India; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to introduce latest methodology of training, efficient management, production technologies and procedures in the public sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) to (c) Government is conscious of the need for more effective training for the public sector executives and is endeavouring to upgrade the training programmes to suit the requirements of the public sector managers in the emerging environment. As per the available information there are about 105 Central Government public enterprises who have in-house training facilities of their own besides a number of government sponsored training institutions in the

country who are imparting training to the public sector executives.

Explosion in Heavy Engineering Corporation Gas plant at Ranchi

2024. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether enquiry into the explosion that rocked the Ranchi-based public sector Heavy Engineering Corporation gas Plant on 3 December 1986 has been completed by the fact finding committee set up the Heavy Engineering Corporation management;

(b) if so, the details of the findings and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to strengthen safety measures ?

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

(b) and (c) The Committee has identified various reasons such as closed status of valves in the water jacket/boiler steam circuit, failure of safety steam valve to bleed off at the rated pressure, etc. as responsible for the explosion, either singly or in combination. HEC management has initiated action on the recommendations of the committee to avoid recurrence of such accidents in future.

Import of edible oils

2025. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the comparative percentage of rise in the imports of edible oils including groundnut oil and mustard oil during the last three years, year-wise and the value of imports in foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD) : The groundnut/mustard oil is not imported. The details regarding imports of edible oils by the State Trading Corporation

of India Ltd. during the last three financial years and the percentage of increase/

decrease are as follows :

Financial Year	Quantity (in lakh MT)	C & F/CIF Value (Rs. in crores)	Percentage of increase/decrease	
			Quantity terms	Value terms
1983-84	14.09	846		
1984-85	15.85	1309	(+)12.49	(+)54.73*
1985-86	10.80	769	(-)31.86	(-)41.25@

*increase compared to 1983-84 imports.

@decrease compared to 1984-85 imports.

Family Planning among workers of public sector units

2026. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some public sector units have taken steps to popularise family planning amongst their workers;

(b) if so, the names of such units; and

(c) the specific guidelines issued by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) to (c) Guidelines have been issued from time to time to all the Public Sector Undertakings for popularising family planning amongst their employees by way of grant of special casual leave, special increment and holding family planning weeks in accordance with the policy laid down by the Ministry of Family Welfare. Most of the Public Sector Undertakings are attempting to follow these guidelines.

Import of crude oil from USSR

2027. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY :

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

(a) whether the Soviet Union has agreed to step up the supply of crude oil to India;

(b) if so, the quantity of crude oil to be supplied and details of the terms at which it will be supplied to India;

(c) to what extent the gap in the domestic requirements will be met by the imports from USSR; and

(d) when the goal of near self-sufficiency is likely to be reached in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) While the Soviet Union has indicated to step up the supply of crude oil to India during the current year over the levels of last year under the Trade Plan, the contract for supply of crude oil with Soviet

agency is yet to be finalised and the details will be known only thereafter.

(d) As oil exploration is probabilistic in nature, it is difficult to say with certitude when self-sufficiency will be attained.

Shifting of LPG godowns

2028. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD :
SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a high powered committee set up by Delhi Administration had declared 16 cooking gas godowns as safety hazards and had recommended immediate action to shift these godowns to safer places; and

(b) if so, the date on which the recommendation was made and what steps have been taken to shift the godowns ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) A committee constituted by the Delhi Administration inspected the 16 LPG godowns which had been earlier found prime facie as hazardous by the Fire Department (Delhi), and came to the conclusion in July, 1986 that four of these required to be resited. In respect of these two sites allotted by the Delhi Development Authority, further action is contingent upon delivery of possession by DDA and in the other two cases, upon allotment of sites by DDA,

Expenditure on process of purchase and distribution of foodgrains

2029. SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government supplies foodgrains to the consumers after purchasing the same from the farmers through the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the cost of procurement per quintal incurred by the FCI;

(c) whether Government have to offer some subsidy also; and

(d) if so, the amount of subsidy paid during the last three years year-wise ?

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

(b) The procurement incidentals incurred by the Food Corporation of India during 1985-86 were Rs. 31.61 and Rs. 32.48 per quintal, in respect, of wheat and paddy respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The amount of subsidy paid during the last three years are as under :-

Year	Rs./Crores
1984-85	1100.00
1985-86	1650.00
1986-87	2000.00

Incidents of explosions in Post Offices

*2030. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of explosion in various Post Offices in the country during the past one year and the number of persons killed and injured in these incidents;

(b) the compensation paid by Government to the families of the deceased as well as to the injured persons; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that such incidents do not recur in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) 3 incidents of explosion occurred in Post Offices during the past one year. 2 (two) outsiders were killed and 11 outsiders were injured in them.

(b) No compensation was paid by the Department.

(c) Security measures are reviewed from time to time and appropriate action taken in consultation with the local authorities

Appointment of whole time Chief Electoral Officers

2031. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Election Commissioner urged Union Government to review the existing system of having part time Chief Electoral Officers;

(b) whether the Chief Election Commissioner has also suggested that because of increasing work load, whole time Chief Electoral Officers should be appointed; and

(c) if so, the decision of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. These suggestions have been made by the Election Commission as part of the proposals for Electoral Reforms. All such proposals are under examination. Government propose to consult the politi-

cal parties before taking a final decision.

Telephone exchange at Rajnandgaon

2032. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the capacity of telephone exchange of Rajnandgaon district will be increased; and

(b) the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The capacity of Rajnandgaon exchange was increased from 600 to 700 lines on 9.2.87. Additional 200 lines expansion in 7th Plan is proposed subject to availability of equipment.

[Translat.on]

Capacity of Nangloi, Najafgarh and Badli telephone exchanges.

2033. SHRI BHARAT SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in Nangloi, Najafgarh and Badli Telephone exchanges the demand for telephones has increased considerably;

(b) the time by which the capacity of Nangloi Telephone Exchange will be increased and the Najafgarh Exchange will be linked with the Karol Bagh Exchange;

(c) whether these telephone exchanges are not functioning efficiently due to shortage of equipment; and

(d) if so, the time by which the equipment will be made available to these exchanges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a)
No, Sir. The increase in demand is normal.

(b) The capacity of Nangloi Exchange is proposed to be increased during 1988-89.

Najafgarh Exchange is already linked with Karol Bagh Exchange with effect from 16.1.1987.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of (c) above does not arise.

[English]

Disposal of rural electrification projects

2034. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN
MOHANTY :
SHRI MOOL CHAND
DAGA :
SHRI RAM SWAROOP
RAM :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals for rural electrification pending clearance as on 31st January, 1987. State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether backward States and areas have any preferential consideration for clearance of the projects of rural electrification.

(c) State-wise and Union Territory wise figures of villages electrified till 31st January, 1987 and the number of villages which remain to be electrified; and

(d) whether any steps have been taken to expedite the disposal of rural electrification projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) A total
of 873 Rural Electrification Projects for financial assistance were pending clearance with Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) as on 31.1.1987, the State-wise details of which are given in the Statement-I. The REC does not extend in any financial assistance to the Union Territories.

(b) The REC considers the schemes on the basis of priority indicated by the State Electricity Boards (SEBs). However, REC, as a general policy, has advised the SEBs to accord priority, inter alia, to the backward areas in the formulation of the schemes.

(c) The total number of villages, villages electrified as on 31.1.1987 and the villages remaining to be electrified in each State and Union Territory is given in Statement-II below.

(d) The REC has been advising its field offices to extend necessary assistance to the Electricity Boards in speedier formulation of schemes and prompt disposal of pending projects mutually agreed for sanction in the Annual Works Programme meetings.

Statement-I

RE projects pending in the Rural Electrification Corporation as on 31st January, 1987.

S. No.	No. of Schemes pending
1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	89
2. Assam	11
3. Bihar	33
4. Gujarat	44
5. Haryana	23

1	2	1	2
6. Himachal Pradesh	7	14. Nagaland	—
7. Jammu & Kashmir	4	15. Orissa	33
8. Karnataka	21	16. Punjab	45
9. Kerala	30	17. Rajasthan	33
10. Madhya Pradesh	239	18. Tamil Nadu	21
11. Maharashtra	52	19. Tripura	3
12. Manipur	—	20. Uttar Pradesh	125
13. Meghalaya	2	21. West Bengal	58
		22. Sikkim	—
		Total	873

Statement-II

State-wise & Union Territory-wise, total number of villages, those electrified till the end of Jan., 1987 and number of villages remaining to be electrified.

S. No.	States/U.Ts.	Total No. of villages (As per 1971 census)	No. of villages electrified as on 31.1.1987	No. of villages remaining to be electrified
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27,221	24,238	2,983
2.	Assam	21,995	14,541	7,454
3.	Bihar	67,566	37,481	30,085
4.	Gujarat	18,275	17,331	944
5.	Haryana	6,731	6,731	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	16,916	15,928 (P)	988
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	6,503	5,863 (P)	640
8.	Karnataka	26,826	25,447 (P)	1,379
9.	Kerala	1,268	1,268	—
10.	Madhya Pradesh	70,883	46,141	24,742
11.	Maharashtra	35,778	34,147	1,631
12.	Manipur	1,949	744	1,205
13.	Meghalaya	4,583	1,355	3,228

1	2	3	4
14. Nagaland	960	813	147
15. Orissa	46 992	25,437	21,555
16. Punjab	12,188	12,126(+)	—
17. Rajasthan	33,305	21,551	11,754
18. Sikkim	405(£)	245	160
19. Tamil Nadu	15,735	15,731	4
20. Tripura	4,727	2,101	2,626
21. Uttar Pradesh	1,12,561	69,929	42,632
22. West Bengal	38,074	21,020	17,054
Total (States)	5,71,441	4,00,168	1,71,211
1. A & N Islands	390	293	97
2. Arunachal Pradesh	2,973	930	2,043
3. Chandigarh	26	26	—
4. D & N Haveli	72	67(*)	—
5. Delhi	243	243	—
6. Goa, Daman & Diu	409	381	28
7. Lakshadweep	10	10	—
8. Mizoram	229	196	33
9. Pondicherry	333	333	—
Total (U.Ts.)	4,685	2,479	2,201
Total (All-India)	5,76,126	4,02,647(@)	1,73,412

(*) —5 Villages are going under Submergence in Daman Ganga Project.

(@) —Exclusive of 62 uninhabited villages in Punjab and 5 villages in D&N Haveli which are going to be submerged in Daman Ganga Project.

(£) —The revenue block has been reckoned as the smallest administrative unit by the census authority.

(P) —As per Ministry of Programme Implementation Monitoring Report.

(+) —62 villages have been declared uninhabited.

Exposing traders guilty of unfair trade practices

2035. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to expose in media the traders found guilty of unfair trade practices in Public Distribution System;

(b) whether they are also to be black-listed against any help from any official agency; and

(c) if so, the details of decision taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) To provide better protection to the consumers, the Central Government has recently enacted the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 which covers all goods and services unless specifically exempted by the Central Government. The Act applies to private, public, joint and cooperative sectors. The Act also applies to unfair trade practices indulged in by traders other than the unfair trade practices of an undertaking to which Part A of Chapter III of MRTP Act applies. Action will lie against traders in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

S.T.D. service between Satara and Delhi

2036. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to introduce the S.T.D. service between Satara (Maharashtra) and Delhi is under consideration of Government;

(b) whether some requests have been received by Government from some M.P.s for introduction of this service;

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

(d) the tentative programme for commissioning of this service and in case it is not possible, the reasons thereof?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) For providing subscriber trunk dialling facility, Satara is planned to be connected with Pune Trunk Automatic Exchange which is likely to be commissioned in 1988. STD service between Satara and Delhi will be available after commissioning of the Trunk Automatic Exchange at Pune in 1988.

Sanction of more LPG agencies for Leh and Kargil areas of Ladakh

2037. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to acute shortage of fire-wood and the growing demand for supply of LPG, requests have been made to Government to sanction more LPG Agencies for Leh and Kargil areas of Ladakh; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to meet the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) As is done elsewhere in the country, LPG distributorships at Leh and Kargil are being set up on the basis of studies relating to economic viability. Accordingly, one distributorship at Leh has been commissioned and action is in progress to set up one at Kargil. For the present, supplies are being made at Leh through the regular dealer and the ad-hoc dealer and at Kargil through the latter.

New models of Car and Jeep by Maruti Udyog Ltd.

2038. **SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SENHA** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Maruti Udyog Ltd. plans to introduce many new models of cars and jeeps;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this will involve import of equipment, machinery, components etc. and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) and (b) Maruti Udyog Ltd. has submitted a proposal to Government for manufacturing a 3-box car with two options of engine viz. 1030/1300 c.c. within their existing collaboration agreement with M/S. Suzuki Motor Company, Japan.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to achieve a level of 75% indigenisation in the first year going upto 95% in the third year.

Shortfall in crude and LPG production due to agitation in Dullajan, Assam

2039. **SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY** :

SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY :

SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

PROF. RAM KRISHNA MORE :

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

(a) the loss suffered by the country in terms of shortfall in crude and LPG production as well as taxes to the Union Government on account of the recent agitation in Dullajan, Assam, against the Oil India Ltd and its non-Assamese personnel;

(b) the action contemplated by Government to bring normalcy in the situation; and

(c) the estimated expenditure involved in additional foreign exchange outflow as a result of oil imports which may be necessitated due to loss in production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The loss suffered in agitation during the period 6-11-86 to 10-1-87 was as follows :

— Loss in production of crude oil	— 70,200 T
— Loss in production of L.P.G.	— 836 T
— Loss to Union Government in terms of taxes (cess and excise duty)	— Rs. 212.78 lakhs.

(b) A representative of the Government of India held discussions with the representatives of State Government, O.I.L. and AASU on 30th and 31st January 1987 at Dispur. Upon the assurance that a decision would be taken on the various allegations against the Chief Executive, within a specified time; the AASU decided to defer their agitation.

(c) As imports are made on overall demand and supply, foreign exchange outflow attributable only to this loss in production cannot be quantified.

Oil exploration in Tamil Nadu

2040. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU :

DR. V. RAJESHWARAN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the details of oil exploration being done at present in Tamil Nadu and the expected yield therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : ONGC have deployed four departmental and two contract parties for conducting seismic surveys in Tamil Nadu. Four rigs have also been deployed for exploratory drilling. Exploration for hydrocarbons being probabilistic in nature, it would not be possible to indicate in advance the result of these efforts.

Takeover of a unit Ashok Paper Mills by Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited

2041. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited proposes to takeover a unit of the Ashok Paper Mills in Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the terms and conditions settled in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Consultations with Government of Assam on the terms and conditions of association of Hindustan Paper Corporation with the management of Ashok Paper Mills are taking place. No final view has yet emerged.

12-Point action plan for efficiency in engineering Industry

2042. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Confederation of Engineering Industry has submitted a 12-point Action Plan to the Government for achieving greater efficiency in the Indian engineering industry;

(b) if so, details of the 12-point Action Plan; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

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

(b) and (c) The action plan submitted by the Confederation includes suggestions on lifting of controls on growth, raising of exemption limits for the purpose of industrial licensing, extension of the scope of minimum economic scales of operation to cover more industries, relaxations from the provisions of MRTP Act and Companies Act etc. The policy of the Government has been directed towards liberalisation of the Industrial Policy within the overall framework of the Industrial Policy Resolution, 1959. In pursuance of the policy, Government have taken a number of steps towards liberalisation of industrial licensing policy and procedure. This is a continuous exercise and suggestions made by the industry are also taken into account before arriving at decisions in this regard.

Production of energy from waste

2043. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated quantity of waste produced annually in India from

industry, construction sector, mining sector, domestic waste and agricultural waste ;

(b) whether all this waste is fully recycled to produce energy, soil regeneration etc. and if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are aware that Germany has a Waste Exchange set up to handle waste utilisation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is being obtained and will be placed on the table of the House.

Installation of electrostatic precipitators in Indraprastha and Badarpur Thermal Plants

2044. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work in installation of electrostatic precipitators in Indraprastha and Badarpur thermal power plants control pollution has been completed;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the progress made so far; and

(c) any other steps taken or proposed to control nitrogenous and sulphuric oxides in these plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Orders have been placed for the installation of Electrostatic Precipitators at Indraprastha and Badarpur Stations in December, 1985 and January, 1986, respectively. The work is in progress. The work on one unit at Indraprastha Station is expected to be completed by June, 1987 followed by completion of work on the

remaining two units by September and December, 1987. The work at Badarpur Thermal Power Station is scheduled for completion by middle of 1988.

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

Setting up of new telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh

2045. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey has been conducted to set up new telephone exchanges in Cuddapah, Chittoor, Ananthapur, Kurnool, Nalgonda and Mahboob Nagar district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the survey and the names of the places selected where telephone exchanges are proposed to be set up; and

(c) the number of new telephone connections to be given by the proposed new telephone exchanges in those district ?

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

(b) The information is given in Statement-I below.

(c) The approx. number of telephones connections proposed to be given to upto 31.3.87 by new telephone exchanges districtwise is under :

1. Cuddapah	48
2. Chittoor	72
3. Ananthapur	60
4. Kurnool	132
5. Nalgonda	3
6. Mehboob Nagar	24

Statement

Names of places, where Telephone Exchanges are proposed to be set up.

	Exchanges proposed to be opened by 31.3.87.	Exchanges proposed during '87-88 (Places are yet to be identified).
1. Cuddapah Distt.	1. Lingal 2. Peddapasupula 3. Tallaproduter 4. B. Kodur	3
2. Chittoor	1. Chiguragunta 2. Y.S. Gate 3. Krishnapuram 4. Alamadegu 5. Medikurphi 6. Musaligunta	4
3. Kurnool	1. Peathumbalam 2. Chippagiri 3. Pulakurthi 4. Kanala 5. Midthur 6. Pendekalu 7. Sanjamala 8. Marivaram 9. Kuntanahal 10. Narnur 11. Pamulapadu	6
4. Nalgonda	1. Garidepalli 2. Kanegal 3. Urlagunda	2
5. Mehboobnagar	1. Bomarajapet 2. Sirsiwada	3
6. Ananthapur		2

Norms for efficiency testing and indigenisation of fuel efficient cars

2046. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken the decision to make efficiency testing and indigenisation procedures more stringent for all types of fuel efficient cars ; and

(b) if so, the various norms fixed for both ?

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

(b) (i) *Indigenisation Procedure* : Vide Government Notification Nos. 468/86-Central Excise, 469/86-Central Excise, 502/86-CUS, 505/86 CUS, 503/86-CU Sall dated 24.12.1986, in order to avail of the concessions in respect of excise and customs duties, the Manufacturers of fuel efficient cars have to produce a certificate from the Industrial Adviser in the Director General of Technical Development showing the details of the degree of indigenisation required to be achieved under the approved phased manufacturing programme and the actual degree of indigenisation achieved in the preceding financial year. In a case where the degree of indigenisation achieved in the preceding financial year is lower than the degree as per the approved programme, the manufacturer is to produce a certificate from an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Industry (Deptt. of Industrial Development) certifying that the failure in achieving the required degree of indigenisation is on account of valid reasons to be recorded in writing and that such failure is marginal.

(ii) A note on fuel efficiency certification procedure is given in statement below.

Fuel Efficiency Certification Procedures

Notifications issued by the Department

of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India on 24th December, 1986 prescribe the conditions to be fulfilled by fuel efficient motor cars for availing of the fiscal concessions granted under those notifications. The following procedure is laid down for obtaining fuel efficiency certificate under these notifications :

- (1) The manufacturer shall submit an application in duplicate to the Department of Industrial Development, Ministry of Industry, giving the model and complete technical specifications of the vehicle in the proforma prescribed for this purpose.
- (2) The manufacturer shall simultaneously send a copy of the application and the proforma to the Director, Vehicle Research and Development Establishment (VRDE) Ahmednagar-414002.
- (3) The Department of Industrial Development in the Ministry of Industry shall advise the VRDE to carry out the fuel efficiency test.
- (4) On receipt of such advice, the VRDE shall depute an Officer to select 5 vehicles at random from the production line of the manufacturer after giving notice to the manufacturer.
- (5) Such random selection shall be made from a minimum number of 20 vehicles out of the current production in the plant of the manufacturer. The engine number, chassis number and the colour of the selected vehicles shall be noted by VRDE.
- (6) It shall be the responsibility of the manufacturer to deliver the 5 selected vehicles at the premises of the VRDE. Ahmednagar within two weeks of the selection of the vehicles, with running-in duly completed by the manufacturer,

- (7) The manufacturer may, if he so desires, depute one representative to observe the fuel efficiency test at VRDE. It is, however, obligatory for the manufacturer to depute one good mechanic to attend to the repairs of the vehicles during the testing at the VRDE.
- (8) The VRDE shall carry out the fuel efficiency test on the 5 vehicles in accordance with the procedures prescribed in this behalf. A copy of this may be obtained on request from VRDE, Ahmednagar.
- (9) The fuel efficiency test reports of the VRDE shall be considered by a Fuel Efficiency Committee in the Department of Industrial Development, Ministry of Industry. The Committee shall examine all relevant aspects and make its recommendations regarding the issue of the certificate.
- (10) Based on the recommendations of the committee, a fuel efficiency certificate will be issued by an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary in the Department of Industrial Development, Ministry of Industry.
- (11) The fuel efficiency certificate shall be issued only if all the 5 tested vehicles achieve the fuel efficiency norms prescribed under the aforesaid notifications of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance. If even one of the tested vehicles does not achieve the prescribed fuel efficiency norms, the Committee shall not recommend the issue of a fuel efficiency certificate.
- (12) The fuel efficiency certificate issued shall be valid for a period of 6 months from the date of issue.
- (13) For renewal of a fuel efficiency certificate, the manufacturer shall

submit his application at least 2 months in advance of the date of expiry of the current certificate.

- (14) Before the fuel efficiency tests are undertaken by the VRDE, the manufacturer shall pay the VRDE through a Demand Draft, a testing charge of Rs. 10,000 per vehicle.
- (15) After the VRDE has carried out the fuel efficiency tests, the tested vehicles shall be collected by the manufacturer from the VRDE premises at Ahmednagar.

Hydel projects pending approval with Planning Commission

2047. SHRI N VENKATA RATNAM : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Hydro-electric Power Projects cleared by the Central Electricity Authority and pending with the Planning Commission for approval ;

(b) their capacity and the financial involvement ; and

(c) the ratio of Hydel and Thermal projects existing and pending ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (b) Out of the nineteen major generation schemes awaiting investment decision, eleven are hydro-electric projects with a total installed capacity of 1042 mw and costing about Rs. 1138 crores. The remaining eight are thermal projects with a total installed capacity of 1502 mw and costing about Rs. 1359 crores.

Setting up of High Level Committee to Review Long Pending Power Projects

2048. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up a high level committee comprising representatives of the Department of Power, Environment and Forests, as well as those of the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance for a quick review of all the hydro-electric power projects which are held up on environmental grounds ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the details of the projects so held up for a long time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) At present, no such proposal is under consideration.

(c) Information in respect of major hydro-electric projects which have been accorded techno-economic approval but are yet to be cleared from the environmental angle is given in the statement below.

Statement

Name of the Scheme	Installed Capacity (MW)
Palameneri (UP)	142.5
Lohari Nagpala (UP)	282
Sawalkot (J&K)	600
Baglihar (J&K)	450
Narmada Sagar (MP)	1000
Sardar Sarovar (Gujarat/MP Maha.)	1450
Sharavati Tail Race (Karnataka)	240
Vishnu Prayag (UP)	480

Periodical inspection of telephone installations at subscribers premises.

2049. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in compliance with the recommendations of Sarin Committee, Department of Telecommunications directed the telephone authorities to periodically inspect telephone installations at subscribers premises to eliminate complaints of defective instruments and faulty connections ; and

(b) if so, the reasons why it is not being done when rule 422 of the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951 imposed a statutory obligation on the D.E.T. to maintain in good working order the equipment and apparatus provided by the Department ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Telephones are being periodically inspected.

(b) Equipments and apparatus are being maintained in the best possible way.

Application for telephone connections in Karnataka

2050. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total backlog of applications for new telephone connections in Karnataka ; and

(b) the time by which this backlog is going to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The waiting list of telephone connections as on 31.12.86 in Karnataka is as follows :-

Karnataka	25,113
Bangalore Telephone District.	33,200
Total :	58,313

(b) (i) For Karnataka the present waiting list is likely to be cleared by 1990.

(ii) For Bangalore Telephone District major part of the waiting list is likely to be cleared by 1990.

Financial implication for expansion of telephone lines

2051. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the cities where more than ten thousand lines telephone exchanges are likely to be opened ; and

(b) the financial implication for the expansion of telephone lines for the next year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Names of the Cities where more than ten thousand lines of telephone exchanges are likely to be commissioned during the remaining period of 7th Five Year Plan are given in the Statement below.

(b) Outlay of Rs. 1134.12 crores has been approved by Planning Commission for the Department of Telecommunications in respect of its Annual Plan for the next year (1987-88).

Statement

Names of the cities where more than ten thousand lines of telephone exchanges are likely to be commissioned :-

1. Bombay
2. Calcutta
3. Delhi
4. Madras

5. Ahmedabad
6. Bangalore
7. Hyderabad
8. Kanpur
9. Pune
10. Vijayawada
11. Patna
12. Surat
13. Baroda
14. Ernakulam
15. Trivandrum
16. Indore
17. Nagpur
18. Chandigarh
19. Jalandhar
20. Ludhiana
21. Faridabad
22. Jaipur
23. Coimbatore
24. Lucknow
25. Ghaziabad.

Paris Convention on Patent Rights

2052. DR. C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken regarding India joining the Paris Convention on Patent Rights ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No decision has been taken by the Government regarding India's joining the Paris Convention.

[Translation]

Economy in execution of power projects

2053. SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any efforts are being made to effect economy in execution of power projects both in terms of money as well as time; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The delay in completion of power projects is due to various factors such as delays in supply of equipments, paucity of funds, changes in the scope of the projects, weak project management, industrial relation problems, unforeseen geological problems in the case of hydro projects. Cost escalation in the projects is not only due to delays in completion but also on account of factors such as changes in the scope of the project, increase in the cost of equipments/material, escalation in prices etc.

In order to avoid delays in completion of projects various measures have been taken which include extensive monitoring of the projects, expediting supply of equipment and materials, visit to project sites by senior officers of CEA to identify and overcome the constraints. The need for effective project management is also being constantly emphasised on the State Authorities.

[English]

Reforms in Urban Litigation

2054. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are proposal to bring about reforms in urban litigation which takes years to settle in courts;

(b) if so, the nature of those proposals; and

(c) when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The study of judicial reforms has been entrusted to the Law Commission. Decision as to the reforms in urban litigation, if any, will be taken after the Government have examined the reports of the Law Commission. It is not possible to indicate the date for final decision.

Concession in telephone charges

2055. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to give concession in charges for trunk calls made by private individual subscribers who own telephones at their residences, purely on medical grounds and old-age reasons; and

(b) whether Government also propose to give the benefit of adjusting the local free calls allowed to a subscriber against the trunk calls made through their telephones which do not have the STD facilities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Memorandum of understanding with public undertakings

2056. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI S. M. GURADDI :
SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have entered into memorandum of understanding with each public sector undertaking;

(b) if so, the names of undertakings with whom such undertaking has been entered into; and

(c) the terms and conditions in the memorandum of understanding including provisions about autonomy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) to (c) To start with it has been decided to sign Memorandum of Understanding/Annual Performance Plan (APP) for 1987-88 with six public sector enterprises viz. ONGC, NTPC, NTC, CIL, BHEL & SAIL. It has been signed so far only with ONGC.

The APP of ONGC contains the performance targets to be achieved by the ONGC during the period 1987-89 and states the obligation of Govt. to provide the necessary support, by increased delegation of powers and quicker Government clearances etc.

The signing of MOU/APP with enhanced powers delegated to the unit will give greater autonomy for the unit to function and Govt. will judge the performance with reference to the achievement of the targets.

Setting up of industries in Andhra Pradesh by NRI

2057. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Non-Resident Indians have approached Union Government for setting up industries in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of such requests received during the last three years as on

31 January 1987;

(c) the names of industries proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh by the NRIs; and

(d) the time by which a final decision will be taken and the names of the industries to be set up, particularly in backward and tribal areas in Mahboob Nagar District?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) 78 applications were received from Non-resident Indians for grant of industrial licences under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, for setting up Industries in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the past three years.

34 applications out of these were approved so far, for the manufacture of cement, raw-silk yarn, storage batteries, bisphenol-A, P.V.C. floor tiles, vitamin-A, castor oil derivatives, Plastic ophthalmic lenses, mini computer/micro processor based system etc. Some of these units are also proposed to be set up in Distt. Mahboobnagar in the State of Andhra Pradesh, for the manufacture of bisphenol-A PVC vinyl tiles.

Setting up of industries in wasteland area

2058. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to encourage the industry to invest in the wasteland area; and

(b) to what extent industries have been set up in wasteland area in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) National Land Use and

Wastelands Development Council had made certain recommendations to encourage setting up forest-based industries not only to afforest waste lands but also to ensure development of fuel wood and fodder plantations for the use of local communities. It has also been recommended that Government Departments/undertakings in possession of substantial areas of unutilised land in their control should cover these areas with tree/fodder cover. The State Governments have been requested to take appropriate action in the matter.

(b) A number of existing industries have evinced interest in the development of wastelands and these proposals are at present pending with the respective State Governments.

Speed post services

2059. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether speed post service has proved successful;

(b) whether the service is run by the Department completely; and

(c) whether any private parties are allowed to run the service and if so, reasons thereof ?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No private parties have been authorised by the Department of Posts to run the Service.

Enrolment of Advocates

2060. SHRI S. M. GURADDI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the appli-

cations of persons who desire to enrol as Advocates with the Bar Council have been rejected on the ground that they had the graduation classes and law classes in Hindi;

(b) whether such cases have been rejected;

(c) whether the Bar Council of India has opined on such applications under section 26 (2) of the Advocates Act; and

(d) if so, the details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the Bar Council of Delhi and the Bar Council of India, an application made by Shri Pushpender Kumar Chauhan for enrolment as advocate was received by the Bar Council of Delhi. The medium of instruction in his case in the Graduation classes and Law classes was Hindi. He refused to take proficiency test in English as required under the rules of the Bar Council of Delhi. His application was recommended for rejection and for the opinion of the Bar Council of India under section 26 (2) of the Advocates Act and the rules made by the Bar Council of India. The Bar Council of India gave its opinion and agreed with the Bar Council of Delhi that the application for enrolment made by him should be rejected.

Cost study of synthetic industry

2061. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have ordered cost study in respect of entire synthetic industry such as Nylon Filament Yarn, Polyester Filament Yarn, Polyester Staple Fibre, Caprolactum, DMT, PTA etc.;

(b) whether MEG has been excluded from such cost study;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to order BICP cost study for MEG manufacture; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Cost analysis of MEG was carried out by BICP as a part of an earlier study. Findings of this analysis have relevance in the present day context as well. Cost study of MEG is not considered necessary for the present.

Printing of labels and sidewall of tyres

2062. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUR-OHIT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have recently issued directions to the tyre manufacturers regarding printing of various labels on the sidewall of tyres indicating therein details like manufacturer's name, size and price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the tyre manufacturers have started printing various labels on the sidewall of the tyres without clearance from Union Government; and

(d) the particulars of the tyre manufacturers who were found violating the directives of Union Government and action contemplated by Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Government have not imposed any statutory orders on tyre manufacturers requiring informative labelling on tyres. Tyre manufacturers have been, in fact, already indicating certain

details like the name of the manufacturer, the size, the direction of rotation, etc. A dialogue was held by the Government with the tyre industry on indication of certain additional details like the month/year of manufacture, maximum selling price, load marking, minimum mileage guarantee, etc. As certain important issues with regard to minimum mileage guarantee and load marking were raised, it was agreed that a decision on these labellings be deferred. It was, however, decided that details with regard to month/year of manufacture and the maximum selling price should be indicated on automotive tyres. The manner in which the decisions with regard to these labellings should be implemented is being considered, keeping the consumers interest in view.

Withdrawal of Paper Control Order, 1974

2063. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have withdrawn the Paper Control Order of 1974;

(b) whether it is a fact that the paper industry had been persistently lobbying for abolition of the order for the past few years;

(c) whether Government are aware that it will help the paper industry to switch on to produce other varieties of paper which enjoy better demand in the market instead of white printing paper; and

(d) if so the steps Government propose to ensure the steady supply of white printing paper to educational sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The question of rationalising the distribution of white printing paper to the educational sector was engaging the attention of Government for some time past. The paper Industry

had also represented to Government that the operation of the statutory orders for supply of white printing paper had adversely affected the financial health of the Industry. Taking into account the difficulties faced in the effective implementation of the scheme and recognising the need to maintain adequate supplies to the educational sector, Government have decided to introduce an alternative scheme for this purpose. The Paper (Regulation of Production) Order, 1978, and the Paper (Control) Order, 1979, have therefore been repealed with effect from 22nd January, 1987.

(c) and (d) As a measure towards optimum utilisation of manufacturing facilities and with a view to encouraging a larger volume of production, Government had decided in February, 1985, to give full flexibility to the paper and paper-board manufacturers to take up production of any variety of paper and paper grade pulp, including paper board/straw board, within their overall licensed capacity in line with the market demand. This flexibility is intended to facilitate fuller utilisation of installed capacity resulting in higher volume of production at reduced costs. Having regard to this position, and the capacity already installed and under implementation by the Industry, no difficulty is anticipated in ensuring the supply of white printing paper to the educational sector.

Foreign collaboration for manufacture of sports shoes

2064. SHRI DINESH SINGH :
SHRI JAIDEEP SINGH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the foreign collaboration approved by Government to manufacture special sports shoes in India;

(b) whether Government are considering to reduce the export obligation incorporated in the foreign collaboration agreement approved by Government; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The Government have granted Foreign Collaboration approvals for sports footwear to two companies viz. M/S. Burrough Welcome Ltd. with 50% export obligation and M/S. Bata India Limited with 75% export obligation. M/s. Burrough Welcome Ltd. have, however, dropped the project. The Government do not as a matter of policy disclose financial details regarding the terms and conditions of foreign collaboration in public interest.

(b) and (c) A representation for reduction in Export Obligation has been received from M/s. Bata India Limited and the same will be examined on merits.

Postal facilities in Noida

2065. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether postal facilities are inadequate in Noida; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to in-
bring about improvement in the facilities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of gas-based petrochemical complex in Gujarat

2066. SHRI -RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Gujarat Government had submitted a revised application in October

1985 for letter of intent for setting up a gas-based petrochemical complex for utilisation of 8 lakhs M.T.A. of Gas; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in taking final decision on the application ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Government of Gujarat submitted a revised application in October 1985 for the letter of intent for the setting up of a petro-chemical complex based on utilisation of 8 lakhs MTA of Natura' Gas liquid (NGL)/ condensate.

(b) Final decision on the application for letter of intent will be taken in due course after a number of issues relating to availability of feedstock, tie up of resources etc. are resolved.

Decentralisation of judicial process

2067. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN :

SHRIMATI JAYANTI
PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to streamline the legal system in the country through decentralisation of the judicial process and cheap and quick dispensation of justice to the common man;

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter; and

(c) the time by which changes are proposed to be brought forward in that direction,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c) Reforms of judicial administration has been continuously engaging the attention

of Govt. The Law Commission has been entrusted with the study of judicial reforms. It has submitted its 114th report to the Govt. The Report has already been laid on the Table of Parliament. It is not possible to indicate the definite time when a final decision will be taken.

Loss in Communication Department due to Goa Bandh

2068. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Communication Department suffered any losses to their property/material in Goa, on account of the 'Goa Bandh' on 9th February, 1987; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir. There was loss to Department of Telecommunication but no loss for Department of Posts.

(b) Loss of property/material caused to the Communication Department during Goa Bandh on 9.2.87 were confined to ponda sub-division and is as follows :—

(i) 26 telephone poles damaged

(ii) 4 poles for DPS damaged

(iii) Overhead cables stolen :—

a. 50 meters of 20 pair cable

b. 10 meters of 10 pair cable

c. 8 kms of drop wires

(iv) Underground cables damaged .—
a. 8 meters of 20 pair cable.

(v) 56 telephones dead.

(vi) 16 trunk lines affected

(vii) Loss to the Department is estimated at Rs. 92,000 approximately.

All faults have been repaired and telephone circuits are working satisfactorily now.

Purchase of sugarcane in Bihar

2069. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of sugarcane purchased by the sugar factories in Bihar during 1984-85 and 1985-86 sugar seasons;

(b) the amount paid by them to the growers so far on each year's account and the amount outstanding as on 31st December, 1986; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure prompt payment by the sugar factories to the growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Total value of the sugarcane purchased by the sugar factories in Bihar during 1984-85 and 1985-86 seasons, amounts paid and those outstanding as on 31st December, 1986 are given below :

Particulars	(Rs in crores)	
	1984-85	1985-86
Amount due	31.29	59.47
Amount paid up to 31.12.1986	31.27	59.04
Amount outstanding as on 31.12.1986	0.02	0.43

(c) Ensuring payment of cane price arrears is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments who have the necessary field organizations and powers to enforce such payments. The Central Government monitors the position and requests the State Governments from time to time for ensuring expeditious clearance

of cane price. The Central Government, on its part, has taken various measures like raising the statutory minimum price of sugarcane, increasing free-sale sugar proportion etc. to improve the economic viability of the industry to enable it to make expeditious payments. As a result of the measures taken, the arrears during the 1985-86 season have been the minimum. For example, arrears for 1985-86 season against Bihar mills have come down to Rs. 0.27 crores as on 31.1.1987.

Sugar Development Fund

2070. SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken by Government to increase the facilities from the Sugar Development Fund to help the sugar units/cane-growers in the country; and

(b) how many sugar units in the country, especially in Tamil Nadu State, have availed of the loan facilities from the above fund, factory-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : The Sugar Undertakings are eligible for loans at concessional rate of interest from the Sugar Development Fund for implementation of various Schemes in connection with development of sugarcane in their areas. The applications recommended by the respective State Governments are being examined by the Central Government, taking into consideration the completeness and correctness of details furnished and also the satisfaction of priorities and guidelines.

(b) As on March 4, 1987, 24 sugar undertakings in the country have been sanctioned loans for sugarcane development of which six sugar undertakings are in the State of Tamil Nadu. The details of the sugar undertakings sanctioned loans in Tamil Nadu are as follows :—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sr. No.	Name of Sugar Undertaking	Total amount of loan sanctioned
1.	Madura Sugar Ltd., Pandiyarajapuram, Madurai (Tamil Nadu).	172.93
2.	Ambur Coop. Sugars Ltd., Vadapudupet, Dt. North Arcot.	173.49
3.	Tirutani Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., D.S.5, Thiruvallangadu.	111.11
4.	Amaravathi Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Krishnapuram.	101.61
5.	Chengalrayan Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Periyasevalai, Dt. South Arcot.	117.84
6.	E. I. D. Perry (India) Ltd., Nellikuppam, Distt. South Arcot.	307.61

Mechanisation posing dilemma to planners

2071. SHRI NARSING SURYAWANSHI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chairman, Coal India Ltd. had disclosed at Bangalore on 28th November, 1986 that Indian machines were costly and did not last long enough as compared to the machines from abroad which were also available at cheaper prices; and

(b) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) While addressing a seminar on "Management of Mining Equipment Systems in India and Abroad" on 28.11.1986 at Bangalore, Chairman, Coal India Limited referred to the relative prices and perfor-

mance of machines manufactured indigenously and those imported from abroad and stressed the need for bringing about improvements so that Indian coal prices remain competitive in the world.

[Translation]

Opening of Post Offices in U.P.

2072. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of post offices in Uttar Pradesh at the end of 1985;

(b) the number of new post offices opened during 1986; and

(c) the number of new post offices opened in Kanpur city and in rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) 18,127 Post Offices were functioning in Uttar Pradesh at the end of year 1985.

(b) and (c) No new Post Offices were opened in 1986 in Uttar Pradesh including Kanpur city and rural areas.

[English]

Setting up of Bench of Allahabad High Court in Western U.P.

2073. **SHRI GANGA RAM:** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for setting up of High Court Bench in the western region of Uttar Pradesh and other States of the country is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government so far; and

(c) the details of the recommendations made by the Jaswant Singh Commission in this regard and also action proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The proposals received from State Governments for establishment of Benches of High Courts were referred to the Jaswant Singh Commission.

The specific recommendations made by the Jaswant Singh Commission for setting up benches of the High Courts of Allahabad, Madras and Madhya Pradesh have been referred to the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh respectively for their comments and views. The recommendations relating to general principles and criteria to be followed in constitution of benches of the High Courts away from their principal seats have been referred to the Government of Karnataka for considering its proposal of setting up

of a bench of the Karnataka High Court.

Further action in the matter could be taken by the Government of India only after receipt of specific proposals from the concerned State Governments in the light of the Commission's recommendations.

The Commission's Report (in four parts) has already been placed in the Parliament Library.

Down-gradation of sub-post offices

2074. **SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has undertaken down-grading of sub post offices to ordinary branch post offices on a large scale on the ground that their working has been found to be uneconomic ;

(b) whether Government feel that postal services extended to the people is a commercial deal ;

(c) whether withdrawal of the facilities extended to rural population through the sub post offices has caused great resentment among the rural population ; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to continue the sub-post office facilities that have been in existence for a long time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal for the down-gradation of departmental sub-post offices as a general measure. However, orders issued for the down-gradation of extra-departmental sub-post offices recently have since been cancelled.

(b) While postal services do form a part of the commercial undertakings of the Government, postal receipts and other credits by themselves do not cover the

total expenditure incurred by the Department in providing the service. The net operating deficits are therefore provided for in the Central Budget.

(c) Postal services are adequately provided in rural areas through 11,779 departmental Head and sub-post offices and 1,16,703 extra departmental sub and branch post offices. There is, therefore, no question of withdrawal of facilities nor any occasion for resentment among rural population.

(d) Sub-post offices established in rural areas continue to provide postal services as before.

