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Tuesday, April 21, 1987

Vaisakha 1, 1909 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Eighth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)**



(Vol. XXVII contains Nos. 31 to 40)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, April 21, 1987/Vaisakha 1,
1909 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Let us congratulate Shri Sunil Dutt who has undertaken the peace march which has helped in restoring peace in Punjab.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : He has done the best thing which no Member could have done. I am very happy.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : If our feelings and emotions are so awakened, then our country will definitely make progress. If an atmosphere is created where human beings start understanding each other, then it will reflect the teachings of our saints and feelings of love, nationalism and brotherhood. We have envisaged all these things. We were all talking of Ram Rajya but infighting has made all these things topsy-turvy.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : But in spite of his presence, the Zero Hour was not peaceful.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Some of its effect should also be felt here. Why do we go so far, let us judge our own doings.

2

[*English*]

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : If Mr. Tewary keeps quiet, everything will be all right, Sir.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : I can get an agreement finalised between you and him.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : He is feeling uneasy over the peace march.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Rules for electric connections and disconnections in Delhi

*718. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the rules of getting electric connections and Disconnections in Delhi;

(b) the period by which electric connections can be obtained after completing all the formalities; and

(c) the period by which the security is refunded to the consumer after completing all the formalities of electric disconnection ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below,

Statement

(a) The process of sanctioning of electric connections and their disconnection in the area of supply of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking is regulated under the Delhi Electricity Control Order, 1959, the statutory laws/rules, instructions of the Delhi Administration, Conditions of Supply, and the orders of DESU issued from time to time.

(b) According to DESU, the normal prescribed time for energisation of electric connections on completion of relevant formalities by the applicant varies from 14 days in the case of domestic users and non-domestic users without air-conditioning load to six months where work on High Transmission/Low Transmission lines and sub-stations is involved. Temporary connections are given immediately.

(c) According to DESU, the period prescribed for refund of security deposits varies from 9 days to 30 days. In case of temporary connections, security deposits are refunded after adjusting energy consumption charges as early as possible.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has stated in his reply that in Delhi, electricity is supplied to the consumers in accordance with the instructions issued by the Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking from time to time. He has also stated that electric connections are installed within 14 days of the completion of all the formalities and it takes 6 months where work on high transmission line is involved. I want to know from the Hon. Minister the number of applications pending in various DESU Offices for electric connections as well as for refund of security deposits even after all the formalities have been completed and the amount has been deposited. He has also stated that temporary connections are given immediately. Please tell us the number of applications pending for temporary connections ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : It is difficult to tell right now the exact number

of pending applications. According to DESU, work is done within the prescribed time. But the figures are not with me at present, I will try to get this information. According to the assurance given to us, work is done within the prescribed time. I will look into it as well. The second question is also connected with figures. These figures are also not with me at present.

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : The Hon. Minister has shown keen interest in the points raised by me. We have seen that a number of irregularities are committed in DESU. You may have seen on television that there are long queues in front of DESU Offices for depositing money. What action is being taken to regulate it ? It is the experience of all the Hon. Members that bills for 6 months period are sent at a time. There are mistakes also in bills. How will you rectify this state of affairs ? Along with it, I want to say that in the metropolitan area of Delhi where adjacent to the posh colonies, there are 300 to 400 villages to which rules of the Delhi Municipal Corporation are not applied. Will these rules be enforced there so that people are not deprived of electricity facilities ? The saying goes, "Nearer the church, farther from God".

I want to get the Hon. Minister's replies to these two questions.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : The Hon. Member is a learned person and has asked very good questions and I want to congratulate her for the same. In reply to both these questions, I want to state that there are difficulties...

MR. SPEAKER : The wonderful thing is that she has squeezed two questions in one

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : A combined answer to both these questions is that every possible action is taken from time to time to regularise and check the irregularities. A computer has been installed and it is working in many zones for the payment of arrear bills. 66 zones and 20 districts have been set up for distribution purposes. Mobile vans have been arranged to obtain payment from various places at

fixed times and dates. In some zones, computers have started functioning and at other places, they will start functioning by August and this will remove many of the difficulties. It is also a good question, that what is being done to authorise the villages around Delhi. In this connection, a new order has been passed that all those unauthorised colonies which were set up before 1981, be given power connections and the work in this regard has already started.

MR. SPEAKER : You must also say that their land has been acquired. Therefore, something should be given to these helpless people.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are many unauthorised colonies and unauthorised constructions in Delhi. One such colony is the Buddhist Vihar of the people of Ladakh in front of the Inter-State-Bus Terminus. Some refugees from Tibet have started unauthorised constructions inside its premises in spite of the fact that the matter was brought to the notice of the Lieutenant Governor and the Ministry of Works and Housing. But now DESU and the Municipal Corporation have, in collusion, given illegal electricity connections to them and the sanctity of the temple is being destroyed. I want to know whether it is proper to regularise such constructions by giving electricity and water connections, and if not, will you stop supplying electricity to that colony with immediate effect? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : It is unjustified. He is talking about illegal connections.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir, if it is a matter of collusion and if some illegal thing is being done, we will look into it and get the situation rectified.

MR. SPEAKER : Please look into it and get it done.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the bills are full of mistakes after billing by computers has started.

MR. SPEAKER : Electricity comes from the plant and not from the computer.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, complaints regarding wrong bills are coming from everywhere and I want to know what action is being taken to check it? This problem is there throughout the country. Thousands of wrong bills are received in Nagpur and in Delhi also. There are many such complaints. I cannot understand the quality of these computers. The people are much harassed due to these complaints. Against a bill of Rs. 2000, a bill for Rs. 20,000 is received and as a result thereof, the people have to make several rounds of the DESU Offices. Even electric connections are disconnected. Such is the state of affairs. Will the Central Government take some steps in this regard? Take care of Delhi and also of other big cities where people are facing this problem. Such complaints are there in villages as well.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir, in view of these complaints, efforts are being made to install a computer at the headquarters with its terminals in all the districts for feeding the various complaints to be transmitted to the information centre there. It is expected that the installation of computers will help in removing the complaints and considerable improvements will be made in this situation.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also want to refer to two bills.

MR. SPEAKER : You want to submit one or both?

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Both.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : He should have two hearts.

MR. SPEAKER : He is a poet as well as an M.P.; therefore, he should have a double heart.

(English)

**Evaluation of R and D effort of
B.H.E.L.**

*720. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased
to state :

(a) whether Government propose to
make an independent evaluation of the
R & D effort of the Bharat Heavy Electricals
Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether such an evaluation will
be made of other units/organisations involv-
ed in research work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTER-
PRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUS-
TRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) and
(b). With a view to enhancing the overall
effectiveness, there is a proposal to make an
evaluation of the R and D functions of
BHEL.

(c) There is no such proposal under
consideration.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Sir, I
I am very much disappointed at the way
the question has been answered. My question
was : whether Government propose to
make an independent evaluation of the
R&D effort of the Bharat Heavy Electricals
Limited and if so, the details thereof. Now,
these two parts have been merged and it
is said there is such a proposal. We would
like to know as to what is the proposal.
What is that proposal with which you
would like to see that the R&D effort in
the Bharat Heavy Electrical is strengthened ?
In view of a lot of reports in the news-
papers and various representations made
during the last one year about the com-
plaints of the R&D functioning of the
Bharat Heavy Electricals and in view of
the fact that they are still importing
technology in spite of the fact that they
are spending Rs. 50-60 crores every year
in the R&D, the fact is that only an
internal Committee has been appointed by
the Bharat Heavy Electricals. May I know

from the Hon. Minister whether Govern-
ment will appoint an independent Committee
to go into this aspect and see that the R&D
effort is strengthened.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Mr. Speaker,
Sir, I can inform the Hon. Member that
the Government's intention is to strengthen
the R&D Centre so that it contributes to
the desired level of excellence in BHEL.
Keeping in view this aspect and also the
role that BHEL plays in the parts and
equipment manufacture, Government has
decided to institute an evaluation Committee
to go into the functioning of R&D Division
and the purpose is to further enhance its
status and to make it purposive the research
and development, its products and systems
in the Division. So, I think this will satisfy
the Hon. Member.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : I would
like to know that during the last 10 years
when the R&D was in existence in Bharat
Heavy Electricals, how many products
which had been developed by the R&D
Department, had been commercialised—
whether by the Bharat Heavy Electrical itself
or by other agencies.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : The list is
before me. If you permit me, I will read
it out.

MR. SPEAKER : If it is too long, it
can be laid on the Table.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : It is not
too long...Its products have been commer-
cialised and they are in use...(Interruptions)
If you want, I can give the information to
you...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please lay it on the
Table of the House.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY :
Sir, the Minister's answer is not satis-
factory.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are not satisfied with Tewaryji.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : There are a lot of allegations that the indigenous R&D effort in BHEL is being subverted by certain quarters in favour of foreign multinationals and foreign technology. The latest being the advanced technology research that has been subverted by effecting transfer and sacking of renowned scientists. Also, there are reports that this type of people who tried to subvert the BHEL initiative during the late 70s and who had been responsible for the deal with Siemens, are again coming back—Dr. H. K. Saran of Sulzers from Switzerland...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Again Switzerland is appearing ?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Again, it is the Switzerland connection... (Interruptions) It is a very serious question. They are getting a lot of money for doing research while termination of our own young scientists is going on. So he has to give a clear assurance that an independent Evaluation Committee headed by a renowned scientist or comprising of them will be set up immediately. Let him announce it here and now whether he is going to do that or not.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : I do not know, why the Hon. Member is always labouring under the influence of Switzerland agencies...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That is why he has grown so thin.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : We will not allow anybody or any agency to subvert.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : That is not correct. Things are going on. So many reports have come.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : You have put the question. Please listen to the reply. We

will not allow, and we have not allowed at any point of time, any agency or any group to subvert our research and development projects or our efforts in BHEL or in any other field.

So far as the allegation regarding transfers and postings are concerned, I strongly repudiate the charge because transfers and postings in the companies are matters of decisions taken at Board level in the companies. Government does not come in the picture. It is left to the administration of the company to decide on transfers...

(Interruptions) The House will agree with me that they have been talking all the while, there has been a demand, that Government should not interfere in the day-to-day actions, decisions and activities of the companies, of the public sector undertakings. Therefore, transfers and postings do not come under the purview of the Government. So far as Evaluation Committee is concerned, we have already announced that an Evaluation Committee is going to be set up and that Evaluation Committee will suggest measures for strengthening the efforts of the R & D Division of BHEL.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : You protect me, Sir. No answer has come... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why don't you listen ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not interrupt. You are developing a very bad habit.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : It has been decided by the Government to set up a scientific committee to look into the functioning of the present R&D and they will be asked to give the report shortly. I think, this will satisfy him.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : What kind of a Committee will it be ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : A high level scientific Committee.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : I have made it very clear that it is going to be an independent Committee appointed by the Government.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MURLI DEORA : The biggest programme of the BHEL is to manufacture power plants. I would like to ask whether he has enough coordination with the Department of Energy, Department of Power. Why is Government continuing to import big power plants when they are being manufactured by BHEL ? Why are State Electricity Boards, NTPC, etc., are importing power plants when BHEL can supply them ?

MR. SPEAKER : Is it relevant ?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Although this question does not pertain to this....

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think it is relevant.

Mr. Pratap Bhanu Sharma.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, though BHEL has made very good efforts to achieve self-reliance in the matter of developing electrical equipments in the last 25 years, yet I want to know the percentage of the total Budget allocations being spent by them on Research and Development effort ? How many such indigenous designs have been prepared or equipments developed which have helped in import substitution ?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : BHEL spends 2 per cent of its total Budget on R & D effort and it is the highest among the engineering industries. But if we want to compare it with our competitors then it is very low. But keeping in view the R & D work development of system and products and Commercialisation done by BHEL, the expenditure is not much. So far as the list sought by you is concerned, as I have stated earlier, it is with me and if you want, I can read it out.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Give me a copy.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : The information will be given to you.

[English]

Blue print for import of power equipment

+

*721. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has drawn up a blue print for import of power equipment;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the total cost involved;

(c) the names of countries from where equipment is likely to be imported; and

(d) the effect of imports on indigenous manufactures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) to (d). The Central Electricity Authority has assessed the requirement of the power sector during the Seventh and Eighth Plan periods for meeting the demand for power. While primary reliance will continue to be placed on indigenous sources for procurement of power equipment, external assistance for some power projects may have to be availed in view of the overall constraint of resources. Since external assistance is resorted to on a case by case basis keeping in view the interest of the country, it is not possible to quantify the total cost which may be involved in external assistance which is yet to be decided.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Sir, I have gone through the statement of the

Hon. Minister. The Central Electricity Authority has made an assessment of the total requirement of power equipments during the 7th and 8th Plan. The Government has also decided to import power equipments. Sir, our indigenous power equipment manufacture in the country both in the private and the public sector is already facing recession due to steady import of such power equipment. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the reasons for such import of equipments and the total estimated cost of the equipment and what percentage of gap between the demand and supply is going to be met by this import of power equipments ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir, I would like to make it absolutely clear that there is no question of blue-print being prepared by the CEA for import of power equipment. That should be categorically clear. And also we give primary reliance and importance to our own domestic and indigenous industries. I would like to say during the Sixth Plan 89 per cent of the equipment has come from BHEL and in the Seventh Plan 80 per cent of this has come from the BHEL and even so in all our future perspective, we have seen that these bilateral and international and other things will only be considered when we are not able to meet additionality of funds. That will be done only on the case to case basis. Therefore, the question of importing power equipment will only arise when we are not able to meet the demand and the consideration will be given to our own indigenous production.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : My second question will be whether Government have made any negotiation or contract with other countries for external assistance to buy power equipments and, if so, the names of the countries from which the power equipments will be purchased and steps taken thereon.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir we have only Tehri project with 2,400 MW. We have come to an agreement. Now, negotiations are being conducted. Regarding Dulhasti, that is still under negotiating table. The other projects have been identified but no agreements have been done so far.

DR. G VIJAYA RAMA RAO : The installation of the central power projects in

particular zone, the power produced by the power projects is equally shared among the States of the particular zone. The power station of Andhra, the NTPC and others are equally distributed according to the state quota from the NTPC. Whereas the central power stations like Kalapakkam and Neyveli situated in Madras, the power produced from these power stations is not equally shared by the Southern States in view of the acute power crisis in Andhra. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the quota of Neyveli and Kalapakkam will be supplied to Andhra without any delay ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir, would you allow this question ?

MR. SPEAKER : If it is irrelevant, then don't answer.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Apart from the Andhra, we see that on the basis of power survey and after additional generation of 22,000 MW by the 7th Plan, there will be a shortage and a gap between the demand and supply. Because of that sometimes we have to go for the bilateral assistance. About Andhra, I do not think it is directly relevant.

SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Sir, some parts of Gujarat, especially the Western region of Saurashtra and Kutch depend entirely on thermal power energy source which, as everybody knows, is inadequate and people are suffering in that area. May I know from the Government what is the programme for those parts of Gujarat, that is, Saurashtra and Kutch as far as the energy to be got from solar, wind and tidal water is concerned and which is available in plenty and cheaply also ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : On the 14th of this month I took a meeting of the western zone including Gujarat where all these matters were raised and all these things were reviewed. I think in the 8th Plan we are considering the tidal power project for over 80 MW. I think the situation will gradually improve.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : We have landed in a conflicting situation. On the one side our basic policy is self-

reliance in the areas of technology... (*Interruptions*) Why they are restless, I don't know. One difficulty with the people sitting to your left side is that when they are about to be convinced, they disrupt. That is the problem.

MR. SPEAKER : If they get convinced by you, then they will be no longer in the Opposition !

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : The other aspect is that we are freely importing credit type technology although the technology is available in our country. My question is whether any exercise has been made that our R&D efforts will be affected by such importing of credit type projects with the technology which is available in India.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : It has been taken into consideration and a case-by-case study is being done.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : You have stated that in your reply. I want to know whether any exercise has been made.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : In spite of all our efforts of commissioning of on-going projects and also increasing our efficiency, plant load factor. etc., we still find that when there is a shortage we have to import, taking the technology and the equipment into consideration. But at no stage have we ever deviated from the path that our indigenous technology will not be taken into consideration.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH : The Hon. Minister in her reply to a Member from Gujarat said that she had taken a meeting. But that is not enough, I would not like the renewable energy programme specifically cover Gujarat. It is a programme by which even if this country could save 5 per cent in our petroleum imports, it would add and be a great asset, to the national exchequer. But, unfortunately what has happened is that for the renewable programme the budget allocation is less than it should be. What is the Ministry planning to do regarding solar wind and tidal energy, which developing countries specially India has plenty ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : I thank the Hon. Member for this question. The solution for the power problem really lies in the renewable sources of energy ultimately, because it is available in plenty—both solar, and also wind. It is a fact that the allocation for this energy source and its development has been very meagre. It is about Rs. 100 crores. That is because of the general perception that we had up till now about the potential of this source. If the House with its new perception feels that this energy source really can help our people in the rural areas, particularly in the remote areas and the backward areas, I think even now ways and means can be found. Because whatever funds are available for the rural development, ultimately are for this purpose. If this can help rural development, that is what ultimately we want. I need your advice, your backing and the support of the House. I am already taking up this matter with my colleagues in the Finance, Planning and Rural Development Ministry to see how more funds can be made available for this renewable source.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you save us from this. Now every Minister comes to the House and says, "I agree with you provided Planning and Finance help me." What does it imply ? Let the Minister first consult the Planning and Finance before coming to the House. It is a new technique.

MR. SPEAKER : I can only sympathise with you.

Rigs with Oil India Limited

*722. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of drilling rigs owned and hired by Oil India Limited, year-wise; during the last three years;

(b) the total metreage of drilling, year-wise, during the aforesaid period; and

(c) the average metreage drilled per rig per year during the said period ?

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
statement is given below.

Statement

Year	Total No. of rigs owned and hired	Total Meterage drilled	Average Meterage drilled (per rig per year)
1984-85	8	95864.1	13695
1985-86	9	118836.3	12917
1986-87	12	119786.0	11607

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA : Sir, from the perusal of the statement it will be seen that in 1984-85 the total number of rigs was 8 and the average meterage drilled was 13695. In 1985-86 the number is 9 and the average meterage drilled is 12917. In 1986-87 the total number of rigs was 12 and the average meterage drilled came down to 11607. So, it means the average meterage of drilling has substantially decreased to such an extent that in the course of two years the average meterage has come down by about 2000 meters per rig. It is a colossal loss of public money. Will the Minister kindly tell whether some sort of inquiry has been made particularly in regard to over-drilling in respect of Jorajan W 269; Jorajan W 275 and Jorajan W 309 which have yielded no crude for the last several years? To my mind it is due to over-zealousness on the part of the Oil management to show the country that with the new management things have come up very much in the matter of increase in production of crude. But ultimately it has damaged the wells. Will the Minister kindly look into it and reply?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We are continuously looking into the performance of the Oil companies. I would like to submit that there are three main reasons for this shortfall. First is when we acquire a new rig it takes lot of time to stabilise it. Secondly there are some problems from below the earth and the third problem is the human problem. In solving that problem I seek

the cooperation of the Hon. Members.
(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN : You are creating the human problem.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA : I would like to know whether this particular shortfall to the tune of 2000 meterage per rig is due to any human problem? The number of rigs in 1986-87 were 12 and the average came down to 11607. It is certainly not a human problem. It is absolutely due to over-zealousness on the part of the Oil management to show that they are so expert and efficient to increase production two fold.

My second supplementary is that there are many high crude-gas radio wells in Upper Assam According to reservoir engineering advice oil is to be recovered from oil gas bearing wells after long intervals. Some advisers even advised to stop production but Oil India management ignored this expert opinion and produced oil to such a ratio that there were 300 litres of oil with 10 lakh cubic meters of gas. It is something astounding and it amounts to damaging the reservoir for good May I know from the Minister whether in view of these staggering figures he will institute some sort of an inquiry and take remedial measures.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Generally what happens, in the first stage, 25 per cent of the oil is recovered without any effort. Later on, the efforts have to be made by water injection or air injection. But I will

definitely look into the specific information that the Hon'ble Member has given.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : The Minister is well aware that another government organisation, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, is employing many more rigs than Oil India Limited. What kind of rigs are these? Are they jack-ups, are they drill ships, are they semi-submersible? If so, how many of each category? Also, is it true that the number of rigs for given areas in India is the sparsest in the world?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, we are using all types of rigs which the Hon'ble Member has mentioned. I will send the specific information to the Hon'ble Member. Our pattern is the same which is adopted all over the world.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Is it sparsest in the world for given area? The number of rigs for given area in India is the least in the world?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We require more rigs. Very right.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, out of the 27 thousand sq. kms. of area of Rajasthan, seismic survey has been conducted in the areas of Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Ganganagar and Nagaur. The then Hon. Minister Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma had also ordered drilling rigs costing Rs. 30 crores. But the rigs were neither purchased nor hired. Thus, the drilling work is going on very slowly and the progress is very slow. Therefore, what steps are being taken by the Hon. Minister in this regard?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not connected with that.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, we have placed two such orders on B.H.E.L., one will be complied with by July 1987 and the other by May 1988. The survey work has been completed and now efforts will be made to send the rigs at the earliest.

[English]

Norms given by M/s. Rheinbraun Consulting of West Germany to Neyveli Lignite Corporation

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*723. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA
SINHA
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the norms given by M/s. Rheinbraun Consulting of West Germany to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited for selecting suppliers from amongst the tenderers of machines and equipment;

(b) whether the Neyveli Lignite Corporation follows the said norms strictly; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof and in how many cases the advice of M/s. Rheinbraun Consulting had been ignored by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) The norms for selecting suppliers for the specialised Mining Equipment (SME) for Neyveli second Mine Expansion project were decided by NLC in consultation with M/s Rheinbraun Consulting, West Germany. According to these norms, the bidders either by themselves or in valid collaboration with a collaborator must have designed, manufactured, erected, successfully tested and commissioned;

(i) Two Bucket Wheel Excavators of 700 litre and 1400 litre capacity each or of higher capacity;

(ii) Mobile Transfer Conveyors, of capacity not less than 4000 T/Hour of transporting hard/abrasive/sticky overburden similar to that encountered at Neyveli;

(iii) Spreaders of capacity of handling not less than 10,000 T/Hour of

hard/abrasive / sticky overburden similar to that encountered at Neyveli.

(b) The actions of NLC had the full concurrence of the Consultant, M/s Rheinbraun Consulting.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Sir, before I ask supplementaries, I would like to point out to you one thing that the way this question has come is completely different than the way I put it. I enquired from the Questions Branch and they said that the question form had to be changed at the instance of the Ministry.

Sir, I would like to seek your protection. Whether the Ministry puts the questions for the Question Hour in Parliament or the Members of Parliament put the questions ?

MR. SPEAKER : Everything is done under the rules. I have certain rules and procedures and there might be some confusion here and there; but not otherwise.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : I asked about spreaders and the name of the spreaders has been completely removed from this question. As a result of this, it would be difficult for me to put supplementary questions. Anyhow, I request your help and protection for future so that our questions are not changed unnecessarily.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Sir, the Neyveli Lignite Corporation has undertaken a gigantic expansion programme costing about no less than Rs. 250 crores—more than that. The West German Government financial institution called KfW are giving long term credit for this expansion project. Now, I find that for the expansion project, the orders have been given to a particular company, called MAN in West Germany and their Indian Collaborator is WMI who do not have the experience of

manufacturing the spreaders of capacity 20,000 tonnes per hour.

Sir, in reply to a previous question on 17th March 1987, the Hon'ble Minister answered that the experts, who had been engaged for this expansion project, namely M/s Rheinbraun Consulting, have not recommended the name of MAN initially on the ground that they (MAN) do not have experience of manufacturing spreaders of this quality. They said that this particular company MAN does not have the experience of manufacturing spreaders and therefore it should be rejected. I would also like to point out through you to the Hon. Minister that this company MAN has supplied equipment to different other Indian authorities like the Kandla Port Trust and other Port Trust Authorities as well as to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. All the machinery supplied by them have failed and broken down causing injuries to the workers. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to why even then this Neyveli Lignite Corporation is always insisting on giving orders to this company MAN and their Indian collaborator WMI for such a huge project, costing about Rs. 258 crores.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : In all these matters, we go by the advice of the experts, lest a charge be made that some subjective consideration has been brought in by either somebody in the management or the Government. So, the best course in such matters is to go by the advice of experts. Now in this case, as the Hon. Member says the KfW—the German financing institution has been giving the major financing and in consultation with them, we accepted the consultancy services of a well-known consultancy concern called M/s Rheinbraun, which is also of West Germany. On their advice, criteria were laid down and those criteria were listed in the statement given in the reply. According to those criteria, bidders bid for this equipment such as spreaders, bucket wheel excavators, etc. Three bidders came and all the three were from West Germany. They were M/s MAN, M/s Demao and M/s Krupp. According to the specifications of the consultants themselves, Krupp did not fall within the specifications of financing. In the first place, all the three were considered. The Hon. Member is right

when he says that MAN did not meet certain specifications. But when another avaluation was made in consultation with the consultants, it was found suitable because we constantly get improved information from the bidders to see whether they come upto the requirements. When it was found afterwards with the approval of the consultants that they met the requirements, the question of financial bid came up. Sir, this is a tussel going on between two West German companies and I do not think this House or any Hon. Member would like to take sides. We are not interested in any particular side in a particular company. We have no interest. We want only two criteria—(a) equipment must be good; and (b) cost must be the lowest. In the interest of the nation, these are the two tests which I think this House will agree to.

AN HON. MEMBER : No, no.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : What ? Don't you want the lowest cost and best machinery ? Then, what is the meaning of 'no' ? Why are you saying 'no' ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Oh, you want that it should not be from West Germany at all. If that is your contention, you can argue about it. I do not mind.

So Sir, within this framework, within those bids, we try to get the best in concurrence with the consultants as also the financier KFW.

SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : My second supplementary is this. I would like to quote Mr. Vasant Sathe's answer to my previous question.

"M/s Rheinbraun Consulting, West Germany, who were technical consultants for the project, did not initially recommend one of the tenderers, namely M/s MAN on the ground that they lacked adequate experience of manufacturing spreaders."

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, what happened in between as a result of which in the second analysis, all

of a sudden, this company was acceptable although this Rheinbraun Company did not initially recommend their names on the ground that they lacked adequate experience of manufacturing spreaders ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, in between, this company showed that they had such equipment working in China, in Australia, in Rumania and in Greece. When they proved this to the satisfaction of the Consultants, the Consultants accepted that. Now, China is being included. So, I hope our Communist friends will not oppose it.

SHRI K. S. RAO : Sir, the Hon. Minister in reply to the Hon. Member, Mr. Sinha, did not actually deny the failures of M/s MAN in other places.

May I know whether taking into account the failures of M/s MAN Company elsewhere in India, should we go on continuing to take the Consultants as suggested by the financiers which might lead to a disaster in future ? Will the Minister Consider to take the Consultants independently unconnected with the financiers' view ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, this aspect of an accident which had taken place to Bucket Wheel Excavators was examined again and it was found that it was on account of human failure and not technical failure. That is why we cannot hold the company which has manufactured responsible for it.

DR. V. VENKATESH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, time and again I have been asking this question. But I am not getting a proper answer. That is why I am asking this question today also. He has been telling a number of stories that he is above corruption and free from everything. He said that they are getting very good equipment from West Germany and all that.

(1) The same Consultancy—M/s Rheinbraun Consulting of West Germany—is a collaborator of WMI in Bombay area. They are the Indian collaborators and both supplying Bucket Wheel Excavators to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation.

(2) Now they are supplying Spreaders also.

(3) In another deal with the Kandla Shipyard, they supplied Cranes also.

Out of these three, with regard to Bucket Wheel Excavators, there was a collapse of the bucket and the roof fell down and so many people were injured.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He has already answered that question.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Don't waste my time.

DR. V. VENKATESH : I am coming straightaway to the question. Why I am asking all these thing is : ** if he is so free from all these things ..

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You ask the question. What do you mean by he is so free from all that ? You put the question. No insinuation.

(Interruptions)

DR. V. VENKATESH : Let this subject be probed by the House Committee.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Can't you talk something better than that ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Irrelevant; not allowed.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Venkatesh, can you normally put a question ? Don't try to make insinuations. I don't like this.

(Interruptions)

**Expunged as order by the Chair.

* Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : I don't like your tenor. Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

DR. V. VENKATESH : Why do you ** him ?

MR. SPEAKER : Irrelevant. Why should I do that ? You are unnecessarily dragging certain things which have already been answered on the floor of the House. How many times do I have to get them answered ?

(Interruptions)

DR. V. VENKATESH : He has not given a satisfactory answer. I want an answer.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No questions; I cannot help it. Sit down. Not allowed. No. I am not satisfied with your behaviour. No. I am not going to allow you. I have said I will not allow you.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Sir, the Hon. Minister may be knowing fully...
...*(Interruptions)*

DR. V. VENKATESH : I seek your protection, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I need not protect you, but you must protect the rules of the House. *(Interruptions)* No; not like this.

DR. V. VNEKATESH : Kindly protect us.

MR. SPEAKER : You say certain things without any basis, and try to seek protection...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Tanti, you sit down. It is very bad on your part—always interrupting like this. I do not like it.

DR. V. VENKATESH : Allow a half-an hour discussion, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : No question. Mr. Minister, do you want to answer certain things ?

**Not Recorded.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : There is nothing to get excited *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is very bad. I do not like this. You are all Hon. Members of this House. Try to behave properly. If there is a question, there are rules under which you can say these things. Out of the blue if you try to raise certain things...I do not like it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as we are concerned, I would once again like to say that we have no interest in any party whatsoever.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, please call him to your office.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : You can come; anyone, any Hon. Member can come. I will put all the facts before you. Let us discuss them. I will try to satisfy you. You are most welcome. I tell you : you are most welcome. Come to my office. I will call the officers, if you want. I will place all the facts before you. Do not unnecessarily create the phobia of a probe and other things...
...*(Interruptions)*

DR. V. VENKATESH : He is having an allergy...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Sit down. There is no question of an allergy here...*(Interruptions)* Everybody is an Hon. Member. Sit down. Otherwise I will have to name you. Everybody is an Hon. Member of this House.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : It is mania on his part, and phobia on their part.

MR. SPEAKER : Both are wrong. I think we must convert ourselves into a committee.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Sir, we do not demand a committee of the House every day, like them.

MR. SPEAKER : Now Mr. Kolandaivelu.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I think the House must be told about the meaning of the word phobia.

MR. SPEAKER : Phobia and mania, both are here...*(Interruptions)* It is all right now. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, we are already facing a power constraint. Recently, our Hon. Prime Minister came to Neyveli, and he inaugurated the second power plant in Neyveli. There is already a proposal in the Government of India. Whether you are purchasing from West Germany or East Germany, we are not bothered. We want a third thermal plant at Neyveli. When are you going to start this work ? We want to know this.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : One 210 MW unit was inaugurated recently.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : That is Mettur.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mettur has nothing to do with this. There are plans for expansion of the lignite thermal power stations in Neyveli. The total projections till 1990 would be about 5,000 MW in Neyveli alone. It has a tremendous potential.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : No; not allowed. Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Now Mr. Vallal Peruman.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. I have already gone to the next question. Sit down. Take your seats. That is all. Don't do like this. I do not like this.

Loss of National Savings Certificates,
Indira Vikas Patras and Stamps
due to dacoities and terrorist
activities

*724 **DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN :**
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state :

** Not recorded.

(a) the information regarding the total cash amount as also Value of National Savings Certificates, Indira Vikas Patras and Stamps lost due to dacoities and terrorist activities in Punjab and adjoining States; and

(b) whether Government have taken action to stop conversion of these N. S. Cs and Indira Vikas Patras into cash ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) There has been no loss of cash, National Savings Certificates, Indira Vikas Patras and Stamps due to dacoities and terrorist activities in any state except in Punjab during the last one year, where 22 such cases were reported. The details are given below :

(i) Cash		Rs. 69079.00
(ii) Unsold National Savings Certificates/ Indira Vikas Patras		
	<i>No.</i>	<i>Face value</i>
National Savings Certificates	315	Rs. 3,82,800.00
Indira Vikas Patras	214	Rs. 4,40,500.00
(iii) Stamps	—	Rs. 6,695.00

(b) Steps have been taken to circulate the information relating to the loss of National Savings Certificates and Indira Vikas Patras to all Post Offices to prevent their unauthorised encashment.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : The second parts of my question has not been answered properly. I wanted to know whether foolproof arrangements have been made to prevent unauthorised encashment of National Savings Certificates and Indira Vikas Patras that were lost. What are the steps taken to prevent encashment of such NSCs or Indira Vikas Patras ?

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order. Let us listen.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : If I understood

the Hon. Member correctly, the Hon. Member wanted to know what steps have been taken to prevent the encashment of the Indira Vikas Patras. As I have said, we have already circulated the numbers and all details to all the Post Offices. It must be borne in mind that for five years no one can encash them, in any case; and there is a provision in the rules that if they are encashed through the Post Office other than the one which has issued them, then a reference will have to be made to the issuing post office and there, we will have it checked that they are not encashed.

MR. SPEAKER : That is all ?

Next question.

Subsidy on drugs

*725. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of subsidies released by Government for indigenous production of drugs during the last six months;

(b) whether preference has been accorded to public sector units for disbursement of subsidy for 6-APA recently; and

(c) if so, the basis on which these units have been given preference over small scale units in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) A statement is given below.

(b) and (c). M/s IDPL and M/s. HAL being public sector units have the primary role in the production of drugs and since these units were facing serious financial difficulties, it was decided, after due consideration, to accord priority to them in the matter of grant of subsidy on 6-APA,

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Drug on which subsidy was allowed	Name of the Company	Amount (Rs)
1.	6-APA	M/s I D.P.L.	42.80 Lakhs
2.	6-APA	M/s H.A.L.	17.20 Lakhs.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Since the Hon. Minister has said that no funds were available with the Government for the release of subsidy, under the grant of subsidy on 6-APA, if so, how does the Government propose to secure the dues and by what time will they be cleared ?

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : This 6-APA is a raw material used in production of some semi-synthetic penicillin like Amoxicillin or other semi-synthetic penicillins. Quite a few companies are producing this in the country but because of reasons of supply and demand we have to import it and as a result certain companies had to be paid from the 6-APA account and in this respect there is only one small scale sector unit which has to be paid amongst the companies because all the other companies are either public sector companies or are in the large sector, and only one, namely, Pharmachem of small sector had to be paid the money from the APA account. To this company also we have paid as late as September 1986 1.4 lakhs, in July 1986 we paid Rs. 2 lakhs, and also again in 1986 we paid the same amount. This has been done on a pro-rata basis. It is only during the last six months that Rs. 60 lakhs had come from the STC and this amount we have given to the public sector companies because they were not having funds. Normally the payment under the rule is done on a pro-rata basis.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : The Hon. Minister while replying to a question in Rajya Sabha, in answer to Question No. 619, on 2nd March 1987 he has said that the Government have yet to release the

funds under the APA scheme to private companies. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government have disbursed subsidy under this APA scheme for recovering the Government dues from the companies either in the public sector or in the private sector, if so what are the amounts recovered up to 31-3-1987 and if not how does the Government propose to recover the amounts due ?

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : The question is absolutely confusing. There is nothing that this Department will have to recover from any company. As I said, certain amount of 6APA has been imported to bridge this gap. Since it is a canalised item, STC is the agency through which we have been importing it. So there is certain amount of money which is available from STC. That money is given to us and we distribute it to the companies duly. There is nothing that this Department or the Ministry will have to realise from any company. We do not have to realise anything from any company. We get the money from STC which is a canalising agency and we give it to other companies.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Profit/loss of different units of
Modern Food Industries
(INDIA) Limited

*719. **SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the provisional figures of the profit earned or the loss incurred by each unit of the Modern Food Industries during 1986-87;

(b) the reasons for the loss, if any; and

(c) the remedial steps taken ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c). The annual

accounts for 1986-87 are yet to be finalised and audited. However, profit/loss estimated by the Company in respect of each unit during the year is given below :

Rupees in Lakhs	
Name of the Unit	1986-87 (Provisional/ Unaudited)
Bread Units	
1. Ahmedabad	(—) 1.21
2. Bangalore	(+) 29.41
3. Bombay	(+) 83.75
4. Calcutta	(—) 35.00
5. Chandigarh	(+) 9.56
6. Cochin	(+) 55.37
7. Delhi	(+) 83.74
8. Hyderabad	(—) 22.44
9. Indore	(+) 12.74
10. Jaipur (including extruded food unit)	(+) 17.75*
11. Kanpur	(—) 24.00
12. Madras	(+) 28.63
13. Ranchi	(—) 9.65
Other Units	
14. Sweetened aerated water concentrate unit, Faridabad	(+) 2.00
15. Maize Mill, Faridabad	(—) 3.52
16. Fruit Juice Bottling Plant, Delhi.	(—) 16.50
17. Ujjain Oil Plant	(—) 20.63
18. Bhagalpur Fruit Pulp Unit	(—) 20.00
Total	(+) 170.00
*Bread	(+) 2.08
Extruded food unit	(+) 15.67
	(+) 17.75

2. The main reason for losses incurred by certain units of the company is high product cost due, inter alia, to low capacity utilisation.

3. The measures taken by the company to improve the position are :

(i) In order to step up capacity utilization, (a) the distribution network is being expanded and streamlined and (b) sales promotion policy is reviewed from time to time and appropriate steps like rationalisation of commission structure and introduction of incentive schemes, are taken.

(ii) Product prices have been reviewed and increased, where feasible.

(iii) Efforts are under way to improve productivity and reduce cost.

[English]

Opening of post offices in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh

*726. SHRI V. TULSIRAM :
DR. T. KALPANA DEVI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of sub-post offices, post offices and post and telegraph offices in Andhra Pradesh as on 31 January, 1987;

(b) the number of such offices in the rural, urban and tribal areas, separately;

(c) whether no post office has been opened in Andhra Pradesh in the rural areas during the last three years, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number and details of the post offices proposed to be opened by the end of 1990 A. D. ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) As on 31.1.1987 there were 16, 120 post offices

in Andhra Pradesh Circle. The category-wise figures are as followed :

(i) Head Post Offices	...	106
(ii) Departmental Sub Post Offices	...	2401
(iii) Extra Departmental sub post offices	...	67
(iv) Extra Departmental branch Post Offices	...	13546

Out of the 16,120 post offices 5154 are combined offices providing both postal and telegraph facilities.

(b) Out of 16,120 post offices, 13,960 are in rural areas, 767 in tribal areas and 1,393 in urban areas.

(c) A post office was opened in Kotha Redial village in a tribal area of Warangal district during 1984-85. No Post Office could be opened during 1985-86 and 1986-87 mainly due to the ban on creation of posts.

(d) The present position is that there are no proposals which fulfil the prescribed norms for opening of post offices in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh. This position can change at a later stage on account of increase in population or in postal correspondence but it is difficult to state at present how many post offices may be opened by 1990.

Linking of district headquarters with state capital by S. T. D. in Orissa

***727. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the district headquarters in Orissa so far connected with Bhubaneswar by STD system; and

(b) by when the remaining district headquarters will be connected with the State capital by STD ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Out

of 13 District Headquarters, three viz., Cuttack, Puri and Balasore are connected with Bhubaneswar by STD system.

(b) It is proposed to connect the remaining 10 District Headquarters with Bhubaneswar by STD system during the 7th Plan period.

Approval of loans by world bank

***728. SHRIMATI MADHUREE**

**SINGH :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :**

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

(a) whether the World Bank has approved loans for development of oil and gas resources in the country; and

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of loans and projects to be covered there under ?

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). World Bank has approved a total loan of US\$ 687.3 million for financing three on going projects of ONGC, namely, Krishna-Godavari Project, South Bassein Offshore Gas Development Project and Cambay Basin Petroleum Project; and, one project of Oil India Ltd. viz., Oil India Petroleum Project. The loans have a maturity of 20 years with a moratorium of five years and are repayable in semi annual installments. These loans bear floating rate of interest, except the Krishna-Godavari Project which has fixed rate of interest of 11.6 per cent annum. A commitment charge of 0.75 per cent is payable on undrawn amounts.

Foreign collaboration for optic fibre project

***729. SHRI K. PRADHANI :
SHRI R. M. BHOYE :**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Cables Limited proposes to enter into foreign collaboration for the optic fibre project;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard; and

(c) the reasons for delay, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) to (c). Messrs. Hindustan Cable Ltd. and Indian Telephone Industries Limited propose to set up production capacity for 40,000 Fibre KMs of Optical Fibre and 610 associated Optical Line Systems per year. The two Companies are negotiating with Messrs NKT of Denmark to finalise the terms of foreign collaboration.

Import of machinery by paper mills

*730. **SHRI A. JAYAMOHAN :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of paper mills have imported second-hand machinery which is either not in working condition or has become sick;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the total foreign exchange involved in the import of this machinery; and

(c) whether Government have any means or agency to supervise and ensure that the capital goods imported are in good condition and new ones are according to the specifications for which import is allowed ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) and (b). In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply for paper and paper board, Government decided in March, 1974 to permit of second-hand paper machines upto a capacity of 30 tonnes per day under a special scheme. Approvals were given in principle for import of second-hand machinery in about 169 cases. The information about the present working condition of the second-hand paper machines imported and installed in the paper mills is not maintained centrally. In accordance with the policy, import of second-

hand machinery was permitted within a ceiling of Rs. 32 lakhs initially which was subsequently increased in 1979 to Rs. 38.4 lakhs. Since approvals granted were not availed of in a number of cases and as the actual imports were spread over a period of years, it would be difficult to give the details of foreign exchange involved.

(c) According to the guidelines issued in 1974 for import of second-hand paper machines, equipment to be imported should have a certified residual life of at least 10 years and for this purpose a certificate from a Chartered firm of Appraiser was required. No import was allowed without the compliance of these important conditions. It was decided in March, 1981 to discontinue the facility of import of second-hand paper machinery upto 30 tonnes per day with effect from 1.4.1981.

Thermal power plants in Gujarat

*731. **SHRI D. P. JADEJA :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any thermal power plants are to be commissioned in Gujarat during the Seventh Plan period; 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). Seven thermal power units, with a total capacity of 1100 MW, are scheduled to be commissioned in Gujarat in the State sector during the Seventh Plan period. In addition, NTPC propose to commission in the Central sector a gas based combined cycle power project of 400 MW located at Kawas in Gujarat.

Conservation of Energy

*732. **SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the amount proposed to be spent on implementation of the programme for conservation of energy in the country;

(b) the fields where such conserved energy is to be utilised;

(c) whether part of conserved energy is to be utilised in Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof and fields to be utilised by this source; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) A provision of Rs. 500 lakhs has been made for energy conservation in the Seventh Plan outlay of the Department of Power. In addition, the Petroleum Conservation Research Association has incurred an expenditure of about Rs. 308 lakhs during the first two years of the Seventh Plan, and a provision of Rs. 240 lakhs is proposed for 1987-88. A budget provision of Rs. 2200 lakhs has also been made under the Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974. Various organisations under the Central and State Governments also incur expenditure on energy conservation which cannot be quantified separately in the overall expenditure on revamping of plant and machinery.

(b) to (d). The energy saved augments the availability of power which is utilised in the States concerned, including Maharashtra, generally by allocation to high priority areas such as industry and agriculture.

(e) Does not arise.

Production of Cement

*733. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether cement industry in the country has reached a stage where it needs an impetus for higher growth;

(b) if so, the programmes chalked out to boost the cement production in the country to meet the growing demand at cheaper rates; and

(c) the financial implication thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) to (c). As a sequel to the Government's policy to encourage growth in cement industry, there has been tremendous increase both in capacity and production of cement in the recent past. As against an installed capacity of 24.29 million tonnes in the beginning of 6th Five Year Plan, the capacity at the end of 6th Plan period was 42.80 million tonnes which has further gone up to 53.86 million tonnes at the end of 1986-87. Similarly, the production of cement which was 18.56 million tonnes in 1980-81 had almost doubled of a level of 36.40 million tonnes by the end of 1986-87. Cement is now generally easily available at comparatively reasonable prices. Sufficient capacity has also been created to meet the demand target of 49 million tonnes fixed for the terminal year of 7th Five Year Plan. It has also been Government's policy to provide necessary facilities/reliefs to the cement industry to sustain accelerated growth. Some of the important recent measures taken to give impetus to the cement industry include :-

(i) Retention price for levy cement has been increased by Rs. 24.50 per tonne for all cement units with effect from 15.12.1986;

(ii) Payment of Rs. 9 per tonne by the cement factories to the Cement Regulation Account of non-levy production of cement has been discontinued from 15.12.1986;

(iii) Levy obligation of all cement units was reduced by 10 per cent with effect from 15.12.1986;

(iv) In respect of newer cement units commencing production on or after 1.4.1986, the excise duty incidence on Gray Portland Cement has been reduced by Rs. 50 per tonne with effect from 1.3.1987. The relief is available upto 31st March, 1990. Further, levy quota for these units has also been reduced from the existing level of 30 per cent of actual production to 15 per

cent of actual production with effect from 1st March, 1987.

The above measures are intended to ensure not only availability of cement but also to help the industry to operate at economically viable levels and generate necessary funds for further growth.

Performance of Government Advocates

*734. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are maintaining any statistics of the number of cases won or lost by the Central Government advocates; and

(b) the number of Government Advocates

working in various High Courts in the country, High Court-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Advocates are engaged from out of the panel of lawyers maintained by this Ministry to defend the Union of India represented by the various Ministries. However, some Ministries, like the Ministry of Railways, the Ministry of Finance and the Department of personnel and Training maintain their own panel of lawyers. It may be difficult to categorise cases as won or lost. No Such statistics is also being maintained by this Ministry.

(b) The particulars of the panel Counsel maintained by this Ministry are given in the Statement below.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the high Courts/ Benches	Number of Government Advocates/Panels	
1	2	3	
1.	Andhra Pradesh High Court, Hyderabad	6	
2.	Allahabad High Court, Allahabad	11	
3.	Lucknow Bench	4	
4.	Bombay High Court, Bombay	Special Counsel	10
		Senior Counsel Grade-I	26
		Senior Counsel Grade=II	48
		Junior Counsel	29
	Goa Bench	Nil	
	Aurangabad Bench	2	
	Nagpur Bench	2	
5.	Gauhati High Court, Gauhati	3	
6.	Gujarat High Court, Ahmedabad	4	
7.	Himachal Pradesh High Court, Shimla	1	
8.	Jammu and Kashmir High Court, Srinagar	2	

1	2	3
	Jammu Bench	3
9.	Karnataka High Court, Bangalore	4
10.	Kerala High Court, Ernakulam	8
11.	Madhya Pradesh High Court, Jabalpur	1
	Gwalior Bench	2
	Indore Bench	2
12.	Orissa High Court, Cuttack	3
13.	Patna High Court, Patna	3
	Ranchi Bench	1
14.	Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh	5
15.	Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur	1
	Jaipur Bench	2
16.	Sikkim High Court, Gangtok	2
17.	Madras High Court, Madras	Senior Counsel 2 Addl./ Central Government Standing Counsel 8
18.	Delhi High Court	Senior Counsel 12 Central Government Standing Counsel 4 Govt. Pleaders 31
19.	Calcutta High Court	Special Counsel 12 Sr. Counsel Gr. I 23 Sr. Counsel Gr. II 39 Jr. Counsel 32 Advocates on Record. 19

**Research and Development policy in
Telecommunications**

*735. SHRI RAM DHAN : Will the
Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased
to state :

(a) whether the Department of
Telecommunications has formulated any

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The policy aims at development of self-reliance in the field of Telecommunication Technology. For this purpose Department promotes the following activities through its own institutions like TRC (Telecommunication Research Centre) and through R&D units of organisations like ITI, HTL, C-DOT, IIT's etc.

- Assessment of the future needs of Telecommunication network.
- Development of indigenous designs at the system, subsystem and component levels.
- Upgradation of technologies obtained from abroad from time to time.
- Assistance to manufacturing agencies in the country to meet DOT's system requirement.
- Studies like propagation characteristics, noise measurements etc. of interest in future.

(c) Does not arise.

Import of Methylene Chloride under OGL

***736. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Methylene Chloride is being allowed to be imported under OGL;

(b) whether it is a fact that the quality of indigenous Methylene Chloride does not meet the specification required by the Pharmaceutical industry; and

(c) the price of indigenous Methylene Chloride vis-a-vis landed cost of imported Methylene Chloride during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAU) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The delivered price of indigenous Methylene Chloride has ranged between Rs. 15.00 per kg to Rs. 17.00 per kg as against the landed cost of the imported material which has been around Rs. 16.00 per kg.

[*Translation*]

Nomination of Members on consultative committees attached to Ministries

***737. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV :** Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the criteria adopted in nominating Members of Parliament on the Consultative Committees attached to various Ministries/Departments ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : Nomination on the Consultative Committees, so far as members of ruling party are concerned, are made on the basis of the preferences indicated by them at the time of Constitution/re-constitution of the Committees. They are requested individually to indicate three Committees each, in order preference.

However, so far as opposition members are concerned, the Leaders of the various parties/groups are requested to indicate the Committees on which their members should be nominated.

A member is nominated only on one Committee.

[*English*]

Upgradation of ISI Laboratories

***738. SHRI R. P. DAS :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken so far to equip the ISI laboratories with testing facilities; and

(b) the reasons for not upgrading the laboratories to the international standards ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) The process of

equipping the Bureau of Indian Standards, formerly Indian Standards Institution, laboratories and improving testing facilities is a continuing activity. In the Sixth Plan Rs. 218 lakhs were spent while in the Seventh Plan a provision of about Rs. 5 Crores has been made for procurement of laboratory equipment. In the first two years of the Seventh Plan, Rs. 1.20 crores have been spent. During the past few years important facilities added include equipment for testing of vanaspati, cement, pesticides, GLS lamps, milk products, pumps and diesel engines.

(b) The testing equipment in BIS laboratories is capable of testing products as per specifications prescribed in various BIS Standards. These are generally in line with international standards.

Preparation of feasibility reports for projects by NTPC

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

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited has prepared feasibility reports for projects with a total generating capacity of 5,500 MW and submitted to Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government have examined the reports; and

(c) if so, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). NTPC is in the process of preparing feasibility reports for five project proposals with a total capacity of 5000 MW. A feasibility report in respect of Stage-III of the Farakka project (1×500 MW) has been received in April, 1987. The proposal can be considered for approval after its techno-economic viability has been established and necessary inputs, including funds, have been tied-up.

Supply of electricity on concessional rates to DESU employees

7161. SHRI PARASRAM BHARADWAJ : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether electricity is supplied to the employees of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking even for commercial purposes at concessional rates; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Indo-Iran collaboration venture

7162. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of Indo-Iran collaboration venture where Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited and Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. are engaged;

(b) whether there are prospects of further expansion of the collaboration venture, and

(c) 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) There are no Indo-Iran collaboration ventures involving BHEL and Engineering Projects (India) Ltd.

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

Completion of drilling operations at Kaikalur-III in Andhra Pradesh

7163. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the drilling operations have been completed at Kaijalur-III, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the result thereof; and

(c) whether the oil production has been found commercially viable ?

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). Yes, Sir. The well was drilled to a depth of 2130 metres and was tested for two objects. While the first object proved dry, the second, in the interval 1963-56 metres, produced oil initially at a rate of 30 cubic metres/day with a choke 26/64". The well is still under testing.

(c) Commercial viability will be known only after the completion of testing and further delineation of the area.

Tapping of unconventional sources for edible oils

7164. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the details of programme for tapping unconventional sources for securing edible oils ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : With the objective of augmenting edible oils from unconventional sources Government has set up three Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committees in the Department of Civil Supplies on production of Rice-bran oil, soyabean Processing and Development of oilseeds of tree and forest origin.

A Scientific Advisory Committee for the Department of Civil Supplies for integrated and coordinated development of science and technology programme has also been constituted. Research and Development programmes considered important for edible oils are also being funded.

In order to encourage increased production of Solvent extracted oils a package of

fiscal incentives is being provided by the Government.

A number of equipments have been granted customs duty exemption for the purpose of modernising the vegetable oil industry.

A Plan Scheme for development of oilseeds of tree and forest origin with focus on tribal areas with an outlay of Rs. 3.30 crores in the Seventh Five Year Plan is also being implemented in some of the States having potential for such oilseeds.

The Technology Mission on oilseeds is also giving close attention increasing production of oils from unconventional sources.

Modernisation of stone industry

7165. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems of stone industry in the country;

(b) if so, the various steps taken to resolve the problems of the stone industry and

(c) the steps taken to modernise the stone industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The granite stone industry, especially the 100 per cent export oriented units, has brought to the notice of this Ministry the problem of getting quarry leases as certain State Governments have stopped granting any fresh leases or renewing old leases to the private parties. The issue has been taken up with the concerned State Governments. Some of them have informed that they would be supplying raw granite blocks to the private parties through their State Government. Undertaking while others have stated that they are considering a review of their policy in this regard.

(c) Government is allowing import of the latest machinery for modernisation of export oriented granite units.

[Translation]

Representations against new sugar policy

7166. SHRI VILLAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representations against the new sugar policy announced recently;

(b) if so, their details; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Representations have been received from various quarters, including one from the Hon'ble Member, for reconsideration of certain aspects of the new sugar policy recently announced by Government. The main points made in these representations are that :

(i) the decision to grant licences for setting up new sugar units of initial capacity of 2500 tonnes cane crush per day would hinder the establishment of new units in the backward regions particularly in the Cooperative sector on account of much higher financial investment involved, and

(ii) the decision to give priority for establishment of new sugar units in backward areas should not be subject to availability of sugarcane.

(c) The initial capacity of new sugar units to be licensed during the 7th Plan period has been kept at 2500 tonnes cane crush per day to take advantage of the economies of scales and facilitate incorporation of modern technology. Availability of raw material and techno-economic feasibility are conditions which cannot be relaxed in licensing an industry anywhere.

[English]

Setting up of wind mills with Danish knowhow

7167. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up wind mills with Danish knowhow;

(b) whether wind generators are also proposed to be manufactured in the country; and

(c) if so, the places identified for the location of wind mills and wind generator manufacturing mills in the country with Danish knowhow ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources has established wind farm projects of aggregate capacity 3.6 MW at five locations, namely, Mandvi and Okha in Gujarat; Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu; Puri in Orissa; and Deogarh in Maharashtra. Danish wind electric generators have been installed in these projects on the basis of competitive global tenders. In addition, under a grant from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), 6 wind electric generators of about 100 KW unit capacity will be installed at different locations. Further wind power projects are also planned, including some with DANIDA financial assistance.

Several Indian companies are considering possibilities of setting up joint venture manufacturing facilities in India for wind electric generators.

Priority to hydro-electric projects

7168. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to give top priority to hydro-electric projects; and

(c) 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). In order to boost hydro power development, a number of steps are being taken. Some of these are :

- (i) supplementing the efforts of the States by taking up hydro projects in the Central Sector through NHPC and NEEPCO;
- (ii) financing hydel projects through external sources, wherever feasible;
- (iii) identifying potential hydro projects for taking advance action during the Seventh Plan.

Approach of EEC on industrial co-operation and technology transfer

7169. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and the European Economic Community (EEC) are divided over the industrial co-operation and technology transfer process, involving relatively advanced technologies;

(b) whether the working group on industrial co-operation which was to identify sectors and draw up a work programme has not made any headway in this sphere so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) India's integrated approach to Indo-EEC trade promotion programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The first Meeting of the India-European Community Working Group on Industrial Co-operation of the Indo-EEC Joint Commission was held in New Delhi on 25-26 March, 1987.