[Translation]

Complaints regarding telephone bills

2075. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been complaints of over billing by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to arrange for the testing of the present meters to ensure that the bills are prepared in accordance with the actual number of calls made and if so, the time by which this task is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes Sir. Some complaints alleging over-billing are being received.

(b) The meters provided in the Telephone Exchanges for individual subscribers are regularly tested at pre-determined intervals. It is ensured that the bills are prepared in accordance with the actual number of calls recorded in the meters.

Financial crisis in National Thermal Power Corporation and National Hydro-electric Power Corporation

2076. SHRI BALWANT SINGH

RAMOOWALIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation and the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation are facing great financial crisis ;

(b) if so, the causes thereof ;

(c) the steps proposed to recover outstanding dues to them ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The arrears of dues to be paid by the State Electricity boards and other beneficiaries are matters of concern. No financial crisis is being faced by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC).

(c) and (d) The NTPC and NHPC are actively pursuing the recovery of their dues with the State Electricity Boards and Undertakings concerned. The matter is also being followed up at Government level to facilitate early realization of outstanding amounts.

[English]

Production and demand of LPG.

2077. CH. RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that LPG availability is expected to go up to 1.8 million tonnes per year by the end of the year 1987-88 ; and

(b) what is the target of Government for the production of LPG during the Seventh Five Year Plan period and the steps being taken to achieve the target and the detailed plan of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) According to latest projections, the availability of indigenous LPG will be 1.766 million tonnes per year by the end of 1987-88. This availability is expected to increase to 1.980 million tonnes per year at the end of the Seventh Plan. For this purpose, the steps already taken or being taken include commissioning of the Coker at Barauni, completion of the Hazira LPG plant, expansion of the Cochin, Madras, Visakhapatnam and Bombay (BPCL) refineries and projects like the Hazira Gas Sweetening Plants.

[*Translation*]

Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees in the Ministry

2078. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of employees in his Ministry, category-wise ;
- (b) the category-wise percentage of the employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure that Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe persons are appointed to the reserved posts as per the quota fixed under reservation policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) The information is as follows :-

Category	No. of employees	Percentage of employees belonging to SC/ST	
		SC	ST
'A'	26	3.8	Nil
'B'	105	12	2.2
'C'	104	11.5	2
'D'	60	53.3	3.3

(c) Efforts continue to be made to fill up the posts in this Ministry reserved for persons belonging to SC & ST as per the quotas fixed under the reservation policy guidelines laid down by the Department of Personnel & Training.

[*English*]

Survey for a Petro-chemical complex at Jaigarh, Ratnagiri district (Maharashtra)

2079. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that survey is being made for setting up a petrochemical industry at Jaigarh in the Ratnagiri district of the backward Konkan region of Maharashtra ;
- (b) if so, when the survey will be completed ; and
- (c) when the construction work of the project will begin ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Government of India has not sponsored any such survey.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]***Cost of power generated by units of National Thermal Power Corporation and State Electricity Boards**

2080. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of power generated by the units of National Thermal Power Corporation is higher than that generated by many State Electricity Boards ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the transmission losses of the National Thermal Power Corporation as compared to State Electricity Boards, and the efforts being made to reduce disparities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The cost of generation of a thermal power

station depends on several factors, such as size of the plant, plant load factor, quality of coal, lead for supply of coal, and age of equipment. The cost of power generated by the units of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is generally not higher than of power generated by thermal units of State Electricity Boards (SEBs) commissioned in the same time-frame. A statement showing the cost of generation in the thermal power stations of the SEBs and of the NTPC for the year 1985, is given below.

(c) The power generated in the super thermal power stations of the N.T.P.C. is transmitted over trunk Extra High Voltage (EHV) transmission lines to the SEBs at their major grid points. The transmission losses of the N.T.P.C. are, therefore, only of the order of 2—4%. Since, the N.T.P.C. are not engaged in distribution of power to the ultimate consumers, the transmission losses, in respect of the NTPC, are not comparable with the overall system losses in respect of the State Electricity Boards. The all India average of T&D losses in respect of SEBs/Utilities for 1985-86 was around 21.70%.

Statement:

Cost of generation in respect of Thermal Power Station (to extent available) for the year 1985.

Sl. No.		Name of Thermal Power Station	(Kwh/Paise). 1985
1	2		3
A. Andhra Pradesh			
1.	Kothagudam T.P.S. 'A'		35.70
2.	Kothagudam T.P.S. 'B'		54.60
3.	Kothagudam T.P.S. 'C'		49.80
4.	Vijayawada T.P.S.		37.40
			31.40
Total Average			38.10

1	2	3
B. Bihar		
1.	Patratu	51.61
2.	Barauni	83.96
Total Average		58.16
C. Gujarat		
1.	Dhuvaran	29.41
2.	Utran	39.20
3.	Ukai (T)	44.66
4.	Gandhi Nagar	58.06
5.	Wanakhori	43.14
Total Average		40.26
D. Haryana		
1.	Panipat	63.51
2.	Faridabad	21.97
Total Average		83.00
E. Himachal Pradesh		
Power Station		
F. Karnataka		
G. Kerala		
H. Madhya Pradesh		
1.	Korba I	29.22
2.	Korba II	122.21
3.	Korba III	27.29
4.	Korba IV	52.67
5.	Sarni I	55.03
6.	Sarni II	31.85
7.	Amarkantak	30.99

1	2	3
8.	—do—, II	29.85
9.	Sarni III	26.61
Total Average		35.25
I. Maharashtra		
1.	Khaparkhade	52.10
2.	Paras	36.96
3.	Bhusawal	40.64
4.	Nasik	38.18
5.	Parli	37.18
6.	Koradi	37.84
Total Average		43.10
J. Orissa		
1.	Talcher	36.20
Total Average		36.20
K. Punjab		
1.	Bhatinda	56.45
2.	Ropar	39.45
Total Average		53.16
L. Rajasthan		
1.	Satpura	28.21
2.	Kota	57.86
Total Average		49.57

1	2	3
M Tamil Nadu		
1.	Ennore	61.55
2.	Tuticorin	58.61
		61.10
N Uttar Pradesh		
1.	Panki Old	54.85
2.	Panki Extn.	58.14
3.	Harduaganj A	89.32
4.	Harduaganj B	72.27
5.	Harduaganj C	80.23
6.	Obra 'A'	45.35
7.	Obra 'B'	52.78
		67.37
O. West Bengal		
1.	Bandel	34.71
2.	Santalidih	47.71
		39.37
P Central Sector		
1.	N.T.P.C.	
(i)	Singrauli	26.83
(ii)	Korba	30.13
(iii)	Ramagundam	40.83
(iv)	Badarpur	62.80
		37.57
2.	Neyveli Lignite	
		34.47

[English]

Improving storage system of foodgrains

2081. DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge quantity of foodgrains perishes due to non-adoption of scientific technique in storage by the Food Corporation of India ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve the existing storage system and also to give more financial assistance for adoption of modern methods of storage of foodgrains ; and

(c) whether various State Agro-Industries Corporation including Tamil Nadu Agro-Industries Corporation have come forward to help the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, some stocks of foodgrains get damaged during storage in covered godowns and CAP complexes, and during transportation and multiple handling, due to factors beyond human control, such as rains, floods, cyclones, etc.

The steps that are taken to improve the existing storage system further include:

- (1) Augmentation of the covered storage capacity and reducing CAP storage at large scale storage.
- (2) Adoption of strict Quality Control measures during procurement and storage by the Government agencies.
- (3) Development of codes of practices for scientific storage and preservation of foodgrains by the Indian Grain Storage Institute of the

Department of Food for use at farm level and popularization of the same through training, demonstrations and publicity in rural areas through a net work of Save Grain Campaign teams of the Department of Food in collaboration with the State Governments. The Central Warehousing Corporation also educate farmers in scientific storage techniques through its Farmers Extension Service Scheme.

- (4) Provision of a rebate of 12% on storage charges to the farmers and cooperatives by the Central Warehousing Corporation so as to encourage them to utilize modern storage facilities.

(c) No such offer has been received by this Ministry.

Rural Integrated Digital Network

2082. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2109 on 18th November, 1986 regarding Rural Integrated Digital Network and state :

(a) the names of the States in which not even a single district has been selected for the introduction of Rural Integrated Digital Network and the reasons therefor ;

(b) the criteria followed in selecting the 15 districts for the introduction of this network ;

(c) whether the network would be introduced in such a manner that at least one district in each State/Union Territory is covered by it initially ;

(d) the financial allocation earmarked for the introduction of this system in the Seventh Plan as a whole and for each year separately ; and

(e) the total financial requirement for introducing the Network so as to cover all the States/Union Territories and the likely period by which it is expected to materialise ?

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

1. Jammu & Kashmir 2. Arunachal Pradesh 3. Mizoram 4. Sikkim 5. Haryana 6. Himachal Pradesh 7. Manipur 8. Meghalaya 9. Tripura.

The selected stations were indentified in consultation with the then circles so as to cover atleast one district in each Circle and not State.

(c) No. Atleast one district in each Circle (at that time) and not State will be covered.

(d) Rs. 100 crores for the whole plan. Separate yearly allocation circle-wise has not been decided due to uncertainties in implementation.

(e) The total financial requirement in the 8th Plan is yet to be worked out. The implementation depends on equipments availability, technical feasibility and funds.

Field trial of C-DOT exchanges

2083. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any field trial of C-DOT exchanges has been undertaken during the last three years including the current financial year (1986-87) ;

(b) if so, the results thereof ;

(c) the likely date by which they would be introduced for initiating a breakthrough in rural telecommunications in the country ; and

(d) the considerations and special

features about these exchanges which make them specially suitable for climate conditions in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) A 128 port capacity electronic PABX and Rural automatic exchange (connectible capacity 88 lines) have been field tried in '86-'87.

(b) The above have been functioning in the network.

(c) These are likely to be introduced in '87-'88.

(d) The features which are relevant to rural conditions are :

- (1) airconditioning is not required.
- (2) can tolerate nominal variations in power supply
- (3) has remote monitoring facilities,
- (4) can work in tropical conditions.

In stallation of long distance public phones

2084. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Public Call Offices (local and long distance public phones) which have been sanctioned but not installed till 15th February, 1987 in Dharamsa's Telegraph Engineering Division of Himachal Pradesh and the likely date by which they would be installed ;

(b) whether any new Public Call Offices have also been sanctioned in this Division under the HEXAGON scheme and MARRS scheme ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the

target for the installation of such PCOs during the Seventh Plan in this Division ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The names of Public Call Offices sanctioned but not installed till 15th February, 1987 in Dharamsala Telegraph Engineering Division are given below :

Local Public Telephones :

Bhagotla, Shiv Nath, Bani Mehra, Neleti, Mahakal, Joreamb, Sagnai, Badher, Marwari, Hathol, Daslehra, Bilaspur, Bbaina, Indpur, Jarotkhas, Kholi Sanghole, Rajianakhas, Luddar Mahadev, Jabhola, Spail, Naura, Jalag ;

Long Distance Public Telephones :-

Polian Probitan, Bathri, Iagroo, Adhwani, Kuthera, Majhin Patlibar, Karot, Mahal, Dhaned, Ladori, Lalhri, Harsl, Thathal, Salwar, Jadera.

All the above noted public telephones are likely to be commissioned during the 7th Plan period.

(b) No, Sir.

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

Shortage of Morse Code Signallers ;

2085. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the shortage of Morse Code Signallers has resulted in the non-functioning of a number of combined offices in Himachal Pradesh for a number of years ;

(b) if so, the names of such Morse Code combined offices as have remained without any signallers for over one year ; district-wise ; and

(c) whether any efforts have been

made to overcome this shortage and the nature thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) Only Kohala combined Office was without a signaller for nearly one year. One signaller has been posted there after completion of training. More signallers are being trained. However, in Kohala C.S.O. also, the telegrams were being sent on Telephone.

Setting up of field station for product design and development

2086. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal pending clearance with Government for the establishment of a Field Station for product design and development and service centre at Rajahmundry in Andhra Pradesh under normal programme of assistance from UNDP/UNIDO ; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. A proposal for establishing a Product Design and Development and Service Centre at Rajahmundry was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in 1982. The proposal was considered but could not be accommodated under the programme of assistance from UNDP.

Petrol pump in Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh

2087. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petroleum pumps at present existing in Nalgonda district, Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up some more petrol pumps in Nalgonda district ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) As on the 1st January, 1987, 36 Retail Outlets (Petrol/Diesel) dealerships were in operation in Nalgonda district, Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) While action for selecting a dealer for the proposed outlet at Tipparthi has been initiated, the selection for the proposed outlets at Veligonda and Munagala has been completed.

Recommendation of high level committees to close down some public undertakings

2088. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of high level official committees have recommended closure of a number of public sector units like Bharat Process and Mechanical Engineers Limited, Scooters India Limited, Engineering Projects (India) Limited, Cycle Corporation of India and Biecco Lawrie ; and

(b) if so, the details of the reports of the various committees and the action taken by Government in regard to their recommendations in respect of these public sector units ?

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

(a) and (b) Various Committees appointed by the Government from time to time, have recommended among other things, closure of certain public sector units. However, it is not in the public interest to divulge the details of these reports or

the action proposed to be taken thereon at this stage.

Exploration Seabeds other than Bombay high

2089. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether apart from Bombay High, the possibilities of off-shore drilling for oil have been explored in other sea-beds also ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the oil potential available there in ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) Besides Bombay High, exploratory drilling has been carried out in Bengal, Krishna-Godavari, Cauvery, Kerala-Konkan, Saurashtra-Kutch, Andaman and Mahanadi basins.

(c) The basins are still under exploration for assessment of their potential.

National Project on a Biogas Development

2090. SHRI NITYA NANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Project on Biogas Development has undertaken a project to instal biogas plants for the small, marginal and big farmers in each district;

(b) if so, the targets for 1987;

(c) the number of districts in Orissa selected vis-a-vis those in other States; and

(d) whether in selecting the districts, preference is given to those which are inhabited by tribals and Scheduled Caste people ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Family based biogas plants are being installed in all the potential districts in the country under the National Project on Biogas Development. A target of setting up of 12 lakh biogas plants has been proposed for 1987-88.

(c) and (d) The National Project on Biogas Development is being implemented in all the districts of Orissa as in other States. With a view to provide incentives to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries, higher rates of subsidy are being given for the plants set up by them.

[Translation]

Setting up of automatic telephone exchanges

2091. **SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of districts in the

country which do not have automatic telephone exchanges;

(b) the names of such districts in Bihar; and

(c) the time by which Government propose to set up automatic telephone exchanges in such districts, especially in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The number of district headquarters which do not have automatic exchanges is 125.

(b) The information is given at Annexure I.

(c) All district headquarters will have automatic exchanges by the end of 7th Plan. The information about automation of district headquarters in respect of Bihar, is given in Statement, I below.

Statement

Statement of District Headquarters which do not have automatic telephone exchanges in Bihar.

Name of District Headquarter	Subject to availability of equipment Automatisation likely in
1. Aurangabad	1989-90
2. Begusarai	1987-88
3. Bhagalpur	1987-88
4. Biharsharif	1987-88
5. Dumka	1987-88
6. Giridhi	1988-89
7. Hazipur	1987-88
8. Gopalpur	1987-88
9. Madhubani	1987-88
10. Navadah	1987-88

1	2
11. Purnea	1987-88
12. Sebarua	1988-89
13. Shtamarhit	1988-88
14. Khagaria	1987-88
15. Madhepura	1988-89
16. Sahebganj	1988-89
17. Godda	1989-90
18. Lohardaga	1989-90
19. Jehanabad	1989-90

(English)

**Tie-up between Bata India Ltd. and
ADIDAS, West German Footwear
Manufacturing Company**

2092. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have since cleared the tie-up between Bata India Ltd. and ADIDAS, the West German footwear manufacturing company, for the manufacture of sports equipment and shoes;

(b) if so, the terms of technical collaboration agreed to by Government, export obligation of Bata India Ltd. under this project and the commission payable to ADIDAS in terms of foreign exchange in respect of rubber and canvas sports shoes, the number of pairs of shoes envisaged to be manufactured and the commission payable on domestic sales; and

(c) whether this venture will be a part of Bata's expansion of its Calcutta factory or it is being installed somewhere else, and in the latter case, the reasons for not putting it up at Calcutta ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The proposal of M/s.

Bata India Limited for foreign collaboration has been approved subject to 75% export obligation.

(b) Government do not as a matter of policy disclose financial details regarding the terms and conditions of foreign collaboration in public interest.

(c) The approval is for technical up-gradation and modernisation within the existing capacity.

**Issue of Letters of Intent and industrial
Licences in West Bengal**

2093. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether West Bengal's share of letters of intent and Industrial licences during 1986 was sharply reduced;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that even large business houses based in the State are investing crores elsewhere and expanding their business while keeping their local industrial outfits trim; and

(d) if so, what steps Union Government propose to take to check this flight of industries and capital from West Bengal and ensure allocation of proper share of new letters of intent and industrial

licences to that State at least in the public sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-

CHALAM) : (a) to (d) The table below indicates the share of West Bengal in the total number of letters of intent and industrial licences issued under the provisions of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, during the year 1983 to 1986 :-

Letters of Intent

Year	Total issued (No.)	Share of West Bengal (No.)
1983	1055	45
1984	1064	35
1985	1457	66
1986	1130	42

Industrial Licences

Year	Total issued (No)	Share of West Bengal (No.)
1983	1075 (including 596 COB licences)	71 (including 50 COB licences)
1984	905 including 417 COB licences)	93 (including 64 COB licences)
1985	985 (including 544 COB licences)	51 (including 30 COB licences)
1986	618 (including 107 COB licences)	21 (including 5 COB licences)

The choice regarding location of an industrial unit is made by the entrepreneur himself after taking into account all the relevant factors like availability of infrastructural facilities, raw materials and industrial work culture, etc. The grant of letters of intent/industrial licences for establishing industries in any State depends upon the number of applications received from entrepreneurs for locating industries in that State. These applications, as and when received, are considered on merits taking into account various techno-

economic factors, such as demand and supply, capacity already licensed in the proposed line of manufacture, availability of raw materials, export potential and locational constraints, etc.

**Impact of OPEC price policy on
Indian purchases**

2094. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a remarkable reversal in the oil policy of Saudi Arabia as a result of which oil prices have stumbled recently; and

(b) its repercussion on Indian purchases and how India proposes to avail of this dip in oil prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) The Government is not aware of such a development. However, the market situation is watched constantly in order to derive maximum advantages in our purchases.

Steps to modernise public sector pharmaceutical units

2095. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will

the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the indigenisation programme for bulk drugs, their rationalisation and quality control chalked out as follow-up of the Drug Policy announced recently; and

(b) the steps being taken to attain greater efficiency and modernisation in the public sector pharmaceutical units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Relevant details are given in the Statement-I below.

(b) Relevant details are given in the Statement-II below :

Statement-I

As a follow up of the "measures for Rationalisation, Quality Control and Growth of Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry in India." The following action has already been taken.

- (i) A four member expert committee has already been set up to determine parameters for phased manufacturing programme aimed at indigenisation for each bulk drug.
- (ii) A Committee under the Chairmanship of State Drug Controller, Gujarat is already looking into the question of rational use of drugs.
- (iii) For better quality control, rules in respect of good manufacturing practices and certification scheme are being framed.

Statement-II

IDPL, BCPL, SSPL & BIL are expected to finalise their rehabilitation plan shortly and these are expected to include inter-alia modernising to the extent required to make them economically viable. HAL have already formulated their rehabilitation plan which is under implementation. Main features of their rehabilitation plan are as follows :-

- I Acquisition of improved technology and to bring down their input cost.
- II Maximising the existing capacity and creation of additional capacity for

penicillin 'G' 1st crystals and other penicillin bulk at minimum cost to spread over from fixed cost over a higher volume.

- III Making best use of available manpower by deployment to various plants.
- IV Reduction in their power and fuel costs.
- V Reorganisation of their marketing organisation to facilitate better co-ordination, close monitoring for achieving improved marketing performance & strengthening market research and sales promotion functions.
2. A task force to prepare a perspective plan for next 15 years for public sector pharmaceutical industry has also been constituted.

National Power Grid

2096. DR. B. L. SHAILESH :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is planning to develop a massive national power grid by interlinking the various regional grids;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposed national grid;

(c) its capital outlay; and

(d) how long will it take to implement this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (d) The Government of India have accepted in principle to gradually evolve the National Power Grid. Such a grid is an evolutionary process requiring appropriate inter-connections and strengthening of the various State systems and the Central Sector transmission lines. As a step towards formation of the National Grid, Regional Electricity Boards have been set up to accelerate the process of integrated operation of the regional systems.

NTPC are developing an extensive extra high voltage transmission system

associated with their generation projects, and certain inter-regional links which would form part of the National Power Grid.

Placing of orders for transformers with Crompton Greaves Ltd. by Bhakra-Beas Management Board

2097. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bhakra-Beas Management Board continues to place orders for transformers with the Crompton Greaves Ltd., ignoring the BHEL whose product has made its mark in quality and reliability; and

(b) if so, the guidelines laid down in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) According to the Bhakra Beas Management Board, transformers are purchased on the basis of tenders invited through the press or through limited enquiries from reputed manufacturers. Orders are placed on the lowest bidders keeping in view the technical suitability and desired specific action parameters. BHEL also participates with other firms in such purchases on a competitive basis.

(b) Does not arise,

**Completion of Narela and Patparganj
Industrial areas**

2098. DR. A.K. PATEL :

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the original cost estimates and time-schedule of completing the Narela and Patparganj industrial areas;

(b) the revised and latest cost estimates and time-schedules now; and

(c) whether Government have fixed responsibility for over-run of costs and time. If so, steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) According to Delhi Administration, the original cost estimate for Narela Industrial Complex was Rs. 8.7 crores and the project was scheduled to be completed in 1979. The latest cost estimates for Narela are Rs. 47 crores approx., including provision of Rs. 9.30 crores on account of interest, Rs. 2.5 crores for covered storm water drains and Rs. 2 crores for land scraping which were originally not envisaged. The project is likely to be completed by 1990.

The original cost estimate for Patparganj industrial area was Rs. 4.85 crores approx. and it was scheduled to be completed by June, 1986. The revised cost estimates are Rs. 8.50 crores approx. excluding cost of land.

The delay is partly due to delay in the acquisition of project land, its development, roads, sewerage, water supply, approach bridges, electrification etc. In the case of Narela Industrial Complex, the actual development work on the huge area could not go ahead at accelerated pace due to financial difficulties. However as on date, out of about 2,200 plots to be developed in the Narela Complex, 1000

industrial plots are ready for allotment and an advertisement inviting applications for the same has been given in the newspapers.

Exploration of oil by India in Vietnam

2099. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement has been signed between India and Vietnam where by India would undertake off shore oil exploration and extraction in Vietnam;

(b) if so, what are the terms of the agreement; and

(c) whether it is a fact that this exploration is to be done by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Government of India and the Government of Socialist Republic of Vietnam have agreed, in principle, to cooperate for exploration of hydrocarbons in Vietnam.

(b) The proposed agreement provides for exploration and production on the basis of production sharing contract to be concluded between the two sides.

(c) The exploration would be carried out by Hydrocarbons India limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the ONGC.

Criteria for transfer of telephone operators

2100. SHRI D. L. BAITHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria or rules for transfer of telephone operators; and

(b) whether there are cases in which

the criteria or rules are not followed; if so, the percentage of such exceptions made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Telephone Operators is a Divisional cadre and is therefore transferable within the division. Normally a Telephone Operator has to work for a period of 4 years before he can be transferred. However he can be continued at the same station at the discretion of the Department for longer period. Transfer of the official from one Division to another on his own request is also permitted, wherein he will lose his seniority. He can also be transferred, in the interest of service, anywhere in India.

(b) Telephone Operators rendered surplus, due to manual exchanges becoming automatic, are liable to be transferred to other divisions, wherever vacancies are available. These cases are however, only occasional in nature and no fixed limits can be indicated for them.

Money given to sick public enterprises from central exchequer

2101. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the amount of money given from the Central exchequer to the sick public enterprises during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to working capital loans given to continuously cash-loss making Central Public Enterprises. As per the available information, the amount of working capital loans outstanding against the enterprises which were making cash losses for the last five years continuously was Rs. 876.82, Rs. 815.03 and Rs. 1030.71 crores as on 31.3.1984, 31.3.1985 and 31.3.1986 respectively.

[Translation]

Allotment of telephone connections in Delhi

2102. SHRI JAGANNATH CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any review on the state of telephone system in Delhi has been done by the Ministry and if so the details thereof;

(b) whether any time limit has been fixed to allot telephone connections under O.Y.T., S. S. and General categories and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any complaints have been received regarding harassment of subscribers by the officers and employees of Delhi Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. at the time of allotments; and

(d) if so, steps proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONSTOH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Required information is given in the Statement below.

(b) The telephone connections are released as and when capacity is available in the exchange either on commissioning of new exchange or expansion of the existing exchanges. This release is given in the following ratio :

OYT & OYT-S	40%
Non-OYT SS & S	20%
Non-OYT-General	40%

(c) and (d) Normally new telephones are installed within 15 days of the release of connection but in case of bulk release this period may be extended depending upon the number of connections released. The subscribers are informed about the

release and the time likely to be taken for provision of connection. In case telephone cannot be provided within 15 days the subscriber is informed by the S.D.O. according intimating the reason of delay and the likely date when the connection can be provided.

Statement

Review of the Delhi Telephone system is done every month.

Since the formation of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam on 1.4.1986, Delhi Telephones has made the following impressive improvement :

- (a) 41765 net connections have been provided in the last 11 months (since 1.4.1986) against the target of 34000 connections for the full year ending 31.3.1987.
- (b) The capacity in the network has been added by 63800 exchange lines during the year upto February, 1987. All the planned projects have been completed ahead of the scheduled time targets.
- (c) To increase public access to telephones 480 PCOs (including 24 new STD PCOs) have been added in the network.
- (d) In order to reduce fault rates in the subscribers telephones all cabinets/pillors and DPs numbering 1165 and 29575 respectively have been dressed up and locked. The fault rate is showing visible reduction since April, 1986.
- (e) A main frame computer has been installed in October, 1986 and telephone billing work has already been implemented in the in-house computer with effect from 1st February, 1987. On-line directory enquiry service is being planned to be introduced by the middle of 1987. Work is on for other applications of the computer

like on-line billing enquiries, new registrations for Telephones, and fault repair service etc.

- (f) Interface with computers has received utmost attention in Delhi telephones. Subscribers now have an opportunity to meet the officers on fixed date and time without any prior appointment.
- (g) Instead of Post Offices, the Subscribers are now in a position to pay bills through 78 branches of banks spread all over Delhi. This has proved to be very convenient to the subscribers.

[English]

Production, requirement and import of foodgrains

2103. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated requirement of foodgrains in the country upto July, 1987 taking in view the present food situation;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains likely to be produced in the country and the quantity to be imported from abroad, country-wise; and

(c) whether any quantity has been received in the form of free aid ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) As the demand for foodgrains in the country depends on various factors, such as population growth extent of urbanisation, levels of income, prices of substitutable foodgrains, etc., precise estimates of requirement of foodgrains in the country are not available.

(b) The anticipated production of foodgrains in 1986-87 is estimated at 149 to 151 million tonnes. There is no proposal to import any cereals during the current year,

(c) A quantity of about 38,300 tonnes of foodgrains was received as aid in 1986-87 (till 31.12.1986).

Agency for marketing of sugar

2104. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to create an agency at the national level to solve the problems in the marketing of sugar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Exploitation of rock salt at Drang in Himachal Pradesh

2105. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Himachal Pradesh Government has submitted any scheme to Union Government for the exploitation of rock salt at Drang in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) If so, what is the installed capacity of the project and the quantum of sodium chloride content that rock salt will have; and

(c) the system and technique that will be adopted for the execution of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Central Govern-

ment have not received any scheme from the Government of Himachal Pradesh for the exploitation of rock salt at Drang in Himachal Pradesh. However, at the instance of the State Government, in 1982, the Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 2.00 lakhs as grant-in-aid to M/s Hindustan Salts Ltd., Jaipur, a Government of India undertaking for preparation of a feasibility report for the setting up of a salt refinery at Mandi.

Report by Delhi based policy group for confederation of engineering industry

2106. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi based policy group for the Confederation of Engineering Industry has submitted a detailed report to Government in which it has stated that there is a strong case for encouraging domestic producers of fertilizer and power plants in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have studied that report; and

(c) the details of the same and to what extent Government have examined and implemented it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The Policy Group, sponsored by the Confederation of Engineering Industry (CEI), had submitted to the Government a study on "Capital Goods Under Project Imports-A study of the Indian Fertilizer and Power Industries". The study suggested certain measures for encouraging domestic producers of fertilizers and power plants in the country.

The report has been studied and the conclusions and recommendations made therein have been noted by the Government. The Budget for 1987-88 contains a package of measures to further accelerate

the growth of capital goods industries, including fertilizer and power plants.

Loss suffered by consumers cooperatives in rural areas

2107. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cooperatives involved in Public Distribution System in the rural areas;

(b) whether these cooperatives have incurred losses during 1985-86 and 1986-87, if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to overcome the problems faced by the cooperative in this field ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) The number of outlets in the cooperative sector involved in public distribution system in the rural areas as on 30.6.1986 was 83,837.

(b) The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are primarily responsible for the organisation and administration of the public distribution system in their respective areas. Many of the cooperatives involved in the public distribution system in the rural areas are reported to have incurred losses due to various reasons such as sharing of margins between the various tiers of the agencies involved in the public distribution system, uneconomic number of card units attached, reduction in the monthly quota of fair price items, etc.

(c) The State Governments/U.T. Administrations have been advised that for improving their economic viability, the cooperative societies handling PD items should widen their commodity coverage.

Request for attachment of co-operative sugar factories of Saurashtra with Rajasthan levy sugar zone

2108. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the co-operative sugar factories of Saurashtra region have requested the Union Government to attach them with Rajasthan levy sugar zone instead of Gujarat as at present; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However the Gujarat Government and the sugar factories in Gujarat had represented for bifurcation of Gujarat into two zones, viz. South Gujarat and Saurashtra for levy sugar price fixation. This has been done and separate levy sugar prices fixed for South Gujarat and Saurashtra in the levy Price Order issued by the Department of Food on 12.12.1986 for 1986-87.

Recruitment and promotions of SC/ST in Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd.

2109. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the Presidential Directive on reservations in recruitment and promotions in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was made applicable in Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd;

(b) the backlog of reserved posts meant for SC/ST candidates in Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd. categorywise and the reasons for the backlog;

(c) the efforts made during the last three years to fill the backlog; and

(d) whether Government propose to chalk out any time-bound programme to fill the backlog of reserved posts in 1987-88 and if not, how this backlog is proposed to be fulfilled ?

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

(a) The Presidential Directives on reservations in recruitment and promotions in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were made applicable in

the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd., with effect from 1.1.1969 and 1.1.1976 respectively.

(b) The backlog of reserved posts meant for SC/ST candidates in the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd., categorywise is given below :

	Backlog (as on 31.12 1986)			
	Recruitment		Promotion	
	SC	ST	SC	ST
Group 'A'	1	—	—	—
Group 'B'	11	6	4	2
Group 'C'	13	2	—	—
Group 'D'	—	—	—	—

Due to non-availability of suitable candidates from the SC/ST communities the reserved vacancies could not be filled.

(c) Efforts are being continuously made by the Company to fill up the back-

log of vacancies by releasing advertisements and intimating the same to the recognised associations. The details of the recruitment made during the last three years from among the candidates belonging to SC/ST communities are given below :

	1984		1985		1986	
	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST
Group A'	2	—	4	—	6	1
Group 'B'	1	—	1	—	7	1
Group 'C'	9	1	22	—	10	2
Group 'D'	15	4	14	2	23	5

(d) In every recruitment, special emphasis is laid by the Company to increase the intake of SC/ST candidates so as to reduce the shortfall to the maximum extent possible.

[Translation]

Telephone system in Jodhpur

2110. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone system in Jodhpur has not been functioning satisfactorily for the last four years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps proposed to bring about improvements in the telephone system in Jodhpur; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be done on a durable basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Telephone system in Jodhpur has been working generally satisfactorily.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply as at (a) above.

(c) and (d) The following steps have been taken to improve the system further.

- (i) National subscriber trunk dialling has been introduced for Jodhpur.
- (ii) One 400 lines automatic exchange is under installation at Bansi and will be commissioned during 1987-88.
- (iii) One 5000 lines electronic local exchange at Jodhpur will be installed during 1988-89.
- (iv) 400 life expired telephone instruments have been replaced.
- (v) Heavy and long overhead alignments are being progressively replaced by underground cables.
- (vi) Cabinets and pillars are being locked:

(vii) 64% of DPS have been locked!

[English]

Pending cases in High Courts and Supreme Court

2111. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the number of cases pending as on 1 January 1987 in Supreme Court and various High Courts for over three years, for over seven years and for over ten years. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H R. BHARDWAJ) : Information furnished by the Registries of Supreme Court and High Courts is given in the Statement.

Statement

Pending Cases in High Courts and Supreme Court

Pendency of Cases in Supreme Court as on 1-1-87

Number of Regular hearing matters	Number of Admission and Miscellaneous matters	Total	Number of Regular hearing matters pending for		
			Over three years	Over seven years	Over ten years
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
39871	113098	152969	19322	8144	2187

Pendency of Cases in various High Courts as on 30-6-1986

High Courts	Total Cases	Over three years to seven years	Over seven years to ten years	Over ten years
1	2	3	4	5
1. Allahabad	288060	116531	26511	11235
2. Andhra Pradesh	89570	25537	621	31
3. Bombay	117394	41808	11239	4969

1	2	3	4	5
4. Calcutta*	148330	51909	12512	12415
5. Delhi	73415	22551	5096	3294
6. Gauhati*	16285	4335	1202	182
7. Gujarat*	41750	13651	1761	71
8. Himachal Pradesh*	10933	3245	1340	155
9. Jammu and Kashmir	33952	9160	2021	358
10. Karnataka*	87508	34028	2365	47
11. Kerala	120890	40626	245	1
12. Madhya Pradesh*	52079	7628	1951	1084
13. Madras*	158518	39754	2316	20
14. Orissa*	31362	7966	1057	194
15. Patna*	56904	13771	2873	1584
16. Punjab and Haryana	45598	13627	3409	75
17. Rajasthan*	48921	15944	3370	726
18. Sikkim	56	—	—	—
Total	1421625	462071	79889	36441

*Figures for these High Courts are as on 31-12-1985.

Additional quota of vanaspati to Andhra Pradesh

2112. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to allot any additional quota of vanaspati to the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, how much additional quota is being given; and

(c) how does it compare with the additional quota given to other States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir. There is no Government control on the distribution of vanaspati.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Assets of large industrial houses

2114. DR. B.L. SHAILESH :

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the assets of the first 20 large industrial houses in the country, their paid-up capital reserves, turnover and gross profit before tax, as per latest information available with his Ministry; and

(b) the assets of the inter-linked companies controlled by each of these large industrial houses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) A Statement showing assets, paid-up capital, reserves and surplus, turnover and profit before tax for the

year, 1985 of companies registered under section 26 of the MRTP Act as on 31.12.1985 and belonging to each of the

first 20 large industrial houses ranked according to their assets in 1985 is given below.

Statement

Assets, paid-up capital, reserves & Surplus, turnover and profit before tax for the year, 1985 of companies registered under section 26 of the MRTP Act as on 31.12.1985 and belonging to each of the first 20 large industrial houses ranked according to their assets in 1985.

(Rs. crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Industrial House	1985				Profit before tax
		Assets	Paid-up capital	Reserves & Surplus	Turnover	
1.	Birla	4111.55	232.74	1567.45	4230.81	154.00
2.	Tata	3698.84	316.91	742.73	4130.18	251.83
3.	Thapar	1067.86	82.47	321.31	912.85	22.15
4.	J.K Singhania	1057.03	77.57	247.08	1081.55	19.09
5.	Reliance	1056.36	57.78	253.92	777.55	71.62
6.	Mafatlal	964.60	94.87	249.87	1190.76	45.02
7.	Modi	818.86	79.21	116.63	1113.01	19.28
8.	M.A. Chidambaram	773.27	24.65	336.02	581.28	44.09
9.	A.C.C.	742.68	46.19	163.93	792.44	1.76
10.	Larsen & Toubro	714.93	34.39	239.07	477.88	40.70
11.	Bangur	650.87	56.41	154.59	704.41	8.07
12.	Bajaj	619.87	34.39	182.72	611.27	41.11
13.	Walchand	607.18	26.40	180.20	522.28	22.12
14.	Shri Ram	541.78	53.87	114.06	860.28	12.39
15.	T.V.S. Iyengar	519.30	58.58	82.03	602.73	31.00
16.	I.C.I.	446.96	65.24	145.66	658.16	32.80
17.	Sarabhai	444.83	39.35	42.56	392.33	(—)14.72
18.	Hindustan Lever	435.96	63.02	100.09	953.32	62.43
19.	Kirloskar	433.01	44.43	91.65	576.03	22.05
20.	Mahindra & Mahindra	431.19	23.68	96.96	534.10	19.64

[Translation]

Delay in the supply of LPG Cylinders

2115. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints to the effect that LPG cylinders are not being supplied to consumers by gas agencies for days together ;

(b) if so, the names of the places in the country from where such complaints have been received during the last two months ;

(c) the policy adopted by Government to ensure supply of LPG cylinders to consumers in time ; and

(d) if no such policy has been adopted, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) A backlog in supply of refills developed at several locations in the country in the last two months on account of factors like seasonal increase in demand, industrial relation problems at Guwahati Refinery, Transporters, strike in Bihar, operational problems at certain refineries etc. Considering that LPG is being marketed at over 1150 locations in the country, the effort involved in collection of information about the number of places from where such complaints have been received will not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be served. The endeavour of the oil companies is to augment supplies, to the extent feasible, for locations where a backlog has developed.

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply to parts (a), (b) and (c).

Holding of annual general meeting by companies

2116., SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per the provisions of the Companies Act it is essential for all the companies to hold general meeting of their shareholders at least once a year ;

(b) if so, the number of industrial units coming under the provisions of company law which have not called annual general meeting as required under the provisions of Companies Act and industry-wise particulars thereof ;

(c) whether Government propose to take action against such industrial units ; and

(d) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) to (d) As per information available, during the year 1986, prosecutions were filed against 198 companies for default in holding the Annual General Meeting. The effort involved in compiling the industry-wise particulars of the companies would not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

[English]

Shortage of LPG in Delhi

2117. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :
Dr. V. VENKATESH :

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

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of LPG in the capital at present ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to remove this shortage ?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Backlog in supply of LPG refills occasionally develops due to factors such as operational and transport bottlenecks, seasonal increase in demand etc. In such situations the endeavour is to augment supplies from other sources to meet the demand.

Subsidy on selling rice at the rate of Rs. 2/- per kg. in Andhra Pradesh

2118. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are giving any subsidy to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the scheme of selling rice at the rate of Rs. 2/- per kg. ;

(b) if so, the total amount of annual subsidy ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Government of India issues foodgrains to all States, including Andhra Pradesh, for distribution through the P.D.S., at a uniform central issue price, which is highly subsidised.

(b) The amount of subsidy in the rice issued to Andhra Pradesh during 1985-86 was Rs. 88.65 crores.

(c) Does not arise.

Supply of coal to cement plants

2119. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to constant shortage and inferior quality of coal many cement plants are forced to close down their kilns at regular intervals ;

(b) if so, the estimated loss of revenue due to such closures ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to solve this chronic problem of coal shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Reports from a few cement plants for occasional stoppage of the kilns on account of shortage of coal are being received from time to time. However, there have been no reports of closure of kilns due to constant shortage and inferior quality of coal. The loss of production on this account as reported by the cement industry during the year 1986 was about 53,000 tonnes. However, no information in regard to loss of revenue on this account is being received or maintained.

(c) The coal linkages of cement plants are finalised on quarterly basis by the Department of coal on the basis of recommendations of the Standing Linkage Committee and taking into account the overall availability of coal from various coal fields vis-a-vis requirements of coal for cement units. The supplies of coal to cement units are monitored regularly on weekly basis and all possible efforts are made to provide assistance to the cement factories reporting low coal stock. In regard to quality, there have been some complaints about size of the coal, low calorific value and presence of extraneous material in the coal. With a view to ensure proper sizing and removal of extraneous material, coal

handling plants are being constructed at the collieries. Independent quality control organisations have also been set up in each coal company to monitor the quality of coal supply.

Installation of cellular telephone network by private parties

**2120. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether some private parties have approached Government to undertake installation and operation of cellular telephone network ;

(b) the details of their proposal ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

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

(b) (i) Shri D. Balakrishna of Ameerpet, Hyderabad and M/s. Andhra Pradesh Electronics Development Corporation Ltd., Hyderabad jointly submitted a proposal for operating Cellular Mobile Radio Telephone in twin cities of Hyderabad & Secunderabad in collaboration with M/s. Comvik International AB of Sweden.

They have proposed to instal 5000 telephones in Phase I and further expand it by 10,000 more in Phase II.

The investment envisaged for installing the mobile system catering to 5000 subscribers is Rs. 15.25 crores.

Tariff proposed are as follows :-

(a) Security Deposit of Rs. 20,000/- for each Mobile Telephone set.

(b) Interest of 8% will be paid on the deposit.

(c) Rental charges for the trans-receivers would be Rs. 550/- per set per month.

(d) Service charges per call will be fixed at Rs. 1.50.

(ii) M/s. Param Consultance Services Private Limited, Bombay has approached for grant of license for operation of Celluar Mobile Radio Telephone Service in cities like Ahmedabad, Baroda, Rajkot, Bombay, Pune, Nagpur, etc. but no details of the proposal have been furnished except that if a license is given, they are confident to implement the services in 12 to 15 months time.

(c) The present policy of the Department is to operate the service themselves initially at Bombay to be followed in other cities.

Laying of pipeline from Bombay to Kerala

**2121. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA
CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be
pleased to state :**

(a) whether Government have plans to lay a gas pipeline from Bombay to Kerala ;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project and the allocation made for the it ; and

(c) when the work is likely to commence on the project and the estimated time for its completion ?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Puyamkuttu Hydel Project

2122. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the Puyamkuttu Hydel Project in the State of Kerala has commenced;

(b) whether any foreign aid has been sought or any machinery imported for this project;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) when the project is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Stage I of the proposed project (2×120 MW) is yet to be cleared in terms of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Depending upon the timely availability of all inputs and of clearance from the forestry angle, the project could be completed in the eighth year after commencement of works. Canadian authorities have evinced interest in providing assistance for the project.

Letters of Intent issued to Kerala

2123. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters of intent issued by Union Government to the State of Kerala over the past three years for large and medium industries;

(b) the number of industries set up consequent to these letters of intent; and

(c) the number of them in the public sector and the number in joint sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI N. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, a total number of 4 letters of intent were issued during the years 1984 to 1986 for setting up of industries in the State of Kerala. Out of these, 7 letters of intent have since been converted into industrial licences and 3 letters of intent have been treated as lapsed/cancelled. Since it generally takes about 3 to 4 years for an industrial project to fructify, the industrial projects for which letters of intent/industrial licences have been issued during the last three years would presently be at various stages of implementation.

(c) Out of the 49 letters of intent granted to various parties during the last three years for setting up of industries in Kerala, letters of intent were granted to Central Public Sector undertakings and 23 to State Public Sector undertakings including the State Industrial Development Corporation.

Setting up of project by DESU with French Collaboration

2124. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking has set up a Rs. 87 crore project in collaboration with the French Government;

(b) if so, whether French Government have offered help for setting up more such projects;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up such projects in other big cities;

(d) whether electricity demand of the cities where such plants are set up will be fully met; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Allocation of more imported edible oil to vanaspati industry

2125. DR. V. VENKATESH :
SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE :
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :

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

(a) whether the level of production of the edible oils for the vanaspati industry during the current oil year is the same as was the case during the previous oil year ;

(b) whether the Indian Vanaspati Producers Association had called upon Government recently to allocate more of imported edible oil for the vanaspati industry ;

(c) if so, details thereof ; and

(d) the action taken in the matter with results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The level of production of indigenous edible oils for the vanaspati industry during the current oil year may marginally increase than the previous oil year.

(b) and (c) The Indian Vanaspati Producers Association requested for additional allocation of imported edible oils for manufacture of vanaspati.

(d) The Government had increased the allocation of imported oil from 10 per

cent to 30 per cent from February, 1987 and to 40 per cent for the month of March, 1987 keeping in view the availability and prices of permitted indigenous oils.

Proposal to merge three public sector drug companies

2126. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
DR. G. S. RAJHANS :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to merge the three public sector drug companies ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the purpose behind merging the drug companies ; and

(d) the extent to which drugs of good quality will be available in the market at a reasonable price as a result of this merger ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) . (a) to (d) Government has not yet taken final decision in regard to the question of merger of the three Calcutta based public sector drug companies.

[Translation]

Vacancies in Ministerial posts in Gram Shilp and Khadi Bhawan

2127. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts of clerks lying vacant in the "Gram Shilp" and "Khadi Bhawan" under Khadi and Gramodyog in the country, state-wise ;

(b) the difficulties being experienced by the administration in filling up these vacancies and the time by which these vacancies will be filled up ; and

(c) the period of continuous service after which a temporary clerk can be made permanent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Information is not readily available.

(b) The local Staff Selection Committee selects the candidates for these posts and on the basis of their recommendations, normally, these vacancies are filled up within six months from the date a post falls vacant. No difficulty is experienced in following this procedure and filling up the vacancy, except during the period of ban on filling up the vacancies.

(c) The clerks appointed on the recommendations of the Staff Selection Committee will be regularised after six months on satisfactory completion of probation.

[English]

Rotational transfer orders in Central Telegraph Office, New Delhi

2128. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether implementation of rotational transfer orders issued by P&T Directorate are strictly enforced Group 'BI' cadre of Central Telegraph Office, New Delhi ; and

(b) if not, the reasons for which exceptions are made and the number of such cases ?

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

(b) No exceptions have been made.

[Translation]

Pending Family Pension cases

2129. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases relating to family pension pending in the Ministry as on 15 February, 1987 ;

(b) the date from which the scheme of family pension was started ;

(c) the action proposed to clear the pending cases ; and

(d) the time by which cases will be disposed of ?

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

(i) There are no cases relating to family pension pending in the Main Ministry.

(ii) There are 763 family pension cases pending in the Department of Posts as on 15.2. 87.

(iii) The information in respect of Department of Telecom, is being collected, and will be laid on the table of the House.

(b) The scheme of family pension was introduced w.e.f. 17.4.50. Substantial liberalisations were made w.e.f. 1.1. 1964 when the family pension scheme (1964) was introduced ;

(c) and (d) In respect of the Department of Posts a special drive has already

been launched ; and in respect of Department of Telecom. also the family pension cases are cleared expeditiously, except where there are disputes or where matters are pending in courts, etc. Recently 'Pension Adalats' have been convened for the speedy settlement of such cases.

Linking of Pithoragarh District through Earth Satellite Communication Service

2130. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a long standing demand for linking Pithoragarh district, Uttar Pradesh through Earth Satellite Communication Service ;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to set up an Earth Satellite Communication Centre in this district during the current Five Year Plan ;

(c) if so, by what time ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise to answer in view to answer at (b).

(d) Pithoragarh District is being connected to Bareilly Trunk Automatic Exchange through an ultra high frequency system during 1987-88.

Multi-Access rural radio system in Almora and Pithoragarh Districts in U. P.

2131. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce Multi-Access Rural Radio Sys-

tem at Almora and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the reasons for delay in implementing it ?

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

(b) The proposals for introduction of Multi-Access Rural Radio System (MARR) in Almora and Pithoragarh districts are under consideration. The number of Long Distance Public Telephones (LDPTs) proposed to be provided against these schemes are given below :-

Sl. No.	Name of the Base Station	Number of LDPTs proposed
1.	Almora	12
2.	Pithoragarh	14

(c) The required equipment is not available from indigenous sources in sufficient quantity.

Letter of Intent for setting up Industry in Pithoragarh (UP).

2132. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a letter of intent has been issued recently for establishing an industrial unit in Pithoragarh district of Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the details of the unit to be set up and the progress made so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Under the provisions

of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, no fresh letter of intent has been issued during 1986 and January, 1987 for establishing an industrial unit specifically in Pithoragarh district of Uttar Pradesh.

Transport subsidy to Industrial Units

2133. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the States in the country where transport subsidy is being given to industrial units ;

(b) whether percentage of transport subsidy is different in various States ; and

(c) If so, the justification for this difference ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The Transport Subsidy Scheme is applicable in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, North Eastern Region, Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Darjeeling district of West Bengal and hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh, comprising Dehradun, Nainital, Almora, Pauri Garhwal, Tehri Garhwal, Pithoragarh, Uttar Kashi and Chamoli.

(b) and (c) Owing to the disabilities suffered by the entrepreneurs due to long transport leads prevailing in the North Eastern Region, Sikkim, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Jammu & Kashmir the transport subsidy is admissible @ of 90% compared to 75% in other areas as these are nearer to the main regions of the country.

Review of working of Western Coalfields Limited

2134. SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the working including financial performance of the Western Coalfields Ltd. was reviewed recently ;

(b) if so, the details of the review ;

(c) whether 40 projects scheduled to be completed by March, 1985 by this Undertaking have not been completed so far ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) A report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Union Government (Commercial) 1985, Part VI, on Western Coalfields Limited received in the Department of Coal, which was laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament, in December, 1986, has amongst other things, commented upon the working and financial performance of the Coal Company.

(c) and (d) Of the 40 projects scheduled to be completed by March, 1985 in the undivided Western Coalfields Limited, 25 have been completed so far and work on 3 projects was suspended due to geomining difficulties. Of the remaining 12 projects, six projects are progressing as per schedule and implementation of six projects is delayed due to various reasons.

Permission for setting up industries in Punjab

2135. SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether many companies have requested Government to grant permission to set up industries in Punjab ;

(b) if so, the number of such projects which are under consideration of Government ;

(c) whether Government propose to give their approval soon to set up

industries there keeping in view the deteriorating economic condition of Punjab; and

(d) if so, by what time ?

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

(b) As on 3.3.1987 of the Industrial Licence applications received under the provisions of Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, for the grant of Letters of Intent, for setting up industries in the Punjab State, 25 proposals were at different stages of processing.

(c) and (d) It is the constant endeavour of the Government to dispose of all pending Industrial Licence applications as expeditiously as possible.

[English]

S.T.D. facilities to District Headquarters

2136. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have decided to provide STD facility to all district headquarters during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) if so, the number of district headquarters covered by STD and the number which will be covered during the year 1987 ?

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

(b) 215 District Headquarters have already been covered by STD upto December, 1986. 27 more District Headquarters are likely to be covered by STD during the year 1987.

Norms for consumption of electricity by industrial units

2137. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have plans for laying down consumption norms to monitor the consumption of energy by industrial units; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The process of getting plantwise energy consumption norms laid down in respect of the energy intensive public sector industrial units has been initiated. Fixation of consumption norms is an evolutionary process and due consideration has to be given to the age of the plant and equipment and the technological process used by the industry.

New licences for setting up sugar factories in Maharashtra

2138. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

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

(a) the number of new licences sanctioned for sugar factories during the current financial year for Maharashtra State;

(b) the number of proposals for setting up new sugar factories pending with Government for clearance; and

(c) the reason for delay in clearing them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No Letter of Intent/Licence

has been granted for setting up new sugar mills in Maharashtra during the current financial year, so far.

(b) No application received in terms of the new guidelines for grant of Letter of Intent/Industrial Licence for setting up new sugar factory in the State of Maharashtra is pending before the Government (Department of Food) at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Damage to foodgrains in FCI godowns

2139. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India had suffered losses worth crores of rupees due to damage caused to foodgrains in its godowns during last two years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the condition of the Food Corporation of India godowns is very deplorable; and

(c) if so, steps contemplated by Government to bring down the losses and also to make proper storage facilities in Food Corporation of India godowns ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The Food Corporation of India have suffered the following losses on account of damage caused to foodgrains during storage, transit and multiple handlings during the last two years :

Year	Average stock holding (in lakh MT)	Quantity of foodgrains Damaged (in lakh MT)	%age of damages to average stock hold- ing.	Value of losses due to damages (in Rs. crores)
1984-85	163.15	0.65	0.40	7.77
1985-86	176.47	0.87	0.49	11.54

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The foodgrains are stored by the F.C.I. in the godowns of standard specifications suitable for scientific storage. However, during peak season some quantities of foodgrains are also stored by the F.C.I. under Cover and Plinth storage, as temporary measure. To bring down the losses and to augment the storage capacity for ensuring effective maintenance of foodgrains, the following steps have been taken/are being taken :—

(i) construction of a covered storage capacity of 10.25 lakh tonnes for foodgrains during 1986-87 by the F.C.I., CWC and 16 SWCS together;

(ii) hiring of additional storage capa-

city by the F.C.I. from various resources; and

(iii) adoption of strict quality control measures by the qualified staff during procurement and storage.

Setting up of gas turbines by DESU with French collaboration

2140. DR. A.K. PATEL :

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the plan to set up gas turbines was given up in 1978 by the Delhi

* Electric Supply Undertaking on experts advice;

(b) If so, the reasons due to which the small size turbines of 30 MW each have again been set up with French collaboration;

(c) whether cost of generation per unit at gas turbines mostly run on imported fuel, will be much higher than that for thermal and hydroelectric power; and

(d) the facts and consequences thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The proposal was not pursued as availability of oil on a sustained basis was not confirmed.

(b) The 30 MW size of gas turbines was preferred on expert advice keeping in view the operational requirements, the cost, and the functions to be performed by these units which include providing black start facility and assistance in improvement of system voltage when required.

(c) and (d) The per unit cost of generation of DESU's gas turbines is about Rs. 1 45, while the costs of generation from Hydel and thermal stations now range from about 20 to 70 paise and about 50 to 96 paise per unit respectively.

Electronic telephone exchanges in Bihar

2141. DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to install new electronic telephone exchanges in Bihar during 1987-88;

(b) if so, the locations where these exchanges will be installed;

(c) what would be the capacity of these exchanges; and

(d) to what extent the waiting list in Bihar will be cleared ?

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

(b) The information is given in the Statement below.

(c) —do—

(d) The present waiting list of 19 in the exchanges of Hajipur, Madhubani, Purnea, Dumka, Nawadah will be cleared soon after commissioning.

The total waiting List in Bihar is 10501 as on 31.12.86. This is planned to be cleared during the 7th Plan.

Statement

Statement of Electronic Exchanges proposed to be installed in Bihar during 1987-88

S. No.	Location/ Name of Exchange	Capacity
1.	Hazipur	400 lines
2.	Madhubani	400 lines
3.	Purnea	600 lines
4.	Dumka	400 lines
5.	Nawadah	400 lines

Directives to chemical units to tone up efficiency

2142. DR. G.S. RAJHANS :

SHRI MADAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have recently directed the chemical units in the country to tone up their efficiency;

(b) if so, the details of the directives issued; and

(c) what control Government exercises on the chemical units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) While no specific directions have been issued recently, Government has, from time to time, urged the industry to tone up its efficiency in order to increase the production and productivity.

(c) The output of major chemical items

Month	Quantity allotted per month (in tonnes)
January to August, 1986.	31573
September and October, 1986	36620 (includes 5047 tonnes of Festival quota).
November and December, 1986.	31573

Setting up of new sugar mills under new sugar policy

2144. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHO-SALE :

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :

is periodically monitored so that the bottlenecks are removed.

Sugar quota for Bihar

2143. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sugar quota has been increased to 3359 tonnes per month for Bihar; and

(b) the quota of sugar demanded by Bihar Government and the allocation made during 1986, month-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Monthly levy sugar quotas are not allotted on the basis of demand/request received from State Governments but on certain uniform norms. The monthly levy sugar quota of Bihar has been increased from 31573 tonnes to 33459 tonnes from February, 1987 onwards. The monthly allotment of levy sugar to Bihar during 1986 was as under :—

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

(a) Statewise break up of sugar mills proposed to be set up in the country during the years 1987 to 1989 in each sector; and

(b) the criteria decided for setting up

of these new sugar mills under new sugar policy ?

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

(a) There is no State-wise and Sector-wise predetermined number of new sugar mills to be set up during the years 1987 to 1989. Setting up of new sugar mills would depend upon adequate availability of sugarcane in an area. Persons intending to set up sugar mills in such areas are required to submit applications through the State Governments satisfying the guidelines issued recently in this regard.

(b) Guidelines for licensing of new sugar mills during the Seventh Five Year Plan have been announced vide Press Note dated the 2nd January, 1987 issued by the Department of Industrial Development as per copy attached.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4001/87]

Excess capacity in tyre industry

2145. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is excess capacity in the tyre industry;

(b) if so, the reasons for issuing more letters of intent for tyre manufacture;

(c) the effect of excess capacity on the tyre prices; and

(d) the steps being taken to prevent the industry going stick due to unused excess capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Refractory units facing closure

2146. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether several refractory units are facing closure in various parts of the country due to the problems of over capacity as reported in the Economic Times of February 15, 1987; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to avoid stickness in the industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No specific report about the closure of refractory units in the country has been received. Assistance for upgradation of technology is being provided to the industry. Reduction in import duty on some raw materials used by the industry is also proposed in the Finance Bill, 1987.

Removal of Nail cutters from reserved list

2147. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY :

SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether protection to the small scale sector is given by reserving certain items for manufacture in that sector;

(b) whether such reserved list has been undergoing frequent amendments and changes from time to time;

(c) if so, the changes thus made each time during the last three years; and

(d) the reasons for making these changes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): Yes, Sir. Reservation grants protection to small scale units by preventing fresh capacities being created in the large scale sector in areas or items which are techno-economically suitable for being taken up in the small scale sector, the only exception being the case of large units which undertake a certain level of exports as a percentage of their total production.

(b) Items are added to or deleted from the reserved list, from time to time, based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Reservation constituted by the Government under the IDR Act. This Committee takes into account all relevant aspects while submitting their recommendations to the Government.

(c) Changes have been made to the reserved list four times since 1984 vide Government of India Notifications dated the 18th October, 1984, the 30th May 1986, the 30th October 1986 and the 13th February 1987. Under these Notifications 9 items were added, 31 items were deleted and changes in the nomenclature of items were made in respect of 34 items. Nail cutters were deleted from the reserved list vide Government of India Notification, dated 30.5.1986.

(d) Changes by way of reservation and dereservation are made on the basis of the following criteria :—

Criteria for Reservation

The overwhelming consideration for reservation of an item is its suitability and feasibility for being made in the small-scale sector without compromising on quality aspects. The Advisory Committee makes its recommendations after taking into consideration;

(a) The nature of any article or class of articles which may be produced economically by the ancillary or small-scale industrial undertakings;

(b) The level of employment likely to be generated by the production of of such article or class of articles by the ancillary or small-scale industrial undertakings;

(c) The possibility of encouraging and diffusing entrepreneurship in industry?

(d) The prevention of concentration of economic power to the common detriment; and

(e) Such other matters as the Committee may think fit.

Criteria for Dereservation

The Advisory Committee makes its recommendations for dereservation on the basis of following criteria :

(a) Industries where large imports are being allowed and/or where large scale smuggling is taking place.

(b) Industries in high technology areas or those requiring greater impetus for promoting exports which should necessarily be of large size in order to reduce costs and be competitive internationally.

(c) Industries where because of constraints on size, the small scale sector is unable to ensure quality production and cannot provide in-house R & D nor can it induct modern technology.

Drilling for natural gas at Sivala, East Godavari

2148. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether drilling for natural gas was carried out at Sivala village in East Godavari district; and

(b) if so, the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) A well was drilled at Draksharama near Sivala village in East Godavari District. However, no hydrocarbons were discovered.

Import of technology for conversion kits for running cars on natural gas

2149. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to import technology for conversion kits for use in cars—both petrol and diesel, for running the cars on natural gas;

(b) whether this will be much cheaper than petrol and diesel cars and will also reduce air pollution;

(c) if so, when this is likely to be implemented; and

(d) whether gas filling stations for supplying gas to the cars will also be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (d) ONGC have converted one gasoline and one diesel vehicle to enable them to run natural gas by importing kits from Italy. They are planning to convert ten vehicles each of their fleet and of Gujarat State Transport Corporation to run on natural gas. This is a pilot project for testing the suitability of compressed natural gas in Indian conditions and examining its feasibility.

International subscribers dialling system in Port Blair

2150. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International subscribers dialling system has been introduced in Port Blair;

(b) if so, the number and names of the countries which have been connected by the system;

(c) whether such a system will be introduced in Lakshadweep islands also; and

(d) if so, the time likely to be taken in introducing the system there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes Sir, the International Subscriber Dialling facility is available in the outgoing direction from Port Blair.

(b) 15 countries have been connected by the system for outgoing ISD Calls from port Blair :

1. Australia
2. Austria
3. Belgium
4. France
5. West Germany (FRG)
6. Hong Kong
7. Italy
8. Japan
9. Malaysia
10. Netherlands
11. Singapore
12. Turkey
13. U. K.
14. U. S. A.
15. U. S. S. R.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) National Subscriber Dialling facility is planned to be introduced during the 7th plan period. International dialling facility will be introduced after that when resources become available to provide the circuits that will be needed to carry the additional traffic.

Reforms in urban litigation

2151. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Law Commission has made suggestions for reforms in urban litigation other than metropolitan areas and for uniformity in labour adjudication;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which these reforms are likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c) The Government have not received any report in this regard from the Law Commission.

[Harnessing of solar energy

2152. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka Government had submitted a pilot scheme for harnessing solar energy in some villages of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the number of villages in different districts selected for this purpose;

(c) when this scheme was sent to the Centre for its approval;

(d) whether the approval has been given; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) A proposal for electrification of 25 villages in 13 districts in Karnataka using solar photovoltaic modules was submitted in November, 1985.

(d) The proposal had been approved in mid, 1986 according to the norms of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and implementation is in progress.

(e) Does not arise.

Setting up of Super Thermal Power Station in Karnataka

2153. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Karnataka had sent a proposal for the setting up of 2000 MW Super Thermal Power Station in coastal area;

(b) if so, when was the proposal sent;

(c) the amount of financial assistance sought for; and

(d) whether Union Government have cleared the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Self-sufficiency in oil

2154. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

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

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Commission has formulated a strategy not merely to achieve self-sufficiency in oil within the next 10 years but to strike a more balanced demand and production ratio;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this regard;

(c) whether any schemes have been initiated by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in this regard; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether USA Government have agreed to supply rigs for exploration in Nurpur in Kangra district ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) ONGC have drawn up a perspective plan which projects a demand of 75 million tonnes of oil by 2005 A.D., subject to adoption of stringent conservation measures. The plan contemplates strategies of oil production between 50 to 60 million tonnes by that time

(c) The schemes for exploration and production of hydrocarbons in the Seventh Plan are to be dovetailed with the perspective plan.

(d) No, Sir. The contract has been awarded to M/s Essar Constructions Co. who propose to deploy a rig of US make on charter hire for Nurpur.

URI Hydel Project

2155. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI S. M. GURADDI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have asked the National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation to take up the preliminary work of the 480 MW Uri Hydel Project;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for the preliminary work of the Project;

(c) whether any decision in regard to selection of a foreign contractor for turnkey execution has been taken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The National Hydroelectric Power Corporation have been authorised to undertake the pre-construction works of the Uri Hydro-electric Project at an estimated cost of Rs 25.50 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Tenughat Thermal Power Project, Bihar

2156. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI S. M. GURADDI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tenughat Thermal Power Project at Lalpasia in Giridhi district Bihar, has been unduly delayed for want of funds, lack of infrastructure, delayed land acquisition and non-rehabilitation of displaced persons;

(b) if so, whether the work on the project is far behind the schedule; and

(c) if so, the efforts made to complete the project on schedule ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) Tenughat Thermal Power Project in Bihar envisaging commissioning of the first unit in June, 1985 and second unit in June, 1986 has been delayed mainly on

account of delay in land acquisition and paucity of funds. The turn-key contract for the Project has been awarded to BHEL in February, 1986 envisaging commissioning of the first unit in September, 1989 and second unit in March, 1990.

(c) The need for effective project management is being constantly emphasised on State authorities. Central Electricity Authority is also closely monitoring the progress of the project and rendering necessary help to commission the units as now scheduled.

Allocations for development of telecommunication network

2157. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE :
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the allocations proposed for the development of the telecommunication network in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan period have been substantially reduced;

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

(c) the likely impact on the developmental programme in the various areas of telecommunication network; and

(d) the manner in which Government to achieve the targets envisaged in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir, the Planning Commission has allocated Rs.4010 crores to the Department of Telecommunication for the 7th Plan period against a minimum investment requirement of Rs. 11282 crores.

(b) Allocation is around 35.5% of the Minimum investment requirement. Resource constraints has been the cause for low allocation to the department.

(c) Overall physical targets were reduced proportionately.

(d) The targets envisaged within the Rs.4010 crore plan outlay are expected to be achieved fully.

Supreme Court judgement in Shriram Food and Fertilisers Ltd. case

2158. DR. DATTA SAMANT :
SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken note of the observations of the Supreme Court in Shriram Food and Fertilisers Ltd. case that "Enterprise engaged in hazardous and inherently dangerous industrial activity are absolutely liable to compensate the victims of any accident caused by the activity"; and

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to bring forward any legislation in this regard ?

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

(b) As a result of the Supreme Court judgement, enterprises engaged in hazardous inherently dangerous activity have been made liable to compensate the victims of accidents caused by their activity. The Government are examining the question whether a scheme for an adequate insurance cover to meet compensation cost arising out of such accidents could be introduced to provide for compensation for the victims.

Consumption of coal by National Thermal Power Stations and by Steel Cement and Paper Industries.

2159. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of coal utilised by the National Thermal Stations out of the total coal produced in the country; and

(b) the percentage of coal consumed by the steel mills, cement industry and paper industry respectively in the year 1986?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The percentage of off-take of coal by the power stations of National Thermal Power Corporation out of total production of CIL during 1986 was 7.08% and the percentage of supply of coal to Power Stations of NTPC by Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. out of their total production during 1986 was 16%.

(b) (1) The percentage of raw coal despatched to SAIL Steel Plants against total coal production of CIL in 1986; and off-take by the Cement and Labour industries from CIL sources against total production of CIL in 1986 was as under :-

(i) SAIL steel plants	14.02%
(ii) Cement industries	4.3%
(iii) Paper industries	1.7%

(2) The percentage of coal supplied to steel, cement and paper industry during 1986 in terms of coal production of SCCL during 1986 was as under :

(a) Steel (sponge iron)	0.5%
(b) Cement	12%
(c) Paper	2.7%

Production of Paper

2160. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of paper mills which have failed to declare dividends in the years 1984, 1985 and 1986;

(b) the total production of paper in the year 1986;

(c) whether there is any export market for the papers produced in India;

(c) the total consumption of bamboo and raw wood by all the paper mills in year 1986; and

(e) whether the present position of forest produce will be able to sustain any additional growth of the paper industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The information is not being centrally maintained.

(b) The production of paper and paper of board during 1986 is estimated at 16 lakh tonnes.

(c) There is scope for export of certain varieties of paper to South East Asian countries, provided the Indian Paper Industry can offer their products at competitive prices.

(d) Exact information about the total consumption of bamboo and wood by all the paper mills in the country during 1985 is not available. However, it is estimated that about 12 lakh tonnes of bamboo and 10 lakh tonnes of wood were consumed by large paper mills during 1986.

(e) The present availability of forest produce in the country is not considered sufficient to sustain additional growth of the industry based on forest raw materials. However, the Paper Industry utilises, apart from forest raw materials, various agricultural residues and wastes, bagasse etc. for manufacture of paper and paperboard. In order to increase the availability of cellulosic raw materials for the industry, Government have liberalised the import of pulp, wood logs and chips and waste paper.

Rihand Super Thermal Project

2161. SHRIMATI BASAVARA-JESWARI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Canada has offered to take up on a turnkey basis thermal and hydel projects in the country;

(b) if so, whether Canada is willing to finance these projects;

(c) whether the United Kingdom has also offered to take up the second stage of the Rihand Super Thermal Project on the same terms as those of the first stage; and

(d) whether both the offers have been considered by Government and if so, by what time the final decision will be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) Canada has evinced interest in setting up certain Thermal and Hydel projects in the country alongwith financing arrangements.

(c) and (d) The U. K. Government have evinced interest in financing the second stage of the Rihand Super Thermal Power Project. A detailed offer has not been received. There is no proposal from Canada.

National Conference on telecommunication mission

2163. SHRIMATI BASAVARA-JESWARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Conference on Telecommunication Mission has suggested a common network for large volume users like Defence, Railways, ONGC etc;

(b) if so, the details of suggestions made in the conference;

(c) whether Government have examined all the suggestions; and

(d) what efforts are being made to implement them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) It was suggested in the National Conference on Telecom. Mission that public long distance network should be planned and operated in the State Sector by a single agency, to meet the demand of all users, Government and non-Government to optimise national resources.

(b) Other suggestion made in the Conference relate to telecommunication activities like policy and strategies, Technology, R&D, Organisation, and Administration, Manpower, Networks, Production, Services etc.

(c) and (d) In some of the important areas task forces have been constituted to study and make suitable recommendations.

[Translation]

Exploration work by ONGC as joint venture in other countries

2164. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA ; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has decided to undertake exploration work as a joint venture in other countries;

(b) if so, the names of those countries and the terms and conditions on the basis of which this decision has been taken and the reasons for undertaking such joint ventures abroad; and

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to the ONGC as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (c) Government of India cooperate with certain foreign countries in the areas of hydrocarbon industry. Government of India and the Government of Socialist Republic of Vietnam have agreed, in principle, to cooperate for exploration of hydrocarbons in Vietnam.

Rate of electricity in cities and villages

2165. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rate for supply of electricity in cities is 55 paise per unit whereas it is 16 paise per unit in villages; and

(b) if so, the reasons for supplying electricity in villages at such a low rate ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The tariffs for various categories of consumers are fixed by the respective State Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments and differ from State to State and from category to category.

Writing off of losses incurred by Public Sector Undertaking

2166. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the losses incurred by public sector undertakings under the Department of Public Enterprises have been written off;

(b) if not, the time by which these will be written off; and

(c) the names of the public undertakings whose losses have been written off and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) to (c) Decision to write off the losses incurred by Triveni Structural Ltd., Richardson & Cruddas Ltd., Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd., Burn Standard Co. Ltd., Bharat Brakes & Valves Ltd., Braithwaite, Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation and Jessops has been taken primarily with a view to providing a reasonable capital base to the companies on a prospective basis.

Proposals to write off losses of loss-making companies are processed on the merits of each case.

[English]

Hotlines for rapid communication between New Delhi and Capitals of foreign countries

2167. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to design hotlines with a view to providing rapid communication between New Delhi and important Capitals of foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of ring power generation around Capital

2168. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to

set-up a 400 KV Ring Power Generation Plant around the Capital in near future;

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

(c) the funds allocated for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir. A 400 KV power transmission ring around Delhi has been planned to meet the future power requirement of Delhi.

(b) The project envisages construction of 102 k.m. of 400 KV double circuit lines from Mandaula to Bawana, Bawana to Bamnoli (Bijwasan) and Bamnoli to Bal-labagarh with 400/220 KV substations at Bawana and Bamnoli,

(c) The project is estimated to cost about Rs. 114 crores which would be allocated in a phased manner during the remaining three years of the Seventh Plan and early Eighth Plan period. During 1987-88, a provision of Rs. 10 crores has been made.

[Translation]

Objectives of National Drugs and Pharmaceutical Authority

2169. SHRI MADAN PANDEY :

SHRI NARSING SURYA-
WANSHI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the objectives for setting up of National Drug and Pharmaceutical Authority; and

(b) the time by which it is proposed to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The National Drug and Pharmaceutical Authority is being set up with the objective of ensuring rational use of drugs by adequately testing their therapeutic efficacy and other matters related to a balanced development of the pharmaceutical industry.

(b) The time frame for setting up of NDPA, as indicated in the measures for Rationalisation Quality Control and Growth of Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry in India, is one year.

Assistance to chemical industries

2170. SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Will the Minister INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to give any additional assistance to chemical industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c) Though no special financial assistance has been given to chemical industries, however with a view to give an impetus to production, certain chemicals have recently been delicensed and some other broad-banded.

[English]

Bench of Madras High Court at Madurai

2171. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 8139 on 29 April, 1986 regarding bench of Madras High Court at Madurai and state :

(a) whether any decision has since been taken by Government;

(b) if so, when the bench of Madras High Court will be set up at Madurai; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c) The recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission on the proposal of the Government of Tamil Nadu for establishment of a Bench of the Madras High Court at Madurai were referred to the State Government in October, 1986 for their views and comments. These have not so far been received.

Marriage dispute cases for Lok Adalats

2172. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the marriage dispute cases are proposed to be settled in Lok Adalats; and

(b) whether more Lok Adalats are proposed to be set up to attend to these cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes, some marriage dispute cases have been settled by Lok Adalats.

(b) At present, no such proposal is under consideration.

Proposal to set up Optical Fibre Cables and System Project by Hindustan Cables Ltd. in Orissa

2173. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Optical Fibre Cables and System Project is proposed to be set up by Hindustan Cables Ltd. in Orissa;

(b) if so, the site finalised for the location of the project; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the proposal expeditiously ?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Upgradation of branch post offices in Mahboob Nagar, Andhra Pradesh

2174. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of branch post offices in the villages of Mahboob Nagar district in Andhra Pradesh, having population of eight thousand, ten thousand, fifteen thousand and above;

(b) whether there is a proposal to upgrade the branch post offices and sub offices in the villages having population upto ten thousand and full fledged post offices for the villages having population more than ten thousand;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is expected to be taken; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor in respect of the backward State of Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEB) : (a) All such villages in Mahboob Nagar district of Andhra Pradesh do have full-fledged departmental sub-post offices. The names of these post offices are shown in the Statement given below.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. There is no proposal to upgrade post offices on the basis of population. Upgradation of an extra-departmental post office to the status of a departmental sub post office depends on workload and the loss likely to be incurred. This is the general position applicable to all areas including Andhra Pradesh.

Statement

Names of Post Offices in villages in Mahboobnagar district of Andhra Pradesh with population of eight thousand and above.

1. Kodangal (backward)
2. Narayanpet
3. Utkur
4. Makithal
5. Jadcherla
6. Bādepalli
7. Farooqnagar
8. Katwakurthy (backward)
9. Amangal (backward)
10. Nagarkurnool
11. Wanaparthy
12. Kotbakota
13. Amarchinta
14. Gadwal (backward)
15. Iecza
16. Afampur
17. Kollapur
18. Atchampet (backward)
19. Lingal (backward)
20. Amrabad (backward)

I.S.D. facility in Andhra Pradesh

2175. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the cities in Andhra Pradesh where I.S.D. (international Subscriber Dialling) facility has been introduced during the last three years;

(b) the number of cities in Andhra Pradesh that are covered under I.S.D. facility as on 31st January, 1987;

(c) whether the number of cities in Andhra Pradesh covered under I.S.D. is much less than that of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Kerala; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to bring uniformity to the maximum extent to increase the I.S.D. facilities in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) The names of the cities in Andhra Pradesh where ISD facility has been introduced during the last three years are as follows : Hyderabad, Adilabad Adoni, Ahantpur, Cuddappah, Quntakal, Karimnagar, Khamman, Mehbubnagar, Nalgonda, Nandyal, Sangareddy, Proddatur, Warrangal, Hanumakunda, Kazipet, Kurnool, Patancheru, Gulbarga, Bidar, Linganpalli, Hindpur, Nizamabad, Vijayawada, Anakapalla, Bhimavaram, Chilekaluripet, Gudivada, Kakinada, Machilipatnam, Ongolo, Palakolo, Rajamundry, Srikakulam, Tadepalligudem, Tenali, Vishakhapatnam, Vijianagaram, Duggirala Nandigama, Tanuku, Poranki Mangalagiri, Cannavaram, Guntur, Elluru.

(b) In Andhra Pradesh, 46 cities are covered under ISD facility as on 31st January, 1987.

(c) No, Sir.

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

Agreement between India and Soviet Union in the field of Telecommunications

2176. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement between India and the Soviet Union for further cooperation in the field of telecommunications has been signed recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which both the countries will be benefited and the States in India that will be taken up first under this agreement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) A Protocol and a programme of long-term cooperation in the field of Telecommunications and postal services were signed on 14.2.1987.

(b) The salient features are:—

- (i) Developing existing telecommunication facilities between the two country.
- (ii) Promote research and applied work in the field of satellite communication.
- (iii) Joint production of communication equipment and facilities
- (iv) Full scale introduction of international subscriber dialling.
- (v) Providing telecommunication transit traffic facilities to some third countries.
- (vi) Telecommunication facilities to industrial and other projects.
- (vii) Technical support to the festival of India in USSR and festival of USSR in India.

(viii) Leasing of the transponders on the Soviet communication satellite.

(ix) Scientific and technological collaboration and production cooperation.

(c) The work on providing full scale international subscriber dialling between the countries is in hand. The possibilities of concrete projects in other areas are being studied.

Demarcation of Southern States into zones for price fixation

2177. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have approached Union Government to include southern States in different zones for price fixation as a number of factories producing essential commodities are in serious financial difficulty ; and

(b) if so, the basis on which the zones are to be demarcated and the time by which it will be done ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) On the basis of available information, no such proposal has been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh to include Southern States in different zones for price fixation in respect of essential commodities.

(b) Does not arise

Amendments in electricity supply rules

2178. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Expert Committee is to frame guidelines for amendments in electricity supply rules by State Electricity Boards ; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Allocation of alcohol to States

2179. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued fresh guidelines regarding allocation of alcohol to various States ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government have been permitting exports of alcohol and molasses and also importing alcohol ; and

(d) if so, the rationale behind this policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) No specific guidelines for inter-state allocation of alcohol have been issued. However, in the background of the discussions in the Central Molasses Board Meeting held on 2nd January, 1987, a small variation made in the previous procedures is that the inter-state allocations are valid for half year only, and the quantity allocated in the first half of the year will be approximately two-third of the full year's realistic requirements.

(c) and (d) Exports & Imports are related to indigenous demand and availability. No export of alcohol and molasses had been allowed in the past two years. On the contrary, import of denatured alcohol was allowed during the period from February, 1985 to November, 1986

in order to supplement the indigenous availability for alcohol based chemical industries.

Approval of N.R.I. Projects

2181. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved nearly 500 Non-Resident Indian (NRI) projects ;

(b) if so, the category-wise break up of the industries ;

(c) whether these will be set up in urban areas only or in rural areas also ; and

(d) the State-wise break up thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Against the applications received from non-resident Indians for grant of industrial licence under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 for setting up industries in India, a total No. of 165 letters of intent/SIA Regns. have been issued to them since November, 1983 upto 31.12.1986.

(b) to (d) Details of letters of intent issued by the Govt. are mentioned in the 'Monthly Newsletter' published by the Indian Investment Centre, New Delhi copy of which is available in the Parliament Library. The projects are expected to be set up in urban and backward areas.

After sales service by Maruti dealers

2182. SHRI D. P. JADEJA :
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD
SINGH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware

of the shoddy service being given by Maruti dealers ;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to ensure a high quality after sales service ; and

(c) the action taken against erring Maruti dealers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) to (c) By and large, Maruti dealers are providing satisfactory service. Maruti Udyog Ltd. are expanding service network and bringing in a greater degree of competition amongst their dealers for further improving quality of service.

Foodgrains for drought affected areas in Maharashtra

2183. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to supply foodgrains to the drought affected Maharashtra State in the near future ;

(b) if so, the quantum of foodgrains proposed to be supplied to Maharashtra State ; and

(c) to what extent the supply will meet the State's requirement to face drought ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra has been allotted 2,00,000 tonnes of wheat and 1,50,000 tonnes of rice for Public Distribution System during January-March, 1987 as against 1,80,000 tonnes of wheat and 1,20,000 tonnes of rice in corresponding period last year.

(c) With the increased allocations this year, the requirement of the State has been met to a considerable extent.

Foreign collaboration proposals

2184. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals for foreign collaboration approved by Government since 1984, country-wise, till date ; and

(b) the total amount of money involved in these collaborations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Two statements (I and II) showing the country-wise break-up and investment-wise break-up of all the approved foreign collaboration proposals during the period 1984 to 1986 are given below. The statistical information about foreign collaboration approvals is maintained calendar year-wise.

Statement-I

Country-wise break up of the foreign collaboration approvals during 1984 to 1986.

Sl. No.	Name of the Country of Collaboration.	1984		1985		1986	
		Tot.	Fin.	Tot.	Fin.	Tot.	Fin.
1.	2.	3	3a	4	4a	5	5a.
1.	Argentina	—	—	—	—	1	—

1	2	3	3a	4	4a	5	5a
2.	Australia	2	—	7	—	9	3
3.	Austria	8	1	14	4	16	6
4.	Bahama	—	—	1	1	—	—
5.	Bebrain	1	1	1	1	—	—
6.	Belgium	5	4	9	2	6	—
7.	Bermuda	1	—	1	1	—	—
8.	Brazil	1	—	1	—	—	—
9.	Bulgaria	4	1	—	—	1	1
10.	Canada	8	2	15	6	15	6
11.	Cay Island Br. W. Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Czechoslovakia	1	—	7	—	4	1
13.	Denmark	6	1	12	1	7	2
14.	Dubai	—	—	—	—	2	2
15.	Fario Island	—	—	1	1	—	—
16.	F.R.G.	135	19	180	36	183	40
17.	Finland	2	1	4	1	5	1
18.	France	38	5	61	8	39	9
19.	G.D.R.	11	—	12	—	6	—
20.	Greece	—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Hong Kong	2	1	5	1	9	3
22.	Hungary	6	3	2	—	2	2
23.	Iran	—	—	—	—	1	1
24.	Ireland	1	—	—	—	—	—
25.	Italy	37	4	56	11	58	8
26.	Japan	78	5	108	15	111	15
27.	Jordan	—	—	1	1	—	—
28.	Korea south	3	—	5	—	14	1

1	2	3	3a	4	4a	5	5a
29.	Kuwait	2	2	—	—	—	—
30.	Lebanon	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Liberua	—	—	1	1	—	—
32.	Luxemberg	1	—	—	—	1	—
33.	Malayasia	—	—	—	—	2	2
34.	Mexico	—	—	2	1	1	1
35.	Netherland	14	—	16	3	26	11
36.	Newzealand	—	—	—	—	1	—
37.	Norway	5	—	3	1	7	3
38.	Poland	1	—	2	—	2	—
39.	Purtugal	—	—	2	1	—	—
40.	Romania	1	—	—	—	1	—
41.	Saudi Arabia	—	—	—	—	1	1
42.	Singapore	3	2	5	2	3	1
43.	Spain	2	—	3	—	7	2
44.	Sri Lanka	—	—	1	1	—	—
45.	Sweden	14	5	29	4	29	7
46.	Switzerland	30	4	42	4	32	8
47.	Taiwan	4	1	6	—	6	1
48.	Thailand	2	—	1	—	—	—
49.	U.A.E.	1	1	2	2	—	—
50.	U K.	127	16	147	26	130	23
51.	U.S.A.	146	36	197	66	189	71
52.	U.S.S.R.	1	—	4	—	5	—
53.	Yugoslavia	—	—	6	—	—	—
54.	N.R.I.	48	36	52	36	25	8
Total		752	151	1024	238	957	240

Statement-II

Country-wise break-up of foreign investment approved during 1984 to 1986.