Several areas like Energy, Telecommunication, Electronics, Science and Technology including Bio-technology, Steel Engineering, etc. have been identified for mutual co-operation.

(d) The Government of India submits proposals to EEC Commission every year for trade promotion assistance. These trade promotion proposals are basically aimed at the integrated product and market development to boost India's exports.

Import of Machinery and equipment by Neyveli Lignite Corporation

7170. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 4460 on 2nd December, 1986 regarding import of machinery and equipment by Neyveli Lignite Corporation and state :

(a) whether the Neyveli Lignite Corporation is required to obtain sanction from the DGTD of SIA (Secretariat for Industrial Approvals) for import of equipment and machinery;

(b) if so, whether any applications for sanction were received by the above authorities in the year 1983, 1984, 1985 and in 1987 so far;

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

(d) the details of guidelines for import approvals for public sector undertakings to ensure import of good quality equipment and machinery only ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Applications for import of plant and machinery (other than those covered under OGL) are first examined by the DGTD and the Administrative Ministry/Department from the point of view of indigenous availability and essentiality. Depending upon the value involved, these applications are placed before the concerned Approval Committee for a final decision before issuing sanctions. Neyveli Lignite Corporation has also to follow the procedure outlined above.

(b) and (c). No application for the import of plant and machinery from Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited have been received by Directorate General of Technical Development or the Secretariat for Industrial

Approval during the years 1983, 1984, 1985 and in 1987 so far.

(d) The suitability of the plant and equipment proposed for import has primarily to be assessed by the applicants themselves and as such no guidelines have been specifically drawn up.

Loss suffered by N.C.C.F. on Turkish lentils and checkpeas deal

**7171. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU
DEVI :
SHRI RAM SWAROOP RAM :**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Cooperative Consumers Federation has suffered huge losses in its deals regarding import of 5000 M. Tons of Turkish Lentils in 1984 and contract with M/s Taj Cooperative Society, Bombay for supplying them Turkish Checkpeas in 1983-84;

(b) if so, what are the facts of the case and the total loss suffered;

(c) whether an inquiry was held in the matters; and

(d) if so, the result thereof and action taken against the persons responsible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). National Cooperative Consumers Federation has informed that in September 1984, they entered into an agreement with a Vienna based party to import 5000 MTs of Turkish Lentils. The party was asked to furnish a performance bond of 3 per cent of the value of the contract. The party could not furnish the performance bond due to certain technical difficulties with the Turkish Banking System and offered a Cash Security of Rs. 1.10 lakhs. Due to a hike in the price of Turkish lentils in the International Market, the party failed to supply the stock and NCCF forfeited the cash security of Rs. 1.10 lakhs of the party. NCCF did not suffer any financial loss in this deal.

In 1984, NCCF imported 3000 MTs of chickpeas on an indent from the Taj Consumer Cooperative Society of Bombay. The Society provided a Bank Guarantee of 5 per cent of the value of indented stock. The society after lifting a small quantity, declined to lift the stock and the NCCF had to sell the remaining stock to another firm on a negotiated rate, resulting in a loss to it of Rs. 10.49 lakhs. NCCF has realised so far an amount of Rs. 45,500/- only from the Bank against the guarantee provided by the society out of a total guarantee of Rs. 4.25 lakhs.

(c) and (d). The matter of loss in the business of chickpeas was enquired into by a Senior Officer of the NCCF. In pursuance of the findings of the enquiry, the services of the Chief Manager (Import and Export) were terminated. Two other officers who were found to be involved in the irregularities in the deal were on deputation with the NCCF and since these officials have already been repatriated, their parent offices have been asked to take appropriate action against them.

Payment of compensation to companies and private mine owners

7172. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of cases of companies and private mines owners are pending with Union Government for payment of compensation after the nationalisation of mines in Bihar;

(b) if so, the particulars of the companies and private mine owners whose cases are pending; and

(c) the action being taken to expedite these cases ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). In the case of collieries of Bihar final payments have not been possible in respect of 142 Coking Coal Mines and 3 Coke Oven Plants nationalised under Coking Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1972 and 178 mines nationalised under Coal Mines

(Nationalisation) Act, 1973 due to various reasons, such as stay on disbursement, injunction on processing, disputing of admitted claims by parties in appeal, absence of clear-cut provision of law in the matter of disbursement of interest under section 21 (5) of Coking Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1972 and section 18 (5) of Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 till amendment of two nationalisation Acts by Coal Mines Nationalisation Laws (Amendment) Act, 1986 (57 of 1986) etc.

A close watch is being kept on each individual case so that action for processing and final payment is taken as soon as legal impediments are removed. As a result of the amendment of the two nationalisation Acts by Act No. 57 of 1986 referred to above, it has been possible to process large number of cases which will result in bulk disbursement soon.

Evaluation of Rural Electrification Schemes

7173. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any evaluation study for Rural Electrification Schemes covering the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab has been undertaken during the last three financial years;

(b) if so, the main finding thereof;

(c) if not, whether any such evaluation study would be undertaken during the remaining three years of the Seventh Plan; and

(d) if so, the likely date thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATAGI) : (a) and (b). During the last three years, two studies have been undertaken to evaluate rural electrification schemes in the States of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. The studies are under progress.

(c) and (d). There is no such proposal present under consideration.

Revision of wages of Warehousing Corporation employees

7174. SHRI M. MAHALINGAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that wages of employees in Central Warehousing Corporation have not been revised since 1983; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and action contemplated in this regard ?

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

(b) After protracted negotiations with the Federation of the Central Warehousing Corporation Employees Unions, the Corporation submitted the proposals on wage revision of its Group 'C' and 'D' employees to the Government in February, 1987. The matter is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Scheme to open petrol/diesel and LPG agencies in Barabanki U. P.

7175. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to open new petrol/diesel pumps and cooking gas agencies in Barabanki (Uttar Pradesh) during 1987-88; and

(b) 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) and (b). Oil Industry has included following three locations in its Marketing Plan (1986-87) for development of new Retail Outlets in Barabanki District of Uttar Pradesh :

1. Barabanki N. H.

2. Dewa Town

3. Bhelsar Crossing on Faizabad-Lucknow Road. These will be commissioned in due course after observing the prescribed procedure of advertisement and selection through the Oil Selection Board and after completion of arrangements and formalities by the selected candidate.

At present there is no proposal to set up a new LPG distributorship in Barabanki District.

[English]

Private sector in the field of telecommunication network

7176. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether at a workshop organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, a major involvement of private sector in the development of telecommunication network was demanded;

(b) if so, the precise demand made in this regard;

(c) the present involvement of private sector in telecommunication; and

(d) the Government's reaction on the said demand ?

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

(b) To utilise the potential of the private sector in the manufacture switching and transmission equipment where the public sector cannot singly meet the demand.

(c) and (d). Private sector have already been allowed to manufacture terminal equipment like Telephone instruments, PABX, PBXs, Teleprinters, Keyphones, Video display units, Tele-text equipment, Facsimiles, sensors and telemetering equipment etc. as per the specifications of the department of Telecom.

Construction of godown in Arunachal Pradesh by CWC

7177. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for construction of godown with the capacity of 5000 M. T. in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Arunachal Pradesh Government has been pursuing this matter with the Union Government and the Central warehousing Corporation; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d). There was a proposal that the Central Warehousing Corporation should construct a capacity of 5,000 tonnes at Passighat in Arunachal Pradesh. Subsequently, it was decided that the Food Corporation of India should construct this capacity at Passighat also, besides the capacity of 15,000 tonnes taken up for construction by it at three other centres in Arunachal Pradesh. The survey of land at Passighat has been completed and the cost estimates are under scrutiny of the Food Corporation of India.

Industrial Houses under MRTP control

7178. SHRI R. P. DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the particulars of the industrial houses which will no longer remain under MRTP control after an increase in ceiling from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : A statement is give below.

Statement

Names of industrial houses whose undertakings have got out of the purview of the MRTP Act during the period 29.5.1985 to 31.3 1987 due to increase in the asset limit from Rs. twenty crores to Rs. one hundred crores

Sl. No.	Name of Industrial House
1	Allana
2	Amar Dye Chem
3	Amrit Banaspati
4	Andhra Sugar
5	B. D. Kanoria
6	B. D. Somani
7	Best & Crompton
8	Bharat Forge
9	Bharat Vijay Mills
10	Bhilwara
11	Bird*
12	Central Pulp*
13	Colour Chem
14	Davy Ashmore
15	Dharamsi Morarji
16	Enfield
17	Gajra Gears
18	Gammon India
19	Ghia
20	Gillanders Arbuthnot
21	Gujarat Steel Tubes
22	Hindustan Dorr Oliver
23	Industrial Cables
24	Jaiswal
25	J. V. Patel
26	Jyoti*
27	K. G. Khosla
28	Kanoria Jute
29	Kothari
30	Madras Cement*
31	Mahindra Mills

1	2
32.	Maneklal Harilal
33.	McLeod Russel
34.	Nagarjuna Steels
35.	Nilhat Shipping*
36.	Oswal Woollen Mills
37	Pfizer
38.	Piramal
39.	Prataplal Bhogilal*
40.	R. N. Goenka
41.	Reliance Jute
42.	Saraswati Industrial Syndicate
43.	Shervani
44.	SLM Maneklal
45.	S. S. Kanoria
46.	Sandur Managanese
47.	Sawhney
48.	Seshasayee
49.	Somaiya*
50.	Somani*
51.	Soorajmull Nagarmull
52.	Thackersey*
53.	Thermax
54.	Titaghur Jute
55.	Tolani
56.	Transport Corporation
57.	Triveni
58.	Usha Martin Black
59.	VIP
60.	W. G. Forge
61.	Warren
62.	IMFA**
63.	M. A. Chidambaram**

*Some undertakings belonging to these houses have not yet been deregistered as they have not applied for deregistration.

**Some undertakings under these houses were earlier deregistered as the assets of the Houses were below Rs. 100 crores. These Houses have again come within the purview of the MRTP Act as their assets have increased to above Rs. 100 crores.

**Strike by employees of Super Bazar,
New Delhi**

7179. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 59 on 24-2-1987 regarding strike by employees of Super Bazar, New Delhi and state :

(a) whether any decision has since been taken on the demands of the employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Position of each of the four demands of the employees' as indicated by the Cooperative Store Ltd. (Super Bazar) is given below :

- (i) Regularisation of the services of the temporary (daily wages) workers engaged upto June 1985 has since been completed. Subject to the demand of the organisation, other temporary workers are regularised from time to time. The policy of recruitment of the Super Bazar is based on specific needs.
- (ii) The Managing Committee of the Super Bazar has already taken a decision to grant interim relief ranging from Rs. 60 to Rs. 100 per month to different categories of employees.
- (iii) The matter with regard to revision of pay scales and the DA formula of the Super Bazar employees has been referred by Secretary (Labour), Delhi Administration to an Industrial Tribunal for adjudication.
- (iv) The case regarding reinstatement of Shri Subhash Shankar Dubey is pending with the Industrial Tribunal.

The employees have since withdrawn their agitation.

**Petrol Pumps in Chittoor, Cuddapah
and Anantpur districts of Andhra
Pradesh**

7180. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol pumps at present existing in Chittoor, Cuddapah and Anantpur districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up some more petrol pumps in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRHAMA DUTT) : (a) As on the 1st April, 1987, the number of Retail Outlets (Petrol/Diesel) operating in Chittoor, Cuddapah and Anantpur districts of Andhra Pradesh was as under :

Chittoor	...	53
Cuddapah	...	41
Anantpur	...	47

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The district-wise details of Retail Outlets (Petrol/Diesel) being developed by the oil industry under its various Marketing Plans in Andhra Pradesh are given in the statement below. These Retail Outlets will be commissioned from time to time, subject to completion of formalities like selection of candidates, clearance from statutory authorities etc.

Statement

S. No.	District	No. of locations where Retail Outlets are being developed
1	2	3
1.	Krishna	6

1	2	3
2.	Nizamabad	4
3.	Khammam	4
4.	Chittoor	3
5.	Prakasam	4
6.	Visakapatnam	13
7.	Mehboobnagar	3
8.	Anantpur	3
9.	Nellore	3
10.	Adilabad	2
11.	East Godavari	5
12.	West Godavari	3
13.	Srikakulam	4
14.	Medak	4
15.	Vizianagaram	2
16.	Karimnagar	2
17.	Guntur	1
18.	Cuddapah	2
19.	Nalgonda	2
20.	Vijayawada	1
21.	Kurnool	6
22.	Warangal	2
23.	Hyderabad	5
24.	Rangareddy	6
Total		90

Electronic RAX system

7181. SHRIMATI BASAVA-RAJESHWARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have gone in for Electronic RAX with a view to providing faster means of communication to villages;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments have started STD facilities, in institutions having telephone connections with RAX;

(c) whether the Union Government had sent a study team to study the situation arising out of the impact of C-DOT's technology;

(d) if so, the findings of the study team; and

(e) whether the State Governments have been asked to follow the instructions of the Centre in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Electronic RAX equipments are planned for installation in small capacity exchanges of 80 lines.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable in view of (c) above.

(e) As this comes under the purview of Ministry of Communications of Union Government, the State Governments are not to take any action.

[Translation]

Telegraph service between Gopalganj and Patna

7182. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a telegraph office was inaugurated at Gopalganj in Bihar one year ago;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that telegraph service has not been introduced between Gopalganj and Patna even after such a long time; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Telegraph service between Gopalganj and Patna is available via Siwan.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Opening of post offices and installation of telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh

7183. SHRI S. PALAKONDRAYUDU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the target of opening of post offices, village post offices and installation of new telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh during the current year;

(b) whether the targets for the years 1984-85 and 1985-86 were fully achieved;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) *Postal* : There are no proposals at present for opening of new post offices in Andhra Pradesh during 1987-88.

Telecom : No targets are set for opening of new exchanges as opening of new exchanges depends upon registration of minimum demand. However, about 90 new exchanges (MAX-III type) are opened in Andhra Pradesh annually.

(b) *Postal* : In view of the ban on creation of posts no programme of opening of post offices was taken up in Andhra Pradesh or other Circles during 1984-85 and 1985-86. However, on special considerations, one branch post office was opened in Kotharedial village in a tribal area of Warangal district on 25.8.1984.

Telecom : Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d). *Postal* : The position is explained in (b) above.

Telecom : Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Manufacture of seamless steel tubes

7184. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have rejected the proposal of Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited for effecting substantial expansion in the manufacture of seamless steel tubes at its existing undertaking in Jamshedpur;

(b) if so, the total expansion sought for from its existing capacity; and

(c) the reasons for rejecting the proposal made by the company ?

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

(b) The firm had sought for effecting substantial expansion from their existing licensed capacity of 55,000 tpa to 95,000 tpa.

(c) Since seamless steel tubes is a non-Appendix-I item and MRTP Companies are not ordinarily eligible to take up its manufacture, and the company's capacity utilisation is low, Government have rejected their request.

Requirement of storage capacity during Seventh Plan

7185. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTA-NAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have assessed the requirement for additional storage capacity for foodgrains during the Seventh plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken to provide more storage capacity to prevent foodgrain losses;

(d) whether Government propose to seek assistance from the World Bank in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) to (c). Based on the estimated foodgrain stock at peak level and the existing foodgrain storage capacity with the Food Corporation of India, State Governments and their agencies, the requirement for additional storage capacity has been assessed at about 14.0 lakh tonnes. This additional capacity, of which about 7.0 lakh tonnes is already under construction by the Food Corporation of India, is expected to be realised during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(d) and (e). There is no such proposal at present.

[Translation]

Delay in delivery of mail

7186. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether sending of mail bags is being delayed for many days due to closure or shifting of RMS offices in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to check such delays ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No R.M.S. Office has been closed or shifted in Rajasthan and there is no delay in sending mail bags.

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

[English]

Placement of candidates passing out Company Secretaryship Examination

7187. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Institute of Company Secretaries is finding placements to candidates passing the Company Secretaryship Examinations in various private and public sector organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons who have passed the Company Secretaryship Examination during 1986;

(d) the number out of them to whom placements have been offered; and

(e) the steps taken to get the placement for the remaining candidates ?

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

(a) to (e). Institute of Company Secretaries maintains a panel of members/students and recommends the names of empannelled candidates to prospective employers. It also requests the Companies to advertise the posts and helps them in selection. 491 candidates completed the Final Examination of the Institute during the year 1986. Details of the number out of the above 491 candidates to whom placements were offered are not available. However, out of a total of 261 candidates registered in 1986, 114 candidates were sponsored. During 1986, 150 candidates who had completed Intermediate Examination were registered. Out of these, the names of 61 students were sponsored.

Nomination of Government Directors by Company Law Board on Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited

7188. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Company Law Board proposes to nominate two Government Directors on the Board of Management of the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited to regulate the activities of the Company as enjoined by the Supreme Court in its judgement dated 28 January, 1987;

(b) if so, whether the names of the Directors have been finalised and intimated to the Company; and

(c) if not, when is the selection going to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHLAM) : (a) to (c). The Company Law Board has issued a notice to Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited to show cause why Directors be not appointed on their Board of Directors under section 408 of the Companies Act, 1956. No final decision has yet been taken.

Move to Dismantle Bhopal Plant by Union Carbide

7189 SHRI KAMAL NATH :
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Carbide has made a move to dismantle its plant in Bhopal; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to check this till compensation is paid by the Company to the gas tragedy victims and the former employees of the Company ?

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). On an application filed by Government in the Court of District Judge, Bhopal to restrain Union Carbide Corporation from disposing off its assets, the court directed Union Carbide Corporation (UCC) to maintain unencumbered assets of a fair market value of \$ 3 billion to meet the decree, if any, that may be passed by the Court.

The Court has also issued a 'non-destruct' order in respect of evidence pertaining to the case.

Adulteration in Coal Supplied to Power House at Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu

7190. SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board has made complaint to the Union Government regarding adulteration in coal supplied to the power house at Tuticorin; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to compensate the power station ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). TNEB had complained about receipt of stones along with coal. A team of officers consisting of representatives of Departments of Coal and Power and Central Electricity Authority visited Tuticorin and assessed the quantity of stones that were received alongwith the Coal. As per the assessment of the team, about 10,574 tonnes of stones would have been received in Tuticorin during the period from October 1983 to February, 1987. This works out to 0.13 per cent of the total quantity of Coal received during this period. The amount of compensation to be paid to TNEB on this account is being worked out jointly by CIL and TNEB.

Manufacture of Russian Car Models

7191. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a group of automobile technocrats and businessmen, including some non-resident Indians have reached an agreement with a Soviet Company Avto Vaz for Manufacture in India of the Russian Car Models Samara and Niva; 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). The following proposals from Indian Companies and Individuals for the

manufacture of passenger Cars with Soviet collaboration have been received :

Indian Applicant	Model	Capacity
(i) Asian Vehicles Industries Ltd., New Delhi.	Lada Samara-Niva (1200-1600CC)	50,000
(ii) Shri P.K. Bansal, Sikkim Lada (India) Ltd., Gangtok.	Lada-2121 (1570CC)	50,000
(iii) Shri P. K. Agarwal, Bombay.	Vaz-212 (1570CC)	50,000
(iv) Smt. Nirlep Kaur, New Delhi.	Lada Niva	50,000

Global Advertisement Inviting Offers for Power Projects

7192. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are negotiating with different countries and firms for undertaking construction of power projects like Dulhasti Project, Uri Project, Srinagar Project and others to meet the power shortage;

(b) if so, the details of all the projects under consideration on turn-key basis; and

(c) whether Government propose to make global advertisement inviting offers for all the power projects under consideration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). Discussions are under way for the Dulhasti project in J & K which will have a capacity of 3×130 MW. Offers received for the Uri

project are also being evaluated. The capacity of the Uri project is 4×120 MW. No decision has been taken about availing of bilateral assistance for the Srinagar project. The Tehri project of 2400 MW will be executed on a turnkey basis with Soviet assistance totalling Roubles 1000 million. Global tenders are invited for power projects which are aided by the World Bank.

[Translation]

Telex Service in Sagar (Madhya Pradesh)

7193. SHRI NANDLAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places linked with telex service in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the time by which Telex Service is likely to be provided in Sagar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Bhopal, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Raipur, Bhilai, Korba, Dewas, Ujjain, Satna, Bilaspur and Indore.

(b) At present, there is no registered demand for Telex Service at Sagar. Planning for Telex Service at Sagar will be taken up after the demand for the service is registered.

[English]

Completion of Various Telecommunication Schemes

7194. K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether schemes of Westward cable to gulf countries, the Bombay-Madras Micro-wave link, the Satellite and switching projects, the submarine cable project and HF services have been completed; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

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

(b). The scheme of Westward cable to gulf countries is running on schedule and is expected to be completed by the end of August, 1987. The Bombay-Madras Micro-wave link is included in the Seventh Five Year Plan and is expected to be completed subject to the availability of the equipments from indigenous sources. One of the satellite projects namely, TDMA operation from Arvi Earth Station of Videsh Sanchar Nigam was completed in 1986 and two other satellite projects included in the Seventh Five Year Plan of VSN are under process of being sanctioned. Augmentation of the gateway telephone exchanges at Bombay, Madras and New Delhi as part of switching projects is likely to be completed during the current year. Replacement of old transmitters for various HF services at New Delhi is also planned during the current year.

Closing of Extra Departmental Post Offices in Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg

7195. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether post offices managed by Extra Departmental employees are being closed down;

(b) if so, the number of such post offices closed down in the Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts of the backward Konkan-region of Maharashtra together with the number of employees affected; and

(c) the action taken for rehabilitation of the affected employees with long service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. The question does not arise considering the fact that out of 1,28,370 post offices in rural areas as many as 1,16,628 (90.85%) are managed by extra-departmental employees. No doubt, there have been some individual cases where extra-departmental post offices, mostly in urban areas, were discontinued because of lack of justification. This, however, hardly amounts to a policy of closure of such post offices.

(b) No Extra-departmental post office was closed down in Ratnagiri or Sindhudurg districts.

(c) Does not arise.

Nationalisation of Rohtas Industries Dalmianagar

7196. SHRI MAURICE KUJUR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bihar State Government have submitted report to the Centre suggesting Nationalisation of the Rohtas Industries at Dalmianagar which has been closed for the last three years; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government thereon ?

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

(b) The Central Government have considered the State Government's proposal and decided that the matter be referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction which is a quasi-judicial body established under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, with powers to look into the various aspects of the revival and rehabilitation of sick industrial companies in the country.

Construction of godowns in Kerala by FCI

7197. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of godowns of Food Corporation of India in Kerala State;

(b) the number of new godowns opened during 1986-87 in that State;

(c) the total storage capacity in that State;

(d) whether it is proposed to construct more godowns during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) The number of godowns with the Food Corporation of India in Kerala, owned and hired taken together, is 37.

(b) The Corporation has added one godown in Kerala during 1986-87.

(c) As on 1-3-1987, the covered storage capacity with the Corporation in Kerala was 5.26 lakh tonnes.

(d) and (e). Construction of additional storage capacity in Kerala is under consideration of the Corporation.

Setting up of think tank by
ONGC

7198. SHRI S. M. GURADDI :
SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has set up a think tank comprising leading energy experts of the country to advise the commission on critical areas;

(b) if so, what will be the main functions of this think tank;

(c) whether any suggestions have been made by them so far to the ONGC; and

(d) if so, the details of the same and to what extent it will be beneficial to the ONGC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTI) : (a) and (b). Oil and Natural Gas Commission has set up Advisory Councils to advice on critical areas

of Exploration Strategy and Human Resource Development;

The Advisory Council on Exploration Strategy will advise ONGC on long term perspective plans, methods and technologies to be adopted by ONGC. It will also identify specific areas for detailed studies in respect of any region, business group or sub-unit of the commission.

The Advisory Council on Human Resource Development will study the long term perspective plan of the commission with reference to Human Resources Group and make recommendations, from time to time, in regard to modification of personnel policies, norms for manning, training and development plans, industrial relations etc.

(c) and (d). One meeting each of the Advisory Council on Exploration Strategy and Advisory Council on Human Resource Development has been held, which provided an opportunity for inter-action amongst the members of the respective councils.

In the meeting of Advisory Council on Exploration Strategy, the present exploration strategy, basinal priorities and the strategy required for exploration in basins abroad were covered. This is expected to bring about a greater element of refinement in policy relating to exploration strategy.

In the meeting of Advisory Council of Human Resources, discussions were held on optimisation of manpower, removal of obsolescence, methods of motivation and manpower development to cope up with Corporate growth and objectives of the organisation.

Loss damage due to "Rasta Roko"
agitation in Gujarat

7199. SHRI P. R. S. VENKATESAN :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any loss or damage was caused to the telecommunications equipment or property during the recent "Rasto Roko" agitation in Gujarat by the Kisan Samanvay Samiti held in March, 1987; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken to repair the damage and to restore the services ?

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

(b) Damages were to the tune of Rs. 18,35,000. 836 telephones were rendered dead. 636 telephones have been restored. Remaining are expected to be restored by the end of may, 1987.

ISI specification for ordinary Portland Cement

7200. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the Bureau of Indian Standards' (ISI) specification for ordinary Portland Cement;

(b) whether these specifications are in conformity with British specifications for ordinary Portland Cement;

(c) if not, what is the difference;

(d) whether ISI specifications for ordinary Portland Cement prescribe any specific

colour for ordinary Portland Cement;

(e) whether ordinary Portland Cement manufacturers are allowed to have a different colour; and

(f) 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 details of Bureau of Indian Standards specification for ordinary Portland Cement are as under :

(i) IS : 269-1976 Specification for ordinary and low heat portland cement.

(ii) IS : 8112-1976 Specification for high strength ordinary Portland cement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) A comparative Statement is given below.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement
Comparative statement of Indian and British Standards for ordinary Portland Cement

Sl. No.	Requirements	Indian Standards		British Standard
		IS : 269-1976	IS : 8112-1976	
1.	Insoluble Residue, percent Max.	4.0	2.0	1.5
2.	Loss on Ignition, percent, Max	5.0	5.0	3.0
3.	Magnesia, percent, MAX	6.0	6.0	4.0 (in tropical countries)
4.	Total Sulphur calculated SO ₃ , percent, MAX	2.75 (for c ₃ ^a 7%)	2.75 (for c ₃ ^a 7%)	2.5 (for c ₃ ^a 5%)
		3.0 (for c ₃ ^a 7%)	3.0 (for c ₃ ^a 7%)	3.0 (for c ₃ ^a 5%)
5.	Lime saturation factor	Not greater than	Not greater than	Not greater than
		1.02 and not less than 0.66	1.02 and not less than 0.66	1.02 and not less than 0.66
6.	Specific surface, in cm ² /g. MIN	2250	3500	2250
7.	Initial setting time, in minutes, MAX	30	30	45
8.	Final setting time in minutes, MAX	600	600	600
9.	Soundness, MAX	Le-Chatelier-10 mm	Le Chatelier-10 mm	Le-Chatelier-10 mm
		Autoclave; 0.8%	Autoclave-0.8%	No Autoclave requirement specified.
10.	Compressive strength, in kgf/cm ² , MIN.	3 day	220	235
		7 day	330	—
		28 day	430	420

[Translation]

Payment of interest on advance deposits for booking of Lambretta Cento

7201. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Scooters India Ltd., Lucknow does not pay any interest on the advance deposit to the persons cancelling the booking of 'Lambretta Cento';

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the Government's instructions 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) As per the terms of booking the Scooters India Limited is paying interest on advance deposit in case the same results in purchase of scooter, but not in the case of cancellation of the bookings.

(c) A copy of the guidelines issued is given in the statement below.

Statement

Guidelines for deployment of funds taken by the companies as advance for booking of vehicles

The Question of automotive manufacturers accepting deposits as advance for booking of vehicles has been engaging attention of the Government for some time. While these advances may be essentially in the nature of a civil contract. It is not unusual for the depositors to expect a reasonable return in the form of interest and seek reassurance about their deposits even through Government intervention. It is, therefore essential that amounts received from depositors are deployed in a manner which would enable the company to make prompt refunds of the principal amount alongwith the interest. With a view to maintaining adequate security of depositors money, Government have considered it desirable to prescribed the

following guidelines :

1. Not less than fifty percent of the deposits received should be deposited with nationalised banks/public sector financial institutions/public sector undertakings Unit Trust of India and Housing Development Finance Corporation.
 2. The balance amount could be utilised by the company as its working capital or for deposit with private sector companies. However, deposit with the private sector will not be more than twenty-five percent of the total deposits received by the company.
 3. The deployment of funds on the above basis will be relatable to the deposits available with the company on 30-6-84 and at the end of each of the subsequent quarters i.e. 30.9.84, 31.12.84 and so on.
2. The minimum interest payable on the deposits should be seven percent per annum compounded annually.
3. Government trusts that automobile manufacturers will take suitable steps for implementation of these guidelines with immediate effect. The position of deposits and their deployment may kindly be reported to the Department of Heavy Industry every quarter i.e. 30.6.84, 30.9.84 and so on.

Government issued these guidelines in November, 1983. An additional clause stipulating that manufacturers should pay a minimum 7 per cent per annum interest compounded was included. Subsequently, an amendment was made in the guidelines permitting companies to invest in Unit Trust of India and H.D.F.C. from December, 1985, the following cases have been exempted from the purview of the above guidelines :

- (a) Where complete deposits by a manufacturing unit do not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs at any time.
- (b) Where waiting list does not exceed 6 months production as also deposits do not exceed Rs. 50 lakhs.

[English]

Import of power plants by Companies

7202. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. Gwalior Rayons, M/s. Hindalco, M/s. J. C. Mills and M/s. Renuagar Power Co. have been allowed import of power plants although these are available indigenously;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names of companies which have been allowed import of power plants during the last three years ?

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

a) to (c). No permission to import of power plants has been given to M/s. Gwalior Rayons, M/s. Hindalco and M/s. J.C. Mills. However, M/s. Renuagar Power Co., Renukoot, have been allowed to import one number 67.5 MW Turbo Generator set from GDR under the scheme of import of capital goods against Global Tenders as provided in para 40 of the Import and Export Policy 1985-88. The application was considered in terms of the prescribed procedure taking into account offers received against Global Tender. Indigenous availability of the equipment from M/s. BHEL was also considered before approving the import. Following approvals have been granted by the Empowered Committee during the last 3 years :

1. Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board, Simla.
2. Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Bombay.
3. M/s. Indian Petro-chemicals Ltd., Baroda.
4. M/s. Madras Refineries Ltd., Madras.
5. M/s. Renuagar Power Co. Ltd., Renukoot.

6. M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd., Bombay.

7. Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board, Hyderabad.

Industries in Gujarat using Natural Gas

7203. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether initially with the discovery of oil in Gujarat O.N.G.C. approached State Government and various industries in Gujarat to utilise the Natural Gas for which there was no alternative use and was flared in the air;

(b) whether on the promise of availability of gas at reasonable price by O.N.G.C. a large number of medium and small industries were set up in Gujarat with a heavy capital investment;

(c) whether these industries have become non-viable due to sudden and manifold increase in price of Natural Gas being provided to them from around Rs. 300-700 during 1976-78 to over Rs. 2400 after 1982-83;

(d) if so, whether Government are considering rationalisation of the prices of Natural Gas; and

(e) the decision taken in the matter ?

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) When production of crude oil commenced in Gujarat region in 1961-62, the Gujarat Government and various industries and ONGC made efforts for effective utilisation of natural gas obtained along with the crude oil.

(b) Most of the industries which started using gas were already in existence. ONGC had not made any assurance for the future price of gas beyond the period of contract.

(c) to (e). The price of gas from 1982 onwards was fixed by ONGC on replacement cost principle on thermal equivalence. There were a number of disputes on this issue of pricing of natural gas. Government of India accordingly have fixed prices with a view to encourage optimal utilisation of gas and at the same time ensure reasonable return for investment in exploration, production and transportation of gas. The prices of gas now fixed compare favourably with prices of alternative fuels/feedstock in sectors like power and fertilizers.

[Translation]

Technical collaboration with foreign countries

7204. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of technical collaboration agreements signed by India with foreign countries during the last one year; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Government of India have approval 957 proposals for foreign collaboration during the last one year (i.e. 1986). Details i.e. name of the Indian company, foreign collaborator, Item of manufacture and nature of collaboration of all approved foreign collaboration are published by the Indian investment Centre as a supplement to its monthly Newsletter. Copies of the publications are sent regularly to the Parliament Library.

[English]

Translation of Constitution in different Languages

7205. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has any scheme to acquaint the common man with the main provisions of the Constitution of India;

(b) whether the Constitution is proposed to be translated in the languages other than the ones mentioned in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution also; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to assist financially and otherwise the State and Union Territory Governments willing to undertake the project to translate Constitution of India in the Official Languages of the respective State and Union Territories ?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government have no such scheme. However, the translation of the Constitution in the languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule is under taken by the Official Languages Wing of this Ministry.

Threat to public health by Chemical Industries in Visakhapatnam

7206. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to issue letters of intent to the prospective industrialists only after the sites have been cleared from the environmental angle;

(b) whether Government are aware of cases where, on the basis of the letters of intent issued by the Ministry of Industry the industrialists have managed to get licences from the concerned administrative departments without satisfying environmental requirements;

(c) whether it is a fact that plants and machinery were installed and buildings constructed by industrialists on the basis of letters of intent and also licences without obtaining environmental clearance from pollution control agencies;

(d) whether letters of intent were granted recently for setting up chemical industries which are hazardous in nature in the Visakhapatnam Port area, which is likely

to cause immense threat to public health; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). While a general condition to the effect that adequate steps shall be taken to the satisfaction of the Government to prevent air, water and soil pollution is imposed in every Letter of Intent the letters of intent issued in respect of 20 specified highly polluting industries contain the condition *Inter-alia* that the State Director of Industries confirms that the site of the project has been approved from the environmental angle by the competent State authority. The Letters of intent are converted into industrial licences only after these conditions in the Letters of Intent are satisfied.

(d) and (e). During 1986, two Letters of Intent have been issued for manufacture of Ammonium Nitrate and Nitric Acid and Hydro-fluosilicic Acid for locations in Visakhapatnam District. Their conversion into industrial licences would depend on the requisite confirmation by the State Director of Industries.

Purchase of tin containers by Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation

7207. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that substandard quality tin containers of 5 Kg. capacity were purchased by the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited during 1986;

(b) if so, the number of such tin containers purchased and amount involved;

(c) whether any reduction was made from the bills on account of sub-standard quality of tin containers before making payment; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation Limited have reported that during 1986, their Delhi Unit had purchased 6,40,000 Nos. of 5 Kg. tins out of which 567 tins were accepted with minor deficiencies such as deformed flanges, crinkles on the flanges, rust etc. The other Units have not purchased or accepted any such tins.

(c) A rebate of Rs. 0/25 per tin of 5 Kg. was deducted from the bills.

(d) Does not arise.

Scarcity of sugar

7208. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the actual quantity of imported sugar marketed by Food Corporation of India is much lower than the quota announced by Government, creating artificial scarcity and thereby causing rise in prices in the open market;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. The release mechanism is regulated in a judicious manner in order to make sugar available at reasonable prices. As a result of effective market intervention by Food Corporation of India by way of conducting auctions of imported sugar, the prices of sugar in open market had been maintained at reasonable levels. The wholesale sugar prices were in the range of Rs. 588-620 per quintal on 14th of April, 1987 as against Rs. 620-658 per quintal in important markets on 15.4.1986.

[Translation]

Oil exploration in Bihar

7209. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission had sent an exploration team in 1981 for oil exploration in Gandak Basin (Betia; Bihar);

(b) if so, the results achieved; and

(c) the details of other efforts made to find out oil reserves in the area ?

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). Yes, Sir. During 1980-81 three geophysical parties undertook survey of 583 standard line kms. in the Captan ganj, Siswabazar, Betiah, Bagaha Ramnagar areas of Gandak basin. In 1981-82 one such party conducted survey of 168 standard line kms. in Bhaisalotan, Ganauli and Harnatar areas of West Champaran District.

(c) Three wells, namely Raxaul-1, Purnea-1 and Gandak-1 have been drilled but the results were not encouraging. Another well Madhubani-1 is under drilling.

[English]

Minimum wages to contractor workers in Zambad Colliery and Paras Cole Colliery under Eastern Coalfields Limited

7210. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether two open cast mines are being operated by the contractors at Zambad Colliery and Paras Cole Colliery under Kajoro area in the Eastern Coalfields Limited;

(b) the number of workers employed by contractors in each of the above two open cast mines;

(c) whether these contractor workers in the above two collieries are forced to work for a twelve hour shift;

(d) whether they get much less than the minimum wages enjoyed by the coal miners; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir. Only small quarriable patches at Jambad Colliery and Parascok colliery under Kajoro area are being worked utilising hired Heavy Earth Moving Machineries. Only operators for these hired equipments are provided by the equipment owners.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of roads in coal mining area in Madhya Pradesh

7211 DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of ENREGY be pleased to state :

(a) the amount collected through South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. as cess during 1986 and 1987;

(b) whether any amount out of cess was given to Madhya Pradesh Government to construct roads in the mining area; and

(c) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The following amounts, by way of cess, were collected during the concerned years :—

(1) 1.4.86 to 31.12.86 — Rs.
775.23 lakhs

(2) 1.1.87 to 31.3.87 — Rs.
295.15 lakhs

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

Modern food Industries (India) Ltd.

7212. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the main object of setting up Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd.;

(b) the details of the assistance provided to it under the Colombo Plan;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd. has stopped distribution of bread and sold its trucks engaged in the distribution work as a result of which timely supply is not made and the production has come down to fifty per cent;

(d) whether Government have received any complaints and suggestions in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Company was set up with the main objective of production and marketing of bakery products. Subsequently, the objectives were elaborated to cover the production and marketing of fruits and vegetable products, edible oil and certain other products.

(b) Assistance under the Colombo Plan was received by the Government from Australia and Canada in the form of plant and machinery for making bread. The plant and machinery was used by the Company to set up 11 bread units at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bombay, Calcutta, Chandigarh, Cochin, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Madras and Ranchi. The total value of the assistance was Rs. 2.82 crores.

(c) The Company has disposed of some of its vehicles. This has, however, not affected the distribution of bread which is undertaken with the help of Company's own vehicles as also hired vehicles. There has also been no adverse effect on production

of bread which has in fact gone up over the years.

(d) and (e). No complaint/suggestion has been received in this regard.

Procurement and storage of wheat in Uttar Pradesh

7213. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of wheat gets rotten and is wasted every year in the absence of proper wheat storage facility; and

(b) if so, the quantity of wheat procured from Basti, Gorakhpur and Gonda districts in Uttar Pradesh during 1985-86 and the places where the wheat was stored ?

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

(b) The quantity of wheat procured in Gonda, Basti and Gorakhpur districts during 1985-86 rabi season and the places where it was stored are given below :

District	Procurement (tonnes)	Places where stored
Gonda	31,556	Gonda, Balrampur and Nawabganj
Basti	48,867	Dumariaganj, Basti and Khalilabad
Gorakhpur	83,340	Gorakhpur, Sardarnagar, Purnaderpur and Padri-bazar.

[English]

Area Development Boards for backward regions

7214. SHRI NARSING SURYA-WANSHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are releasing financial assistance for establishing Area Development Boards for backward areas/regions of various States; and

(b) if so, State-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Writing off of loans of public sector undertakings

7215. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :
SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have written off the loans given to some public undertakings as has been done in the case of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the modalities laid down for writing off the accumulated losses of public sector undertakings ?

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

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

(c) No general modalities are laid down. The decisions are taken based on the merits of each case.

[English]

Less paste and more air in tooth paste tubes

7216. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaints have come to Government's notice that the tooth paste tubes manufactured by the major manufacturers contain less paste and more air; and

(b) if so, the action taken in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) There have been complaints by consumers that items in collapsible tubes some times have air inside.

(b) According to the standards of Weights and Measures (packaged commodities) Rules 1977, the tooth paste tubes are packed on the basis of weights and not volume. The maximum possible error for tooth paste tubes is as under :

- | | |
|--|--------|
| (i) Upto and equal to 50g. | — 5.0% |
| (ii) Above 50g upto and equal to 125g. | — 4.0% |
| (iii) Above 125 g | — 3.0% |

So long as the net content of tooth paste pack is within the permissible Weight, the presence of air in a tube, if any, has no relevance.

A Task Force in the Directorate General of Technical Development is examining the measures that could be taken to redress the complaints of consumers in regard to packaging of items of daily use such as Tooth Paste, Shaving Cream, Cosmetics etc.

Master Plans for development of Coalfields under Coal India Ltd.

7217. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Committee of Coal India Limited has suggested master plans for development of the coalfields under Coal India Limited;

(b) if so, the main suggestions made by the committee;

(c) the reaction of Government to the suggestions made; and

(d) the main benefits envisaged if the suggestions are accepted and implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Third Joint Bipartite Committee of Coal Industry in its deliberations on 31st July 1986 had constituted six Sub Committees to examine various aspects relating to the Coal Industry and suggest measures for improvements. The Sub Committee on Production, Productivity and Planning in their report submitted in January 1987, on noting the fact that the Master Plans for some of the coalfields have been formulated, recommended that efforts should be directed to formulate such Master Plans for the remaining coalfields as well.

The coalfield-wise Master Plans, some of which have already been prepared, are quite useful for the purpose of mine planning. Such Master Plans for Jharia, Raniganj, Singrauli, Talcher, North Karanpura and Wardha Valley coalfields have already been formulated and work relating to the Master Plans for Ib Valley and Godavari Valley coalfields is in progress.

Capacity utilisation for production of titanium dioxide

7218. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the installed capacity of Titanium Dioxide in the country is twenty four thousand tonnes per year;

(b) whether the total actual production is only six thousand five hundred tonnes per year on an average whereas the requirement is around twenty thousand tonnes per year;

(c) if so, the reasons for underutilisation of the capacity when requirement is high; and

(d) the efforts being made to improve the capacity utilisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The present annual installed capacity of titanium dioxide in the country is 46,500 tonnes. As against an estimated demand of 25,200 tonnes during 1986-87, the production was of the order of 13,085 tonnes.

(c) The major constraint for under utilisation of capacity is the shortage of power and the power cuts imposed by the Government of Kerala.

(d) The Government of Kerala has been requested to exempt titanium dioxide units from power cuts imposed by the State Government and for supply of continuous power to them.

Proposal for staggered procurement of wheat in states

7219. SHRI S. M. GURADDI :
SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :

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

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for staggered procurement of wheat in selected areas of the main producing States during the procurement season;

(b) if so, what extent this proposal will reduce pressure on storage accommodation; and

(c) whether concerned State Government have agreed to the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). The Central Government is considering a scheme for the staggered procurement of wheat in selected districts in Punjab and Haryana, initially on an experimental basis to reduce the pressure on storage, in consultation with the State Governments of Haryana and Punjab.

Laying of cables through duct in metropolitan cities

7220. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the ducting programme proposed to be undertaken during Seventh Five Year Plan in the four metropolitan cities;

(b) the year-wise programme of the ducting in the metropolitan cities;

(c) whether the target fixed for each year has been accomplished;

(d) if so, the details like the length and the configuration with cost;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Department has found out any other alternative method to achieve the target; and

(g) whether the Department will be able to lay all the future cables before the end of Seventh Five Year Plan through ducts to avoid the recurring damages to the cables ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The details are as below :

Name of the city	Decut Route Km proposed
Bombay	140
Calcutta	100
Delhi	80
Madras	70
	390

(b) The year-wise tentative programme of construction of ducts is as below :

Name of city	YEAR					(Route Km) Total
	85-86	86-87	87-88	88-89	89-90	
Bombay	13.06	63.74	30.00	17.90	15.03	140
Calcutta	3.36	8.69	29.95	29.00	29.00	100
Madras	1.86	13.95	18.19	18.01	18.00	70
Delhi	11.84	26.6	13.56	14.00	14.00	80

(c) No, Sir. Targets have been achieved by Delhi and Calcutta.

(d) The duct configuration varies according to requirement and it is in the range of 2 pipes to 48 pipes,

Calcutta : Duct length 12 route Km. Cost Rs. 1.80 crores approx.

Delhi : Duct length 75 route Km. Cost Rs. 9/-crores approx.

(e) The reasons for non-fulfilment of targets are as below :

- (i) Unforeseen under ground obstructions are encountered during construction. More time is taken in negotiating and overcoming such obstructions.
- (ii) Longer time is taken in co-ordination activities with Local bodies like Municipal Corporations etc.

(f) Yes, Sir. Sand-filled duct construction method is being followed to expedite the work.

(g) No, Sir. The ducts are planned on important routes and cables will be laid through the ducts to the extent duct routes are completed. The construction of ducts depends on the availability of resources.

Closing of post offices in Bangalore

7221. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of post offices in Bangalore City proposed to be closed;
- (b) whether the Jayanagar South Post Office situated in Jayanagar Vth Block is one among them;
- (c) the reasons for closing down these post offices; and
- (d) whether Government propose to drop the idea of closing the post offices to avoid inconvenience to the public ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c). Two sub post offices, namely, Koramangala VIII Block and Basavanagudi East are likely to be discontinued on account of insufficient work. In respect of two other post offices, namely, N. R. Colony and Cox Town there are court orders for vacation of the rented buildings in which they are located. Consequently, these two post offices may also be discontinued. In so far as Jayanagar south post office is concerned, only the

building has been changed. The post office continues to function.

(d) There is no point in maintaining a post office at considerable expenditure if the work transacted there does not justify its retention. In so far as NR Colony and Cox Town are concerned, if other suitable accommodation is available the post offices can be continued.

Appointment of retired Government Officers in Government Offices and Public Undertakings

7222. SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that many retired Government Officers have been appointed as consultants in his Ministry and Offices/ Public Undertakings under its control during the last three to four years;
- (b) if so, their details alongwith dates of their superannuation, the dates of their appointment and tenure of such appointment in each case;
- (c) the reasons for not making appointments of suitable persons well in time; and
- (d) whether such consultants have also been sent on study tours abroad ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The available information is given in the statement below.

(c) and (d). The question of appointing of suitable persons well in time does not arise because for urgent specific specialised or technical nature of job as and when eventuality arises, services of consultants are availed of. For studying the detailed procedure of specific technical nature, one person was sent abroad as a member of the team since the type of technology was not available in the country at that time.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the consultant	Date of retirement	Period of engagement
1	2	3	4
	S/Shri		
1.	R. Jayaraman	31.7.81	1.8.81—31.5.82
2.	S. Ghosal	31.12.80	22.7.81—30.4.84
3.	A. K. Bose	31.7.81	24.8.81—15.7.82
4.	T. R. Seth	30.11.73	26.5.82—31.8.83
5.	R. K. Chari	31.5.79	4.1.80— 3.7.80
6.	D. C. Ghosh	31.7.81	7.8.82—30.9.84
7.	H. B. K. Iyenger	31.5.80	23.6.80—30.9.84
8.	V. Ranganaswamy	1.5.79	15.10.80—30.9.84
9.	A. B. Lall	—	6.7.83—30.9.84
10.	M. L. Sobti	31.1.83	25.5.83—30.9.84
11.	T. N. Dhar	30.4.83	14.2.84—30.8.86
12.	K. Ranganathan	—	5.2.85— 4.2.86
13.	Dr. H. L. Bami	31.10.82	1.7.85—30.9.85
14.	R. S. Bashyem	30.6.85	24.10.85—23.4.87
15.	Dr. J. D. Verma	13.12.83	1.3.84—30.4.85 28.10.85—31.12.86
16.	G. D. Khurana	—	9.4.84— 8.4.85
17.	Sharvan Kumar	30.11.85	17.1.86—28.2.86
18.	L. N. Dutt	31.1.82	30.6.81—31.8.83
19.	S. N. Misra	—	1.12.80—31.8.83
20.	T. N. Basu	31.5.82	30.11.82—31.3.83
21.	S. C. Dey	31.3.83	11.10.85—31.12.86
22.	R. P. S. Verma	30.9.85	17.10.85—16.1.86
23.	D. G. Patwardhan	30.9.85	17.10.85—16.1.86
24.	V. C. Sane	31.10.81	16.1.84—15.1.85
25.	R. P. Raychowdhuri	30.11.82	9.12.82—Term expired
26.	A. K. Bose	31.5.83	17.6.83— „
27.	A. N. Banerjee	—	5.10.84— „
28.	G. D. Sinha	31.3.86	1.4.86—30.9.86

1	2	3	4
29.	Gobind Ram	31.3.86	28.4.86—27.4.87
30.	H. P. Guha	30.11.85	3.12.85— —
31.	Chandanmal Lodha	20.7.80	1.4.85—30.9.86
32.	G. Gopala Rao	30.6.78	8.5.79— 7.5.87
33.	Ram Krishna R	28.2.83	2.3.83—22.5.85
34.	B. Jaganmohan	30.6.83	28.8.84—20.5.85
35.	N. R. Nadgir	31.12.79	3.4.80— 1.3.84
36.	M. G. Chitnis	N. A.	13.11.82—31.5.85
37.	M. Gopalswamy	N. A.	5.3.86—Onwards.
38.	K. D. Singh	31.8.79	24.8.82—28.2.83
39.	B. N. Ganguly	N. A.	1.10.82—31.3.83
40.	A. K. Banerjee Chowdhary	N. A.	3.6.85—31.5.86
41.	P. G. Bajerjee	1.5.81	22.1.83— 9.4.83
42.	R. C. Tandon	April 86	1.5.86—30.4.87
43.	G. S. Minhas	1983	1.6.84—31.5.85
44.	T. C. Basu Mallik	1976	Nov., 84— —
45.	S. R. Chatterjee	30.9.80	2.6.83—30.11.84 1.2.85—30.9.86
46.	C. R. Chatterjee	N. A.	28.5.85— —
47.	V. K. Chkroboty	March 85	18.7.85—17.7.86
48.	H. C. Chopra	31.1.82	13.4.82—12.4.83
49.	B. N. Kapoor	30.11.81	8.11.82—7.11.83
50.	Hari Bhushan	N. A.	9.6.83— 8.6.84
51.	S. N. P. Mathur	30.4.84	28.9.85—27.9.85
52.	P. C. Misra	31.8.84	24.9.84—23.9.86
53.	Koshy Chandy	31.5.80	1.7.83—30.6.84
54.	E. S. Philips	N. A.	4.5.84—3.11.86
55.	A. K. Neogi	January 79	21.2.80—Sept., 86
56.	S. C. Dey	March 83	1.4.80—6.10.86
57.	K. P. Viswanathan Nair	7.7.73	7.7.73— —
58.	G. Mani	June 79	Nov., 85—Nov., 87
59.	L. Nanajunda Rao	Nov, 82	1.2.84—31.1.86

1	2	3	4
60.	V. Gopal Rao	1.9.79	21.11.85—30.11.86
61.	R. D. Singh	30.8.81	10.11.85—9.11.86
62.	S. Veera Raghavalu	31.7.76	6.1.83— —
63.	B. Venkata Ramani	30.9.80	25.2.86— —
64.	Girdhari Lal Sharma	June 82	18.7.83— —
65.	B. Hanumantha Rao	30.6.79	2.12.85—1.12.86
66.	K. C. Sehgal	31.7.85	1.2.86—30.9.86
67.	S. C. Banerjee	1.12.83	18.1.84—31.3.87
68.	A. K. Chatterjee	1.11.78	2.9.82—31.3.87
69.	Dr. S. C. Kapoor	31.12.81	20.2.82—28.2.87
70.	D. D. Mehta	31.12.83	17.12.84—16.12.86
71.	Swamy Saran	July 82	26.7.83—July 86
72.	S. N. Sachdev	March 81	15.9.81—13.9.86
73.	B. G. Talloo	31.12.82	10.5.83— 9.5.87
74.	R. Gopalkrishnan	31.7.84	12.10.85—11.4.87
75.	M. M. Sanyal	31.1.81	25.4.86—24.4.87
76.	J. L. Marwaha	28.2.85	1.8.85— —
77.	Kailash Narayan Saxena	—	2.2.83—13.6.83
78.	O. P. Hasija	31.3.84	2.4.84—30.9.87
79.	P. C. Ahluwalia	—	4.10.84— —
80.	P. Mandal	—	10.9.86— 9.9.87
81.	K. B. L. Mathur	—	30.8.85—29.8.87
82.	O. H. Ramchandani	30.4.79	7.8.85—6.12.85

Demand Trunk Service from Delhi to various cities in Kerala

7223. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Demand Trunk Service from Delhi to any city in Kerala is not available at present;

(b) whether there is any proposal to introduce the same in the coming years; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No Sir. Demand Trunk Service from Delhi to Trivandrum is available with effect from 24th January, 1987.

(b) There is no proposal at present to introduce the Demand Trunk Service from Delhi to any other cities of Kerala State.

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

Separate High Courts for each State

7224. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States which have separate High Courts and which have combined High Courts; and

(b) when the States having combined High Courts will have a separate High Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) A statement giving the information is given below.

(b) It has been decided to establish separate High Courts for the States in the North Eastern Region by Central legislation. It is, however, not possible to indicate the date by which it will be possible to implement the decision, as this will depend *inter-alia* on how soon arrangements relating to Courts and residential buildings etc. are completed by the concerned State Governments.

Statement

States which have separate High Courts	States which have combined High Courts
1	2
1. Uttar Pradesh	1. Assam
2. Andhra Pradesh	2. Meghalaya
3. Maharashtra	3. Nagaland
4. West Bengal	4. Manipur
5. Gujarat	5. Tripura

1	2
6. Himachal Pradesh	6. Arunachal Pradesh
7. Jammu & Kashmir	7. Mizoram
8. Karnataka	8. Punjab
9. Kerala	9. Haryana
10. Madhya Pradesh	
11. Tamil Nadu	
12. Orissa	
13. Bihar	
14. Rajasthan	
15. Sikkim	

Strength of employees in Guwahati Refinery

7225. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present strength of the employees in the Guwahati Refinery in categories A, B, C and D;

(b) what was the strength of the employees in the said Refinery in 1967 in the above categories; and

(c) the present percentage of employment of the local people of Assam in the said Refinery in the above categories?

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 statement is given below.

Statement

Category		Strength as on 31.3.1987	Strength in 1967	Present percentage of locals to total
Officers	A	253	101	36
Non-Officers	B	41	30	78.5
	C	891	886	
	D	171	290	

**Setting up of bottling plant at
Rayalaseema in Andhra Pradesh**

7226. SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a gas bottling plant in Rayalaseema area of Andhra Pradesh to cater the needs of LPG Users;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) 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) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present there are three LPG bottling plants functioning in Andhra Pradesh and one more is in the process of being set up. These plants will take care of the bottling requirement of the Region, including that of the Rayalaseema area of Andhra Pradesh.

Distribution of Palmolein oil to States

7227. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2014 on 10th

March, 1987 regarding import of Palmolein bleached oil and state :

(a) the State-wise and Union territory-wise distribution of Palmolein bleached oil during 1984-85 to 1986-87 upto February, 1987;

(b) what criteria has been adopted for retail distribution of this oil in each State and Union territory as on 28th February, 1987;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of this oil in the Union territory of Delhi; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to overcome this shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Statements-I and II indicating allocation of palmolein statewide during oil years (October-November) 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 (till Feb., 1987) under public distribution system and the scheme for small packs are given below.

(b) The Central Government makes the allocation of imported edible oils to States/UTs for distribution through public distribution and scheme for small packs. States have been advised to distribute 2 kg. of imported edible oils per ration card. Further distribution to consumers through fair price shops/cooperative outlets is the responsibility of the State/UT Governments.