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	1984	1985	1986
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Argentina	—	—	—
2.	Australia	—	—	59.20
3.	Austria	0.40	103.20	36.00
4.	Bahama	—	75.00	—
5.	Belgium	46.70	268.00	—
6.	Baharain	6480.00	0.30	—
7.	Bermuda	—	40.00	—
8.	Brazil	—	—	—
9.	Bulgaria	12.00	—	8.00
10.	Canada	35.00	247.00	138.00
11.	Cay Island (Br. W. Indies)	—	—	—
12.	Czechoslovakia	—	—	90.00
13.	Denmark	25.00	24.00	66.00
14.	Dubai	—	—	55.00
15.	Fario Island	—	8.00	—
16.	F.R.G.	284.49	1180.808	2015.73
17.	Finland	21.00	19.95	360.00
18.	France	121.80	235.50	204.82
19.	G.D.R.	—	—	—
20.	Greece	—	—	—
21.	Hongkong	20.00	8.00	91.10
22.	Hungary	29.98	—	70.00
23.	Iran	—	—	3.62
24.	Ireland	—	—	—
25.	Italy	77.00	694.75	232.95

1	2	3	4	5
26.	Japan	615.22	1567.62	561.61
27.	Jordan	—	5.00	—
28.	Korea (South)	—	—	6.25
29.	Kuwait	28.16	—	—
30.	Lebanon	—	—	—
31.	Liberia	—	3.90	—
32.	Luxemberg	—	—	—
33.	Malaysia	—	—	21.00
34.	Mexico	—	4.00	80.00
35.	Netherland	—	40.00	726.60
36.	Newzealand	—	—	—
37.	Norway	—	650.00	192.00
38.	Poland	—	—	—
39.	Portugal	—	80.00	—
40.	Romania	—	—	—
41.	Saudi Arabia	—	—	40.00
42.	Singapore	24.60	37.00	25.00
43.	Spain	—	—	299.00
44.	Sri Lanka	—	11.00	—
45.	Sweden	142.25	80.65	475.15
46.	Switzerland	44.00	84.40	325.287
47.	Taiwan	2.40	—	14.00
48.	Thailand	—	—	—
49.	U.A.E.	750.00	871.42	—
50.	U.K.	181.26	370.65	771.53
51.	U.S.A.	894.97	3992.49	2936.9095
52.	U.S.S.R.	—	—	—
53.	Yugoslavia	—	—	—
54.	N.R.I.	1463.99	1904.01	790.40
Total		11300.22	12606.648	10695.1565

**Production of electronic digital switching
for telephone system**

2185. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to Swedish research study, India has paid over three times more than the Brazilians for obtaining similar know how for the production of electronic digital switching for the telephone system;

(b) whether this has landed India in a high cost technology;

(c) whether any efforts were made to find out from different sources as to on what terms this technology was sold to other countries; and

(d) what are the other findings of the research study about our telecom. industry and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Government is aware of the study published by two Swedish nationals. It is true that the study stated that India has paid nearly three times compared to the Brazilians for obtaining similar know-how for the production of the electronic digital switching systems. However, at the same time the study also mentioned that the Indians have managed to get better terms during the final negotiations in connection with the price of the product.

The comparisons made by the study are not strictly valid because of the following reasons :

- (i) The transfer of technology in case of Brazil was from a Swedish multinational firm to a Brazilian joint venture in which the multinational holds major shares (to the extent of 64%) while in case of India, the Government has bought the technology out-

right from M/s. CIT Alcatel of France.

- (ii) The Swedish multinational has also supplied 8,00,000 lines of electronic switching systems to Brazil compared to only 2,00,000 lines imported by India from CIT Alcatel of France. The study, as stated earlier has brought out that India has managed to get better terms in this respect.

However, as per the information available in the study, a full comparison is not possible.

(b) No, Sir. In view of what has been stated above.

(c) India had invited global tenders for obtaining know-how for electronic digital switching systems in which the Swedish multi-national did not participate. The technical evaluation of the tender bids revealed that M/s. CIT Alcatel of France were the only manufacturer who met the required conditions in regard to provenness of the equipment. Based on this, and a bilateral Government to Government offer, it was decided to enter into an agreement with M/s. CIT Alcatel.

(d) The main findings of the study about our telecom industry are given below :

- (1) From a situation existing at the time of Independence when virtually there was no indigenous technological capability, India has progressed to an extent where increasing amounts of telecom equipment are produced within the country and the development of this sector rests in our hands and does not depend solely on external factors.
- (2) A competitive element has been introduced in the equipment sector where private sector companies in some areas have been allowed to enter

the areas traditionally reserved for the state sector. Given the strict regulations involved in the new policy, however, it is not self-evident that the desired increase in competition and efficiency will materialize.

- (3) One reason for the present low quality of products and services is the restrictions imposed on the sector e.g. on import of components. These restrictions are obviously intended to enhance the indigenous technological capability and to substitute for local production in the long run. However, in short run, these restrictions adversely effects the quality of the output in the sector.
- (4) There is a need not only for a policy clearly defining the objectives, but also for a policy flexible enough to recognize and take into account the sometimes conflicting short term and long term objectives.

Government have taken note of the views expressed in the study by the 2 Swedish Research Scientists.

Package offer to private sector in power

2186. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to have a fresh look at the package offer to the private sector to attract investment in power;

(b) the hurdles pointed out by the private sector prohibiting acceptance of package offer; and

(c) the steps taken to remove the hurdles ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) The policy regarding private sector participation in power generation continues to be regulated by the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956. The Resolution does not preclude private sector participation in power generation when the national interest so requires.

The difficulties indicated by the private sector mainly relate to the quantum of investment, return on investment and import of equipment & customs duty, etc. Specific proposals from private enterprises for installing generating capacity would be examined on merits in the context of the additionality of resources proposed to be brought in.

Reserved trained pool staff in R. M S.

2187. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Reserved Trained Pool Staff Sorting Assistants working in RMS in different circles and since when;

(b) after how many years of service they are normally taken as regular Sorting Assistants in the Department;

(c) the norms in this regard;

(d) whether it is a fact that in the RMS 'B' Division, Pune there are some Short Duty Assistants working on daily wages as mail sorters since 1982; and

(e) if so, when they are likely to be absorbed in the Department on regular basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) A statement showing the number of R.T.P. Sorting Assistants in the R.M.S. in diffe-

rent Circles with the split indicating their year of selection is given below.

(b) and (c) Their services are regularised in their turn, on availability of vacancies.

(d) In the RMS 'B' Division, Pune, 30 R.T.P. Sorting Assistants selected dur-

ing the IInd half year recruitment e.g. 1982 are working since October, 1983 and they are being engaged on short duty on hourly rate of wages based on requirement of work.

(e) They will be absorbed on regular basis on availability of vacancies.

Statement

Number of R. T. P. sorting assistant working in the R. M. S. offices in different postal circles.

Circle	Year of selection				Total
	1980	1981	1982	1983	
Rajasthan	—	—	60	1	61
Tamilnadu	—	105	263	57	425
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	84	84
North West	—	—	146	8	154
Madhya Pradesh	—	—	80	9	89
North East	—	—	5	3	8
Kerala	—	—	119	98	217
Gujarat	—	—	82	53	135
Orissa	—	—	—	1	1
Karnataka	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	—	1	—	78	79
Maharashtra	—	21	104	5	130
Delhi	—	—	108	60	168
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—
Andhra Pradesh	4	79	230	28	341
Bihar	—	—	3	87	90
Total	4	206	1200	572	1982

Research and development by public enterprises

2188. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for putting in more and more research and development efforts by the public enterprises for assimilating and improving the technology, producing better products and cutting down costs;

(b) how Government propose to implement the idea of joint development projects; and

(c) whether it will be on a sectoral basis or for enterprises functioning in similar or allied activities ?

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

Amendment to Companies Act

2189. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals for amendments to the Companies Act have been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Draft legislation for amending the Companies Act, is to be finalised.

(b) Does not arise.

Clearance to gas-based power stations at Kawas and Mahuva

2190. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to set up gas based power stations at Kawas and Mahuva have been cleared by Union Government;

(b) if so, the details of financial assistance allocated therefor; and

(c) the time by which the power stations are likely to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) The National Thermal Power Corporation are setting up a gas-based power project at Kawas at an estimated cost of Rs. 410.84 crores (including transmission system). An amount of Rs. 3108 crores has been proposed to be allocated for the project for 1987-88. The first gas turbine unit would be commissioned in 24 months from the date of award of turn-key contract for the main plant equipment, with subsequent units following at intervals of two months each thereafter. The first steam turbine unit would be commissioned in 36 months from the date of award of turn-key contract and the second unit four months thereafter.

The proposal to set up a gas-based power plant at Mahuva was received from the Gujarat Electricity Board in August, 1979 but was not pursued owing to non-availability of gas. The State Electricity Board were informed accordingly in July, 1980.

Implementation of Bureau of Indian standards Act, 1986

2191. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 has been brought into force;

(b) if not, by what date the Act will come into force;

(c) whether the Indian Standards Institutions has been wound up;

(d) the number of new articles proposed to be added to the "scheduled industry" under the new Act, in the interest of consumers; and

(e) the measures Government propose to take for effective implementation of the Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) With effect from 1st April, 1987.

(c) No, Sir. The assets, liabilities and the staff of Indian Standards Institution will be taken over by the Bureau on its establishment and it will perform all functions which are now being performed by the Indian Standards Institution.

(d) The scheduled industry has been defined and listed under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. Section 14 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 empowers the Central Government to notify any article or process of any scheduled industry to conform to the relevant Indian Standard and direct the use of the Standard Mark under a licence as compulsory on such article or process.

(e) Some provisions contained in the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, such as, power of Central Government to bring any article or process under mandatory certification marking scheme; the powers given to Inspecting Officers of the Bureau for search and seizure; enhancement of penalty for improper use of Standard

Mark; right given to a consumer or recognised association of consumers to file complaint in a court of law against any person who contravene the provision of sections 11, 12, 14 and 15 of the Act, will help in effective implementation of the Act.

Expansion of postal network

2192. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a plan for large scale expansion of postal network in the country during Seventh Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the targets proposed to be achieved during 1987-88;

(d) whether the expansion plan includes opening of new post offices and delivery centres;

(e) if so, the number of post offices and delivery centres proposed to be opened in the Seventh Plan period; and

(f) whether delivery centres, closed during the Sixth Plan period, including the ones in the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu would be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) At present there are 144127 Post Offices in the country as a whole, out of which 15980 are in urban areas, and 128147 are in rural areas. Besides, there are also 753 licensed postal agencies in different parts of the country. This network is quite extensive and does not call for further expansion on a large scale.

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

(c) Heads of Circles have been asked to carry out surveys with reference to the

norms newly introduced to identify areas where a genuine need for postal facilities exists. Depending on the results of the surveys and subject to approval of the Ministry of Finance in the context of the ban on creation of posts, new post offices may be opened particularly in hilly, tribal and backward areas but it is not practicable to specify the number of such post office at this stage.

(d) and (e) As regards new post offices the position has been explained in the reply to part (c) above. All the new post offices opened in rural areas are generally delivery post offices.

(f) There are occasions when delivery work entrusted to a post office is withdrawn and the area merged in the delivery jurisdiction of a large office as a measure of rationalisation and due to other operational considerations. There is no withdrawal or curtailment of service as such. Therefore, such cases are not normally re-opened unless there are special circumstances warranting a review.

Exploration for power in Orissa

2193. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have surveyed some of the hot springs in the country to explore the possibility of harnessing power from them;

(b) whether a large number of hot springs are there in Orissa;

(c) whether these have been surveyed and if so, the potential of these springs and the steps taken to harness energy from them; and

(d) If they have not been surveyed, the reasons for excluding them from the countrywide survey ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI BUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Some of

the hot spring areas in the country such as Manikaran in the Parbati Valley (HP), and West Coast (Maharashtra) have been surveyed and surveys in areas like Puga in Ladakh (J&K) and Tattapani in District Sarguja (MP) are in progress to explore the possibility of harnessing power from geothermal energy.

(b) to (d) According to the Report of Hot Springs Committee five locations in Orissa had shown potential. In two of these areas namely, Attri & Tarbo'a in Puri District, geological mapping has been carried out. The actual potential can be established after carrying out geochemical investigations and exploratory drilling. The hot springs in Eastern India including Orissa had been given fifth priority by the Hot Spring Committee appointed by the Government of India in 1986

Applications for letters of intent recommended by Bihar

2194. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for letters of intent recommended by Government of Bihar during the last three years which are pending with the Ministry as on 31 December, 1986 ;

(b) the number of applications which have been pending for three months, six months, nine months, one year or more than one year ; and

(c) the reasons for delay in the consideration of such applications ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Out of the industrial licence applications received during the last three years upto 31st December, 1986 under the provisions of Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 for the grant of letters of intent for locating industries in Bihar, four proposals are under different stages of processing.

(b) and (c) Out of those four proposals, one is over 6 months, another one is within 3-6 months and the remaining 2 are within three months. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to dispose of all pending industrial licence applications as expeditiously as possible.

Manufacture of soap from coconut oil

2195. SHRI NARSINGH SURYAWANSHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Institute of Science and Technology of Philippines has developed a cold process for soap making in the rural areas which is especially suitable for all the tropical countries assured of an all year round supply of coconuts ;

(b) if so, whether experiments have been carried out in the coconut growing regions of the country so far ; and

(c) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Government do not have reliable information about the technology based on cold process for production of washing soap developed in Philippines. However, as the prices of coconut oil in India are very much higher as compared to those in Philippines, the application of the technology developed in Philippines is not feasible.

Check of quality of lubricant oil

2196. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a well-organised racket in spurious lubricating oils is flourishing in Delhi and other metropolitan cities whereby the bottom of the cans is opened, refilled with re-cycled oil and the base replaced thereby creating problems for the motorists ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action being taken to check quality of lubricating oils sold by petrol pumps on a regular basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) No such rackets have been reported in respect of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras. In Delhi, however, the West District Police have unearthed two illicit factories manufacturing lubricating oils and greases which were subsequently marketed under the trade names of reputed oil companies. Three cases have been registered by the Delhi Police at PS Nangloi vide FIR Nos. 78,79,80 dated 24-2-1987 u/ss 420/468/471, IPC, the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, and the Petroleum Act, 1934, as well as for violation of laws relating to copyright and trade mark. Twelve persons were arrested too.

(c) Samples of lubricating oils are drawn regularly from retail outlets and dealers marketing lubricants, and action is taken under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines whenever any irregularity is detected.

Engine of Maruti Cars

2197. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the engines of a large number of Maruti Cars have developed defects within the warranty period recently ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Expansion of Head Post Office Kanpur**

2198. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to expand the Head Post Office, Kanpur ; and

(b) If so, the time by which the work will start on this scheme and the details of the estimated cost and time involved therein ?

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

(b) The construction is expected to commence during 1987-88, subject to the municipal approval to the architectural drawings being received. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 54,34,000/—. The project is likely to be completed within two to three years' time from commencement.

*[English]***Thermal and hydel power stations in Maharashtra**

2199. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the new proposals for setting up of thermal and hydel power stations received from Maharashtra State ;

(b) since when these are lying with Union Government pending clearance ; and

(c) when these proposals are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) Details of the Power Projects of Maharashtra State Electricity Board awaiting investment approval of the Government of India are as under :—

Project	Installed Capacity	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)	Date of receipt in C.E.A.
Uran Waste Heat — I (T)	1 × 120 = 120	62.56	4/85
Uran Waste Heat — II & III	2 × 120 = 240	122.4	4/85

Approval of projects is contingent on a number of factors including availability of adequate resources, and tying up other necessary inputs. It is not practicable to indicate a specific time-frame for the approval of the projects.

Issue of licences for rice roller mills

2200. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have issued instructions to States that no rice mill licences should be issued unless the licence-holders replace the huller type mill into sheller type one ;

(b) if so, the reasons for this change ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the rural area licence-holders of rice mills are reluctant to this change over as it is very uneconomic for them ; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider this issue de novo ?

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

(a) and (b) The rice-milling industry is regulated, in the general interest, under the Rice-Milling Industry (Regulation) Act, 1948, and the Rice-Milling Industry (Regulation & Licensing) Rules, 1959. Under these laws, certain types of conventional rice mills are required to modernise their equipment in order to increase rice yield and produce better quality rice and bran.

(c) and (d) Licence-holders of existing single hullers are exempted from the modernisation condition, and other larger units has been given time till 31-7-1988 to do so.

Import of coconut oil

2201. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to import coconut oil ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) There is no proposal to import coconut oil.

(b) Does not arise.

Difficulties faced by FPS owners

2202. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the difficulties being faced by owners of fair price shops being run under the Public Distribution System ;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that cooperative societies work under the Agriculture and Food and Civil Supplies Ministers ;

(c) whether Government propose to make loans available to fair price shops

in the country from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development ; and

(d) if so, by what time and if no, the action being taken by Government to make good the losses suffered by the shopkeepers ?

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

(b) Cooperative Societies are registered under the Cooperative Societies Acts of the concerned States and are under the administrative and supervisory control of their Registrars.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present. However fair price shops are eligible for obtaining loans for their working capital requirements from commercial banks.

(d) States/UTs are primarily responsible for the organisation of the public distribution system in their respective States. They have already been advised by the Central Government to increase the commodity coverage of fair price shops to improve their economic viability.

Construction of gas collection station in East Godavari

2203. SHRI S. PALAKONDRAJU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a gas collection station in East Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh to collect the natural gas available in the wells at Tatpaka and Pasarlapudi ; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposal and the amount sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SARI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and

(b) Oil & Natural Gas Commission have commissioned a feasibility study and establishing gas collection and transportation facilities in the Krishna-Godavari basin.

On-going projects of National Thermal Power Corporation

2204. SHRI S. PALAKONDRA-UDU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated cost and the estimated power likely to be produced during Seventh Plan by the plants under National Thermal Power Corporation ; and

(b) the details of the on-going projects of National Thermal Power Corporation,

State-wise with cost break-ups and the amounts sanctioned to each project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The Seventh Plan approved outlay of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is Rs. 5559.80 crores. The additional generating capacity likely to be commissioned by the Corporation during this period is 7790 MW.

(b) Details of the on-going projects of the NTPC, State-wise, with approved costs and amounts sanctioned till February, 1987, are contained in the Statement given below.

Statement

Sl. No	Project/ (Capacity in MW)	State in which located	Approved cost (incl. Trans.) (Rs. crores)	Amount sanctioned till February, 1987 (Rs./crores)
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
A. Approved Projects				
1.	Singrauli (2000)	U.P.	1374.93	1088.37
2.	Korba (2100)	M.P.	1138.44	965.59
3.	Ramagundam (2100)	A.P.	1702.18	1036.67
4.	Farakka (1600)	W.B.	1626.21	618.00
5.	Vindhyachal (1260)	M.P.	1110.42	548.01
6.	Riband (1000)	U.P.	1614.70	541.55
7.	Kahalgaon (840)	Bihar	1058.64	33.95
8. Combined Cycle Gas Based Power Projects				
	(i) Auralya (600)	U.P.	472.28	1.00
	(ii) Anta (430)	Rajasthan	316.74	2.00
	(iii) Kawas (600)	Gujarat	410.84	3.00
	Total	(i) to (iii)	1199.86	

1	2	3	4	5
9. National Capital				
Thermal Power Project (840)		U.P.	1063.60	15.00
10. Central Transmission Project			354.85	20.60
			-----	-----
		Total 'A'	12243.83	4873.74

Development of catalyst for petrochemical industry

2205. SHRI S. PALAKONDRAY-UDU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, National Chemical Laboratory and the Associated Cement Company have developed a catalyst, vital for petrochemicals industry, known as "Encilite Catalyst" and "Xyloni-fing Process" ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Petro-chemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) started production of xylenes in 1973. For development of own technology aromatics production was identified as priority area and long range research programmes were taken up. The first major success of these efforts came in 1985 when IPCL commercialised the Encilite catalyst and the process for isomerisation of xylenes developed jointly with National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune and the Associated Cement Companies Limited (ACC). Thane.

This high-tech collaboration took shape when NCL developed a high silica zeolite catalyst (Encilite). Synthesis of improved versions of this new range zeolite catalyst

was further carried out between 1982 and 1984, and at the same time, the process for manufacture of this catalyst was standardised at catalyst manufacturing plant of the ACC. When process parameters were finally standardised, IPCL decided to take commercial trial of this new catalyst in the interest of development of advanced indigenous technology. This extensive research effort achieved success in June 1985 when IPCL charged its isomerisation reactor with Encilite Catalyst for commercial trials. The results were quite satisfactory. The catalyst not only proved its worth, but bettered the predicted performance criteria. IPCL in association with Engineers India Limited is now in a position to offer this process technology for future petrochemical projects in India and abroad.

Mobile Post Offices in rural areas of Maharashtra

2206. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start mobile post offices in rural areas in Maharashtra ; and

(b) if so, the programme for Vasi Taluka and Palghar Taluka in Thane District of Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

Haldia Petrochemical Complex

2207. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far for setting up of joint sector Haldia Petrochemical project in West Bengal ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the economic viability of the above project is being examined by financial institutions ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the initial estimate of Rs. 300 crores has now increased five times ;

(d) if so, what are the difficulties in early execution of the project ; and

(e) the steps proposed to overcome these difficulties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) As per available information M/s Haldia Petrochemicals Limited have acquired a project site of 1005 acres. Some site development and survey work has been completed. Licence and Basic Engineering Contracts have been finalised with several parties but not yet effectuated.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The estimate of the project cost as in September 1986 was reported to be Rs. 1345 crores.

(d) and (e) M/s Haldia Petrochemicals Limited have reportedly been following up with the financial institutions for early clearance of their term loan application. On sanction of term loan, they will be in a position to take up the project execution.

Introduction of mini electronic exchanges

2208. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce mini-electronic exchanges in the country ;

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

(c) the number of such electronic exchanges proposed to be introduced in Maharashtra in 1987-88 ?

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

(b) The details are given in the Statement below.

(c) Subject to availability of the proposal under the liberalised policy, a few exchanges are proposed to be introduced in Maharashtra during 1987-88. The stations are yet to be identified.

Statement**Details of Allotment of Mini-electronic Exchanges**

	Telecom. Circles	Units Allotted
1.	Andhra Pradesh	24
2.	Bihar	4
3.	Gujarat	1
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	1

1	2	3
5.	Karnataka	15
6.	Kerala	16
7.	Madhya Pradesh	3
8.	Maharashtra	35
9.	North East	20
10.	North West	2
11.	Orissa	2
12.	Rajasthan	30
13.	Tamil Nadu	20
14.	Uttar Pradesh	23
15.	West Bengal	2
16.	A.L.T.T.C.	1
Total :		200

Conversion of telephone exchanges in Maharashtra

2209. SMRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of telephone exchanges in Maharashtra which are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) how many of them will be converted by 1987-88; and

(c) what would be the anticipated cost of this conversion project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Following telephone exchanges are likely to be converted in the electronic exchanges during the Seventh Five Year Plan period.

Bombay-Khar-I, Mandvi-I, Gandevi-I, Nalgam, Byculla-I Matunga-I, Colaba,

Central, Panvel, Pune-Hadapsar, Nagpur-Maln, Kamptee, Hingna, Margao, Manmad, Dhatav, Gadchiroli, Chikhali, Kudal.

(b) Four please.

(c) The anticipated cost is about Rs. 84 crores.

New pay scale for F.C.I. employees

2210. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Fourth Pay Commission recommendations have been implemented in Food Corporation of India so far;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) when the new pay scales are likely to be introduced ?

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

(b) The Central Government, on the directives of the Supreme Court, has appointed a High Power Pay Committee to go into the various aspects relating to pay scales and other incidental matters in respect of employees of public sector enterprises, including Food Corporation India, which are on Central DA pattern.

(c) The High Power Pay Committee which has started functioning w.e.f. 1.12.1986 has been given one year's time to submit its report.

Duties on import of raw material by small scale industries and large scale industries

2211. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether duties levied on import of raw materials by both the small scale industries and large scale industries are the same;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the incentives proposed to be given to small scale industries in this context ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The import duty is levied on the goods imported and no distinction is made on the import duty taking into account the status of the importer.

(c) There is no proposal under consideration at present to provide import duty concessions in respect of raw materials imported by small scale industries.

Committee to finalise list of essential drugs

2212. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the composition of the committee constituted to finalise the list of essential drugs to be brought under the new Drugs (Prices Control) Order;

(b) the terms of reference of the Committee; and

(c) the date by which the Committee is to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) The composition of the Committee constituted to identify drugs to be included in the proposed Category II, envisaged in the measures for rationalisation, quality control and growth of pharmaceutical industry in the country, as partially modified on 2nd March, 1987 is given in the Statement below.

(c) The Committee is to submit its report within the next two months.

Statement

Composition of the Committee

1.	Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Chairman, B.I.C.P.	Chairman
2.	Dr. K.K. Malhotra, Consultant (Medicine) Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi.	Member

- | | | |
|----|---|--------------------|
| 3. | Dr. H.H. Siddiqui, Associate Professor in Deptt. of Pharmacology, A.I.I.M.S., New Delhi. | Member |
| 4. | Dr. M.A. Patel, State Drug Controller, Gujarat. | Member |
| 5. | Prof. R. Ramalingaswamy, Ex-Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research. | Member |
| 6. | Shri M.S. Murthy, Adviser (Chemicals) | Member |
| 7. | Dr. D.K. Sankaran, Director (Pharmaceutical Industry), Deptt. of Chemicals and Petro-chemicals. | Member
Convenor |

Power crisis in New Delhi

2213. SHRI P. PENCHALLAIAH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether power crisis is expected in coming summer, especially in capital city of New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to combat the power crisis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) No power crisis is expected in coming summer in Capital city of New Delhi.

Allotment of edible/palmolein oil to Maharashtra

2214. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra is a deficit State in production of edible oil;

(b) whether Union Government allot edible oil to Maharashtra State by procuring the same from surplus State;

(c) if so, the quantum of edible oil supplied by Union Government to

Maharashtra State during the last three years, year wise;

(d) whether in addition to indigenous edible oil, a quota of imported palmolein oil was also supplied to Maharashtra State; and

(e) if so, the year-wise allocation of palmolein oil to Maharashtra State during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The production of edible oil in Maharashtra is not adequate to fully meet the requirements of oil.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The imported edible oil is allocated to States/UTs, including Maharashtra for distribution under Public Distribution System.

(e) The allocation of imported edible oil to Maharashtra under Public Distribution System during the last three oil years is as under :

Oil year (Nov-Oct)	Allocation (in MTs.)
1984-85	99,200
1985-86	1,26,400
1986-87 (upto Feb. 87)	30,000

**Pending applications for expansion/
manufacture of petrochemicals**

2215. DR. A.K. PATEL :
SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state :

(a) the petrochemical requirements in
the country at present and likely by the
end of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the quantity of petrochemical
imported during each of the last three years
and the current year; and

(c) the number of applications for
expansion new units for manufacture of
petrochemicals from the public sector,
joint sector, private sector separately

pending with Government for clearance
with details of capacity in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENTS OF CHEMICALS AND
PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINI-
STRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K.
JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) A State-
ment is given below.

(b) Import data regarding various
commodities including petrochemicals is
available in the publications brought out
from time to time by Directorate General
of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics,
Calcutta copies of which are available in
the Parliament Library.

(c) The details of the pending applica-
tions are not made public till the Govern-
ment has taken a final view thereon.

Statement

The estimated requirement in the country of major petrochemicals for the year
1986-87 and 1989-90 (the terminal year of Seventh Five Year Plan) is given below :—

(000 MT)

Item	Estimated demand (1986-87)	Estimated demand (1989-90)
1	2	3
Polymers		
Low Density Polyethylene	1 0	229
High Density Polyethylene	117	178
Polypropylene	47	72
Poly Vinyl Chloride	175	233
Polystyrene	28	38
Synthetic Rubber		
Styrene Butadiene Rubber	} 40-45	44
Poly Butadiene Rubber		27
Butyl Rubber		16

1	2	3
Synthetic Fibres		
Polyester staple fibre	70	87-109
Polyester filament yarn	85	109-131
Nylon filament yarn	40	67
Acrylic Fibre	28	65
Others		
Linear Alkyl Benzene	85	145
Acrylonitrile	26	73
Caprolactum	80	116
DMT/PTA	140	226

Pay Committee on pay structure of public undertaking employees

2216. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI RAM BAHADUR
SINGH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the High Powered Pay Committee appointed to go into the pay structures of the staff of Public Undertakings in the country has since submitted its report to Government;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(c) by what time the report is likely to be submitted to Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) :
(a) to (c) The High Power Pay Committee assumed office on 1.12.1986. They are to give their report within a period of twelve months after assumption of office.

Over-staffing in public sector units

2217. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that over-staffing in public sector is one of the reasons for running the public sector units in losses; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to tackle the problem of over-staffing in public sector units ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. Surplus man-power is one of the reasons for losses of certain public enterprises.

(b) The steps taken to tackle the problem of surplus man-power include formulation of voluntary retirement schemes by various public enterprises, rationalisation of man-power, absorption of the surplus man-power in other public enterprises or in additional areas of work such as expansion, as and when such works are undertaken.

South asian food security reserve

2218. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to set

up a South Asian Food Security Reserve to meet emergencies in this part of the world ;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal ; and

(c) whether the neighbouring countries have been consulted in the matter and if so, their response in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir ; there is a proposal to establish a South Asian Food Security Reserve to meet emergency food requirements of the region. The proposal envisages participation of the countries of the region, viz., Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Details in this regard are being worked out through discussion among the countries.

Manufacture of plastic crates by Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd.

2219. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited at Baroda has decided to manufacture plastic crates and place them at the disposal of the apple trade in a bid to introduce the use of plastic in fruit packaging ; and

(b) if so, how far it will be beneficial to the apple growers of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND

PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir, Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) has no proposal to manufacture plastic crates

(b) Does not arise.

Transmission and distribution losses

2220. Dr. A. K. PATEL :

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the position in each State and Union Territory in regard to transmission losses and consequential annual losses there in terms of rupees ; and

(b) what are the distribution losses and the permissible level ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The percentage of transmission and distribution losses in the various State Electricity Boards/ Electricity Departments during 1985-86 is indicated in the statement given below. Annual losses in terms of rupees would depend on the extent of transmission and distribution losses in power supply to the urban and rural areas, and the prevalent tariffs for various categories of consumers.

(b) There are no internationally recognised norms of transmission and distribution losses. These losses depend on a number of factors, such as the adequacy of transmission and distribution networks, quality of transformers and the characteristics of the connected loads.

Statement

Percentage Transmission & Distribution losses (Including Commi. losses in State Elec. Boards/Electricity Departments, for the year 1985-86.

Region	State Electricity Board/ Department	%age Loss (*)
1	2	3
Northern Region	1. Haryana	19.84
	2. Himachal Pradesh	20.22
	3. Jammu & Kashmir	35.85
	4. Punjab	18.82
	5. Rajasthan	26.54
	6. Uttar Pradesh	20.50
	7. Chandigarh	18.90
	8. D.E.S.U.	18.00
Western Region.	1. Gujarat	25.50
	2. Madhya Pradesh	18.90
	3. Maharashtra	14.51
	4. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	16.00
	5. Goa, Daman & Diu	20.43
Southern Region	1. Andhra Pradesh	19.19
	2. Karnataka	22.50
	3. Kerala	24.60
	4. Tamil Nadu	18.70
	5. Lakshadweep Islands	19.82
	6. Pondicherry	18.00
Eastern Region	1. Bihar	22.48
	2. Orissa	23.00
	3. Sikkim	18.20
	4. West Bengal	23.13
	5. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	15.11

1	2	3
North-	1. Assam	19.98
Eastern	2. Manipur	45.00
Region	3. Meghalaya	8.19
	4. Nagaland	20.00
	5. Tripura	30.50
	6. Arunachal Pradesh	N. A.
	7. Mizoram	43.63
	All-India (Utilities)	21.70

Note : (1) (*) Provisional.

(2) NA : Not available ;

(3) The lower T&D loss figure in respect of Meghalaya are due to bulk sale of energy at HT level to the neighbouring States.

Entry of Monopoly houses in manufacture of common goods

2221. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether carpets, toothpaste, ceramics, porcelain insulators, garments and soaps come under small scale industries ;

(b) the names of big monopoly houses which have entered into these sectors ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the industrial undertakings which are subsidiaries of monopoly houses and are controlled by big business houses are not eligible for concessions available for SSI units ;

(d) whether the above mentioned big houses are enjoying the same ; and

(e) whether the excise-duty concessions available to small scale sector are also availed by the above mentioned companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Industries mentioned in the

question other than carpets come under small scale industries. However, organised sector units are also manufacturing these items.

(b) The information is being collected.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) As per the existing policy only those small scale units which are registered as SSI units with the State Directorate of Industries and whose value of clearances in the preceding financial year did not exceed Rs. 1.5 crores are eligible to avail excise duty concessions.

Performance of public sector

2222. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the unit-wise performance of public sector during first half of 1986-87 and whether any mid-course corrections are called for ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : Details of unit-wise performance of all the Central Public Sector Enterprises

during the first half of 1986-87 are not available. However, based on provisional estimates received from only 170 enterprises, the overall working results during first half of 1986-87 show a net profit of Rs. 232.96 crores. Appropriate steps to remove the bottlenecks if any are being taken by the Government through close monitoring of their performance at various levels and holding of periodic performance review meetings by the concerned administrative Ministries Departments.

Sick industrial units

2223. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick industrial units

in the country as on 31 December, 1986, State-wise ; and

(b) the amount involved of banks and financial institutions in these sick industrial units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The data on sick industrial units assisted by banks are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. The latest State-wise data on sick industrial units and the amount outstanding against them as available from RBI, for the period ending December, 1985 is given in the statement below.

Statement

State-wise data on sick industrial units as at the end of December, 1985.

Name of the State/ Union Territory	Large sick units		SSI sick unit	
	No. of units	Amount outstanding (Rs. crores)	No. of units	Amount outstanding (Rs. crores)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	37	103.10	8694	62.82
Assam	2	6.53	5683	7.80
Bihar	17	44.51	8570	48.95
Gujarat	62	301.51	4045	75.03
Haryana	16	42.14	1500	25.21
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	413	3.24
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	1382	6.28
Karnataka	33	163.44	5705	77.61
Kerala	16	129.19	2378	45.97
Maharashtra	146	835.62	8567	187.32
Madhya Pradesh	22	89.46	7843	31.37
Orissa	7	35.26	5299	29.41

1	2	3	4	5
Punjab	4	6.14	1345	21.69
Rajasthan	13	40.14	5964	29.22
Tamil Nadu	50	189.64	15171	107.71
Uttar Pradesh	66	279.37	12036	81.69
West Bengal	132	676.33	18620	142.52
Goa, Daman & Diu	5	14.09	808	8.85
Nagaland	—	—	7	0.02
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	3	0.06
Arunchal Pradesh	—	—	11	Negligible
Chandigarh	1	1.77	171	5.73
Delhi	4	7.78	2271	67.47
Manipur	—	—	669	0.41
Meghalaya	—	—	141	0.10
Mizoram	—	—	2	0.01
Pondicherry	3	12.26	240	3.31
Tripura	1	1.96	245	0.79
Total	637	2980.24	117783	1070.67

Note : There were also 1186 medium scale sick industrial units as at the end of December 1985. State-wise break-up of these units is not furnished by RBI.

Wage renewal agreements in public undertakings

2224. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of guidelines issued by Bureau of Public Enterprises of wage renewal agreements in public undertakings ; and

(b) the names of public enterprises where wage settlements were pending upto 31 December, 1986 ?

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

(a) The important parameters governing new round of wage settlements in Public Sector Undertakings, contained in BPE D.O. letter No. 1 (3)/86—BPE(MC) dated 7.1.87 are as under :—

- (1) The increase in wage bills consequent on wage settlement should in no way affect the targets of internal generation of resources and additional resource mobilisation i.e.... substantial portion of the wage increase should be absorbed in increases in productivity and other measures of cost reduction and surplus labour should be reduced in a phased manner. Existing work output norms should be reviewed so as to achieve improved

aggregate efficiency. The proposals for wage revision should contain specific measures and time bound programme to meet the above conditions.

(2) Incentive schemes linked with productivity should be evolved by Public Sector Enterprises where they are not in operation.

(3) The wage increases in the new wage settlements should be limited to 10% only, except where the existing wage levels are comparatively low. In the enterprises where the existing wage levels are low, a slightly higher percentage increase can be allowed keeping in view the capacity of such public sector enterprises to pay increased wages. In no circumstances can the increase exceed 15% even in such cases. Where the

1. Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd.
2. Indo-Burma Petroleum Co. for Delhi region.
3. Bharat Gold Mines Ltd.
4. Tungbhadra Steel Products Ltd.
5. Richardson & Cruddas for its Madras unit.
6. Modern Food Industries Ltd.
7. Damodar Valley Corporation.
8. Cochin Refineries Ltd.
9. International Airport Authority of India.
10. IISCO Stanton Pipe & Foundry Ltd.
11. Air India.
12. Indian Airlines.
13. Oil India Ltd. for its Delhi office.
14. Oil India Ltd. for its Calcutta office & Pipelines.
15. Lagan Jute Machinery Ltd.
16. Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd.
17. Balmer Lawrie & Co, Ltd. for its Container Division in Bombay.

sum of basic wages and dearness allowances of all kinds is less than Rs. 927 at the All India Consumer Price Index level of 666, the wage level can be taken as low compared to the generality of public enterprises.

(4) All wage settlements should be valid for a period of four years. The proposals for wage revisions should be self-contained without any omissions and no benefits outside such settlements should be allowed without the approval of the Government.

(b) Based on information available in BPE, the list of undertakings where on expiry of old wage settlements new wage settlements have fallen due and are outstanding on 31.12. 1965 is given below :—

18. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd. for its Marine Diesel Engine Unit at Ranchi.
19. Nayveli Lignite Corporation.
20. Indo—Burma Petroleum Co. Ltd.—for its Oil Division at Bombay.
21. Indo-Burma Petroleum Co. Ltd.—for its engineering division at Bombay.
22. Jessop & Co. Ltd.—for its clerks & sub-staffs.
23. Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd —for its grease division and branch office at Bombay.
24. Export Credit Guarantee Corporation Ltd.
25. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd.—for its clerks and sub-staffs.
26. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.
27. Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd.
28. Electronic Trade & Technology Development Corporation Ltd.
29. Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
30. Bengal Immunity Ltd.
31. Southern Pesticides Corporation Ltd.
32. National Newsprint & Papers Mills Ltd.
33. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.
34. Richardson & Cruddas Ltd.—for its Nagpur unit.
35. Scooters India Ltd.
36. Triveni Structuralis Ltd.
37. India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.
38. Engineers India Ltd.
39. Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd.
40. Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Ltd.
41. National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.
42. Steel Authority of India Ltd.
43. Vijaynagar Steel Ltd.
44. The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd.
45. The West Bengal based engineering enterprises who with similarly placed private sector units conclude a common agreement under the auspices of Confederation of Engineering Industries.

Investment to cover gap between demand and supply

2225. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a group of experts has made any estimate of the investment required to reach the level of self-sufficiency in coal, power and indigenous furnace oil to bridge the gap between the demand and supply; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b) According to a report prepared by the Advisory Board on Energy in 1985, assuming a compound rate of growth of 5%, an investment of around Rs. 4,50,000 crores in 1984-85 prices would be required to meet the anticipated level of energy requirements during the period upto the year 2004-05.

As regards coal, the production targets for the Seventh Plan are in keeping with the anticipated requirement. In order to bridge the gap between the demand and supply of power, a number of measures have been taken which inter-alia include the renovation and modernisation of thermal power stations, steps to reduce transmission and distribution losses, the addition of short gestation capacity, energy conservation and demand management.

In so far as oil is concerned, it is expected that part of the anticipated requirement of various petroleum products will continue to be met through import of crude oil or the finished products. Government is, however, taking a number of steps including implementation of conservation schemes within refineries, promotion of conservation activities relating to petroleum products in various consuming sectors of the economy and encouraging the use of alternative fuels.

Setting up of TV microwave channel between Trivandrum and Cochin

2226. SHRI MULAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to import the equipment required for setting up a Television Microwave channel between Trivandrum and Cochin in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of imports proposed to be made and the countries from which they are to be secured;

(c) the total estimated cost of the project; and

(d) the time by which the work on the project will be started and completed ?

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

(b) The equipment for setting up a TV channel between Trivandrum-Cochin-Calicut has been ordered on M/s. Badavox, Hungary at a total cost of US \$ 419047 (FOB).

(c) The total estimated cost for TV Microwave Channel between Trivandrum-Cochin-Calicut is Rs. 1,85,04,652/—

(d) The work will commence on the receipt of equipment from M/s. Budavox and M/s. I.T.I. and is likely to be completed during 1988-89.

Sale of TV under Foreign Trade Mark

2227. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether under Industrial Licensing and Technology policy Government have a decision that no television will be sold under a Foreign Trade mark;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether similar decision has been taken to prevent Foreign Trade mark used on products like 7 O'clock blades; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The purpose of forbidding the use of foreign brand names in the Television Industry is to promote the growth of indigenous Industry and encourage establishment of Indian brand names both for the domestic and export markets.

(c) and (d) While approving foreign collaboration agreements, a condition is laid down that the use of foreign brand names will not be allowed on products meant for internal sales. However, under the existing law, there is no restriction on the use of foreign trade marks if it does not involve any direct or indirect consideration in foreign exchange. Further trade marks can be used without registration or before or after the expiry of registration without the protection afforded by the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act.

Passing of excise relief to buyers of fuel efficient vehicles

2228. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether 50 percent excise relief announced recently by Government on fuel efficient light commercial vehicles has not been passed on by the manufacturers to the buyers;

(b) If so, whether Government have taken any steps to ensure that this excise relief is passed on to buyer;

(c) whether Government has conducted any study through the Bureau of

Industrial Cost and Prices into the justifications for the frequent price escalations by the light commercial vehicles manufacturers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) & (b) The new light commercial vehicle manufacturers faced severe constraints in the recent past on account of high cost and low production. This situation was aggravated by unforeseen and unexpected factors like the steep appreciation of the Japanese Yen, particularly when these units were in the initial phase of commercial production and had not fully absorbed the manufacturing technology. It is in this background Government reduced the excise duty to 10% ad valorem, for fuel efficient light commercial vehicles of payload not exceeding 4000 Kgs. It is expected that with fiscal incentives the units would be able to overcome severe financial constraints and achieve the approved indigenisation programme which would make the units viable. It is also expected that with faster indigenisation, the impact of appreciation of the Japanese Yen would be reduced and the manufacturers would be able to offer reasonable prices to the customer.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Memorandum of understanding signed with Canada

2229. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by India and Canada on February 9, 1987; and

(b) whether the agreement will increase bilateral trade and reduce the trade balance for India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India and the Government of Canada on industrial and Technological Collaboration signed by the two sides in New Delhi on 9 February 1987 primarily aims at expanding bilateral industrial cooperation by encouraging joint ventures, technological collaboration, joint research and development and two way investment in areas of complementary interests. It further aims at encouraging the enterprises of both the countries to study the possibilities of entering into cooperative relationships. It also envisages evolving a mechanism for exchange of views and information on general issues including the investment environment and Government policies towards trade and industry in each country.

(b) It is not possible to forecast whether bilateral trade will increase directly as a result of signing of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Edible oil from Neem seed

2230. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent study has revealed that neem seeds can be an important source of edible oil and its de-oiled meal a good cattle feed;

(b) whether refined neem-oil can produce high quality odourless and colourless oil without any bitter taste, which could be an important source of edible oil; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to develop the growth of neem seeds particularly in the northern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Available literature indicates that it is possible to techno-

logically produce a colourless and odourless neem oil without any bitter taste. The physico-chemical parameters of the refined oils are within the range of other edible oils. In cattlefeed formulation, 2% neem cake is reported to be an excellent vernicide.

(c) Under its plan scheme on "Development Programme of Oil seeds/Oils of Tree and Forest Origin with Focus on Tribal Areas", the Department of Civil Supplies is providing assistance to the various State Governments for removing some of the constraints coming in the way of increased exploitation of tree borne oilseeds which include neem seeds also. The scheme is currently operational in two States. A number of other State Governments have been required to consider taking up of implementation of the scheme. Further Health Ministry has been requested to initiate action for categorisation of certain oils for edible purposes. Neem oil is one of these oils.

Improper distribution of L.D.P.E.

2231. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE) is being black marketed because of improper distribution of LDPE by Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited;

(b) whether there is any proposal to supply the same to the lamination units directly to avoid black marketing; and

(c) the salient feature of the distribution policy of LDP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) At present, the level of indigenous production of Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE) falls short of the demand in the country. Imports of LDPE are allowed under Open General Licence (OGL). The Indian

Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) distributes the plastics raw material through its regional offices and consignment stockists which operate from different locations in the country. (The stockists are selected by IPCL after thorough screening of the applications and short-listing them at different stages by the appropriate level committees based on their financial standing, business experience and other available infrastructure facilities.) Supplies of plastics raw material to its customers are regulated by IPCL as per allocations fixed for them based on individual customer's off-take from IPCL during 1982-83 and 1983-84. Due to tight availability of raw material, IPCL had to curtail supplies of LDPE to units having allocation of and above 5 MTs/month. Preference is given to the small scale units (94% of total customers) having allocation upto 5 MTs/month subject to availability. IPCL is also supplying small quantities on ad-hoc basis to the new units not covered by the allocation policy. No specific case of black-marketing of LDPE has been reported. As for lam nation units, supplies are made on free release basis depending upon requirement/capacity of the the unit and availability of the product.

12 00 hrs.

[English]

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): In Kalahandi District in Orissa, 04 people died of starvation in the last 36 days. It is a serious problem.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: A discussion on General Budget is going on. It may come under it.

[English]

General Budget debate is going on. You bring it in.

[Translation]

Nobody will stop you.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Review on and Annual Report of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd, Neyveli for 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): 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 Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli, for the year 1985-86.

(ii) Annual Report of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited Neyveli, for the year 1985-86 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3894/87]

Notifications under Customs Act and Central Excise Rules

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of Notification Nos. G. S R. 121(E) to 199(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding Customs Duty changes and exemptions in the context of Budget proposals pertaining to Indirect Taxes announced by the Prime Minister in Lok Sabha on 28th February, 1987 under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1952.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3895/87.]

- (2) A copy each of Notification Nos. G.S.R. 200 (E) to 269 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding Central Excise Duty changes and exemptions in the context of Budget proposals pertaining to Indirect Taxes announced by the Prime Minister in Lok Sabha on 28th February, 1987 issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3896/87.]

Report of Comptroller and Auditor General for 1985 on Richards and Cruddas (1972) Limited

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1985—Union Government (Commercial—Part IV—Richards on and Cruddas (1972) Limited under article 15(1) of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3897/87.]

Notifications under Industries (development and Regulations) Act and Annual Report on working and administration of Companies Act for period ending 31.3.1986

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (i) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 18/18AA of the Industries (Development and Regulations) Act, 1951 :—

- (i) S. O. 853 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st November, 1986 regard-

ing extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Mohini Mills Limited, Belgharia West Bengal beyond five years. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3898/87.]

- (ii) S. O. 856 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th November, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs India Machinery Company Limited, Howrah, beyond five years. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3899/87.]

- (iii) S. O. 860 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th November, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Brentford Electric (India) Limited, Calcutta, beyond five years. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3900/87.]

- (iv) S.O. 870 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th November, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Associated Industries (Assam) Limited, Chandrapur, beyond five years. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3901/87]

- (2) A copy of Notification No. S. O. 78 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th February, 1987 making certain amendments to Notification No. S. O. 98 (E) dated the 16th February, 1973 so as to delete 13 items and amend 4 items in the list of items reserved for small scale sector under sub-section (2H) of section 29B of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3902/87.]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Working and Administration of the Companies Act, 1956 for the year ended the 31st March, 1986 under section 638 of the said act.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3903/87.]

Notification under Indian Telegraph Act.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Indian Telegraph (Second Amendment) Rules, 1986 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 314 in Gazette of India dated the 26th April, 1986 together with a Corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G. S. R. 49 in Gazette of India dated the 17th January, 1987 under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3904/87.]

12.01 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[*English*]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :-

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Labour Welfare Fund Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1987, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 9th March, 1987.”

LABOUR WELFARE FUND LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1987.

As passed by Rajya Sabha

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the Labour Welfare Fund Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1987, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.02 hrs.

RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

[*English*]

Statement showing action taken by Government on recommendations contained in the First Report etc.

SHRI SUBHASH YADAV (Khar-gone) : I beg to lay on the Table (English and Hindi versions) of the statement showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the First Report of Railway Convention Committee (1985) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Ninth Report of the Railway Convention Committee (1980) on Cost of Operation of Railways (Staff and Fuel Cost).

12 02- 0 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

[*English*]

Fifteenth Report and Minutes

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Krishnagiri) : I beg to present the Fifteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited-Project Implementation and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

12.03 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Demand for construction of Tourist Bungalows at Jhalawar and in the Game sanctuary at Durrah in Rajasthan.

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar) :
Under Rule 377, I am making a statement.

Rajasthan have done a lot for the development of tourism in that State during the past two decades. But considering the potentialities a lot more is required to be done specially in those parts of Rajasthan where no development has taken place so far.

The Haroti Region of Rajasthan, consisting of Bundi, Kota and Jhalawar Districts in South Eastern Rajasthan, have the world famous wall and shikar paintings of Kota and Burdi palaces and forts.

The region has a series of water complexes developed in the Chambal Valley and these could be used for water sports and holiday picnics for local and foreign tourists.

Famous monuments of rich architectural and historical values are spread all over in big number in Tehsils Atru Anta, Chipabarod, Kishen Ganj, Jhalrapatan, Ramganj Mandi, Deg Bundi and other places.

It has famous forts and game sanctuaries and all that a tourist may wish to visit and see.

The Govt. of India have done some good work at Jaisalmer, Bharatpur Siriska Ranakpur and few other places in Rajasthan and this has helped in the promotion of tourist traffic in those areas.

In view of the rich potential in Haroti area, I will request the Government of India to do something in Haroti region

also by way of constructing tourist bungalows at Jhalawar and in the game sanctuary at Durrah. This will help the growth of tourism in this area.

12.04 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER
in the Chair]

- (ii) Demand for setting up 'National Minor Irrigation (Ground Water Corporation)' at National Level with its branches in every State.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar):
Under Rule 377, I am making a statement.

Main thrust of the Seventh Five Year Plan is on boosting up agricultural and industrial production. Augmentation of foodgrains production is the need of the hour. It is a basic necessity for survival of huge population of our nation. Agricultural production can be increased by providing assured sources of irrigation to the fields of the farmers. Inter-State irrigation projects and State level irrigation projects had provided sources of irrigation & generation of hydel power in the country. But it has been generally experienced that farmers with big holdings had been benefited by big irrigation projects. Percentage of beneficiaries belonging to categories of small farmers and marginal farmers is comparatively very low. Number of small farmers and marginal farmers is quite large in our country. Agriculture holdings of farmers of these categories need a new approach of planning for providing irrigation facilities. I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to set up 'National Minor Irrigation (Ground Water) Corporation' at the national level having its branches in each and every State of the country. Planning Commission may be asked to adopt it and to include it in its regular plan and to earmark funds for the same. Branches established in the States of the Union shall provide technical assistance in preparing the project for individual State, and each State shall set up 'Minor Irrigation (Ground Water) Corporation',

- (iii) Demand for a high power committee to study and suggest ways to solve problem of child labour engaged in Bangles Industry in Firozabad, U.P.

SHRI GANGA RAM (Firozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, due to its bangle industry, the city of Firozabad situated in Agra district of Uttar Pradesh is called the Subag Nagari, the city of good fortunes. Initially it started as a small scale industry and now gradually it has developed into a big industry, the credit for which goes to the industrialists and skilled craftsmen of the area. Presently, there are 135 bangle manufacturing units which include 50 glassware (blowing) and 67 bangle cutting units and which have been registered under the Factories Act, 1948.

In these factories, the problem of child labour has assumed a serious proportion. The parents of child labourers, the owners of the factories and the administration are collectively responsible for it. Most of the parents of child labourers are skilled workers, but financial hardship is their greatest problem. They want that their children should stand on their own feet in their tender age and should help in maintaining their family by learning the special skill and technique of this bangle industry and should acquire skilled craftsmanship in this field. That is why the children are engaged in this profession, which is unlawful. Therefore, in order to solve this problem, arrangements should be made to rehabilitate them.

The Government in stead of viewing this burning problem from emotional viewpoint, it should solve it by considering the hard facts. I would like to suggest that the Central Government may kindly appoint a high level committee without any delay which may make an indepth study of this problem by rising above the sentiments and make constructive suggestions within the shortest possible time, so that an appropriate solution to this problem could be found.

- (iv) Demand for inclusion of Maithili language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

SHRI D. L. BAITHA (Araria) : Mr.

Deputy Speaker, Sir, the population of Maithili speaking people in India is about three and a half crores. It has got its own script and it has a very rich literature. In spite of the fact that this language is important from all aspects, it has not so far been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, whereas other 15 languages of the country have been included in this Schedule. Therefore, while drawing the attention of the Government towards this important subject, it is my strong demand that the Maithili language be included in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution.

- (v) Demand for National Highway between Fatuah and Gaya via Islampur in Nalanda district of Bihar.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, Nalanda is the most backward district in Bihar. The pitable condition of the roads has increased its backwardness.

The Fauh--Gaya road via Islampur, Rajgir connects four districts. Earlier there was a narrow gauge railway line from Fatuah to Islampur which has since been closed after nationalisation. At present, the road is in a very dilapidated condition and due to lack of means of transport, the passengers and farmers are facing difficulty and the development of this area is being affected adversely.

Therefore the Government is requested that a national highway be constructed from Fatuha to Gaya via Islampur and Rajgir and the closed line from Fatuah to Islampur be converted into a broad gauge line without delay and rail traffic should be resumed immediately.

[English]

- (vi) Need for releasing land for Kalinadi Hydro-Electric Project Stage II to overcome power shortage in Karnataka State.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI (Bellary) : The Karnataka State has

been going through a severe power crisis. The successive poor monsoons during the last four years have also contributed to the problem in the power sector. The State Government has been planning to take up schemes in the power sector on priority basis.

The project which requires Government of India's clearance is Kalinadi Hydro Electric Project Stage-II. The State Government has also submitted its proposal for Kadre scheme for clearance from the Department of Forests and Environment on 25.7.1985 and revised proposal was submitted by the State Government on 9.4.1986. All the clarifications were forwarded on 4.7.1986. Full and detailed facts were submitted to the Indian Government on 22.10.86.

Sir, so far nothing has come out. I, therefore, request that since the State is facing severe power shortage, the clearance for the release of forests land as per requirement of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, should be immediately given so that the work on Kalinadi Hydro Electric Project Stage II could be started, which will help the State Government to overcome the power shortage.

(vii) Demand for measures to increase export of Sesame Oilseeds.

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): It has been reported that though the Government of India have released about 10,000 tonnes of sesame oilseeds for exports during the current financial year, there is hardly any export that has materialised so far. In spite of the best efforts to canalise its exports through NAFED, for the last three years the average export of this item has never exceeded 4000 tonnes per annum. The reason for very low export situation is mainly due to prevailing high-cost within the country and very keen competition in the world market by countries like Sudan and China which have resorted to undercutting of its price against the interests of India.

However, with proper planning and sincere efforts it should be possible to increase the export of sesame oilseeds to the extent of 20,000 tonnes per annum which can earn foreign exchange worth over 20 crores of rupees. With the cooperation of private trade and also extending some incentives to the exporters, it should be possible for the commodity to compete very favourably in the world market and earn foreign exchange for the country.

I would, therefore, request the Ministry of Agriculture to take immediate steps to save the growers as also arrange to export this item which can earn foreign exchange.

(viii) Need to accord legal sanction to the 15 Point Programme for ameliorating condition of minorities so as to expedite its effective implementation.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): In May 1983 the then Prime Minister late Smt. Indira Gandhi formulated a 15-point programme to ameliorate the condition of minorities. It is now nearly four years, but there is hardly any appreciable implementation of the programme. There is neither any improvement in the recruitment from minorities to Government, police or public sector services nor have higher educational institutions, IITs and polytechnics come up in predominantly minority areas as envisaged in the programme. Claims to and encroachment upon places of religious significance are on the increase with indifferent attitude of the Government despite directive in the said programme to deal with such problems expeditiously and satisfactorily.

I urge upon the Government to accord legal sanction to the 15-point programme to secure its due implementation and effective monitoring on a continuing basis.

12.14 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET 1987-88
GENERAL DISCUSSION
AND
DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS
(GENERAL, 1984-85—*Contd.*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall now take up Items 10 and 11—Further General Discussion on the Budget (General) for 1987-88 and further discussion and voting on the Demands for Excess Grants (General) in respect of the Budget (General) for 1984-85.

Now, Mr. Kolandaivelu may speak.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a maiden budget of our honourable Prime Minister. Actually, he has taken all steps to ensure that the budget is a pro-poor budget. Yesterday the discussions were initiated by Prof. Madhu Dandavate. He was actually accusing the Prime Minister and the Government and he said that it is an anti poor Budget and it is in the wrong direction.

I would say that the Budget is in the right direction. Actually it is in the right direction of eradication of poverty and it is in the right direction of taking the people to the 21st century.
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No interruptions. Nothing will go on record. Not allowed.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : There are welcome features in the Budget. The higher outlay on education of Rs. 800 crores as against Rs. 352 crores in the last year, a package of measures to encourage house building, shifting of industries away from the city in order to keep the environment clean for the people, the extension of MODVAT to the whole spectrum of industrial activity,

allotment of more funds to poverty alleviation and the programmes under the savings scheme for the benefit of the taxpayer, all these are welcome features.

We have to congratulate and appreciate our Prime Minister for giving the Budget a greater purpose

At the same time, we have to see the seven main objectives. Whenever we prepare a Budget, we have to see what are the main objectives. One is low tax range. There must be some simplicity and also stability. There should be no secrecy at all in the Budget. Public participation must be there and faith in the taxpayer. It is also one of the main objectives. Human awareness is the seventh objective.

I would request the hon. Minister for Finance to take care of Section 115 (J) of the Finance Bill. The Government has got a right, of course, I do submit to 20% of the tax of the book profits of the company, even though it may not have any taxable income at all. If the industry is incurring losses, how will the industry pay the 20% tax? If a company is starting on a new venture, is it to pay a crippling tax of 20%? Is it possible? That has to be thought over by the Finance Minister.

With regard to 115 (J), I would say that constitutionally it is illegal and commercially obnoxious. I request the hon. Minister to withdraw this Section from the Finance Bill itself.

There must be some simplicity in the Budget. If the Finance Bill is passed unchanged, it would make the Income-tax commercially complex than ever before. Every Budget has get a right to tax the citizen in terms of money. But they have got no right to tax any citizen in terms of time and energy. That must be taken into account. I am an Economics student and I will say that over-taxation always results in the law of diminishing returns. You are fully aware of this. We must be careful in preparing the Budget.

With regard to stability in the Budget,

I would say that in the last 12 months, the rates of Customs and Excise duties have been changed 400 times. Is there any stability at all? Please go through all these things and there should not be any secrecy.

With regard to secrecy, the long-term fiscal policy document and the white paper on rationalisation and simplification mention not one word with regard to Section 115J and also Section 194 (e) of the Finance Bill. Why are you keeping secret all these Sections without mentioning them in the long-term fiscal policy?

Another thing is about the public participation. Actually, is there any participation of the public here? With regard to Section 115 (J), again it has been reintroduced. Formerly, under Section 80 (V) (a) of the Finance Bill, people protested that it would mean penalising companies that were investing in the nation's development. Section 194 (e) seeks to cut tax at source for professional organisations. I would request the hon. Minister to withdraw section 115 (J) from the Finance Bill immediately.

With regard to import duty you have levied import duty on the import of fertilizer equipments. You have increased the import duty from 0 per cent to 15 per cent. That will tell upon the common people; that will tell upon the poor agriculturists. Yesterday, Chairman of the Madras Fertilizers gave a statement stating that the levy of import duty on the fertilizer equipment will result in the increase of price in fertilizers. What does it mean? Will it not affect the common man and the ordinary agriculturists? Certainly, it will affect the agriculturists. So, it has to be thought over again and again, and that the duty of import of equipment on the fertilizer plants has to be withdrawn.

With regard to the computer industry you have given some concessions. Actually, we are living in the world of computerisation. So, it is very very necessary. Our Prime Minister's view is also the same. I accept and I welcome it.

Sir, I would like to ask as to whether we are going to the 21st century. That is the main thing here. As soon as he occupied the post of Prime Ministership, he announced to the nation: "I want to take this nation to the 21st century as early as possible". By means of this budget, are we going to the 21st century? That is my point. The Prime Minister wanted to give so many incentives to the poor agriculturists. Actually, he want to help the poor and the down-trodden. But upwards, there is the Poverty Alleviation Programme. With regard to IRDP, NREP and RLEGP, you have allotted more. Actually, I have to congratulate and I have to appreciate the Prime Minister and the Government. You are allotting more than what you have allotted last year. Merely, it is 63 per cent more than what you have allotted last year. It is a welcomeable feature. At the same time, we have to see the other necessities of the people. We have to see whether we are able to give them food; whether we are able to give them shelter and whether we are able to give them clothing.

With regard to the Housing Scheme, for the first time, the Prime Minister has brought it now. But, how are you going to help all the people who are on the streets? That is why I would say that we have to study the feelings of the people first before preparing the budget. We have to take the schemes to the poor people.

I would like to narrate another incident which happened on the day when the budget was presented here. A Television interview was conducted on that day. Everybody was at liberty to say something with regard to the budget. Actually, I was also asked to come for an interview of the Television. It was in Room No. 62 or so, a television interview was conducted. I think my interview has not been telecast at all. I do not know for what reason it has not been telecast.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South): Something may go wrong. Don't's worry.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Mr. Murli Deora was along with me. His interview was telecast.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : Your glass might have been reflecting on the camera...

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : It is not correct. I have stated that the duty on crude oil and the duty on cigarette may affect the common-man. That is what I have stated. For that purpose alone, I think, there was a guillotine from telecasting my interview.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have not been guillotined; only your speech has been guillotined.

AN HON. MEMBER : You must be smoking too much.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : No I am not at all a smoker.

In toto, I can say that there are some welcome features in this budget and it is a pro-poor budget.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT (Arrah) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I think the House will permit me to begin my remarks with a certain personal note.

The Prime Minister in his budget speech referred to the year 29 years ago when in a more difficult situation Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru presented the budget. The House will remember that at that time it was an unprecedented shake-up in the Finance Ministry in which the Finance Minister, the Principal Finance Secretary, the Chairman of the LIC and other senior ministers and secretaries had to leave just a few weeks before the budget. At that time it was sheer miracle that I escaped. I consider it a miracle. I was the only person to assist the Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in presenting the budget and in conducting both the Houses. It is a matter of great honour and privilege which I recollect after 29 years that Prime Minister Nehru commended the work that I humbly did to assist him in those difficult times.

Today the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi's budget speech clearly and

unequivocally puts the economic development of this country on the path chartered by Jawaharlal Nehru. It is borne not only by the three quotations of Nehru in his speech, but also by the form and content of his analysis of the economic scene and the measures proposed by him. It also reflects Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's distinct personality. He has not given to political or populist mimicry. He acknowledges the seriousness of the challenges on the economic front and reveals an attempt to respond to them with utmost seriousness.

His speech distinguishes itself by his honesty of purpose and seriousness of the proposals that he has made. His budget speech also clears several myths. He has demolished several myths. The commitment to wage a battle for eradication of poverty has been re-imposed-whatever the Hon. Members on the other side may say. This is a rededication with all vigour and force of his commitment for the eradication of poverty.

This is also based on productive employment of the people, creating so many man-hours and man-days. It is on the basis of productive employment and not on the distribution of charity syndrome. All these proposals are linked to productivity, employment and growth because there is an inescapable link between growth, employment and productivity. Therefore, the battle for eradication of poverty has been placed in the overall framework of accelerating growth and taking the country forward towards strengthening the foundation of independent economy. Because the basis of the Congress ethos and its economic and social policy has been independent national economy. A country like India if it has to follow an independent policy of non-alignment it cannot follow that policy unless it builds up a national economy. It should be an independent national economy based on social justice, commitment to socialism, democracy and secularism which Jawahar Lal Nehru put forward and behind which in Parliament and in the country there was a national consensus. Now Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi when he talks of the unity and

independence of the country, threats from outside and the economic imperialism that is threatening the development of independent economy the emphasis you will find is on public sector, building up the rural sector, growth and social distribution and on that basis building an economy based on self-reliance and not dependant on foreign capital assistance. The fact is that India is a shining example in the present day world when you have an adverse international economic environment when economic assistance is going down, the multi-lateral assistance is cut down, the IDA aid is cut down and policies are framed all round so that our export trade development & our export promotion is faced with greater difficulty. Even then because of the economic policies laid down by Jawahar Lal Nehru and successively followed by Indiraji and reinforced through this budget by Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi it shows that this is the only way and this is the only model in which India should develop if it wants to maintain its dignity and emerge as a prosperous and strong country. So this myth is demolished that this budget is anti-poor or anti-growth or this budget is anti-social justice. Actually it aims to achieve all these objectives.

He has also demolished the myth that this Government or the Government's economic policy is not for the poor but is more concerned about the upper middle class. This is all demolished and I think it is necessary that in this House there is consensus behind the new path or rather the new enforced path that is sought to be made out by this budget.

Similarly the budget aims at promoting growth and if you see you will find that a number of concessions have been given to industries engaged in mass consumption goods not caring to the needs of the affluent. A number of measures have been suggested. I need not go into that. It particularly tries to promote indigenous capital goods industry which is the basis of self-reliance and which is the basis of promoting growth in the future. Similarly it is the case with regard to agriculture and rural sector because agriculture is the foundation on which Indian economy

grows. It is a very heartening fact that despite three below average monsoons—one bad monsoon and the other two below average monsoons—agricultural production has kept up its pace of growth. It is 151 million tonnes of foodgrains. In earlier times the House may recall if there had been a bad monsoon there used to be net fall in the production of foodgrains. In 1966-67, when there was a bad monsoon, there was a fall in foodgrains; 15 million tonnes of foodgrains loss in one year. But despite that very below average monsoon, the food production has gone up. We expect when the cycle of the bad monsoon is over, the measures that have been taken to accelerate the growth in agriculture, will lead to a big spurt in food production.

12.36hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Similarly, the emphasis—which has another canard or another myth—is on the public sector, which the Prime Minister described as a core of the industrial sector as the core of the Plan. It was said that the public sector was being decried. The Budget speech and the policies formulated establish that the public sector is not only the commanding height of the economy. In order to achieve that position, the public sector is being reinforced in many manners, in many ways. In the first three years of the Seventh Plan, a record 63% of the total Seventh Plan outlay in real terms has been provided. If you compare with the earlier Sixth Plan, it was 46%. This is in real terms and not in financial terms. This is an important aspect. This is despite the fact that there is an enormous compulsion of the increase in the non-Plan expenditure. The three sectors—the Defence expenditure, the large mounting interest payments and the compulsory subsidies—which provide to maintain the public distribution system or the rural sector or the fertilisers mainly account for 70% of the total non-plan expenditure. It will be 67% in the current year. It will be 70% of the total non-plan expenditure in 1987-88. Therefore, despite all these mounting figures, the credit goes to the sound policies of good management, fiscal management of the Government that

[Shri B. R. Bhagat]

they have been able to maintain a moment of the outlay in the public sector to 63% which is a record in all times.

In the public sector; industrial sector, the emphasis will be on modernisation, accountability, through better management increasing productivity and several other measures.

The most worrying aspect of the present situation is the mounting deficit. The Prime Minister has said that he doesn't like it and he has, in a very unusual manner, given a commitment to the House to the country, that the plan deficit envisaged in the Budget proposals will not be increased. Only a man of great confidence, only a man of commitment can give this. The facts are in the preceding year or in the years earlier, the budget plan deficit has increased enormously. He has gone in taking a number of measures. If I may say so, the Prime Minister has expressed a grave concern. If you have seen the reactions, fingers have been pointed out that this is the weakest chain in the management of the economy. If you see the structure of the Budget, the revenue receipts and the capital receipts, the expenditure is being financed more and more from the capital receipts; the non-plan expenditure being financed even more by the capital receipts. These are the concerns that have been expressed and, therefore, not only has the Prime Minister given a commitment, but he has also provided inbuilt mechanism to control deficit. For example, the Budget deficit will not be allowed to increase. Firstly, he has mentioned about the setting up of a Cabinet Committee to monitor it more regularly. Then, the emphasis is that there is no room for wastage, there is no room for ostentatious expenditure and no room for unproductive expenditure. Thirdly, the public sector must generate resources more than what it is doing. Then, there is the cost benefit ratio being established. Every rupee that is spent must give maximum results. Financial outlays must match the achievement of physical targets. Marrying of the financial outlays and the achievement of the physical targets is a very important phenomenon and I commend the Government for giving emphasis

to this and making inbuilt arrangements, inbuilt mechanism, to achieve this.

Another important factor is the cost of delivery programmes. We are going to spend a large amount, Rs. 2000 crores, on the anti-poverty programme, which is a very important programme. But there have been reports from the Implementation Ministry or the implementation machinery that the programme is not being implemented in the manner it should have been and not producing the desired results. It is, therefore, very important that the cost of delivery of these programmes is reduced and we are able to produce better results, and we are able to achieve our ultimate aim. In the present situation, we are having such a large phenomenal expenditure, astronomical public expenditure and in order to have a control over expenditure, it is necessary to create a situation in which the entire financing of the scheme becomes non-inflationary. It is very important to control the expenditure. It is also important to see that for every rupee spent we are able to produce maximum benefit.

Another innovation has been the introduction of quarterly budgeting. There is a zero based budget and the entire policy of subsidy that is being given is that it must reduce overheads. For that it is necessary that there is a mechanism of quarterly budgeting, and that has been introduced with a purpose. It is not that a cut in expenditure on certain items here and there is going to help, what is going to help is something else. There are slow moving projects and fast moving projects. There are projects which will increase productivity immediately, there are projects which are not proceeding further in a manner they should. What is required is that you have to slow down, postpone and, if necessary, completely abandon the projects which are not making progress and transfer the funds to the projects which are making progress. For that, quarterly budgeting has been introduced; this is a qualitative and effective mechanism to control the expenditure and make expenditure cost effective. All these things are going to produce the results

The mounting, galloping public expenditure, mainly financed not out of real resources, but out of public debts or borrowings, creates an internal debt trap and that can be only matched or met by seeing that whatever money is spent is spent productively and all the money that is not being spent productively is cut out. There is control on expenditure. I think this mechanism will be much more effective when put in operation and it could control the deficit that the country has experienced.

Now Sir, the objectives and philosophy of the Plan squarely put as the Nehruvian model are 'growth with social justice based on modernisation. Our economy has progressed on these lines and the entire industrial sector is in the midst of a new industrial revolution.

This new industrial revolution formulated by the ideas of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, is that there should be increased productivity and efficiency. It also reflects the modern management technique. All these are the qualitative aspects of the new industrial revolution that is ushered into the country as the second industrial revolution. The first industrial revolution was ushered in by Pandit Jawahrlal Nehru when the Second Plan was introduced whose main goals were public sector, building up capital good, agricultural production and self-reliance of the economy. The country has progressed in this direction and India is now one of the most industrialised economies. But there are large gaps. And Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has introduced the second phase of the Industrial revolution with its emphasis on modernisation, efficiency and productivity. This applies not only to public sector but it also applies to the new technologies that are being used in the agriculture sector. The break-through in agricultural production is concentrated only in certain region. While there is great resurgence in certain areas of the country, other areas have difficulties. Only a certain class of people are benefiting because of the agricultural development. Water management, technological management and other inputs used in agriculture are costly and the result is

that the cost of production in agriculture is as costly as the industrial production. Therefore, by introducing the new management revolution in agriculture and industry, there will be more and more emphasis on modernisation, efficiency and getting the best results out of the investment. I only like to point out that it must be made more broad-based in the sphere of agriculture. It must extend to other areas where it is not existing now. For example, we should put in more efforts in North East and Central areas. It must get out of the regional trap and spread to the whole country. In addition our agricultural products must be less costly. There was a time when we could not export even though we had produced more. We could not export because we have to subsidise our agricultural products. Reducing the cost will improve our exports also. This is the techno-economic articulation as presented by the Prime Minister in his budget. This is the philosophy of the budget on which he focusses attention. He charts a new path that the budget will be pro-poor, growth-oriented and this budget will for equal distribution and social justice. The whole package of these specific measures is oriented towards this goal. The budget should be non-inflationary and with tight control on expenditure we should try to get the best out of every rupee that we spend. This is the philosophy that he has placed before the country and he wants to take the country on the road to prosperity.

Similarly, the structure, the techno-economic architecture is no less profound. If you see the measures, if you take the demand and supply management, the need is to curb the aggregate demand. There is a massive jump in internal debt, i.e. from Rs. 85,213 crores to Rs. 98,150 crores, during the coming year. The interest charges alone come to 27 per cent of the non-plan expenditure. Defence and other things, like subsidies, take it to 70 per cent of the non-plan expenditure. It is a very challenging and daunting task, how to restore the balance and put a curb on the mounting internal debt so that we may not be faced with the internal debt trap. India has successfully avoided any kind of debt trap—external debt trap. Actually, if you see the report of the world Bank

[Shri B. R. Bhagat]

or the International Monetary Fund or any other organisation, India is a shining example of development, compared to any other developing country. On such and such a scale, never in the history, an attempt has been made to build...

[Translation]

SHRI D. P. YADAVA (Monghyr) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, not even a single member of opposition is sitting in the House at the moment.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : Two Members are present. Our hon. Deputy Speaker is representing all of them.

[English]

He represents the whole opposition.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : No, they are 111 ?

SHRI D. P. YADAVA : You may please chide them also. (Interruptions) You ring quorum bell again and again, but at the same time, they should also be vigilant about their own quorum.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA (Shahjahanpur) : You may please talk to them as to what is this all.

SHRI D.P. YADAVA : Kindly speak a few words to them.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you think that I call any particular person ? I invite all the members. There should be quorum in the House, it may be from either side.

[English]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA (Jaipur) : It is a sad commentary,

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER ; Th's is your view.

[English]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Sir, it is a sad commentary. It is a very important issue which is being discussed here and practically there is no Opposition present here.

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central) : The Ruling Party Members are more because our hon. Prime Minister is present here.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT : So, I am saying that structurally, the Budget is also sound and sensible. As I said, the biggest problem the country is facing today is the rise in expenditure. Enough steps are being taken to control the expenditure.

Similarly, the Budget strikes a new path, a Gandhian approach, if I may say so, in bringing about simplicity in administration by giving up all ostentations projects, all ostentatious way of spending by governing the country. This is being re-introduced in this Budget which has removed all the frills and ostentations by cutting down and postponing all the slow moving projects and replacing them with fast moving ones. If you see the emphasis on projects which helps the people, which helps in growth and also the measures provided for development and growth, development of capital goods sector, it is really tremendous. Large funds are allocated for the rural poverty alleviation, through increase in productive employment—I emphasis the word productive employment—and improving the delivery system in the anti-poverty programme in the rural areas.

He has also made positive orientations on a whole range of issues especially the vital sector of economy. He has also laid emphasis on housing. Large funds, i.e., Rs. 800 crores, have been provided for education from the Central Sector which is duly matched. Refusal to agree to any more concessions indirect taxes, particularly, the corporate tax and not yield-

ing to any pressure from the corporate sector in giving any more concessions is also a welcome step. The Budget strikes a definite and positive departure from the immediate past and charts its own path through socio-economic development based on growth, modernisation, productivity and social justice.

Finally, a word about inflation. Another point many Members have made—and some of the economists outside have said that—is that the Budget is bound to be inflationary. Public memory is very short. We even heard yesterday a Member on the other side. When his Government was there, inflation was not only galloping, but there was runaway inflation. In one year, 22% rise in prices was there—16% rise. It was not only a two-digit figure, but twice the two-digit figure, in one year. You can see that 1980 onwards, despite all the adverse international environment, despite all the factors like pressures of non-Plan expenditure, Defence and other expenditure, how the demand management, how the monetary management of the economy has been there, and it has been controlled and now been brought down to a very respectable figure of 5.3% in the wholesale prices last year, and about 6% this year.

The economy is in a growth boom today—5% growth. If you compare it with the last ten years, or particularly since 1980, we have had an average around 5%. The 6th Plan has recorded an average of 5% growth. We have had nearly 5% growth this year. I have no doubt that with the boost in the industrial sector, and programmes in the agricultural sector, production will increase.

Another point made has been that the Budget does not provide for growth in employment opportunities. I know that if there is industrial growth and growth particularly in the small sector—concessions have been given for the employment of labour—there will be a big jump in employment. There will be a big jump in employment in the agricultural sector. New programmes are there. Agriculture is now more employment-oriented. And

more important is the direct employment created by 182 million man-hours. If you translate it into productive employment, it will mean about over a million people each year. These are the direct fruits. Together with these, if you see the employment component, it will come to a sizeable figure; and if you see the number of people below the poverty line, it has been brought down from 48% to 37%. I have no doubt that with the path that the Prime Minister has chartered, we will be able to bring down the number of people below the poverty level, further down, and achieve the objective that we have, of bringing it down to at least 25%.

So, Sir, this is the Budget. The Budget brings forward the strength, the confidence of the people. What is required is this. The Budget is a political instrument. It has a political philosophy. In the 19th century, economics was important. It is no longer economics which is important. The economy is political economy. The political economy of this country, the premier developing country which has shown a path to the whole world, is that there should be a national consensus behind this Plan. Anybody who opposes it, does so far narrow partisan considerations. There is only one path, and that path is the path laid down by the Budget, and by the Prime Minister. Thank you.

Mr. SPEAKER : Now I think we have got only one minute left. So, we adjourn for lunch, and will meet again at 2 p.m. (*Interruptions*) We will meet at one minute to 2 p.m. We will have not more than one hour.

12.59. hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch, till fifty nine minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

GENERAL BUDGET, 1987-88 GENERAL DISCUSSION AND DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (GENERAL), 1984-85
Contd.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Zainul Basher.

[Translation]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghaazipur) Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Budget for the year 1987-88, which was presented by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, will always be remembered in the history for many of its features. When budget for the year 1985-86 was presented in this august House, a number of our friends would recall that at that time I had vehemently criticised that budget. The reason was that the Budget for the year 1985-86 was a deviation from those basic principles and traditions on the basis of which the Congress Government always used to prepare budget. The basic principles and traditions of the Congress Party have at ways been reflected in the annual budgets presented by the Congress Government. The Concept of socialism, bridging of gap between the rich and the poor, putting the burden of taxation on comparatively well to-do people and providing relief to weaker sections and general public have all along been the main features of the budget of every Congress Government. The Budget for 1985-86 was slightly different from the above-mentioned principles and in it comparatively more well to-do people had been given more relief and the poor had been burdened with taxes. At that time I had said that this budget has moved a little towards the right of the Centre instead from the left of the Centre. To-day it gives me much pleasure that the budget, which has been presented by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has once again moved from the right of the Centre towards the left of the Centre and the basic principles and conventions of the Congress have once again been reflected in this budget. This budget will be remembered in the history as a budget which has made our train return to its track which had tilted from it.

AN HON. MEMBER : It had not derailed.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : It had tilted. Of course, it had not derailed. The wheels had tilted a little. Secondly, the present Budget will be remembered for ever because of the Hon. Prime Minister's declaration about the establishment of National Commission on Rural Labour. It is a very significant step. The rural labour and the agricultural labour have always been neglected although the maximum percentage of our working class consists of rural labour. It is being deprived of the facilities which are being given to the working class in general. Attention has been drawn towards this problem in this august House every year, through Questions, Budget speeches and other means. However, the setting up of a National Commission on Rural Labour, as declared by the Hon. Prime Minister, will be welcomed by a large number of people. It is a very important step, a historic declaration and would be remembered for ever.

Secondly, another historic step has been the establishment of National Housing Bank. In connection with the housing problem of the poor people in particular, both in the villages and towns, it was demanded that an institution should be set up which would grant assistance to the common people and to those belonging to the weaker sections for house-building purposes. The National Housing Bank would be a remarkable achievement, and on this account, this Budget would be a landmark and would be remembered for ever.

Again, this is a historic Budget in another way as well. For the first time, the Government has allocated Rs. 870 crores for education, when only Rs. 352 crores were allocated in the previous year. In this way, it is the first Budget in which more than double of the usual allocation has been made for education. Hence, this Budget would be remembered for ever for this feature as well.

Again, this Budget would be instrumental in removing certain notions which have been gaining currency among people. It has been clearly stated in the Budget that our Public Sector would continue to

enjoy the same importance as it has traditionally enjoyed under the Congress Governments. Doubts have arisen in many quarters about the Public Sector because of its losses and questions have been raised as to how much of support should be provided to the Public Sector through budgetary provisions. The disappointment of the hon. Finance Minister is evident in the Budgets of the last two years. He had observed that there were only two sources left for generating resources for the National Rural Employment Programmes and these are the Public Sector and increased taxation respectively. Perhaps he was not hopeful of the Public Sector earning more profits, hence he had relied on taxation. But I believe and a large number of people in this country also believe that the Public Sector is a matter of principle for us which we cannot give up on any account and if they are managed properly, there cannot be two opinions on the point that they would earn profits. I have full faith that proper attention would be given to public undertakings so that they are properly managed and earn maximum profits.

It is on account of the aforesaid points that this Budget occupies a special position and would be remembered for ever. In this Budget, a provision of about Rs 2000 crores has been made again for the rural development programmes and particularly for eradication of poverty. The amount which was earmarked last year was more or less the same. But perhaps the allocations have been enhanced this year. This is a very revolutionary step taken by the Congress Government for the eradication of poverty and the effects of which are visible in the whole country today. You can go and ask the poor villagers, who hardly ever got anything to eat and led a hand to mouth life, and you will find as to what revolutionary changes have been brought in their lives by the anti-poverty programmes. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would also like to submit that if these programmes are implemented properly, then I think, the intentions of the Government and that of our party will be fulfilled. The Hon. Prime Minister has himself visited some Adivasi villages and

seen as to how the programmes are being implemented. Wherever distortions were found, directions were given for their rectification. However, the way programmes are being implemented; there is need for improvement in them. By entrusting the bureaucrats with the responsibility of implementing the programmes, we are not getting the desired results. I think if this work is entrusted to the representatives of the people, particularly to the local bodies, then proper results could be expected. But the anomaly is that there are many States where elections to local bodies have not been held and hence they are not working. The bureaucrats are running the local bodies there. Hence, elections to the Local bodies should be held. The Chairman of the D.R.D.A. is the District Collector himself at many places. However, in Karnataka, the Chairman of the Zila Parishad has been made the chairman of the D.R.D.A. In many States, the District Magistrate is nominated as the Chairman of the D.R.D.A. I think that if the Chairman of the Zila Parishad or some other elected representative is nominated as the Chairman of the D.R.D.A., then this programme will be more successful.

In connection with the I.R.D.P. programmes, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that there are two agencies functioning there. One agency is under the State Government and selects the family units and the other agency is the banking organisation which is under the Central Government and provides financial assistance. It has been evident that the beneficiaries selected by the State Government agency are often refused assistance by the concerned banks. Only the families living below the poverty line are supposed to be selected as the beneficiaries. The difficulty is that the beneficiary has to first approach the State Government for recommendation and when he manages to get that, he has to approach the banks for financial assistance which he does not get. This gives rise to many problems. In this connection, I would suggest that you may entrust the work to one agency. If the State Government agency has to function, then the banks must not refuse to assist and if the

[Shri Zainul Basher]

banks are entrusted with this work, then the agency of the State Government should be done away with and sufficient number of employees should be there in the banks to carry on this work and made it a success.