(c) and (d). Due to the rising trend in prices of indigenous edible oils, consumers have shown greater preference for palmolein. Imported edible oils are supplied to the States/UTs as a supplement to the supply of

indigenous edible oils. Delhi Administration has been advised to improve lifting of rapeseed oil allocated to it in order to supplement the allocation of palmolein made to the union territory.

Statement-I

Allocation of Palmolein to States/UTs under public distribution system during oil years (November-October) 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 (upto Feb. 1987)

(Quantity in Metric Tonnes)

S. No.	State/UT	Oil Year					
		1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
		Nov. — Oct. 1984	Oct. 1985	Nov. — Oct. 1985	Oct. 1986	Nov. — Feb. 1986	Feb. 1987
1.	Andhra Pradesh	92,200		92,400		23,000	
2.	Kerala	47,100		21,250		4,500	
3.	Karnataka	33,000		41,500		13,000	
4.	Lakshadweep	195		255		160	
5.	Pondicherry	3,550		4,350		2,300	
6.	Tamil Nadu	62,200		49,700		14,000	
7.	Orissa	6,250		16,900		7,000	
8.	A & N Island	—		260		300	
9.	Gujarat	61,500		1,21,700		28,200	
10.	DN Haveli	375		465		200	
11.	Goa	5,410		4,300		1,800	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20,710		6,000		3,000	
13.	Maharashtra	81,200		1,21,098		30,000	
	Total	4,13,690		4,80,178		1,27,460	

Statement-II

Allocation of Palmolein to States/UTs under small packs scheme during the oil year (Nov.-Oct.) 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 (Upto February, 1987)

(Quantity in MTS.)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Allocation (Small Packs)		
		1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
1.	Maharashtra	41,400	44,700	16,500
2.	Goa	1,000	200	—
3.	Gujarat	3,000	5,750	3,800
4.	Madhya Pradesh	1,450	375	80
5.	Orissa	500	750	200
6.	Bihar	300	50	—
7.	Tamil Nadu	18,550	15,800	7,400
8.	Andhra Pradesh	11,500	10,100	7,200
9.	Karnataka	6,000	6,600	3,000
10.	Kerala	9,900	3,200	3,000
11.	Himachal Pradesh	50	—	—
12.	Rajasthan	500	750	350
13.	Delhi	4,500	4,400	1,850
14.	Chandigarh	100	—	40
15.	Pondicherry	500	—	—
16.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	2,400
17.	Punjab	—	—	200
18.	A & N Islands	—	—	60
				(upto Jan. 1987)
19.	Haryana	—	750	700
			(from June, 1986 to October, 1986)	

**Proposal from Austrian Company to
divest shares from Triveni
Structurals Ltd.**

7228. SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of
INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Austrian company
"Voest Alpine" has proposed to divest its
shares from the Triveni Structurals Ltd.;

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

(c) whether Government have prepared
any package for the company to improve its
financial position; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTER-
PRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF
INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) :
(a) to (d) : A statement is given below.

Statement

*Proposal from Austrian Company to
Divest Shares from Triveni
Structurals Ltd.*

Out of the paid-up equity capital of
Rs. 450 lakhs of Triveni Structurals Ltd.,
Shares worth Rs. 303 lakhs and Rs. 147
lakhs are held by Government of India and
Voest Alpine respectively. The Austrian
Company have decided to dis-invest partly
due to unsatisfactory performance of TSL in
past and partly due to the inability of Voest
Alpine to invest further capital in TSL due
to heavy losses suffered by them in their
Works at Austria. They have offered to sell
these shares to Government of India.

Government have taken two steps to
improve the financial position of the
Company. The first is the grant of financial
relief by writing off normal interest on
Government loans, interest on interest and
penal interest as on 31.3.1986. It has also
been decided that there should be a morato-
rium on repayment of outstanding loans for
a period of five years. The second step in
this direction is the constitution of a Holding
Company viz. Bharat Yantra Nigam Ltd.

Allahabad, which will have six subsidiaries
including TSL. This Holding Company will
co-ordinate operations of the subsidiaries to
ensure their efficient functioning.

[Translation]

**Telephones in post offices in rural
areas of Uttar Pradesh**

7229. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will
the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephones installed
in post offices in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh
as on 15-2-1987;

(b) the number of telephones, out of
them, functioning properly; and

(c) the number of telephones which are
lying out of order and the action being taken
to repair them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a)
3684 Long Distance Public Telephones are
installed in Post Offices in rural areas as
on 15-2-1987.

(b) All the 3684 Long Distance Public
Telephones are functioning properly.

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

[English]

**Categorisation of Districts of
Madhya Pradesh for
Industrialisation**

7230. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will
the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to
state :

(a) whether Government have categorised
the various districts of Madhya Pradesh in
respect of industrialisation;

(b) if so, the criteria of categorisation;

(c) whether Jabalpur has been categorised
as an advanced district; and

(d) if so, the criteria adopted in such
categorisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Prior to 1.4.83, 36 districts of Madhya Pradesh were identified as industrially backward eligible to concessional finance facility. The districts were identified on the basis of a set of criteria, given in the statement below, evolved by the Planning Commission. Out of these 36 districts, six areas equivalent to 4 districts were further identified for benefit under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme.

With effect from 1.4.83, the backward areas were recategorised into 3 categories viz.

Category 'A', Category 'B' and Category 'C'. The criteria adopted for the purpose was as follows :—

Category 'A' : Comprise districts which did not have any large or medium scale industry as per District Industries Centres Action Plan 1979-80 and hilly, remote and inaccessible district.

Category 'B' : Comprise erstwhile districts/areas eligible to Central Investment Subsidy excluding those covered in Category 'A'.

Category 'C' : Comprise erstwhile districts/areas eligible for concessional finance excluding those included in Category 'A' and Category 'B'.

The details of all the districts identified as industrially backward are given in the booklet on "Incentives for Industries in Backward Areas" as updated upto 20.10.86; copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(c) and (d). Jabalpur district of Madhya Pradesh has not been identified as industrially backward as it does not fulfil the criteria adopted for the purpose.

Statement

Criteria adopted for the purpose of identification of industrially backward districts to qualify for concessional finance.

1. Per capita food grains/commercial crops production depending on whether the district is predominantly a producer of foodgrains/cash crops. (for inter-district comparisons conversion rates between foodgrains and commercial crops may be determined by the State Government on a pre-determined basis where necessary).
2. Ratio of population to agricultural workers.
3. Per capita industrial output.
4. Number of factory employees per lakh of population or alternatively number of persons engaged in secondary and tertiary activities per lakh of population.
5. Per capita consumption of electricity.
6. Length of surfaced roads in relation to population of railway mileage in relation to population.

[Translation]

Setting up of sugar mill at
Phulpur, U. P.

7231. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government has sent a proposal for setting up a sugar mill at Soron, tehsil Phulpur in that state; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in talking final decision in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Central Government have announced the policy for licensing new sugar factories during the 7th Five Year Plan *vide* Press Note dated 2.1.1987 issued by Department of Industrial Development. So far, no application has been received for setting up a new sugar factory

at Soron, Tehsil Phulpur (U.P.), according to the new guidelines.

[English]

Financial Assistance to sugar factories in Karnataka

7232. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka Government has requested Union Government to provide financial assistance from the Central Sugar Development Fund for the sugar factories in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the assistance provide during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Applications from 8 sugar factories in Karnataka for financial assistance from Sugar Development Fund for development of sugarcane were received. On examination, these were found incomplete in regard to material information required in support of the Schemes proposed. All the sugar factories were, therefore, advised to resubmit their applications alongwith full details/information. As such no financial assistance could be sanctioned to sugar factories in Karnataka.

[Translation]

Setting up of auxiliary industry to power house in Madhya Pradesh

7233. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any programme for setting up of any auxiliary industry to meet the requirements of power house and township of NTPC in Sidhi district in Madhya Pradesh has been taken in hand; and

(b) if so, when techno-economic survey for the power house was done and the auxiliary industries set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The Vindhya-chal super thermal power Project of NTPC does not envisage the setting up of auxiliary industry for the power house and the associated township.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Laying of product pipelines from Kandla Port to Karnal

7234. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to lay product pipelines from Kandla Port to Karnal in Haryana; and

(b) if so, when and the financial allocation made 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) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Profits of Super Bazar

7235. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3919 on 24-3-1987 regarding profits of Super Bazar and state :

(a) the total sales of Super Bazar during the years 1984-85 and 1985-86 in comparison to sales of 1983-84;

(b) whether the margin of profit of Super Bazar remained the same during these years;

(c) if not, the reasons for the decrease in profit 1984-85; and

(d) whether the sales of Super Bazar have gone down substantially during the last

12 months and if not, month-wise break up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The sales turnover of Super Bazar during the years 1984-85 and 1985-86 was Rs. 4431.70 lakhs and Rs. 6507.87 lakhs (un-audited) respectively as compared to the sales turnover of Rs. 3909.80 lakhs during 1983-84.

(b) No Sir. The gross profit margin of Super Bazar was 7.37 per cent during 1983-84; 6.18 per cent during 1984-85 and 6.22 per cent (unaudited) during 1985-86.

(c) The reasons for the decrease in profit during 1984-85 were mainly due to the sales of certain essential consumer items on very low margins of profit under the 20 Point Programme increase in freight and cartage expenses on account of hiring of vehicles for special mobile van shops and increase in establishment expenditure including other benefits to staff and rental charges.

(d) No, Sir. The month-wise break-up of sales turnover of Super Bazar during the last 12 months, as compared to the sales turnover during the corresponding period of the last years, is given below :

(Rs. crores)

Month	Sales turnover	
	1986	1985
March	6.38	4.44
April	5.29	3.53
May	5.72	3.90
June	5.27	4.13
July	5.72	4.82
August	6.00	6.02
September	5.64	5.01
October	6.54	5.60
November	5.77	5.67
December	6.12	5.45
	1987	1986
January	6.32	5.54
February	5.26	5.58

Cost of production and sale price of vanaspati

7236. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the cost of production and sale price per kg. of vanaspati in Northern, Western Southern and Eastern regions, separately; and

(b) the reasons for the variation in prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The approximate cost of production and sale price per kg of vanaspati in Northern (Delhi), Western (Bombay), Southern (Madras) and Eastern (Calcutta) regions is as under :

Region	Average sale price per kg.	Approximate computed cost of production
Northern (Delhi)	Rs. 23.20	Rs. 22.65
Western (Bombay)	Rs. 24.00	Rs. 23.60
Southern (Madras)	Rs. 23.75	Rs. 23.35
Eastern (Calcutta)	Rs. 24.40	Rs. 23.65

(b) The reasons for variation in prices in different regions are due to difference in local taxes, freight charges and weighted average cost of the oils used in the manufacture of vanaspati.

Foreign collaborations in consumer products

7237. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign collaborations in consumers products sanctioned during 1986;

(b) whether these collaborations relate to high technology and if so, in what manner; and

(c) whether they cover such areas as processed foods, toys, soft drinks and other low priority items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (c). Government has approved 957 foreign collaboration proposals in the year 1986. Details of all approved foreign collaboration viz. the name of the Indian and foreign firms, item of manufacture, nature of collaboration are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to its Monthly News letter. Copies of these publications are sent regularly to Parliament Library.

(b) Government's policy towards import of technology is selective and based on national priorities. Import of technology is permitted in sophisticated and high priority areas, in export-oriented or import substitution manufacturing or for enabling indigenous industry to update existing technology in India to meet effectively competition from monopolistic units and to suit changing consumer preference and/or become competitive in the export market.

LPG bottling plants in Karnataka

7238. SHRI V. KRISANA RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of LPG bottling plants in the country;

(b) the number of LPG bottling plants in Karnataka State; and

(c) their capacity of filling cylinders ?

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) 46.

(b) 4.

(c) The bottling capacity in Karnataka State is 75,000 MTPA, at present.

World bank loan for fruit processing unit in Tripura

7239. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tripura Government has sent a proposal to the Union Government for setting up a fruit processing centre in Tripura with a request to arrange fund from the World Bank;

(b) whether Nationat Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has approved the scheme; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). No such proposal has been received by this Ministry from the Tripura Government. However, North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited, a public sector undertaking of the Ministry, is setting up a fruit processing plant in Tripura, with an annual processing capacity of 8,160 tonnes of fruits.

[Translation]

Post offices with telephone facilities in Faizabad district in U.P.

7240. SHRI R. P. SUMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether adequate postal facilities are available in Faizabad district, Uttar Pradesh and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the tehsil-wise number of post offices opened in Faizabad district during the last three years;

(c) whether telephone facility has been provided in all the post offices and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to provide telephone facility in each of the post offices; and

(e) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Adequate postal facilities are available in Faizabad district.

(b) No post office was opened in the district during the last three years.

(c) The policy of the telecom. Department does not envisage opening of long distance PCOs in the post offices alone. Public Call Offices are opened on the basis of Hexagonal Policy which provides for opening of a long distance public telephone progressively in a principal village in each inhabited area bounded by a hexagon of 5 K.M. sides. Some of those PCOs are opened in the post offices.

(d) No, Sir. The position is as explained in part (c) above.

(e) Not applicable in view of (c) above.

[English]

Postal facilities

7242. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the gradation of post offices and sub-post offices and other postal facilities such as licensed agencies in the country;

(b) the number of post offices of each grade, State-wise;

(c) the break up of the postal facilities in each State between urban and rural areas; and

(d) the number of Gram Panchayats in each State which do not have any post offices or postal facilities as on 1 January, 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Post offices are classified under three broad categories, namely, head office, sub office and branch office.

Head Office : A head office is the chief of a group of post offices consisting of itself and a number of smaller offices called sub and branch offices which have been placed under its accounts jurisdiction. It is the central office of account for itself and for all the sub and branch offices within the group.

Sub-Office : A sub office is a post office subordinate to and in account with a head office and its monetary transactions are incorporated in the accounts of the latter office.

Branch Office : A branch office is a post office of lower status than a sub office. It is in direct account with a head or sub office which is termed its account office. Some of the sub post offices are run by extra-departmental agents and are designated as ED sub offices. With rare exceptions, branch offices are manned by extra-departmental agents only.

A licensed postal agency is not, strictly speaking, a post office but a service point under the control of a departmental post office and run by a licensed agent who is not a postal employee.

(b) The required information is given in the Statements-I and II below.

(c) The required information is given in the Statement-III below.

(d) All villages in the country have postal facilities because even when there is no post office locally, a postal employee (delivery agent or village postman or branch postmaster) visits the village for delivery of mail and payment of money orders. During such visits, postage stamps and stationery are

sold, and postal articles, both registered and unregistered, are accepted for despatch. The number of gram panchayats which do not have a post office either at the headquarter of the gram panchayat or in one of the constituent villages is given in statement-IV below, in respect of the following State/ Union Territories.

1. Rajasthan
2. North Eastern Region.
 - (a) Assam
 - (b) Arunachal Pradesh
 - (c) Meghalaya
 - (d) Manipur
 - (e) Mizoram

- (f) Nagaland
- (g) Tripura
3. Gujarat
4. Jammu & Kashmir
5. Andhra Pradesh
6. Haryana
7. Punjab
8. Tamil Nadu
9. Kerala
10. Orissa.

Information in respect of the remaining States/Union territories is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement-I

Post Offices as on 1.1.1987 classified according to grade

Circle	HO	DSO	EDSO	EDBO	TOTAL
Andhra Pradesh	106	2403	68	13546	16123
Bihar	42	1354	242	9208	10846
Delhi	9	381	26	140	556
Gujarat	42	1338	74	7143	8597
J & K	9	234	34	1175	1452
Kerala	50	1418	554	2726	4748
Karnataka	67	1718	311	7419	9515
Madhya Pradesh	52	1313	138	8978	10481
Maharashtra	63	2099	170	9524	11856
North Eastern	24	858	55	4725	5662
Punjab	22	772	14	2972	3780
Haryana	15	425	15	1993	2248
Himachal Pradesh	17	365	25	2023	2430
Orissa	35	1139	229	6132	7535
Rajasthan	55	1364	177	8012	9608
Tamil Nadu	92	2782	237	8878	11989
Uttar Pradesh	85	2679	511	14849	18124
West Bengal	46	1652	358	6256	8312
Total :	831	24294	3238	115699	144062

Statement-II

Number of Licensed Postal Agents as on 31-12-1986

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	Number of IPAS.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	228
2.	Bihar	16
3.	Delhi	26
4.	Gujarat	55
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	...
6.	Karnataka	63
7.	Kerala	19

1	2	3
8.	Madhya Pradesh	48
9.	Maharashtra	121
10.	North East	50
11.	Orissa	12
12.	Rajasthan	70
13.	Tamil Nadu	64
14.	Uttar Pradesh	11
15.	West Bengal	5
16.	Haryana	14
17.	Punjab	8
18.	Himachal Pradesh	...
Total :		810

Statement-III

Number of Post Offices as on 31-12-1986 with Urban Rural classification

Sl No.	Name of the Circle	Urban	Rural	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1394	14729	16123
2.	Bihar	584	10262	10846
3.	Delhi	415	141	556
4.	Gujarat	767	7830	8597
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	154	1298	1452
6.	Kerala	682	4066	4748
7.	Karnataka	1287	8228	9515
8.	Madhya Pradesh	1078	9403	10481
9.	Maharashtra	1584	10272	11856
10.	North Eastern	408	5254	5662
11.	Punjab	489	3291	3780
12.	Haryana	296	2152	2448
13.	Himachal Pradesh	95	2335	2430
14.	Orissa	546	6989	7535
15.	Rajasthan	799	8809	9608
16.	Tamil Nadu	2190	9799	11989
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1808	16316	18124
18.	West Bengal	1116	7196	8312
Total :		15,692	1,28,370	1,44,062

Statement-IV

Number of gram panchayats which do not have a post office either at the headquarter of the gram panchayat or in one of the constituent villages

Rajasthan	317
North Eastern	
(1) Assam	3
(2) Arunachal Pradesh	62
(3) Meghalaya	...
(4) Manipur	42
(5) Mizoram	...
(6) Nagaland	1
(7) Tripura	47
Gujarat	5222
Jammu & Kashmir	405
Andhra Pradesh	5216
Haryana	2503
Punjab	7481
Tamil Nadu	3941
Kerala	994
Orissa	459

Shortfall in electricity generation in Rajasthan

7243. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the data relating to installed electricity capacity, the production in the last three years, the demand in the last three years and the extent of shortfall in projected electricity generation of various Atomic, Thermal and Hydro-Electric Projects in Rajasthan; and

(b) the steps taken to meet the demand of electricity in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : (a) The installed generating capacity in Rajasthan including its share in the Joint Projects was 1670 MW on 31.3 1987. The demand, availability of power and projected generation vis-a-vis actual generation during the last three years is indicated below :

	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Availability (MU)	5903	6573	7448
Demand (MU)	6570	7100	8090
Generation (MU)			
(i) Thermal			
Target	850	1105	1100
Actual	1103	1111	1057
(ii) Nuclear			
Target	850	1150	1018
Actual	1078	1292	1325
(iii) Hydro			
Target	582	792	945
Actual	847	923	2551

(b) In order to improve the power availability in Rajasthan, during the 7th Plan period, capacity totalling 385 MW is targeted to be installed. In addition, Rajasthan would also get its share of power from Central Sector Projects being commissioned in the Northern Region.

Closure of sugar mills in Maharashtra

7244. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the 35 sugar factories in Maharashtra State have either been unable to open or are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to help the State Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The State Government has informed that due to inadequate sugarcane availability, 6 sugar factories did not start crushing in 1986-87 season. As on 7th April, 1987, 36 sugar factories have

completed their crushing operations and closed for the season.

(c) The Sugar Development Fund Rules, 1983 also provide for sanctioning of loans to sugar factories for development of sugarcane. The Government of India have given loans amounting to Rs. 9.22 crores to 13 sugar factories of the State.

[Translation]

Self-employment programme

7245. SHRI KUNWAR RAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in regard to self-employment programme, Statewise; and

(b) the occupations in which most of the beneficiaries under the scheme were successful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The Ministry of Industry is implementing the scheme for providing self-employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth with an annual target of 2.5 lakh beneficiaries. A statement showing State-wise progress achieved upto 1985-86 is given below.

(b) This information is not maintained by the Central Government.

Statement

The State-wise progress made under Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (From 1983-84 To 1985-86)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of cases sanctioned by banks		
		1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
1.	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14781	13084	16518
2.	Assam	8021	7642	4629
3.	Bihar	14230	14806	26376

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Gujarat	10497	4072	6522
5.	Haryana	6189	5478	4782
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2465	2156	1591
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1416	1119	1095
8.	Karnataka	12307	12810	12837
9.	Kerala	13091	11907	13033
10.	Madhya Pradesh	18786	18065	17224
11.	Maharashtra	24579	18667	13848
12.	Manipur	991	994	1491
13.	Meghalaya	353	313	111
14.	Nagaland	189	269	166
15.	Orissa	6823	7599	8757
16.	Punjab	9047	12212	11677
17.	Rajasthan	15054	15382	10986
18.	Sikkim	15	49	49
19.	Tamil Nadu	21247	22500	18722
20.	Tripura	696	707	912
21.	Uttar Pradesh	36857	34400	26264
22.	West Bengal	23680	23101	21885
23.	A & N Islands	66	101	101
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	36	60	61
25.	Chandigarh	325	300	394
26.	D & N Haveli	54	68	40
27.	Goa, Daman & Diu	DIC was not in operation	337	84
28.	Mizoram	196	202	104
29.	Pondicherry	414	400	465
Total		242405	228800	220724

[English]

**Alleged malpractices in Punjab
Region of FCI**

7246. SHRIMATI GEETA

MUKHERJEE :
SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV :

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to certain alleged malpractices in the Punjab Region of the Food Corporation of India reported in the 'Indian Express', Chandigarh Edition of 13 November, 1986;

(b) if so, whether these allegations have been enquired into; and

(c) if so, the results thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir. However, the news item appeared in the Chandigarh edition of the Indian Express, on 11-11-1986.

(b) and (c). The allegations are under enquiry/investigation both by the Zonal Manager (North), Food Corporation of India, and the Central Bureau of Investigation, and their findings are still awaited.

**Shifting of Central Office of Bharat
Heavy Plates and Vessels Limited**

7247. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Office of Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Limited at Visakhapatnam will be shifted to Allahabad; and

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

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.

**Foreign Offer for IB Valley Super
Thermal Project**

7248. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign offers for investment in IB Valley Super Thermal Project has been received by Government and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the project has been cleared by the Planning Commission;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the investment to be made by the Union Government and the State Government for this project; and

(e) when the construction work is likely to be taken up and the time-frame for completion of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) External Offers of assistance for implementation of the Ib Valley Thermal Power Project of 4 × 210 MW in Sambalpur district of Orissa have been received from various firms and consortia, including those from Japan, Italy, Poland, USA and Czechoslovakia.

(b) to (e). The Planning Commission have accepted "in principle" the feasibility of the project subject to adequate financial provision being made by the State Government in the State Plan during the Seventh Plan. The Planning Commission have also approved that pending formal approval of the project for implementation, the State Government may tie up associated arrangements and infrastructural works. The project is in the State Sector. The first unit of

210 MW can be commissioned within four years from the placement of orders for the main plant and equipment.

Closure of Modern Rice Mill in Palghat, Kerala

7249. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Modern Rice Mills functioning under the Food Corporation of India, particularly in Kerala; and

(b) the reasons for the closure of the Modern Rice Mills at Palghat in Kerala ?

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

(a) The Food Corporation has twentyfive Modern Rice Mills of which one is in Kerala at Olavakkot; near Palghat.

(b) Food Corporation of India have decided to dispose of 14 uneconomic Modern Rice Mills. The mill at Olavakkot in Kerala is one of these mills. However, the matter is being contested by the Employees Union in the High Court of Kerala and is sub-judice.

Lok Adalats in West Bengal

7250. DR. PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Lok Adalat has been set up in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : According to the information furnished by the CILAS : (a) No Lok Adalat has held so far in the state of West Bengal.

(b) and (c). Lok Adalats are not set up as regular bodies. They are organised and held by the respective state Legal Aid and

Advice Boards from time to time. No reasons are available for not holding Lok Adalats in West Bengal.

Capital raised by public sector undertakings

7251. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of capital raised by borrowings on bonds by the Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years;

(b) the interest per annum paid on the bonds;

(c) whether any guidelines or rules have been framed for raising borrowings by the Public Sector Undertakings; 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) to (d). Information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Bodhghat Project, Madhya Pradesh

7252. SHRI ASLAM SHER KHAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to arrange an amount of rupees fifty crore required for Bodhghat Project in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, from which source; and

(c) the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). An agreement has been signed with the World Bank for a loan assistance of US dollars 300.4 million for the Bodhghat project. There is no proposal under consideration for arranging Rupees 50 crores for the project.

Introduction of Air-Mail Service for North Eastern Region

7253. SHRI ABDUL HAMID : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the II Class Mail Service from Delhi to North Eastern Region is reaching in not less than three to four weeks;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to send the mail through 'Air Mail Service' to North Eastern Region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) There is no proposal to send uncharged II class mail by air to North Eastern region.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Proposal to set up Linear Alkyl Benzene Factory in Mathura

7254. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government Propose to set up a Linear Alkyl Benzene Factory in Mathura;

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

(c) the time by which the factory will start functioning ?

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). Some applications for the setting up of a Linear Alkyl Benzene Project at various locations including Mathura have been received. No final decision has yet been taken in this

regard. Details of such applications are not disclosed till a final decision is taken on them.

[English]

Expenditure on maintenance of stocks of wheat and rice

7255. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a buffer stock of 15.1 million tonnes of wheat and 7.9 million tonnes of rice at present;

(b) if so, the total cost of this stock; and

(c) the expenditure that is being incurred to maintain, manage and handle the stocks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Buffer stocks of wheat and rice available with the Food Corporation of India and the States on Central Account as on 28.2.1987 and their cost, are as under :

Wheat		Rice	
Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
111.01	2246.62	88.05	2285.43

(c) The average quantity of buffer stocks to be maintained during 1987-88 is expected to be 95.78 lakh tonnes and its carrying cost is estimated to be Rs. 415.78 crores including transit and storage losses.

Setting up of public sector industry in Etah District (Uttar Pradesh)

7256. SHRI MOHD. MAHAFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have, at any stage, considered the question or made any survey of the area for setting up an economically viable industry in public

sector in district Etah (UP) for its overall development besides generating employment opportunities for the unemployed youth: 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). Information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Purchase of Khadi from Central
Khadi Commission and Khadi
Boards of States**

7257. SHRI VIRDHI CHNDER JAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government and various State Governments have issued instructions to their departments, corporations and autonomous bodies that they should purchase Khadi for the uniforms of their employees and other office requirement from Central Khadi Commission and Khadi Boards of the States;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said instructions are not being observed by many of the departments; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken for the compliance of these instructions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

**Power generation capacity of
Badarpur Thermal Power
Station**

7258. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be

pleased to state the details of the present power generation capacity of Badarpur Thermal Power Station and its grid load demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : The installed generating capacity of Badarpur Thermal Power Station is 720 MW. The grid demand on Badarpur Thermal Power Station is decided on day to day basis. However, the total generation from Badarpur Thermal Power Station during 1986-87 was 3290 million units at a plant load factor of 52.2 per cent.

[*Translation*]

**Production of Cement in Madhya
Pradesh**

7259. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cement industries set up in Madhya Pradesh from 1980 to date and their daily production; and

(b) whether a great potential to produce cement exists in Morena district and if so, whether there is any proposal to set up a cement industry there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) 8 large cement plants and 9 mini/tiny cement plants have been set up in Madhya Pradesh from 1980 to March 1987. The annual production from these factories was of the order of 33.5 lakh tonnes during 1986.

(b) At present, there is no proposal for setting up any cement plant in central sector in Morena District. No application from any private entrepreneur is also pending with the Government.

[English]

Oil wells spudded during 1985 and 1986

7260. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of wells spudded during 1985 and 1986, the expected reserves from these wells and the actual commercial reserves ultimately provided;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is wide variation between forecasts of reserves and the actual returns; and

(c) if so, 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) A total of 342 wells were drilled in 1986 as against 261 in 1985. Accretion to recoverable reserves of oil and oil equivalent of gas in 1985 was 114 61 million tonnes. Corres-

ponding accretion in 1986 has yet to be assessed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Progress of letters of intent and industrial licences issued for backward areas of Uttar Pradesh

7261. SHRI JAGANNATH CHOU-DHARY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in regard to eight letters of intent and four industrial licences issued for location of Central Projects in the backward areas of Uttar Pradesh during 1984 to 1986; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

Statement

Implementation position of 8 letters of intent and 4 industrial licences issued during the years 1983 to 1986 for location of Central Projects in the backward areas of Uttar Pradesh

S. No	Name of the Under-taking and location	Item of Manu-facture	Date of issue of letter of intent/ industrial licence	Implementa-tion position
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)

Letters of Intent

1.	The Indo-Burma Petroleum Co. Ltd. (Chemical Division), New Delhi. (Centrally backward distt. No Ind. District)	Detonators, Safety Fuse, Cast Booster & Detonating fuse,	4.4.83	Yet to be converted into Indl. Licence
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
2.	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd; Lucknow, (Teh. Amethi Distt. Sultanpur, U.P.)	Advanced Avionics, Inertial Navigation & attack systems Electric Optic Displays for aircraft, space vehicles, etc.	4.5.83	Converted into Indl. licence in 1984 as per details at Sl. No. 1 of Indl. Licences below.
3.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd; New Delhi. (Teh. Babina, Distt. Jhansi)	Diesel Electric Haulage Dumpors (85 T and higher capacities)	27.5.83	Yet to be converted into Indl. licence
4.	Central Electronics Ltd; U.P. (Category 'A' or 'B' Backward area)	Colour T.V. Receiver Sets	19.9.83	Converted into Indl. licence in 1984 for changed location i.e. Sahibabad in Ghaziabad district.
5.	Indian Telephone Industries Ltd; Bangalore (Teh. Mankapur, Distt. Gonda).	Relays, Coils/ Transformers, Hybrids etc.	20.2.85	Converted into Indl. licence in 1985 as per details at Sl. No. 3 of Indl. licences below.
6.	Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd; Haryana (Dehradun, U.P.)	Benzyl Pencil-lin 'G' Potassium Salt	3.2.86	Yet to be converted into indl. licence.
7.	Indian Oil Corpn. Ltd; New Delhi. (Mathura)	LPG, Motor Spirit, Naphtha Aviation Turbine Fuel etc.	25.3.86	—do—

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Projects & Dev. India Ltd; New Delhi. (Pratapgarh).	Ammonia Synthesis Catalyst, Hydro-desulphurisation Catalyst.	12.9.86	Yet to be converted into indl. licence.
Industrial Licences				
1.	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd; Lucknow, (Korwa, Amethi, Distt. Sultanpur)	Advanced Avionics and Attack Systems, Electric Optic Displays for air craft, space vehicle etc.	31.1.84	Implemented. The unit is in production
2.	Indian Telephones Ind. Ltd; Bangalore, (Distt. Gonda.	Electronic Digital Switching Equipment	22.1.85	—do—
3.	Indian Telephone Ind. Ltd. Bangalore, (Teh. Mankapur, Distt. Gonda)	Relays. Coils/ Transformers, Hybrids, etc.	26.7.85	Machinery is under installation. Production is expected to start in the second quarter of 1987.
4.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd; New Delhi, (Jhansi)	Diesel Electric Shunting Locomotives.	20.8.85	Implemented. The unit is in production.

Annual production of gas in Gujarat

7262. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state ;

(a) the quantity of natural gas produced annually in Gujarat;

(b) to what extent it will be available for commercial and domestic use as compared to demand; and

(c) whether priority will be given for allocation of natural gas for generating electricity and 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) The production of natural gas during 1986-87 in Gujarat was about 2.56 MMCMD.

(b) During 1986-87, 2.3 MMCMD of gas was made available against a committed requirement of 2.3 MMCMD of various consumers.

(c) Appropriate plans for utilisation of gas would be made as and when more gas is found to be available.

Cut on allocation of imported edible oil to vanaspati industry

7263. PROF. RAM KRISHNA MORE :
SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA
MURTY :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the percentage of cut imposed on the allocation of imported edible oils to the vanaspati industry in the country during the past six months and the basis on which cut was imposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : The total allocation of imported oil to vanaspati industry since November, 1986 is given below :

Month	Allocation % age
November 1986	55
December 1986 & January 1987	10
February 1987	30
March 1987	40
April 1987	30

Since 16th March 1987 an additional 10 per cent of imported oil has been allocated to units in east and south zones.

Reduction in allocation of imported oils is made keeping in view the availability of indigenous permitted oils so that oilseed farmers get remunerative prices.

Closure of Bombay-Pune Pipeline

7264. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bombay-Pune Pipeline for the supply of petrol and diesel is closed for some time now;

(b) if so, the reasons for its closure;

(c) when it is likely to resume supply; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that huge quantity of petrol and diesel has been pilfered from this pipeline during its closure ?

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) The bursting of one of the pipes lead to the Pipeline's closure on January 2, 1987.

(c) While repairs to and tests of the Pipeline have been completed, permission for its re-commissioning at the Thane Creek Bridge is awaited by HPCL from the Government of Maharashtra.

(d) No, Sir.

STD facilities in Andhra Pradesh

7265. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the difficulty experienced in getting STD calls

through to various stations in Andhra Pradesh:

(b) what technical steps can be taken to bring about easily STD connections to stations in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) what financial concessions can be given to rural phone owners who do not have the benefit of STD ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) STD service to various stations in Andhra Pradesh is reasonably good.

(b) Following technical steps are being taken for further improvement of STD service :

- (i) Monitoring of STD/NSD routes through modern electronic instruments has been introduced.
- (ii) Augmentation of circuits has been ordered for avoiding congestion.
- (iii) Digital TAX at Hyderabad has been programmed to be commissioned in 1987-88.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Duty rationalisation on inputs for bulk drugs

7266. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have announced the decision of duty rationalisation on inputs going into the production of bulk drugs and finished bulk drugs;

(b) if so, which authority would decide the list of inputs, raw materials and solvents going into the production of bulk drugs; and

(c) the criteria evolved in this regard and by when the list would be finalised ?

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) and (c). A number of drug intermediates have already been allowed a concessional rate of customs duty to ensure that cumulative incidence of duty on the bulk drugs is higher than that on the inputs and drug intermediates. Further action to identify intermediates which are exclusively used in the production of bulk drugs and rationalisation of duty thereon is on in consultation with the Department of Revenue.

Setting up of geo-thermal power plant at Cambay by ONGC

7267. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Commission proposes to set up a 1000 KW geothermal power plant on a pilot scale at Cambay field to develop non-conventional sources of energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the cost involved; and

(c) the extent of energy expected to be generated from this Plant ?

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) O.N.G.C. proposes to set up a 1000 KW Geothermal power pilot plant in the Cambay field as an R&D effort for exploiting the high temperature water from its abandoned wells in a binary cycle. The estimated cost for the plant is Rs. 5 crores.

(c) The plant is expected to produce 24000 K.W. hrs. of energy per day.

**Sugar factories and licences issued
for new sugar mills**

7268. SHRI A. C. SHANMUGAM :
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

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

(a) the total number of sugar factories in public sector, private sector and cooperative sector functioning at present in the country;

(b) the quantity of sugar produced by each of them annually;

(c) the total number of factories lying closed and the steps taken to start them; and

(d) the number of licences given by Government for starting new sugar mills after the announcement of New Sugar Policy ?

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

(a) and (b). The Sector-wise number of factories which started crushing during 1986-87 crushing season and their sugar production upto 22nd March, 1987 was as under :

Sector	No. of factories started crushing 1986-87 season	Production 22.3.1987 (Lakh tonnes)
		(Provisional)
Public Sector	50	5.31
Private Sector	110	21.37
Cooperative Sector	191	36.31

(c) 24 sugar factories have not started crushing during the current 1986-87 season. The State Governments are in a better

position to manage the factories located within the respective States firstly because they are able to exercise effective control over the factories from close quarters and secondly because Cane Development and marketing is entirely within their control. However, this Ministry provides loan assistance to sugar mills out of the Sugar Development Fund for rehabilitation/modernisation on easy terms to the extent of gap in promoter's share as an adjunct to loan assistance by the Financial Institutions. The loan assistance for sugarcane development on soft term basis is also available to the sugar factories for development of cane in their command areas.

(d) No letter of intent has been issued yet after the announcement of the New Sugar Policy.

Import of equipments for power plants

7269. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has placed orders for import of equipments for power plants;

(b) if so, the value of this order and the foreign exchange component involved in it;

(c) whether these could be procured from our own public sector units producing such equipments; and

(d) what is the order book position of the public sector units producing these equipment for the next five years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). Central Electricity Authority has not placed any orders for import of equipments for power plants.

(d) Equipment for power plants are mainly procured from BHEL excepting certain auxiliary equipment. Since the order book position of BHEL for the next 5 years is not readily available, the information will be obtained and laid on the Table of the House,

Working group on private sector

7270. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have set up a working group to work out modalities and a fresh package of incentives to induce private sector to make investments in a big way;

(b) if so, what are the other schemes introduced by the working group;

(c) whether the working group has already submitted its recommendations to Government;

(d) if so, whether Government have examined the same and accepted;

(e) the details of the recommendations and by what time these will be implemented; and

(f) how far the schemes introduced will be beneficial to the private sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI, : (a) to (f). A working Group has been constituted to study various aspects and issues relating to private sector participation in power generation. It is yet to submit its report.

Setting up of galvanizing plant at Telecom. Factory in Alipore area, Calcutta

7271. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a plan to set up a Rs. 1.87 crore galvanizing plant at the Telecom factory located in the Alipore area of Calcutta;

(b) whether this plant will pollute the air and water in the nearby areas;

(c) if so, whether the West Bengal Government has asked for the shifting of this plant and has offered an alternative site; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by Union Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) A New Galvanising Plant has been installed at Telecom. Factory, Alipore Calcutta at a cost of Rs. 1.87 crores to replace the existing Galvanising Plant. Clearance is awaited from the Government of West Bengal for its commissioning.

(b) No, Sir. The new Plant has adequate pollution control measures.

(c) and (d). The State Government has however asked for shifting of the Factory. An alternate site has been proposed by the Department of Telecom, and the matter is being pursued with the Government of West Bengal.

Loan agreement with EXIM Bank of USA for Gas turbine project at Maithon

7272. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Damodar Valley Corporation has recently signed a \$27 million loan agreement with the EXIM Bank of the USA in Washington for its Gas turbine project at Maithon;

(b) if so, whether the West Bengal Government was associated with this deal;

(c) whether any part of the power generated from the Maithon Gas Turbine Project will be supplied to the West Bengal Government grid or to Calcutta;

(d) if so, the quantum thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) A loan agreement has been arrived at between the DVC and the US EXIM Bank for the gas turbine project at Maithon.

(b) The draft agreement was approved by the DVC Board on which West Bengal is also represented.

(c) to (e). Power from the Maithon project of 3×30 MW will be utilised primarily for improving the supply to consumers connected directly with the DVC System in the core sector in the Eastern region.

Loss suffered by NCCF on export of wheat/rice bran

7273. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India Limited suffered huge losses due to its failure to invoke a bank guarantee of Rs. 2 lakhs provided by M/s. Regent International, Bombay on their failure to export wheat/rice bran in 1979; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard ?

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

(a) and (b). The NCCF has reported that in 1960 it was granted a permit for the export of Wheat Bran and Wheat products at the ratio of 22 per cent and 78 per cent respectively. An agreement was entered into with a private firm M/s. Regent International to execute the export deal. Since M/s. Regent International were facing difficulties in getting the wheat products due to a strike in the mills, NCCF made a request to the Joint Controller of Imports and Exports to waive the stipulation of exporting 78 per cent wheat products and allow them to export only wheat Bran, which was not agreed to by the JCI&E. During the period of correspondence with

the JCI&E the validity of the bank guarantee provided by M/s. Regent International expired and ultimately the export commitment could not be fulfilled. NCCF had subsequently to pay a penalty of Rs. 2 lakhs for its failure to fulfil the export obligation. The management of the NCCF has referred this matter to an arbitrator for the recovery of the amount of penalty of Rs. 2 lakhs from M/s. Regent International. The NCCF conducted an inquiry into the matter which established that no functionary of the NCCF concerned with the deal could be charged with any deliberate motive for the lapse of the bank guarantee provided by M/s. Regent International.

Loss suffered by NCCF on construction of Showroom-cum-Warehouse at Okhla

7274. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI :
SHRI RAM SWAROOP RAM :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India Limited suffered huge losses on a project for construction of Showroom-cum-Warehouse at Okhla started with an outlay of Rs. 72 lakhs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the project was abandoned after an investment of Rs. 30 lakhs; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and action taken against the persons found responsible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). The NCCF has reported that an Industrial Committee, which was constituted by the Board of Directors of the NCCF, approved the proposal for the construction of a Showroom-cum-Warehouse at Okhla at an estimated cost of Rs. 78.40 lakhs. The feasibility report of the Project was prepared by a firm of Chartered

Accountants. On the basis of the lowest tender, the construction work was awarded to a contractor. On the demand of the contractor a mobilisation advance of Rs. 7.76 lakhs was paid to him by the NCCF against the bank guarantee of Rs. 7.80 lakhs. NCCF has so far invested an amount of about Rs. 32 lakhs in the construction of the project which has not however been completed due to financial constraints.

(d) The services of the concerned officer who was incharge of this Project, were terminated for his negligence in connection with the construction of the Project.

Indo-EEC talks on Industrial Cooperation

7275. DR. B L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether an 11 member team from European Economic Community visited New Delhi from March 24 to 26, 1987 for talks with Government of India on industrial co-operation;

(b) if so, the nature of the talks held; and

(c) the outcome thereof ?

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

An eleven member team led by Mr. R. Houlistan, Head of the Division, D. G. for External Relations, EEC, visited India to participate in the First meeting of the Indo-European Community Working Group on Industrial Cooperation of the Indo-EEC Joint Commission held in New Delhi from 25-26 March, 1987.

Several areas like Energy, Telecommunication, Electronics, Science and Technology including bio-technology, Steel Engineering etc. have been identified for mutual cooperation,

Construction of godown at Madras Port by C. W. C.

7276. SHRI M. MAHALINGAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Warehousing Corporation had decided in September, 1984 to construct 4-crore multi-storeyed warehouse at Madras Port with a capacity of 300,000 sq. ft. with facilities and equipment at par with those available in advanced countries;

(b) if so, whether the construction has been completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). The Central Warehousing Corporation had a proposal to construct a multi-storeyed warehouse at Madras Port. The Corporation, however, could not give effect to it as the Madras Port Trust did not agree to give the land required.

Fire in Textile Godown of CWC at Kovaipudur, Tamil Nadu

7277. SHRI M. MAHALINGAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that fire broke out in the textile godown of Central Warehousing Corporation at Kovaipudur near Coimbatore on 14 February, 1987;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether fire fighting equipment was available with trained staff;

(d) whether stocks were insured on additional hazardous rate if so, the estimated loss of goods; and

(e) whether the matter was investigated, if so, the details of the findings and the action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). There was fire in hired godown of the Central Warehousing Corporation at Kovaipudur, near Coimbatore, on 13. 2.1987. The Corporation has lodged an FIR with the Podanur Police Station.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The stocks were insured as hazardous goods. The value of the goods destroyed in the fire is estimated at about Rs 33 lakhs.

(e) The cause of the fire is under investigation. Pending investigation, three warehouse officials have been placed under suspension by the Corporation.

Construction of godowns in West Bengal by C. W. C.

7278. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of warehouses of 39,000 MT capacity was undertaken by the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) in West Bengal in 1984;

(b) if so, the details of the projects and percentage of work completed so far; and

(c) the reasons for delay in the completion of the work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). The Central Warehousing Corporation had undertaken construction of a capacity of 65,700 tonnes in West Bengal in 1984 at the following centres :-

S. No.	Centre	Capacity (in tonnes)
1.	Kharagpur	24,000
2.	Sarul (Burdwan)	16,700
3.	Sargachi	5,000
4.	Haldia	20,000

		65,700

Construction work at all the centres except Haldia; has been completed. The progress of work at Haldia is about 75 per cen. More time has been taken for completion of the work at Haldia mainly due to labour problem.

Steps to reduce margin of Profits by Super Bazar

7279. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 905 on 3 March, 1987 regarding selling prices of Super Bazar vis-a-vis Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Ltd., New Delhi and state :

(a) the details of steps taken to reduce the margin of profits by Kendriya Bhandar and Super Bazar as also the overhead expenses in view of enjoying Government patronage in respect of rent free accommodation at prized locations, receipt of subsidies and substantial overdraft facilities with the open markets; and

(b) the necessity for continuing with Super Bazar which has not proved effective to contain the consumer prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The Kendriya Bhandar and the Super Bazar are charging reasonable margins of profit and are keeping their overhead expenses to the minimum in order to maintain competitive prices.

(b) Super Bazar has been playing an important role in providing quality consumer goods at competitive rates and is exercising a healthy effect on open market prices. There is a persistent demand of the public for opening of new branches in various parts of the city, which reflects consumer confidence in the services of the Super Bazar.

Global tenders for setting up of gas based power projects

7280. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether global tenders have been invited for the setting up of gas based power stations approved by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which decision on tenders will be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). National Thermal Power Corporation have invited global tenders in respect of their gas-based power projects at Kawas, Auraiya, and Anta. Six bids have been received by NTPC for the Anta project and five bids each in respect of Kawas and Auraiya projects. The contracts can be awarded after a final decision in regard to the evaluation of the offers has been taken and World Bank's concurrence has been obtained.

Hindi teleprinters at Departmental Telegraph offices at Hamirpur, Dharamshala and Mandi in Himachal Pradesh

7281. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindi teleprinters installed at Department Telegraph Offices at Hamirpur, Dharamshala and Mandi in Himachal Pradesh are not functioning satisfactorily;

(b) if so, the periods for which each one of them has been out of order during the past three years 1984-85, 1985-86, and 1986-87;

(c) the reasons for this non-functioning or partial functioning of the teleprinters ; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that satisfactory teleprinter services are provided at each of these centres ?

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

Hindi Teleprinters have not actually been installed at Departmental Telegraph Offices at Hamirpur, Dharamshala and Mandi due to very low daily average Hindi Telegraph traffic.

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

Youth Parliament Sessions

7282. SHRI NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Youth Parliament Sessions (earlier called Mock Parliament Sessions) have been organised by his Ministry in Union Territory of Delhi and other States during the past three years;

(b) if so, the details of the Sessions held;

(c) whether the programme would be extended to such State/U.Ts where not even a single such Session has been held for over a decade; and

(d) if so, an outline of the programme in this regard for the next three years of the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) This Ministry has been organising youth Parliament Competitions in the Schools under Delhi Administration and the Kendriya Vidyalayas under the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in Union Territory of Delhi and surrounding States. The Youth Parliament Competitions in the Schools of the States/U.Ts. are organised by the States/U.Ts. themselves.

(b) Youth Parliament Competitions held by this Ministry in the past three years are as detailed below :-

(i) Delhi Administration (ii) Kendriya
School Vidyalayas

1984-85	20	20
1985-86	27	23
1986-87	29	26

(c) and (d). This Ministry is persuading all the States/U Ts to adopt the Youth Parliament Scheme and to organise Youth Parliament Competitions by writing to them and providing them financial assistance. This Ministry, also organises Orientation Courses for the benefit of teachers/Principals in the States/Union Territories which hold their Competitions in their Schools. This Ministry has not drawn any programme to make the States/ U.Ts to adopt the Youth Parliament Competition Scheme by a particular period.

Constitution of postal advisory committees

7283. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the postal advisory committees for the States of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab and Haryana have since been constituted;

(b) if so, the dates of constitution alongwith the composition (names and addresses of members) of these committees;

(c) the terms of reference of the Advisory Committee of each of them and the dates of their expiry; and

(d) if not, the likely dates by which the remaining committees would be constituted and the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Postal Advisory Committees for Jammu & Kashmir and Haryana have since been constituted. For Punjab and Himachal Pradesh they are yet to be constituted.

(b) and (c). A statement in respect of J & K and Haryana Postal Advisory Committees is given below.

(d) The Postal Advisory Committees for Punjab and Himachal Pradesh are likely to be constituted shortly. Some of the names could not be obtained earlier from respective State Governments causing delay in their constitution.

Statement

Name of Committee	Date of constitution	Date of expiry of term	Composition (names & addresses of members)	Terms of reference
1	2	3	4	5
1. Postal Advisory Committee, J & K.	10-3-1986	9-3-88	1. Sh. Mohd. Maqbool M. L. A., Uggabalan Shawngas-Kashmir. 2. Sh. Piara Singh, M. L. C., R/O Mill Area, RS Pura, Jammu (J & K) 3. Sh. A. R. Shaheen, Ex-MLA, Pattan, Kashmir.	The role of the Committee is purely Advisory but Head of Circle takes care of suggestions and recommendations made by

1	2	3	4	5
			<p>4. Sh. Balwan Singh, 711-Ashok Nagar, Jammu Cantt. (J & K)</p> <p>5. Sh. M. Ibrahim, Shadad, President, Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Srinagar (J & K).</p> <p>6. President, Chamber of Commerce & Industry. Jammu (J & K).</p> <p>7. Sh. Sona Ullah Bhat, Editor in Chief, Daily Aftab, Srinagar.</p> <p>8. Sh. Nanak Raj Gupta, M. P. 62-D Gandhi Nagar, Jammu (J & K).</p> <p>9. Sh. Dharam Chander Prashant, M. P., B5, Jalaka Mohalla, Jammu (J & K).</p> <p>10. Sh. Vijay Dhar, Ex-Chairman, Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Srinagar.</p> <p>11. Sh. Rev Kushak Bakula, Member, Minorities Commission, Lok Nayak Bhawan (Fifth floor) Khan Market. New Delhi.</p>	<p>the Committee.</p>
<p>2. Postal Advisory Committee Haryana</p>	<p>18.7.85</p>	<p>17.7.87</p>	<p>1. Sh. Lila Krishan, M. L. A.</p> <p>2. Secretary to Govt, Haryana, Printing & Stationery Deptt. Chandigarh.</p>	<p>The role of the Committee is purely Advisory but Head of Circle takes</p>

1	2	3	4	5
			3. Sh. Ram Kumar, Advocate, Fatehabad.	care of sugges- tions and
			4. Sh. Jagat Singh, Advocate, Vill & PO Jamuri, Distt. Jind.	recommenda- tions made by the Committee.
			5. Sh. Lala Ram Kanwar Gupta, Member Haryana Pradesh Cong (I), Bahadurgarh.	
			6. Sh. Mani Ram Mittal, House No. 170, M.C. Colony, Hissar.	
			7. Sh. N. S. Parwana, Special Correspondent Hind Samachar/Punjab, Kesari, Chandigarh.	
			8. Sh. Satya Narain Aggarwal, Prop. Vikas Steel Rolling Mills: Sonapat.	
			9. Sh. M. P. Kaushik, M. P. Retd. Principal, New Rly. Road, Gurgaon, 63, Western Court, New Delhi.	
			10. Sh. Dharam Pal Singh, Malik, M. P. House No. 515, W. No. 4, Gohana, Distt. Sonapat.	
			11. Sh. Ram Narain Kaushik, Advocate, Hissar.	
			12. Major General Umrao Singh (Retd) Dadri.	

Recruitment by ONGC for drilling activities around Jwalamukhi in Himachal Pradesh

7284. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission proposes to make any recruitment for its various activities around Jwalamukhi in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the exact number of regular/ad-hoc/temporary employees likely to be recruited in each category alongwith other details;

(c) whether preference would be given to youngmen/women from the districts which are the areas of operation for drilling in Himachal Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the nature thereof, and 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 (d). During 1987-1988, drilling is proposed to be taken up at two locations in Jwalamukhi area. ONGC undertake drilling operations either through charter-hired rigs of a contractor or through its own Departmental rigs. In this case, both the locations are planned to be drilled through charter-hired rigs. ONGC, understandably, does not have any jurisdiction regarding the personnel employed by the contractor who would undertake the drilling operations.

Issue of letters of intent to Andhra Pradesh

7285. SHRI S. PALAKONDRAYUDU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the issue of letters of intent and Directorate General of Technical Development (DGTD) registrations to Andhra Pradesh has come down;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the APIDC have sent sixteen applications for issue letters of intent; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government and the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The number of letters of intent granted for setting up of industries in the State of Andhra Pradesh and the number of schemes registered with DGTD in respect of this State during the years 1984, 1985 and 1986 are indicated below :

Year	Letters of intent issued	Schemes registered with DGTD.
1984	92	186
1985	127	178
1986	111	79

(b) and (c). During 1986, a total of 13 Industrial Licence Applications were received from M/s. Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation. Of these, 4 applications have already been approved and necessary letters of intent issued to the parties, 8 have been rejected or otherwise disposed of and the remaining 1 application is presently under consideration.

Central investment for industries in A. P.

7286. SHRI S. PALAKONDRAYUDU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the total Central investment for industries in Andhra Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Communication facilities in North-Eastern Region

7287. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the communication facilities in the North-Eastern Region are not at par with the rest of the country;

(b) if so, whether any report has been received in this regard; and

(c) the details regarding the suggestions made and the reaction of Government thereon ?

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

(b) No, Sir.

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

[*Translation*]

Policy on issue of licences for production of Vanaspati

7288. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the Government's policy with regard to issue of licences for production of vanaspati; and

(b) the number of licences issued during 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Presently, the following priorities are considered for licensing of new vanaspati units :

(i) Cooperatives of Oilseed Growers, Agro-Industries, Ex-servicemen Cooperatives, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Cooperatives;

(ii) Public Sector;

(iii) Joint Sector; and

(iv) Private Sector.

(b) One letter of intent has been issued during 1986-87.

[*English*]

Linking of Thermal Power Plant in Singrauli Riband Complex in U.P. with load centres in Northern region

7289. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of installation of transmission lines to like the Thermal Power Plant in the Singrauli-Riband Complex in Uttar Pradesh with the main load centres in the Northern region till 31 December, 1986;

(b) whether World Bank has given any loan for this project; and

(c) if so, the details of the loan and how much has been spent so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) All the 400 KV transmission lines associated with the Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station Stage-I & II (except the 400 KV Singrauli-Kanpur line) were completed by December, 1986. The 400 KV Singrauli-Kanpur line was completed in March, 1987.

The 400 KV transmission system associated with the Riband Super Thermal Power Station is under construction and is programmed for completion in stage during the Seventh Plan.

(b) and (c). The transmission system associated with the Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station is being financed by the World Bank to the extent of US \$ 61.63 million. Of this, an amount of US \$ 60.30 million has been utilised upto March, 1987.

The Riband Transmission Project is being financed by the World Bank to the extent of US \$ 250 million. Out of this, an amount of US \$ 23.29 million has been utilised upto March, 1987.

Expansion of P. D. S. for industrial workers and students hostels

7290. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have expanded the public distribution system for industrial workers and students' hostels under the new 20-Point Programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As on 31.12.1986, there were 5187 fair price shops for industrial workers and 497 fair price shops for students' hostels all over the country, as compared to 5046 and 490 fair price shops, respectively, as on 31.12.1985.

[Translation]

Permission to open meat shops

7291. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the rules and other norms followed in granting permission to open new meat shops in different areas of Delhi;

(b) whether any specific restriction exists not to allow such shops within a reasonable distance of places of worship;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government on suggestions of some religious and social bodies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Licences to open meat shops are granted under the provisions of PFA Act/rules—1954, rules framed under Section 415 of the IMC Act, the decision of the Teh Bazari Committee and Section 210 of the Cantonment Act, 1924 in the NDMC area, Municipal Corporation of Delhi area and Cantonment Area respectively.