I would like to submit certain points in brief. The Hon. Prime Minister has stated in his Budget speech that agricultural production has not been increasing since the last three years. It is true that the agricultural production has remarkably increased on account of Green Revolution but it is also true that the same has not increased significantly for the past three years. The reason behind it is that in areas like Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh and in some other areas, where greater attention was paid to increase the yield, it has reached an optimum level of production and it would perhaps be difficult to increase the yield any further, but there are certain areas where if proper attention is paid, it may lead to increased production. In this connection, I would like to cite the example of Eastern Uttar Pradesh about which the the experts are of the opinion that if all facilities are provided and irrigation, fertiliser and power are made available, then Eastern Uttar Pradesh would produce more wheat and rice than Punjab. Last year the rice production in Eastern Uttar Pradesh had increased by 40 per cent. If Eastern Uttar Pradesh continues to get such aid it can produce more wheat than that of Punjab. Similarly Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and some other States can also produce more wheat and rice. Therefore, these States and these areas which have production potential should be given special assistance to increase their production. If you leave this matter entirely to the State Governments, the revolutionary change in our agricultural sphere will not be possible with limited resources of our State Governments. Therefore, the Central Government should pay special attention towards those areas where agriculture production can be further increased.

I would also like to draw your attention towards one more point. The tax im-

posed by the Government on foreign tours is a good step. I want that 15 per cent tax should be imposed on those who are well off. But in this regard, I would like to draw your attention towards the Haj pilgrims. A large number of muslim pilgrims go for Haj pilgrimage to Saudi Arab. They mostly belong to the poor section of the society. Earlier they used to go by sea route in which the fare was quite less and they had to incur less expenditure. But now only one or two ships are available and you are going to discontinue even their services also. As a result of that Haj pilgrims have to travel by air. These poor people save some money with great difficulty from their life long earnings and go for Haj pilgrimage. I think Sikh pilgrims also visit Lahore and some other religious places in Pakistan. I think that Christians also go on pilgrimage to Rome. Therefore, I would like to urge the hon. Minister through you that at least those pilgrims should be exempted from this tax. We shall be thankful to you if you grant such an exemption. You should impose tax on affluent people who go abroad for business and some other purposes. We shall be grateful to you if the pilgrims are exempted from this tax.

With these words, I support this historical Budget presented by Shri Rajiv Gandhi. It is a land mark in our history which shall be remembered for ever. I hope that people will get good results from our economic policies, other policies and poverty allevation programmes.

[C. Ash]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, I rise to oppose this budget. But first of all I must thank Mr. Zainul Basher for having given some support to our much maligned State of West Bengal and calling upon the Central Government to provide the much needed resources in the form of agricultural inputs which are necessary to increase production.....

AN HON. MEMBER : He mentioned in respect of all States

SHRI AMAL DATTA : He especially mentioned Bengal.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He wants to take it like this.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : I mentioned so many States—Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and other States.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : But he never denied for West Bengal. That is why he likes to thank him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Well, I am just thanking him. Why do you obstruct me from thanking somebody ?

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur) : We thank you for your thanks.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Unfortunately in this House my experience is very short compared to many Members, but I have found that whenever the name of Bengal comes, there is derisive laughter and there is a tendency always to belittle the Government and the people who have elected the Government and whenever we have brought before this House our very genuine, long-felt grievances, they have been brushed aside.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : No.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I will come to that later. I also agree with Shri Zainul Basher that this Budget may go down as unique in history but not because of the reasons that he has advanced namely, that the burden of taxation has been shifted from the poorer to the richer section, indeed it has been otherwise. Direct taxes have come from 19% to 17% and indirect taxes have proportionately gone up thereby imposing a little more burden on the poorer section of the people.

But I do agree that the Budget is unique in being presented by a Finance Minister who happens to have assumed

charge only barely a month before the Budget was presented.

One may say, as Prof. Madhu Dandavate yesterday said, that the Budget is entirely rudderless, without any objective and so forth. But I join issue with him on that point.

I say it is a Budget with a definite objective. The objective of the Budget, as our Prime Minister is very fond of saying, not now, but for the last two years he has been saying this, that his intention and I think that it is the intention of the entire Council of Ministers and indeed of the entire Congress party—is to take the country as fast as possible into the 21st century. *(Interruptions)*. How does the country go faster to the 21st century ?

It is obviously on the basis of the industrial growth which can only be ushered in by import of hitechnology and by liberal import policy, the advantage of which can be taken not by 80 crores of Indian population but by barely 1% of them ! It is a minuscule portion of the Indian population for whom the Budget has any meaning. Others are forgotten. Now it is for their benefit that this budget goes in the way that other Budgets of this regime have done namely, leaving the field of industrial progress to private initiative to see that those people who will exert the private initiative are in no way irritated by taxes, so reduce the taxes and, well, give some sop to the poor people so that they do not cry too much. This is the ideology, the ideology of laissez-faire for the purpose of reaching the 21st century but, on the other hand, of a Government not able to shake off the public sectors which has grown to such proportions because people had to be given sops, not now, from the 50s and they have told that the growth of public sector equals "socialism" and socialism was the catch-word which attracts votes. So, without 'socialism' one cannot get votes and one cannot get hold of power. So, one has to chant the word 'socialism' just as if it is a mantra and it is a mantra so far as the electorate is concerned. That is shown by the very fact that our Prime Minister, dynamic and young as he is, has now come back to

[Shri Amal Datta]

utter the word 'socialism' which has now again triumphantly made its entry into the budget also as a word but not as a concept.

This socialism is a concept which the Prime Minister here tried to define negatively the other day saying that it is not spreading of poverty. Nobody said every—who is a theoretician of socialism—that it is spreading of poverty. I do not know.....

AN. HON. MEMBER : It was Pandit Nehru who was expressed.....

SHRI AMAL DATTA : He might have expressed this in some other context. That should not be lifted out of context. However, he did not really redefine socialism. There is no need for him to do so. He only utters the word. This word has found expression here and there in a public speech, in the T.V., in the budget speech....

SHRI MADAN PANDEY : I raise a point of Order. Is it correct to use this House for the purpose of political propaganda of his own party ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is not a point of Order.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : It is a convenient jargon to which the Prime Minister willy nilly had to come back after the election reverses put him wiser and since some other elections are now round the corner, the word socialism has come back. But we are not going towards socialism. Unfortunately, people's memory is very short. The same Prime Minister had stated that socialism means poverty and inefficiency—poverty, inefficiency and corruption, that is how he had educated socialism with.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : He has never said like this.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : He is not extolling the virtue but he is saying; "we are going on the socialist path."

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : (Mandsaur) : He is making an election speech because he has not gone to Bengal... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Unfortunately, the much abused word of socialism has got dissociated from its original context so far as Indian politics is concerned and particularly so far as the politics of the ruling party is concerned.

Let me move on because I think a further dose of socialism will not suit them. The budget used to be an occasion when people expected that they would understand which way the nation is moving. It is also an exercise, used to be an exercise for the Government to show that it is competent to govern that it can balance its budget, that it does not leave any uncovered deficit and so on and so forth. This sanctity is now being lost on many counts. First of all, we find that the budget is no longer an instrument for mobilising resources. The resources being mobilised outside the budget are far greater—five, six, seven or ten times than the resources mobilised through the budget. Just prior to the budget, concessions are given galore. In spite of the fact that this has been pronounced as something wrong by a Financial Committee of this House last year, this year again the same thing has been repeated.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : It has no relevance with the budget Sir.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : They don't understand what I am talking about.

The concessions which are given by notifications on customs and excise etc., are the things I am mentioning. Somebody mentioned Calcutta. That does not feature here. It features elsewhere.

This year also we have seen the unedifying spectacle of raising the postal

rates, telephone rates, railway fares and freights. All these things have been raised and more than Rs.2000 crores are supposed to be raised by that method, leaving only Rs.322 crores additional resources to be mobilised by the budget.

Another feature of it was this : if there is any deficit at all, it must be small, but that is given a go-by. For the last four, five or six years, it has been given a total go by. Now what is happening is that the estimated deficit is exceeded by two or three times (*Interruptions*)

In 1985-86 the estimated deficit was Rs.3316 crores; the actual deficit was Rs. 6565 crores. In 1986-87, the estimated deficit was Rs.3703 crores; the revised estimate is Rs. 8525 crores and it may be more when the actual figures come in. In 1987-88 it has been left at Rs 5800 crores and it will easily rise to Rs. 12000 crores. You may compare this with next year when the budget is presented.

This is for what purpose ? What is the budget for ? It is to give the economy a thrust in some direction also to see that the inflation does not take place, the prices do not rise. Because if the prices go up, it will only inconvenience the poor people, not the richer people because their income grows even by a much higher percentage than the rate of inflation. In fact, they are happier.

The budget has become irrelevant with the amount of black money and the parallel economy which is running in this country. The growth of black money has been phenomenal. I will just read out certain figures. In 1968-69 Wanchoo Commission had estimated the black money at Rs. 1400 crores; but in a dissenting note Dr. Rangnekar had estimated it at Rs. 2833 crores. The same Dr. Rangnekar estimated the black-money in 1980-81 at Rs. 18000 crores which became six times his own figures of 1968-69, in twelve years time. This has been recently estimated in 1983 at Rs. 47000 crores. The IMF calculated India's underground economy at 48% of

the GNP that is, at Rs. 72000 crores. This is Sir, the highest figure. (*Interruptions*) ...I don't know, it is an institution. You go to IMF for loans.. (*Interruptions*) ...

It is most unfortunate that this is an aspect which is seldom noticed. What is the relevance of a budget ? Really speaking, the money that we are going to spend on certain sectors is over-balanced, and totally swamped by the amount of money which is spent in other sectors or through the parallel economy, by the holders of black money. What is the meaning ultimately of the budget in that case ? (*Interruptions*) Budget has to be there but these people have to be controlled. It does not mean you give up having the budget and throw the economy in the hands of the black-marketeters.

Sir, what attempt Government has made to control the blackmoney ? Through raids only a few hundred crores of rupees have come and even then the Prime Minister has himself disagreed with these raids going on. He himself remarked that he did not necessarily approve of the raids going on at that time. Maybe that is the reason why the Finance Minister had to be changed !

SHRI MURLI DEORA : Prime Minister did not say that. You are misquoting the Prime Minister. Did you speak to him privately at the Calcutta airport ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : It came in the newspapers.

Then another aspect of this is the amount of black money which is allowed to be transferred out of the country. Again I have to go back to the international institution. There is a study of World Bank regarding the amount of foreign exchange held by Indians abroad—not NRIs. They are having in one country alone, according to the study, Rs. 30,000 crores and this is increasing at a fast rate helped by the liberal import policy of the Government which allows people to import as much as they want

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and over-invoice the import so that they can transfer their black-money to foreign countries. There is now a great pressure on the foreign exchange because people are wanting to buy foreign exchange to shift their money out of the country. Various factors are there. One of them is the apprehension that our rupee is going to be devalued shortly.
(Interruptions)

Sir, there is in the budget certain figures regarding revenue receipts and certain figures regarding transfer to States. Now these figures are highly objectionable because the transfers are shown as cross transfers only. It does not give the real economic picture of the resources transferred to States. According to the receipt Budget in the, 1986-87, the gross transfer was Rs.8464 crores to all States. In 1987-88 it was Rs. 9014 crores. The interest paid by these States and the repayment by the States together came to Rs 4837 crores in 1986-87 and Rs. 4740 crores in 1987-88 leaving to them net transfer of Rs. 3627 crores in 1986-87 and Rs. 4274 crores in the coming year. This amounts to only one-tenth of the total receipts of the Central Government. The Central Government got this year a total of Rs. 44,911 crores as tax and non-tax revenue. Out of this only Rs. 4274 crores are to be transferred to the States which is less than 10 per cent. This is the sort of treatment given to the States. It has created so much grievance in the States that it brought about the out-cry for re-ordering of the Centre-State relationship for which a commission has been going on since 1983.

We are now in 1987.

AN HON MEMBER : Good ; thank you for this information that we are in 1987.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Yes, yes ; probably you thought we have reached 2001.

First of all, deficit as a proportion of the total Government expenditure has risen from 9.9 per cent in 1985-86 to 13.7

per cent in 1986-87. Against the Rs. 14 000 crores of total deficit envisaged for the entire Five Year Plan, in the first two years alone, we had a deficit of Rs. 13,222 crores. In the next year we shall add, as I predicted a deficit-forget about the figure ; that is a sop again will have a deficit of Rs] 12,000 crores. So by the end of the third year of the Seventh Plan period we will exceed the estimated deficit by Rs. 12,000 crores.

When the Government started reducing the direct taxes, the theory was : you have a low rate of tax and high collection. Sir, let us see how the tax collection has performed. Tax rates have been lowered no doubt but tax collection has not grown to that extent. In 1985-86, the total tax collection increased by 21.3 per cent. It went down in 1986-87 to 11.9%. The increase has gone down and has reached the figure which has been traditionally there. 15 per cent increase in tax collection every year-that has been traditionally in India. We can reach that figure but the tax rate is low. For the rich, it is a very convenient proposition. In fact, so far as corporate tax is concerned, it has gone down in 1985-86 from 22 per cent to 6.8 per cent only and it will go down further, according to budget assumptions to 6.2 per cent. It shows that all these assumptions on which this budget has been drawn up, are wrong. They have already been proved wrong but still people are being told that this is the best budget for you: Sir, let us see how this thing happens.

First of all, the rate of growth of the economy is 5.2 or 5.1. But this is very shortly explained by the fact that although there is a failure both in agriculture and in industrial sector to reach that targetted development, yet the growth rate is something like what was targetted because of the enormous growth in the service sector where the Defence and Government administration growth leads all the way by 9 per cent--a supper growth rate in wastefulness of 9 per cent.

Now, Sir, the Government wastes. On this a report has been prepared by a Ministry of which we throught very little up to now-the Ministry of Programme

Implementation. Sir, this Ministry has prepared a report—maybe for the lack of something more worthwhile to do, on 264 Central Government projects. It has shown conclusively that against an estimated initial expenditure of Rs. 42,935 crores, the current estimate on these 264 projects is Rs. 64,448 a staggering 50.1 per cent increase in the current estimates. Nobody says that this is going to be the last estimate because these projects are far from complete and by the time they are finished, it will be another 50 per cent—another 100 per cent increase may be.

Sir, examples like this, Vizag Steel : original estimate Rs. 2,256 crores; current estimate is (far from complete, you know, Sir) is Rs. 7,427 crores. Time overrun already is 43 months. In the case of NALCO, the original estimate was Rs. 1242 crores and the current estimate is Rs. 2408 crores. The time lag is 20 months. One can go on with these examples.

In certain existing plants, like the Bokaro Steel Plant and the Bhilai Steel Plant, a small amount of induction of money will improve their production capacity enormously. In case of Bokaro Steel Plant, the investment has gone to Rs. 2000 crores from the estimated cost of Rs. 1000 crores and the time lag is 101 months. In Bhilai also, the picture is almost similar. The capacity utilization of the SAIL steel plants has not been more than fifty one per cent in the last year. On the other hand, we are going to import steel from abroad. Is it that somebody else is able to make money out of these transactions? How is it that Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants—none of them happens to be in West Bengal—are doing so badly. Even BHEL, a prime undertaking of this Government is not able to supply all the necessary equipment for thermal power stations; it has to run at 30 per cent of the capacity because orders for machinery which they are able to make are given abroad. These cost over-runs are losing the economy to the extent of Rs. 2500 crores, the losses incurred by the public sector are losing the economy another Rs. 2500 crores and the profit which should have been made by the public sector is another Rs. 5000 crores. You can thus

get here a straight estimate of Rs. 10,000 crores which the Government would have brought to its coffers or which would not have gone out of its coffers had it not been so wasteful.

Then, the price index is another fraud which is always committed by the Government on the people. We have an expenditure of Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 crores on the Statistical Organization every year. How is it that the cost of living index cannot be compiled by them and we have to depend on the consumer price index? And this price index is also not quoted when the Government wants to take credit for having controlled the inflation. It will always quote the wholesale price index which has nothing to do with the consumer. What has the consumer to do with the price of agricultural produce at which it will be sold in the mandis? On the other hand, we shout that the producers are not getting remunerative prices. It is the middlemen who are enjoying all the profits; it is the traders and these are the people who run the economy of this country.

14.53 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *In the Chair*]

It is not the producers. Therefore, the Government should come out with a cost of living index and not rely upon the consumer price index which, in any case, is based on the pattern of expenditure of 1958-59. We can update anything and everything we want to update, but not this. This is the easiest thing to do with so many computers having been imported.

Another fraud is the poverty line. Poverty line has been defined long time ago, but nevertheless we are sticking to the same definition. Even under that definition the poverty has been increasing. During the successive years from 1961-62 to 1972-73, it increased from 42 per cent to 51.5 per cent. Suddenly in 1983 a new figure comes out that people below the poverty line are only to the extent of 37.4 per cent. It is not correct. It is based on a survey in an year when the agricultural production was exceptionally high.

[Shri Amal Datta]

Everybody who knows anything about the Indian economy would know that the year when agricultural production is high, is the year when people eat more, have more income and more activities and thereby the number of people below the poverty line would be less. It is actually giving the people a false picture, lulling them into a sense of complacency. At least some people believe for some time that that was the correct picture. Then the Government takes credit saying that because of the poverty alleviation programme alone the figure has gone down from 48 per cent after 1977-78 to 37 per cent—a drop of 10 per cent in the number of people below the poverty line. What a great achievement on the part of the Government! But it is all due to good monsoon. Now, if you take another survey you will find that this has gone up way above 60 per cent. In fact there is nothing for the Government to take credit of in the poverty alleviation programme, particularly with regard to IRDP, which has been such a total flop as brought out by the Reserve Bank of India's survey, as brought out by the Government's own institutional survey including the Staff College of Hyderabad, because of which the concurrent devaluation earlier started has now been given up. It has been so much of a flop all over India—I am not talking of West Bengal here—not more than 20 per cent of people who have got the IRDP loans have been able to cross the poverty line which is now set at Rs. 6400 and not Rs. 3500 any more.

Since you are not giving me more time, let me come straightway to the problem which is facing the country very squarely. In the coming days, it will be a great problem. I am speaking of balance of trade.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): Mr. Datta, is it your categorical plea that IRDP should be given up? Tell us frankly.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: No, no. I will talk to you later about it. Foreign

exchange position is very precarious in this country. Unfortunately, the Government does not seem to think so. It takes credit from the fact that exports have shown a little rise. That rise is accounted for because the value of rupee has fallen. Therefore, even if the dollar earnings remain the same, the rupee earnings go up and that is how this rise is reflected in the foreign exchange earnings. It is nothing more than that. The other side of the picture is that in spite of the fact that more than a thousand crores of rupees have been saved from the oil import because of the fall in oil prices, non-oil imports have risen by far more and therefore the imports are rising. This is the picture which is being given to us to the effect that we have a comfortable foreign exchange position which is far from the truth. In fact while the foreign exchange holdings of this country, which is supposed to be equal to four months import, which is around Rs. 400 crores to Rs. 5000 crores, the total external account of NRI in India is more than Rs. 7000 crores. This NRI money is not at our country's command. This NRI money may go away from India, if they get one per cent more in any other country. Most of the money comes from America. If America increases the rate of interest, they can make us beggars overnight. This can be done by America by just increasing their rate of interest by one per cent more than what we are offering. So, we should be careful. I am asking the Government not to confuse even for a moment this money to be our foreign exchange reserve. This is not our foreign exchange reserve. We are at the mercy of the United States Government and they can take it away any time if they so wish. We must build up our foreign exchange reserves and this cannot be done by the policy of liberal import. We must come away from that position and we must see that the economy is controlled and wasteful expenditures are curtailed and in the name of more competition we should not pauperise our people. What is happening in the so-called sun-rise industries the electronic, automobile industries which are supposed to take the country to the 21st Century?

15-00 hrs.

Sir, licenses for 64 million T. V. sets

per year have been given, whereas Government itself does not contemplate that the requirement will be more than 8 million sets in the year 1990. Regarding automobiles—scooters—and such type of things, a number of companies are closing their doors, as soon as they open them. So, the investment is going waste. That is the bane of not having any planning. Government has gone off planning. It is talking of planning, but secretly it is giving away all the country's resources to the foreigners and ultimately, we find ourselves in such a strait that we will have to go with the begging bowl to these foreign countries and the international institutions and then we will have to accept any condition they impose. I hope, the Government will take note from now and will not drive the country in that bankruptcy.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the dynamic Budget, presented by our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi with the principal objective of elimination of poverty, building of strong, modern, self-reliant and independent economy. This has also given a fitting reply to those the so-called Leftists, who are sitting on my right here, who use to blame Mrs. Gandhi, that she is not following the economic directions given by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and the same people were blaming that Shri Rajiv Gandhi is not following the economic directions given by Late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Late Smt. Indira Gandhi. But this Budget has proved the path and directions of the Government are the same which were provided by Jawaharlal Nehru and Mrs. Indira Gandhi during the fifth and sixth Plan periods. I was told, my dear friend is an Advocate. When he was talking earlier interrupting the Prime Minister's speech, somebody said rightly that they are not asking him to campaign in Calcutta. I do not blame the CPM politbureau or the leadership in Calcutta. But sometimes, I wonder, if he is an Advocate, I will just ask my friend...

AN HON. MEMBER : He is a Barrister.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : If he is a Barrister, whether anybody would like to consult him, the way, he has given the figures. You have played a disaster. I hope you do not play the same disaster with your clients. I do not know, whether they will allow you to go to the Court even. The hon. Member had said, that the deficit has gone up. Of course, the deficit has gone up. And the Prime Minister said, he does not like this deficit which has gone up. There is no doubt about it. We must control our deficit.

About the figures, which he gave us, I want to give a example. He said that the deficit is 13 per cent of GNP. GNP is nearly Rs. 2 lakhs crores, i. e. about Rs. 2000 crores or Rs. 3000 crores more and 13 per cent will be Rs. 36000 crores and the deficit is Rs. 6000 crores. Last year, it was Rs. 800 crores. I do not know how he is calculating. He has said that Income Tax collections have gone down due to decrease in the tax rates. I want to quote him. In 1984-85, the net revenue was Rs. 22643 crores, in 1985-86, it was Rs. 24207 crores and this year, it is expected to be Rs. 27711 crores. I do not know what figures he is reading. Then, he said the resources are transferred to the State...

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I meant, expenditure.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : He says that he meant expenditure. When he is talking about income, he means expenditure. Now you can imagine, how are we to understand him? When he is talking about income, he is meaning expenditure.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Deficit is not income. Deficit is expenditure.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : You can't talk like that. You said, deficit. That is what I am trying to tell you. How can the deficit be 13 per cent of the GNP? Nobody, will believe you.

[Shri Murlī Deora]

Another thing, you said about the resources, which are transferred to the State Governments and the Union Territories Governments have gone down. He said, they have not gone down. Earlier, it was Rs. 20673 crores. Last year, it was Rs. 21195 crores and this year, it is Rs. 23250 crores. So, nowhere has it gone down. You see this book, page 21. I do not know what you are reading.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Deora, you address the Chair! don't address him.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : I am trying to say how much my hon. friend is playing with figures. What he reveals is very misleading, but what he is concealing is really a disaster. *(Interruption)* I am telling him that he can read the book "Budget at a Glance". Coming from Bombay...*(Interruption)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Deora, this is not fair; kindly address the Chair.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : He was confusing between expenditure and deficit. How can the expenditure and deficit be the same ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister will listen to you, Mr. Deora.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : Okay, Sir; I am sorry.

The first and foremost point for which I would like to congratulate to the Prime Minister is there in paragraph 27 of his speech, wherein he has drawn the attention of the House to the massive housing shortages, specially in urban areas. We have today one-fourth of the total population of our country, nearly 175 million, living in the urban areas. There are ten cities with more than one million people. We must make more and more programmes e. g. rural poverty alleviation programme, no doubt. I am all for it. But we must do something more for the urban areas also, we must do something for the urban poor also.

What has one Judge of the Supreme Court said about the urban land ceiling programme which is in existence for ten years ? He has said that it is ill conceived and ill-drafted. I must congratulate the Prime Minister for coming out with a statement that this urban land ceiling that is the provisions in the legislation will be reconsidered, and something will come up in this session of Parliament, whereby this ULC will be re-drafted and something will be done to acquire more surplus land. Uptill now, in ten years, against 100% target, the achievement is only 0.5%. Only 0.5% has been acquired.

The other provision for massive housing construction Government has proposed in this Budget is the Rs. 120 crores for the Indira Awas Yojana, and further concessions for people to buy houses have been given under IT Act's section, wherein the interest paid for the acquiring of houses is exempt from income tax. This will really give a massive boost to urban housing in medium towns in our country.

Rural labour protection, stopping of labour and such other legislation will also help the work force of our cities and rural areas.

Prof. Madhu Dandavate—unfortunately he is not here now—said that the Budget was not growth-oriented, and that it had gone away from the long-term fiscal policies which were provided by the Government earlier. I would only quote two things; Mr. Dandavate said that the MODVAT which was incorporated only last year, had increased inflation. I would like to show him a newspaper of yesterday. An advertisement is there, inserted by Hindustan Lever which is the largest *Janata* toilet soap manufacturer. They have said, and I quote.

"Consequent to the changes in the rate of excise duties in the Finance Bill, 1987, the prices of the following are reduced. The revised prices are as given below .."

Now, there is no inflation. Prices of several commodities, due to the introduction of MODVAT and other different excise items, have gone down. There is no question of their going up.

Mr. Dandavate earlier, and now my friend spoke about deficit financing. Everyone knows that deficit financing is not good. But when the need is so urgent, when the requirements of the people are so numerous, when allocations are needed for every sphere of activity, there is no other go for Government except to take recourse to deficit financing. But as my friend Mr. Gadgil rightly said earlier, deficit financing does not necessarily bring in inflation. Sometimes this deficit financing or inflation itself provides jobs. You think of some little higher price which can ensure growth and employment. So, it is better for a man to get a job, while another man suffers due to a 5% or 10% price rise. I agree that we should try to protect the other man also, but in case it gives growth and employment, it is also laudable. The Prime Minister could not have been more accurate when he said that he did not like deficits, and that he would see to it that this deficit would be reduced, and that it would not be increased.

I do not see any reason why my friend has become impatient and thinks that the deficit financing will go to Rs. 20,000 crores or Rs. 18,000 crores this year. This budget has given a growth to the industrialisation of our country. The capital market of our country has reached to the tune of nearly Rs. 5,800 crores in three years, during the Janata Government in 1977-78 the average yearly capital outlay was Rs. 220 crores to Rs. 250 crores. In the last three years, it has gone from Rs. 1000 crores to Rs. 5,800 crores. This is a sure indication that the government is stable; this is a sure indication that the economy of the government is good. Otherwise, nobody is going to be interested to put more and more money in equities, in debentures, in shares and in the stock market. This is a real indicator of political stability of the country.

Further incentives for savings have been increased under Section 80 (C) from Rs. 14,000 to Rs. 16,000. That will give a further boost to the capital market. The holding period of stock which has been reduced from three years to one year will further give a boost to the capital market. Tax concession for investment in new companies which was upto Rs. 20,000 is also extended further under Section 80 (C) and this will also help. However, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister here two sections which are incorporated in this budget just now for the first time. They are Sections 194 (e) and 115 (J); they need to be really re-considered. We are talking about simplifying our tax laws; we are talking about the rationalising the structure of taxes and it has paid heavy dividend last year and the year before. But this Section 194 (e) will create such colossal problems for the Income Tax Department, for the people, for the tax-payers, for the industry, for the bureaucrats, for the professionals, for the attorney like my friend here that it will not be in the interest of the government and in the interest of the people. The amount of time three years which the people will take to get 5 per cent refund back will be terrible and it will encourage corruption. So, I would like very much to request my hon. friend here to see, before it is not too late, before not too many articles come in the papers and the people get scared, that they would totally withdraw Section 194 (e). As far as Section 115 (j) is concerned, the government has given some new incentives by providing depreciation at three accelerated rates: 100 per cent, 50 per cent and 33 per cent, which will really help new industries, but the incorporation of this new Section 115 (j), which charges 15 per cent and 30 per cent on the profit, on the book profit is not really good. When an industry starts afresh, it takes one or two years for the teething period. They do not make profit in the first two years and they had this accumulated loss; and the third year or the fourth year when they make profit, this accumulated loss has to be offset. I would request him that he must re-consider it. I do not mind taxing them on their profit; I do not mind minimum tax, what the Minister was saying earlier. Let there be minimum tax; I

[Shri Murli Deora]

am not against it. But the way it is drafted, Section 115 (J), it will create more problems than getting more money; money derived from this, I believe, is Rs. 75 crores.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) :
How is the minimum tax ?

SHRI MURLI DEORA : After calculating, after adjusting previous year's profit and loss account if I make for two years Rs. 1 lakh loss and I carry it forward this year and this year if I make Rs. 50,000 profit, first my Rs. 1 lakh has to be offset; than the tax has to be charged from Rs. 1 lakh minus Rs. 50,000, only Rs. 50,000. And in this new scheme, it is not charging; it is charging afresh on Rs. 50,000 of profit, not on Rs. 1 lakh which I have already lost.

My hon. friend just now talked about the public sector. The Prime Minister, again and again, has said that the government's commitment to public sector has been very firm; there is no going back from the public sector of our country. Just after the independence, when the country needed real infrastructure, it was only public sector which came to the rescue of the government. If there was no big steel plants if there were no dams, NTPCs and big projects, today, we would not have come to this economic stage what we are today. But this does not mean that we should not manage our public sector properly. Regarding public sector contribution, Mr. Datta has given wrong figures. In the third year of the Seventh Plan, it is 63 per cent of the total plan while in the Sixth Plan, it was only 46 per cent of the total plan outlay. So, this further shows the Government's commitment to the public sector and the public sector which runs efficiently, the public sector which runs, not the public sector of West Bengal Government where nothing really works.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You have no knowledge at all.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : I just want to say how the public sector is.....
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : Only just now I have started, ten minutes more I need.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. already 15 minutes are over. You conclude.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : In the power sector, the plant load factor is highest since 1976-77, in our power sector plants. On the oil side we have explored three times the oil in the Sixth Plan period. This shows our commitment to the public sector. Unfortunately, Prof. Madhu Dandavate is not here just now. He again gave wrong figures. He said that the allocation to the Railways was Rs. 2000 crores. It is not correct. The allocation to the Railways is Rs. 2980 crores and what is really missing is that Mr. Dandavate should have got up when Shri Madhavrao Scindia was speaking at the time when he was talking about the Railway Budget. He said, the budgetary support to the Railways in 1977-78 in the Fifth Plan was 74 per cent and the internal resource generation was only 34 per cent; and today it is just the reverse. The budgetary support is 26 per cent of plan of Railways and the internal resource generation is 63 per cent. Rs. 69 crores goes to Railways, in real terms. The budgetary support, in the way the Janata Government was calculating at the time when Mr. Dandavate was the Railway Minister the profit of the Railways or the surplus of Railways will come to Rs. 1050 crores. If we measure with the same yardstick giving the money from the Plan than it can make more and more profits. What is the use of doing that ? What I am trying to say is the Railways, power, Tele-communications, oil, all these fields are doing well and it will show we need a work culture amongst our public sector, our people, professional's who are managing this public sector, they must manage well. Otherwise, they have no role here.

Prof Madhu Dandavate and my friend here mentioned that we announce a

concession on excise duty etc., in the mid-year. It is not really a long term fiscal policy. I want to tell you that it is just not possible for any Government not to announce these measures in the mid-year. I will give you one example. The excise duty or customs duties depend on the international prices and if the international price goes down because of the Dollar and parity changes, you have to increase or decrease the duties. You cannot help it. If the Government has to come in between in the mid-year they have to give some concession or increase or decrease the duties, they cannot do anything. That does not mean that the Government is not adhering to the long term fiscal policy. Long term fiscal policies are directives of policy. The way it is suggested, giving small small increase which means 20 per cent increase or 30 per cent is not done.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I said the sanctity of budget.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : There is nothing like the sanctity of budget. If in the mid-year when the Government thinks that the price of some commodity in the international market has gone down, it has to increase the duty. It will have an effect in our own internal market and it will create unemployment otherwise in our industries. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not argue, you continue your speech.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : I would like to give only a small example, how our economy is behaving and what should really be contained in the tax structure. The correct tax structure and liberalised licensing policy are helpful. Let us take the example of cement. About 19 million tonnes we were now manufacturing. During the years 1977 and 1978 there was a loss of Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 on every *boree* of cement. And now? What do we see? The Government of India came out with a positive programme, further liberalising the cement licensing. They allowed everyone to manufacture cement. Today we are manufacturing 41 million tonnes of cement. Whatever is the cement needed

by the people, in the books of the big companies, and the States, and the cement is available. Just to give you one figure, in 1980-81 the next tax collection was Rs. 137 crores, and today it is Rs. 820 crores. Six times!

SHRI AMAL DATTA : That is because of recession.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : No recession. We are collecting six times more taxes by producing more cement, and there is no shortage. This way the economy will lead in cooperation and coordinating the industrial licensing policy and the fiscal, monetary policy are working together.

I would like to give you one example of textiles. Seventeen per cent of the total organised workers in our country are employed in textiles. There was a time when people used to say that we are importing every fabric in our country and now there is no textile which is not manufactured in India. We can compete with and we can afford to export to any country in the world. But what is really happening to our textile policy? We say that the Government will see that the fabric will be available to every poor person at affordable price but actually it is not available. And this is the reason that I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister that something should be done to follow what was announced in the textile policy. The difference between the international price and the local price is so vast—six times, seven times. A polyester shirt in Bombay costs Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 because it is smuggled from Taiwan or Hong Kong or South Korea, and the same shirt, if it is manufactured in a mill in Bombay or Calcutta, costs about Rs. 120 to Rs. 130. How are we going to compete? This has really encouraged smuggling. So, I would request the hon. Minister to see that this tax system is devised in such a manner that there is not so much difference between the international market and the local market because this will always encourage smuggling. Even though there is increase in the standard of living in our country, the per capita production of textile has not gone up. Where is the fabric

[Shri Murli Deora]

coming from ? Where is the cloth coming from ? This cloth is coming by smuggling. So, I would request the hon. Minister to please do something...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Why do you close down so many textile mills ?

SHRI MURLI DEORA : You are right. We have closed down so many textile mills in Bombay thanks to Dr. Datta Samant. He is not here now. For two years all the textile mills were closed but still there was no shortage of textiles in India still the cloth was available. Where was it coming from ? It was coming from smuggling...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It was coming from powerloom.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : From powerloom to some extent, but the synthetic fabric was coming from smuggling. Gupta Ji, I want to tell you. I agree that it was coming from powerloom, and handloom. There is nothing wrong if it was coming from powerloom. I am not against that. What I am trying to say is that smuggling of synthetic textiles must be stopped. It is better to feed our own textile mills in Bombay and Calcutta and Delhi than to feed the textile mills of Taiwan and South Korea and Hong Kong. That does not do any good to us.

The Prime Minister says that the employment will be meaningful only if proper education is given. His commitment to education has been shown by increasing the amount from Rs. 300 crores and odd to Rs. 800 crores. The anti-poverty programme, the rural development programme has gone up to Rs. 2,000 crores and I am very sure that this budget will help to improve the lives of our people more and more.

One line on the urban poor I want to say. The only one programme that the Government of India had given last year was SEPUP—Self-Employment Programme for Urban Poor. Rs. 200 crores were provided for five lakh families. It was announced in the last year's Budget

but was started from first September. It has not done very well. So, I would request the hon. Minister through you that something should be done for the urban poor. We must do more and more programmes for the rural poor. If a man is poor while he is in the rural area, just because he migrates to Bombay city, he does not become rich. Just outside the border somebody is rural poor but if he migrates to Bombay, he becomes urban rich. This is not true. There are poor people in urban areas also. After doing something for the rural poor, we must do something for the urban poor. I would request the hon. Minister that this programme of SEPUP for the urban poor and the big cities needs to be redesigned and something should be done very quickly for fulfilling the aspirations of the urban poor.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH (Bulandshahr) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a great deal has been said for and against the Budget but despite what the critics of the Budget say, there is no gainsaying the fact that the Prime Minister has presented an excellent Budget, a Budget which does not impose very heavy taxation or burden on the tax-payer, a Budget which gives tremendous relief to the poor, and a Budget which has ample financial provisions to ensure that all our developmental activities continue unabated and they do not suffer because of paucity of funds. There is only one feature of the Budget which is causing some apprehension or fear in the minds of even those experts who know something about the Budget and who favour it. That fear is also in our mind. That feature is the big deficit in the Budget.

There is no doubt that even the Prime Minister himself is not very happy with the deficit. But it is something which cannot be avoided at the moment. He has given a categorical assurance to the House that everything possible will be done in the management of the Government expenditure, etc. That the ill-effects of the deficit would be neutralised towards the end of the year. That means the Government expenditure will be watched very carefully and monitored; and new

and on-going Central projects are completed in time so that no escalation takes place. These are measures which the Prime Minister has promised to take. I am sure by the end of the financial year he would be able to narrow this gap and will not allow it to create any mischief.

The Prime Minister in his speech has laid a great deal of emphasis on the alleviation of poverty. This a very important subject, no doubt, for the development of any country and especially our country where 1/3rd of the population lives below the poverty line. Unless and until we can remove poverty, we cannot say that the country is prosperous or is getting very strong economically. I am very happy that the financial allocations made by the Prime Minister have been enhanced. He has been very generous and with this additional amount for this programme we will make tremendous progress in future.

This problem of poverty is being tackled in two ways by giving cash or loan directly to the beneficiaries, and secondly, by selecting poverty prone area and then creating necessary facilities and infrastructure in that area so that people living there can take advantage of those facilities and do something on their own. So that they learn how to stand on their legs through their own efforts.

I have seen the implementation of both the schemes from very close quarters and I can say with certain conviction that as far as the first scheme is concerned where the cash amount or loan is given directly, it is not giving so much of benefit to the poor as it should do. I think Mr. Chairman you also mentioned in your speech that the benefit accruing to the beneficiaries is not commensurate with the amount which Government is giving and that is because a lot of corruption has crept into it. There is corruption at the level of the selection of the beneficiary. There is corruption at the time of disbursement of the benefits and unfortunately there is corruption also at the end of the beneficiary because he or she does not utilise money for the purpose for which it is given.

These are minus points or the shortcomings to which I might invite the Government's attention so that proper use of the money is made. Otherwise, my suggestion would be to concentrate more on the second courses, that is, provide facilities and to strengthen infrastructure so that people learn to stand on their feet. That is a better course and that can be done by constructing more roads in the rural areas, by providing transport facilities, giving more electric power, more schools, more hospitals and educational facilities. If electric power and roads alone are given to the rural areas, you know, Sir, you come from the rural area also, people by themselves will do something to pull themselves out of the morass. So, our concentration should be more on that work.

Another important matter on which the Prime Minister has thrown some light is our education. He has very wisely allocated a large amount of money for the spread of education. He has gone to the extent of formulating a new education policy which has been thoroughly discussed and approved by this House and he wishes to implement that policy very earnestly and we are all with him in this matter and I hope when this new education policy is fully implemented we will be able to have the desired result. So far what has been happening in the past is that the particular subject has been very badly neglected for the last thirty to forty years and there has been so much chaos. There has been so much of deterioration in education. We had all begun to wonder where this country would go if the educational standards were so low and educated people were behaving in such an irresponsible manner. I am sure that implementation of the new Education Policy would improve the standard of education especially with the Navodaya Vidyalayas scheme which has been introduced in the villages. I think it will give an opportunity to talented boys in the rural areas and they will have equal opportunity of bettering their education and they will be able to compete with the boys of urban areas. That will give them a new opening in life. While on the subject of education, I wish to make point and that is that while we

[Shri Surendra Pal Singh]

should continue to implement the new Education Policy as best as we can, we should also pay attention to our primary education in the rural areas. Some of the schools and colleges in the rural areas are in a very bad shape. They are utterly neglected and if you go and see the primary schools, you will find that either the building is not there, if the building is there, the teachers are not there, if the teachers are there, the roof over the building is not there, and their condition is really deplorable. I would urge upon the Central Government to do something about that and direct the State Governments to provide more funds for primary education because that is the foundation of our education and when the children are given such an education for the first time, they should be looked after and they should be given proper attention at that level.

Sir, while on the question of rural education, it reminds me of the problem of unemployment amongst the educated rural youth. The fact is that every year lakhs and lakhs of youth are pouring out of the universities and colleges and they are not finding gainful employment after coming out of the universities and colleges and that is creating a problem in the rural areas. A lot of tension is created when the boys are not able to find employment and they indulge in anti-social activities and that is a big problem. Therefore, I would urge upon the hon Prime Minister and the Government of India to draw up some schemes whereby we can give gainful employment to the rural youth and absorb them so that their talent can be utilised properly somewhere, so that they do not do all sorts of mischieves.

Now, coming to agriculture the Prime Minister has also been very generous to agriculture and rightly so as the performance of agriculture has no doubt been very very good. Indeed it is a fact that 10 or 15 years back, we were a nation begging for food all over the world. But today we are not only self-sufficient but we are in a position to export foodgrains also. Sir, you have yourself rightly said

in your speech that our agricultural production has reached a plateau. For the last so many years, it is a fact that the increase in production is only marginal, not as much as it should be. Now, looking at the future, our population is increasing and because of our poverty removal programmes, etc. the purchasing power of the poor would also increase. So, there is going to be increased demand for foodgrains in the future. Unless we are able to increase our agricultural production much more than what we are doing now, we are bound to face difficulties in future. It is quite right that the bigger farmers, more progressive farmers have reached the limit beyond which they are not able to increase their produce. There are certain limitations which they cannot get over at the present moment. But it is a fact that middle farmers, small farmers are those whose production is about half or less than half of what the big farmers are producing. I will give the figures. Sir, the per acre yield of wheat in the State of U.P. is like this. The big farmers, the best farmers are producing 15 to 18 quintals per acre and the small and middle farmers are producing about 10 to 12 quintals per acre and the average for the whole State is 8 quintals per acre. So, the difference is there. The reason is that the small farmers are not getting the requisite facilities. They don't get the same inputs as big farmers get. The big farmers are not depending on the Government Agencies. They can buy the best seeds, best fertilisers in the open market because they have money. The small farmers who have not got money, don't get money and inputs from the Government in time. The fertilizers given to them are generally bad or they are given at a time when they are not wanted, and even the seeds provided to them are not of very good quality. My purpose in saying that is that the poor farmers and the small farmers want timely help either directly from the Government or from cooperative agencies. If you give them the same inputs and the same facilities as are available to the bigger farmers, I know for certain that their production will go as high as that of the bigger farmers. They do not lack in technique or the knowledge. It is first that they do not

have the wherewithals to produce. So, our concentration from now on should be on the small farmers—as you yourself said, Sir, in your speech, if we can bring their production to the level of bigger farmers, we will be in a very happy position and we do not require anything more to increase our production. Of course, research work etc. should go on side by side and our scientists should come forward with better seeds, better techniques, so that we can increase our production in future.

Sir, the last subject which I would like to touch upon is very important and that is Defence preparation. Our Defence Budget has gone up by nearly 40 per cent this year. It is indeed a very heavy burden, but a burden which we are prepared to bear because the circumstances in which we find ourselves are such that we cannot avoid heavy expenditure on Defence preparations. But the only thing one has to be careful of is that we should ensure that there is no wasteful expenditure in the armed forces. There has been wasteful expenditure, there is a lot of criticism in the press and outside about it, and I would urge upon the honourable Prime Minister and the Defence Minister to see that the money is not wasted by the Defence Forces and whatever money is granted by the Parliament—Of course, Parliament will never grudge any expenditure on this account—it should be properly utilised.

One other matter, Sir, to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. House and the Prime Minister is that certain ominous developments have recently taken place across the border in Pakistan. It is a known fact now that Pakistan possesses an atom bomb about which we have been talking for years now. Whatever they may say, they may deny every day, but the fact of the matter is that Pakistan has a bomb or they have the capacity to produce one within a matter of minutes or days, and no amount of persuasion, no amount of speaking to Washington to persuade Pakistan to give up this activity will do. They have made up their mind to have the bomb. I think the best thing for us to do is to appreciate this reality and we should say to ourselves

‘Well, Pakistan has a bomb, we will have a bomb, too, whether we like it or not’. Under these circumstances, what have we to do? Are we going to review our policy and change our options or not? If we don’t go in for the manufacture of bomb ourselves, would it be fair on our part to commit our Forces in a conflict against Pakistan when our Forces know fully well that their adversary has got the atom bomb and they are going to use it? Would that not demoralise our Forces? Would that not demoralise our countrymen also? So, unless and until you have a proper reply to their bomb, this blackmailing by Pakistan would continue for all times to come. I see no reason why there should be any hesitation on our part to manufacture a bomb. What harm is there when so many other countries in the world have it? Israel has got one, nothing has happened. South Africa has got the bomb, Pakistan has one now, China has it, Britain has it, France has it, USA has it, Brazil has it, like that there are so many other countries. Why can’t India also have it? Heavens will not fall. And besides we are a democracy, we are a very sober nation, we have the system of checks and balances, it is not as if a bomb in our hands is very dangerous. We won’t go and use it just in a light manner, but because we happen to be in such circumstances, where two of our main adversaries have atom bombs with them. How long can we exist as an independent nation without one? So, I very strongly urge upon the Prime Minister that we should review our policy in this regard, and the time has now come when India should go in for a nuclear bomb, and that is the only way in which we can contain Pakistan and we can keep them in their proper place. Otherwise I am afraid we will be subjected to a nuclear blackmail all our lives and that, I am sure, the country will not like.

With these words, Sir, I am very grateful to you for giving me time. I once again commend the Budget.

[Translation]

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY (Hazaribagh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I not only wholeheartedly support this Budget,

[Shri Damodar Pandey]

but would also like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for providing relief to the poor in the Budget, especially to the working class. At the time of independence we had three major problems before us i.e. the problems of food, cloth and shelter. Our farmers have solved the problem of shortage of food. Today we are self-reliant in the field of foodgrains. It is really a matter of pride that we have achieved self-sufficiency in foodgrains within a very short period after our independence. Similarly, our industrial sector has made us self-reliant with regard to availability of clothes.

Besides it, our salaried class, who leave their native places and work in factories and mines, were facing a big problem of housing. Every time it was thought to do something to provide housing facility to them. But it is for the first-time that it has been visualised in this budget to provide an opportunity to those who have capacity to construct their houses and the Government will assist them and will also give tax relief to them to some extent. The working class very much commends the hon. Prime Minister for providing this relief. It is a great relief to the working class, particularly to the salaried class for which our hon. Prime Minister deserves congratulations.

In this regard, I would like to submit one or two suggestions. The national resources are utilised for the development works of the country and our working class plays a vital role in the mobilisation of our resources. Their amount of provident fund not only remains as fixed deposits, but they keep their money with the Government till their retirement. National Labour Commission had suggested much earlier that contribution to provident fund should be raised to 10 per cent. There can be no other noninflationary measure of resource mobilisation than this. If the provident fund contribution is raised by 2 per cent, Government will get more money and it will also provide some relief to the workers. But I do not know as to why it can not be done. When

we take up this matter at Tripartite level, Government gives assurance to us, but afterwards no attention is paid towards it. I think, the Government will pay attention towards it and the provident per fund contribution will be increased as the recommendation of the National Labour Commission.

Secondly, today the different public sector organisations are issuing bonds for the purpose of resource mobilisation. Different schemes are announced from time to time to attract black money and tax relief is provided to them. At least 15 per cent interest is paid on these bonds. The provident fund of the workers is not a black money but a hard earned money. It is a fixed amount with the Government for unlimited time or till the retirement of the workers and which is assured income of the Government. But even then the rate of interest paid on it is quite low. I think the Government will pay attention towards it. It is a matter of regret that 14 to 15 per cent interest is paid to the black marketeers who purchase bonds with their black money, but 15 per cent interest is not paid on the provident fund of the workers which is a hard earned money. I hope that the Government will think over this matter and will provide some relief to the workers also.

Now I want to submit one or two points about my own constituency. Today Bihar State has a unique position in the map of India. It is that part of the country which has about 35 per cent mineral resources of the country, but from the income point of view, there are hardly one or two States which have less income than this State. In spite of so many natural resources, there is still acute poverty in it. The attention, which was given towards this State in First, Second and Third Five Year Plans, has almost been diverted in the later Five Year Plans. Today they are making fun in the name of irrigation. On the one hand in other parts of the country, 70 to 75 per cent area has been brought under irrigation and on the other hand, in Bihar, not even 7 per cent area has been covered under assured irrigation. Where will these people go and what will they do in

agricultural sphere? In Bihar, Ganga has maximum of water flow and there is no shortage of water. The areas on both sides of Ganga face flood problem. The Southern Bihar also has big rivers, but that water is not utilised for the benefit of the State. Ganga water is only used as Ganga Jal for religious ceremonies and bathing. Can we not make use of this water for irrigation? Can we not make some arrangement to make use of this water in our agricultural fields? Everybody knows that the soil collected by the Ganga river is very fertile and if some irrigation arrangement is made, it can produce plenty of foodgrains. It is a matter of pride that green revolution was brought about in some parts of the country and our country has become self-reliant in the matter of foodgrains. If irrigation facility is provided in Bihar, we can produce much more foodgrains there. We are already self-reliant in foodgrains, but we can set up a glorious example by feeding a major part of the world. We could have so much production of foodgrains in that area, but no attention has been paid towards it.

The situation is almost the same with regard to industrialisation. Of course, it is said that Bokaro has been set up, H.E.C. started, Sindri has been commissioned and there are a lot of big public undertakings of the Central Government in Bihar, but has it ever been thought of that not a single brick has been laid in Bihar thereafter, and the factories in the name of H.E.C. and Sindri in Bihar are in very shabby condition? Did you ever have a look at it? If you go through economic survey, H.E.C. would occupy the first position in the matter of incurring losses.

It is not so that the people of that area are not skilled and do not want to work. The biggest problem of this area is that they do not get electricity for their industries for 8 hours continuously and due to non-availability of electricity, these industries have to incur loss. Had there been proper supply of electricity, a large number of such industries could have been set up. A lot of allocation has been made for electricity and there are a number of

ambitious plans regarding generation of electricity. I want to submit that though coal is produced in Bihar, but electricity is generated in Ropar, Bhatinda and at other places. The electricity that will be generated in Singrauli, will not be supplied towards east, it will not move towards east. If some thing will happen, it will be just like some crusaders who offer their Namaz turning their faces towards west. Likewise, the electricity also finds its direction towards West and it does not get any opportunity to go eastward. You have set up N.T.P.C. on national level, but you do not think about the east. If electricity is supplied to industries and other works in our area, than the ill-fame we earn and the losses we suffer due to inadequate supply of electricity will not be there. You should formulate schemes to generate the cheapest electricity. We have been facing shortage of electricity and we also have the constraints of resources, as a result of which we cannot set up more power houses. But has this aspect ever been taken into account that those who think of setting up power houses, they think of generating electricity at those places where the electricity so generated becomes costlier. They cannot think of generating electricity at the cheapest rates and provide relief to the country.

We generate electricity at a place where loss of 100 rupees per tonne has to be incurred on coal and it will be the costliest. Such schemes are prepared which cause loss to the nation. We had once suggested that there is the biggest coal deposit of the country in North Karanpur, Singrauli, Talcher and North Karanpur are the future of the country. You can generate electricity at cheaper rates and thereby earn profit in generation of electricity.

The Electricity Department submitted a report that water was not available at that place. Perhaps they thought that water must be available in the power house itself. They did not see anything and they submitted such a report. Thereafter a committee was set up. The committee observed that there is plenty of water at that place. For supply of

[Shri Damodar Pandey]

water, canals could be constructed there. You can generate 5000 to 10,000 MWs. of electricity provided a 50 kms. long canal is constructed. A river is also there. 2000 to 3000 MWs of power could be generated with the water available from the river. But one pretext was taken that water was not available at this place and as such a super power station cannot be set up there. The Bihar Assembly has been saying this vociferously and last year our Governor also said that there could be no major scheme than this one for the benefit of the country and for providing relief to Bihar. For the last ten years there has not been any progress in the field of generation of electricity in Bihar. Our requirement of electricity has been continuously increasing, the demand of the people goes on increasing. If you talk of industrialisation at a rapid pace, and if there will be no supply of electricity, the position will remain stagnant. You may also talk of constraint of resources for electricity. You may supply us electricity from other places also so that we may be able to make good the shortage going on for the last 10 years, but we will still be lagging behind others. If you wish to bring us at par with other States, you will have to double the allocation for electricity in our area and then only we will be able to reach nearer the level of other States of the country. In spite of that, perhaps we will be lagging behind. Therefore, I think that the hon. Finance Minister will pay his attention towards this area.

I want to say a few more things. Public sector is an important part of our economic system. We want that with the helps of it, the country should develop and the country should make progress at a rapid pace. Through it, we want to proceed on the path of progress. But we do not pay any attention towards its development. Our opposition parties are determined to see that somehow or other, the public sector is ruined. You have seen that Mr. Murli Deora was saying that an hon. Member is sitting to our right who is an industrialist. The industrialists mostly sit on his right. They do not go on strike. Have you ever heard in

the country that strikes were resorted to by the industrialists. They find it easy to organise strike in the public sector. Now they have fixed a date on 21st instant for organising a strike in public sector. Why do you organise strikes in the public sector? It is said that they are going on strike to protect it. If the Government wants to protect the public sector, it must work in a planned way. We should protect the public sector from those leftist people, who are planning to ruin the public sector by their wrong actions. If you do not look into it, you will face difficulties.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the industrial labour of this country is looking towards this Government with high expectations. You know that the Trade Unions Act was passed during the British days in 1926. Sixty labourers unitedly can form a union for industrial relations. Now it is not an impossible thing to get 60 labourers for formation of a union in any industry or unit. Labour unions have been formed in almost all the industries and the result was that every union tries to compete in doing more and more damage. Could we not think about it? There is freedom to form unions, there is freedom to form labour organisations, but there can be no freedom to do wrong deeds in the name of organisations. Those who are true patrons of labourers, should pay attention towards it. We have to take them ahead, we should pay attention to ensure that they think in the right direction, their steps are put in right direction and the steps are strong.

It is being said that an Industrial Act will be passed. We have been listening this thing for the last two years that Bill is ready and may be introduced any time. But it has not been introduced so far. Until and unless we take steps in this direction, we will not be able to make improvements in the public sector. To-day you expect the labourers to co-operate with you. No trade union in the public sector will betray you. You have been betrayed by the strike notice given by the leftist parties. The leftists and rightists, all adversaries, have united. All the people of the opposition unitedly thought of stopping the work, but despite all these

things, 80 per cent workers in the public sector did not pay any attention to strike call and worked that day. Does it not indicate, does it not show that majority of workers in trade unions of the country are still with us, they have faith in the leadership of the National Mazdoor Congress and they want to strengthen the national economy and the public sector by working shoulder to shoulder with all the people of the country. With that point of view, when we talk of workers participation in the management, then the question of unfair means comes up before us, when we talk of seeking co-operation of all, then the question of recognition is raised. Such kind of things are raised due to which public sector has reached such a stage that if it is allowed to proceed further in this direction, it will cause great damage. Therefore, I would like to request the Government to pay attention towards it. We should work properly to utilise the 43000 crores of rupees, which we have already invested in the public sector. We should remove the faults, the shortcomings found in this system, and we should think as to how to make improvements in it. When we talk of all round development of the country, if some part of the country is left behind, more and more development is not done in it, we cannot talk of all round development in the country. Then how solution will emerge? If one part of the country marches much ahead and the other part is left behind, if we do not give it an opportunity to march ahead, then it will lag behind and it will create imbalance and we will not be able to handle the situation properly then. You have seen that where such type of mistakes took place, especially in Bihar, no work was done for 10 years due to political instability. To-day an opportunity has come, when the question of marching ahead unitedly has come up. A time was there when we were not able to spend even 300 crores of rupees during a year. We are now thinking of spending 1100 crores of rupees during this years. Coming year's plan has also been prepared. We will do all that for creating aninfrastructure, but if you do not give their due right to them regarding infrastructure like electricity, water, irrigation, road, transport, rail etc., then we will be left behind in the race of development and we will not be able to

march ahead. Therefore, when the Government has started paying attention towards the entire country, then this part may also be allowed to march ahead by paying more attention towards this part.

[English]

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for having permitted me to speak on behalf of the D.M.K. Party.

The Budget presented by our beloved Prime Minister of India is a mixed one which deserves both appreciation and criticism.

Being the maiden budget presented by our honourable Prime Minister, he can be excused this time, with the hope that he will present a pleasant budget at least next time—satisfying all sections of people—provided he continues to hold the Finance portfolio.

It is worthwhile to take into account the comments made by various people belonging to various sections. Chamber of Commerce people believe that instead of giving relief to corporate sector, Government has taxed 30 per cent minimum tax which will hamper the growth of the corporate sector.

This would offset the liberalisation on depreciation allowance and would create a serious impact on the share market.

The TV is no longer a luxury item and is a media for propagating Government policies and programmes and it is a media to educate the illiterates who form a major part of the population of our country. Hence, the price rise is unjustified and unimaginable.

Salaried people are the honest tax payers in this country. They all expected a higher ceiling limit for tax eligibility but no mention has been made. This has totally disappointed them. Of every rupee that accrues to the Central exchequer, according to 1987-88 Budget proposals, four paise only come through Incometax,

[Dr. A. Kalanidhi]

Money spent for collection of these taxes is on the higher side. Hence, I request the honourable Prime Minister to have a rethinking and remove the Income-tax in to as it has been done in Japan. If it is not possible, at least Rupees 25 to 30 thousand should be the ceiling limit for tax eligibility.

15.59 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE
in the Chair]

In this Budget, it is worth to praise that housing and education have been given a boost. This will create a motivation among middle class and upper middle class to have their own shelter. It is a legitimate duty of the Government to provide such shelter. In that case, our Prime Minister has made a sincere effort in this budget. I welcome this wholeheartedly.

In the name of preservation of forest wealth, 35 per cent duty will be levied on plywoods made from prime timber and wood products. It is not logical as on one side you want to encourage housing and on the other side, woods and products would become costlier by this levy. This will cause a further hike in the cost of building construction. I feel this is penny-wise pound-foolish.

16.00 hrs.

But, our hon. Prime Minister has made a humble plea that he invites suggestions from Members and other conservationists. He should, therefore, revise his opinion on taxing wood products which would form part and parcel of the building activities.

More allocation to education is a welcoming measure which can turn our illiterate masses into literates and increase our literacy rate, so that the people can judge things well and they cast their votes properly without being carried away by the sympathy waves.

Excise duty on aerated soft drinks and soda being 20 paise and 15 paise per bottle is unwarranted. Soda is not used for mixing up with hot drinks alone by affluent sections, but also used by the poor and middle class people to quench their thirst. Even the politician while speaking on the platforms drinks soda but he does not pay for that, the organizers of the meeting only pay. So, it has become an additional burden for the people of the lower rank of the party who form the rank and file of the organization. Hence, it is unjustified to increase the excise duty on soda and soft drinks. I will appreciate the hon. Prime Minister if he puts excise duty upto 30 to 40 per cent on hot drinks so that the people can be relieved from the clutches of the devil of drinking habits and also the exchequer gets more money.

Though snuffing and chewing tobacco is really harmful to health, people in the rural areas to forego their food while at work and also when they are not able to take one square meal a day, indulge in chewing tobacco and snuffing. So, increasing excise duty on these substances is going to hit the common man and not the richer people. Hence, I request the hon. Prime Minister to withdraw the excise duty imposed on tobacco and snuff.

It is regrettable that our hon. Prime Minister has forgotten the forty thousand sick units in the small scale sector. Neither he has made an honest attempt to nurse them back to health from sickness, nor has he made any provision in the Budget presented. Hence, I request the hon. Prime Minister to take into account the problems faced by the sick units in the small scale industries.

It is unfortunate that the hon. Prime Minister has not encouraged the banking industry which has a major role in the national development like tax incentives to facilitate mobilization of the savings. While creation of a National Housing Development Finance Bank is appreciable, nationalized banks should be made to involve in these activities with a due caution not to allow favouritism or ruling political party's interference.

There are certain features present in the Budget to be praised and applauded. One is any compensation received by a workman at the time of his retirement is exempted from tax. Similar exemption is being extended to payments made under voluntary retirement schemes for public sector enterprises. The other is reduction of basic customs duty on P.V.C. resin which helps the housing and industrial schemes and insulation to be cheaper. Further, the lower rate of excise duty of five per cent will reduce the cost of cheaper toilet and laundry soaps. I am quite happy that you have accepted the Janta soaps, even though you have an aversion towards the word 'Janta'.

Now, as a doctor, I will be failing in my duty if I do not congratulate our hon. Prime Minister for the concessions that he has given in the medical and pharmaceutical field, namely full customs duty exemption for import of life saving equipments and also its spares. It is really logical, practical and sensible for which our hon. Prime Minister deserves all the appreciation and praise. Here, I would like to mention that instruments used for ophthalmic surgery gastro-enterology surgery and neurosurgery should also get the same exemption as life saving instruments get.

Exemption of additional customs duty for 35 more drug intermediates is a laudable one. I request the hon. Prime Minister to remove the customs duty in toto for drug intermediates required for manufacturing pyrazinamide.

Items like note books, letter pads, blotting papers, accounts book, registration papers, file covers etc. are exempted from the excise duty altogether. This will help the parliamentarians to use more pads, write more letters to the non-listening bureaucrats and to some of the adamant Ministers who never reply at all. This will also help to increase the literacy rate by encouraging people to develop the habit of writing more and learning more.

Then, increase of excise duty on viscose staple fibres from Rs. 5 per kg. to Rs. 7 per kg. and increase in viscose

filament yarn by 12.5 per cent of the existing rate is going to crush the entire industry. In Tamil Nadu rarely we have any big industry. We have Southern Viscose Ltd. in Sirumugal in Coimbatore district which produces viscose products. So this is going to hit the industry very badly and would result in hardship to three thousand employees working in that industry. In view of the real backwardness in the industrial sector in Tamil Nadu, I request the hon. Prime Minister to restore the tax pattern existing on viscose staple fibre and filament units. The status quo may be maintained.

The excise duty on cigarettes is based on the length of the cigarette and our Prime Minister hails that it is his innovation. Filter cigarettes are less harmful than the normal smaller cigarettes. Unfortunately, the lengthier cigarettes which are less harmful are made more costly now. So people go for smaller cigarettes which are more harmful to them and invite more troubles. Hence the logic and innovation of increasing the excise duty on the basis of the length of the cigarette cannot be acceptable just because it is followed in other countries. Even though this method is followed in other countries. They always stick on to their limits either in drinking or smoking, habits. But in our country people always exceed the limits and finally they spoil their health. Hence I request the Prime Minister not to compare our people with the people of other countries and I request him to reduce the tax on the filtered cigarettes which are a better devil than the small cigarette which are a greater devil. I would suggest to mop up the loss incurred in this process by increasing the excise duty on Indian-made foreign liquors like whiskey, brandy and rum so that we can get more revenue for the Government and also make the people not to drink more which will bring partial prohibition.

It is more worth while for my State namely Tamil Nadu, because the entire arrack shops are recently converted into whiskey and wine shops.

Increase in excise duty on fuel efficient motor vehicles with engine capacity not

[Dr. A. Kalanidhi]

exceeding 1000 cc is to be increased from 20 per cent to 25 per cent and on spare parts from 50 per cent to 75 per cent. This has resulted in an increase of Rs. 5000 on Maruti cars and Rs. 6000 on Maruti vans. These small cars are the pet children of late Sanjay Gandhi. The basic idea was smaller, the car, more fuel efficient the car would be and middle class people and office goers can afford to go by four wheelers. Now after the present increase, the Maruti cars' price is Rs. 88 000/-. The car cannot withstand even a blow, which results in dents and as a result of tinkering and painting costs about Rs. 5000. The shock absorbers of Maruti car is Rs 500 per pair compared to Rs. 200 per pair for Ambassador cars. So maintenance of these Maruti cars is already costly. If the price is increased due to the excise duty, it is not going to benefit smaller and fuel efficient cars and the basic idea of late Sanjay Gandhi gets defeated. So at least for his memory namely for his brother's memory, I request the hon. Prime Minister not to increase the excise duty on fuel efficient cars with an engine capacity of less than 1000 cc. Kindly withdraw the present hike and allow the status quo to continue.

You have allotted more funds for IRDP. Though it is a welcoming measure, it should be monitored well. Otherwise the beneficiaries will not be the deserving poor or rural people but the influential ruling political rural people only.

So, in this matter great caution has to be taken not to allow the exchequer to be drained wastefully.

Eventhough the intentions of the Prime Minister are good, lot of good things have been omitted in this budget. No concrete steps have been taken to improve the standard of living of the farmers. No proposal has been spelt out in this budget by the hon. Prime Minister to tackle the growing unemployment problem among the frustrated youth. There are no concrete proposals or steps for alleviating the poverty. There is no thrust in the budget but even the thirsty tongue is denied of taking even soda because of the increase in the excise duty.

The gross deficit shown in the present budget presented by our hon. Prime Minister is certainly going to have an impact or set an inflationary trend in the country.

Additional budgetary allocation for the defence is very high. A great caution has to be taken to check expenditures made in the defence department. That does not mean that we can have ban on recruitments. Ban on recruitment in vast projects and other projects in Avadi Clothing Factory has resulted in retrenchment of workers and fear among the employees. We borrow money to pay the borrowings already made. So, no fresh investment has been made for any productivity.

Naturally this is going to increase our national debt. Hence proper plans on income and expenditure will definitely reduce the gap and bring down the national debt. In this context I would like to quote from the *Financial Express* of today where they mentioned a printer's devil on Oil and Natural Gas Commission. With your permission I would like to quote it. For fabrication work of platforms SQ, ST and SS for Bombay High, a plan was charted for 78.3 metres whereas the depth of the water was only 72.3 metres and because of the wrong drawing and wrong planning it has resulted in an additional expenditure of Rs. 25.74 lakhs or \$257400 which the Company has claimed for which the Government of India has paid. So, we should be very careful about the expenditure. This should also be followed.

To put it in a nutshell—though, the present Budget contains some welcoming measures; it has got its drawbacks like not solving the unemployment problem; it does not contain any step to alleviate the poverty; it does not have any effective measures to control the inflation and also, it does not have step for closing the loopholes which are existing in the distribution system of the foodgrains and other essential commodities.

Sir, one has to come to a conclusion, after going through the Budget properly that you have drifted from the way of socialistic path and have given goodbye to

socialism. So, it is an ordinary Budget without any additional burden on the people or additional benefit for the people. It is a Budget that does not have any special thrust on export promotion. So it is a Budget without fragrance and insipid in taste.

My city, particularly Madras City, is facing with an acute scarcity of water. There, women folk are getting up in the early morning at 1.00 A. M. and wait till 4.00 A. M. to get a bucket of water and not only the women, but also the children, who stand in the queue to get a bucket of water. Over and above, the women folk have to do the domestic work and send their husbands either to the offices or to the factories. Some women folk have also to attend to their office work. Hardly, they have a sleep for about one to two hours.

So, I would request the hon. Prime Minister to allot Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 crores for Madras city to dig borewells to meet demands of water supply and also, as Mrs. Gandhi did some time back in 1983, when Krishna water from Vijayawada was brought by a special express train, the same should be done here also. I would also request the hon. Prime Minister to take into account the drought that is existing in Ram Nad, Madurai, Tirunelveli, South Arcot, North Arcot, Coimbatore, and Chengalpet districts. These districts are in the grip of drought. I do not want to politicise this issue. Let us not wait for the final report to be obtained from the Government of Tamil Nadu. Before, we get the final report, at least, the Prime Minister should come forward to give an interim relief of at least Rs. 60 to Rs. 70 crores.

Finally, before I conclude, I want to say one thing about the ethnic issue, that is prevailing in Sri Lanka. You have been raising so many crores of rupees for military every year, but at the same time, our Tamilian brothers are killed; our Tamilian women are raped and butchered and I request the hon. Prime Minister, not to waste time in negotiations,

I am telling you because, recently Mr. Jayewardne in the meeting with the Members of Parliament had discarded the warning given by the Indian Prime Minister in the Lok Sabha. He said, he is not going to care about the Indian Prime Minister's word. He said, that just by one step, he cannot stop military proceedings. That is what he had said. So, I would request the hon. Prime Minister to take into account these things and need not waste time on negotiations because Mr. Jayewardne will not come for negotiations I know his mind. He is a person who has mobilised Sinhalese against the Tamilians. He is the persons who has mobilised all the monks against the Tamilians. He is the person who has conducted the *Pada Yatra* from Colombo to Kandi. So, he is the person who is responsible for every butchering and atrocities, that are happening in Sri Lanka. I request the hon. Prime Minister, not to waste any more time in the name of negotiations. I request you to come to a final solution, either the military solution or whatever solution, he thinks is the better solution and try to free the Tamil Eelam which is the only one solution to save the onslaught of the Tamilians there.

I just thank the Chairman for having given me the permission. Before, I conclude, I would say Never Before, Never Again, the present day Budget like this is presented.

[Translation]

*SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): Hon. Chairman Sir, I feel extremely happy to rise in support of the Union Budget for 1987-88.

The wisdom and sagacity of the hon. Prime Minister and Finance Minister in presenting a Budget which is widely acclaimed by the whole nation have excelled even those of the Chanakya of the ancient ages.

*The Speech was originally delivered in Tamil,

[Shri C. K. Kuppaswamy]

Let me now express my views on the budget. As far as agriculture is concerned the farmers are not getting remunerative prices. The Government is fixing the prices of agricultural commodities on the basis of data supplied by the bureaucrats and other authorities. Prices are not fixed after taking into account the factors that are vital for cultivation. This has affected the small cultivators. I, therefore, suggest to the hon. Minister to nominate agriculturists and farmers to the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. They should be in majority in the Commission. The farmers must express their views freely and, thereafter, the prices of agricultural commodities must be fixed taking into account many factors like climatic conditions, financial and irrigation facilities etc. available to farmers. The prices would, then automatically vary from State to State and district to district.

As far as irrigation facilities are concerned, Tamil Nadu, is lagging behind in such facilities. We have many scientists and engineers amongst us. They must utilise their talents. The Govt. must prevent rivers emptying their water into the sea. This is an enormous waste. Many West-flowing rivers in Kerala may be diverted to east and, thus could be utilised to irrigate dry land. Govt. must consider this. The same opinion was very rightly and emphatically stated by Shri C. Subramaniam, our hon. former Finance Minister. Instead of the Ganga-Cauvery Project, the Central Govt must come forward to complete many of the long pending river water projects in Tamil Nadu like Moonaru Project, Ponnampuzha and Pandy river Project.

I would like to ask the Government whether they are aware that many acres of land have gone dry in Tamil Nadu. Drought is a perennial problem in Tamil Nadu. However, adequate relief measures are not being taken.

As far as Coimbatore is concerned drinking water is not available there. Cattle do not have fodder. I have stated this several times in this House. Today once again I restate these problems.

Next, I will now dwell on the debt burden of farmers. In Tamil Nadu, many farmers are crouching under the burden of agricultural debt. I request the Govt. to write off these loans especially when monsoon have failed continuously and the State is in the grip of drought. This would help small farmers. In 1986-87, loans to the tune of Rs. 8835 crores had been disbursed to farmers through commercial and land development banks. The sad thing about the loan is that one uniform interest rate is applicable to both big agriculturists and small farmers. This is an anomaly which should be removed. Along with this, interest-free loans must be given to small farmers. Further, debt of small farmers who have been affected by failure of monsoon and drought must be written off.

The whole State of Tamil Nadu is reeling under a severe drought. When the poor and landless are suffering from starvation, the Tamil Nadu Govt. is not undertaking relief measures in time. This is a sorry state of affairs. Why I say this is that as far as I know, our hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi is very much willing to grant any amount to alleviate the people's sufferings. But it is very sad to note that no demand has come from the other side.

I request the Govt. to appoint a Committee to monitor the implementation on NREP and RLEGP programmes in the drought-hit areas. This is because there is growing misuse of power by those in authority as rightly pointed out by Dr. Ka. K. K. K.

As far as Banks are concerned, persons with a bad record are promoted but sincere officials are transferred to far off places. Issue of loans by banks is also irregular. Loans are given after considerable delay and many times the benefits do not reach the poor and needy in time like small farmers. Big businessmen bag these loans by influencing the authorities. I would request the Govt. to immediately appoint a National Commission to go into the working as well as misuses of power by the bank officials for disbursement of loan and other banking activities.

As far as this Budget is concerned, this is a popular budget. I feel pride in saying so.

Sir, in my constituency in Coimbatore many textile mills are lying closed for a long time. Mills like Vasanth Mills and Janardhana Mills were closed three years ago. Nearly 10,000 employees are out of employment. The hon. Minister may kindly take note of this. Many families have perished out of starvation and yet the State Govt. is not in a mood to take financial aid from the Central Govt. though the latter is willing to help. *(Interruptions)* Sir, these people are interrupting.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Address the Chair, if you have got to say anything.

[Translation]

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : I request the Govt to consider taking over these mills, since they have been lying closed for a long time.

As regards trusts in Tamil Nadu, nay, the whole India are concerned crores and crores of black money is in these trusts. The Govt. must take steps to unearth the black money.

Further, Sir, private individuals or organisations must not be allowed to run polytechnics, engineering colleges, medical colleges and law colleges. Only Govt. should run these institutions. As far as police department is concerned a new face lift must be given to this department. The existing wage structure should be changed and a uniform wage policy must be evolved for the police all over India. I am pained to point out that the wages of policeman vary from State to State.

As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, a police man gets Rs. 450. In Delhi, a police man gets Rs. 1200 to Rs. 2000. The wages of policemen vary from State to State.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : **

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : You keep quiet. You keep quiet. You keep quiet.**

[English]

Why are you talking ? Why are you talking ?

[Translation]

As far as police is concerned, I request the hon. Finance Minister to have a uniform wage structure all over the country. I say this because as far as I am concerned, I have served in police department for 10 years. I was a C. I. D.** I have served this country.** I feel extremely shameful. I feel extremely sorry.

[English]

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : On a point of order, he cannot talk about State problems here. All these things he cannot say here. How can he ?

[Translation]

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : At this juncture I am bound to state that as far as Tamil Nadu is concerned**

[English]

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : On point of order, he has stated something with regard to the Ministers. It has to be expunged.

[Translation]

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : This is known to every body.**

We have here a very very honest Finance Minister.

As far as I am concerned I am constrained to state all these.

As far as the Cooperative Department in Tamil Nadu is concerned, it is a

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Shri C. K. Kuppuswamy]

den of dacoits. For a long time elections have not been held. The department which is supposed to serve the public, has become a den of plunderers. The hon. Finance Minister may kindly take note of this point. I once again reiterate that the Cooperative Department in Tamil Nadu had become the dwelling place of bandits.

Lastly, I once again welcome the budget. I feel extremely glad to speak in support of the budget. With thanks I conclude.

[English]

DR. S. JAGATHRAKASHAKAN : Tomorrow it will come in the Press. Please expunge.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will examine and then expunge.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : We want you to expunge these words **

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will examine the record today and if anything is objectionable, I will expunge.

16.25 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER
in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPATI MISHRA (Machhlishahr) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to say a few words on the budget and would like to thank the Hon. Prime Minister and Finance Minister that he has shown a new direction in the Budget and has tried to show a new direction towards which he desires to take the country.

He has drawn attention towards four major points and without going into figures, I would like to say a few words

about the same. One thing is that attention has been drawn towards Defence and more funds have been allocated for the same in the budget. The other basic thing is education, towards which he was concerned earlier also and more emphasis has been laid on it and he has increased the provision for this purpose in the budget. The third thing that he has done is about the anti-poverty programme and he has allotted more funds for it. The fourth thing concerns industrial development so that exports are increased and imports are reduced. He has taken certain steps in this regard. Budget is not only an account of income and expenditure, but it also gives an indication about the direction towards which the country is to be taken forward and this thing is evident from this budget. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister towards a basic thing and want to make a pointed reference towards it. It is an open secret that 80 per cent of this country's population lives in villages and the rural economy is the foundation of our economy. Just now one of our Members from Bombay was speaking about removal of poverty in cities and while making a mention of it he said that the mention about removal of rural poverty has been made but more steps should be taken to remove urban poverty. Both are co-related. If you did not remove the source of urban poverty, i.e. if the rural poverty is not removed then you may perhaps check temporary urban poverty, but it cannot be removed altogether. Keeping this thing in view, I would like to ask as to what is the thinking of our economic thinkers who give direction to economic policies, about these 80 per cent people? Today, when we talk of farming, let me know if any commission has been set up to find out as to what kind of tools are used in farming, what type of manure is used and time and again what sort of natural calamities befall on them and whether the commission has made any such analysis as to what cost does a farmer incur on his farm produce? No commission has ever been set up to find out as to what cost the farmer has to incur on producing foodgrains per acre. No such enquiry has been conducted and without any enquiry and without ascertaining as to what expenditure is

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

incurred on producing foodgrains, how much does it cost. prices of foodgrains are fixed. People sitting in New Delhi fix the prices of foodgrains. How do they do it is perhaps known to them alone.

There are a number of Government farms, but there is hardly a Government farm which earns profit. There may be one or two about which I do not have any information. Otherwise, Government farms do not earn profit. I am telling you about my own experience. I do not want to disclose the name of that university, but even if I do not utter its name, the people of Uttar Pradesh will automatically know it. A farm was given to the authorities of that university. There was a jail which had a very big farm. The entire farm was given to the university so that they could carry out their investigation work and research work and they could carry out the practicals of agricultural education. They could personally do farming in it and see their own results. During my tenure as Chief Minister I received a demand from them that they were facing difficulties in utilising that farm and they said that it could be handed over to the Department of Agriculture. I asked their senior officers that this farm was given to them to do practical work, this farm was given to them to put into practice those things which they write and say in theory and let that be translated and shown to farmers. Then they said that there was labour problem and this and that problem. They said that they always remained entangled in those problems and, therefore, they were not able to do anything. Their entire knowledge is meaningless if they cannot translate their theory into practice. Those people who are pioneers in the agricultural field and who want to tell us as to how farming is done, cannot undertake farming. This matter pertains to that time when I was Chief Minister in U.P. During my tenure I did not allow its transfer. This farm is still with them. Nobody knows as to what they are doing in it. Therefore, I would request that a commission should be set up on agriculture and it should examine as to what expenditure is incurred on agriculture.

It is very often said, we also learnt from the media and besides it through the Doordarshan also, that tax on agriculture should be levied. In a T.V. programme a renowned economist had participated whom we were listening. He is a very renowned economist there is no need to tell his name. He is also a very renowned lawyer. He was saying that there was no country in the world where tax was not imposed on agriculture. Why is it not imposed in this country also? He was giving stress on this point. Some participants expressed the opinion that, he was right in saying so, but the circumstances were such that it should not be imposed for the time being.

I would like to say that it is said that in our country there are a large number of people, ex-princess and landlords who are in possession of huge areas of land. They have very big farms. You have passed law restricting the limit to 18½ acres of land. Then how do they possess so much of land? If excess land is in their possession, it should be acquired from them. But why do you take it for granted that if there are mistakes or if somebody is forcibly in possession of land in violation of the law, then he is engaged in cultivation. It could not be the basis for imposition of tax. You take 18 acres as a basis, it is 10 acres in Orissa and in some other State, the limit is 15 acres. Whatever limits are there, these should be adhered to and these ceiling limits should be implemented accordingly. You are aware that earlier a tractor used to cost 5000 to 10,000 of rupees, but now its price has gone up to Rs. 1,00,000 or Rs. 2,00,000. Now how is it possible to undertake farming on 5 to 10 acres of land? How can a farmer do farming with such a high prices of fertilisers? One gentleman from Bihar spoke. It is a coincidence that Bihar is our neighbouring State. Being a neighbouring State, we the residents of U.P. sometimes feel satisfied that Bihar is also not away from us. If we look to the other side, our heads are hung in shame, because the situation is very bad there.

There is a canal, called Sharada canal in our State and the technicians who guide

[Shri Shripati Mishra]

us, said that one more canal as big as this one may be dug along its side so that in case the water level falls, its water could be diverted in the other canal. The result of these two canals is that it has caused the problem of seepage along three hundred yards of stretch on both the sides and there is no remedy for it. There are such farmers in hundreds of villages, who have now stopped the agricultural work and they have hung their ploughs in their houses and now they do not undertake farming any more.

So far as the process of population growth in the country side is concerned, there has not been any planning as to where the houses would be constructed, for the additional population which is increasing. Space in the villages is limited and there is no space to construct additional houses. Then people will flee from these places and go to Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay and you may go on constructing as many houses as you can, but this problem cannot be solved. If you remove the slums in one area, they will develop in some other areas. Therefore, planning should be done in regard to places where it is required. This thing should be taken into account that the area coming under a village, a Gram Sabha, a Gram Panchayat is less than the population it can accommodate; it cannot manage to give shelter to more than that. How much land can it allot? Somewhere there is no grazing ground somewhere other things are not there. All these things need to be looked into, otherwise, 5 to 10 years later, there will be narrow streets in the villages surrounded by difficulties as faced in cities.

Similarly, I have got a suggestion that one commission should also be set up which should look into agricultural output. Why agriculture can not be considered as an industry? Agriculture may be recognised as an industry and it should be allowed the profit it deserves. As you look after industry, agriculture should also be treated in the same way. What is the cost of production and what profit should it be allowed? If you work out

all these things and take them into account for fixation of prices of farm products, the prices will be so high that you will not be able to supply them in the cities. It will create a problem in the cities and keeping this problem in view, you will not think of imposing tax on agriculture, rather you would give subsidy on farm products. These things have happened earlier in other countries, where industrialisation had taken place in U.S.A. and in Japan. In these countries earlier 70 to 80 per cent of people were engaged in farming but after industrialisation the number fell to 8 or 6 per cent. Under these conditions, where there is a need to give subsidy, our intellectual friends talk of imposing tax. I am of the view that the Government should think of giving subsidy to the farmers otherwise they will flee to cities. A person having a pan shop in a city enjoys more facilities than a farmer working in the field in a village.

The second thing I want to say is about anti-poverty programme. You should find out some ways and means for this. People's mind has become so much polluted that they are bent upon doing wrong things, they are bent upon grabbing the money meant for the poor. I have one suggestion to check it, though dishonest people find out one or the other method to indulge in dishonest means. It may be that they can also sabotage the suggestion which I am giving. But I suggest that a list of poor people should be prepared at the Gram Sabha level and three sources should be utilised to prepare the list. One source should be people's representatives such as M.L.As and M.Ps, the other source should be that of the development authorities at the block and one list should be prepared from the revenue records. In this way a list of common names in all these three lists be prepared examining all these three lists and some additional names may also be included in this list after making an enquiry. Taking all these things into account, a permanent list comprising the names of all the poor people may be prepared.

The poor will not grow rich in a short period of time. Let it take 6 months or

a year. When the Government prepares the list, identity cards should be issued and on that basis, loans should be directly distributed to the beneficiaries by the Panchayat in every village. There should be no middlemen in the process. The poor have not been allowed to get the loan directly, because it is presumed that they would not be able to utilise the amount properly. Forgive me for saying that the poor people are not as stupid as we have been thinking them to be. If they get the money, they would utilise it properly. Perhaps, if they do not utilise the money properly, it is because they need the money to get their daughters married and they want to eat proper food for one or two years. That amount has been utilised at least by the beneficiaries only and not pocketed by the middlemen.