(b) The NDMC and Municipal Corporation have already taken decisions not to allow any meat shops near any place of worship. The meat market in the cantonment is situated away from places of worship.

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

[English]

Coal Production

7292. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total requirement of coal in the country and what percentage of it is being produced at present; and

(b) the coal production, companywise and State-wise during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Planning Commission had assessed the demand of coal for the year 1986-87 as 176.06 million tonnes of raw coal. The total raw coal production in the country during 1986-87 was 165.85 million tonnes (Provisional). The balance was expected to be met by drawal from the stocks. Since the demand is based on certain estimates, the actual requirement is usually less than the anticipated demand.

(b) The company-wise and State-wise coal production during the years 1983-84

to 1985-86 is given below :

(Figures in million tonnes)

Year	Coal India Limited					Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.		
	W. B.	Bihar	Orissa	M.P.	Maha-rashtra	U.P.	Assam	Andhra Pradesh
1983-84	19.27	49.44	4.17	36.36	8.82	2.55	0.80	12.69
1984-85	18.93	50.87	5.44	41.04	10.30	3.42	0.81	12.33
1985-86	19.21	50.03	6.04	42.78	11.57	3.84	0.84	15.65

Allocation of edible oil to Andhra Pradesh

7293. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the monthly quota of edible oil released to Andhra Pradesh during the months of January, February and March, 1987;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the edible oil quota to Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The allocation and lifting of imported edible oils to/by Andhra Pradesh under PDS and Small packs from January to March, 1987 is as under :

Under PDS

Month	(Qty. in MTs.)	
	Allocation	Lifting
January, 1987	4000	8686*
February, 1987	4000	7118*
March, 1987	4000	5729*

*Lifting figures include backlog for earlier months.

Under Small Packs

(Qty. in MTs.)

Month	Allocation	Lifting
January, 1987	2000	1567
February, 1987	2000	1799
March, 1987	2000	1240

(upto 28.3.87)

(b) and (c). The monthly allocations of edible oils to all States, including Andhra Pradesh, are reviewed from time to time depending on the lean and flush season, open market price of edible oils and lifting by States. At present there is no proposal to increase the imported edible oil allocation to Andhra Pradesh.

(d) The allocation of imported edible oils to States/UTs. for distribution under PDS is supplementary in nature and is not intended to meet the entire demand of the State/UT.

S T D. facilities in Andhra Pradesh

7294. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number and names of the cities/towns likely to be linked with S.T.D. facility during 1987 in Andhra Pradesh ?

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

cities/towns namely Kovvur, Kavali, Nizamabad, Kothagudem and Bobbili have been linked with STD facility during the first quarter of 1987 in Andhra Pradesh. Four more cities/towns namely Tuni, Samalkot, Armoor and Ramachandrapuram are likely to be linked with STD facility during the remaining part of 1987 in Andhra Pradesh.

Loss due to periodic dislocation of oil operations in Assam

7295. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Lingering shadow of politics on O.I.L. appearing in the 'Financial Express' New Delhi dated the 26 March, 1987;

(b) whether Union Government have considered any further steps to prevent periodic bandhs and break-down of production in oil operations of Oil India Limited; and

(c) if so, the outcome 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A representative of the Government of India held discussions with the representatives of State Government, OIL and AASU on the 30th and 31st January '87 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. Further the Management of O.I.L. has also initiated discussions with the State Government officials and students' representative. Government of India have also written to the Government of Assam in the matter.

Autonomous self-financing organisation for telecommunication development

7296. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the

Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a unified administrative authority, autonomous self-financing organisation, with a minimum budgetary support from the Union Government on the lines of the Railway Board is favoured by some experts to achieve the long-term objectives of telecommunication development in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision in this behalf; and

(c) if so, the pattern of the administrative and financial structure of the proposed autonomous body for telecommunication development ?

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

(b) and (c). This and other suggestions are still under consideration. No final concrete proposal has yet emerged.

Take-over of assets of Scooter India Ltd.

7297. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since finalised the terms of the deal with Bajaj Auto for the take-over of the assets of the Scooters India Limited, Lucknow;

(b) if so, its broad details and financial implications; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) to (c). It is not in the commercial interest of Scooters India Limited to disclose the details of various options available for revival of the unit.

**Report of committee on accident in
Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited**

7298. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 8913 on 6th May, 1986 regarding the report of committee on accident in Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited and state :

(a) whether the prosecutions against officials of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited who were responsible for the Bucket Wheel Excavator accident have been adjudicated upon by the court;

(b) if so, the details of judgement made by the competent authority in the matter;

(c) whether the enquiry reports can be made available; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The Court of First Class Judicial Magistrate, Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu acquitted the five officials of NIC of the charges under Mines Act/metalliferous Mines Regulations on the ground that the charges have not been proved beyond doubt.

(c) and (d). Enquiry Report of the DGMS was filed by the DGMS before the Trial Court. The other two reports are under examination.

Supply of non-levy cement by ACC

7299. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether non-levy cement of ACC was supplied to its Bihar and Purulia district stockists from their Sindri Factory till March, 1985;

(b) whether supply of non-levy cement from elsewhere since April, 1985 has led to increase in prices;

(c) if so, whether the increased prices are higher by Rs. 10-15 per bag for non-levy cement in comparison with Bihar, Madhya Pradesh or Maharashtra;

(d) if so, whether complaints in this regard are pending before the MRTPC; and

(e) if so, remedial steps taken to protect the consumers ?

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

(a) to (c). After the introduction of the scheme of partial decontrol of cement w.e.f. 28-2-'82, cement is sold under two categories viz, Levy and non-levy Cement. While Levy Cement is subject to price and distribution control, non-levy cement is free from such control. Hence, companies are free to supply non-levy cement to any area from any of their factories. In view of this, comparative figures of price of cement supplied by a company to any particular area are not required to be maintained by the Government.

(d) and (e). Certain complaints against A.C.C., which are not directly related to parts (a) and (b) above have been received by the MRTPC and these are being investigated by the Commission.

**High power committee on soda ash
industry**

7300. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a High Power Committee was appointed in June, 1983 for an indepth and critical study of soda ash industry;

(b) whether consumer association is represented on the Committee;

(c) whether the Committee has formed a sub-committee on cost, prices and imports;

(d) whether the outside experts have been excluded from the sub-committee; and

(e) whether the Committee's report has been received by Government ?

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

Allocation of rice to Andhra Pradesh

7301. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the month-wise allocation of rice to Andhra Pradesh for public distribution during 1986 and 87; and

(b) the demand made by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for those months and the steps taken/being taken to meet the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). A statement showing monthly demand and allotment of rice from the Central Pool for public distribution system to Andhra Pradesh during the years 1986 and 1987 (upto April '87) is given below.

The allocations from the Central Pool are only supplemental to open market availability.

Statement

Demand, allotment of rice from the Central Pool to Andhra Pradesh during the years 1986 and 1987 (upto April, 1987)

(Qty. in '000 tonnes)

Month	Demand	Allotment
1	2	3
1986		
January	185.0	45.0
February	185.0	50.0
March	185.0	50.0
April	185.0	80.0

1	2	3
May	185.0	90.0
June	190.0	125.0*
July	195.0	125.0*
August	195.0	140.0*
September	195.0	160.0**
October	195.0	110.0
November	195.0	125.0
December	195.0	140.0@
1987		
January	195.0	100.0
February	195.0	70.0
March	195.0	70.0
April	195.0	70.0

*Includes 25,000 tonnes of rice as special one-time allocation.

**Includes 50,000 tonnes of rice as special allocation on account of floods.

@Includes 20,000 tonnes of rice as special one-time allocation.

Sardar Sarovar hydro-electric project

7302. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA
REDDY :
SHRI DILEEP SINGH
BHURIA :
SHRI ASLAM SHER KHAN :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to the delay in Union Government's clearance to the Sardar Sarovar Hydro-electric Project on the Narmada river, the project cost has pushed up enormously;

(b) if so, steps taken to avoid such loss to the Exchequer by Government; and

(c) whether sufficient funds will be allocated to complete the project during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE

MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The revised cost estimates of Sardar Sarovar Project has not been received in the Central Electricity Authority/Central Water Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The project is scheduled to be commissioned in the Eighth Plan period. A total amount of Rs. 914.19 crores has been allocated for power component of the project in the Seventh Plan.

Standard of ONGC exploration

7303. **SHRI K. PRADHANI :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the achievements of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in the field of exploration have been rated above the international standard; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and since when ONGC is maintaining this standard ?

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). Since 1980-81 the success ratio for exploratory wells drilled by ONGC is 1:3 against reported international average of 1:5. The exploratory discovery index of ONGC is estimated to be 1700 barrels per meter (excluding Bombay High) which is higher than many countries like USA, Canada, UK etc.

Setting up of human rights commission

7304. **SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an independent Human Rights Commission has been set up in the country;

(b) if so, how many objections and complaints concerning violation of human

rights have been received by the Commission so far; and

(c) the main complaints made by the people before the Commission, the powers entrusted to the Commission to deal in the matter the number of cases disposed of and number of cases pending for disposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The Government has not set up such a commission

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

Items to be imported and exported by Punjab Agro under joint venture proposal

7305. **SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI :**
SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be please to state the items to be exported and imported alongwith their value under the Punjab Agro proposal for a joint venture for manufacturing processed food items and soft drinks concentrates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : The proposal submitted by the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation envisages an export of Rs. 55 crores over the first five years. The items of export will primarily be processed fruits and vegetables as well as other items, such as, soft drink concentrates, electric coolers, dispensing machines, advertising materials and other non-traditional items. The items of import will be raw materials for the manufacture of soft drink concentrates, such as, natural essential oils, colanut extract, gum arabica and other ingredients presently not available in the country. The estimated value of such imports is Rs. 8.6 crores over the first five years. The import of plant and machinery is estimated to be Rs. 6 crores.

Import value of raw material for Punjab Agro's joint venture proposal

7306. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI
LAKSHMI :
SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the value of imported raw material for making aerated water concentrate during the last three years;

(b) the total estimated value of production and total import of raw material envisaged under the Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation proposal for a joint venture; and

(c) the plan for indigenisation under the proposal ?

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

(a) The country's import of lemon oil, food colours, food dye, mixtures of odoriferous substances and natural edible gums, which are used by aerated water concentrate manufacturers as well as by some other industries, were of the order of Rs. 464.39 lakhs in 1981-82, Rs. 745.74 lakhs in 1982-83 and Rs. 1042.53 lakhs in 1983-84. Data beyond 1983-84 for these imports are not yet available. Separate figures of these imports by the aerated water concentrate manufacturers alone are not maintained.

(b) The proposal of Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation envisages a total import of raw materials valued at Rs. 8.60 crores for the first five years period for the manufacture of soft drink concentrates. The total ex-factory value of production envisaged for the same period is Rs. 41.21 crores.

(c) The proposal of Punjab Agro Industries Corporation does not envisage any reduction in the level of import of raw materials during the first five years in relation to the production programme.

Non-Resident Indian consultancy company

7307. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises has been disbanded;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the alternative arrangements made for the work previously done by the Bureau; and

(c) whether Government have taken any decision in regard to formation of a consultancy company of non-resident Indians ?

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.

(c) The proposal is under consideration.

Perspective plan for development of chemicals and drugs sector

7308. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to accord higher priority to petrochemical industries;

(b) if so, the steps taken to promote use of plastics in place of wood to prevent further depletion of country's forest resources.

(c) whether Government are also preparing perspective plans for development of the chemicals and drugs sector; and

(d) whether any proposals in this regard have been prepared by the Ministry if so, the details of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHAN-

DRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Plastic crates provided an effective substitute to wooden boxes for packaging of apples, fruits etc, with a view to prevent further depletion of the country's forest resources. Steps are already being taken to promote designing and manufacture of various sizes of crates and propagating their increased use.

(c) and (d). Government have decided to constitute an Apex Committee for preparation of a perspective plan for the chemicals industry and are in the process of constituting a committee for the purpose. A perspective plan for drug sector is already under preparation.

[Translation]

Reservation of posts for handicapped persons in central Public Undertakings

7309. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether instructions have been issued to Central Public Undertakings to create and reserve certain percentage of posts in Class III and IV for handicapped persons eligible for Government service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) The details are given below .

Category of the handicapped	% of reservation
1. The Blind	1%
2. The Deaf	1%
3. The Orthopaedically Handicapped.	1%

(c) Does not arise.

Manufacturing of banned drugs by multinational companies

7310. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some multinational companies are manufacturing such drugs in India which are banned in foreign countries in spite of Government's now drug policy;

(b) if so, the names of such drugs and their manufacturers; and

(c) the action initiated against the concerned manufacturers ?

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). Drugs which are banned in some countries are being manufactured by some companies in India. Details to the extent available of such drugs being manufactured by companies having foreign equity are given in the statement below.

There is no question of taking action against the manufacturers since these drugs have been permitted for marketing in India.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the drug	Name of the Company
1.	Hydroxyquinoline Table-ets (Enteroquinol)	(i) M/s. Eskayef Ltd. (ii) M/s. Scarle (India) Ltd.
2.	Nitrofurazone Compounds (a) Furazolidone (Furoxone) Tablets/Liquid Oral (b) Nitrofurazone Cream (Furacin)	(i) M/s. Eskayef Ltd.
3.	Lynestrinol Tablets (High Dose) (a) Orgametriol (b) Orgalutin	(i) M/s. Infar India Ltd. (ii) M/s. Hindustan Ciba-Geigy Ltd.
4.	Piperazine Tablets/Liquid Oral (Antepor)	(i) M/s. Burroughs-Wellcome Company (ii) M/s. Merind (iii) M/s. Martin & Harris (iv) M/s. Glaxo Labs. Ltd.
5.	Analging Tablets (Novalgin)	(i) M/s. Hoechst India Ltd.
6.	Phenformin (DBI) Capsule/Tablets	—Nil—
7.	(a) Oxyphenbutazone Tablets (Suganril) (b) Phenylbutazone Tablets (Zolandin)	—Nil— — Nil—

[English]

**Purchase of raw films by Tamil Nadu
Films Division**

7311. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tamil Nadu Films Division is purchasing raw films from the Hindustan Photo Films Ltd.;

(b) if so, the total quantity of films purchased during 1986-87 and the cost thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Hindustan Photo Films to check the sale of the raw films by the Tamil Nadu Films Division to third parties; and

(d) whether the Tamil Nadu Films Division has paid the amounts due from them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY):
(a) and (b). During 1986-87, the Tamil

Nadu Films Division have purchased 2,452 rolls of film from Hindustan photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd., for Rs. 26.5 lakhs.

(c) The Tamil Nadu Films Division purchases the raw films for production of documentaries etc. and not for sale to third parties.

(d) Yes. Sir.

Production of Coal

7312. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of coal has increased in Andhra Pradesh during the year 1986-87;

(b) if so, the extent thereof;

(c) whether it is sufficient to cater to the needs of fertilizer plants thermal power stations and various private industries in the State ;

(d) if not, the gap between the demand and supply in the State; and

(e) the steps taken to meet the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Coal production in Singareni Collieries Company Limited during 1986-87 has been 16.58 million tonnes (Provisional) as against the production of 15.7 million tonnes during 1985-86 thus showing an increase of 5.6 per cent over the previous year. Coal production in the company was however, less than its target of 18 million tonnes by 7.9 per cent.

(c) to (e). Singareni Collieries Company Limited besides meeting the coal requirements of Andhra Pradesh, has to meet the coal demand of Southern Region as it is the rational source of coal supply to this region. Due to production constraints, SCCL is not able to meet the full coal demand of Southern Region. The actual supply of coal from SCCL during 1986-87 was 16.60 million tonnes (Provisional) as against the demand

of 18.00 million tonnes assessed on SCCL. To meet the demand on SCCL, a number of new projects are planned to increase the coal production. Coal is also being supplied from subsidiaries of coal India Limited to the Southern consumers.

Co-operation of private sector in development of telecommunication

7313. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a workshop on "Future of Telecommunications User needs and Business opportunities" was held under the auspices of FICCI in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the outcome of the workshop, the recommendations made and reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) how the private sector will be encouraged in the development of telecommunications ?

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

(b) and (c) The main recommendation was to utilise the potential of the private sector in the manufacture of switching and transmission equipment where the public sector cannot singly meet the demand.

The Private Sector have already been encouraged by allowing them to manufacture terminal equipment like Telephone Instruments, Teleprinters, Keyphones, Video display units, Sensors and Telemetering equipment etc. as per the specification laid down by the Department of Telecommunications.

Bombay suburban electric supply Limited

7314. DR. V. VENKATESH :
SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-
SEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any complaints about the affairs of the Bombay Suburban Electric Supply Limited, Bombay; and

(b) if so, action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Some complaints received recently are being looked into by the Registrar of Companies, Bombay.

Checking rising trend in prices of edible oil by States

7315. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government asked the State Governments to check the rising trend in prices of edible oil including vanaspati; and

(b) if so, the response of the State Governments and the steps being taken by them in this regard ?

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

(b) They have informed that they are taking measures against hoardings, speculators etc. under the relevant laws.

Rectification scheme for pumpsets in Andhra Pradesh

7316. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have approached the Union Government to provide financial assistance under the rectification scheme of pumpsets under the comprehensive energy conservation in agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which necessary funds will be made available keeping in view the perpetual drought and flood conditions in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). The Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd., a public sector undertaking under the Department of Power, received a proposal from the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board in 1985-86 for financial assistance for rectification of 5625 pumpsets to improve their output vis-a-vis the energy consumed. This project was approved and has since been completed by the State Electricity Board. No other proposal for rectification of pumpsets has been received by the Department of Power or R. E. C. from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Review of policy on Private Sector Undertakings

7317. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating to review their policy to control functioning of private sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The policy of the Government in the industrial field has been to relax controls as far as possible within the overall frame work of industrial policy laid down in the Industrial Policy Resolution, 1956. In pursuance of this Policy, Government have from time to time taken several measures including delicensing of industries, re-endorsement of capacity, the scheme of endorsement of capacity to minimum economic scales of operation, broad banding etc.

Allocation for SEEU Scheme

7318. SHRI PARASRAM BHAR-DWAJ : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total allocation for the programme of Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth, year-wise from 1984 to 1986;

(b) the number of educated unemployed youths benefited through the implementation of this programme during the year 1986-87; and

(c) the nature of benefits availed of by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) The total allocation made for payment and capital subsidy for the programme of Self-Employment to educated Unemployed Youths for the last 4 years is as under :

Year	(Rs. in crores)
	Revised estimates
1983-84	15.00
1984-85	149.00
1985-86	95 00
1986-87	94.60
Total	353.60

(b) The up-to-date progress regarding number of educated unemployed youth benefited in 1986-87 is being collected from the State/UTs.

(c) Loans are given to the beneficiaries at concessional rate of interest and an Out-right subsidy to the extent of 25 per cent is given on each loan contracted.

Prototype Development and Training Centre for Electronics

7319. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have cleared the proposal sent by the Andhra Pradesh Government for setting up a Prototype Development and Training Centre for Electronics at Kushaiguda (Hyderabad);

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

(c) whether the Centre will be set-up during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) to (d). No such proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh. However, the Government of India are considering a proposal of National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) for setting up a Prototype Development and Training Centre for Electronics at Hyderabad during Seventh Five Year Plan period. The objectives of the proposal are :

- (i) Design and Development (including micro-processor based systems);
- (ii) Design improvements/modifications.
- (iii) Test and calibration,
- (iv) PCB development and fabrication (including double sided, PTH),
- (v) Precision machines jobs (including fabrication of jigs and fixtures etc.),
- (vi) Instruments servicing,
- (vii) Technical training (including training of rural girls),
- (viii) Library and data cell,
- (ix) Consultancy and guidance to entrepreneurs.

Biogas plants in Orissa

7320. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of family sized bio-gas plants have become unserviceable in Orissa; and

(b) if so, their number and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The State Government of Orissa has reported that out of over 8,100 family type biogas plants inspected in the State, hardly 112 plants are found non-functional which is less than 1.4 per cent. Inspections and evaluation by independent agencies also confirms this. The reasons for which some plants were non-functional include simple operation and maintenance problems and in some cases cracking of dome and digester, leakage of gas and scum formation. Work is in progress to make even these plants functional.

Instant food manufacturers

7321. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) how many concerns in the country are in production of instant foods and since when;

(b) what is their yearly production; and

(c) the number of those concerns which are multinational and which are having foreign collaboration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). In the organised sector, five units are in production of instant food such as pasta products. The total capacity of these units is 45,900 tonnes, and their production during 1986 is estimated at 10,000 tonnes. In addition, there are a large number of units in the small scale sector producing different types of instant food such as pasta products, Gulabjamun mix, Dosa mix, Ice Cream mix etc. Their estimated production of pasta products in the small scale sector

during 1986 was of the order of 64,000 tonnes as against an installed capacity of 74,000 tonnes. The units came into production at different points of time.

(c) Of the five units in the organised sector mentioned above, one company, viz., M/s. Food Specialities Ltd., has foreign equity of about 39.9 per cent.

[Translation]

Hindi medium for Chartered Accountants examinations

7322. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government are aware that inspite of declaring Hindi a medium for taking the examination for Chartered Accountants by the Institute of Chartered Accountant of India, question papers set in English alone are given to students thereby causing inconvenience to the students having Hindi medium as a result of which they do not get through the examination; 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) and (b). The Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India has decided to introduce Hindi as a medium for its examinations in a phased manner. Question papers in Hindi, side by side with the question papers in English, were given to candidates for the Entrance Examination in June 1985. In the case of Intermediate Examination, the Institute has introduced Hindi as an alternate medium from May, 1986 and will be introducing Hindi as an alternate medium for the Final Examination from May, 1987. The question papers for the Intermediate and Final Examinations are being given only in English because of various difficulties such as non-availability of books and technical terminology insufficient knowledge of Hindi amongst some members of the Examination Committee in respect of the highly specialise and technical subjects, etc.

[English]

**Increase in Limit of Car Advance for
MPs**

7323. SHRI PRATAP RAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether requests have been made for increase in limit of car advance for Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). No formal request has been received in the Ministry. However, some Members of Parliament had pleaded in the Lok Sabha on 23rd March, 1987 for increase in the conveyance advance to M. P. for purchase of vehicles as is admissible to Ministers.

(c) Government has not taken any decision.

**Modernisation of rice mills for rice
bran oil production**

7324. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rice mills modernised to produce rice bran oil in the country during the last three years; and

(b) what is the total potential of rice bran oil and what was the actual production during the years 1985 and 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Rice Bran Oil is produced by solvent extraction units and not by Rice Mills.

Out of about 93,000 rice mills in the country, about 31,000 are modern or modernised.

(b) The total potential of rice bran oil is about 6 lakh tonnes per annum, and the actual production during the financial years 1984-85 and 1985-86 is reported to be about 2.0 lakh tonnes and 2.4 lakh tonnes, respectively.

**Allotment of LPG agency for Ganj
Basoda in Vidisha, Madhya
Pradesh**

7325. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :

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

(a) whether an advertisement to allot a gas agency for Ganj Basoda station in Vidisha district of Madhya Pradesh (M. P.) was issued in 1985;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in allotment of agency; and

(c) the time by which cooking gas facility is likely to be provided to the people of this area ?

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) An advertisement for allotment of LPG distributorship at Basoda was issued on September 13, 1984.

(b) and (c). Issue of Letter of Intent by IOC to the selected candidate has not been possible so far because the panel of names has not been communicated by the Oil Selection Board, the term of which expired in June 1986; its reconstitution is expected soon. A candidate is normally given a period of four months from the date of the Letter of Intent to complete the arrangements and formalities necessary for commissioning a distributorship.

**Filling up of Vacancies of Assistant
Engineer (Civil) in Delhi Circle**

7326. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Vacancies of Assistant Engineers (Civil) in Delhi Circle of P and T Department;

(b) since when these vacancies exist;

(c) how the vacancies are to be filled up; and

(d) the reasons for non-filling of the vacancies in spite of Junior Engineers with eight years experience or more being available ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) 23

(b) Since 1983.

(c) According to the statutory Recruitment Rules for the post of Assistant Engineer (Civil), 50 per cent of vacancies are to be filled up by Direct Recruitment through UPSC and the remaining 50 per cent by Junior Engineers (Civil) who have put in 8 years of service and have passed the Departmental Qualifying Examination.

(d) Though there are Junior Engineers who have put in 8 years of service, none of them has passed the Departmental Qualifying Examination, the prescribed eligibility condition for promotion. The Direct Recruitment to the grade of Assistant-Engineer (Civil) has been temporarily suspended. In the absence of eligible candidates the vacancies could not be filled up.

Public call offices in Gram Panchayat Areas of Orissa

7327. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Gram Panchayat areas in the State of Orissa which have been provided with public call offices, district-wise; and

(b) the number of Gram Panchayats proposed to be provided with such facilities and by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Record of Public Call Offices in the villages in a State is not being maintained on the basis of Gram Panchayat. However District-wise number of Public Call Offices in the villages of Orissa, as on 31-3-87 are as under;

Balasore	—	103
Bolangir	—	48
Cuttack	—	122
Dhenkanal	—	82
Ganjam	—	66
Kalahandi	—	46
Keonjhar	—	74
Koraput	—	67
Mayurbhanj	—	76
Phulbani	—	33
Puri	—	64
Sambalpur	—	66
Sundergarh	—	62
		—
		909
		—

(b) 217 Public Call Offices are planned to be opened in the villages of Orissa during the remaining period of 7th Five Year Plan.

Production of Crude by Oil India Limited

7328. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the year-wise production of crude oil by Oil India Limited during the last three years;

(b) the year-wise production by Oil India Limited of water along with crude oil during the aforesaid period; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the production of oil has fallen and the production of

water has increased during the said period in the drilling operations by Oil India Limited ?

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). Year-wise production of crude oil and water during the last three years is as under :

Year	Production in tonne	
	Crude	Water
1984-85	2,752,571	1,458,669
1985-86	2,675,170	1,707,093
1986-87	2,641,824	1,647,223

(c) Yes, Sir.

Increase in production of water along with crude oil

7329. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oil India's Moran Oil Fields in Assam, which used to produce about 5 per cent water alongwith crude oil in 1979, now produce more than 75 per cent water alongwith crude oil;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a high per centage of water in crude oil; and

(c) whether it would not damage the crude oil reservoir in that area ?

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

Profit/loss by Coal India Ltd.

7330. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : SHRI KUNWAR RAM :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of profits earned or losses incurred by Coal India Ltd. and each of its subsidiary companies during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether a study has been made in regard to the reasons of losses, if any; is so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The profit earned/loss suffered by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries during the last three years was as under :

(Rs. in crores)

Years	Profit earned/loss suffered						
	NEC	BCCL	CCL	ECL	WCL	CMPDIL	Total
1984-85	+ 8.22	— 90.12	+ 9.64	— 13.66	+ 6.94	+ 0.95	— 78.03
1985-86	+ 5.82	— 159.36	— 83.24	— 69.97	— 99.05	+ 1.62	— 404.18
1986-87	accounts not yet finalised.						

+ = Profit

— = Loss

(b) The main reasons for incurring losses are difficult geographical and geomining conditions, higher cost of production in underground mines coupled with problem of erratic power supply, large labour force, law and order situation etc., in Eastern Coalfields Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited and increase in the cost of production due to higher cost of inputs like explosives, timber, power, POL, etc., increase in wages etc.

(c) All out efforts are being made to reduce the cost of production by improving the efficiency of operations, by reducing administrative expenses, by better utilisation of men and machinery and by introduction of better management practices and technology.

Rise in prices of Aminophylline and Theophylline

7331. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the manufacturers of Aminophylline and Theophylline and what was their production during 1985 and 1986;

(b) whether the imports of these drugs were shifted to Appendix 3 of the Import Policy and have been disallowed without fixing the price under Drugs Prices Control Order inspite of inadequate indigenous production;

(c) whether the indigenous producers have unilaterally jacked up the price and made huge unintended profits at the cost of the Consumers; and

(d) if so, the corrective action taken or being taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The names of the manufacturers and their rated capacity are given in the Statement below. Figures of production will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

(b) As the total installed capacity of the indigenous manufacturers was more than the total estimated demand, it was decided to shift the imports of these two drugs to Appendix III of the Import Policy in order to provide protection to indigenous production.

(c) and (d). Some complaints have been received and the Department is enquiring in to the matter and taking remedial steps.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Manufacturers	Rated Capacity
1.	M/s Bakul Aromatics	120 MTs
2.	M/s Pefco Foundry and Chemicals Ltd.	120 MTs
3.	M/s Chandra Pharmaceuticals	100 MTs

Total : 340 MTs

Refund of deposits for Appollo Scooters

7332. SHRI K PRAHDANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of claim applications received so far by the Liquidator of the Praja Sehkar Udyog Bharatpur Ltd., Bharatpur seeking return of their deposits for allotment of Apuollo Scooter;

(b) whether any claim out of them has so far been settled and the amount refunded to the claimant; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay in settling these claims ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Advocates fees

7333. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps are in view to limit the fees of seniors in the Supreme Court; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). In the absence of any orders of Supreme Court limiting the fees of the Seniors in the Supreme Court, the fees payable would depend on the agreement between the Seniors and their clients.

Maintenance cases of Muslims divorcees

7334. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of maintenance cases filed by Muslim divorcees in various High Courts during the last three years and during the current year, High Court-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the number of cases which were decided and number of these which are still pending ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the High Courts and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is received from them.

Assistance to F.P.S. in rural and backward areas

7335. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :

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

(a) whether the distribution of essential commodities through Fair Price Shops in rural areas in the country is being executed by the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies, particularly in the backward areas;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide credit to these societies for storage, stocking and distribution of the essential commodities at interest free or nominal rate of interest in order to reduce their losses and expenses; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Out of 2,62,468 Fair Price Shops in the rural areas in the country as on 30th June, 1986, 83, 837 FPSs are being run by the cooperatives, including primary agricultural credit societies and large-sized multi-purpose societies (LAMPS) in the tribal areas, etc.

(b) and (c). Under a Centrally-sponsored Scheme, financial assistance is being provided to the primary agricultural credit societies as margin money to raise working capital for undertaking distribution of consumer goods in the rural areas. This scheme is implemented through the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). The assistance extended is upto a maximum of Rs. 20,000/- per village society and Rs. 5,000/- each for the opening of an additional branch. In addition, NCDC is providing financial assistance to the cooperatives for purchase of vehicles, furnitures and fixtures in respect of their activities for distribution of consumer goods in the rural areas.

The State Governments and the NCDC are providing financial assistance for construction of captive godowns by cooperatives including the primary agricultural credit societies in the rural areas for storage of agricultural produce, agricultural inputs and consumer goods. The assistance being provided by the NCDC for construction of godowns, purchase of vehicles and furnitures and fixtures includes subsidy. The rate of interest on the loan of NCDC for the above

purposes to the backward states is 1-2 per cent less than the rates charged from other states

Blast in Oil Well near Mehsana
in Gujarat

7336. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :

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

(a) whether there was a blast in the old
Oil Well No. 21 in Modipur village near
Mehsana in Gujarat State during the third
week of March, 1987;

(b) if so, the causes of the blast;

(c) the details of the incident;

(d) the estimated loss as a result of this
blast; and

(e) whether any inquiry has since been
conducted ?

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) to (e). Do not arise.

Increase in prices of Maruti cars

7337. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRIMATI D. K.
BHANDARI :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of Maruti Cars
have been increased by twelve percent after
the presentation of Budget 1987-88;

(b) if so, the prices of various models
of Maruti Cars before the increase, the prices
after the increase and the extent of increase;
and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to
bring down the prices of Maruti cars and if
not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTER-
PRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUS-
TRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b).
Maruti Udyog Limited have revised the ex-
factory prices of various models of Maruti
cars with effect from 14.3.1987 as follows :

Ex-factory price (including excise duty and dealers' commission)

Model	Before increase	After increase	Increase (percentage)	
Car Standard	63,900	71,550	7,650	(11.97%)
Car A/C	78,500	86,750	8,250	(10.5%)
Car Deluxe	93,800	102,650	8,850	(9.43%)

(c) While there is no Government con-
trol over prices of passenger cars, every effort
is made by Maruti Udyog Limited to contain

prices of Maruti cars consistent with prices of
inputs and fiscal levies.

Cement regulation account

7338. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Cement Regulation Account and since when it is in operation; and

(b) the details of the funds of the same and how these have been spent so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The Cement Control Order, 1967, provides for maintenance of an account known as 'Cement Regulation Account', which has been in operation since 1st January, 1968. This account was created to serve as a vehicle for making available Cement at fair price in all parts of the country and to ensure its equitable distribution in terms of Cement Control Order, 1967.

(b) The Funds in the Cement Regulation Account can be utilised for the following purposes :

- (i) Paying or equalising the expenditure incurred by cement producers on freight or equalising other concessions which may be granted by the Government;
- (ii) Meeting expenses incurred by the Development Commissioner for Cement Industry in discharging the functions assigned to it;
- (iii) Reimbursement of such expenses that may be incurred by the cement producers for the purpose of increasing the production, for securing equitable distribution and availability of cement at fair prices.

Inspection houses and holiday homes under Posts and Telecommunications Departments

7339. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of inspection houses and holiday homes under the control of Departments of Posts and Telecommunications;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years, year-wise and unit-wise; and

(c) whether these are managed jointly or separately by the said two Departments and in the former case, percentage of expenditure shared by each ?

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

Creation of additional bottling capacity in west Bengal

7340. SHRI R. P. DAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps to increase the LPG bottling capacity in West Bengal in view of rapid demand of LPG in that State; and

(b) 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s. Indian Oil Corporation is constructing a bottling plant at Durgapur with a capacity of 25,000 MT per annum, while M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation is increasing the capacity of its Paharpur (Calcutta) plant from 12,000 to 18,000 MT per annum.

Recommendations of various committees on alcohol based industries

7341. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee, Jalan Committee

and Bhattacharya Committee on alcohol-based industries have been implemented;

(b) if so, the salient features of these recommendations;

(c) whether the A. K. Das Committee on alcohol and alcohol-based chemicals has submitted its report;

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

(e) the action taken by Government thereon ?

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). While the recommendations of Swaminathan Committee and Bhattacharya Committee related mainly to the increase in the production of alcohol and the ways of its supply to Alcohol-Based Industries, the recommendations of Jalan Committee were for rationalisation of duty structure of alcohol. The recommendations were considered by the Central Molasses Board in its meetings and were commended to the State Governments for implementation. As per the available information, some of the recommendations are not being implemented by State Governments.

(c) to (e). A. K. Das Committee was a Sub-Committee on alcohol and Alcohol-Based Chemicals under the National Development Council. The Sub-Committee has recently submitted its report to the Development Council and the same is under its consideration. The recommendations of the Sub-Committee relate mainly to the revision of prices of alcohol, continued control on molasses, to control khandsari molasses, building of adequate storage facilities for molasses and alcohol and permission for import of equipments and instruments for upgradation of technology at concessional rates of duties.

Discovery of oilfield by ONGC in Gujarat

7342. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :
SHRI KAMAL NATH :
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has recently discovered the biggest on-shore oilfields of the country in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ONGC has chalked out a programme to develop the oilfields;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimated amount likely to be spent thereon ?

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 discovered Gandhar oil field which can probably be the biggest onshore oil field in the country. It is about 75 kms. South West of Baroda. Out of 14 wells drilled so far, 13 have proved to be hydrocarbon bearing.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. In the first phase of development about 36 locations have been identified for drilling.

(e) Rs. 326.68 crores.

Japanese assistance to Raichur Thermal Power Plant

7343. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have proposed any scheme to the Japanese Government for assistance to Raichur Thermal Power Plant;

(b) if so, the total amount of the scheme so proposed to the Japanese Government;

(c) the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) the units to be taken up with the Japanese assistance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY ((SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (d). The extension stage of the Raichur thermal power project (Unit 4; 210MW) has been included in the long term list of projects for loan assistance from the Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund, Japan. The project which is estimated to cost about Rs. 225 crores, has not yet been formally posed for assistance from Japan.

Adoption of commercial system of accounting by State Electricity Boards

7344. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of States which have adopted commercial system of accounting in State Electricity Boards;

(b) the State Electricity Boards which are not maintaining the commercial system of accounting; and

(c) the action taken for adoption of commercial system of accounting by all the State Electricity Boards in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). The Electricity (Supply) Annual Account Rules, 1985 prescribe a commercial accounting system for adoption on uniform basis by all State Electricity Boards. According to the information available, action has been initiated in this regard by all the State Electricity Boards.

Storage complex at New Mangalore Port Trust by F.C.I.

7345. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India does not have its own storage complex

at New Mangalore Port Trust;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal for construction of godowns of 20,000 MT capacity during Seventh Plan period; and

(c) if so, its details and when the construction is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The Food Corporation of India does not have its own storage complex at New Mangalore Port.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Manufacture of Penicillin by Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Bangalore

7346. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of Penicillin drug like injection, tubes etc., manufactured by Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Bangalore a joint sector undertaking, during 1986;

(b) the total requirement of the penicillin drug in the country; and

(c) whether Government propose to take steps to increase production of penicillin drug by the above undertaking ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The total quantity of Penicillin drugs manufactured by Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Limited during 1986 was 129.18 lakhs Nos.

(b) The Working Group on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals for the Seventh Five Year Plan have estimated a requirement of 450 MMU for 1986-87 and 520 MMU by 1989-90 for Penicillin bulk.

(c) The company has proposed to increase their production of penicillin drugs from 129.18 lakhs to 312.55 lakhs Nos. during 1987.

Voting rights to non-resident Indians

7347. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to confer voting rights on non-resident Indians; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Pending cases for LPG agencies in Pathanamthitta and Idukki districts of Kerala

7348. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some applications are pending for grant of distributorship of cooking gas in the Pathanamthitta and Idukki districts of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the number of pending applications as well as the number of agencies going to be sanctioned in these districts together with the names of places ?

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). While there are no applications pending for grant of LPG distributorships in district Idukki, the oil industry has received applications for four LPG distributorships at the following locations in district Pathanamthitta which are pending for selection of distribu-

tors :

S. No.	Name of Place	No. of applications received
1.	Aranmula	41
2.	Mallapally	65
3.	Konni	38
4.	Tiruvalla	81

Duty free import of power generators

7349. SHRI NARSING SURYA-WANSHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chairman, Basic Chemical Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export promotion Council (CHEMCXIL) has urged upon Union Government for duty free imports of power generators and diesel required by exporters in the industry as well as exemption of such units from power cuts and necessary rebate in tariff; and

(b) if so, the decision taken on these demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No such request has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Injunctions issued by MRTP Commission

7350. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ex-parte injunctions issued by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission during the last three months;

(b) the details and facts thereof; and

(c) the number of applications for issue of injunctions pending with the Commission at present ?

MRTP Commission passed ex-parte injunction orders in 15 cases.

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

(b) A statement is given below.

(a) Between 1.1.1987 and 31.3.1987 the

(c) As on 31.3.1987, seventy seven injunction applications were pending with the Commission.

Statement

Ex-parte injunctions issued during January, February and March, 1987

Sl. No.	Name & Address of respondent	Brief particulars of the case	Date of passing of ex-parte injunction order
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s. India Rayon Corporation Ltd., Bombay.	The advertisement issued by the company stating that the investor will earn more than 80 per cent per annum on the investment and that the market price of one equity share to be allotted on conversion will be Rs. 76.50, was found misleading. An injunction order was, therefore, issued so as to safeguard the interests of the investing public.	9.1.1987
2.	M/s. Modern suiting Ltd., Jaipur.	Issue of debenture linked equity shares announced by the company was found prima facie in the nature of a restrictive trade practice and an injunction order was accordingly issued.	22.1.1987
3.	M/s. Universal Luggage Mfg. Company, Bombay.	— do —	29.1.1987
4.	M/s. Bhargav Clinic, Gaya (Bihar).	An advertisement with a heading 'Saphed Dagh' issued by the company was found misleading and as such an unfair trade practice under the MRTP Act.	8.1.1987
5.	M/s. IOFIC Leasing Ltd., New Delhi.	The scheme launched by the company under the name 'Pact Gold Bond System' was in the nature of unfair trade practice	

1	2	3	4
		on account of its being false and misleading and an injunction order was, accordingly, issued restraining the company from carrying on the said unfair trade practice.	19.1.1987
6. M/s. Universal Luggage Manufacturing Co. Ltd , Bombay.		The Company made a public issue of debenture linked equity shares and issued an advertisement projecting unrealistic growth of turnover from Rs. 40 crores to Rs. 100 crores. The said advertisement amounted to unfair trade practice under the MRTP Act.	29.1.1987
7. M/s. Oriental Finance & Exchange Co., Madras.		The Company made misleading statements and tall claims in the form of advertisements with a view to allure the public to deposit money with the company.	19.2.1987
8. M/s. Bharat Overseas Finances & Industrial Investment Corporation, Madras		An interim injunction was issued against the company for indulging in an unfair trade practice of making tall claims in the form of advertisements while soliciting deposits from the public.	27.2.1987
9. M/s. Stallion Shox Ltd., New Delhi		Advertisements issued by the company for promotion of sale of Shock Absorbers manufactured under the name 'Monroe-Stallion', were false and misleading amounting to unfair trade practices under the MRTP Act.	27.2.1987
10. M/s. Bombay Flour Merchants Assn., Bombay and another.		The company was found indulging in the restrictive trade practice of issuing directions to its members not to deal with the applicant company.	2.3.1987
11. M/s. S. K. Agro Enterprises Pvt Ltd , New Delhi.		The company is engaged in Eucalyptus farming on commercial basis. Advertisements issued by the company making misleading hyperbolic claims about the returns or the investment made in its	

1	2	3	4
		business were considered as unfair trade practices under the MRTP Act.	12.3.1987
12.	M/s. Saurashtra Ball Pen (P) Ltd., Bombay.	The company was found indulging in the restrictive trade practice of tie-up of one product with another and allocating specific territory/area. As a result, an interim injunction was issued restraining the company from refusing supplies of ball pens and refills to the aggrieved party, i.e. M/s. Jaggumal Ved Prakash in its capacity as distributor.	20.3.1987
13.	M/s. Neha Leasing & Holding Ltd., New Delhi.	The company was restrained from issuing any further advertisement containing misleading representations regarding their investment scheme launched in August, 1985.	2.3.1987
14.	M/s. Nalli Silk Traders, Madras.	The company was found indulging in certain restrictive trade practices in connection with a "reduction sale" at Srisankara Hall, Madras.	25.3.1987
15.	M/s. Mangalore Bankers and Financial Corporation, Mangalore.	An advertisement issued by the company offering unconscionable payment of interest on the deposits invited from the public was found to be an unfair trade practice and an interim injunction was issued to stop this.	31.3.1987

Opening of rural post offices in U.P.

7351. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rural post offices planned to be opened during 1978 in the districts of eastern U.P., district-wise; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to open one post office in Naroli of the Jaunpur district of U.P. in the near future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) It is presumed the Hon'ble Member's question relates to 1987 and not 1978.

All the Postal Circles, including Uttar Pradesh, have been asked to identify areas where post offices are justified according to the norms laid down. However, the actual number of post offices to be opened will depend upon clearance by Ministry of Finance also in view of the ban on creation

of posts. It is, therefore, premature to indicate at this stage as to how many post offices will be opened in eastern Uttar Pradesh in 1987. The position may be clear by June-July, 1987.

(b) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.

Sale of products of co-operative and small scale units through Super Bazar

7352. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Super Bazar is not accepting the products manufactured by units in co-operative and small scale sectors; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken for sale of products of the co-operative and small scale units in Super Bazar ?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

Bottling capacity of LPG cylinders in West Bengal

7353. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : DR. SUDHIR ROY :

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

(a) the bottling capacity of cooking gas cylinders per day in West Bengal;

(b) the per day distribution of cooking gas cylinders in the State; and

(c) how the surplus cylinders if any, are being utilised ?

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 capacity of LPG Bottling Plants in West Bengal is presently around 20,000 cylinder per day.

(b) The average demand in West Bengal is around 15,000 cylinders per day.

(c) The surplus cylinders are supplied to neighbouring States like Orissa and Bihar.

Difficulties faced by Vanaspati Units in Eastern region

7354. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vanaspati manufacturers in Eastern region are facing an extremely critical situation owing to scarce availability of indigenous oils; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to ease the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The availability of indigenous oils in the eastern region may be less as compared to other regions. However, vanaspati units obtain their requirement of edible oils from all over the country. Units in eastern and southern zones have been allocated 10 per cent additional imported oils at commercial rates since 16th March, 1987 only to compensate for lack of local availability of expeller mustard/rapeseed oil permitted in manufacture of vanaspati.

[Translation]

Appointment of chairman and managing director in Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.

7355. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether regular Chairman and Managing Director have been appointed in the Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.; and

(b) if not, the time by which these appointments are likely to be made there ?

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

(b) Although every effort is made to fill up all vacancies as expeditiously as possible, it may not be possible to indicate a time limit.

Pending applications for telephone connection in Almora, Pithoragarh and Ranikhet cities in U.P.

7356. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for providing telephone connections pending in Almora, Pithoragarh and Ranikhet cities in Uttar Pradesh upto 31st March, 1987;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the capacity of the Telephone exchanges in these cities with a view to providing telephone facility in this backward area; and

(c) if so, the time by which telephone connections will be provided to those persons whose applications are pending there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The number of applications pending for providing telephone connections in Almora, Pithoragarh and Ranikhet cities as on 31-3-1987 are 53, 1 and nil respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to increase the capacity of Pithoragarh and Ranikhet Exchanges. However, there is no proposal at present to expand the Almora exchange.

(c) The telephone connections at Pithoragarh and Ranikhet exchanges will be

released shortly after testing of exchanges, which are planned for completion in the second quarter of 1987-88.

[English]

Post office set on fire in phagwara (Punjab)

7357. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a post office at phagwara, Punjab was set on fire recently; and

(b) if so, the loss suffered ?

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

(b) The approximate loss is Rs. 12196.50 in shape of postage stamp and cost of furniture burnt. 315 unsold National Savings Certificates of the face value of Rs. 382800.00 and 214 unsold Indira Vikas Patras of the face value of Rs. 4,40,500.00 have been taken away by miscreants.

Import of pulp by paper mills

7358. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any paper mills have imported pulp in the last two years; 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). The import of paper pulp is under Open General Licence, and paper mills import pulp under this facility. Details with regard to the import of pulp by paper mills are not available. However, the total value of import of all kinds of pulp and waste paper into the country is as follows :

Year	Rs. in crores
1984-85	176.23
1985-86	235.98 (provisional)
1986-87	171.95 (provisional)
(April-Dec.)	

Studies by Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices

7359. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices studies ordered by Government and conducted by the BICP in 1984, 1985, and 1986;

(b) how many of them have been completed so far; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in completion and the details of action taken on completed cost studies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The details of studies undertaken by Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices at Government's instance are as follows :

Year	Industrial Products	Bulk Drugs	Formulation	Total
1984	34	20	1335	1398
1985	26	17	1369	1412
1986	44	22	2167	2233

(b) The number of studies completed so far are given below :

Year	Industrial Products	Bulk Drugs	Formulations	Total
1984	18	14	1320	1352
1985	22	23	1269	1314
1986	21	31	1916	1968

(c) The studies of the Bureau are all time consuming. The Bureau frames its own work plan for each study. Wherever the sponsoring authority prescribes a time-limit for completion of a study, the same is adhered to. The study reports, on completion, are forwarded to the administrative Ministries concerned which take further follow-up action. The Bureau's reports are advisory in nature and it is for the concerned Ministries to complete action thereon.

PSF cost study by Bureau of Industrial Costs and prices

7360. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices has completed the PSF cost study;

(b) if so, what are its findings; and

(c) the details about Government's plan to implement the recommendations of the Bureau ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The cost study of polyester staple fibre initiated by Bureau of Industrial Cost and Prices has not been completed yet.

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

Increase in prices of stemetil

7361. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of Stemetil preparations, an essential medicine, went up by 500 per cent during the last five years;

(b) what was the price of each of these preparations in year 1980 and what is the

present price of each; and

(c) the reasons for steep rise in prices ?

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). Stemetil preparations belong to the price decontrolled category and the manufacturers are free to revise their prices.

(b) The information to the extent available is given below :

Sl. No.	Name of the Product	Pack Size	Price in 1980	Present Price
1.	Stemetil Injection	10 amp. × 1ml	6.96	40.11
2.	Stemetil Injection	10 ml	3.15	28.42
3.	Stemetil Table	10 × 5mg	0.88	5.99
4.	Stemetil Table	10 × 25mg.	1.40	8.73

[*Translation*]

Power project near Jalkheri, Punjab

7362. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :
SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a project for power generation has been undertaken near Jalkheri in Punjab with Central financial assistance;

(b) if so, the time limit fixed for its completion; and

(c) the time by which the construction work is likely to start on this project ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir, A pilot power plant to generate 10 MW

using waste rice straw is planned to be set up at Jalkheri, Punjab with financial and technical assistance from the Central Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. The plant is expected to be ready in mid 1989. Construction work at site is likely to commence in second half of the current year.

Generation of power from rice bran

7363. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :
SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is possible to generate power from rice bran;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether work to set up projects for this purpose has been started in the country;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the time by which generation of power is likely to start under these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Although rice bran through combustion and generation of steam could be used for generation of power it would be expensive to do so, as rice bran is presently used for production of rice bran oil and cattle feed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Not applicable.

[English]

Policy on public sector

7364. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI PRATAPRAO B.

BHOSALE :
SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised a new policy with a view to reform the public sector, including revamping of the procedure for recruitment and selection; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). As announced by the Prime Minister in his Budget Speech a White Paper on Public Sector is being prepared.

New public telephones in Delhi

7365. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a plan to instal a large number of public telephones in Delhi;

(b) if so, the criteria to select the location for the purpose;

(c) whether the far flung colonies would also be covered by the scheme;

(d) the approximate number of public telephones to be installed and total amount earmarked for the purpose;

(e) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented in full; and

(f) whether similar plans for other cities in the country have also been chalked out and if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Public Telephones are liberally opened at Places where these are needed most like hospitals, airports, railway stations, cinema house etc.; and also in localities where people may not be able to afford telephone of their own like Jhuggi, Jhonpadi and slum areas.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) and (e). Subject to availability of suitable sites, availability of exchange capacity and feasibility there is a programme to open about 5,000 additional public telephones in Delhi during the remaining period Seventh Five Year Plan. No specific amount is necessary to be allotted for the purpose.

(f) Yes Sir. There is a programme to open about 4,000 public telephones in various cities in the country during the current financial year at places enumerated vide reply to part (b) above.

Construction of Godowns by F.C.I. in Bihar

7366. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to construct more Food Corporation of India godowns for storing foodgrains in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount earmarked for that purpose during the current financial years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). As on 1.3.1987, the covered storage capacity for foodgrains with the Food Corporation of India in Bihar was 6.92 lakh tonnes. In addition, a capacity of 13,330 tonnes has been taken up for construction at two centres at an estimated cost of Rs. 86.38 lakhs.

Rural electrification programme

7367. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) how many State Electricity Boards have now got computer base to plan for massive rural electrification programme; and

(b) the objectives being served by the Central Institute of Rural Electrification, Hyderabad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Three State Electricity Boards have set up computer centres for system improvement and distribution planning connected with rural electrification programme.

(b) The Central Institute for Rural Electrification at Hyderabad has been set up as a centre for training, research and consultancy in the field of rural electrification. The Institute provides training to junior level, middle level and senior level officers of the State Electricity Boards and State Governments in the country on various aspects of planning and implementation of rural electrification programme.

Conference for Food and Civil Supplies Ministers

7368. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :

SHRI NARSING SURYA-WANSHI :

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

(a) the decisions taken at the Conference of Food and Civil Supplies Ministers of States and Union Territories held in New Delhi on 20 February, 1987; and

(b) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). In the Conference held on 20 February, 1987, the Food and Civil Supplies Ministers of States/UTs welcomed the various provisions of Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and assured their full co-operation in implementing them in letter and spirit. Few participants expressed apprehension regarding black-mailing of traders by few unscrupulous elements on which it was recommended that such problems could be tackled by the quasi-judicial machinery which has power to dismiss frivolous complaints as well as by developing a responsive and responsible consumer movement. Some of the representatives referred to the constraint of resources and desired budgetary support for setting up the statutory institutions conceived in the Act. The issue of providing necessary funds to the States/UTs for implementing the consumer protection Act was taken up with the Planning Commission who have agreed to include consumer protection as a plan item in the remaining years of the Seventh Five Year Plan. They have also agreed that funds for fulfilling the obligations of Consumer Protection Act and other measures may be provided by the States through inter-sectoral adjustments/savings.

STD facilities in Jabalpur

7369. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the cities/towns from which one way STD facility to Jabalpur is available at present; and

(b) when both ways STD will be available from Jabalpur to these cities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) There is no city/town having only one way STD facility to Jabalpur. National Subscribers Dialling (NSD) facility is available from Jabalpur with a number of cities/towns through Trunk Automatic Exchange, Nagpur. In addition, Bhopal can be accessed by Jabalpur on level '9' also.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

Supply of Coal to Coal Depots in Madhya Pradesh

7370. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal and coke were not supplied to new coal depots set up in Madhya Pradesh during 1984 and 1985 by Coal India Limited; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Coal India released coal to all depot holders of Madhya Pradesh who were sponsored by the commissioner of Industry, Government of Madhya Pradesh within the quota allocated. Coal is also freely available from certain specified collieries of WCL under liberalised sale scheme without sponsorship.

(b) Does not arise.

Power projects in Madhya Pradesh

7371. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh will face shortage of power by the end of Seventh Five Years Plan period if Indira Sarovar (Bodhghat) and Narmada Sagar Hydel Projects are not constructed by that time; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to sanction some thermal power projects in lieu of the above two projects in order to meet the shortage of electricity in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). Indira Sarovar (Bodhghat)—4 × 125 MW and Narmada Sagar—8 × 125 MW projects are not included for yielding benefits during the Seventh Plan. Madhya Pradesh is likely to be surplus in Energy availability by the end of the Seventh Plan period.

[English]

Manufacture of Cadbury Biscuits

7372. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that manufacture of biscuits is reserved for the small scale sector; and

(b) if so, the reasons for allowing Hindustan Cocoa Products, an affiliate of a multinational "Cadbury" to enter this industry and introduce cadbury biscuits in the market ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir,

(b) M/s. Hindustan Cocoa Products Ltd. are not manufacturing biscuits. However, biscuits are manufactured by M/s. Kiran Biscuits and Foods Ltd, Hyderabad which is a small scale unit. M/s. Hindustan Cocoa Products Ltd. have provided them with the recipe and allowed them to use the brand name "Cadbury's."

Theft of Iron from Neyveli Lignite Corporation

7373. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large quantity of iron was stolen from the Neyveli Lignite Corporation at Neyveli in Tamil Nadu during 1986;

(b) the quantity stolen and its value; and

(c) the steps taken to apprehend the culprits ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VAŠANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). About 148 tonnes of steel, 100 tonnes of cement and 200 asbestos sheets estimated at approximately Rs. 12 lakhs in all are reported to have been removed fraudulently from the Neyveli Lignite Corporation during 1986.

(c) An offence under section 407, 420, 477 IPC has been registered by the police and is under investigation.

Public undertakings in Tamil Nadu

7374. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of public sector units under the administrative control of the Ministry of Industry which are functioning in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether all these undertakings are registered under the Companies Act;

(c) the capital invested in them individually;

(d) the number of them making profit; and

(e) the number of them running into losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). Hindustan Photofilms Mfg. Co. Ltd. is the only company under the Ministry of Industry which is having its registered office and major portion of its activity in Tamil Nadu.

This is a company registered under the Companies Act.

(c) to (e). As on 31.3.1986 the investment in terms of equity and loan in Hindustan Photofilms Mfg. Co. Ltd. was Rs. 5198 lakhs. This company made a net profit of Rs. 578 lakhs in 1985-86.

Charges for advertisements in Telephone Directory

7375. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the advertisement charges fixed by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited for printing advertisements in the Telephone Directory ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : Publishing of Telephone Directories through award of comprehensive contract to private parties is to be undertaken by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited for the first time. No rates for the advertisements to be procured by the contractor appointed for the publication of the directories, are to be prescribed by the Nigam.

Public Sector Projects in Goa, Daman and Diu

7376. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Central Public Sector Projects situated in the Union territory of Goa, Daman and Diu and what has been their performance so far;

(b) whether Government propose to establish any new projects in the territory; and

(c) whether Government are satisfied with the performance of the existing projects ?

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

(c). The public enterprises namely Goa Shipyard Ltd., and the Goa Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. are situated and having their registered office in the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu. Goa Shipyard Ltd. made a net profit of Rs. 74 lakhs, Rs. 407 lakhs and Rs. 564 lakhs respectively during 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86. Goa Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. on the other hand, incurred net loss of Rs. 9 lakhs, Rs. 41 lakhs and Rs. 35 lakhs during this period. There is always scope for improving the performance of these enterprises and various steps are being taken in this direction.

(b) No proposal to set up any major Public Sector Project is under consideration at present.

Oil wells caught fire

7377. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of oil wells which caught fire in the last two years;

(b) the names of these oil wells and the places where they are located;

(c) the total loss caused on account of these fires;

(d) whether experts from within India and abroad were called to extinguish these fires; and

(e) the amount paid to these experts ?

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) One.

(b) South Kadi Well No. 53 in Ahmedabad.

(c) Rs. 1.974 crores (estimated).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No payment was made by ONGC.

Industrial policy

7378. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu have chalked out any industrial policy of its own keeping in view the territory's environment; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 provides the basic framework of the policy of the Government in the industrial field and this continues to be operative throughout the country. However within the overall provisions of this policy the State Government/Union Territories formulate their own policy. The Ministry of Industry have not so far received any copy of the policy, if any, framed by the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu.

Manufacture of digital microwave transmission equipment with Japanese collaboration

7379. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether ITI proposes to manufacture digital micro-wave transmission equipment in collaboration with a Japanese company;

(b) if so, the reasons for choosing Japanese technology;

(c) whether ITI's own research and development wing is strong in transmission technology particularly microwave technology; and

(d) if so, whether it has made any advance in developing digital microwave transmission technology ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). M/s Bharat Electronics Limited and Indian Telephone Industries Limited (I.T.I.) are negotiating with the Japanese Company for manufacture of broadband Digital Microwave Transmission Equipment based on collaborative Agreement. The selection of Japanese Company was decided on the basis of tender evaluation and the recommendation of Steering Committee constituted for this purpose which has been approved by the Government.

(c) and (d). The I.T.I.'s own research and development wing in joint consultation with Telecommunications Research Centre of Department of Telecommunications is working on design and development of other frequencies and speed transmission equipment. One of them is being cleared for production.

Taking over of Mysore Electrical Industries

7380. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Mysore Electrical Industries (MEI) is facing some technical and modernisation problems;

(b) whether the State Government has requested the Centre to take over Mysore Electrical Industries (MEI);

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHLAM) : (a) The Mysore Electrical Industries Ltd., Bangalore, a State Government undertaking of Government of Karnataka, had requested for approval of foreign technical collaboration with a Belgian Company for improvement and cost reduction of Minimum Oil Circuit Breakers, one of the products manufactured by them. This request was examined and approval for foreign technical collaboration with the Belgian Company was issued

in March 1986 and this approval has also been extended up to 13-9-1987.

(b) to (d). No request for take over of the Company has been received by this Ministry from the State Government of Karnataka.

Setting up of mini paper plants

7381. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to set up mini paper plants (50 TPD) with recovery and captive generation in Tripura; and

(b) if so, details of the plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There is no proposal to set up Mini Paper Plants in Tripura during the Seventh Plan period in the Central Sector.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Allocation of wheat in Uttar Pradesh

7382. SHRI R. P. SUMAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of wheat allotted to Uttar Pradesh during the last three years alongwith the quantity of wheat demanded by the State Government; and

(b) the quantity of wheat actually lifted by that State during each year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The demand, allotment and offtake of wheat in respect of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years

was as under :

(In '000 tonnes)

Year	Demand	Allotment	Offtake
1984	1290	1399.02	296.0
1985	1190	1944.77	621.0
1986	990	2052.95	343.9

**Opening of telephone exchange in
Faizabad, U. P.**

7383. SHRI R. P. SUMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges opened in Faizabad district, Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the capacity of each of them;

(b) whether modern equipments have been installed in all these exchanges and they are working properly;

(c) whether equipments in Akbarpur Telephones Exchange generally remain out of order; and

(d) if so, whether new equipments will be installed there and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Nine exchanges of 25 line capacity each have been opened in Faizabad district during the last three years.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The exchanges is working satisfactorily.

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

[English]

Computerisation in units of I. T. I.

7384. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether computerisation has been done in the various units of the Indian Telephone Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this has resulted in the retrenchment of any employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Computerisation has been done in areas of material accounting, production planning, pay rolls, sales accounting, costing, quality control etc. in Bangalore, Naini, and Rae Bareli Units of Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) Ltd. In the Srinagar and Palghat Units of I. T. I., computers are likely to be installed during 1987-88. At Mankapur Unit of I. T. I., two computers have been installed. One of the above computers is used for technical applications and the other computer is meant for commercial applications.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Expansion of Indian Telephone
Industries Limited**

7385. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :
GHAVAN :
SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA
WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the expansion of Indian Telephone Industries Ltd.;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for the expansion of Indian Telephone Industries;

(c) the details of the scheme prepared for the expansion of ITI in Bangalore, Mankapur, Palghat and also in Rae Bareli; and

(d) the year by which the expansion programme is expected to be completed ?

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

(b) to (d). Government have approved Rs. 335 crores as the 7th Five Year Plan capital outlay for Indian Telephone Industries (I. T. I.) against a projected minimum demand of Rs. 610 crores. The resources of the I. T. I. through market borrowing, have been allowed to be stepped up by Government keeping in view their demand. The Plan outlay envisages provision for modernisation and completion of ongoing projects e.g. at Mankapur and Palghat, and a token provision of Rs. 1 crore for the proposed second ESS factory at Bangalore. Provisions have been made of Rs. 12.38 crores for transmission project at Bangalore and Naini and Rs. 46.5 crores for phase-III expansion including DTAX (Digital Trunk Automatic Exchange Equipment) at Palghat. A sum of Rs. 21.92 crores has been provided for telephone instrument projects of Bangalore and Naini Units. The above projects are likely to be completed by 1989-90.

Decline in sale of Rasika

7386. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sale of the fruit juice Rasika has declined in Delhi and other places over the years;

(b) if so, the details of figures of its sale during the last three years together with its production;

(c) whether it is a fact that its sale has come down as compared to other soft drinks due to its faulty marketing policy; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The production and sale of RASIKA fruit drinks by Modern Food Industries (India) Limited from its fruit juice bottling plant at Delhi during the last three

years are given below :

(Figures in lakh crates—each crate of 24 bottles of 200 ml. each)

Year	Production	Total quantity sold
1984-85	6.05	6.00
1985-86	7.24	7.13
1986-87	6.75	6.52
(provisional)		

(c) and (d). The decline in production and sale during 1986-87 was due mainly to frequent breakdowns of the plant. In order to get over this problem, the Company has undertaken complete overhaul of the plant.

Setting up of additional Refineries

7387. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
SHRI CHIRANJI LAL
SHARMA :

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

(a) the particulars of the existing petroleum refineries in India with their installed capacity, product-wise;

(b) the number of additional refineries under construction;

(c) the number of additional refineries under planning;

(d) the possible sites for the additional refineries under planning; and

(e) the criteria for locating these refineries ?

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) A Statement is given below,

(b) to (e). New refineries are proposed to set up at Karnal, Mangalore and in Assam. Refineries are located on the basis of

various techno-economic criteria such as demand-supply balance of the area, and the reports of experts.

Statement

Refinery	Installed Capacity Million tonnes/year	Products
1	2	3
IOC, Digboi	0.5	Motor spirit, Naphtha, Diesel, Kerosene, Wax Bitumen, P. Coke, Furnace Oil and Special Solvents.
BPC, Bombay	6.0	LPG, Motor Spirit, Naphtha, ATF, Kerosene, Diesel, Bitumen, Sulphur, LSHS, Benzene Toluene and Special boiling solvents.
HPC, Bombay	3.5	LPG, Motor Spirit, Naphtha, ATF, Kerosene, Diesel, Lubes, Bitumen, Furnace Oils LSHS, Sulphur and Special boiling solvents.
HPC, Visakh	4.5	LPG, Motor Spirit, Naphtha, ATF Kerosene, Diesel, Bitumen, Lubes and Furnace Oils.
CRL, Cochin	4.50	LPG, Motor Spirit, Naphtha, ATF Kerosene, Diesel, Bitumen, Furnance Oil and LSHS.
MRL, Madras	5.60	LPG, Motor Spirit, Naphtha, ATF Kerosence, Diesel, Lubes Bitumen, Furnance Oil, LSHS, Wax and Sulphur.
BRPL	1.35	Naphtha, ATF, Kerosene Diesel Furnance Oil and Coke,

1	2	3
IOC, Gauhati	0.85	LPG Motor Spirit, Naphtha, Kerosene, Diesel, P. Coke and Furnace Oil.
Barauni	3.00	LPG Motor Spirit, Naphtha, Kerosene, Diesel, P. Coke, CBFS, Slack Wax and Furnace Oil.
Koyali	8.10	LPG, Motor Spirit, Naphtha, Benzene Toluene, Kerosene, ATF, Diesel, Bitumen, Furnance Oil and LSHS.
Haldia	2.50	LPG Motor Spirit, Naphtha, ATF, Kerosene, Diesel, Lubes Slackwax, Bitumen and Furnance Oil.
Mathura	6.0	LPG, Motor Spirit, Naphtha, ATF, Kerosene, Diesel, Bitumen, Furnance Oil, Sulphur and LSHS.

**import, allocation and price control
of edible oil**

7388. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

- (a) the average CIF price of imported edible oil during the current year so far;
- (b) the average issue price of imported edible oil to the vanaspati industry;
- (c) the statutory limit for its proportional content in the vanaspati produced by the industry;
- (d) the average ex-factory price of vanaspati during this period;
- (e) the average retail price of vanaspati in Delhi; and

(f) the break up of the mark-up between the ex-factory price and the retail price, by various identifiable Components ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The Average CIF price per tonne of edible oil imported by STC during financial year 1986-87 is Rs. 4065/- (Provisional)

(b) The issue price of imported edible oil to vanaspati units is a follow :

Regular—Rs. 11,500/- per MT

Commercial—Rs. 13,000/- per MT

(c) At present 30 per cent of imported oil is permitted in manufacture of Vanaspati. An additional allocation of 10 per cent imported oil at commercial rate is permitted for East and South Zone.

(d) The ex-factory price of vanaspati varies from Rs. 320/- to Rs. 330/- per tin of 15 kg. in Delhi.

(e) The average retail price of vanaspati varies from Rs. 23.50 to Rs. 23.70 per kg.

(f) The margin, Octroi and local sales taxes come to about Rs. 24/- per 15 kg. tin of Vanaspati in Delhi.

Rural electrification projects under execution in Bihar

7389. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the brief particulars of the rural electrification projects presently under execution in Bihar;

(b) the brief particulars of such projects under consideration for 1987-88;

(c) the total number of villages covered by each of the projects;

(d) the number of additional villages likely to be electrified in Bihar by the end of the current Five Year Plan; and

(e) the district-wise breakup of number of villages already electrified and number of

villages which remained to be electrified in Bihar as on 31st January, 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATAGI): (a) The Rural Electrification Corporation have sanctioned 985 projects for Bihar State Electricity Board upto 31.3.1987, out of which 117 have been closed. The 985 sanctioned projects involve a loan assistance of Rs. 285 crores and envisage electrification of 39,000 villages and energisation of over 1.16 lakh pumpsets, besides service connections etc. in a phased manner.

(b) and (c). The brief particulars of rural electrification projects received from Bihar State Electricity Board, which are likely to be considered for sanction by the Rural Electrification Corporation during 1987-88 are given in the Statement-I below.

(d) 16,000 villages are targetted to be electrified in Bihar during the 7th Five year Plan.

(e) statement-II indicating the district-wise break up of villages already electrified and number of villages that remain to be electrified in Bihar as on 31.1.1987 is given below.

Statement-I

List of Rural Electrification Schemes of Bihar State Electricity Board under consideration by Rural Electrification Corporation as on 31.3.87

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	District	Date of Receipt	New Villages
1	2	3	4	5
1.	100% of Patna	Patna	8/86	19
2.	5 SB of Nawadah	Nawadah	12/86	33
3.	2 SB of Nawadah	Nawadah	12/86	29
4.	100% of Samastipur	Samastipur	—	28
5.	100% of Madhubani	Madhubani	10/86	36

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Minapur	Muzaffarpur	1/87	17
7.	Baruraj	—do—	2/87	20
8.	Kurhani	—do—	2/87	10
9.	Saraiya	—do—	2/87	11
10.	Sakra	—do—	2/87	52
11.	Masrakh	Saran	2/87	75
12.	4 S/B Saharsa	Saharsa	3/87	20
13.	Madhuban and Thakraha	W. Champaran	6/84	59
14.	Patan	Palamu	1/87	26
15.	3 S/B Bhagalpur	Bhagalpur	3/86	These schemes are for providing connections to pumpsets
16.	Shambhuganj	Bhagalpur	12/86	
17.	Narhat	Nawadah	12/86	
18.	Sirdala	Nawadah	12/86	
19.	Hissua	Nawadah	12/86	
20.	Manpur	Gaya	3/87	

Statement-II

Districtwise village electrification upto January, 1987 (Provisional) in Bihar

Sl No.	District	Total No. of villages (1971 census)	Villages electrified	Balance to be electrified
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Patna	1311	1340	**
2.	Nalanda	1011	1008	3
3.	Gaya	3508	2628	880
4.	Nawadah	966	858	108
5.	Aurangabad	1760	1463	297
6.	Bhojpur	1791	1132	659
7.	Rohtas	3016	2175	841
8.	Ranchi			
9.	Gumla	3836	1675	2161
10.	Lohardarga			

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Palamau	3218	1035	2183
12.	Hazaribagh	3570	1197	2373
13.	Singhbhum	4351	1316	3035
14.	Dhanbad	1365	632	733
15.	Giridih	2561	809	1752
16.	Bhagalpur	2552	1473	1079
17.	Munger	2402	1459	943
18.	Dumka			
19.	Deoghar	10025	2403	7622
20.	Godda			
21.	Sahebganj			
22.	Muzaffarpur	1726	1216	510
23.	Sitamarhi	993	677	316
24.	Vaishali	1391	1113	278
25.	E. Champaran	1287	843	444
26.	W. Champaran	1357	695	662
27.	Saran	1591	1217	374
28.	Siwan	1436	831	605
29.	Gopalganj	1398	875	523
30.	Darbhanga	943	948	**
31.	Madhubani	1028	985	43
32.	Samastipur	1213	1130	83
33.	Begusarai	692	835*	**
34.	Saharsa	950	718	232
35.	Madhepura	352	293	59
36.	Purnea	2493	1090	1403
37.	Katihar	1239	607	632
38.	Khagaria	234	270	**
Total :		67566	36946	30833

* Includes uninhabited electrified villages.

** Villages electrified are more than total villages in the district. The figures are under reconciliation.

**Import of high technology from
U. S. A. for consumer
products**

7390. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has lately been a spurt in callaboration by US firms in the sphere of consumer products; and

(b) if so, the Government's policy in the matter of import of high technology from USA in the sphere of Consumer products ?

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

(a) and (b). No, Sir. Government's policy continues to be that foreign collaborations, financial or technical, are not ordinarily necessary for consumer products. However, foreign collaborations for manufacture of consumer products are also considered on merits if such collaborations are justified, taking into considaration factors such as the nature of the technology involved, availability of indigenous technology, potential for export earnings and the like.

Special region districts

7391. DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up pipe and tube manufacturing units in any industry district;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether such a units will be set up at Pondicherry ?

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

(a) to (c). Government do not propose to set up steel pipe and tube manufacturing units in the country. However, according to the Government's Policy, only one Letter of

Intent for manufacture of these items is being issued for each Category 'A' district (which consists of Special Region District and No Industry District) in the country. Accordingly, an Industrial Licence has already been issued to one unit which is located in the Union Territory of Pondicherry.

**Diversion of surpluses from petroleum
sector to Central Revenue**

7392. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to divert massive surpluses from petroleum sector to the Central Revenue;

(b) if so, when this decision was taken and the total amounts diverted so far;

(c) whether due to this diversion of surpluses new refineries have to be started in the joint sector;

(d) whether any projects in the oil sector had to be slowed down or even abandoned due to the diversion of surpluses; and

(e) if so, the details ?

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 surplus in the Oil Coordination Committee Pool accrues to Government as non-tax receipt.

In the Budget for 1987-88 it has been proposed that increase in customs duty on imported crude petroleum and increase in the cess on indigenous crude need not be passed on to the consumer through price increase but may be absorbed by the Pool. This does not amount to diversion.

(c) to (e). The projects in the petroleum sector are not affected by the above.

Forward trading in cotton

7393. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) since how long has the proposal to liberalise forward trading in cotton been awaiting clearance from the Forward Market Commission; and

(b) when will a decision be arrived at ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Government has permitted futures trading in four varieties of cotton namely DCH-32, MCU-5, Shanker-6 and Hybrid-4 initially under the auspices of East India Cotton Association, Bombay. The Association has been asked by the Forward Markets Commission to make necessary arrangements for commencement of futures trading. The futures trading in these four varieties of cotton is likely to commence shortly.

Import of oilseeds instead of edible oil

7394. DR. B L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a section of oil industry has proposed for import of oilseeds instead of edible oils;

(b) if so, whether the import of oilseeds will be cheaper than oils and whether Government will stand to lose if the seed prices are calculated on the basis of the c.i.f. value at Indian ports:

(c) the element of foreign exchange outgo involved either way; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take, if any, in this regard ?

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

(b) and (c). According to the State Trading Corporation, import of oilseed as against import of edible oil is more expensive. However, the economics would vary depending on the kind of oilseeds/oil being imported and the prevailing prices of these commodities.

(d) At present no imports of oilseeds are allowed.

Changes sought in coconut oil price policy

7395. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDARAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representations have been received from the Government of Kerala requesting Union Government to reconsider the policy with respect to the price of coconut oil;

(b) if so, details thereof:

(c) whether Government intend to introduce any charges in their policy on coconut oil, and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The question does not arise.

Setting up of Foreign storage in Karnataka

7396. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka State Fisheries Development Corporation Ltd., Mangalore sent a proposal during 1983 to the Union Government for setting up of a ten ton capacity frozen storage operating on solar energy in North Karnataka;

(b) whether any decision has been taken thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) A project proposal for the erection of 2 Nos of 10 Ton capacity frozen storages operating on solar energy has been received from the Department of Science & Technology, Government of Karnataka

(b) and (c). Operation of frozen storage system using solar energy is a new technology and is currently under development. When it is adequately developed, such systems could be considered for installation for on actual users such as the Karnataka State Fisheries Development Corporation. Department of Science & Technology of Karnataka Government has been kept informed.

Funds to FCI to finance buffer stocks

7397. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether another Rs. 1,200 crores has to be given to the Food Corporation of India during 1986-87 for financing buffer stocks and reducing dependence on costly bank loans;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring down the non-plan expenditure in the form of food subsidies; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) A loan of only Rs. 1200 crores was given to the FCI during 1986-87 for financing buffer stocks. The dependence on banks' loan to this extent is reduced.

(b) The above measure will reduce Food Subsidy to the extent of savings on interest on bank borrowings.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Use of Improved Chullahs in Hill areas

7398. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of wood that can be saved annually if improved quality of chullahs are introduced in the hilly areas of the country;

(b) whether his Ministry proposes to launch a scheme of giving grants to encourage the use of such chullahs; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to reduce dependence on forests for fuel wood requirements ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) According to studies carried out, the fuel saving from an Improved Chulha with an efficiency of about 20 per cent was found to be around 750 Kg. per year.

(b) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has already launched a National Programme for providing improved chulahs on a large scale. Under this programme, 50 per cent—80 per cent grant is provided by the Department for installation of Improved Chulahs, depending upon the models.

(c) The Improved Chulahs, Biogas, Solar Cooker and Energy Plantation programmes have been initiated by the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources to reduce dependence on forest fuel wood requirements for cooking purposes.

[English]

Percentage of Cholesterol in Palmolein Bleached Oil

7399. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Palmolein Bleached Oil is totally saturated; and

(b) if so, what percentage of cholesterol is available in the edible oil ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUP-
PLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) The percentage of cholesterol in this
oil is negligible.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is the problem ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You give me notice.

[English]

We shall find out the facts.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA : I have
already given notice.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You do tell me.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is going on.
Why are you making a noise ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you making
a noise ?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am on my legs.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : After I get the facts
I will see.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : What
about discussion on Moily tape issue ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have already told
you.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not understand
what you are trying to do. Please wait.

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikballa-
pur) : We have sufficiently waited for your
ruling...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have already told
you to give notice. I will find out and then
we will do it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA : I have
already given notice.

MR. SPEAKER : Then it is all right.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Then it is over now,
let me talk to others.

[English]

This gentleman is not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

**Not recorded.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : All of us have given notice under rule 193 about Moily tape issue.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : We are doing that. Today the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee will be held.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Acharia you are exceeding all the limits.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will you consider ?

MR. SPEAKER : I have already said so.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am replying to the Hon. Member and you are interjecting.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) : I want to know...

MR. SPEAKER : You will know in time but let me answer them.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Can you not have some manners ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Azad, I am having Business Advisory Committee meeting this afternoon and we are going to decide that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now you please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You do not even sit down when I am on my legs. Why can you not behave properly ?

12.04 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : On 9th April, 1987 Prof. Madhu Dandavate gave notice of a question of privilege against Shri Brahm Dutt, Minister of State for Finance, for allegedly deliberately misleading the House while replying to the discussion on the question of engaging the Fairfax Group of the United States by the Ministry of Finance on 31st March, 1987. Prof. Dandavate had objected to the following statement made by the Minister of State for Finance :

“An allegation has been made that some cases had been withdrawn. In the history of this country, one case was withdrawn in 1979.. A person calling himself a newspaper proprietor who is also having some other business, had floated a bogus firm and the Income Tax officers had prosecuted that bogus firm. CBI had also filed a case of forgery against the firm. But what happened ? He filed a petition before the Income Tax Settlement Commission and he was granted immunity by the Commission but the CBI said that the immunity could be granted in relation to tax evasion but not in relation to forgery. But it is our misfortune that you had appointed such a person as the Solicitor General - I am referring to 1979 During that period he gave this opinion that the immunity was in relation to Income Tax evasion as well as in relation to the criminal case of forgery...”

Prof. Dandavate enclosed a copy each of two statements purported to have been issued by two former solicitors General, namely Sarvashri Soli J. Sorabjee on 6th April, 1987 and S. N. Kacker on 7th April, 1987. Both are marked “To whomsoever it may concern” and have been duly authenticated by Prof. Madhu Dandavate Shri Sorabjee has categorically stated : “I did not give any advice whatsoever of any kind in the above matter”. Shri Kacker too has stated : “It is not correct at all that I ever gave any opinion recommending any immunity from the charge of forgery in connection with income tax settlement or any other matter”.

On the strength of the above affirmations, Prof. Dandavate has contended that "Shri Brahm Dutt, the Minister of State for Finance, made baseless allegations against the Solicitors General during the tenure of Governments headed by Shri Morarji Desai and Chaudhary Charan Singh".

I called for the comments of the Minister of State for Finance in the matter. He has stated *inter alia* as follows :

"Shri Dandavate has tried to prove that I was wrong with the facts. He has based his arguments on the copies of two letters from Shri S. Sorabji and from Shri S. N. Kacker who were holding the post of Solicitor General in 1979.

It is apparent from my reply that I had referred to one person as Solicitor-General ..

On 7.4.1975, I.T.O. Bombay made a complaint against Shri R. N. Goenka, some of his firms and some other individuals. On the basis of this complaint, C.B.I. registered a case on 21st April, 1975 U/S 120-B, r/w 420, 466, 468, 471, 477-A, I.P.C. AND 420 r/w Section 5(II) I.P.C. and 420, 468, 466, 471, 477-A IPC and Section 5(2) r/w section 5(1) (D) of the P.C. Act. It was alleged that Shri Goenka and his firm entered into a criminal conspiracy around April, 1971 and floated a firm under the name and style of 'Express Traders', by ante-dating partnership deed and committing forgery in the records of Income-Tax Departments and the Stamp Office of Maharashtra to indicate that the firm came into existence on 1.10.1970. The motive was that this firm suffered a loss of about Rs. 85,62,665/- and the loss was sought to be set-off against the benefit made by other firms of Shri R. N. Goenka.

Before filing the complaint by the C.B.I., I.T.O. of Sector. 22 (Central Range-2 Bombay) had filed a complaint in the court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate-XIX Bombay against Shri R. N. Goenka

and others u/s 277, 278 Income Tax Act (case No. 140/S of 1974).

× × ×

One of the accused, a firm M/s Express Traders, filed a petition before the Settlement Commission for the settlement of the Income Tax cases. In this they requested immunities from the Settlement Commission U/S 245-H of the I.T. Act, 1961. While the case was posted for appearance of the accused, the Settlement Commission issued orders dated 3.12.1977 staying the proceedings going on in the court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bombay in both the C.B.I. charge-sheet and the complaint filed by the I.T.O. Settlement Commission on 27.2.1978 accepted the offer of settlement and granted immunity to Shri Goenka and some others u/s 245-H of I.T. Act.

The order of Settlement Commission was examined in consultation with the legal advisers of C.B.I. They were of the opinion that the Commission was not competent to grant immunity in the C.B.I. case.

On 9.5.1978, opinion of the Ministry of Law was sought which was sent to the then Solicitor General of India, Shri S. N. Kacker, on 8.9. 1978.

Shri Kacker gave his opinion in two letters, first dated 6th October, 1978, and second dated 12th December, 1978. Shri Kacker held that the Commission was competent to grant the immunity in respect of Income-Tax as well as all other Central Acts including I.P.C. and no further action can be taken in respect of those matters in any court of law.

On the opinion of the Solicitor General, the Ministry of Law advised D.P. & T. to concede the defence and not to agitate into the matter.. C.B.I. had to concede and the Additional C.M.M. discharged the accused on 7th March, 1979".

The Minister of State for Finance has enclosed authenticated copies of Shri Kacker's opinion dated 6th October and 12th December, 1978. I would like to quote from the opinions given by Shri S. N. Kacker. In his opinion dated 6th October, 1978, Shri Kacker had stated *inter alia* as follows :

".. I do not agree with the objections taken by the CBI that no immunity under Section 245-H can be granted in respect of prosecutions which have been initiated before proceedings under Chapter XIXA had been commenced. I am also of the view that paragraph 9.9, when properly construed, purported to grant a complete immunity in respect of all prosecutions whether under Income Tax Act or under Indian Penal Code or under any other Central law for the time being in force..."

In his opinion dated 12th December, 1978, Shri Kacker further stated as under :

"The direction or order granting immunity made by the Settlement Commission will apply to the C.B.I. cases also."

On a perusal of the records produced by the Minister, particularly the detailed and categorical answers given by Shri S. N. Kacker on 6th October, 1978 and 12th December, 1978, I find that the statement purported to have been issued by Shri Kacker on 7th April, 1987, and relied upon by Prof. Madhu Dandavate appears to contradict the opinion given by Shri Kacker in October and December, 1978 on a reference made to him in this regard. Reference to the statement purported to have been issued by Shri Sorabjee on 6th April, 1987, is not relevant as his opinion was never sought by the Government in the matter.

In view of the above, I find that the notice of question of privilege lacks factual basis. In this connection, I may add that certain other allegations made by Prof. Madhu Dandavate during his speech in the House had been categorically refuted by the Minister in his reply. In the circumstances, I consider that the Member should have checked up the facts carefully by writing to the Minister, if necessary, rather than seeking to

raise the issue as one of privilege on the basis of newspaper reports.

While ruling out the question of privilege, I would urge upon the Members to refrain from raising privilege issues unless they are sure of the facts.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : He should apologise, Sir.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have given my Ruling.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, I want a clarification. You have relied on the documents given by the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : Authenticated copies.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Have you obtained clarification from Mr. Kacker ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I gave it to you I gave the copies to you.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : No.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I sent authenticated copies to you.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I did not get.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing to be discussed on my Ruling. Now, Papers Laid—Shri H. K. L. Bhagat.

(Interruptions)**

**Not recorded.

12.11 hrs.

**Notification under Essential
Commodities Act**

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(English)

**Notification under Food Corporation
Act and Review on and Annual
Report of Hindustan Vegetable
Oils Corporation Ltd, New
Delhi for 1985-86.**

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES SHRI
H K. L. BHAGAT): I beg to lay on the
Table—**

- (1) A copy of the Food Corporation of India (Staff) Ninety-fifth Amendment) Regulations, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No 40/F. No. Ep 1 (6)/84 in Gazette of India dated the 19th March, 1987 under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library. See No. L T-4235/87]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1985-86.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1985-86 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No L.T-4236/87.]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF
STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : I beg to lay on
the Table a copy of the Paraffin Wax
(Supply, Distribution and Price Fixation)
Amendment Order, 1987 (Hindi and English
versions) published in Notification No. S.O.
86(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th
February, 1987 under sub-section (6) of
section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act,
1955.**

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4237/87.]

**Jaswant Singh Commission Report
for a Bench of Allahabad High
Court in Western Region of U.P.,
for additional Benches of
M.P. High Court in M.P.,
for a Bench of Madras
High Court in Southern
Region of Tamil
Nadu, etc.**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : I beg to lay on
the Table :**

- (1) (i) A copy of the Jaswant Singh Commission Report (Hindi and English versions) on the need for a Bench of the Allahabad High Court in Western Region of Uttar Pradesh.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4238/87.]

(ii) A copy of the Jaswant Singh Commission Report (Hindi and English versions) on the demand for Additional Benches of the Madhya Pradesh High Court in certain Regions of the State.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4239/87.]

(iii) A copy of the Jaswant Singh Commission Report (Hindi and English versions) on the need for a Bench of the

Madras High Court in
Southern Region of Tamil
Nadu.

Placed in Library. See No. LT-4240/87.]

- (iv) A copy of Jaswant Singh Commission Report (Hindi and English versions) on the general question of having Benches of the High Courts at places away from their Principal Seats and broad principles and criteria to be followed in regard thereto.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4241/87]

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Action Taken/ to be taken on the Reports mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4242/87.]

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I do not understand as to what are you doing ? Mr. Bhatia, please speak.

[English]

SHRI R. L. BHATIA (Amritsar) : Sir, the other day the matter with regard to Moily tapes was raised by Shri Nanje Gowda.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have already told you, what else you want.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA : You said.

[English]

'I shall give my Ruling. We want your Ruling. That is all.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : That will be done, what are you people doing ?

(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Idukki) : There is another privilege motion against Prof. Dandavate given by Shri Nanje Gowda.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You listen to me for a minute. Sometimes you should cooperate with me, you always put me in trouble.

[English]

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA (Hassan): Can I make a submission, Sir ?

MR. SPEAKER : What is this ?

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Is it a crime to belong to this side ?

MR. SPEAKER : No question.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : What I can do Mr. Gowda, if you repeat it ten times. I have told you that it is under consideration and I will look into it.

[English]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : He has given notice under Rule 193 about Moily tape issue. He has also given a privilege motion against prof. Madhu Dandavate.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I am taking up his point.

[English]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Let him make a submission.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I said that he had given a privilege motion. I am talking about that and it is under my consideration and I will decide about it. But when twenty Members speak at a time, I do not get anything.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let me listen to some Member you interrupt and twenty Members start speaking at a time., I will call you. When I have told you that I will listen to you, open for God's sake, please keep quiet. I am also a human being.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I will listen to you. Don't worry.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : What about Moily tape ? I have given a notice under rule 193.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : How many to give your will go on repeating it ?

[*English*]

How many times you want to say on the same thing.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : When they give notice, within two days, they get time But because we are on this side and we gave the notice on the 9th of this month ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Business Advisory Committee has to give the time and the Business Advisory Committee is meeting today.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : I have given a privilege notice against Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : There are two issues-rule 193 and privilege notion. We are asking for both...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I have told you. You are unnecessarily *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

I told you that I would call you. Twenty persons stand at a time.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : Please, Congress Members, do not raise this matter further. Mr. Speaker is seized of the matter and he said, he will consider it. Please Sit down. The Speaker is seized of the matter and he will take a decision. That is all. *(Interruptions.)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV (Varanasi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is clear from your ruling that the allegation made by Prof. Madhu Dandavate...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing about the ruling. My ruling cannot be discussed. No ruling of the Chair can be discussed.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I have given a notice against Prof. Madhu Dandavate. He has said, he will see that the Budget will not be allowed to be presented ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Mr. Dandavate should apologise.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : There is no question of apology. So many privilege notices have been rejected. Has anybody demanded apology ? Where is the precedent?...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : I never said about it.

[*English*]

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : Congress Members, please take your seat. Leave it to the Speaker. Let him decide. That is all. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. I am not going to create any more precedent.

*(Interruptions)**

'MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of order ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Mahbubnagar) : I am not questioning your ruling in regard to the privilege motion. But, Sir...
(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing ? Why are you interrupting ?

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): He has been allowed by the chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will see. What he says.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, today you have adopted...**(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed My ruling cannot be discussed. Nothing goes on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. It cannot be discussed. I have not allowed anybody.

*(Interruptions)**

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PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—*Contd.*

[*English*]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Finance for 1987-88 and of Parliament, Secretariats of the President and Vice-President and U.P.S.C. for 1987, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

*Not recorded.

JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Finance for 1987-88

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4243/87.]

- (2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of Parliament, Secretariats of the President and Vice-President and Union Public Service Commission for 1987-88.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4244/87.]

Review on and Annual Report of Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd; New Delhi for 1982-83 and Annual Report of and Review on National Productivity Council, New Delhi along with Audited Accounts for 1985 86

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): 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) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1982-83.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation limited, New Delhi, for the year 1982-83 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-4245/87.]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report
(Hindi and English versions)
of the National Productivity
Council, New Delhi, for the
year 1985-86 along with
Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A statement (Hindi and
English versions) regarding
Review by the Government of
the working of the National
Productivity Council, New
Delhi, for the year 1985-86.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4246/87.]

12.18½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE
OF SCHEDULED CASTES
AND SCHEDULED
TRIBES

[English]

Twenty-Second Report

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI (Simla) :
I beg to present the Twenty-Second Report
(Hindi and English versions) of the Com-
mittee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes
and Scheduled Tribes on the Ministry of
Welfare-Working of Integrated Tribal Devel-
opment Projects in the State of Himachal
Pradesh.

12.19 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID
ON THE TABLE

[English]

Fourteenth Report and minutes

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA
MURTHY (Kanakapura) : I beg to present
the Fourteenth Report (Hindi and English
versions) of the Committee on Papers Laid
on the Table.

I beg also to lay on the Table Minutes
(Hindi and English versions) of the sittings
of the Committee on Papers Laid on the
Table relating to their Fourteenth Report.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : No discussion on my
ruling. Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : My ruling is not to be
discussed.

(Interruptions)**

12.20 hrs.

STATEMENT RE DAMAGE FROM FIRE
TO SOME UNITS OF THE DIRECTO-
RATE OF EXTENSION, DEPART-
MENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
CO-OPERATION AND A SHED
OF THE FOOD CORPORA-
TION OF INDIA

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
(DR. G. S. DHILLON) : Sir, a fire broke
out on 19.4.1987 at about 9.20 a.m. which
damaged some of the units of the Directo-
rate of Extension and a shed of the Food
Corporation of India. The cause of the fire
is being investigated and the extent of the
damage is being assessed. Preliminary assess-
ment indicates that the damage to property,
other than the civil structures, may be about
Rs. 50 00 lakhs in the case of the units of
the Directorate of Extension and about
Rs. 1.36 lakhs in the case of Food Corpora-
tion of India. No injury or loss of life has
been reported.

Senior officers from both the departments
have visited the site of the fire.

12.21 hrs.

FOOD CORPORATIONS (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1987*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF

** Not recorded.

*Published in Gazette of India Extra-
ordinary, part II, section 2, dated
21.4.1987.

FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Food Corporations Act, 1964.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Food Corporations Act, 1964."

The motion was adopted

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : Sir, I introduce† the Bill.

12.22 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) Demand for measures to increase production of oilseeds in the country

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT (Barabanki) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am submitting the following matter under Rule 377.

The prices of vegetable oil and edible oils are continuously rising with the result that the common man is facing a lot of difficulty. If edible oils are not imported from foreign countries there will be a crisis in the country. The reason for this crisis is that farmers are not getting reasonable price for their produce of oilseeds. Consequently, the farmers do not produce oil-seeds. We request the Government to provide good quality seeds and fertiliser to the farmers at reasonable prices so that farmers are able to increase the production of oilseeds and these are not required to be imported from other countries and the consumers may also get vegetable oil and edible oils at low prices.

- (ii) Demand for setting up more units of Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI K. N. PRADHAN (Bhopal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am submitting the following

† Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

matter under rule 377.

The BHEL in Bhopal has invented many modern machines. Besides, on the one hand, it has proved to be a leading profit earning undertaking in the Public Sector and on the other, it has saved a huge amount of foreign exchange.

When in 1955, the Bhopal Heavy Electricals was set up, there was a scheme for its expansion and according to that scheme, the strength of the employees was to be increased to 35,00. But in 1972 it was merged with the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited and in 1974 some of the profitable items were transferred to other units which resulted in decrease in the strength of its employees from 20,000 to 15,000. After that, BHEL units have been set up in other States one after the other and their efficiency is well known to all. The employees of BHEL in Bhopal, who contributed a lot for the development of the country by dint of their hard work and ability, are not only facing the problem of housing but also the problem of employment of their children at the time of their retirement.

The BHEL in Bhopal has not only invented a new type of axial flow tabular turbine and the sumail generators but also, has played an important role in development and modernisation in the fields of electricity, industry and transport. The invention of battery driven 'Shanti Vahan' which is free from noise and pollution, is its revolutionary contribution. Therefore, it is necessary that more units of BHEL should be set up in Madhya Pradesh and the BHEL in Bhopal should be entrusted with the work of manufacturing major war tanks for our armed forces.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed any Member to say anything about my ruling. Only, statement under Rule 377 will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)**

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : We are walking out in protest.

**Not recorded

*Shri Basudeb Acharia and some other
Hon. Member then left the House.*

**(III) Demand for lifting ban on creation
of new posts and filling up
existing vacancies in Posts
and Telecommunications
Departments**

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): Sir, the continued ban on the creation of new posts and the filling up of the existing vacancies in Postal and Telecommunications Departments has caused considerable set back to the provision of various facilities in the country in general and rural areas in particular. As no new posts can be created or any existing vacancy filled up, except through special relaxation by the Ministry of Finance, so virtually no new Post Office has been opened or any Post Office upgraded on account of this ban, in spite of the fact that a large number of proposals for the opening new Branch Post Offices and Departmental Sub-Offices which were approved during the Sixth Plan have not been opened. Similarly, the shortage of technical staff has caused deterioration in Telecommunication Services all over the country. Consequently, there has been a loss of revenue and the ban has proved unproductive as the increase in workload has not resulted in increased efficiency on account of shortage of staff.

A large number of trained personnel known as R.T.P. in both Postal and Telecommunications Departments have not been absorbed as regular employees and are continuing on Daily Wages in an *ad hoc* manner in spite of their being entitled to regular recruitment.

I, therefore, request the Ministry of Finance to lift the ban since its continued imposition w.e.f. 1.1 1984 has done considerable damage to the planned development and caused extreme deterioration in the facilities and frustration in the services.

[Translation]

**(iv) Demand for setting up monitoring
committees to look after develop-
ment works in Bastar district
of Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI MANKURAM SODI (Bastar):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 32 development

blocks in Bastar district where various development works are going on but there is no arrangement for proper monitoring these construction works. The officers and employees who are responsible for these works, do not go there to inspect these works with the result that the construction work which has been done there, is sub-standard and the reputation of the administration is at stake. If proper arrangements are not made for monitoring these works even now. The huge sum of money being spent now on them under the Five Year Plans will go on be squandered as before.

If the construction of roads, buildings, wells, handpumps, etc. are not monitored properly, they will not last longer and the public will not be able to enjoy the benefit of these works for a definite period. So far as construction works are concerned, use of good quality material is a must, but low quality bricks, sand and other things, are being used there. Almost and is used in place of cement. The timber which is used there is also of low quality. Consequently, most of the construction works collapse after a few days of their inauguration. Generally, the responsibility for this is fixed on the village sarpanch who has to face revenue recovery. Many innocent sarpanchs have undergone imprisonment.

District monitoring committees consisting of non-officials should, therefore, be constituted in every district to monitor the Development Works. These committees should be given special powers and means to inspect the works. I would request the Central Government to issue special instructions to the State Governments to constitute such monitoring Committees.

[English]

**(v) Demand for issuing instructions
to LPG distributors of Bombay
to store LPG cylinders in
proper godowns instead
of on roads/footpaths**

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas to the practices adopted by some of the distributors of LPG cylinders in Bombay.

It is obligatory to have a godown facility for every distributor of LPG cylinder and if they do not have the required facility, the oil companies give them less commission. There are some distributors in the city of Bombay who are not having godown facility and are keeping LPG cylinders on road or footpath. This is polluting the atmosphere in the locality. It also causes accidents. Oil companies are also not taking any proper or suitable action in the matter I hope the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas will issue instructions that no distributor should be allowed to store LPG cylinders on road or footpath.

— — —
(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI
H. K. L. BHAGAT) : They are not challeng-
ing the correctness of the facts. There is no
rule of procedure by which you are bound to
send. They are not challenging the correct-
ness of the facts given by Mr. Brahma Dutt,
the opinion quoted by the then Attorney-
General...(Interruptions) On the merits of the
facts, Mr Indrajit Gupta says, they do not
challenge the facts. There is no rule of pro-
cedure by which you are bound to send...

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot allow any
discussion on my ruling.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : There is no
rule. Nothing of that kind. It is only a sort
of tectical walkout. They want to show
their unity, the so-called unity. That is all.
Nothing else. (Interruptions) Facts, they are
admitting. He had no guts to stand up and
say that Mr. Kacker has not given this
opinion on the file. They are admitting the
facts and yet, they are raising a question of
procedure which cannot be sustained by any
rule.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : "The Speaker's rulings,
as already stated, cannot be ques-
tioned except on a substantive motion.
A Member who protests against the

ruling of the Speaker commits con-
tempt of the House and the Speaker.
The Speaker's decision is equally
binding, whether given in the House or
on a departmental file. He is not
bound to give reasons for his deci-
sions. Members cannot criticise
directly or indirectly, inside or outside
the House, any ruling given, opinion
expressed or statement made by the
Speaker."

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(S. BUTA SINGH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir,
precisely this was my request to you that
your ruling is final and the whole House
has to bow to your ruling No question,
no explanation, can be asked. But
the big issue, the big question, which
has been left in the House unans-
wered by the Opposition is : where do
we proceed from here, where is the responsi-
bility ? Prof. Madhu Dandavate has fallen
into a no-entry area Where does he go from
here ? Either he has to take the responsibility
or the Chair will have to fix some responsi-
bility and punish those who are now every
day trying to raise any scandal based on
any new rumour, on any subject, which
can even flout the ruling of the Chair. This
has to be condemned by this House.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTER-
PRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF
INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : We
must deplore this kind of behaviour. They
are doing it every day. You must condemn
it...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tewary, it is a
question of the whole House, the dignity of
the House. It is not myself, it is not anybody
else. It is a question of the whole institution
as such.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : But you are
the custodian of the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : One minute. All of
you are so vociferous that I cannot do
anything.

“Members should not stage a walk-out as a protest against the ruling of the Chair.”

That is also there. Later on, they can see me, they can discuss with me. If I have made any mistake, I can rectify that also. I have said that so many times. I do not say that I cannot make a mistake. But whatever is to be done should be done properly and in keeping with the high dignity of the House.

(Interruptions)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377—*Contd.*

[*English*]

- (vi) Demand for withdrawal of recent Budget proposals for increase in excise duty on wood particle boards and fibre boards

DR. SUDHIR ROY (Burdwan) : Sir, the Union Budget for 1987-88 contains a proposal which seeks to raise the excise duty on wood particle boards and fibre boards (including hard boards and insulation boards). These industries use wastes from forests, saw mills and wood work industries and agricultural wastes like rice husk, ground-nut shell, bio gas and make out of these wastes reconstituted panels which are used as substitutes for prime woods. Thus these industries help to reduce load on prime timbers of the forests and thereby help to conserve the forests and ecological balance. At the same time these industries produce substitutes of natural timbers for essential uses in housing, packing cases, furniture, coach and bus body building etc. Thus it will be seen that these industries produce wealth using only waste materials.

Therefore the rise in excise duty in spite of the great concern shown by the Prime Minister for preservation of forests and environment and keen interest in utilisation of wastes in his budget speech has surprised these industries and all those who have concern for preservation of forests and maintaining ecological balance.

I therefore urge upon the Government to review the tax proposals and withdraw

the rise in excise duty on wood particle boards etc.

[*English*]

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on such occasions, I have not intervened in the past during all these years. I think it is my duty to add my word of support for the Chair when it has given its ruling and after having given deepest possible consideration and taking into consideration, all that could have been urged by both sides. When the Speaker has given his ruling, the ruling should be accepted by all parties whether it is pleasing or not. Otherwise, Parliament cannot function in a democratic manner. If we allow Parliament to be stampeded in this manner and its work being stopped and brought into contempt, then democracy would be brought into contempt. Then those people who indulge in such tactics or such measures will be leading the way towards destruction of democracy. And it had happened once before. They were taken to task on every side. Now, we should not allow that kind of experience to be repeated. Therefore, I would like the Chair to take its own time and then come to the House with his direction as well as his advice to those friends who have walked out in this unruly, undemocratic and indecent manner and give its advice or admonition. That is all I have to say.

MR. SPEAKER : Professor Sahib, I have got nothing else to say except that we must cooperate with each other because it is your institution and not mine.

AN. HON. MEMBER : They are not cooperating.

MR. SPEAKER : What can I do ? It is up to all Members of the House.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : I would like to add to what Professor Ranga has said that in any case of dispute between two sides or on any ruling given, the final authority will be somebody and that somebody is the Speaker. So, once the ruling is given by that final authority it should be accepted. If they have

any grievance they can always meet you in your chamber. But, if every privilege ruling given is contested in the House like this, there will be no end to it. There will be no Parliament. Even after having the ruling, if you feel that you have got some points, you can meet the Speaker in his chamber and tell him, "Sir, possibly you have missed this point." Otherwise, Sir, today we are talking in this language, we sometimes hurl abuses, then we come to blows and then there will be no Parliament, the country's unity will be destroyed. Therefore, what I say is the ruling is final. But if a Member has any grievance on any point, he can meet the Speaker in his chamber and tell him Sir, possibly in giving your ruling, you missed this point. Speaker can always reconsider it.

MR. SPEAKER : I have never stated that I will be infallible. I can make mistake, but that is something to be done properly. I can rectify if I have done anything wrong. I never stand on prestiges.

12.40 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377—*Contd.*

[*Translation*]

(vii) Demand for a 'Thermal Power House' in Dohrighat of Azamgarh District of U.P.

SHRI. RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Uttar Pradesh irregular and inadequate Supply of electricity is not only impeding the work in factories but also adversely affecting agriculture specially when the whole State is in the grip of drought In view of the shortage of power supply, the big industrialists are not interested in setting up industrial units there. The Central Government should, after consulting the State Government, make arrangements for adequate power supply keeping in view the demand of the State. Along with it, I will also like to urge that power thefts, whether committed by farmers or by factory-owners, should be checked and dealt with strictly. It will help in stren-

gthening the revenue position of the Government.

Sir, I have been urging upon the Government in this House that a Thermal Power House should be set up in Dohrighat in Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh. It will provide relief not only to the people of Azamgarh district but also to the people of other districts of Eastern U. P., like Gorakhpur, Deoria, Ballia, Ghazipur and Jaunpur, who are eagerly waiting for it.

Sir, I demand that a Thermal Power House be installed in Dohrighat at the earliest so that the districts of Eastern U. P. do not lag behind not only in agriculture but also in setting up small scale industries.

[*English*]

(viii) Demand for extension of electric train from Madras to Sullurpet

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati) : In Tamil Nadu, the electric train services were extended from Madras Central station to Tiruttani which is about 90 kms In the same way (EMU) electric train services extended upto the border of Tamil Nadu which is about 80 kms. The distance between the Tamil Nadu border to Sullurpet is about 10 kms. There is a lot of rush between Sullurpet and Madras and also there is apprehension among the public that railways are mere helpful to Tamil Nadu. It is very essential to extend electric train to Sullurpet railway station to provide facilities to the general public.

12.42 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1987-88
—*Contd.*

[*English*]

Ministry of Information and
Broadcasting—*Contd.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Shri Srihari Rao to continue his speech.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO : (Rajahmundry) : The Minister for Information and Broadcasting should allow the States to produce programmes according to the taste of their people and in their own language.

To promote the decentralised development of Doordarshan, it is necessary to establish full-fledged studios throughout the country. The promised studio at Hyderabad is not yet complete and the promised studio at Vijayawada is not yet started. I want that in every place, like in every State capital, there must be one full-fledged studio. The units listed for production of video programmes are located only at two places—Bombay and Delhi. That is why more talents are not coming to the TV. New TV talents should be encouraged. Some old film artists are repeating the advertisements, video programmes and films. But you are not taking the new TV talents of other languages in other States, throughout the country. This is the situation now.

The Lok Sabha discussions must be live telecast in Doordarshan because the people of their constituencies throughout India know what is going on in the Parliament and what is the capacity of their representatives. They must know everything about their representatives. There is nothing wrong or secret in it because everyday hundreds of visitors in the gallery are observing our proceedings. So, there is nothing wrong in live telecasting the Lok Sabha discussions.

You are broadcasting 'Today in Parliament' only in Hindi and English; but not in the regional language. It is more important to broadcast them in local language and at regional centres. More importance should be given to the agriculture sector. If the latest techniques are shown on TV then farmers will understand and implement all these techniques and produce more yielding crops particularly oilseeds, pulses, etc. It will be more helpful to the farmers. Our country depends on agriculture. That is why it is important to give more time on Doordarshan to agriculture.

Sir, Doordarshan is giving misleading news in their news bulletins. There is more party propaganda than news. They are not

giving more importance to the news. For example at the time of Godavari floods in my constituency—East and West Godavari district—it was not shown before Prime Minister came to that place. At the time of Prime Minister's one day visit to that area it became a news for the TV and all the time they were showing the Prime Minister. There is nothing wrong to show the Prime Minister but 40 lakh people suffered and thousands of engineers and other workers moved these people to safety places to provide relief measures to them. They were not shown on the TV. Further recently in Municipal elections in Andhra Pradesh on 18th March false news was broadcast in the regional Telugu bulletin of All India Radio on 19th March that the Congress (I) candidates were leading at Visakhapatnam and Kakinada. That was not the position. In fact, from the very beginning Telugu Desam candidates were leading there. Finally Telugu Desam candidate won with 20,000 majority at Visakhapatnam and with 2000 majority at Kakinada. There was no authoritative information or report from the official media but they announced the false news. This created a law and order problem and some goondas in Visakhapatnam started burning buses and looting some shops. All these things happened due to this false news.

I give you another example. The bye-elections to Secunderabad constituency took place on 23rd March. On 24th March they announced in TV special bulletin that Congress (I) candidate was leading whereas the counting had not started on that day. The counting of votes started only on 25th as there was re-polling on 24th. This is another example of mis-leading news. I would like to know whether you have taken any action in regard to this? Have you taken action against the people responsible for this misleading and false news?

For smooth running and more effective functioning of the Ministry the Minister should consider some important basic demands of the National Federation of Information and Broadcasting Employees because they are not treated at par with Central employees. This is more important. Also, in this Ministry, the pressure of bureaucrats and politicians on professionals should be reduced. In this department, the bureaucrats are actually controlling and

managing the entire show—not the Minister. For example, I will give you one letter which I received. It is a very unfortunate situation.

More important is that there should be no intrusion of programme from Delhi. Regarding overseas broadcasting, you please put Telugu news bulletin also just like other regional language news for the benefit of the Telugu people throughout the world. With these words, I conclude.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and also to commend the report of the Ministry for the year 1986-87.

Sir, one of the most interesting and inspiring items in the report is the expansion of the network in various sections and departments which are catering to the dissemination of information in the country.

Sir, Doordarshan naturally takes a very important place in this. The major events, which have taken place during the past few years, are the enhancement in the timing for the national programme which was introduced on 15th August 1982 for 90 minutes from Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Srinagar, Jalandhar and Lucknow. Now the programme is for 155 minutes. The aims of the programme have been listed as : (i) to foster economic and cultural unity in the country; (ii) to promote the spirit of national integration; and (iii) to project the progress made in the various fields.

Sir, the introduction of second channel from Delhi in 1984 and from Bombay in May 1985 is another landmark. So is the introduction of morning transmission for 45 minutes from 23rd February this year, which was also the day of the opening session of the Parliament

A significant achievement is also the telecast of a programme for higher education with effect from 1984 with the help of INSAT-B. Sir, while all these achievements are to be commended, looking at the programme, one has the impression that there is a certain urban bias in the various programmes presented. Primarily it may be

the cause of the audience but now more and more areas are being brought under the TV coverage. Therefore, necessary corrective has to be applied and the needs and aspirations of the rural areas are also to be taken into account.

Sir, a misconception sometimes enters into the minds of those who are framing these programmes that the people who are illiterate are also not intelligent. This is not the case. The spoken word appeals equally to the literate as to the illiterate especially when the latter happen to be men with wisdom and experience. Therefore, it is all the more important that the Radio and the TV take into account the rural aspirations and the rural needs, and reorientate their programmes accordingly. In this connection, what better proof is required than the composition of the advisory committees for the various Doordarshan Kendras. Can you find adequate representations of the rural interest? I have before me the Committee for Jalandhar Station of Doordarshan and I find that the whole of Himachal Pradesh, which is mostly covered by this station, is represented by one or two persons — I think only one—whereas all the other people they are from the State of Punjab. Now, it so happens that of the 19 persons who are there, all experts are available from the Punjab: experts in Punjab, experts in general programmes, experts in folk, art and culture and all sorts of things, they are available only in Punjab. Is Himachal so bereft of all the experts? Or, is it not having requisite cultural inputs to be put into the programmes of the Jalandhar Station of Doordarshan Kendra?

Sir, I would like to point out that once we had a State level function in 1982 when the Hon. Chief Minister was there, and the Jalandhar Station could not reach there, people from there could not go there, and when I took up the matter with the Minister I was informed that the authorities in the Kendra were unable to trace the place. So, this shows the knowledge and range of experience which these people have got.