I would also like to make my submission about education as well. The schemes are quite good and these are mostly implemented by the State Governments. The State Governments should be instructed on every aspect. The subject of basic education has been taken away from the local bodies and district councils with the result that no one both as whether the teachers come to school or not. There is a lot of mismanagement in it. Teaching-aids are not available in schools, teachers do not attend the schools and it is time we took some action in this regard. As my hon. friend has just now submitted that how long can we afford to continue to pose as gentlemen? Would we continue to show ourselves as good, noble, peace-loving human being until an atom bomb is dropped on us. It cannot be doubted that Pakistan and China are in possession of the atom bomb. We are always saying that we would not make the bomb, but if they have it, then we cannot be left with any other option. If they say it only once that they are not going to make use of it, we should say the same one hundred times. We should say that we would keep it in reserve. I am not in the policy of denial in strongest terms. But we are compelled to do so. There can be no other remedy, if the same is happening in our neighbourhood. The only remedy can be to display our own strength to them. If we do not go for the

bomb now, then we would be compelled to do so late when it would be too late and it would become useless. If we decide to go for it just now, then their move to manufacture bomb can be stopped at any point of time. If the announcement about making a bomb is made after they have already made it, then it would be of no use at all. With these words, I would thank you for giving me time to speak. I support the Budget.

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support this Budget and also I would like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for presenting an unique Budget in which attention has been paid to every section of society. Facilities have been provided to all sections of our people including the working class, middle class, professionals Harijans and Advivasis. The hon. Prime Minister by this Budget has made an auspicious start in giving a new direction to the country which had its origin in Gandhiji's slogan for free India and which started in the rural areas and which was implemented by late Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru and got further encouragement by late Shrimati Indira Gandhi in her 20 point programme. That is why the hon. Prime Minister began his Budget speech by stating that our chief aim is to eliminate poverty and to build a beautiful, modern, progressive and a stable economy. I heartily congratulate him on behalf of my countrymen and myself. He said that 90 per cent of our economy is dependent on agriculture and in the second line, he said that agriculture is the bed-rock of our economy. In order to eradicate poverty, it is absolutely essential to develop the agricultural sector. He has assured the people of the country who belong to a country which is primarily agricultural that the development would begin from the rural areas and not from the urban areas. The hon. Members have expressed their views on agriculture. The Hon. Prime Minister has said that remunerative prices will be paid to the farmers and that he was committed to ensure supply of more water, electricity, fertiliser and seeds and to provide more loans to the farmers. It is in itself an important achievement that the Hon. Prime Minister of the country has

[Shri Manvendra Singh]

declared in the whole House that he is committed to the development of India and a beginning is being made in this direction. There can be no two opinions about it that under the leadership of the present Prime Minister those areas of the country, which had remained backward for the last 40 years, would now be able to make rapid progress. Concessions have been granted not only to agriculture, but to industries as well, particularly to the small scale units, for example, the leather industry. The small industries affect the poorer sections of the society. In case of plastics, textiles, dhoti and sulabh sarees, excise duty has been reduced to 60 per cent. Exemption limit of 36 lakh sq. metres has been increased to 50 lakh sq. metres in case of handloom fabrics. This cloth is used by the poorer sections of our society. I want to congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister from the core of my heart in this regard.

Apart from it, he emphasised that the defence build-up in the world today is one of the reasons for international tension. In this situation, we are also trying to strengthen our Defence. In this regard he said that in the current situation, highest priority has been given in the year 1987-88 to maintenance of tempo of the on-going schemes and to ensure the security of our borders. Budget outlay for 1987-88 is Rs. 21,622 crores of which Rs. 14,923 crores is in the shape of Budgetary support. By this outlay, if 36 per cent of the targets of the Seventh Five Year Plan could be achieved, it would be a record achievement. Our borders have become more secure and will be strengthened even more. It is also a matter of pride.

Along with it I would also like to make my submission in regard to education. The hon. Prime Minister had made announcements regarding education policy at the very outset. This year Rs. 800 crores have been earmarked for it. Now through the New Education Policy we would be able to provide quality education to those children who for some reasons are not able to go to towns for higher education. The more education spreads

in this country, the more will it be united, strong and integrated. Until we inculcate spirit of nationalism in our children, our country cannot make progress. Hence, I would request you to adopt a system of education by which we build national character of our children because.

[English]

“When character is lost, everything is lost”.

[Translation]

Hence, our education policy should be such which would build the character of the children and this thing should be emphasised.

Today we see that the state of our primary education in the rural areas is very miserable. The buildings of the primary schools have fallen to the ground and the children study under the shade of trees. The schools remain closed during the rains and the winter season and in most of the schools, the teachers do not even attend schools regularly. When I went to my constituency during the elections, a little child asked me a question in a very simple language, which though would make one laugh if taken lightly, but the depth of it can be gauged only after listening carefully to what he has said. He asked me :” Tell me, Sir it is all right that you have come here to seek votes but if you win the election, would you ensure that teachers come to schools” regularly. You can easily, infer from it that even a little child knows that the teachers do not attend schools. It is a very serious matter and it should be given due consideration. Such laws should be framed so that there could be maximum spread of education in the rural areas.

Now I would give some suggestions. Under the D.R.D.A., N.R.E.P., R.L.E. G.P. etc., certain programmes have been announced in regard to development of roads, supply of power and drinking water and whatever amount is allocated in this connection is given to the States which distribute it among the districts. I would

suggest that you should grant this amount directly to the districts. I am saying this on the basis of my experience in the previous years. Allocations made for my district of Mathura under the above mentioned schemes for road building and other purposes were not received. The same might have happened with other districts to which the other hon. Members might have drawn your attention. It is on account of this that development work has been stalled. Corrupt methods are also adopted about which I have already drawn the attention of the House on the previous occasions. It is due to corruption that 50 per cent of the amount earmarked for the various schemes is not utilised in development works and is pocketed by the officials and middlemen. The contractors etc. are also involved in misappropriating these funds. Such malpractices have become a common feature. I had requested on an earlier occasion also that stern action must be taken against the culprits and they must be awarded stringent punishment so that the allocations made for rural development are utilised for the purpose of developing the rural areas.

Apart from this I want to state two more important points. As I requested on earlier occasions also, rural development programmes should include housing schemes in the rural areas as it is being done in the urban areas. Why is it so that the farmers, workers and others living in the rural areas are not able to get those benefits which are available to the urban people? If the people in the cities can get loan for house-building purposes and repay that in instalments, then I would suggest that the similar schemes should be started in the villages also so that people in the rural areas can also take such loans and build their own houses. One point which has been stated in the House in this regard is that adequate land is not available for housing purposes in the rural areas. I would suggest that the land should be acquired in the rural areas also in the same manner as has been done in the cities, and houses should be built there.

Apart from this, another scheme should be formulated for the development

of the rural areas. One model development Centre should be established to cater to 50 to 100 villages which include a Super Bazar, a health centre, an entertainment centre, work shops, institutes and a law court so that the people do not have to run to the district headquarters. Small courts should be set up there. The Tehsil headquarter does not have any provision for separate civil and criminal courts. Besides, training in rural handicrafts should be imparted to the people there. Such industries should be set up which are labour intensive and provision should be made for imparting technical education to children. *(Interruptions)* I would take two more minutes.

I want to convey my heart-felt congratulations to the hon. Prime Minister for the allotment of funds for the Indira Aawas yojana by which about 10 lakh families will be benefited. It will benefit the people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, the Harijans and the adivasis. I want to request that the allocations should be increased so that maximum number of people are benefited.

Again, allocations have not been made for the development of urban areas in the Budget. Today in the cities the system of electricity supply and drinking water supply is not proper. The roads are not in good condition. Sewage system has not been provided. There are many cities where there are several open drains, which pollute the atmosphere. Provision should be made so that funds are available to keep the cities clean, to beautify them and supply drinking water.

Apart from that, development of the rural areas is undertaken under the rural development schemes. Some development is taking place in the cities. There is need to develop the towns as well. But no provisions have been made for the town areas for this purpose. The Chief Minister has to be approached for sanctioning special funds. I would request that funds should be allotted for those towns which have a large population.

In the end, I want to submit that

[Shri Manvendra Singh]

although our country has made great progress and has made all round development, yet our family planning programmes are not implemented properly and so our population is increasing at a rapid pace which is negating all our efforts directed towards development. Hence, maximum funds should be allotted for family planning programmes. Attractive gifts or cash should be provided as incentives so that maximum people make use of family planning programmes. Sex education should also be made a compulsory component of this programme.

I would make another demand for increasing the exemption limit for income tax to Rs. 25,000 which would specially benefit the middle class people.

No provision has been made in the Budget for health. In the rural areas, the state of health is very poor. I would suggest that one hospital with 30 beds should be provided in every block so that complete health facilities are available in the rural areas. Latest equipments should be made available there. It would benefit the rural masses and would reduce the pressure on the hospitals in the cities. With these words I would thank you once again and congratulate the hon. Prime Minister wholeheartedly on behalf of people and on my own behalf for presenting a very good Budget.

17.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor) : Sir, the other day our hon. Prime Minister has placed the budget in this House for the country. My anxiety is not on this budget because every year this is the practice to place the budget in the House. My anxiety is only for the growing tendency of the total unhappiness of the people in the country. By this budget no doubt my friends on the other side of the House are happy but we have to see whether the people at large are happy with this budget,

Sir, the Prime Minister said that our industrial base has widened. I admit our industrial base has widened. It has widened in the strong and powerful States but not in Mizoram, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim and Meghalaya. Have you taken any note of developing these States even after 40 years of independence? What is your commitment to the people, you have no commitment to the people. You go to Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, Mizoram, and Manipur. You will find not a single public sector industry there and you are telling about the industrial development of the country. I had said the other day that the country does not consist of the strong States alone. It equally consists of smaller States also. We must not forget the development of those States.

Sir, Government says it has taken a number of welfare measures for the workers in the last two years. You say you have created a number of laws after the independence of the country but, what is your commitment to the workers' section in the country? The Industrial workers, the bidi workers, and coal mine workers are all living below the sub-standard level and you are telling about the welfare of the workers. Do you know till today the tea garden labourers in Assam are getting Rs. 2 a day. They do not get medical facilities. There is no hospital. They are not provided with accommodation. They do not get ration. In lieu of subsidised ration the management pays them 30 paise per day. There is no authority to look into it. That is your commitment.

No doubt by this budget some capitalists will be benefited but the poor people will not be benefited. You have been neglecting Assam for all these 40 years of independence. We have forest products. We have coal and crude but till today you have failed to set-up a big oil refinery in Assam even after the historic accord of 1965. There are two refineries. But what is their capacity? The capacity of Gauhati refinery is 75 million tonnes and Digboi refinery the capacity is .05 million tonnes. The capacity of Gujarat refinery and Barauni refinery has gone up from 6 million tonnes to 7—9 million tonnes. That is your integrity.

Now a word about anti-poverty programme. The budget says you are going to eliminate poverty but I say you are going to eliminate the poor and not poverty. That is our worst experience. The people are rotting. The poor people are building the nation but, in return, they are getting nothing.

Now, new education policy—what is that? Do you really want to educate the people? No, you don't want to educate the people because you want them to remain uneducated for all times to come because of your power and political gain. Out of 55 lakh tea garden labourers in Assam, till today, if you go and see—it is your own assessment—even less than .01 per cent are educated in these days of Sputnik.

When there is drought in Mizoram, in Manipur, in Arunachal Pradesh, in Assam, you don't provide anything. You make your commitment here alone and confine it here. You don't extend your commitment to those places. When people will die, after months or years together, you will throw something because you do not consider them to be a part and parcel of the country.

Last year, in Assam—as everybody knows—there were heavy floods. Four districts were inundated with flood water and you kept silent here. When I raised the matter in the House, only after that the Minister concerned visited the place. The Prime Minister visits the places when there is an election. I want to say why the Prime Minister did not visit on other occasions. After all, they have no commitment. Nothing has been sent from the Government of India. It is the local people and the State Government there who have taken care of the affected people. So that is your commitment! That is your unity and integrity! Simply saying this phrasology will not do.

We are producing crude. But how much royalty we are getting? What is the percentage of profit we have been given? We have been given nothing. In other countries and in other States, you will find

the profits are also shared. But in the case of Assam, we have been given a stepmotherly treatment. We have not been given royalty.

What is the condition of the national highways in Assam? If you go 200 to 300 miles from one place to another place, it will take about 12 hours. Even you cannot reach your destination. That is the present position of the national highways in Assam.

Every year, drought comes. People are assured that water will be preserved properly so that the people there are protected. But nothing has been done. Every time the Kaziranga National Park is eroded by the Brahmaputra and inundated by the flood water, and you are keeping a silence here.

So, I humbly request the honourable Prime Minister to look into it and do something about it.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a discussion on the Budget presented by our youthful Hon. Prime Minister is in progress in the House. I rise to present some views and certain suggestions in support of it.

76 per cent people of this country and particularly the rural people have welcomed the Budget wholeheartedly. On the one hand, this Budget would accelerate the pace of development, strengthen the economy and on the other, it is hoped that there will be far-reaching consequences for agriculture and industrial development.

As my friends have pointed out that the aim of Budget is not merely to present an estimate of income and expenditure. Instead, its aim is to point out as to what direction the economy would take in future, what percentage of people would be benefited, what are the priorities and so on. It is through the medium of Budget that the Government gets an opportunity to convey all such matters to the public.

[Shri Pratap Bhanu Sharma]

Among the priorities which have been fixed by the Hon. Prime Minister in the Budget of 1987-88, rural development and poverty elimination programmes have been given a special emphasis. The setting up of the National Labour Commission for improving the life styles and economic standards of the unorganised labour in our rural areas is due to his insight and imagination. It shows his concern for the poor and his socialistic way of thinking. According to an estimate of a national newspaper, about 20 crores of people fall in the category of agricultural labour and to whom the basic necessities of life that is food, clothing and shelter are not available even today, and they must get these facilities on a priority basis.

I want to congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister for paying his attention to that section and for making special efforts to uplift them by setting up this Commission. This work should be done properly, surveys should be conducted and proper direction should be given for implementing the various socio-economic programmes in the rural areas. It would not be correct to think that we would achieve success by merely setting up a Commission.

Similarly, Rs. 2000 crores have been earmarked in the Budget for poverty alleviation programmes like I.R.D.P., N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. Two points are clear from this. The young educated people in the rural areas want to get employment. The Integrated Rural Development Programme might help in this direction and in the Sixth Five Year Plan and Seventh Five Year Plan 2 crores of people have been benefited under this programme which no one can deny. Rs. 310 crores have been allocated under I.R.D.P. Rs. 780 crores under N.R.E.P. and Rs. 725 crores under R.L.E.G.P. for the next year. It would enable 40 lakh people to get employment under I.R.D.P. Under N.R.E.P., more than 752 crores of mandays will be created. It is in itself an ambitious project. I have seen the good results of it in the rural areas of my own constituency. The unemployed people in these areas have got employment, agricultural labourers have got employment.

When earlier, people used to get work for 3 months or for 6 months in a year and earned only Rs. 4 or 5 per day, now-a-days they get employment more frequently and earn Rs. 10—12 per day as wages. The earnings have increased.

Secondly, an important proposal has been made in regard to the housing schemes and I would like to praise the Hon. Prime Minister for it. Highest priority has been given to the housing schemes in both rural and urban areas for which I want to congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister on behalf of crores of people of this country. It has been lauded in all the national newspapers and in regional language newspapers as well. According to the Seventh Five Year Plan Document, by the end of 1990, about 5 crore families will require houses, about which it has been estimated that an investment of nearly Rs. 29,000 crores will be required. Keeping this in view and through coordinated efforts of the National Buildings Organisation, Housing Development Finance Corporation and other nationalised Housing Banks, we should ensure that the benefits of the scheme reach the lower income groups in the districts and to those who want to build houses privately or through cooperative societies. Hence, it is a very good scheme and we would be successful in the construction sector in the future years. It would generate employment and the connected industries like steel, cement, energy, coal and power, which form the country's infrastructure, will also prosper. Therefore, it is essential, that the allocation of Rs. 100 crores for NHB should be increased to Rs. 1000 crores so that an ambitious project like this does not suffer on account of paucity of funds.

Similarly, in the field of design technology, NBO has developed some very good house plans, but the designs are not easily available to the cooperative societies in the districts. For this it is essential that there should be an office of the NBO in every region and material and other essential details should be made available to the cooperative societies. For the low and middle income groups 4-5 standard designs should be made available so that they are

able to get ready-made plans and the work progresses speedily and they may not have to run hither and thither for this purpose.

Similarly, priority has been given to the public sector in the Seventh Five Year Plan which shows that what our national leaders late Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and late Shrimati Indra Gandhi had envisaged by giving priority to the Public sector, which is to strengthen our economy and our socialistic system is being carried forward firmly by our Hon. Prime Minister, but when the vested interests were attacked, they did not like it and made efforts by adopting other methods to downgrade the Public Sector by insisting that the Government is neglecting it and by other similar propaganda. I want to state clearly that till March 1986, Rs. 50341 crores have been spent on Public Sector and there cannot be any question of neglect of it after such a huge investment.

Our Hon. Prime Minister has allocated Rs. 47000 crores as fresh investments for the public sector during the Seven Five Year Plan. We hope that investment in the public sector would rise upto Rs 86000. crores by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan. It is yielding very good results. A sum of about Rs. 1200 crores has been received this year in the form of income and 24 to 25 lakh people, youth and technicians are employed in the Public Sector Units. The public sector has made commendable contribution in making the country selfreliant, in strengthening the economy, in the development of the country, in removing industrial imbalances and in the development of basic facilities of infrastructure. The decision of the Government of India to appoint technical experts as Chairmen of Public Sector Units deserves our appreciation. Only earning profit has never been our target, but economic and industrial progress has always been our aim. I would also like to make my submission about the education policy. The education policy is connected with our future and that of our youth. The population of people belonging to age group of 14 to 35 years is about 30 per cent of our total population. The perception that has been made by our young Prime Minister, is to make every

one educated in each and every village and efforts to develop the country and bring about a new awakening could succeed only through the public cooperation and public participation. After 40 years of independence, only 37 per cent of our people are educated and it will be a great achievement if goal of hundred per cent education is achieved by 1995 or 2000 A.D. A provision of 800 crores of rupees has been made for education under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The provision made therein for Navodaya Vidyalayas, for rural education and for opening new schools is a commendable step and we heartily welcome it. It requires providing employment to the young people in them. Education, training and employment, these should be the three integrated phases of human resource development. Only education would not provide means of employment. Along with education, training should be provided to the youth in the field of electronics, automobiles, rural development and housing engineering. The training provided through technical training institute or I.T.I. at the district level yields very good results in the practical life, whether it is of one year or of a duration of six months. The training course should be diversified more expeditiously. Attention should be given towards technical education so that it may cope with the increasing needs of the coming generation. The national youth policy has also been a subject of discussion. Our National youth policy will also be presented in the House during this session and through it our Government would try to give a national shape to the youth welfare programmes.

*SHRI A. C. SHANMUGAM (Vellore): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to welcome the Union Budget for 1987-88 presented by hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

The budght has further testified that our hon. Prime Minister is not only an able administrator but also a Finance Minister par excellence.

*The Speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri A. C. Shanmugam]

Even the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. M.G. Ramachandaran has commended the budget proposals as pro-poor and opined that budget will give a new thrust in our quest for progress and development. I once again welcome the budget and hope that this will put the nation on the wheels of progress towards the 21st century.

However, I am constrained to state some of the short comings that I find in the proposals. During the year 1985-86, the deficit in the budget was of the order of about Rs. 4000 crores. I do not know how the deficit was made up. Likewise, during 1986-87, the deficit was about Rs. 3650 crores. During 1987-88, the budget leaves an uncovered deficit of Rs. 5600 crores. I am very much awed to think how this big deficit is going to be covered. On the revenue side, the Govt. is going to net only Rs. 322 crores by direct and indirect taxes.

I welcome the duties imposed on cigarette. This would redeem millions of people doomed in the bad habit of smoking. The pension scheme also is praiseworthy.

The increase of duties on TV sets is somewhat harsh, though the Prime Minister has assured that it will not directly affect the people. Despite circulars having been issued not to raise the prices of TV sets immediately, the sellers have hiked the prices by Rs. 500—Rs. 1000 per set. I, therefore, request the Prime Minister that this sudden price rise of TV sets should be monitored closely and to see that the middle class and commonmen are not affected by this.

I welcome the doubling of allocation to Rs. 800 crores. This is more than 100% increase over the last year. As many members have pointed out, more than 50% of our people are illiterates. This shameful condition must go. I, therefore, warmly welcome the increased allocation and even if the Govt. allots Rs. 1500 crores, that would also justify, as far as education is concerned.

My previous speakers from the Congress benches pointed out that adequate facilities for imparting education are not available in the villages. But I could say with pride that in Tamil Nadu all basic facilities including buildings have been provided in each & every village. Our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G. Ramachandaran is vigorously implementing the midday meal scheme so that even children in the age group of 2 to 3 years could receive education with nutritive food. We are, therefore, fighting illiteracy under the able leadership of our Chief Minister Dr. M.G. Ramachandaran. The children population in schools has gone up by 5 to 6 lakhs. We earnestly believe that this would be a model to be followed by other States. On this occasion, I would like to make a fervent plea that Rs. 400 crores incurred on the midday meal scheme by the State Govt. may kindly be compensated by the Central Govt. Hon. Chief Minister Dr. M.G. Ramachandaran has gone a step further. He has announced that 80 to 90 lakh children will be distributed free chappals. This reinstates our faith in upliftment of the poor and down-trodden.

The Central Govt. has proposed to open 150 Navodaya Vidyalayas. We welcome it. However, I would like to suggest to the Govt. that these Vidyalayas must spread basic education amongst the poor in their mother tongue. These vidyalayas must not function as instruments for propagation of Hindi. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister and suggest that importance should be accorded only to the language of each State and along with that English should also be taught. Navodaya Vidyalayas must adopt this two language formula. At this juncture I very clearly state and restate vehemently that the two-language formula is a principle of the people of Tamil Nadu which is in their blood and breath. We will not allow Hindi at any cost to be imposed on us. The people of Tamil Nadu will resist any such attempt and this sentiment of our brethren must be respected. I do hope the hon. Prime Minister would agree with me. I, therefore, plead with the Govt. not to convert these Navodaya Vidyalayas as tools for propagation of Hindi. Instead, they should

be used as centres for promotion of regional languages.

The prices of diesel has been raised indirectly. The OPEC countries and Mexico have reduced the price of diesel while the prices in India are gradually rising. I request the Govt. to take steps to contain the price of diesel at least for three to four years. The users of diesel are not only rich alone but even poor men, agriculturists and those who are two-wheelers consume diesel. In this connection I draw the attention of the Govt. to the disadvantages inherent in the prevailing contract system for the purchase of diesel. This inflates the price by 40%. This contract system must be abolished and Govt. should directly purchase diesel from other countries.

I also draw the attention of the Govt. to the abundant availability of oil in Cauvery basin. Many experts have opined that this should be tapped and if done, this should be used for the benefit of South Arcot, Thanjavur and Trichy districts of Tamil Nadu.

The Prime Minister may please note the plan allocation to States is gradually being reduced in every plan. The plan allocation for States in the Fifth Five year Plan was about 41.5%. This was reduced to 31.6% in the 6th Five Year Plan. This was further reduced to 23% in the Seventh Five year Plan. He may kindly note that there is a steep drop in allocation to the State from the 5th to 7th Five Year Plans. If the States should implement various schemes and projects without delay, if the States are to prosper, I request that the Central Govt. should not reduce the plan allocation for States.

There is severe power scarcity in Tamil Nadu. Even the price of coal, we purchase is very high. If the price in North is Rs. 1000, in South it is Rs. 1200. This is the case with steel and other items. The increase in price is attributed to the transportation cost. If we say India is one country, there should not be different prices for coal and steel anywhere in India. There should be only one price all over

India. 80% of power generated in Neyveli and Kalpakkam units must be given to Tamil Nadu as it is in the grip of severe power scarcity. The second mine in Neyveli must be completed early and the third one should be started immediately.

The Okkanakal hydel power project is an important project. It is not only the concern of the State but a boon to the whole nation. Sir, I think this pertains to the constituency of our hon. Deputy-Speaker. This is a long pending project. This could generate 1200 megawatt of power. However, the Govt's of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are disputing over this project. Sir, there is a vast difference between hydel power and thermal power, as far as the aspect of cost of production is concerned. The hydel power will cost only 10 P or 11 P per unit. I, therefore, request the Central Govt. to take over this project and complete it on priority basis.

Sir, about the farmers' problem I would like the Govt. to constitute a committee to go into their grievances including remunerative prices for agricultural Commodities. The Committee should also suggest measures to rehabilitate the landless labour. The Committee's recommendations must be implemented expeditiously. The farmers do not get remunerative prices. This may lead to farmers' unrest all over the country. Already there are agitations in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. This should be looked into by the Govt.

My previous speaker Shri C.K. Kuppaswamy referred to the agricultural debt of farmers. He requested the Govt. to write off this debt. In this connection I state that Dr. M.G. Ramachandaran has written off farmers debt to the tune of Rs. 300 crores, despite the warnings of the Central Govt. and the RBI. No other State Govt. has written off agricultural debt to the extent. I request the Central Govt. to compensate the State Govt. by a suitable grant.

Many States are lagging behind in the implementation of 20-point economic programme. However, Tamil Nadu is in

[Shri A. C. Shanmugam]

the forefront of its implementation. Funds are lying idle in States where the implementation is slow or nil. The Prime Minister has assured our leader Dr. Kolandaivelu during the question hour in this House, that such idle funds will be released to pilot States like Tamil Nadu for vigorous implementation of the 20 point economic programme with greater stress on Family Planning.

Defence is very essential for a sovereign country. Rs.12,000 crores have been allocated on this account. I welcome that. In this connection, I mention that the Sathu Samundra Project must be taken up as a defence project. Even an expert committee on this matter submitted a report in favour of this suggestion. I reiterate that the project should be taken up as defence project. The Indian ocean is no more a zone of peace. Military experts have opined that the Sethu Samundra project will stand India in good stead in case of any threat from a foreign country in this area. This would also obviate Indian ships from Bombay circumventing Sri Lanka to go to Calcutta.

Sir, there are 90,000 sick mills all over the country. Rs. 3600 crores of capital borrowed from banks is blocked in these sick mills. Hon. Prime Minister must look into the matter and come forward with a solution.

The hon. Member Shri C.K. Kuppaswami was absolutely correct when he talked about the corruption prevalent in banks. You cannot get Rs.500 from a bank. But an influential rich man easily gets Rs.5 lakhs and cheats the bank. I request the Govt. to take effective steps to obliterate corruption in the banks.

About the loan melas, Sir, even the Congress member Shri C.K. Kuppaswami referred to it. The loans are made available only if a Congress member signed for it. It is sad to note that Congress members assure the loanees that they will be exempted from the payment of Rs 5000, in case the members certify suitably in this regard. Why the Congress member

should bring a loss of Rs. 5000 to the Govt. ? I fear, Sir, that in these cases the intermediaries pocket half of the exempted money i.e. Rs 2500 and thus lead to loot of public exchequer.

The Govt. should also take steps to monitor public sector companies. The Govt. has invested Rs 40,000 crores in these companies. Technocrats and experts should control these companies for effective management. 43 posts of Chairman are lying vacant. These vacancies must be filled early.

Tamil Nadu is reeling under severe drought. The State Govt. has allotted Rs. 31 crores to give relief to the victims and is taking measures on a war footing. The Central Govt. must immediately send a Central team and release funds quickly.

Hon. Member Shri C.K. Kuppaswami imputed wrong motive to the removal of Ministers in Tamil Nadu. Even in the Centre the Prime Minister reshuffled his Cabinet 11 times. We do not misconstrue it. I therefore, appeal to the hon. Member not to attribute political or wrong motives to the removal of Ministers in Tamil Nadu.

I thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak.

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ (Moradabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the budget. I congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister for presenting such a good budget which is in favour of the poor. To-day, while supporting the views of my colleagues, I would like to say that our poor people will be benefited by the concepts on which stress has been laid in this budget.

Education, export, industry and housing schemes etc. are our very basic requisites. By presenting this budget, our Prime Minister has proved that our Government intends to work for the poor and the

helpless to take them forward. As has been told by all my colleagues that so much money has been provided for education this year, which had never been provided in the past. It is a fact that keeping in view the need for education, our Prime Minister has given us an opportunity for laying stress on education. He feels and he desires that our children and youth should be of good character and they should be given good education so that they may achieve self strength and they are in a position to get employment and march forward in their lives.

There is no doubt that our country has progressed in the field of agriculture and the country has marched forward in this field. As all the colleagues have expressed their views, even today it is necessary that farmers are extended more facilities so that they could maximise the food production and take the country forward. 80 per cent population of our country consists of farmers and our country is progressing with the co operation of the farmers.

So far as industry is concerned, there is no doubt that late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru gave us such a direction in this matter that our country is proud of its achievement. Not only in India, but in foreign countries also, we have established good reputation in their markets. To-day, Our Prime Minister is also moving forward following the same policy. So far as the question of prices is concerned, prices have also stabilised. It is the endeavour of our Hon. Prime Minister and the people of our country also realise it very well that our Prime Minister has such feelings for the poor, the tribals and the farmers so that they could also get an opportunity to march forward.

As has been said by a number of our colleagues, duty on the imported fertiliser is being increased and this will increase the burden on the farmer. I feel that the above duty should not be increased.

Similarly, our middle class people, whether they are in service or in business, should be given relief in income tax and exemption limit for income tax should be

raised to at least Rs. 25,000 so that their morale is boosted and they could lead a good life.

The Government has laid much stress on increase in production in the country. There is no doubt that such schemes have been formulated which will increase production in our country and will help in the developments of the country and our country will get an opportunity to make rapid progress. I understand that the amount of Rs. 2050 crores provided for this purpose in this budget had never been provided earlier.

Similarly, a sum of Rs. 2000 crores has been earmarked for rural schemes. There is no doubt that we have been largely benefited by rural schemes. Whereas there were no roads in the rural areas earlier now we find roads there. This has provided good facilities to our farmers for moving from one place to another. The poor farmer has gained a lot of strength by it who used to carry the load on his back earlier.

The N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. have benefited the poor very much. I understand that we have been able to extend a lot of help to the poor people who live in rural areas and are unemployed.

With these words I support the Budget and congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister.

[English]

DR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Sriballav Panigrahi. Eight minutes I am giving to you, therefore, you try to adjust within eight minutes.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, nobody before me has completed before ten minutes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please help me because there are other Members also who are pressing me that they want to speak today itself.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
All should be given equal opportunity.
Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is why I am saying uniform eight minutes to everybody.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM (Gaya):
Sir, other Members have been given more time. Why then should you put a restitution on us? Other Members have been allowed 15 minutes each.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have the pleasure to support the progressive budget for 1987-88 presented by our dynamic Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi ji.

The performance of our Government and the performance of our Indian economy have proved beyond doubt the age-old saying prevalent from British days about the Indian budget as wrong. What is that saying? That saying is that the Indian budget is a gamble on the monsoon. It has been proved wrong by the economic situation of the country today. Despite odd weather conditions, despite unfavourable weather conditions and erratic behaviour of monsoon for the last two to three years, the Indian economy has taken off with regard to growth in industrial sector, that is about eight per cent and the overall economic growth of about five per cent for the last several years. I congratulate the Government and particularly our Prime Minister for such record success, resounding success on the economic development side of the country. I wonder how the Opposition describes this progressive budget, this dynamic budget, this growth-oriented socialist budget as anti-growth, anti-poor and also inflationary in nature. I wonder and I am at a loss to say what to do with such suppositions. When there are heavy taxation measures, they come down heavily on the Government, as we have seen in the past. Even when there has been any

tax proposal with good motive, with good intention, they have criticised it, and now when there is no tax proposal, no taxation on the poor, particularly the common man, they say that the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister has not been bold enough and is not taking the country in right direction. They say that this budget lacks in lustre, lacks in direction. This is what they have described the budget here.

Sir, as you have warned me about the time I am not going to speak in detail as to how it is growth-oriented. There are several features in the budget itself which prove beyond doubt that it is very much promising in respect of growth, precisely, they are as follows :-

1. Introduction of a liberalised depreciation scheme
2. Extension of MODVAT to all but three industries.
3. Import of textile machinery at a vastly reduced duty of 65%.
4. Encouragement given to food processing industry.
5. Improvement of the prospects for the domestic capital goods industry.
6. Package to be announced to help it to get out of the doldrums.

What does all this mean? Would they not promote growth? Are all these measures anti-growth? I would like to ask this pertinent question to the opposition. Unfortunately, they are not here. I would like to know which provision of the Budget presented by our Prime Minister is anti-poor? This I would like to know from the Opposition Members. Is there any tax proposal on the poor? Instead there are many reliefs given to the poor. In fact taxes have been reduced on goods of common use during their daily life.

This Budget is aimed at all round

development in agriculture, industry poverty alleviation. It is a sensible Budget, a realistic Budget, a forward looking Budget. People all over the country praise this Budget. They praise the Prime Minister.

Ever since Rajivji has taken over the reins of administration of the country, the Opposition has always been dwelling on criticism that the Prime Minister is anti-public sector and pro-rich. This Budget has proved beyond doubt the commitment of the Government to socialism, to planning and to public undertakings. The political philosophy, of the Congress Party, the economic policy of the Congress Party are very well reflected in this Budget.

We have twin objective—

1. Growth.
2. Equity.

Both these objectives have been well taken care of in this Budget.

The Opposition is criticising that there is record deficit, uncovered deficit and it is bound to encourage inflation. This also is far from truth. Prime Minister himself has given a categorical assurance in his Budget speech that all efforts will be made and by all means this deficit figure will be contained. You will see that this figure does not exceed as has been in the past. I am happy that there is such a deficit and such an announcement, because it will promote growth. At the same time it is a challenge. The Prime Minister has accepted the challenge. What is the challenge? It is a challenge to contain, to curtail wasteful expenditure, unproductive expenditure and to promote and to ensure successful commercial working of our public undertakings and also a crusade against black money—that will continue. Tax collection will improve at the rate of 30% on the book profit of the industry. With the tightening of all economic measures, I am sure that this deficit will prove a boon for the Indian

economy. At the same time there will be growth and overall improvement in the working of different organisations—public sector and others.

There are several welcome features in this Budget. For instance, it is housing. So far it has been a neglected area. This area has been given priority. Professor Dandavate has said that this Government has wrongly fixed priorities. Are housing, education, poverty alleviation wrongly fixed as priorities? These are priority sectors in this Budget. Which one is wrong? Let him come out and say which does not deserve priority in the Budget?

Rs. 375 has been fixed as the minimum pension. It is welcome. Six lakh employees will be benefitted.

Sir while welcoming the Budget, I would draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the imbalance which it is going to create among the poor people in some fields. There are millions of farmers in the country whose net income will be less than the annual pension amount that a pensioner will be getting. The agricultural labourers are not getting Rs. 10 per day and also the poor farmers who are working very very hard on the land, are getting an income far less than the pension amount of a retired employee entitled to get. So, Sir, this imbalance is going to create problems and this point should be taken care of.

About land reforms, I may submit that there are some imbalances. When I was the Minister in charge of Revenue, I vigorously implemented the land reforms Act in Orissa fixing 10 standard acres as the ceiling. Now, I feel guilty when I find that some other States are not implementing the land reforms Act and also they ignore the ceiling law on urban property. This is creating imbalance and as such anger and bitterness among the peasantry are created. This imbalance should not be allowed to continue any longer.

About housing, I would like to mention that I am a loanee and I have taken

[Shri Sriballav Panigrahi]

loan from the LIC for constructing my house. The procedure is so cumbersome and complicated that people are generally harassed. If you fail to pay an instalment even for one day you will have to pay compound interest. I request that this should be simplified and liberalise.

Now, I come to education. Right from the days of independence, Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had been laying emphasis on reforming education. Several Commissions were appointed and they had come out with voluminous reports. But they were gathering dust. They were not implemented on the plea that sufficient funds were not available. Now, in the present Budget, the hon. Prime Minister has provided a sum of Rs. 800 crores to implement the New Education Policy. This is a very commendable step that he has taken. Educational institutions are the temples of learning. The conditions prevailing in the temples of learning need immediate attention. These are our factories to produce citizens who will take up the challenge of 21st century. Any amount of investment made in education will definitely help in raising the standard of education. Sir, while moving about in the constituency, students come to us, teachers come to us, the guardians come to us and they complain about the rotten conditions of educational institutions. It is very distressing to learn that the percentage of failure at the primary levels and matriculation level is gradually going up. Only about 25% of the students are passing. There is something wrong somewhere. Therefore this point should be considered and something should be done in raising the standard of education even at the primary level. According to teachers the syllabus is quite heavy and above the standard for the common students.

In regard to anti-poverty programme, I would submit that it should be properly evaluated and the evaluation should be done by an independent organisation. It is very very important programme and unless we eradicate poverty, we cannot bring the people above the poverty line and the

planned development will be meaningless for them. There should be proper monitoring to see whether the funds are spent properly.

As regards Orissa which is a backward State and which is now passing through power famine, I would request the Government to give top-most priority to the following projects. Orissa has got enormous coal deposits. But it is a matter of regret that there is no Coal Division located in Orissa so far, far from a company. A coal company should be set up with two divisions. This State is lagging behind in the field of irrigation, power generation and also industrial sector. The IB thermal Power Plant and the Talcher Super-thermal Power Plant should be taken up immediately and the Sambalpur-Talcher Railway line and also Jagpura-Banspari railway line should be constructed on priority basis. Sambalpur Railway Division should also be made functional without delay.

Sir, Paradip Port which is the gateway to the prosperity of the State deserves immediate attention. The second Steel plant which was sanctioned is not coming up. A project with a new technology of DR and KR process which was experimented with Daitari in view is now being located somewhere else. This project should be set up in Daitari to develop into a steel complex in future. In respect of irrigation and agriculture also, Orissa which is lagging behind should be given due attention.

So, Sir, with all this there would be considerable development of a backward and poor State like Orissa contributing thereby to the overall development of the country in general.

With this, Sir, I support the Budget. This is a wonderful budget, a memorable budget, a historical budget, and here is a youthful Prime Minister who has taken the country in the right direction. It is now for all the political parties to rise above the narrow, partisan spirit and support him and cooperate

with him to take the country in the right direction along the cherished path.

With these words, Sir, I think you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

*SHRI R. ANNAVIAMBI (Pollachi) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Budget for 1987-88.

This Budget is thoroughly a nice Budget. The young Prime Minister has proved that he can take the country to the 21st century. I commend his achievement. He is a lead kindly light of this country. His Budget does not oppress the poor. Neither it crushes the rich. It is the maiden Budget of our Prime Minister and, in the first instance itself, he has brought out this unique Budget. I am boundlessly glad and I cannot, but applaud his wonderful feat.

I also welcome the number of welfare schemes provided for the upliftment of the oppressed suppressed and the down-trodden lot of this country. Each and every proposal of his in this Budget is praiseworthy. In this connection, I feel extremely glad to inform this House that even our Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M. G. Ramachandran has hailed the Budget as a trend-setter.

I welcome the allocation of Rs. 310 crores for IRDP, the crown of all anti-pov. rty programmes in India. In the same way, the Government has allocated Rs. 480 crores for NREP so as to eradicate unemployment among the rural masses. This would create 273 million man-days of employment. I also appreciate the Government's allocation of Rs. 725 crores for the RLEGP. This programme will guarantee employment to atleast one person from a family for 100 days.

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

This year the Government has allocated Rs. 370 crores for supply of drinking water to villages. 50,750 villages would benefit by this.

However, I may also point out certain lacunae in the Budget. I am very sorry to state that no National Highway was constructed in Tamil Nadu over the past 12 years. I had been reminding the Government of this for the past 2 years but without any result. I, therefore, urge upon the Hon'ble Minister to take steps to construct one in Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu is in the grip of severe drought. People are undergoing untold ordeals. I shudder to think that an ancient civilization of the Tamils should be allowed to be revaged by drought in this manner.

18.00 hrs.

Sir, many villages in Tamil Nadu do not have road access to the nearby towns. This hampers effective communication between the people and also hampers the development of the State as a whole. Though the Central Government has programmed and implemented many schemes for the welfare of the rural masses, I feel my constituency, Pollachi is still backward. I request the Government to construct a National Highway in Pollachi and, thus, help its development.

Further, I had been insisting upon the Government to connect Samraj Nagar, Sathiamangalam and Tharapuram in my constituency by rail so that trains coming from Karnataka may traverse through these areas and then go to Palani. This has been frequently voiced by the Palani Constituency Member Shri Senapathi Gounder. The area was surveyed by the British and, however, the plan to bring these areas on the railway map was later dropped. I hope the kind-hearted Prime Minister will look in to this and do the needful. I hope he will complete the project.

The rural folk in my constituency belong to the economically weaker section. They are very poor and the farmers do

[Shri R. Annaviambi]

not have good harvests for long. Successive failure of monsoon and consequent drought conditions have further aggravated their problems. Their standard of living is very low and many go without a single meal a day. I bring this to the attention of Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Minister sitting on the other side of this House.

I request the Government to establish a heavy industrial unit in my constituency. At least a paper mill can be established.

Lastly, Sir, the Hon'ble member from the Coimbatore constituency, Shri C. K. Kuppusamy has told a gross untruth in this House that 10 Ministers were removed in Tamil Nadu on corruption charges. This distorts truth and misleads the House. Dr. M. G. Ramachandran removed the Ministers only for the sake of administrative expediency as Shri Rajiv Gandhi had done in the case of 7 Ministers recently. This is a routine exercise. Shri C. K. Kuppusamy's charge is, therefore, baseless and I request the Hon'ble House to take cognizance of the real position in the matter.

With these words, I thank you, Sir, for the opportunity given and conclude.

18.02 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have

to inform the House that the Speaker has received today the following message dated the 4th March, 1987 from the President :

"I have received with great satisfaction the expression of thanks by the Members of the Lok Sabha for the Address which I delivered to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on 23rd February, 1987."

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Thirtieth-Fifth Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHIELA DIKSHIT) : I beg to present the Thirtieth-Fifth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to re-assemble tomorrow at 11.00 A. M.

18.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Wednesday, March 11, 1987, Phalguna 20, 1908 (Saka)