May I, therefore, request the Hon. Minister through you, Sir, that Himachal gets its due and also adequate representation in the Advisory Committee so that the

[Prof. Narain Chand Parashar]

programmes are also able to highlight the aspirations and needs of the State. It is a border states having border with China. Its folk culture and various other activities of the social life of the people are worth showing on the T.V.

Sir, I am also happy that there are 192 transmitters at present in the country and that there is a plan to add more during the remaining years of the Seventh Five Year Plan. Similarly, there is a case for more Radio Station and plans are approved to start these stations also. But what I am distressed to see is that often these installations including the civil works, they are subject to heavy delay and what happens is that in the case of the projects having been targeted for the last year of the Seventh Five Year Plan, there is no guarantee that they would be actually installed or commissioned. So, what I would suggest is that some sort of monitoring should be there and whatever has been planned for Seventh Plan should be actually installed in the Seventh Plan and not allowed to spill over and subject to delay. In particular I would refer to the proposal for setting up Radio Stations and T.V. transmitters in Himachal Pradesh, particularly in Hamirpur, Una, Bilaspur and Dharamshala where they are subject to delay for various reasons. If actual coordination with the State Government has to be established then the officers on this side of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should also be equally eager to get their various proposals accepted and pushed through with the help of the officers of the State.

Sir, I have every hope that the various types of services that the T.V. is planning, they are able to introduce well in time in Particular I would refer to the three-tier service. I have the Statement of the Hon. Minister in which he says: "That there is a plan to have three-tier service comprising primary service, national service and local service". Now, this is in answer to Question No. 6571 answered on 13 April, 1987. This is a very laudable objective.

"Each major State will ultimately have its own primary service in the

language of the State, originating from the T V centre at the capital. This service over a period of time will be available throughout the State. Programmes in national service will continue to be contributed also by regional Kendras and the service will originate from Delhi, to be relayed by all transmitters in the country. The local service will be available for a limited duration on the primary channels transmitters, to cater for local requirements and events in culturally distinct, important parts of major States".

13.00 hrs.

If this is the object and this is the aim, then one thing is clear; a lot of infrastructure would have to be provided. Coordination with the Ministry of Telecommunications is also necessary because ultimately the relay centres are going to be three. As has already been stated, relay of primary service will, however, depend upon the provision of microwave links by Department of Telecommunications and a availability of additional transponders in INSAT-2 scheduled to be launched in early 1990s. There are so many links to be provided and therefore it is in the fitness of things that a comprehensive programme of various facilities to be provide is presented to the House by the Minister in his reply. He should also mention the targeted dates because general statements of this type are neither here nor there. Simply saying that it will be done 'in due course' or in the Seventh Five Year Plan, all these facilities should be provided and so on, does not clinch the issue. The completion of construction of these transmitters radio stations and other facilities should be time-bound and each phase and each facility should be targeted for a particular date. Otherwise what happens is that they go on spilling over and we are already witnessing the phenomenon of the escalation of costs. The result is that not only there is delay but also there is mis-understanding among the people that while long promises are made, they are hardly kept and fulfilled.

One of the more important objectives of the AIR and TV and various other units like Field Publicity Wing should be the promotion of the various dialects and languages. In fact

the Language Policy of the AIR, TV and various other outfits should be quite clear. I am happy that there are programmes in 147 dialects and languages over the radio. But the TV is not attuned to this and therefore, there are programmes only in major languages. I do not know the reason why the dialects which are recognised by the Sahitya Akademi or languages which are spoken by people of over one million in number as per the census record should not be given patronage by the TV and the AIR and various other outfits. It is very important because the spoken word has got more power. And in a country like India, where literacy rate is not very high. where people are not able to get the newspapers every day, where people are unable to read and write properly, the spoken word has a special appeal of its own. Therefore, not only should the spoken word, by broadcasting and telecasting, reach every nook and corner of the country, but it is also important to see that it inspires people in all walks of life in all regions of the country.

In particular, I would invite the attention of the Hon. Minister that if he is interested that this most laudable objective be fulfilled and programmes should reach people in their own languages and in their own dialects, then, is it not necessary that the various scholars and writers of various dialects and languages should also be given representation in the Advisory Committees and should they not be consulted while framing the various programmes? Therefore, one of the suggestions that I can make is that in all these committees that are set up from time to time, adequate representation of local academies of various States, and various voluntary institutions serving various languages and various walks of life, arts and culture should also be ensured.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Madam, what about lunch break ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : We may dispense with lunch.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will have no lunch hour. The Minister is going to reply at 5.30 PM and we want to give a

chance to all those members who want to speak.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Sir, I would call for adequate representation not only to various regions but also to various dialectical groups, to various arts and crafts as well as to other cultural activities and associations from all quarters within a State because a State may not necessarily be unilingual and it may be multi-lingual. So, all these must be given representation so that their ways of life, their habits and their culture are reflected in the programmes on TV and Radio.

One of the most important things that our Government has done is to work for an evolution of Non-aligned News pool and also for a New International Information Order for Communication. So in this connection, the voice of the non-aligned world has been projected properly I would suggest that we take up this idea more vigorously because just as in the capitalist world, we are witnessing the phenomena of the capitalism dominating the world scene and the way these western news agencies monopolise news pool. We should encourage the people and the agencies of the non aligned world, especially the third world for this information is the cry of the age. Information society is about to arrive and we have an explosion of the information. But how to channelise that information to reach every heart and every mind that throbs with life on this globe is the primary concern not only of the western side but also of our-aligned movement, and this country in particular. So, Sir, I would request that we join the third world and we lead the third world in this particular activity which is going to usher in a new era. At the moment the voice of the third world is suppressed and depressed. It has to rise, it has to inspire and in proportion to the population it represents, it has assumed the importance. It is not enough that we have this activity in India only. We have to inspire the other countries—small countries of the third world—also to join this great movement.

Sir, a word I would say that the small newspapers should be given better patronage by the DAVP and also by the Government and the Press Council should be given more

[Prof. Narain Chand Parashar]

facilities because ultimately the free Press is the best guarantee of democracy in any developing country.

With these words Sir, I commend this report and I appreciate the various achievements of the Ministry and I thank the Hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting and I would request him to pay special head to the requirements of Himachal Pradesh and other hilly and backwards States.

SHRI TARUN KANTI GHOSH (Barasat) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Budget proposals placed by the Information Minister. While supporting his proposals I would like to say that there has been definite improvements during the last few months in the functioning of this Ministry. There is no doubt about it. But I would like to point out certain things which to my mind is very important for our nation.

First of all T.V. has become a very important media to pass information throughout our country. I would request the Minister to find out how to use T.V. more effectively for national integration.

13.07 hrs.

[**SHRI SOMNATH RATH** *In the Chair*]

As we all know what is happening in Punjab; as we know what is happening in certain other parts of the country, the sense of unity that prevails in our country where we are fighting for our freedom, we have to bring that back. That sense of patriotism has been brought back into our country. I feel that T.V. is the best medium to do that. So when we show some pictures, some shots or any other thing, the idea of national integration should be there.

The second thing that I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister is that T.V. news should be more newsy. At the present moment, the T.V. news is not comparable to news that are being broadcast by other democratic countries, like the B.B.C. or the French T.V. or any other country you may call. First of all the total time allotted to news is very limited. You

cannot cover a vast country like India. Then you cannot cover the world news within the short time. Obviously the news of our own country is very important and at the present moment, the news of the world has also assumed very great importance too. So I would request the Hon. Minister, who is all young and energetic man to think about it and find out how we can allot more time for news—atleast in the evening news—and make it more comprehensive so that the man listening to the news get all the news that he wants.

Thirdly what my friend who was speaking just before me has said on that I would like say something. Whether you have got two, three or four channels, the main thing is that this national channel should be there in a much bigger way, because it is through this channel that we can bring about national integration, which we really want to have.

I do not really understand how we can use all the languages. Of course, at the different TV centres we can do it. We are having now, I think, 98 TV stations. We can find out how to use regional languages while telecasting programmes through these stations. But TV should not be used for promoting regionalism or something like that. It should be used for national integration.

Apart from TV, the most important medium is the radio. After TV has come into force, radio should not be neglected. As a matter of fact, radio is still the most important medium for rural areas in our country. I think we should give the importance that is due to radio.

As far as newspapers are concerned, we all know that it is very important to have a democratic and free Press in our country. I must thank the Minister for trying really to help the newspapers of this country. As a matter of fact, I myself took some representatives of the big and small newspapers to the Minister, in order to tell him the problems that are being faced by the newspapers. One of the biggest problems being faced by newspapers is the newsprint shortage. Previously, Government allotted newsprint according to availability. You said that 35 per cent of the supply would be from the imported newsprint, and 65 per cent from the indi-

genous newsprint. But when the year ends, you see that you have given only 25 per cent of imported newsprint—and the remaining 10 per cent is not made available. But this year, thanks to our young Minister, this lacuna has been removed.

I have also to say that the price of indigenous newsprint has increased. The Minister should take this up, in his capacity as the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. I have been talking about this to Prof. K. K. Tewary, Minister of Public Enterprises. The Minister must also understand that the prices of newspapers have gone up. So, newspapers cannot perform their functions as the mouthpiece of democracy, i.e. if newspapers could reach only the rich people. They cannot serve the interests of the common man. The price of newsprint has to be controlled, so that newspapers could be available to the common man at a cheaper price. We must remember that even Bangladesh produces newsprint at less than half the cost at which we are producing it here. We should not forget this fact, as far as newsprint is concerned.

Regarding the other activities, I would like to speak about Reporters and Working Journalists before I pass on to other subjects. Reporters and Journalists have a very important duty to perform. Without fear or favour they have to report the day-to-day events. But sometimes these journalists are prevented from reporting certain things. Some State Governments arrest the journalists, or something else happens. So, I would request the Minister to find out from the journalists' associations the problems which they face, so that in future, in our country, journalists can function without fear or favour. As matter of fact, in my opinion, in a democratic country like ours, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is a very important Ministry. For example, just imagine what furore this broadcast by the Swedish Radio has created in our country. Of course, this is not the forum to discuss it. But what strikes me is that a foreign radio's announcement has been taken literally, like Gospel truth, whereas our own TV and our own Radio systems should have been there to speak out what is true, and to remove this mis-information from the minds of the public. As a matter of fact, I feel that in this respect our TV and our Radio

have not been up to the mark to counter the foreign onslaught on our country. We should have clearly stated that what the Swedish Radio has said, 10,000 miles away from our country is not only incorrect, but mischievous. But unfortunately we do not have that much of resources, we do not have so many reporters, we do not have so many correspondents in different parts of the world to report to us, or to feed back so that we can also say as to what is true and what is not true.

As a matter of fact, I believe that the present Information Ministry is certainly going in the right direction and I do hope that if we can take certain more steps in the right direction this TV, this Radio, the newspaper-world can really and effectively be used to serve the Indian nation building that we are aiming at.

I do not take more of your time. I give my full support to this Budget and thank the Minister for the way he has been trying to improve this Department.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shrimati Kishori Sinha.

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West) : All from that side only ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will give equal opportunity to this side also.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to know how much time you are going to give me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You start your speech.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : I rise to support the Demands for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. This Government, in my opinion, will always be remembered in the history as the one that brought a TV revolution in the country. But like all good things all expectations fulfilled do give rise to more expectations. So, the demand for TV stations, and even for relay stations, is growing. And it seems to me that the Government is slowing down in this regard.

[Shrimati Kishori Sinha]

In the year 1984 we could set up 180 TV stations, but in the whole of the Seventh Five Year Plan we had planned to set up only 300 stations, and on an average this provides one station in a district. However, all the towns and all the villages today want to receive the TV signals. In most of the villages, whether the Government have provided community TV sets or not, there are a better off people who keep TV sets, provided there is electricity. So, more often these TV sets serve as community viewing TV sets. So, the Government should encourage the Panchayats and schools to have TV sets and in order to provide further encouragement to the better off people the Government should exempt TV sets from the levy of excise duty.

I would like to mention that the Government may be facing some technical problems. One way out can be to invest in a Direct Broadcast Satellite which will help the coverage of major parts of the country. With such a satellite, TV signals can be picked up directly using a low cost disc antenna. Such an antenna can be manufactured on a mass scale. Today, a colour TV set costs Rs. 7,500/- approximately, and if we compare this to the low cost disc antenna, the cost will be affordable. We can order a direct broadcast satellite to be built for us on contract. I do not think that it would cost more than Rs. 60 to Rs. 70 crores. The Government should at least get the suggestion examined in consultation with the Department of Electronics and Telecommunications.

Doordarshan has to provide for the local programmes. There is a feeling that the present situation favours the *status quo*, though the Government had promised a three-tier system. There is a national network programme which covers a major part of India. So it has a captive audience. In this way, a monopoly situation is there. If we create regional and sub-regional programme this monopoly situation will dilute. I would like the Government to know this much. Revenue from commercial advertising in 1987-88 may be Rs. 200 crores. If we create regional and sub-regional net works they will dilute this monopoly situation. That is why this preference for a national net-

work. In this situation there will be a tendency to slow down the work in three tier system.

The Government should instruct Doordarshan against such status quo. True, a new regional net work has been started in Bombay. How long should States like Bihar wait for similar regional network? Is it not possible to earmark funds out of the Doordarshan revenue for speeding up studio construction, provision for uplinks, etc. to serve specially backward areas like Bihar where TV will help Government overcome the literacy barrier? The Government should also get a few more outdoor broadcast vans for recording local events for Bihar so that some local programmes could be broadcast for the region once the uplinks are ready. I would also suggest to the Minister that some amount out of this amount be set apart to create welfare funds for TV and Radio staff.

The urban domination in the Doordarshan programmes may be commercially right but I would like to know if it is desirable? There ought to be at least an occasional serial reflecting the problems and progress in villages, the tensions that such progress brings as in the change from old order to the new etc.

I understand some serials have been made of the stories of Prem Chand. These stories depict the village life and also the change taking place in social relations, customs and traditions.

I would suggest that these serials should be shown at prime time, say at 9.00 P.M. The Sunday films should also be well chosen. 'Achhut Kanya' was once shown. That was a very good film. Films like this with a message should be telecast. I would also suggest that the late night TV movie should be scheduled on week ends such as Saturday or at some reasonable time for the convenience of viewers.

Breakfast TV is welcome but the programmes should be so designed as to put the viewers in the proper frame of mind for the day. The programme should be news-oriented.

It is heartening to see that broadcasting is not being neglected.

I am glad to note that broadcasting is receiving equal funds as TV. It is the AIR broadcasts that at present reach out to over 90 per cent of the population. The cheap one band sets have made this possible. However, I would like the Government to look into the fact that medium wave broadcasts are not received beyond 80 to 100 kms. This is what I have been told. We are also told that soon most stations will switch over to frequency modulation broadcast but even in Delhi F.M. is relatively restricted. In the rural areas of my constituency Vaishali, the reception continues to be poor. The power of the transmission should be raised to improve reception.

About coverage of the debate in Parliament it is understandable that within 10 minutes, greater coverage cannot be given. But for most of the Members this is the only way to convey to their constituents what their representatives are doing in Parliament. The time may be extended. Secondly, there could be regional coverage of Parliament proceedings, in addition to general review, meant for each area so that the contribution of MPs of that area could be highlighted.

I would also suggest that specific points made by members should be picked up for coverage in a brief manner. Quite often the real point is omitted. Sometimes even the names of the Members are left out.

I would once again suggest that some time may be found for broadcasts in Bajjika from Patna A I.R. which is spoken by about fifty lakhs people in Muzaffarpur and Vaishali and the area around it. I have been making this request since 1980,

I would also suggest that emphasis should be laid on greater professionalism and in order to ensure this, the management of AIR and Doordarshan should be by professional people and not by all-knowing IAS officers. The Government have already taken a decision to set up Indian Broadcasting Service. I would like to know when it would actually be organised and recruitment would be made.

I would repeat my demand once again, because I have been repeating it since 1984, that a second channel or a separate channel for Patna AIR should be given so that the local programme are not interrupted for national programme.

I suggest that the name of the Ministry be changed to Ministry of Mass Communication. Merely Information and Broadcasting suggests a passive role. Mass communication suggests an active role. They are not merely informing, they are giving information for the sake of education and enlightenment. In fact, their motto should be "Information for the sake of education, education for the sake of enlightenment". By this change of name, they would signal to their staff the true role that the electronic media is to play in a democracy.

Let me congratulate the Minister, in the end, for providing lead and guidance to the Ministry.

That is all I wanted to say. Thank you very much that you bore with me for such a long time.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, today the discussion is on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. I would like to say a few words mainly on the policy matters of the Department as the time will not be long enough to discuss all the issues.

The first thing I would like to mention is that now the time has come to review the policy of the Ministry because since Independence, lots of changes have occurred in the country, in the thinking process of the people and in the understanding at various places. When in the beginning our country decided to concentrate the power in the Central Government, the I & B Department also was not a separate one, and the same trend is reflected here also. Even during the British days, in the Government of India Act, 1935, there was a hint that the Central Government will not interfere too much in the provincial governments regarding broadcasting. But our Constitution accepted the policy of putting this subject in the Union List. In course of time, though it was incorporated in the Union List, the control was handed over

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

to the Central Government but it developed as monopoly of Centre over broadcasting. But in course of time, we also had a bad experience and the control was not used for the national integration. Gradually, the media developed into a monopoly in the hands of the Centre. This is a very powerful media controlled by the Ministry. Earlier, it was All India Radio, later on, we introduced the television also. Through both these media, we can reach to a large number of our people in the country.

The objective of the Ministry was to inform, to educate and to entertain the people. But I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that they are not informed, but misinformed; they are also not educating the people on proper lines. In the matter of entertainment also, they are telecasting something which is not helping the younger generation to build their character on the right directions.

The first thing that I would like to request the Hon. Minister is that the time has come when you have to discuss this issue openly, have a public debate and you should amend the Constitution, take away this subject from the Union List and put it in the Concurrent List. The Government has said many times that through this media, they want to achieve national integration. I, however, differ in approach. By whipping, by pressurising, by compelling others to submit, you cannot achieve national integration. That ultimately would lead to the process of disintegration. Only mutual understanding, faith, confidence in each other will unite the country. This is a very important matter. We in the political sphere and the Government should ponder over this matter seriously and take away this subject from the Union List and put it in the Concurrent List and see that it is not monopolised. Definitely, general control will be there of the Central Government as in a Federal structure it should be, but that should be changed to a correct perspective.

Earlier, enough debate was raised regarding the question of autonomy. Government has rejected that. But we have to discuss and find out a way how we can manage it in

a better way. This is a very powerful media to educate, to unite the people and to serve the national interest in the best possible way.

Another demand which is being raised is the question of providing second channel. I request the Minister to consider this proposal that the second channel should be handed over to the State Government. The State Government would be able to project through the language of the State, the culture of the State, the culture of the ethnic group etc. The people are dispersed in the various parts of the State and they will get proper representation; they will be able to understand things better, they would be encouraged to participate and in that way, a voluntary sense of unity will develop. In fact, "unity in diversity" concept can be realised through the media by the provision of second channel in the hands of State Governments.

In that way, I will request the Hon. Minister to ponder over it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member's time is up.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : I have just started.

This is one point, I will request the Minister to consider.

Secondly, if we want to make the media the instrument for integration, we should not play in the hands of the obscurantists. It is because, our Government's concept of secularism is a peculiar concept. They are propagating all sorts of ridiculous, obscurantist type, out-moded, backward, disintegrating and anti-national feelings and all these things are put through this media. Lot of time and energy is wasted in this. Those issues instead of integrating our country, are leading to disintegration. We have always demanded that religion should be separated from the State and administration. Everybody is free to practise his religion without any fear. But why does the Government spend crores of rupees of the people, to propagate the religions, their functions and all these things. This not helping us in any way. You announce in a big way Ram Janam Bhoomi and Babri Masjid and as a result

of that, the whole Uttar Pradesh is burning under communal flare-up. So, as a policy matter, I request the Minister to ponder over it.

Thirdly, you talk of educating : the people through the media. Our younger generation is not being educated. People are seriously thinking that TV is taking away much of their share from the social life. In West Germany and developed countries, they are demonstrating in streets that the TV is taking their time, misguiding the people through wrong propaganda. That is not helping in building the character of the younger generation. It is all the more necessary in our country when we are facing so many problems and when we want to build up the character of younger generation. Therefore, we have to ponder over this matter seriously.

What we are teaching in the TV ? You know multi-nationals have captured most of the TV time. Ministers are happy that we are increasing our income. But I would like to know by which means ? We have to understand this. They are getting 68 per cent of money from multi-nationals and four or five companies are monopolising the TV time. They are teaching elitism in consumption in the rural areas. Common people, poor people are being told every day that without getting these things, their life is hell. In this way, inferiority complex is being generated among the rural people, poorer sections of the younger generation. So, multi-nationals are not only capturing our valuable time but they are injecting their ideology. That is another question to be pondered over by us. How can we charge it ?

Now, I come to professionalism. Because of too much control by bureaucracy, there is no creativity or imagination. There is no scope of imagination in the items. That is also one drawback. Professionalism should be encouraged. All sections of the people should be encouraged to participate in it so that people would enjoy it. If we whip up integration from Delhi, nobody would be integrated. That approach is wrong. When national hook up is given through network programme, I have seen in the South, people switching off the TV sets. They do not like to see all those things. If we do not listen at

the grassroot level as to what they are thinking and what is their desire, this media will not be able to serve its proper purpose. With the utilisation of modern technology by the TV and the AIR, they are getting more power. But what is happening as a result of this ? I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether it has become possible for the Government to make the people participate in the programmes ? Only the elite are being shown in the TV. Some people call it idiot box and some call it "Image" box. Some people call this box and that box. We have to understand these things. Can we encourage the people to participate ? People are not participating. Gradually, they will be disgusted if we do not have the correct perspective. The problems of the employees who are running the show should be also properly taken up and they should be judged with sympathy.

My friend said that it should be like the media in other countries. The news in TV and radio are not always correct. It should be noted. The Hon. Minister should look into it. It will not help. It will spoil your credibility if you propagate false things and wrong things. During the last election in West Bengal, we have seen the same thing. One of our candidates Mr Partha De won the election but it was announced that he lost. My colleagues from Andhra Pradesh have also mentioned similar cases. People will not believe if we say something wrong. People say one thing is wrong, other things also may be wrong. We have to earn credibility. We have to rule strictly so that proper things are properly placed in proper perspective. This powerful media can help to understand the problem of our country. It can generate the feeling of unity, integrity and mutual respect and it can build up a secular and scientific image and, at the same time, it can be a real participant in our development process.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK
 (Kalahandi) : Sir, while supporting the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, at the outset, I want to congratulate the Government, the scientists, the technologists and all those who are labouring for the phenomenal

[Shri Jagannath Pattnaik]

growth of this TV project because during so short course of period, nowhere in the world TV has covered such a large area.

The main object of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is to inform, educate and to create an awareness and participation and involvement of the people in the making of the country. Its national objective will be integrity and integration and also its social objective is to build up a homogenous society to provide economic justice, secular justice and education for all.

At this time, when there is a challenge for the national integrity whether it is from the external forces or from inside, when there is an aim to destabilise this country by the various forces of the world, by those who are not happy with our economic growth, by those who are not happy with our industrial, technical and scientific growth, it is very good that our TV and the AIR are playing a very vital role to keep up the national integration and communal happy and secularism in our country.

I want to emphasise that when we started actually in 1959 when our beloved leader Mrs. Gandhi was the Minister for Information and Broadcasting, she said: "in order to help the rural India in the country, we are starting TV". At that time, with the help of UNESCO, we started this in our country. Even when colour Television came into being, the then Minister Shri Vasant Sathe assured the House that they will give the topmost priority to the rural sector. We are following the Gandhian philosophy where we always advocate for the poorest of the poor. In a country like India, which is vastly dominated by rural areas—socially and economically—how much time of our entire programme is devoted for the rural upliftment, their culture and their dance and to create a scientific temperament to fight against illiteracy and ignorance of village people? We are telling that 65-70 per cent of total area is being covered by the TV. But, I want to know whether it is on the basis of the transmission or it is on the basis of the actual viewers it is calculated. You know as to the conditions of our rural areas. There is no electricity. If there is electricity, how much break-down is there? In this

condition, till today, we have not given justice to that sector in our programme on TV. It is mostly concentrated in big cities and towns. So, I urge upon the Ministry to see that every community centre should be provided with a TV and most of our programmes should be devoted to fight against illiteracy and ignorance. These programmes should create a scientific temperament and it should be rural-oriented. Like the developed countries, we cannot afford our Mass Communication to luxury and entertainment.

Simultaneously, there is the Radio. The expenditure on this account is very less. More areas can be covered, once you make the full use of Radio. Both All India Radio and Doordarshan can produce the serials regarding our independence struggle of 100 years, which is a saga of unique sacrifice and dedication. It will generate a feeling in the minds of the younger generation as to what is the amount of sacrifice and dedication made to build up this nation in which we are living in a free and fair environment and airing our views freely. We should know the responsibility. We should know our duty. TV and All India Radio should play a vital role in this regard. There are also the life-sketches of our various leaders like Mahatma Gandhi etc. There are the books of Mahatma Gandhi "My Experiment with Truth" and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's "Discovery of India". There are the life-sketches of Subhash Chandra Bose and Bhagat Singh. They should be produced in both our Doordarshan and All India Radio. The film is another area which can be used for the social transformation and social change as well as communication changes. But unfortunately, in our country, till today crime and sex are dominating our film media. Not that there are not sufficient, skilled Directors with imagination and vision. But there is lack of encouragement to them. We have established the National Film Development Corporation. Its working is not satisfactory. Even the picture on Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in collaboration with the USSR has not been able to be shown to the public as an epic film like Mahatma Gandhi. So, this area should be developed.

Sir, the Children Film Society is doing a very good work. They should be asked to create some creative pictures that too quality pictures for the children.

We have the Publication Division They are coming out with good publications. But because of the high price and lack of publicity, people are not getting the benefit of this. So, I would suggest that it should be low-priced and there should be ample advertisement in this regard.

Lastly, I want to draw your attention to some of the problems of my State i.e Orissa. It is not the problem alone of Orissa State. It is a demand of the whole nation because you know and the whole House knows about the Jagannath culture, which is an old culture. It is not based on any religion or it does not have any communal feeling. People from all walks of life throughout the nation gather there in the Holy Festival of Rath Yatra. There is a sentiment and emotion that many things which are less important than that are being telecast live. But unfortunately, the Rath Yatra has not yet been given live telecast. So, I urge upon the Minister very strongly that the Rath Yatra festival should be telecast live. It is most urgent.

Odissi Nritya is the property of the nation and not of only Orissa. The whole nation should be proud of it and it is our duty to preserve it. In Orissa those who are getting training in Orissa, and those who are eminent in that should be given ample time in the T.V.

You may be knowing, Sir, the late night feature film which is being shown on T.V. now is not covering Orissa. There is also no regional news bulletin for Orissa because there is no studio for that. I have been given an impression that the State Government has now decided to give land free of cost. I hope, the Hon. Minister will kindly take note of this.

We have many a time discussed with the Hon. Minister. There are many backward areas, tribal-inhabited areas, in Orissa like Kalahandi, Phulwani, Koraput and others. In Bhawanipatna, an assurance was given in this House, in 1986 there would be a T.V. Centre of one kilowatt and ultimately it would be converted into ten kilowatts and that it would cover the backward areas like Phulwani, Koraput, Kalahandi and a part of Bolangir. The Hon. Prime Minister had visited some of these areas—Kalahandi and

Phulwani. In Bhawanipatna one kilowatt T.V. Centre has already been established, but unfortunately because of some technical mistake or what it is I do not know, it is covering only a very limited area and it is not covering even ten to twelve kilometres. The same problem is there in Jeypore and Koraput. So, all emphasis should be given to improve this and all efforts should be made to have a 10-kilowatt T.V. centre. That will not serve only the district, that will serve the whole area which is 99 per cent inhabited by tribals.

Similarly, one Radio Station in the Seventh Plan has to be set up in Keonjhar and Bhawanipatna. Regarding Bolangir, Ibulwani, Baripada, Jeypore and Balasore also, all those things mentioned in the Plan should be completed within this period because the percentage of T.V. viewing in Orissa is much less than the national average. So, priority should be given. That is the basis concept of our socialistic planning. So, priority should be given in this regard.

I want to draw attention to another thing. It is not the problem in Rourkela only but in many other cities also like Durgapur. There is a steel contract because of the steel dust. I want to know whether any technical knowhow has been developed or not in this regard.

I also want to know whether in those areas as I have already mentioned like Bhawanipatna, Jeypore and Koraput, the hill-top is creating obstacles and if so, whether any technical knowhow has been developed in that regard also.

As the end I may be permitted to quote one sentence from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru because freedom of press is something to which we are all committed in a democracy. We never want to say for a moment that they should not be anti-government or anti-establishment, but there should be objectivity, honesty; they should not misutilise the freedom of press because sometimes that creates a danger. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, 20 years back, had cautioned the nation about the mass media; I will just read out that portion :

“I feel that freedom of press is as essential as freedom of hunger. The

[Shri Jagannath Pattnaik]

mass media which are very useful have an element of danger in them that they may be distorted for private gain. The rich group and the rich nations can flood the country and the world through the mass media with their own view of things which may or may not be correct."

This should be the guideline for the entire mass media.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Last time when I spoke on these Demands I had said this : the idiot box by which we normally call the Doordarshan is not going to be the idiot box but it is going to be a very wise box. And in course of time, this has been proved to be so. No longer do we call it an idiot box. Whatever may be the defects—I will be pointing out some of them right now—in the system of Doordarshan as such, by and large, it must be said, the people of this country are satisfied with the functioning of the Doordarshan. If anything that we point out today, it is with the aim of improving the Doordarshan further. And, therefore, right at this stage, I am starting from the very parliamentary coverage by the Doordarshan because that is the medium which gives us an opportunity to convey our thoughts and feelings to our people. We understand the Doordarshan has got limitation. But, let us see how Doordarshan treats the Parliament as such. Sir, the 7.30 news which is called Sansad Samachar is a first news which covers the Sansad proceedings. But, as has been pointed out earlier also, at this very time, we have got in Delhi other news, the local news on a different channel. So, when two news are there, majority of the time go for other local news. And in any case, the Sansad Samachar timings are, at the same time, most unsuitable. Apart from this, Sansad Samachar should have been compulsorily relayed by all the Kendras throughout the country. Is this happening? As far as Bombay is concerned, to which Goa is linked, I am sure, Bombay is not relaying. All other relay stations, too are not relaying. I exactly don't know which are the stations which are relaying. One thing is sure that majority of the relay centres are not relaying the Sansad Samachar. It means there are no direction, compulsory direction

to relay Sansad Samachar, which should be there. Because throughout the country people of India must come to know what is going on in Parliament. This is one aspect.

Then take Parliament news at 11.20. Timings are such that nobody listens to it. The same Parliament news also is not relayed by all Kendras. As far as these two pieces are concerned, if they are not compulsorily relayed throughout the country how are we supposed to convey our views—whatever on one line or two lines—to the country. Therefore, Sir, I earnestly request you to consider this aspect of parliamentary coverage.

Second thing is that, it becomes a little embarrassing for me as Member of Parliament to voice it in this House because we become an interested party in this coverage. Obviously we are. But, leave aside embarrassment, Sir, I am going to put certain facts. Sir, for instances, Question Hour takes place. In Question Hour, 100s of questions are answered, Unstarred and Starred. Obviously, in the major news bulletin which comes subsequently, we cannot expect Doordarshan neither the AIR to cover these questions, fine. So, out of 150 unstarred questions or so and 10-20 starred questions which are answered, two to three are picked up. Rightly so, because they cannot cover in the major news bulletin more than three questions. But when these answers are picked up and sometimes you give titles because the answers given by the Minister are relevant information, so they are to be conveyed. So, these two or three questions which are picked up for coverage, say in the major news bulletin, they are covered in detail except the name of the Member of Parliament, as if it is something like unpronounceable, as if it is untouchable. And more so, there is a policy not to mention. I will reiterate that there is a policy of the AIR, there is a policy of the Doordarshan as regards the major news bulletin—of course. Question Hour is not covered at all—not to mention the name of the Member of Parliament. I am saying "don't cover what you cannot cover." I stick to the same. You pick up those two or three questions which you feel are important. If the answer given by the Minister is important, is not the name of the Member of Parliament who asked the question impor-

tant? Kindly look into this aspect. You have been kind enough to consider this aspect.

Secondly, many times opposition says that coverage is not given to Members of Opposition parties. But today Members of the Opposition parties get more coverage than the Members of the Ruling party. Leave aside the Government side because you cannot ignore the Government side.

14.00 hrs.

Whenever a major debate is initiated, obviously it is normally initiated by one of the members of the opposition. What does Doordarshan in major bulletins or the AIR major bulletins do? Only the name of the Member who initiated the debate is mentioned prominently and on our side whoever initiates, his name is ignored and said that a Congress-I member who spoke after him, whose name is already mentioned, said so and so. This is how it is done. It is basically the decided policy; not that it casually happens. And still the opposition parties say like this.

The other day there was a debate on the Sweden radio. Many of our senior colleagues spoke—even Kaushalji spoke and his speech was widely appreciated. But at 1120 p. m. when I switched on the TV for the Parliament News, they said that Shri Kaushal also spoke. One of our senior leaders who spoke here and made some valid points 'also spoke'! I don't want to mention what was said about the person who initiated. These are the things happening which should be looked into.

As far as the News in general is concerned, these days it is very good that we see many foreign visuals. For the last seven or eight days I have seen so many visuals which are really to be appreciated. Sometimes we see what happens even in the morning on a London street on our Doordarshan because of the visuals that are shown. But anywhere in the country, except in the major parts of the country, whatever happens, no visuals are shown. May be, you are lacking in camera team, etc. But it becomes ridiculous that about foreign countries three or four and even five visuals we get, but we don't get what is happening in any of our States if the States are far away—like the Southern States and the North-eastern States—except for a

few neighbouring States like U. P. and M. P. This should also be looked into.

My colleague has said about religious processions. In fact, one would like to see each one's religious processions on the TV. Last year we have said about it and I would like to know whether you have rejected our suggestions. It should be told to us in very clear terms. We have said that let religion within our private domain, let it not be projected on TVs, so that other things which are created do not happen. If you are convinced of this argument you should say so and if you are not convinced of this argument, you can reiterate that the Government has decided not to accept this suggestion and the Government will continue the same policy. It should be told to us by and large.

As far as the feature films are concerned, what is the list that you have prepared, Sir? The other day we saw the film 'Imtihan'. What was good in that movie? I can name a hundred movies which are standard ones and which are there in the cans which can be brought. I have seen three or four movies of Mr. Sunil Datt, who is not here now. Whatever he has produced are very good movies. I asked him the other day whether they have been shown. There was a film "Yaaden" where he alone has acted for two hours. Still we could see that picture. There was no heroine, no villain and nobody else except the only one actor. Why such pictures are not shown?

There was another picture 'Mujhe Jeene Do' on dacoits which is very good. But they are not shown. Only films like 'Imtihan' which has no substance are shown. As far as the feature films are concerned, some sort of a list should be prepared by the Doordarshan and the producers of those good movies must be approached. We should not look to only those producers who suo-moto approach us. A list should be prepared and Doordarshan should approach those producers to offer their films.

Lastly I would like to suggest about the newspapers. Newspapers are free. They can have the Parliamentary coverage in any manner they want. But you can hold a meeting of the newspaper editors or correspondents and impress upon them for further better coverage of the Parliamentary proceedings.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Even the Question Hour is contained in a six-inches column. So as far as newspapers are concerned a meeting can be held and it can be impressed upon them to give better coverage.

Lastly as regards adult films which have shown they are not being shown in other parts of the country. Take, for examples, Goa. When micro-wave link is there why these films are not shown in Goa ?

[Translation]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, presently the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are under discussion. I support these Demands and congratulate the Hon. Minister specially for raising the standard of the programmes of the A. I. R. and Doordarshan recently. This is evident from the fact that the people living in the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir who have an opportunity and also prefer to hear and watch the programmes relayed from Pakistan, are nowadays eager to listen to and watch the programmes of A I R. and Doordarshan. Because the standard of these programmes have now come up to that of the programmes screened from Pakistan. Earlier, the people residing in the border areas were not interested in the Indian transmission because the plays and dramas relayed from Pakistan were of a high standard. But now our television has comparatively made much progress. Hence, I want to congratulate you for the same.

Sir, so far as the regional stations are concerned, their standards are constantly falling. It is essential to pay special attention towards them. There may be some reasons behind it, I do not want to go into detail. One of the reasons may be that Programme Advisory Committees, which are going to be constituted or have already been constituted for every station, are not generally called for meetings. Such committee meetings should be held frequently so that the A. I. R. and Doordarshan can take advice regarding the presentation of programmes and remove

shortcomings in regard thereto. Hence, meetings should be held. It is important to pay a special attention towards this matter.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in 1987-88 many new Radio Stations are going to be commissioned and many new transmitters are going to be installed. Some new Radio stations and transmission centres are being set up in the North-eastern region. It is a good step. I want to congratulate you for it because these are sensitive areas but along with it, I also want to say that similar stations should also be installed in the western sector comprising sensitive border areas of Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan because as I have said just now, the people in these areas listen to and watch the programmes relayed from the Pakistan Radio which indulges in propaganda. Hence this requires more attention. When the people residing in the border areas are not able to enjoy the programmes of their own Akashvani and Doordarshan, they will naturally look across the border.

14.09 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that area is equally important. Hence, attention should be paid to that area as well. In regard to T.V. Centres in our border areas, specially Srinagar T.V. Centre, the people allege that the programme executives there produce a distorted version of the programmes dealing in the subjects of national interest, national integrity and communal harmony. It is said that there people are closely linked with such elements who are against our programmes highlighting national integrity and communal harmony. At such stations, all positings should be made after making stringent screening. If you are unable to take any action, then those people should be posted elsewhere so that they are able to understand the nature of the country in which they are living and which is the largest secular democracy in the world. You must pay attention towards this matter.

In my constituency of Leh, we have both a Radio Station and a T.V. relay station. The Hon. Minister knows the long

correspondence I have with him and I have such a big file with me but nothing happens.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, he is also having the same type of file with him. He is also having. He can show you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : I am grateful to you that you at least answered my points as soon as I raised them. I am sure that some action will also be taken. You may be aware that our Leh Radio Stations has been absolutely off the air since some time. This station is very important for us and you should not consider it as an insignificant one because our people can understand the Tibetan language. Some sections of our population can also understand the language of Sinkiang. From the so called Azad Kashmir, which is now in Pakistan, the programmes are broadcast in our language and these are of a high standard but our own station is off-the-air. The station at Leh was commissioned in 1972 and the same generator is being used even today. The generator breaks down every hour and all the programmes so off-the-air. It should be replaced at the earliest. It is heard that a new generator is lying at Srinagar and it should be taken there immediately. Secondly, about the T.V. Transmitter, it has been installed at such a place that even half of the town of Leh is unable to catch the television programmes. It is positioned on one side behind the hill. The engineers who went there to install it perhaps liked that side but did not bother to ensure that all the people would be able to watch the programmes. They installed it at a place which was near to their office and residence. That is why, most of the villages are not covered by this transmitter. We, therefore, want that the transmitter should be shifted elsewhere and it will not be difficult to do so. It can be installed at a proper place. So much amount has been spent for relaying T.V. programmes, but what is the use of it when only a few people can watch these programmes. Our armed forces personnel are also stationed there and they maintain their contact with Delhi through these programmes. Hence, I

would demand that the transmitter should be shifted to another place.

I am grateful to you for sanctioning a shortwave transmittre for the Leh Station but you stated that it would be installed during the Seventh Five Year Plan period. Kargill is another district in our region and a Radio Station has been sanctioned for that as well but again you stated that it would be set up during the Seventh Five Year Plan. I want to submit that in view of it being a sensitive area both the stations should be set up on a priority basis so that the propaganda being made across the border can be countered effectively. So it is essential from the point of national interest. Therefore I suggest that such a transmitter should be installed on a priority basis at Leh as it will enable the people of Pakistan and Tashkant to hear our programmes. It is a sensitive area and attention must be paid to it.

In regard to the Programme Advirsory Committees, I have already stated that the meeting of the Committee of Leh has not been held so far. The posting of employees there is also an important factor. Why has the work in the Station come to a standstill and why does the generator go out of order so often? In Leh the emoluments which are paid are less than those paid in Srinagar and Jammu. There the emoluments are less by Rs. 300 to Rs. 500. It is important to look into it as well. A representation to this effect has also been sent to you and also to the Finance Ministry. But it is also essential to ensure that the Administrative Ministries look into it and support it. I have brought it to your notice earlier also, the Finance Ministry people hardly agree because they have to provide the finances. But you should support it. We will also persuade them but you should also pay attention to it.

I am grateful to you that a small T.V. transmitter of 2 × 10 watts is being installed at a small place called Khalsi in my constituency. However, I want to know on whose advice this is being installed there for a population of 150 to 200 whereas it is being devied to the areas with a population of 1000. Has anyone gone there to ask where it should be installed so that it can

[Shri P. Namgyal]

benefit more people? This is wrong. It should be looked into. The Directorate of Field Publicity visits every nook and corner of the country to show films. I would propose that the field publicity team should be equipped with video Cassettes and direct receiving set—the latest in the new technology. They can go to those remote villages which are not covered by T.V. transmitters and show these films. Besides, if an antenna is fixed on the van it can facilitate direct reception also. Moreover, the video cassettes are easy to carry. It is said that inspite of the technological advancement we are still using old and outdated machines and projectors. I feel that if instead of this the field publicity staff is provided good portable equipment, it could give better results and could show many good programmes. Today if they have to show a programme they have to carry 8 to 10 reels with them but if they are provided video cassette it would be much easier, as it is very small in size. Attention should be paid towards this direction.

Besides, there is always a tussle between the Station Director and the Station Engineer at small stations. They are incharge of the station by rotation, each for one tenure. The tussle between the two adversely affects the quality of the programme. When the Station Director is incharge, the Station Engineer plays mischief with the machine whereas. When the latter is incharge, the former plays the mischief which consequently affects the quality of the programme. There is urgent need to change this policy. What happens at the higher level, we are not concerned, but at the regional stations one can find this tussle everywhere. I think, the Station Director is technically fit for the programme. There is need to pay attention towards this direction,

With these few words, I support the Demands for Grants of your Ministry and Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mr. Panja has my sympathies because he presides

over what I consider to be an artificial conglomeration. I know very few countries with a democratic system which have a Ministry of Information. In fact, as we know, the Creation of the Ministry of Information in India was a war time measure and we also know that many dictatorial Governments have Information and Guidance Departments. It is not my intention to allege that it is being used in that manner but many a function of this Ministry can well be decentralised; can well be reallocated to other Departments; can well be passed on to the State Governments and even the organisations which are directly under its control can have a far larger measure of autonomy. However, today, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is a very important arm of the Government, primarily because it has monopoly control over the Radio and T.V., in an age which is characterised by global villages, in an age where media has become the message.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Hon. Minister has in the very first paragraph of the Report in a rather pontifical style told us that the objective of his Ministry is 'to inform, educate as well as entertain'. I would like to tell him that many of us feel that his Ministry does not inform, it mis-informs or dis-informs; that it rarely educates and is hardly every entertaining. I know its sole purpose has today become not really to educate the people of India in an objective manner with regard to their present or to their future, but primarily to project the Government and more especially the Head of the Government. In a choice of events; in its choice of situations, in its choice of facts; in its choice of *persona dramatis*, the Ministry always works out very carefully what needs to be projected with a very great degree of characteristic political acumen and therefore the coverage is always misleading and the events are many a time mis-interpreted. Even the extent of coverage is politically determined from time to time and the speed of coverage sometimes is accelerated and sometimes it is decelerated primarily looking forward to what I would call political convenience.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not talking at all about the technical excellence

or the efficiency. There perhaps a comparison may not be just or desirable, but I am worried why the very idea of autonomy of the mass-media has been completely shelved away. Why is it that when we talk of area—specific programmes we refuse to allow the State Governments which are equally elected representatives of the people to have a say in Broadcasting I would plead that as our coverage grows, as the level of consciousness grows, we should go further down. In my view, even Zilla Parishade which would also be public authorities, should have the right to run their own broadcasting stations in order to have really area-specific programmes to project the needs and aspirations to the people.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) :
 Why not each and every MP have this facility ?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I am not talking of individuals, I am talking of the constitutional bodies which are given certain administrative functions which they perform and certain duties with regard to development, which do have a role in the formulation and in the implementation of the plans. I am suggesting that these objectives should have a certain role in broadcasting.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that Door-darshan programmes have not only a political basis, as I said, they have an elitist bias. They have sometimes even a chauvinist bias. They have sometimes a certain cultural bias which I do not think always redounds to the process of national integration. Sometimes, the Door-darshan coverage is inaccurate. We had occasions to point out the inaccuracies. I do not have the time to go into the details now. But Hon. Minister is aware of them. To that extent, the programmes cease to be professional and become really the vehicle of political projection. We have serials. Some of them definitely have a social purpose. But I wish I could say that about all the serials.

We talk about the educational purpose of the TV; and I would like to know from

the Hon. Minister how much time, what percentage of total telecast time, is being devoted to educational programmes

And look at these commercials. Which world do they project? whose world? whose culture? whose style of living and whose needs? The TV is projecting a world which is limited perhaps to 1 per cent or 5 per cent of the people. It has become an instrument for the projection and propagation of consumerism. It is giving a false and misleading orientation to our way of life. It is purveying what I would call the five-star culture which is not at all what we want for our people. This elitist bias must go.

I would now like to point out the discrimination in the allocation of time to various linguistic groups. Something has been mentioned already about it by some of my colleagues. All I wish to say is that every broadcasting station, every radio station, every TV station has got a service area. It is not difficult for the Government to identify the various linguistic groups which live in that area; and, therefore, it is not difficult at all to deal with their constant complaints and grievances, in terms of a rational formula namely, that excluding the national programme, the available time should be distributed among the various linguistic groups subject to a cut-off limit according to their proportion in the population. That will silence all criticism. But I just do not understand why Government allows this situation of grievance to continue.

Sir, coming to the other aspect of the Ministry, we have these Film Festivals. I do not know whether their purpose is commercial, or whether their purpose is to give fillip to film as an art or as a mode of cultural expression. But I do find that there is something lacking about the choice. I do not know to what extent, as an organizer, we have control over what other countries which have been invited, bring in for the Festivals. I admit that point. We need not always have a complete control over it. But I really wonder whether these Film Festivals which are limited to 1 or 2 metropolitan centres, really have a beneficial effect on our people, or on our industry. I would like this

[Shri Syed Shahabuddin]

to be reviewed. We should not simply go on doing things from year to year, because they have been done in the past. The time has come when the Ministry must sit down, survey, analyze and find out what exactly were the objectives of these film festivals, and to what extent those are being fulfilled. They should not become a medium for bringing in films which would otherwise not be available in the normal channels; and in order to provide a measure of titillation for those whose tastes have been, shall we say, jaded.

Sir : We also have an organization called the National Film Development Corporation—a very high-sounding name. I looked at the Report for what they have done. They have financed 15 films, and they have financed four cinema halls, in this entire country over a period of one year. And their export performance is Rs. 25 lakhs for the whole year. I really feel that it is absolutely meaningless, it is a marginal exercise. Cut them down if they are not serving any purpose, or give them a real fillip in order that they can perform the purpose for which they were formed.

We have this Press Information Bureau, which is supposed to be the source of authoritative information about the Government. All right. It is also supposed to feed back to the Government the impact of policy measures among the people. I think that on both these counts it fails. For one thing, these Press Releases are issued mostly in 1 or 2 languages. I would like it to be ensured that every Press Release of the Government of India, every policy statement, is made available through PIB in all the languages of India, without fail and without exception. Similarly, when it comes to giving the feed-back to the Government, the scan list must be comprehensive enough that it takes into account all the leading newspapers in every language. Otherwise, this is likely to mislead the Government. This scan system and feed-back will not enlighten the Government. They will mislead the Government into wrong perceptions and, therefore, into wrong decisions. They will not give you the authoritative basis on which different departments are expected to review their policies.

We have an organization called the Registrar of Newspapers. It is known only for blocking the titles, not for releasing them. Thousands and thousands of titles have remained blocked, and I raised this question and I was promised that soon, Government will come up with some legislative measure in order to see to it that a particular title which has not been utilized for a certain period of time shall be de-frozen, and shall become available for re-allocation. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether any substantial progress has been made in that direction, legislative or executive. After all, they can easily sit down and even under the existing system a certain number of blocked titles can be de-blocked.

And finally regarding newspapers. Newsprint goes into black market. Newsprint has become a matter of political patronage, a source of corruption. We know what we produce, we know what we need, we know what we have to import. Why not de-license the whole thing? Newsprint cannot be used for anything else except printing. It cannot be consumed. Once you allow the market forces to take control, then, within that dimension I am sure that a certain re-distribution will take place and all these possibilities of corruption will go. But I allege, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, that the allocation policy and, funnily enough, the allocation policy for the year 1986-87 was announced after half the year, or more than half of the year had gone, is utilised by the Government again as a political lever, exactly in the same way as the policy for giving advertisement through the DAVP.

In the Publications Division, my humble submission to the Hon. Minister is please subsidise the publications. Other countries publish books which they want their people to read in millions and millions of copies. We do not publish them even in thousands and as an excuse we bring the market factor, because it is not profitable. Let us move away from this concept of profit as far as books are concerned. Books are the primary tool of culture, primary means of information. Please make it so that every book is published in millions of copies and every book that you consider to be worthwhile and we consider to be worthwhile, must be brought out in all the national languages of India so

that they are available to all the people of the country at the price they can afford.

Finally, in terms of international cooperation, I would like to pose only one question. We talk about cooperation in the Third World. We talk about this Non-Aligned News Pool. We talk about the new international information order. I want to know the facts. I want to know, during the last year how many TV and Radio programmes did you exchange with other countries in the Third World, and how many were actually broadcast. I would like to ask you how many news releases, write-ups were exchanged with those countries, how much information about their affairs we saw to it was published in our journals and in our newspapers for the information of our people. It is no use saying that we believe in a new information order when we do not practise what we preach. We have to set a standard and a model for the rest of the third World because we are advanced in this field.

My last point is about journalists. I really regard them as still one of the most exploited section of our intelligentsia—not of our people. They are still in the upper bracket. But among the intelligentsia they are perhaps one of the most exploited. Have we really seen to it that the working journalists do not suffer from the constant and continuous control over newspapers which are regarded as industry? I think a time has come when the Government must again review the ownership of the Press by business houses. It must be regulated more carefully if it cannot be eliminated as the newspaper industry simply cannot be regarded as just another business in order to make money.

Finally, in our social set up much needs to be done and much can be done through the Radio and the TV to bring about communal harmony, social peace and to create an atmosphere of peaceful co-existence. I am afraid, I do not think that the Information Ministry's media have really covered themselves with glory as far as this aspect is concerned.

Even the Press Council has failed to take action *suo motu* as it should under the law

against all the inflammatory, provocative, derogatory and emotionally charged writings that appear in our Press. The Press Council only deals with what is brought to them. Under the law they should *suo motu* take cognizance of something objectionable that is printed I wish they would do that and I wish the Hon. Minister would provide them with the necessary resources to do so.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS (Eriakulam) :
Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

This discussion takes place at a time when there is a calculated and planned move to cast the shadow of corruption on our political system.

We very often speak loudly about the freedom of media. There is an allegation that Doordarshan and All India Radio are controlled by the Government and that it is only the press which is completely independent. A major part of the press is under the control of big business houses which have got multi-national interests. So as long as a major part of journals, periodicals and newspapers are controlled by the vested interests of big business houses and big business men, how can we say that the press is independent. I am not making any allegation against our journalists and editors. Our journalists and editors are wizards in the field. But the big business houses have tied up their hands. So a time has come when we have to free the journalists and editors from the clutches of big business houses so that they should have freedom to write what they feel. It is the duty of journalists to convey to the readers correct and true facts and not the distorted version of any event. In this connection I have got a humble request to the Hon Minister. There are a large number of medium and small newspapers which are functioning in different parts of our country and which are mainly using the regional language. The major newspapers and magazines have got the full supports on the one hand from big business houses and on the other hand from the Government because Government is also afraid of big business houses as they have got the major newspapers. But there are small and medium newspapers which are

[Prof. K. V. Thomas]

doing a commendable service. So when you allot the quota for advertisements, these small and medium newspapers should be given their due share.

About 20 or 40 years back when radio was made a major medium we have made two commendable efforts. Nowadays, when we talk about T. V., we say in Delhi the coverage of T. V. is hundred per cent, in Chandigarh the coverage is hundred per cent, in Kerala it is seventy per cent, but have we ever thought of this whether these TV programme have reached the poor people who are living in the slums in Delhi, who are living in the slums in Bombay? That is why I am telling you about what was happening about 30 or 40 years back when radio was made a strong medium. At that time, I still remember, we had radio kiosks in almost all villages where free radio was provided to the villagers and the villagers were able to hear the radio news in the afternoon. Similarly, at that time the Harijans, the Girijans and the fishermen community were able to buy radio at a subsidised price. So, if the radio coverage has to be hundred per cent, then we should have say, TV, kiosks. We should have the TV given to the down-trodden, the Harijans, the Girijans, and the fishermen community at a subsidised price.

Coming to TV again, now there is a committee which selects the serials and the films. There are lot of complaints against how this committee functions. Very good films, which have got international awards, are denied by this committee. So, my humble request to the Minister is that there should be an appellate body. If there is any complaint against the present committee, then an opportunity should be given so that the appellate body should hear the grievances and take the decisions.

I congratulate the Minister for the quality of our TV programmes. But I have got a complaint as I come from the southernmost part of the country. In Kerala, in Tamil Nadu, many of our people cannot understand Hindi programmes. Our request was that there should be English sub-titles...*(Interruption)*

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): In regional language also.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: In regional language also. Similarly, if there are good English films or serials they can give Hindi subtitles. This will help us a lot. Actually TV is doing a tremendous work. As I told you, I come from Kerala. My kids and my wife are seeing the TV programmes everyday and now they can talk very fluently in Hindi...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: They are imposing Hindi.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: No question of imposing. What I am saying is they can show Hindi films or Hindi serials. That is a way of propagating Hindi. Instead of imposition, it is propagation. Now they are propagation and this will help. If there are English films with Hindi sub-titles, people, will be able to understand in a better manner. I want to study Hindi. Nobody is against Hindi...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: You press for Malayalam.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: I am saying Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil, everything. These are our languages. TV has become such a powerful medium that it can play an important role.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the organs of Information and Broadcasting Ministry, like Akashwani, Doordarshan, Information Bureau, DAVP and Song and Drama Division play a significant role not only in entertaining the people but also in educating them. In a developing country like India, Doordarshan, Akashwani and other various organs of this Ministry have to play an important role in involving the people in the development works, motivating them and creating a sense of awareness among them; and I am glad to say that in this regard the Ministry under Shri Ajit Panja has been successful to a great extent. Doordarshan and Akashwani has risen to

the occasion whenever there was a challenge. We can criticise from our own angle and such a criticism should also be welcomed. At time it has been observed that our criticism is not based on facts but is related to a particular point of view. Some of my colleagues say that Akashwani and Doordarshan projects the programmes of the ruling party. I would urge upon those Hon. Members to bear in mind that the programmes projected by Doordarshan and Akashwani are not Congress programmes but national programmes. If we do not inform the people of development programmes how will they come to know about them? I think, it is good if this is done by Akashwani and Doordarshan and if some people say that this is an effort to project the image of the Prime Minister and his cabinet colleagues, if is nothing but politically motivated allegation and it should not be taken so seriously.

We are proud of Akashwani and Doordarshan for having met all the challenges faced by them from time to time, but at the same time, I would also like to submit that we would also ensure that they are not turned into an advertising agency and money spinners only. I do appreciate the compulsions and constraints which the Director General of Doordarshan has to face. After all, we have to generate internal resources and also to spread the Akashwani and Doordarshan network but at the same time we will have to see that to achieve further progress, the advertisements must be purposeful and must conform to our policies. When Shri Shahabuddin of Janata Party was speaking, much of what he said was politically motivated, but he pointed out certain significant things also. Most of the advertisements on Doordarshan today are full of purely materialistic outlook and consumerism. There are advertisements which are far from reality and the average Indian listener or viewer is lost in the world of fantasy. It might be helping a company to get more customers for any product but after all how is it going to benefit our country. We have to see whether we are successful in achieving our basic objective of creating a constructive outlook. In the case of a particular brand of T. V., it is proudly declared that the name alone is Indian and the rest everything is foreign. If this is televised through the official media then are we setting a good tradition.

There are advertisements which one cannot see along with one's family. When children and youngman see certain advertisements, they demand those things which average Indian families cannot afford. I would like to submit that all of us and the entire Parliament is with you and if you need more money for the need money for the expansion of Doordarshan network we can recommend it to the Planning Commission and to the Finance Ministry. We want to achieve progress in this field but at the same time we should like advertisements. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : What about midnight films ?

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I would like to say that Shri Kolandaivelu would definitely like the midnight films But at this moment we are ready to appraise such films. Nothing has been decided as to what type of films would be screened. No policy has been formulated in this regard. I feel that the issue of screening of mid-night films should be postponed for the time being. Such programmes should be telecast whereby an average man feels involved. As indicated in the Annual Report; Doordarshan is not only meant to entertain but also to educate the masses. Efforts should be made to achieve this objective. There are efforts to see that there should be more and more foreign influence on our media and the same is happening in case of newspapers. If Akashwani and Doordarshan follow suit then only God can save us. Even a news-agency like Reuter feeds the media of developing countries according to its own choice. I suggest that there is need to encourage Indian news-agencies, particularly Hindi and other regional language news-agencies. The policy of the Government at the moment is to discourage them instead of encouraging them. Presently, the news-items released by Hindi news agencies are deemed less important than that released by English news agencies. The importance of news-items released by regional language news-agencies should also be more. We welcome the expansion policy of Doordarshan, but the network is not being expanded according to the policy expounded earlier. According to that policy backward,

[Shri Harish Rawat]

Adivasi, hilly and border areas were to get priority. We see that those border areas are being encouraged which are disturbed ones. We welcome the expansion of Doordarshan and Akashwani in the North-Eastern region. We also welcome the expansion in border areas of Punjab. It is said that the hilly areas of Himachal, Uttar Pradesh and J&K are being neglected. I dare say that the expansion is not being done according to the formulated policy. You said a few days back that about 70 per cent population would be covered through 192 Doordarshan Kendras. I can challenge that not even 15 per cent population in U. P. and Himachal has so far been covered by Doordarshan network. Against your declared policy the hill, adivasi and border areas are being given stepmotherly treatment. I submit that the time has come when this should be rectified. If you cannot cover 70 per cent areas now or 90 per cent by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan then at least 50 per cent of these areas should be covered so that the people of our area could also benefit from Doordarshan.

Similarly, I would like to say a few words about opening of Radio Stations. There are a few border areas where the broadcast through Akashwani is not audible but one can listen to Radio Peking, Radio Tashkent and B.B.C.

[English]

PROF. N. G. RANGA : It is needed in order to strengthen security also.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : There is urgent need to set up Radio Stations in these border areas even though they may be of low power. But this is being ignored.

[English]

PROF. N. G. RANGA : In every border area.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : The people of hilly areas have come to know why you

are expending the Radio and T.V. network in north-eastern region and the Western border area. I would urge you to stop this stepmotherly treatment to our people by your Ministry immediately.

*DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN (Chenglapattu) : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Hon. Members who spoke before me in this august House expressed their varied view points on the subject matter.

Radio and Television function as indispensable media of communication in this country. News and other broadcasts from New Delhi are heard in Madras nearly 1500 miles away. Radio and TV facilitate men in one place to learn about the day-to-day happenings in another place many many miles away. They are the prime instruments of dissemination of knowledge and therefore help to build a greater India, a united India.

Many Hon. Members here referred to the break-fast TV programme. This programme sponsored by Central Government starts at 7.30 AM and ends at 9 AM. Though public welcome this programme, I am sorry to state that the whole programme is telecast in Hindi. The programme has a big distracting effect on the school and college going students. Even our Hon. Chief Minister Dr. M G R has addressed a communication to the Minister inviting his attention to the matter. News telecast in this programme are either in Hindi or in English and many people in the rural areas do not, therefore, understand telecast. The purpose of transmission goes waste. I therefore request, as our Hon. Chief Minister has made out in his letter, that regional languages should be given importance and news telecasts must be made only in the respective regional languages.

We have been demanding for a long time to provide a second channel in the Madras TV.

(Interruptions)

*The Speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

[English]

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : I am on a point of order. I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister has made a walk out when the Hon. Member is talking in Tamil ? Even the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs is not using the ear phone. I would like to know whether she is able to know Tamil ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): I am noting everything.

DR. S. JAGATHRAKASHAKAN : You are simply sitting.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : When the Hon. Member is speaking in Tamil, no attention is being paid by the Hon. Minister. The concerned Minister made a walk out. She is not using the carphone even now.

(Interruptions)

DR. V. VENKATESH (Kolar) : Is it a protest against the Tamil language.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The thing is that your points are taken note of...

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : He is making so many important points.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Is he going to make the points ? (Interruptions)

DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN : I want to talk only in Tamil...

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Would you please listen to me as to what I have said ? ... (Interruptions)... Your suggestion is very well taken note of. The Minister has just gone out for 5 minutes. He will be back and he is going to read it. Don't worry about it. I am giving you an assurance...

(Interruptions)

DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN : When my speech is over, then the Minister will come...

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Is your speech over already ?

*DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, even our party leader Shri P. Kolandaivelu has so many times voiced the demand in this august House for a second Channel in Madras TV. Government must pay due attention to this. We are very sad to note that no steps have been taken the Government in this matter so far,

At this juncture, I make a forvant plea that the States Government must be given powers to control this second channel so that the State Government could use them to educate people and highlight the Government's achievements.

15.00 hrs.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi is very keen in the development of tribal people in our country. He has an earnest desire to educate the tribals so that they could also be aware of the progress we are making in all fields.

Nearly one eighth of our country is mountainous. Radio and Television must function in such a way that news and other broadcasts reach the tribals living in these areas.

Sir, we have also been demanding the Government on several occassion to set up a Radio station in Peruthurai in Periyar District of Tamil Nadu.

I very much regret the functioning of our Radio and TV on certain occassions. I have my own doubts about the Government when they attempt to impose one language on an unwilling people through undesirable programmes. This would add to problems.

Sir, there is a radio station in Pondicherry. There is one in Madras some 150

*The Speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

[Dr. S. Jagathrakshakan]

kms away. However, people in Pondicherry are not able to listen to programmes broadcast from Madras Station and *vice versa*. They give the reason that we have only low power transmitters. Whereas, we are able to listen to BBC broadcasts transmitted some 4000 miles away. We are even able to listen to programmes broadcast by Ceylon radio. But we are not able to listen to programmes broadcast in our own country from a station some 100 or 150 kms away.

Whether it is radio or TV, my sincere and humble submission is that news broadcast must be in the respective regional languages. Then only it will reach the millions and we can be able to achieve our objective.

From 9 to 10⁰ clock in the night, they telecast some programme from Delhi. They telecast news in Hindi. The rich cultural heritage of the South is being neglected. The vibrant culture of the South finds no place in any of the programmes telecast as National programme. As these programmes are telecast in Hindi and as our cultural and social life do not figure in any of these programmes, we simply switch off the TV after 9,0, clock. we do not understand what is shown on TV during this time every day. There is Bharatha Natyam in Tamil Nadu. There is Kathakali in Kerala. Not even a single such cultural event finds a place in the National Programme. The Government must enrich its TV programmes and give a national colour.

With this, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA (Hoshangabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. At the outset, I would like to congratulate through you the Hon. Prime Minister and Shri Ajit Panja and all the Technicians, Scientists, Artists and other members of their teams who have undertaken such a tremendous work of Doordarshan expansion in so short a time.

There has been tremendous T.V. expansion work. Though the Members of Opposi-

tion always criticise it and do not agree with it inside this House but whenever they meet us outside this House, they also agree that the Information and Broadcasting Ministry has done a commendable job in the way the T.V. network has been expanded over the last few years. But when they come inside the House they speak against it because they have to keep their identity alive. They feel it is their duty to speak just for the sake of opposition.

The entire country today knows how with the help of the Television education has spread. Shri Shahabuddin has left and I do not want to go into detail of the way in which he is inciting communalism through his statements in leading newspapers. I would like to submit here that his allegation that T.V. medium is being used to boost the image of some personalities and certain political parties and to publicise their policies is totally false and baseless. Today from morning to evening there are programmers on Television and one cannot believe the way Television has been working in the fields of education, entertainment, and agriculture and also to combat social evils in the society.

15.07 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

During the last few weeks we have been witnessing Dr. Bhalla's serial 'Andheri Galian' regarding sale, use of smack and charas and their bad effects on children. The people sitting on the other side cannot even imagine how this menace has been exposed. I congratulate Shri Ajit Panja because under his stewardship the morning transmission has been started with effect from 23rd February, 1987 and though Shri Shahabuddin and other Members of Opposition may not appreciate it but we have heard the reactions of the people in villages and towns where we frequently travel, and in this connection, I would like to submit that through the morning transmission, the health standard of the people is going to improve a lot. The programme for taking exercises has become very popular because the people take these exercises simultaneously while viewing T. V. and this will certainly help them in improving their health in the long run.

Shri Panja deserves congratulation for the way the Cricket Test Matches with Sri Lanka and Pakistan, the National Hockey Championship and the Tenth Asign Games were televised. I would like to suggest that along with all these games which are shown in the T. V. programmes and which are seen by the well-to-do and other sections of the society, the games like Kabbadi, Kho-kho and other games played in the villages should also be given equal importance in the T. V. programmes. This will encourage those people more who play these games free of cost.

Recently, a wrestling championship was held in Bhopal but it was not given any importance. If some importance is given to such games also, it will benefit more people and earn more appreciation.

Some Hon. Members have criticised mid-night films. Our one colleague said that these films are only for adults. There are newspaper reports that some more such films will be shown. Such type of rumours are being floated in this way. I would like to say that instead of reading such news items in the newspapers of floating rumours, it would be better if they see those films which are being shown by Doordarshan. I fail to understand what is wrong with the films in 'Achchut Kanya' and 'Dekh Kabira Roya' which were shown by the T.V., from the entertainment and character building point of view. I would request those Hon. Members, who criticise these films, to see them. I would also request the Hon. Minister to make arrangement to show such films in the whole country instead of showing them only in big cities.

I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister that he is going to set up 43 new T. V. Centres in 1987-88 and 10 Watts transmitter sets at 20 T. V. Centres. This will benefit backward and hilly areas of the country. My constituency is not covered by any transmitter. The whole of Narsingpur district is not covered by T. V. The people in the whole of country are enjoying T.V. programmes but this district of Madhya Pradesh has no such facility. The Government have sanctioned a scheme in the Seventh Plan. I would request you to instal a T.V. transmitter there at the earliest so

that the people there are not deprived of this facility.

There is a hill station Panchmarhi in Madhya Pradesh. We had made a demand to Indrajai for installation of a T. V. transmitter there and she had conceded our demand. But this has not been included in the Seventh Five Year Plan. If a T.V. transmitter is installed in Panchmarhi, the tribals of Betul, Chhindwara, Hoshangabad will be able to enjoy T.V. programmes. The tourists visiting that place will also be able to enjoy those programmes.

A lot of commendable work has been done by the Children's Society. Till now no film was produced for the children. The film producers also have done nothing in the field of making films for the children. Now films for children are being produced. I would like to thank the Hon. Minister for this A Children's Complex has been set up. He deserves our congratulations for this also.

At present publication of thousands of newspapers has been stopped. There is nobody to look after them. There is no one to see when a newspaper is brought out and when its publication is stopped and what is being published. I would like to request to take stock of those newspapers the publication of which has been stopped.

Now, I would like to draw your attention towards an important point. In the whole country some qualification is necessary for a job. If some one wants to become a teacher, a doctor or a lawyer, he will have to fulfil some qualifications. But if some one wants to bring out a newspaper, neither any qualification nor any kind of set up is needed. Therefore, I would request that some qualification should be prescribed for a person who wants to bring out a newspaper. In the absence of this, the people of villages and illiterate persons are misused and they are guided in a wrong way. If some qualifications are prescribed for such people it will not only check the present degeneration but also help in raising the standard of Journalism.

I large number of serials are being telecast. Some have been good while some have not been worth showing. I would like to congratulate you for serials like 'Buniyad,'

[Shri Rameshwar Neekhra]

'Nukkad' and other serials of this type.

We have come to know that there is a office of Doordarshan functioning in Mandi House, where a Selection Committee makes selection of serials and telefilms. There are two officers to assist this Committee. If you desire I can give their names now. For big film producers, artistes or other people who go there, there is no seating arrangement. They are asked to form a queue. They are misbehaved as well. I have come to know that unless bribes are offered to those two officers they do not submit their serials or telefilms to the Selection Committee. I would request him to streamline the procedure.

The Publication Division of your Ministry has brought out some good quality books. But they over highly price. Secondly the department has brought out some standard books like the 'Trial of Tilak' or 'Speeches of Indiraji' but these are in English medium. We will be obliged to you if these books are brought out in Hindi or in other languages.

A full fledged T.V. Studio should be set up in Jabalpur where Vinobaji lived. This will meet the requirements of the people of Madhya Pradesh and neighbouring areas.

As regard D.A.V.P. the Government should extend more help to small and medium newspapers. This is my request and with these words I congratulate you. Some of the opposition Members say that the Press is independent in the country. Who says, it is independent. Everyone knows which businessmen own which newspapers. We have seen their independence when Moily episode took place. They published so many things but when Moily episode ended and nothing came out of it, the Press is silent about those who made allegations...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) :
No, no, even to day they have published.

SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA :
Nothing has been published. Had there not been Akashwani and T.V., a number of illiterate persons who do not read newspapers have remained unaware of it. There

are persons residing in far flung and hilly areas, who neither read newspapers nor anything else, come to know about national programmes and about the development in the country through Akashwani and Doordarshan. Through these media, they come to know what is happening in the country and how much the country has made progress. I donot know why this is troubling the opposition Members. They want that the people should not get true facts about the country. They want that the people should know about whatever wrong allegations they make in the newspapers. That is why they oppose these programmes. You have done a good job. You deserve congratulations for this. But I shall extend you more congratulations if you get a T.V. transmitter installed in my area which has already been sanctioned.

[English]

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : Mr. Chairman Sir : I wish to confine myself to a few points. I do agree with many of the points made by my friends here.

For the development of the radio and T V. Particularly I have a high sense of gratitude and appreciation to Indiraji for having spent more than Rs. 20 crores during the last years of her tenure for the development of the T.V. production as well as relay centres in so many parts of the country.

But one big miss in the whole thing is that they have simply considered the total area that can be commanded by any TV centre and the number of people who live there That is not enough. We must multiply the total number of TV sets which are available for the public and that is why I would like the Government to pursue the policy of supplying free TV sets to as many collective or community -- not castwise or religion wise --social centres as possible through markets; for instance, Super Markets, Panchayat Ghars, Cooperative Societies and such other Organisations and markets in general. Now a days some sets are provided on the railway stations but they should be provided in as many public centres as possible like public parks so that the people who gather there would be able to take advantage of the T.V. shows that are being placed before the public. That is most essential otherwise all

the expenditure that we are incurring will go to waste. There is no doubt whatsoever that T.V. is serving a very useful educational purpose. The agricultural programmes are extremely useful. I have been following them carefully. The tribal and the border areas should be specially served. When we come to the T.V. shows in different language areas, captions should be there not only in English and Hindi but also in other local languages like Tamil, Telugu, Kannad, Gujarati, Marathi, etc. Captions should be provided in all these languages.

I am not in favour of making these two great institutions as so-called autonomous organisations. I need not labour the point. I want them to be under the control of the Government. Then Parliament will have control over it. You can take objection to several programmes that are being there. If it is an autonomous thing you will not have direct control. More than that today we know the kind of Press we are having. I do not attack the whole of the Press. The majority of the daily papers are now being controlled by whom and in whose interests. Can we say that it is entirely and solely in the national interest? Therefore, there must be some corrective and the Government management for these two great institutions is absolutely necessary in a democracy like ours where we have these great Corporations controlling so many chains of daily papers. There are other reasons also why they should be controlled. So, the TV and Radio should be owned and managed by Government and controlled, supervised and criticised by Parliament. I consider the suggestion made by one of our friends to be extremely disruptive to our national unity, namely that the State Governments should have their own wings of these two great institutions. We have enough disruptive forces in our country. What is needed is to consolidate, unify and help our people feel together and for that purpose the two great institutions which are now functioning today are the Radio and the T. V. The more strength we give to these institutions, the greater would be the cementing force provided to our nation and to our people.

There is the problem of local language. Tamil Nadu has taken the lead in insisting upon the importance of developing the local languages and utilising them by these two

great institutions. I add my voice of support to that. I have nothing against Hindi. I want Hindi to become our common language as soon as possible and with as much national support as possible but at the same time our other languages also are equally important and they have to be developed and utilised. They have to be utilised for educational purposes and for that the TV has got to be strengthened in an assiduous, persistent and dynamic manner. It is not just that at present. Some kind of a concession is being made to local languages. It ought not to be treated merely as a concession. It ought to be treated as a pillar of strength for our national integration. Our national integration as well as solidarity cannot be maintained by only one pillar on which the whole edifice of the nation is to be built up. But it should be a thousand-pillar edifice of national unity. Therefore, the greater strength, the greater importance we give to the local languages in these two great institutions, it would be better for our nation, Sir.

[*Translator*]

SHRI BAPULAL MALVIYA (Shajapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. As a matter of fact, TV. has benefited all the people, whether they are villagers, educated or illiterate, everyone has been benefited very much by TV. In my view, the greatest benefit has been that the people who used to roam about in markets now stay in their houses on Sundays. This is a great benefit. Not only this, the illiterate persons who live in the villages, also take advantage of TV. In my view, this is a matter of much happiness. It is also a matter of great joy that our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv has made television sets very cheaper in the market. I understand that a good radio costs Rs. 1800/—. Not only that one of our achievements is that small size television sets are also being manufactured in the country. If these are made available to the farmers, then farmers may also watch TV. programmes as they listen to the Radio programmes while ploughing the fields. This great achievement of the country and this is the greatest contribution of the modern age.

[Shri Bapulal Malviya]

There is one point more. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister as to what is meant by the term backward area. I have not been able to understand its definition. Is Delhi a backward area? Is Bombay a backward area? Is Madras a backward area or is Calcutta a backward area? Would a beginning for TV presentations be made from these areas. In my view a high powered TV transmitter should be installed in a backward area instead of Delhi. The TV programmes should be telecast from villages and backward areas, but actually the reverse is happening. I think, that area should be deemed to be a backward area. Is Lucknow a backward area? Do the villages adjoining Lucknow are backward areas? Is the area within one hundred kms. around Delhi backward? What do you deem to be a backward area? What is your criterion for deeming an area to be a backward area? According to you which areas will be treated as backward areas under the Seventh Five year Plan. In my view, the constituencies which are reserved for Adivasis and Harijains or the areas where 25 or 30 per cent of the population is of Harijans or where 40 or 50 per cent of population is of Tribals, should be treated as backward areas. But instead of backward areas, transmitters are being installed in progressive areas. I would like to submit that as a matter of fact, the reserved constituencies are backward areas. But I am very much pained to say that my constituency Shajapur in Madhya Pradesh in a reserved constituency for Scheduled Castes, where I am facing great difficulty there. I have also submitted to the Hon. Minister that the areas adjacent to my constituency like Guna, Sehore, Ujjain and Indore are covered by T.V. network, but the Shajapur area which is also a part of Madhya Pradesh, is deprived of this facility. I have made a lot of efforts for this. The difficulty is that whenever I visit my constituency, the people say that I an ineffective and weak M. P. and add that the M. Ps. in the adjoining districts are powerful. I am very much grieved. I had put forward this grievance before the former Minister, Shri Gadgil who agreed that a T.V. Centre would be installed there during the Seventh Five Year Plan. I had also submitted to him that if it was not possible to instal a high powered transmitter there, a low powered transmitter could be installed

in my constituency, so that I could at least be able to face the people.

Thereafter Gadgil Sabib left the Ministry. What does happen then? When an M. P. feels tired after exhausting all the quarters he goes to the Prime Minister as a last resort. I met the Prime Minister and made my submission to him. He also sent a letter to me that it would be included in the Seventh Five Year Plan. But when I went through the Report, I found that there is no mention of Shajapur area in the Seventh Plan. I was very much pained. I again met the Prime Minister. I went to see the Minister also. He was in Calcutta at that time. I sent a letter to him. The officers attached to the Hon. Minister sent me a reply that they were writing the same thing which was written by Shri Gadgil. They asked me to keep this in mind. I was very much disappointed. I again met Shri Panjaji. I was very happy to see him. I was happy, because he listened to me very attentively and he considered my view point.

Panjaji wrote back to me that the matter is being examined. I hope that this time my efforts will bear fruit and a low powered transmitter will now be installed in Shajapur. If he talks of the Plan, then it would be very difficult. He should find out some scope for installing a transmitter there and the impression among the people that I am weak and an ineffective M. P. may be removed. This in my submission to him.

With these words, I express my thanks to you for providing me an opportunity to express my views.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Mr. Chariman, Sir, I hope you will bear with me for a little time. I will be as fast the Rajdhani Express and try to be very brief.

Firstly, I would say a word about the use of this powerful media of the Central Government in a partisan way. Many of our opposition Members have referred to it and the Members from the Treasury Benches have refuted it. I have no time to give illustrations, while I could have

given illustrations galore. Only I would request the Hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting that if things are done to an extent which crosses the limit of credibility, then often the whole purpose is lost.

During the elections in West Bengal, I heard of two new names for Doordarshan and Akashvani; one is Rajiv Darshan and the other is Rajiv Sharwan. That would indicate what people feel. I would request my Hon. friend, the Minister for Information and Broadcasting to go a little slower in your own interest.

Then, the question of second channel has been referred to by many Hon. Members. In today's context, the question of unity in diversity has to be accepted. In that context as also for the integration, the necessity of involving the State Governments which are as much Governments as the Central Government, though with much less powers, should be seriously considered. I seriously support the contention of giving the second channel to the State Governments and at least a much greater say of the State Governments.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No interruptions, please.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Now, Sir incidentally, coming back from my State, with the elections fresh in my mind, all that singing and music indulged by many including the Hon. Minister here about the unsubstantiated charge that our Government was not able to utilise the funds allocated, is still ringing in my ears.

Well, the answer has been given by the people of West Bengal. But I am all the more amused to see here that in the Ministry of Hon. Minister himself, there is this non-utilisation of funds. With regard to the plan outlay for the year 1985-86, for All India Radio out of the allocated amount of Rs. 45 crores only Rs. 41.95 crores were spent. For Film Media out of Rs. 7 crores allocation, only Rs. 4.27 crores were utilised. For Information Media, allocated amount was Rs. 4 crores and amount utilised was only Rs. 1.33 crores. Sir I am really amused that with this record in hand, probably you would have done better by not carrying out

an unsubstantiated campaign against us for non-utilisation of funds.

That apart, I do not know the reason as to why the funds allocated were not utilised fully. Even the Film Media alone can powerfully be used now. I would request the Minister to think over this aspect. In the Annual Report in the chapter on TV and also in the chapter on Radio, very laudable objectives have been enumerated. It is mentioned in the report that the Doordarshan has to act as a catalyst for social change, to promote national integration, to stimulate scientific temper among people and soon and so forth. Many more things are also listed.

Let me take the first objective of acting as a catalyst for social change. As far as Doordarshan and AIR's programmes are concerned, some of them are good. I do not say that all the programmes are bad. But all that I can say is that the total impact is very far from working as a catalyst for social change. This is my confirmed opinion after listening and viewing the programmes and talking to the people. I will give you just one small example. Land reforms is supposed to be one of your social objectives. What have you done in this regard? In Bastar, which is very far away, Adivasis have fought like hell to make a reality of the rights given to them on paper by law, but which were denied to them by day to day administration. There were huge demonstrations for days together and those Adivasis had succeeded in getting back their alienated land. This is a great social change movement. But have any such movements been reflected either in the films or in other programmes of Television? Have they ever found a place in the so called sponsored programmes? This is just one example and I can give you many more such illustrations but I know that you are not going to give more time. I would request the Hon. Minister to look into this. How do you make these media to act as a catalyst for social change? Certainly, it cannot be done with all this consumerism running riot.

As regards the commercial earnings, two different figures have been mentioned at two separate places. For the year 1985-86, on page 3 the figure given was Rs. 62.27 crores for commercial earnings whereas on page 28 it was mentioned as Rs. 60.20 crores. I do

[Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee]

not know which figure is accurate and why there is discrepancy. Anyway, at least Rs. 60 crores are earned from commercial advertisements. It is claimed that so many products found their way to a better market and so many things are popularised and so on. May I know as to what social change is brought about by all these products? How are they going to act as a catalyst for change? Let me make it very clear Sir that this is pure consumerism and being elitist, it is opening our markets for multinationals.

In addition, certain things are depicted in an obscene manner too. For advertising Cibaca tooth-paste, what is the necessity of showing a half-naked woman emerging from sea to talk about Cibaca? How is this background relevant? What was the necessity of that half clad woman for CIBACA?

(Interruptions)

Sir, this is not the only one example. I will tell you what is the necessity of taking a boy or a girl in the arm while he wants to drive a scooter-Honda—in the advertisement? But as a whole I am saying that this consumerism which is being practised through these advertisements is taking the TV and Radio far away from their professed social objective and must be discouraged. Why not the Government go in for mobilising all their own Departments and spend the money allocated for advertisement—for Propaganda—and make good films, good items out of it, instead of going in for such bogus serials? That can be very well done.

Take for example, illiteracy. You have said that there are many educational programmes. In any of the programmes, if you could show in a very humanistic manner what literacy means to the life of a person, who is totally illiterate now, in a very inspiring and living manner it would be good. For that you can spend. You would not have to run to somebody else, if you could have done this. Many of the serials are really absolutely bogus. For example *Subah*. A lot has been said about this *Subah*. Now, if somebody misses some serials of *Subah* and watches some other, then instead of getting out of Narcotics, he or she is absolutely determined or will be determined to go in for narcotics. This seems to be the total

effect. Why go in for such serials? For whose benefit? For what social change? Let me also tell another thing. If there are, by chance, some good serials also—if they are critical of the establishment—then they become rare. For example *Sach Ki Parchhalaan*. There Nalini Singh is bit critical of the establishment. Now, we find her appearance is less and less on TV. In reality, it is the *status quo*. It is the establishment which is being served. It is not acting for a social change.

Now, I would come to national integration. I would like to say very categorically and I also agree with those friends who have said that so many religious rituals are being shown all the time. So you can never really exercise a scientific temper nor you can bring national integration. A lion's share of the time is being taken by the religious rituals. From the other side also some of the friends have said this and I fully support them. It should not be done in the interest of fighting communalism today.

Now, I would like to say the last thing, i.e. when you try to teach economics, even there we are so much lovers of western capitalism. There also things are given which are taken from the western capitalist countries. You try to teach Economics in this manner. Such things should not be done.

Lastly I would say something about women. Some programmes are there which are good but they are very few. Mostly up-till now women are portrayed as being not able to fight against anything. For example, even in *Swajam Siddha*, serial which is going on in the TV., you see a woman separated from her husband; but it appears that that poor woman cannot do anything on her own unless prodded by everybody else. If you want to make her as a real person portray her in such a manner that she will succeed with her own efforts in a correct way. I am not saying that separation is a good thing, or a bad thing. Whatever theme you take up, within that theme she must be presented in such a way that she feels fully confident of her future. That is not now the presentation, either of the youth or women or other backward classes or other down-trodden people. It is not being done in a humanistic way. That must be done, and that cannot be done if the present policy of advertising continues.

Is it very necessary to give so much time to sports? I am an old woman. Many young people will be up in arms against me. But probably the sports time can be somewhat curtailed, because it seems it is a disorganizing force in every day life and work. It has become so. So, that can be thought over.

Lastly, there is this Indian Institute of Mass Communications. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to this Institute, whose products are not absorbed in the I and B. Even those who get good training in advertising go in for multinational companies. If you are giving them training, spending a lot of money, why not utilize their expertise in Government's own work, I do not know. Perhaps that should be done.

Regarding the internal organization of AIR etc., I do not know what has happened to the Report of the Parthasarathi Committee. I hope our Minister will let us know about its fate; and about the Joshi Committee's Report, what is the final situation I think the Minister will let us know these things.

With all these, I am sorry I am not in a position to give support to the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of the Hon. Minister who is a good friend of mine, though I wish him personal success.

[Translation]

CH. LACHCHHI RAM (Jalaun): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my thanks to you for giving me time to speak. First of all, I support the demands for grants of the Ministry. Sir, I would not take much of your time. I would like to submit only few points regarding T.V. The work relating to our Television had been started approx. 27 years back, but upto the Sixth Five Year Plan, only 10 per cent of population was covered and during the Seventh Five Year Plan 70 per cent of population has been covered by T.V. network. The Department deserves our congratulations for the same. In the beginning T.V. transmitters were installed in the cities and the programmes prepared were according to the wishes of the urban population. The programmes in respect of exhibition of sports and things related thereto and advertisements in regard

there to and other programmes were prepared according to the feudal system, but now the T.V. programmes have also been made available by the Government in rural areas. Therefore, the T.V. programmes should be to the liking of the rural people. 70 per cent of the total population, who live in villages, are illiterate and poor. They are not able to know about the news and the happenings in the country. The persons who are educated are not able to subscribe newspapers as their prices have gone up very high. Our elderly leader Prof. Rangaji has repeated what he had said earlier also that television centres should be set up in the villages and T.V. sets should be given to the villagers free of cost so that they could take full advantage of T.V. programmes.

Sir, now I would like to draw your attention towards my area. I have been elected from a backward area of Bundelkhand and this is an area which is the most backward area in Uttar Pradesh. This area is far lagging behind in the matter of T.V. transmission. My area is adjoining Jhansi and Kanpur, but the transmitter and Jhansi does not telecast T.V. news in my area. Whatever programmes are caught in my area are very dim. We have been making efforts for the last two years to get a transmitter installed there. The then Communications Minister, Shri Gadgil has given his approval to set up a transmitter there and he had assured me that a transmitter would be installed there during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Now on the basis of the information which I have got, I am sure, a transmitter would be installed there during the Seventh Five Year Plan, Government officers have visited our area for the selection of a suitable site and fortunately, a suitable site has also been found, where transmitter can be installed. But I have come to know that the installation of a transmitter there would take one and a half years. Sir, our area is lagging behind by 27 years and if the installation of transmitter takes one and a half or two years more, how would it serve the purpose of removing backwardness. Our area would become even more backward. I would, therefore, like to request Panja Sahab that efforts should be made to instal transmitters in the rural areas at the earliest. The installation of such transmitters should not take one and a half or two years.

[Ch. Lachhi Ram]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government employees, specially police officials take undue advantage of the facilities being provided in the villages. The police officers have created an atmosphere of terror there. If a T.V. transmitter is installed there, it would lead to an emotional integration there and would prove to be a good step. I would, therefore, request you to instal a T.V. transmitter there at the earliest so that there could be an emotional integration and awakening among the people. In this way the people there would become fearless and understand the game of the Government employees and officers if they indulge in doing injustice to them. T.V. would create religious feelings among the people resulting in an improvement in their conduct and character and the employees and officers would not do injustice to their fellow villagers. It would definitely benefit the villagers.

In the end, I would request the Hon. Minister Shri Panja Sabeb to accord priority to the installation of transmitter in my area.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants of this Ministry.

[English]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK (Buldhana) :
Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. This is one such Ministry which is gaining more and more importance because it is through this Ministry that we can make it as an instrument of influencing the people of India.

In recent years, this Ministry, which has got a very large sphere of activities is popularly being called as the Ministry of Doordarshan, Ministry of Television, but to me and to be practical it is more than that; and I feel that one important ingredient of this Ministry is the Radio which covers almost 91 to 92 per cent of the population of India. The Radio, which is less expensive is more affordable and I feel that the Radio has more access to the people and it becomes more affordable for the people of India. On this particular media the amount of attention

which should be given has not been given. But it is creditable that the AIR authorities and the staff have been able to conduct and broadcast many programmes for the development of the country as well as to inform about the developmental programmes of the Government. It has also tried to broadcast programmes for national integration, communal harmony. And when time has called, it has also tried to give information on the natural calamities which have taken place in various parts of the country. I feel that the amount of attention and the amount of financial allocation which should be given to this particular media should be enhanced so that we can have better programmes and we can have better coverage through this less expensive media. The programmes through this media have been appreciated in the House as well as outside the House. But nevertheless, there are some problems. I would like to pinpoint one such problem.

Today there is an urgent need to have some permanent studios at auxillary centres so that a beginning can be made towards a dedicated national channel for programmes of national importance without losing and without disturbing the programmes of regional importance. We cannot afford and we cannot even expect that the national channel should work and should broadcast programmes of national importance at the cost of programmes of regional importance. Recently in the month of March a Memorandum of Understanding was signed in the capital between the Government of India and AIBD on behalf of Ryerson International Development centre for setting up development broadcasting unit projects at Kota and Nagpur. I understand that the whole of the project is to sensitise the population of those selected areas towards greater understanding of the developmental areas especially relating to the role of women and developmental works as well as human settlement and urbanisation, environmental considerations and economic development. I congratulate the Hon. Minister for taking the right step in the right direction. But I would like to know from him as to when these projects at Nagpur and Kota will actually start functioning.

About Doordarshan, as I said, so much attention has been paid on this media that more or less the Ministry of Information and

Broadcasting is being identified by the Ministry of Doordarshan. A lot of things have been said about Doordarshan. There was some criticism from the other side of the House. And some criticism from this part of the House has also arisen. I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister that while facing several difficulties he has tried to improve the quality of the programmes of Doordarshan.

16.00 hrs.

The objective of the Government and the Ministry is to inform and provide entertainment and to educate the people. This small box which till recent past used to be called the idiot box is becoming now more intelligent, informative, educative and entertaining. But this is not the limit which we achieve. We have to reach to the optimum level. We do not have to stop for anything. I cannot understand as to what hurdles are there in front of the Ministry in achieving this. Just to feel that there are no good producers, script writers and actors in the country is ridiculous. This is a country where since ages we have got very good writers, producers and actors. But the way the selection committee sitting in Mandi House has been selecting serials has really brought a bad name to the writers, producers and actors who are really very good qualitatively in the country. So, a definite probe into this matter should be made. A non-official member has been taken on the selection committee. Even though after nominating the non-official member the things have improved, but they have not improved to the extent it had been dreamt about.

Various programmes, serials and other activities are being telecast on the Doordarshan. Someone was saying that a lot of attention and time is given to sports, but I feel that it is genuine and it should be given. If there is any opportunity, it should be increased also. Sports is one such thing which plays a part in developing one's personality. Mere education does not help to develop the personality. Sports is one of the important things and the more coverage we are able to give it on the Doordarshan, the more it will help.

One thing which has been mentioned by various speakers and which I will also like

to point out is regarding the advertisements. What are the advertisements on the Doordarshan? We see on the Doordarshan some pretty girls bringing soft drinks. Some pretty girls or more pretty girls are brought on the screen. Do we forget that these television programmes reach the villages, reach the millions of people in the country who do not have any such thing to know that the world outside exists in this way? We do not want to project the world in this manner. We want to project the world which exists, the world which is practical. We do not want to project any such ideas which will bring frustration and which will lead towards destruction. So, these things should be stopped immediately.

16.02 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM
in the Chair]

The existing code of commercial advertisements on Doordarshan as well as on the All India Radio should be reviewed and this should be changed with immediate effect.

The Government programmes need more publicity. The Government has several programmes but the people are unable to take the benefits of those programmes. People are not aware that actually the Government has these programmes. So, even though we are giving publicity, there is need that we should give more publicity to the Government programmes.

One more thing which I would like to point out is that we will be celebrating the Fortieth Anniversary of our Independence as well as the Hundredth Birth Anniversary of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. These will be two very very important events in the country and I will request the Hon. Minister that some programme, some plan should be formulated to celebrate these events on the All India Radio as well as on the Doordarshan.

I have been speaking on Doordarshan as though I have got facility of Doordarshan in my constituency. I stay in the capital for some time but I remember that in my constituency Buldhana, there is no transmitter and the people there cannot take any benefit

[Shri Mukul Wasnik]

from whatever achievements the Doordarshan and the Minister have been able to make. The transmitter in Buldhana was sanctioned about twelve months back but up-till now it has not started functioning. I will request the Hon. Minister to kindly find some time at the earliest so that he can go to my constituency, inaugurate the transmitter and give the benefit of the programmes and the improvements that he is making at the Centre.

While concluding, I will like to point out that several speakers have talked about the Press. Press has to play an important role. I am not talking about the whole Press but I am talking about a section of the Press. The way it has started behaving, the way it has started acting, if that is the way, then I do not think that that will benefit the Indian society and that will benefit the country.

On the large, excepting the few black sheep in the Press, the others are those who are helping in development, who are helping to create awareness among the people, and they should not be put into problem because of these black sheep. I would like to request the Hon. Minister that on the pattern of the Kerala Government some scheme for housing as well as pension to the journalists should be formulated. These people are part of the society, they also need some protection from the Government and to give some housing facility and to give pension after their retirement will be a good way of encouraging them and also of rewarding them.

Lastly I would like to recollect what Indiraji had once said, and I quote her :

“Today through the medium of television; we come to know how other people live, what their problems are, the variety of creeds and religions and the different forms of dance, art and thus get to know India”.

There are several things about art, music and dance which need to be shown on the television. Projecting these things we will be projecting India to the various parts of the country. But I would like to point out one

thing. We have to cater to all sections of the society, but we have to cater most to those who need us the most. We want to overcome the social evil, we want to develop the women and children of India and we want to develop the youth of India in such a way that they will take the reins of the country to continue the march towards progress at a much faster rate. So, more time should be given to programmes for children's development, women's development as well as programmes which will try to eradicate our social evil which will also try to enhance the development of the weaker sections, the minorities and the Scheduled Castes.

With these words I congratulate the Hon. Minister for whatever he has been able to achieve in the past few months. More is expected from him. He is handsome; though he may be around 50 years of age, still he seems to be young and full of energy and we expect that he will do more and more good for the development of this particular Ministry.

Sir, I again support the Demands of this Ministry. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA (Motibari): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Like our young M.P., Shri Wasnik I would also like to say that under the leadership of Shri Ajit Panja, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting have made many achievements and brought about revolutionary changes in the Ministry.

The function of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is not only to inform, educate and entertain the masses but also to bring about social and economic revolution. Keeping in view this objective of the Ministry, we have to see whether this Ministry has stood the test or not. We have also to see whether the revolution brought about by Doordarshan has reached the villages or not and whether the people of the villages have been benefited by T. V. programmes or not. We are very happy to note that whereas the total allocation for the Information and Broadcasting Ministry

which was only Rs. 242 crores during the Sixth Plan, has now gone upto Rs. 1471.51 crores during the Seventh Five Year Plan. This is a quite substantial increase in the allocation. If we go through the annual plans for the years 1985-86, 1986-87 or 1987-88 we find that adequate provision has been made in these plans for the expansion of T.V. network. In the annual plan for 85-86, an allocation of Rs. 54 crores was made out of the total allocation of Rs. 110 crores and in our annual plan for 1986-87, out of an allocation of Rs. 224 crores an amount of Rs. 100 crores has been spent on Doordarshan alone. Their Annual Plan for 1987-88 has an outlay of Rs. 324 crores, of which 150 crores will be spent on Doordarshan. It shows that our Government is going to attach more importance to the programmes of Doordarshan. This is heartening indeed and we congratulate the Government for this. After independence, we saw radio revolution which was followed by transistor revolution. This continued till 1960. In the meantime, the country had another awakening, when Doordarshan started transmission of its programmes in 1958-59. From that humble beginning, Doordarshan has gone way by setting up 188 transmission centres and has now become the most powerful medium of communication in the country. There are other good jobs being done by the Government; for which I want to congratulate them.

Morning transmission, which has been started with effect from 21st February, 1987 is very good. Yoga is taught through that programme. There are other good programmes too. There are two news bulletins in Hindi and English of 10 minutes duration each. But the selection of its timing is not proper. This is more so for Delhites because they remain busy in their work right from 9.00 a.m. till night. For instance, you can see in Parliament itself that the people remain busy in their work till 9.00 P.M. Therefore, you should reconsider its transmission timing and should re-schedule it in such a way that maximum number of people could view the morning programme.

Much has been said about the serials. On Sunday, you show 'Ramayana' in the morning. This is a very good serial and I would like to congratulate you for this. At

about 12.00 in the noon, a programme for the university students and the intellectuals is telecast which too is very educative and informative. I would suggest that besides this programme, another programme for adult education should also be introduced. Now when you are going to educate the people through the communication media under an open university, I think, that is a big challenge before us to educate the adults. Although a programme in this regard is already being shown, but that is not considered to be upto the mark. It should be substituted by another programme.

You do show programmes for children but there should be some programmes for pre-primary children of 2.5 to 5 years of age, because we are living in a sputnik age and the children of our country have also become quite aware of their aspirations. You should telecast a programmes for such children also.

Now, I would like to raise some basic issues. There are non-official committees to select the serials to be shown on Doordarshan. I would suggest that two three Members of Parliament—one of them being a lady Member—should also be associated with these committees. If women are associated with these committees, I think, the quality of the programmes would be good and the selection would be done honestly. Your serials, namely 'Buniyad', 'Karam Chand', 'Hum Log', 'Rajani', 'Yatra', 'Malgudi Days' which were telecast in the recent past were all good, but the way you are stretching 'Buniyad' to increase the number of episodes, don't you feel that the serial has now fallen below its standard which was in the beginning? India has a great culture and glorious traditions. Every State has its own glorious culture and traditions. You can give a good format to the serial. In 'Unkahi', 'Chhaon', 'Tanhaiyan', Pakistan has some good and serious serials. If you start viewing 'Unkahi', you will sit through the end. Such serials are required to be produced here also. But the serials now being produced are all disappointing. Therefore, you should produce good serials so as to preserve the culture and glorious traditions of India.

The third point that I want to submit to the Hon. Minister through you is that the

[Shrimati Prabhawati Gupta]

Publication Division—one of your three Divisions besides Photo Division and Film Division—should publish educative books for children, women and the youth.

A new commercial service was introduced in 1975. The income of this service in 1977 was Rs. 77 lakhs which increased to about Rs. 62 crores in 1986-87. It is expected that this income will increase to Rs. 80 crores in the current year. This is good, but as has been pointed out by Shri Wasnik, the standard of the advertisements in this service is poor. The standard needs to be raised.

I shall come to Bihar later. An International Film Festival was organised in India in which 40 countries participated and 400 films were screened, but not a single complimentary pass was issued to the Members of Parliament. I want to know whether you got it or not? Nobody got it. What is all this? Your officers of the rank of Joint Secretary and even of the Deputy Secretary were issued passes. I would request Hon. Shri Panja to look into it and ensure that such a thing does not happen again. Although Members of Parliament do not have time, yet they have some dignity and prestige. You must maintain their dignity.

Another point which I want to mention is that the duration of the programme '*Sansad Sameeksha*' should be increased to 20 minutes because 10 minutes' time is too short. We have been elected to this House by lakhs of voters and we have to cover a long distance to reach Delhi, the capital of India. If an M.P. is to go to Madras, it will take 3-4 hours for him to reach there. From there he has to travel to his village. If I am to go to my village, I shall have to go to Patna first and from there I have to travel by train or a car to reach my constituency. This takes unduly long time. You should ensure that the programme '*Sansad Sameeksha*' reaches the villages so that the people could listen to it. The programme '*Saptahik Sameeksha*' is in regional languages in other States. I want that this '*Saptahik Sameeksha*' should be in Maithili and Bhojpuri in eastern Bihar. This programme

should be in Magadhi and Bajji also because the people in rural areas do not know English.

AN HON. MEMBER : In Bangla also.

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Let it be in Bangla also. Therefore, this '*Saptahik Sameeksha*' should be in regional languages also so that the people could know what the Parliament is doing and what is being done for the country.

Now I come to Bihar. Bihar has always been neglected in the matter of providing for a railway line, power station, bridge or irrigation facilities. Bihar is given step-motherly treatment. The State has a large population. Earlier also I had said that Bihar had played a significant role in the freedom struggle and I would like to repeat it that going by the historic and distinguished role Bihar played in freedom struggle, the State should be given more attention. Lucknow has 300 M.W. radio station but in Patna it is of 100 M.W. So far as Doordarshan is concerned, there are only four Kendras in Bihar. The one at Ranchi has 10 M.W. transmitter and its range is 120 kms. Doordarshan Kendra at Patna is also of 10 M.W. and there is no studio there. They say that the land is not available. Then what for your Ministry is there. You should send your Officers to Patna for 15 to 30 days and during this period they must finalise everything including selection of land.

I would also say that Mithila has been an important Cultural Centre. It is gratifying that relay centres have been set up at Bettiah and Tata, but a relay centre should also be set up at Motihari. Motihari is a place from where Mahatma Gandhi has launched the freedom struggle. I have made a special mention in this regard under rule 377 and had also written a letter to the Hon. Minister. He told me that a provision for that would be made in the Seventh Plan provided the necessary equipment was available. If some special equipment is not available, Government must take steps to procure that. This equipment, should be got manufactured through Defence production factories as early as possible. The Hon.

Minister should call the concerned officer in the Ministry and ask him to finalise it by establishing necessary coordination. My submission is that a T.V. Relay Centre must be set up at Motihari at least in 1988-89 if not in 1987-88. Large areas of Sitamarhi, Muzaffarpur, Chhapla, Siwan and Goplaganj will also be covered by the proposed Centre. I demand that this relay Centre should be set up.

I congratulate you for all that you are doing. You are going to set up 100 K.V. transmitters in hilly areas and tribal belts. This is a good and praiseworthy step. But I would like to tell you that the advertisements shown on television are not liked by the people because no care is taken of the dignity of women. All the Hon. Members present in this House know that the women have some dignity and self-respect in our country. This is the country of Sita, Savitri, Ansuiya, Noorjahan and Several other great women. They have given the women dignity and self respect. Therefore, I demand that T.V. advertisements should project such an image of women as is liked by the people. You should pay attention to it.

I want that the T.V. Centre at Muzaffarpur in north Bihar should be upgraded to bring it at par with the Patna T.V. Centre. Muzaffarpur is a commissionerary in north Bihar. The T.V. Centre which we have there at present has a limited coverage. The Freedom Fighters Conference held there in 1986 was not given T.V. coverage. You must issue directions from Delhi that conferences and seminars organised in the villages should also be given T.V. coverage, so that the people living in cities could also know as to what is happening in the country side.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

[English]

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN (Barpeta) :
Mr, Chairman, Sir, much can be said on both sides. Though I belong to the opposition, where it deserves a word of encouragement and acknowledgement, I will certainly say so. The Information and Broadcasting

Ministry, the Doordarshan and the Radio have done their bit, have done well. In certain respects, they deserve kudos. As we read from this Annual Report, they have made big strides in respect of T.V. and small strides in respect of the Radio. It is true that the T.V. has an edge over the Radio but I feel that if they can be made to complement each other by better coordination, better planning, I think Radio will be as popular as the T.V. The T.V. has the advantage of the visual side and the sound. The T.V. is costlier. It is rich-oriented. Whereas, the Radio is not rich-oriented. It is meant for the poor. I think we should not neglect the Radio-side of it. Transistorised radios are now coming up and they are quite cheap. We must take full advantage of this particular instrument. I would say that 80 per cent of our population will not be able to buy radio or T.V...*(Interruptions)* But it has the other advantage of reaching the poor who cannot buy newspapers. What is needed is foresight, insight, coordination and cohesion and devising innovative programmes in various fields which, I suggest, could be music and plays; jokes, witty jokes, even within limits smutty jokes too; then, comparison between good things of life and bad things; sense of road traffic. Our people, whether they are in villages or in towns, have been neglecting traffic. There is no education given on road traffic in the school curriculum. If T.V. could bring in certain shows for educating the small children through children's programme, I think, they will be doing a yeoman's service to the younger generation. Both the T.V. and the radio can be great educators of our new generation. They can also teach our children correct behaviour in the sense that many of our boys and girls in the rural areas particularly and some urchins in the towns also do not know how to behave. Can we not educate them through T.V. and radio? I have some experience of serving in the Public Service Commission where I found which way our education is going; and I could discern that the boys who had listened to the radio, whether broadcast from BBC or VOA or Radio Moscow, could answer the questions asked in a proper manner. This sort of teaching through radio is all the more necessary because we have, in the villages and towns, only half-baked teachers, and radio can really play a very effective role here and help the youngsters. We can have mock interviews in the programme. Many of

[Shri Ataur Rahman]

the boys who go for interview for jobs cut a very sorry figure. They could be taught in the class rooms through radio or TV. The manner of appearing before the interview Board seeking a job is not just scratching one's head and appearing in a slovenly manner. They can do much better if they are given proper training through radio or T.V. To bring about this sort of thing, a new slant is necessary in the programme, and these programmes will have to be publicised in advance. And if necessary the programmes should be publicised in the T.V. so that people can know what lesson could be taught, what programme will be broadcast through the radio. So, this is one point I have laid stress on.

Before I go to other point, I would like to point out that the new Education Policy does not envisage, the type of thing that I have said just now. To quotes, it says, "publicity activities on the theme were mainly concentrated on the schools and colleges and universities. Units organised symposia, seminars, inter-college debate to highlight the objectives are the main features of the new Education Policy." This is not education. We should catch the children young. That is why what I have stated is more applicable, more practical than what has been stated in the new Education Policy.

Then I go over to the second point. That is about national integration and communal harmony. There is an awareness fortunately developed amongst the intellectuals that our history books are full of inaccurate history facts. They focussed the relationship between Shivaji and Aurangzeb as a communal relationship. Whereas may I say in this House, today Aurangzeb might not have been an ideal king but when he went to South India and he stayed there for 18 years, fought not only Shivaji but he fought two muslims kings whom he subordinated and subjugated and that particular fact, this fact should be seen from this angle that the fight between Shivaji and Aurangzeb was not a communal fight. It was political. There were other instances like political. For example, Aurangzeb had the largest number of Hindu Generals. He ran the secretariat through Kayasthas in Delhi and around. They were

all Hindus with whom he was running the whole administration. He could not have run the administration without them. But this is a fact yet the particular aspect of this matter is not brought out and beclosed. There are hundreds of instances. As for example, Sultan Nazirshah, the Nawab of Bengal, for the first time, brought out the Bengali version of Gita in 1325. But has any historian, except for an Assamese historian who has written about it or brought out such a fact of history? I will cut short now.

We paid a visit to A.I.R. stations in Delhi and Aligarh, and I have visited Guwahati also, noticed that our equipments in the radio set up are very old and they are in fact worthy of condemnation. The old order must change yielding place to new. We must have new equipments. Whatever improvement that has been brought about, it is only in respect of transmitters and not in respect of improvement of studios. And of course, in the Eastern area we have another difficulty. That difficulty is the longitudinal time difference. I am sorry, latitudinal time difference. What should be done is that when it 6 O' clock here it should be 7 O' clock in Assam.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS (Tezpur): That is longitudinal difference, not latitudinal.

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN: That is correct longitudinal difference. So, we should have a regional TV for Assam. There is a general demand for regional stations by all the Members sitting here. This is a matter which should be very seriously considered. I would also say, that my constituency suffers from lack of any TV facility.

I come from a constituency where from the great saint of Assam, Sankara Deva who preached the Vaishnavite religion and had his seat of culture. We have a lot of scope to spread and project his message to the rest of India. I am so sorry to say that many people in the rest of India don't know who was Sankara Deva was.

There are some staff grievances. They don't have any transport. News collection by the staff are very very poor. They have to

go around on cycles seeking favours from various people for a vehicle. Transport should be provided to them. Their promotional prospects should be looked into, they are stagnating in different ranks for a long time. These particulars aspects should be enquired into.

My last word is that you must improve the beaming of news to the eastern regions. Even the AIR stations not heard properly. I would suggest that the Information Minister may kindly take note of it and try to improve. I had to say certain things about the communal harmony, giving certain instances. I think the Minister would kindly take note of them and project them on the TV screens as soon as possible as a specific part of programme.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK
 (Cuttack) : I rise to support the demands for grants in respect of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Sir, since independence the broadcasting in India has made a tremendous stride. Television which is an important media, has entered into our country as a modest experiment as late as 1959. Since then the progress has given India a remarkable status in the field of television and during the last few years there has been a television revolution. 80 per cent of the population will get the TV coverage by the end of the 7th Plan. Provision has been made for establishment of microwave and satellite link necessary for the primary service.

The basic objective with which the television has started should reflect the genuine rural culture. We have given the community viewing scheme. Specially the television should reach every Panchayat, every village, every community. But in the prevailing present conditions like want of facilities, shortage of staff, the community viewing calls for different approach, attitude, methodology and technique. It should be expanded as far as possible, with low cost.

What we see at present is that all production centres are in the urban areas. The excessive relay system is highly centra-

lised. What most of the relay centres are able to offer to the viewers of rural and tribal areas is the programme put by the Delhi centre.

The Joshi Working Group on software of Doordarshan has observed that the trouble with many development programmes like Krishi Darshan is that they are produced in the studio with urban men in rural grab We should see that there is reflection of genuine ruralness. A lot of infra-structure is very much necessary. We are advancing both in the hardware as well as software but there may be an imbalance between the hardware and software development. Besides having the thrust in the software development, the present constraint on resources, the equipment, and manpower should also be overcome.

As regards manpower Doordarshan does not have any training institute. It should have a training institute because the present facilities which are available now do not meet fully the training requirements of such a growing organisation like Doordarshan.

Another important step is that each State capital should have a full-fledged production studio with the capability to locally generate and transmit its own programmes so that the people of the State will watch the programmes in their own language. The Joshi Group has recommended that every LPT should have limited facilities to record, produce and transmit its own programmes for shorter duration. Of course, you are having resource constraint but it can be implemented in a phased manner. Sometimes we see that entertainment mix shatters sensible and discerning viewers The emphasic should be on the imperatives of a scientific temper of a third millenium. Television should project the typical integrated Indian personality. Its service should be directed to the typical Indian society. Here the most targeted group is women. Women in work force should be shown so as to be encouraged to participate increasingly in public life. Some Members from this side as well as from the other side have spoken that portraits of women are shown in the advertisements. This should not be done

[Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik]

because their status should be enhanced and confidence should be roused in them. The women are shown as sex objects in the films. Such films should not be shown on the television. There are many instances where the projections re-inforce reversals to the professed goals of society. Considering the immensity of the task of fighting against poverty more than half of the Doordarshan time should be devoted to the development and educational programmes. Of course, now after the new education policy this has been taken care of by Doordarshan and also All India Radio but more of development and educational programmes should be taken up. Besides traditional cultural and moral aspects and aspects of national integration should be taken up.

As regards news authenticity and accuracy it should be taken as the main ingredient of the news bulletin. As promised by the former Information and Broadcasting Minister a central news room should be set-up in Delhi to cater the latest news to all the news units. Here I may say a word about the visuals. We are glad that the visuals are telecast on the television but many a time there are irrelevant visuals. The editing skill is very much necessary to limit such visuals which overshadow the news item. It should be seen very carefully so that it does not overshadow the news item. It should be to the barest minimum.

Sir, I must say it is a fact that after the coming of the TV entertainment programme, there has been a drop in radio listening. TV is a very demanding medium in terms of attention. But nowhere in the world TV has supplanted radio. So, radio also needs much more changes in respect of expansion and development, in respect of personnel, multiplicity of channels, etc.

Sir, I must come to my State which is a backward state and which also demands the development and expansion of TV programmes as well as the All India Radio stations. In our State, a studio is to be constructed. Even if a site has been given alongwith another site in adjacent area for

staff quarters, still the construction has not been started.

A 10 KW Doordarshan transmitter has been commissioned at Cuttack which is relaying programmes from Delhi. Oriya programme from Doordarshan Kendra, Cuttack is not telecast by 10 KW transmitter. Colour equipments for studies and electronic field equipments must be provided immediately. Oriya programmes may be originated from Cuttack from 6.00 p.m. to 8.40 p.m.

Sir, the TV transmitters in Bhawanipatna and other places like Balasore, Baripada, Jeypore, Phulbani, Chatrapur must be set up during 1987-88. I am sure the LPTs will also be set up at Baripada, Sundargarh, Phulbani and Jeypore. It has already been accepted by the Government of India that Bhawanipatna will be covered. Sir, the Paradip people cannot see the television though they are supposed to see from the Cuttack centre.

One more important thing, I must tell here, is that OB vans should be provided for the live telecast of Rath Yatra. Rath Yatra is not a festival for only Hindu religion. It symbolises our culture which is the synthesis of Aryan, Dravidian and Nishada (Aboriginal) cultures. The Rath Yatra attracts large crowd irrespective of the caste, creed, and even religion. It is a symbol of national integration and gives the feeling of community life. Sir OB vans should be provided to have a live telecast. I would request our Hon'ble Minister to see that next time it should be provided.

Sir, regarding the radio station, Keonjhar, I would like to point out that for the last seven years, the building has been constructed but the radio station has not been started. There should be a time-bound programme for the setting up of radio stations.

Sir, Orissa has been excluded from seeing the TV feature film which is now shown at late night every Tuesday. Orissa should be included for that Programme also.

Sir, the Government of India had promised that after the construction of

studio complex, they will provide a separate news unit for Sambalpur. The radio complex has already been commissioned but the Sambalpur news unit has not been sanctioned till now. There has been a resentment among the people of that area.

Sir, in view of the needs of listeners in Orissa, another channel is necessary. It may be mentioned here, like many other capital cities, Cuttack should have another channel. Alternatively, frequency module should be provided. Without this, the language programme is being seriously affected.

Sir, in Cuttack Station, there is no Station Director. In Jeypore, there is neither Station Director nor Asstt. Station Director. Sambalpur is also without Asstt. Station Director. The absence of incumbents in these vital posts results in difficulties.

Sir, another thing is that previously there used to be a competitive examination in Cuttack for engineering posts for AIR. Now, it has been shifted to Calcutta. It has resulted in a great hardship to the local candidates.

We know that some staff artists and producers have been included in the category of regular Government servants, but still there are many such people, who have not yet got these facilities. I request the Hon. Minister to look into this.

I must say that Orissa should get its due share of television and All India Radio. About the Sansad Samachar, the timing in English is very much inconvenient and the Hon. Minister should think about it. The time must also be extended, so that we are able to project properly to the people about the happenings in Parliament.

I must also thank the Hon. Minister who has taken so much pains to expand the television and radio network. I hope he will further see to it that it reaches the rural areas, tribal and backward people as early as possible.

With these words, I support the Demands of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for inviting me to speak on the Demands of this Ministry.

I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. At the outset, I would say a good word about the young and dynamic Minister who has been taking keen interest and has been responsible in bringing about an overall improvement in the working of the media, that is Television and Radio.

What is required most in the country today is the promotion of national integration, ensuring security of the country, fighting out divisive forces, terrorism etc. and at the same time maintain communal harmony. These are the prime requirements at the moment in the country. In these spheres and in the sphere of speeding up the economic development, and bringing in social justice, this mass media has a vital role to play and this mass media is controlled by this Ministry. This Ministry has an important role and deals with quite sensitive areas.

As you know, the press also comes under this Ministry. In a democracy enlightened public opinion is very much important. The press has to create such an enlightened public opinion which can move in right direction in a democracy. Ours is the largest democracy in the world and in a democracy, the press assumes a far greater significance in as much as it is called the fourth estate in a democracy. But in today's debate, we find that it is television, or the All India Radio which has dominated and over-shadowed the discussions. Television combines both audio and visual. Whereas Akashvani has only one aspect that is the audio aspect. Today science has advanced. In India television was introduced for the first time in 1959. After its introduction, within a very short span of two decades, terrific advancement and rapid expansion have taken place and today television covers about 70 per cent of our population. Last year, i.e. the year under review, is a good year in terms of expansion and growth. Both qualitative and quantitative growth have taken place during the year under review in respect of these media of TV and Radio.

[Shri Sriballabh Panigrahi]

The Annual Report of the Ministry supplied to us rightly starts with the objectives of the Ministry which is three fold. The objective is to inform, educate as well as entertain with a view to creating awareness among the people about the nation's potential for development and its problems, widening their horizon, and soliciting their participation in the implementation of the policies, plans and programmes, etc.

Sir, we have to fight poverty. Without the eradication of poverty, real economic development cannot be speeded up and there will naturally be discontentment among people whom the results of economic development cannot reach. Therefore, what is important is people's participation in different programmes so as to strengthen our democracy.

Sir, we have been talking about secularism. Our secularism is not anti-religion. Ours is a country which is truly secular. Secularism is our creed and in our view secularism means equal regard and respect for all religions and equal freedom and opportunity for all religions to grow.

Sir, now I will like to touch upon some of the problems. I have some grievances to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister and I have some suggestions too to offer.

This year programmes such as 'Morning TV' 'Late Night TV' etc. are introduced. The late night programmes are limited only to a very few cities and I request the Minister that these should be extended to other areas also. Now I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the Serials and Tele-films Selection Committee. So many serials and films are being screened. There are so many good quality films based on values which have won many national and international awards and received many laurels. But unfortunately, we find that such good films based on values are left out. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to who are the people responsible for playing such mischief in the selection of films. Why are they selecting

sub-standard films, ignoring very good films that have won international awards. Since they are high quality films based on certain values, commercially they may not be very successful and it is the duty of the State to support them. There are certain officers who are playing mischief for their own personal gain. I can even mention the names of two or three such officials. They are**

(Interruptions)

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) :
Sir, he cannot mention the names of officers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not mention the names of the officers. It will not go on record.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
Anyway it is being openly discussed in different circles. I want to know from the Hon. Minister as to why all these things are happening. Why are they not selecting films of good quality based on values which have got international awards? Why are they selecting third-rate films? All this is going on behind the back of the Hon. Minister and I want to know what is being done by the Hon. Minister in this regard. Who are the people responsible for playing this mischief and trashing the image of the Government?

Sir, the Joshi Committee recommendations have been referred to with regard to software. The necessity of changing the timings of Parliament News is also stated very emphatically here.

17.00 hrs.

I would suggest that the inaugural Session of Parliament which is addressed by the President is a very colourful occasion and ritual. Why should this not be telecast live, as also the presentation of the Budget by the Hon Finance Minister? They have great national importance. So we have to consider telecasting live of the inaugural Address by the President to the Joint Sitting of the two Houses at the beginning of the year and such other things.

Now about Cricket commentary. I think the time has come when we should have

**Not recorded.

a re-thinking on this. I do not mind if there is a video recording of these games and they are played back on the T.V. screen at late hours of the night. Let the friends and lovers of Cricket enjoy them at night, keeping awake for the purpose. Otherwise at present what is the impact of these telecasts in Schools, Colleges, hospitals, and everywhere else? Naturally, it is time now for the Minister to re-consider whether such telecasts should be continued as at present or there should be a departure from it. Let Cricket be played. I had repeatedly asked the Minister what objection he has for live telecasting of the world famous Puri Car Festival where millions of people congregate. This festival is not of interest only to one religion. As observed by a previous speaker Mrs. Patnaik, it is a cultural festival. It strengthens and promotes national integration. A large number of foreigners are also present on the occasion. They eagerly go there to see the car festival. The people in Orissa are very much agitated over this matter, and they feel that there should be a live telecast of this festival.

Now I will come to one of two problems relating to Sambalpur Doordarshan. What is the wisdom of this Ministry in keeping the Transmitter at one place and the studio 300 kilometres away? Whatever facilities are necessary for having a Studio are available. Particularly in Orissa i.e., at Sambalpur, this Transmitter is there right from the seventies but the studio is located at Cuttack. The authority in-charge of the Cuttack Doordarshan Kendra is not behaving properly with the artistes and the people of the Sambalpur area. The Director has an utter disregard for the Sambalpuri language which is spoken by a population of one crore. I had brought this to the notice of the Minister. So many MLAs and Councillors have given this in writing. There was an agitation being built up. The T.V. Office at Sambalpur was gheraoed. I had personally brought this matter to the notice of the Hon. Minister. What has happened to all these things? How can you ignore this? When your one wing—the Akashwani—recognises this language and they broadcast Demands in the Sambalpuri language, in Sambalpuri dialect, why should you not do it on the T.V.? What for your T.V. is there? It is there to look

to the local requirements. The language of that area—Sambalpuri dialect—may be a regional language, but people use that language. It is one of the richest local dialects in the country. Books are printed. Dramas are being written. Why should you not introduce those things? When you have done it on the Radio why not you do it on the T.V.?

Talcher is a fast growing Industrial Complex. So one AIR Correspondent should be posted at Talcher and News Bulletin should be issued from the Sambalpur Radio Station with a news division functioning there.

Then about the Press Five newspapers are being brought out from Sambalpur which naturally deserve the setting up of one Branch of PIB-Press Information Bureau. I told you that very important functions are being done by this Ministry as far as Plan and Work programme of the Government are concerned. Different programmes are placed before the people. It is necessary to get their feed-back also. But there is a skeleton organisation under the style of field publicity. That should be strengthened. That should be expanded. Naturally about films any Press also I have a word to say. If a film cannot be witnessed by the father, mother and children sitting together, and it is showing only crime and violence and sex, what an impact will it have in our society, among our young men? What is that film worth? The Ministry and the Minister should come forward to do something about this. It is time enough. When we are very much concerned about our values which are being eroded, and when we are going to have a new Education Policy laying emphasis on values and are trying to implement it, how is it that on the other hand we are allowing our values to be further eroded and degraded? This problem should be taken very serious note of. But there are some good films, social films and other good films. What for are we having all these good films? I emphatically state that the Minister and the Ministry should take a serious note of this type of derogatory and destructive films which are showing a lot of crime, violence, sex, etc.

For example, you know how many young men, on the pattern of films, are

[Shri Sriballav Panigrahi]

committing thefts and robberies, and are kidnapping girls in different States.

I would say one word about the Press. Small and medium newspapers have a lot of grievances about newsprint etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Panigrahi, nothing goes on record. Hereafter, nothing goes on record. Sit down. Now Shri Raj Kumar Rai.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

This Department deals with the Radio, Press and Doordarshan and as has been said by the speakers who spoke before me, Doordarshan dominates them all, because it can reach the people easily and they can view and listen to its programmes. It is, therefore, natural that it should reach the masses and for that its expansion is essential. The Hon. Minister is paying attention to it and I congratulate him for that.

One of its most important organs is the press which has assumed a greater importance in the present day world. The people read what the press people write and say and unless there is something concrete to the contrary, they take what is written in the newspapers as near truth. Therefore, the Hon. Minister should pay more attention to the press. I have also written to the Hon. Minister that he has promised to extend a number of facilities to the small newspapers. The Government is giving them newsprint and other facilities, but he has no control over them. I do not say that there should be a committed press in this country. I want that the small newspapers should be given more and more benefits and facilities, but at the same time, there should be some control over them because the small newspapers publish such issues once a year or once in two

years which speak for or against some party and there after cease publication. Then they come to you again for getting quota of newsprint, but once they get it, they again go in hibernation. Therefore, there should be a constant scrutiny and the newspapers who eulogise one party and find faults with the other, should be restrained.

I would also like to say that the price of radio and television sets, especially those which have a market in the rural areas, should be reduced by giving a special concession, because a very large population of this country lives in villages and the benefits of radio and T. V. should reach them. I had raised two-three points in the party meeting also and had invited the attention of Hon. Shri Panja to them. All primary schools in Uttar Pradesh have been provided television sets. The teachers of primary schools are given training for three to four days and an allowance ranging from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per month also. But I am of the view that there is no arrangement for the security of television sets. No peon or teacher stays there at night to protect the set. T. V. sets are there in the villages, but there is no arrangement for their proper maintenance. I do not know whether U. P. Government incurred this huge expenditure or it was borne by the Central Government. In any case, there is no arrangement for the maintenance of these sets. I have written to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh as well as to the Central Government stating that if these television sets have been provided to educate primary school children in the rural areas, they should be properly maintained. If you are not able to do it, what is the need for keeping such a white elephant there? I find that all television sets are lying there unused. The people do not get any benefit inspite of this huge investment. If the Government wants this programme to be successful, they will have to implement it with good intentions and strong will-power. These television sets will have to be maintained and protected by sanctioning funds to the villages for this purpose and only then, they can yield benefit.

With regard to the language, I would submit that majority of the people in the country speak Hindi. More time should be allotted to Hindi telecasts. As of now, you

have kept Hindi and English at par and have allotted 15 minutes time for each news-bulletin. But is it necessary to allot equal time to both these languages? You may allot time to English news-bulletin also, but is it necessary to equate them? Thus, you are ignoring our local languages. I come from Bhojpur area. About 4 to 6 crores of people living in the stretch from Patna to Banaras speak Bhojpuri but no attention is paid to this language. The Government should pay attention to this language also.

The most important point is that none of your programmes has any involvement or participation of the Members of Parliament. I today's news-bulletin, Raj Kumar Rai's name will also find mention saying that he also spoke and that is all. If an M. P. goes to Doordarshan of All India Radio, nobody would recognise him. This is how your Ministry ignores us. When you do present all these programmes and want them to reach the people, won't your M. Ps. do the same? But no coverage is given to M. Ps. I want that M. Ps. should have direct involvement in it. Let it be once a month, once in two months or once a year, but they should be given coverage. You have all resources and, therefore, you must spare sometime for them, so that they could express their views on important issues and their viewpoints could reach their constituents. I would submit that while replying to the debate, the Hon. Minister should not feel content with only expressing his thanks to the Hon. Members; he should make an announcement to this effect that he is going to involve M. Ps. in this endeavour. There should be no difficulty in it when a wise person like him is heading this Department.

My constituency has a large population. A T. V. centre was set up in Ballia in February last. But Mhow has very large rural population and there is no T. V. centre in its neighbouring areas of Ghazipur and Azamgarh. Therefore, a T. V. Centre should be set up there which, I think, will cover a large population. There have been repeated occurrences of clashes in that area due to the failure of news reaching there in time. Therefore, there is need to check such instances. The T. V. programmes can help in educating the people and the farmers. We face a lot of difficulty in the absence of a T.V.

Centre there. The Hon. Minister should look into it.

I have many other points to make but the time is running out. Most of your Doordarshan programmes have not been as constructive as they should be. The products should be advertised, but the projection of some products is so vulgar that it is not at all proper. We see violence and filth in foreign films. But as has been said by one of our colleagues, the style of propagation of our own products is also vulgar. The advertisement of Ponds cream shows the models dancing and singing in a vulgar manner. The same is true of Limca and Campa Cola. This style of advertisement, does not have its origin in this country. Your advertisement should reflect the culture and character of our country. Do we present anything in this manner in our country? If not why do we do so? Will it not be impressive if we present the product through a common man by giving it some other script? Will nobody buy campa cola? But you present it in such a vulgar way that a woman model with a finger thin waistline is shown.

17.16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

You do not want to follow the tradition of this country. The people in other countries like U. S. A. and England might like it but an Indian, who has the feeling of Indianness, has respect and motherly feelings for the woman and knows about the history of this country, does not like it at all. Therefore, I would humbly request you to impose restrictions on this form of advertisement and I hope that the Hon. Minister will make announcement to this effect in the House while replying to the Debate,

With these words, I would like to thank the Hon. Minister for looking after the work of this Department very nicely and hope that he will try his level best to implement the suggestions given by us treating them as a voice of the people.

[English]

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU (Madras North) :
Thank you very much for giving me this
opportunity to speak.

At the outset, I want to say that the
morning telecast programmes are completely
in Hindi. Already during evening pro-
grammes, two or three hours are taken
away by Hindi programmes. Now even the
morning telecast which is called breakfast
telecast, is dominated by Hindi. 90 per
cent of the TV viewers in Tamil Nadu do not
know Hindi. What is the use of thrusting
such programmes and wasting money
on Hindi programmes in non-Hindi speaking
areas. ? I want to know this from the Hon.
Minister. It seems that the Tamil Nadu
Government has also made it clear to the
Centre that Doordarshan telecast in Hindi
is unwelcome. Even in Tamil Nadu
Assembly...

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : You should
also adopt Hindi gradually.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : I am pleading
for my mother tongue. You have no right
to interrupt.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : You have to
adopt Hindi also because you have made
it a national language in our Constitution.
You should adopt Hindi gradually.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Hon.
Minister will look after. Why are you
worried ? (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Mr. Deputy
Speaker, Sir, that is all right but such

remarks about Hindi are not tolerable. They
should learn Hindi.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Hon.
Minister will reply...

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Shri Panja
will reply, but it is not proper to say such
thing just to gain cheap popularity in Tamil
Nadu.

[English]

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : I have a right
to plead for my mother tongue here. I am a
Member of Parliament representing 13 lakh
people. But I cannot ask a question in Tamil
here. This is my condition. Either in English
or in Hindi I have the question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : But you like
to speak in English, so why should you speak
in Tamil. You are a V. I. P. (Interruptions)
You do not understand the importance of
Hindi. You should understand it because
you are a Dravidian, the original inhabitant
of this country.

[English]

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : My mother
tongue is one among the 14 national
languages...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have given
you the opportunity and you have expressed
your views. When he is expressing his views,
why are you interrupting ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Sir, it is not
so. You should see as to what we are saying.
We obey your orders. You ask him to
talk about the public feelings, they should
adopt Hindi.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Is he telling
something wrong ? Is he telling something

unparliamentary ? He is not fighting for English. He is pleading for his mother tongue...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : He speaks in English and considers himself to be a great man. Why does not he speak in Tamil ? He feels himself little when he speaks in Tamil. Without speaking in English how will he be known as a V. I. P. ?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I cannot understand. What do you want ?

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Sir, every time he speaks, he speaks in the same tone.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What do you want ?...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : You will come to know, Sir. If you listen to me for another five minutes, you will come to know.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is entirely different. If there is anything unparliamentary of anything controversial, I will also object to that...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What is this ? Don't bring controversies here...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Whatever be your order, but make him understand.

[English]

I want Tamil or Hindi. I don't want English.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He can speak in any language. I cannot stop him

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No controversies please...

(Interruptions)

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : Sir, I want to tell my friends here that I am not against Hindi as a language but when it is thrust on us, we oppose it. Let me make it clear...

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Sir, we cannot tolerate this. We are sorry, we cannot tolerate. We want either Hindi or Tamil...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't drive things here. Why controversies are being brought here ? ...

(Interruptions)

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : I am not yielding, Sir. Let me say...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : They think that if they speak in any Indian language, the people will think that they know nothing...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : This will spoil the chances of Hindi. They should be tolerable. This attitude will not support Hindi. Hindi will be supported by tolerance...(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH (Chatra) : We are not asking for supporting Hindi. We have got all regards for Tamil. Let him speak in Tamil. Why speak in English ? But he has no right to speak against Hindi. He has all rights to speak in favour of Tamil but he has no right to speak against Hindi.. (Interruptions)

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : I can speak very well in Tamil also. I am speaking in English so that all others can understand...
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Instead of speaking in Hindi or Tamil, he is speaking in English...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please order. Don't compel anyone. Let him speak.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : Sir, I will prefer the Hon. Member to speak in Tamil. It is a very good language. I had been there for the purpose of opening some relay station. Some of the Tamil boys taught me how to give my speech. I was very much impressed. I shall welcome that nice language here.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is left to him.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : I will request the Minister to speak in Bangla.

AN HON. MEMBER : There is no interpreter for that language.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : No, interpreter is there.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : I will certainly do so but I do not need the advice from a party which does not believe in that language.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If everybody speaks in his language, how can we do it? Unless we are having translators for fourteen language here, we cannot do it, I must tell you that translators must be there, otherwise how can we do it?

Mr. Somu, it is left to you to speak in any language.....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't compel him to speak in a particular language.

SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH : Sir, let him speak in any language he likes but let him not criticise other language....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't criticise the language...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : The controversy about Tamil and Hindi is being discussed in English language.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is the fact.

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : Sir, I want to say that.**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, don't refer to the proceedings of Tamil Nadu legislature here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU :

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will go through.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : Let them reply, Sir, when they get their chance.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI (Bellary) : Sir, I am on a point of order.

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : When you get the chance, Madam, please reply. Why are

**Not recorded.

you interfering unnecessarily? (*Interruptions*).
What point of order?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : I am on a point of order. He cannot refer to the proceedings of the other House here, Sir.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : Can I refer or not?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't refer to the State Assembly proceedings here.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : Sir**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't refer to that Minister here.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : The Tamil Nadu Government had also drawn the attention of the Centre to the utility of telecasting the programmes in Hindi. Therefore, as the people of Tamil Nadu did not welcome the Hindi programmes and...

SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam) : I welcome the Hindi programmes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Again, he has started the same fight. He is again drawing the same comparison. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : If they are bold enough, let them come to Vellore and tell this.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't drag in the State Assembly proceedings here.

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : Even the Tamil Nadu Government has reflected the resentment of the Tamil Nadu Assembly. I request the Minister to stop Hindi telecasting and introduce Tamil telecasting. I also request the Ministry to allot the second channel for the exclusive use of Tamil Nadu. It will be of much use to the Tamil Nadu viewers. Not only that. It will also develop Tamil art and culture which is very very ancient. I want to know from the Minister who are selecting the feature films in TV. Only the feature films which are not liked by the people are often screened on the TV. I do not know why such an attitude is there to compel the viewers. I request the Ministry to telecast popular and good films. After all, in the holidays people sit over the TV for a pastime. They must have some recreation. Therefore, good pictures should be screened. Even if it involves some more money to the exchequer, I request the Minister to telecast good and popular films. People should not run away from the TV. It must amuse and attract them. This Government is earning Rs 53,23 crores on commercial programmes. So it can spend some money by screening good and popular pictures.

Sir, in Tamil Nadu the TV relay transmission at Kodaikanal was linked to Madras TV centre by means of microwave link and started relaying the programmes produced and telecast by Madras TV from January 14, 1987. While I appreciate the Minister for that and I am really thankful for they have linked Kodaikanal through microwave, a function was got up at the Madras TV station on 14th January. The Hon. Minister, Mr. Ajit Panja participated. Another State Minister, Mr. Chidambaram also participated. The place where the function was got up was at Central Madras constituency. For this the Central Madras constituency Member, Dr. Kalanidhi was not invited, whereas Mrs. Vijayanthimala Bali, the Congress (I) M.P. from Madras South was invited. But I belong to Madras North parliamentary constituency. I was not invited. Mr. Palaniyandi, the Tamil Nadu Congress President, was invited, but other political parties' leaders were not invited to the function. Why such partisan attitude was taken by the Madras TV authorities? I would like to know from the Minister whether they acted on their own accord or the Ministry advised them to do so. This

[Shri N. V. N. Somul]

sort of favouritism should be immediately stopped. The Minister should immediately take steps on this and order for a thorough inquiry in this matter. I request that suitable action should be taken against such persons.

Sir, local public representatives should be given due regard and respect.

Coming to the Publications Division, some days back, I went to purchase a pocket edition of Indian Constitution in English. I was told that no English copy was available and only the latest Hindi copies were available. They have 1981 Hindi edition. They do not have the latest edition of English copy. They even do not know when the English copy would be available. I request the Minister to look into this and see that pocket edition of English Constitution (latest) is available immediately.

Coming to newspaper employees, the working journalists non-journalists are eagerly awaiting the Wage Board recommendations. Recently it had its sitting in Madras. As far as newspaper employees are concerned, there were various Wage Boards, namely Shinde Wage Board, Palekar Wage Board and now Bachawat Wage Board. Even in the announcement of interim relief, the working journalists and non-journalists conditions were not considered properly. It was only after the intervention of the Government and the Indian Newspaper Employees Federation and the demand of the other trade unions, the interim relief was increased from 7 per cent to 15 per cent by the intervention of the Government. While I thank the Government and the Ministry for this, I request that the same tempo should be maintained in the final award also. Of course, there are some good newspaper management. They implement the Wage Board Award cent percent. Even then there are anomalies. Therefore, you could imagine what would be the condition of the employees whose management do not implement the wage board award or implement it partially. Therefore, I request the Minister to safeguard the rights and liberties of the working journalists and non-journalists. It seems the Wage Board is sitting up to the

month of July. The workers are restive and the Ministry should see that the workers get the Award as early as possible. I make this request as a trade unionist connected with the newspaper employees for a very long time. There should be an effective pension scheme for the newspaper employees.

With these words, I once again request my Hindi friends to appreciate this. I want to say that I am not opposed to any language. But if any language is thrust upon us, no imperialism in India will definitely win over our language.

DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) :
Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand to support the Demands for Grants under the Control of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is a very important branch of the Government. Through radio and television, the Ministry has the opportunity to discharge its important function of creating awareness among people about development, about problems of the country, particularly social and political. The country is facing a big challenge today from the disruptive and secessionist forces. It is through this media that we can create a sense of commitment of the people to the unity and integrity of our country TV and radio are the most important instrument to help national integration, if properly used.. I again repeat the words "if properly used"e I would like to say that the poor people of our country, majority of the people who are poor cannot afford to buy TV. (Interruptions) Considering the cost of TV, only the rich can buy it. That is why I would like to inform the House that everybody knows that the villager cannot buy TV. So I suggest that the community sets are to be distributed in larger number. We are told that community sets are distributed. But their number is very very limited. In a country like ours with massive rural population and high level of illiteracy, interpersonal communication is very important. Field Publicity Organisation. is very important and in this regard I would request the Minister to expand the Field Publicity Organisation.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting covers a very wide gamut of activity. It is undoubtedly the television which is the most sensitive at the moment and is going to be more sensitive for a long time to come. Lot of allegations are made against television. I do not agree with all the allegations which are made. I say that many of them may be exaggerated. But I would like the Hon. Minister to take note of it and not to allow criticism to flourish.

We must restrict advertisement code. Many of our friends have spoken about the advertisement code. I would request the Hon. Minister to see that a Code is formed. We must not bar advertisement but we must be very very careful about choosing the advertisement because some of the advertisements give very bad impression to the people, particularly to the villagers.

I would like to praise the radio and the television. They play a very important part in education and various developmental programmes.

I have some suggestions to make. I hope the Hon. Minister would be kind enough to consider it. I start with the children. I would like to say that the Childrens' Section should be remodelled completely. I have worked among the children from the beginning of my life. From what I have seen, I feel that the Childrens' Section should be remodelled.

There should be no sermons but there should be amusement and the subjects should be educative so that the children would get enough encouragement to see and to hear the TV and the radio and they get the impression that they have to learn many things through TV and the radio and they can develop themselves in course of time.

I would like to say another point about Women's Section. That Section should be also remodelled. I do not say that all the things they are bringing under the Women Section are bad. But it should be remodelled. Whole thinking should be changed. Women should not be depicted as helpless ones. Woman should be depicted as one of the persons who can stand on her own and who can fight the social evils with the help of

the laws which are enacted by Parliament. I would like some of these women who are fighting against social evils may be telecast or broadcast by the radio.

I would like to say about the adult education and the non-formal education. Regarding these, there should be a section in the Television and also in the Radio with some arrangements of the teaching of the adult education and the non-formal education. That should be made. In this connection, I would like to say as to not to take the text of the books which are available in the country. But I would say that when you have that section, you must take the subjects which are related to the village people. If it is not related to their lives, they are no more interested I would like to say another point about culture Usual people deem culture—I mean that people get an impression—that dance, songs etc. are the culture. It is not like that. The culture is embodied throughout our life and particularly, I would like to point out that the literature or the poems or the folklore of one State should be telecast in other parts of the country. I would like to say with all humility that even in this Parliament, many of our friends, including myself, do not know the good literate people, good poets of one State and the other. We do not know. It is the duty of the Television and the radio to implement it.

Lastly, I would like to say that there are so many laws in our country. But people do not know about those laws and no effort is being made. So, it is the duty of the Government to implement them through the Television and the Radio.

I would also like to point out that there is an arrangement in this Department that there should be one Radio correspondent in each district. I would like to say that there is a great deal of difference between the big district and the small district. I take the example of the Midnapore which is one of the biggest districts not only in West Bengal but it can be compared with other districts also in other parts of our State. So I would request that in such a case, the Radio correspondents should not be one. Atleast, in places like Midnapore etc. there may be three.

[Dr. Phulrenu Guha]

Coming to films, I do not know much about films. But one point I know in many films—it may not be in many films but in some films—women are the sex items. I would request the Minister to stop that. Otherwise, a time will come when the women will come forward with a movement. If the women come forward with a movement, then don't blame us. If we are forced to do it, then do not say: 'don't do it'. We will not keep quiet with it any more. In films and other things, they are bringing women as sex objects.

With these words, I support the demands for grants.

SHRI VIJAY N PATIL (Erandol): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, seven years ago, round about two five per cent or less than 10 per cent people were able to see the T. V. Now, round about 70 per cent of the people are able to see the T.V.—and that too in remote rural areas. In 1980, in Gujarat an experiment was conducted about the T. V. broadcast and the programmes for the villagers specially in *Kheda* and Anand areas.

I would also like to thank Mr. Vasant Sathe for his farsightedness, hard work and efforts for bringing colour T. V. in this country because I know what happened; at that time I was Deputy Minister for Science and Technology and Space and I saw myself how much resistance was there from the officers from different sections of the Government, because of funds and because of different ideas of various departments. But because of his perseverance, and thanks to him, we are able to see colour T. V. even in the farthest corner of the country.

Now we are talking about improvement in T. V. programme on the one side and on the other side we are also covering more and more areas through various modes, by increasing the capacity of the present transformers and by installing new transformers. But I do not know why the Government is also going ahead with the programme of installing new Radio Stations when the T. V. is available to the majority of the people in India. I would suggest that this amount, which is being allocated for establishment of new

Radio Stations, should be diverted for increasing the capacity of the present transformers or for installing new transformers in different locations where there are no transformers at present and where there are only T. V. relay stations at present.

While talking of improvement in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, we find that there are some units which are not functioning properly, which are becoming obsolete, or which are becoming a white elephant. Specially I find, in the case of the Films Finance Corporation, considering the expenditure on the administrative side, on salaries of officers, the amount of loan that is distributed is very meagre. Last year it appears that an amount of only Rs. 53 lakhs was distributed. Even the documentaries that are financed are not many in number. It should be improved or the Films Finance Corporation should be wound up.

In the case of Films Division also, I would say this. Earlier there was no T. V. and, therefore, Government had to show documentaries in cinema theatres. But now the role has to be changed. It has to be given a different role. There also some changes are necessary.

There is a Films Institute in Poona which has got a certain capacity. Looking at the vast expansion of the T. V. network throughout the country, I would urge upon the Minister that the intake capacity, the training capacity, of that Institute should be increased at least three fold, so that sufficient number of trained personnel will be available to the Department and to various other organisations which require such types of personnel.

While talking about programme, we find that at the time of reading of news, the news reporter is always seen on the screen. Many times we do not find the picture pertaining to the news on the T. V.; only the news reporter is there. I would suggest that the news reporter may be there for only one or two minutes and if the picture pertaining to the news is not available, the news script should be displayed on the T. V. screen so that the old people who are deaf and who cannot listen properly or, for that matter, even the others could read the news while listening to

it. But it is not necessary for to be on the screen all the time for 10 minutes. There are other features also in formulation of screening of programmes. Some of the programmes films for which are taken they form part of it. I would like to tell about one example. Shri Zabbar Patel has filmed the formation of Maharashtra 25 years ago in 1957. If it would have been advertised in the press, many more facts, many more suggestions and good information would have been pictured, could have been filmed. But it was not advertised in the press and we fear it is our understanding that some things are left out in that serial about Maharashtra Government formation and subsequent development. And it will form a part of the history. In such cases, the Department should be advised to have broader base to get information from many sources, different sources which are available.

Sir, regarding coordination between different Departments, we find that there is no proper coordination between the Communication Department and I and B Department. I don't want to say that there is no coordination at all but it can be more and there can be saving on that account. If these departments can share together then there will be more development. They are sharing their assets, for example, in case of satellite. But on the ground, the TV towers and the communication towers they can be one at many places, but at present, they are not so. I will also suggest to the Minister and the Department that there is vast scope for utilising the alternate sources of energy for energising this TV relay stations and radio stations and this should be harnessed so that we can also share the energy and Energy Department's coordination can be sought.

Sir, you have already given the bell and there are so many speakers who will cover different points. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, regarding journalism I want to place one important point. In every State, in every district, new applicants come every month, every year for starting new newspapers specially weeklies and once they get the registration they publish the papers for some days some weeks and they become dormant and when the elections come they become active. And they try to blackmail the candidates whichever party they may belong. So, this sort of

attitude should be checked. Because if the paper is not running for one year, two years, Collector should be empowered to ask the editor why the paper is not being published. You just require one paper in February to be given to the Registrar of Newspapers depicting the name of the editor, the printer and publisher etc. But for other weeks, months, no enquiry is made and such papers crop up and mushroom growth comes during elections and that is harmful for the elections for the public. This point should be noted and something should be done to stop the yellow journalism. Will these words, I support the Demands.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during the controversy over the use of English, a few words were spoken by some Members over Hindi. So, I will speak in Hindi.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to appreciate the Hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting, which is a difficult thing to say from the opposition benches, for making efforts to run this entire set up very honestly, faithfully and in a balanced way. He has, however, not been fully successful in his efforts due to some other factors which I would like to discuss here.

At the outset, I would like to request the Hon. Minister to constitute a high power committee which may go into the procedure adopted in selecting the serials and telefilms. It should be seen as to which films reflect what and for whom these are meant, even if these films are not covered under the contract of the Government. I want to say that there is great resentment among the people over it. There are so many serials which run as long as for two years, therefore, I want to say that T.V. serials should be changed after every two to four months. I would like to suggest that keeping in view the present situation in Punjab, a special high level discussion should be arranged for which Members of the Parliament, people of Punjab and their representatives and Punjabi writers should be invited to see how we can make maximum use of television to fight

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

terrorism. Such arrangement should be made at Jalandhar Doordashan Centre. The Hon. Minister should call a report from Jalandhar T.V. Centre. Nothing is being done from there to fight the menace of terrorism. Every day people are being killed. Condolence messages of the people and other stories about the deceased persons should be televised to make the people realise that the terrorists who kill the innocent people, are the enemies of mankind. Therefore, I want that maximum use of Jalandhar Television should be made not only for Punjabis, but also for the entire country. First of all I would like to say that the programmes of Jalandhar T.V. Centre are relayed by Amritsar but not by Bhatinda and Pathankot relay centre, therefore, they should also be connected with it. Today only 35 per cent people of Punjab are covered by the Jalandhar Centre and rest of the people see other programmes. Therefore, Jalandhar should be made a main centre and other relay centres should be connected with it. I also would like to say that the Kasauli centre does not even cover the whole state of Himachal Pradesh. The Hon. Minister can check it up. Therefore, I want that Kasauli centre should also be connected with the Jalandhar Doordarshan Centre. It will be in the interest of the country and we will be able to safeguard the national interest. In 1975, it was decided that the Kasouli Centre will cover Patiala, Ropar and Hosiarpur. I want to ask the Hon. Minister to look into the circumstances under which this decision was changed in 1984. Why Punjab has been delinked even when we were in dire need of a television centre and a transmitter. I want that all centres of Punjab should be connected with the Jalandhar Doordarshan Centre. All the centres in Maharashtra are connected with Bombay and all the centres in Andhra Pradesh are connected with Hyderabad, so why all the centres of Punjab are not being connected with Jalandhar You should do it.

I want to say one more thing. The Hon. Minister will face no difficulty in correcting the T.V. set up in Punjab. He does not need a satellite there because a provision for direct micro-waves and other links is already there. Therefore, I request him to do it immediately. From Delhi also some special

programmes should be presented to create the feeling of fraternity among the Punjabis because we see the reaction of Punjab incidents here in Delhi. Poets' seminars are held. I would like to know the number of such seminars both in Hindi and Urdu telecast during the last six years? In Delhi 70 per cent people understand Punjabi but not even a single Punjabi Poets' seminar has been telecast. Therefore, he should look into it.

18.00 hrs.

Today the condition of Punjabi films is very pitiable, because now-a-days films are not being shown there. In Punjabi films are shown only during day time and theaters are closed at 6 P.M. and no film is shown during nights. It is necessary that the Punjabi culture, the message of Guru Nanak Dev and the Guru Granth Sahib which preach fraternity, should be spread there. Honestly speaking, even today Hindus and Sikhs have unity in villages. There is a village named Moparayakalan whose sarpanch is a Hindu. He wrote to me a letter that it was my maternal grandfather's village so I should get a sub-post office opened in that village. I requested Shri Arjun Singh and a post office was opened there. When I went to that village, the Hindu Sarpanch lifted me on his shoulders to express his happiness. Therefore, I want that such things should be shown on television and radio to create fraternity among the people.

I was saying that the condition of Punjabi films is pitiable and these should be subsidised. I can honestly say that producers of Punjabi tele-films neither know Punjabi nor Gurmukhi. It should be made compulsory. The Punjabi film producer must know Gurmukhi. It is demaging Punjabi.

The T.V. and radio services should be reorganised to remove the frustration of the employees working there. Today why are they frustrated? I think the main reason for their frustration is that they serve in T.V. or radio throughout their carrier but they cannot become the Director-General there because outsiders are appointed to this post. I am not against any particular service. I have high regard for I.A.S. Officers. One day, IAS officer is an incharge of brewery

and on the other day he becomes an incharge of animal husbandry.

[English]

There is nothing common between brewery and animal husbandry excepting 'y' at the end.

[Translation]

There is no other difference. The post of Director-General should be filled by those who are in the service of Akashwani and Doordarshan. This will increase their efficiency.

I also would like to say one more thing that while presenting local programmes from Rohtak radio station, the participants wish Ram-Ram, similarly from Jalandhar Station when rural programme is started they should be allowed to wish Sat Shri Akal. This will give encouragement to the local language and local culture.

I also would like to say that the Hon. Minister has been saying that an Indian Information and Broadcasting service would be constituted. Why are you not constituting it? Besides IAS, I.P.S. is also there. An Indian Information and Broadcasting service should also be constituted.

One local News Bulletin is broadcast from Chandigarh. Punjabi News Bulletins are relayed from Chandigarh and Jalandhar radio stations whereas Hindi news bulletins are relayed from Chandigarh, Jalandhar and Rohtak radio stations. Why Punjabi news bulletin is not relayed from Rohtak radio station? What is the difficulty? It takes only ten minutes. Let Punjabi bulletins be relayed from Chandigarh and Jalandhar radio stations and Hindi news bulletins from Chandigarh and Rohtak Stations.

In the end I would like to say that it is good that you have started relaying Gurubani of Shri Darbar Saheb and giving publicity to it from Jalandhar Radio station. There is a lacuna left in this a 50 kw. transmitter has been installed at Jalandhar Station whereas 100 kw. transmitter has been installed at Guraya Station. The latter would cater to Urdu speaking areas and the Gurubani can-

not be heard far and wide. Therefore, our 100 kw. transmitter should be reserved for Gurubani so that it is heard even in Lucknow and Patna Sahib.

With these words, I congratulate and commend the Hon. Minister and conclude. Thanks.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now it is six o'clock. There are still a number of Members who want to participate in this debate. The Minister has also to reply. If the Members take two or three minutes each, we can sit up to 6.30 today and the Minister can reply tomorrow.

AN HON. MEMBER : Let us do it tomorrow.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SARIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : Tomorrow the Minister has to reply. If the Members want to participate, let us sit up to 6.30 today.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House that we sit up to 6.30 today? If each of the Member takes two-three minutes, we can finish with the list and the Minister can reply tomorrow.

MANY HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The time is extended up to 18.30 hours.

[Translation]

SHRI BHISHMA DEO DUBE (Banda) : I have been allotted three minutes' time and at the very outset I support these Demands for Grants. I apprehend whether I can put the problems of my area properly in the allotted three minute's time. Leaving aside all this I just want to submit one thing. I hope that the Hon. Minister will lend me his ears for a minute. Banda is a backward area in Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh. A low power T.V. transmitter was approved and it was to be installed by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan but it has not been done so far in spite of repeated assurances

[Shri Bhishma Deo Dube]

through scores of letters that I received from the concerned Department. Not even a single letter mentions the time by which will be installed. When people of my constituency ask me about it, I am unable to tell them. I request the Hon. Minister to at least tell us the time by which it will be installed so that we can inform our constituents.

Secondly, there are many places of historical and cultural importance in my region. A documentary film of these places should be made this will not only promote tourism but also benefit the area. There are important places like the birth place in Rajapur of Goswami Tulsidasji who wrote the Ramayana and also of ancient poet Balmikiji. According to research studies the great philosopher, Vedvyasa also belonged to that region. World famous forts of Kalinger and Mauka etc. are located in this area and they have stood testimony to important historical events that took place since the times of Samundra Gupta. The grave of Sher Shah Suri can still be seen in that area. Besides, there are also other historical places which can be developed as tourist spots. A documentary film should, therefore, be made on these historical places as well wherein the culture and civilisations of that region is depicted so that all of us can know about these places of historical importance. I would request the Hon. Minister to give priority to this backward area. If this is not done than these areas will remain backward for ever. Doordarshan should help in the development of these areas. The farmers should be educated through television programmes. My area will benefit if a Doordarshan Kendra is set up there. I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI HAREN BHUMIJ (Dibrugarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands of Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. This Ministry has been playing a very vital role through the media of All India Radio, Doordarshan, Press Information Bureau, Publications Division, Directorate of Field Publicity, films, dramas and so on, with the objective to inform, to educate, and to entertain as well as

to create awareness amongst the people. The achievements of these objectives through expanding or spreading the network all through out the country are very much encouraging.

All India Radio today has now 93 radio stations all over the country. The 7th Plan is under implementation. No doubt, with the completion of the 7th Plan, the target of having as many as 205 radio stations throughout the country can be achieved so as to cover 97.5 per cent of population of the country, as well as 91 per cent of the area of the country. Over the years, Doordarshan has also expanded its reach and area of activities by increasing the number of transmitters upto 192 in the country. Serials, plays and other programmes so far telecast were not only impressive, but encouraging, entertaining and educative also.

Achievements in the field of Films Division, Press Information Bureau and Publications Division also cannot be denied.

I have to mention one point here with some annoyance. While telecasting and broadcasting programmes on television and radio respectively, gap periods between programmes are very much over-flooded with advertisements. Secondly, on some occasions disrespect is shown to Indian culture while showing allegiance to Western culture. So far as I remember on one occasion, preference was given to telecast a cricket match in the time allotted for 'Ramayana'. Which programme relates more to our Indian culture? It is Ramayana or the cricket match? Well, I need not elaborate on this aspect. I only submit here that it should also be the endeavour of the Government to encourage making serials based on Mahabharata, Puranas and lives of great men and patriots.

If the targets both in physical and financial terms have been achieved with success with an expenditure of Rs. 243.95 crores in the Sixth Plan, the Seventh Plan outlay with Rs. 1471.51 crores will certainly contribute to achieve the desired results and in fulfilling the aspirations of the people of the country.

The achievement in expanding and spreading the network of All India Radio and Television in the North Eastern Region is a bless-

ing bestowed upon the people of this region. Guwahati has been provided with a 10 KW High Power Doordarshan transmitter and Dibrugarh with a 100 W power transmitter with the target of commissioning of 10 KW High Power Transmitter with programme production facilities in the year 1987-88, which now cover 46.59 lakhs and 3.72 lakhs population respectively. AIR Guwahati with 50 KW/SW and AIR Dibrugarh with 300 KW/MW are in function.

Now I am coming to a very sad chapter. I would like to narrate here that mere installation of a radio or television station does not fulfil the aspirations of the people. AIR stations of Dibrugarh and Guwahati broadcast programmes of tribals daily. For Apatari, Khamti, Mising and Boro etc. tribals, they have their own units in the AIR with programme executives and programme assistants having knowledge of culture and languages of these people. But the most unfortunate thing that I want to mention in this context is that in the case of Tea Adivasi tribes whose population constitutes 40 to 50 lakhs in the State of Assam, the All India Radio stations of Guwahati and Dibrugarh broadcast the programme 'Chah Mazdoor Ashar' only twice a week, just for half an hour. For some sections of the people whose number does not exceed even 50,000, there are daily programmes whereas for 50 lakhs of Tea Adivasi people, the programme is confined for just an half an hour twice a week. It is very unfortunate. These tribals have their own dialect known as Sadri. When their forefathers migrated to Assam in the nineteenth century, these people carried with them their own traditional culture and language and have still maintained it. But in the All India Radio, they got only half an hour programme. The programme executives of the Dibrugarh and Guwahati station of All India Radio have selected some dramas, model songs, folk songs played and sung by Tea Adivasis, and they regularly and repeatedly broadcast these very programmes again and again without caring least for the need of the hour and season. These people should be given more time to broadcast their programmes. Unless these people are given opportunity to exhibit their culture and social life the way they cultivate, the very objective of this Ministry to raise the level of peoples consciousness and to enrich their culture and social life to make them a better informed citizen would go in vain.

Now I would humbly submit the following suggestions. Firstly, the *Chah Mazdoor Ashar* programme broadcast by the Dibrugarh and Guwahati Stations of All India Radio should be made a daily programme in view of their population forming a major part of Assam.

Secondly I request for a creation of an independent unit in AIR with true representatives belonging to Tea Adivasi Tribe as Programme Executives/Assistants.

And lastly, the Programme Advisory Committee of AIR Stations in Dibrugarh and Guwahati should be so formed as to accommodate representatives belonging to the different linguistic minorities, religious minorities and Tea Tribes, etc.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants.

[Translation]

*SHRI HARIHAR SOREN (Keonjhar) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants in respect of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. This Ministry plays a vital role in creating awareness among the people regarding the various problems facing the country and also the various plans and programmes of the Government.

The Press Information Bureau, the Publication Division, All India Radio and Doordarshan are all controlled by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. But the AIR and Doordarshan play a major role among these departments. As the time at my disposal is very short I would like to speak on AIR and Doordarshan only.

Sir, I would like to first speak a few words on All India Radio. At present three Radio Stations are functioning in Orissa. Out of these one is located at Cuttack, another at Sambalpur and third one is at Jeypur. 54 per cent of the total area of the State of Orissa was being covered by All India Radio for a long time. But the transmission power of the All India Radio units at Jeypur and

*The speech was originally delivered in Oriya.

[Shri Harihar Soren]

Cuttack has been raised to 20 K.W. and 100 K.W. respectively. With this increase now 81 per cent of the total population of Orissa has been covered by All India Radio net work. Still there is a need for the expansion of Cuttack Radio Station. The Government of Orissa have apprised the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting about this need. I hope the Hon. Minister will realise the need and take necessary steps for the expansion of All India Radio Station, Cuttack. Sir, the Government of Orissa has been drawing the attention of the Government of India to the fact that a sizeable population of the tribals living in the backward districts of the State is outside the pale of AIR coverage. As a consequence the State Government is not able to utilise the effective medium of mass communication in such inaccessible and underdeveloped areas where development needs to be intensified through concerted efforts. Keonjher in the State of Orissa is one such tribal predominated district. A site was selected for the location of a Radio Station at Keonjher garh in that district where the office building has been constructed subsequently. But the Radio Station has not been set up at Keonjhergarh so far. Sir, I have gone through the Annual Report of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. I am happy to learn from the Report that a local Radio Station would be set up at Keonjhergarh during 1987-88 financial year. But it is seen in the past that the implementation takes more time than projected. As the proposed local radio station is going to be set up in an underdeveloped tribal predominated district, I request the Hon. Minister to take necessary steps so that it is set up during the current financial year.

Then I would like to speak a few words on Doordarshan. The Doordarshan facility available in Orissa at present is comparatively less than other States. So far four TV centres have been set up at Cuttack, Sambalpur, Koraput and Rourkela. The power of Koraput and Rourkela TV centres is 100 watts, Sambalpur 1 KW and Cuttack TV Centre 10 KW. The demand for more TV Centres in Orissa has been growing day by day. The Hon. Minister should take note of the growing demand and do the needful.

The State Government of Orissa has been insisting on Government of India for construction of a full fledged television studio at Bhubaneswar. The State Government has earmarked land for the location of a permanent and fullfledged TV studio. Therefore, it is essential that the TV Studio complex at Bhubaneswar is constructed immediately. I hope the Hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting will expedite the implementation of this proposal.

Sir, I shall be failing in my duty if I do not say about the establishment of television centre at Keonjhergarh. I have made this demand several times. I had written a letter to the former Minister of State Shri V. N. Gadgil. I had raised this issue in this House under rule 377. Shri Gadgil had given me an assurance in his reply to my letter and 377 that a TV centre would be set at Keonjhergarh during the 7th Plan period. But it is regrettable that no further steps has been taken in that direction. As you know, Keonjhar is a former princely State which has rich tribal culture. If a TV Centre is set up at that place, the local tribal culture can be properly projected on the TV. It will create awareness among the people about various centrally sponsored schemes under implementation in the district. The local TV centre can educate them and provide entertainment. The people of neighbouring district Mayurbhanj, a part of Balasore and some portion of Dhenkanal can also watch the various programmes which would be shown from this TV Centre. In view of this, I demand that a TV Centre should be set up at Keonjhergarh during the current financial year.

With these words I support the demands once again and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum); Sir, the time is very short. Unfortunately, I will not be in a position to express myself properly. The Ministry of I & B is a very important Ministry. They are controlling three most important links of Government, viz. the Press, Radio and the Television.

I congratulate our Minister who is a young, dynamic person. He has streamlined the entire Ministry in a determined manner,

with a view to achieving the best out of the Ministry.

As I have already said, I will only suggest certain things to the Hon. Minister for his consideration. The first thing is that T.V. is playing a very big role, obviously, in our country. I have got no grievance against the programmes being shown, except that we need more direct telecasts or live T.V.—if it is possible. When I say direct telecast, I mean this. Apart from cricket matches and other things, there are other programmes at which can be directly telecast, so that they can be made more interesting. My second suggestion is about the second channel. Obviously, I am not joining issue with my opposition friends. They have already said that the second channel should be given to the State Governments directly. No; not at all. The second channel should be there for telecasting of cricket matches and other things. Now what we find is this: one of our Hon. Members said quite correctly, that a substantial time of the total period of telecast—mostly we find it so—consists of cricket matches or other things. I do not want that our young people and those who are cricket lovers or lovers of other sports should be deprived of them. But if a second channel is introduced, those things can be diverted to it, so that more informative programmes can be introduced in the main channel.

Now about the T.V. serials T.V. is now the most important medium, apart from our Radio. Of course radio is there. We find a lot of T.V. serials now. I have one grievance i.e. about which I feel bad personally. In almost every serial—not in all—and in all the films shown on the T.V., we find that there is one character who must be a politician. He is shown either as corrupt or as dishonest. This actually is a dangerous thing. Some steps should be taken immediately. All politicians are not dishonest.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are right. In newspapers also it is done, through cartoons.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : But T.V. has a tremendous impact. I have found it from my personal experience. You ask any young member of the family. They take it for

granted. How is it possible? It is not true that all politicians are dishonest. This is one of the bad effects of T.V. serials. The other day when I was watching my T.V. I found this. Is it a must that there must be a politician who must be a dishonest man or a corrupt man? Can we not draw a line somewhere? I do not know whether it is possible or not. But I protest against it, and I strongly feel that it must be stopped. Otherwise a time will come when our younger generation i.e. those who are coming later, will think that all politicians—no matter whether they are Congressmen, or they belong to CPM or Janata, i.e. whoever is a politician—is are corrupt and dishonest. It is wrong and I protest. Something has to be done. My other suggestion is regarding publicity.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In one way it is all blackmailing the politicians by the Press people or anybody, by putting this kind of information.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : We are bringing own politics to this extent. Anyway, this is my suggestion that I am making.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : This applies equally to opposition also.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : This is applicable to each and everyone. Children are seeing them.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : To everyone.

This has become a fashion everywhere.

AN HON. MEMBER : This is more for Treasury Benches.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Here you may be in the Opposition. At some places you are on the Treasury Benches.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : Sir, it is said in Bengali, "Ghute Pore, Gobad Hase". 'Ghute' means some kind of fuel, made out of cow dung. When that fuel is burnt cow dung laughs, and enjoys. I do not want to take more time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your time is over; please wind up now.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : My next suggestion is regarding our publicity. I do not know whether it is one of the duties of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, about publicity outside India. This is also my personal experience. When I visited some foreign countries I found that the knowledge about India was poor. I do not know whether our Hon. Minister knows about it. We are providing information to our Indian Missions and to Indians abroad, and it is scanty. Outside the country the people are not well informed, in our Embassies or our cultural units. I think the time has come when we should provide proper information to them so that the correct picture of India is properly projected outside India. It may be done with the help of the External Affairs Ministry,—I do not know the methods. Therefore, this is one of the suggestions I want to make.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please wind up.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : I am only giving suggestions. Then, regarding provision of T.V. sets, I think they should be provided in all the villages so that the benefits should reach the poorest of the poor. All the villages should get the benefit of the modern world, modern science, and the benefits of the twentieth century or the twenty-first century and all these benefits should reach the poorest sections.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI
VASANT SATHE) : Do not say supply;
subsidise it.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : I do not know. But the poorest of the poorer sections cannot afford to buy them. Even collectively they cannot afford to buy.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can ask for more subsidy.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : I will put my case as high as possible. I am winding up, by giving one or two suggestion.

One important point is, I am not, parochial, I hate parochialism. But I am afraid, I have to say that in the national network programme the Eastern sector if I am very precise the Bengali programmes are neglected. I request the Hon. Minister to see that the eastern sector is not neglected, and sufficient programmes may be included in the national network.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : That is why we are asking for a second channel.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : Do not take it amiss. I am not supporting the second channel. We hope that within the present set up it can be done. I think this Minister will be able to improve it, otherwise he will make a mess of it. Forget about that.

I want to know categorically from the Hon. Minister one thing. There was a programme called 'Rajdhani Kee Chittee'. It has now been removed. I want it to be re-started.

Another point is, at the end in the interest of national integration why not introduce the National Anthem on the TV and also on the Radio ?

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjunu) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. At the outset, I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister for discharging his responsibility very well. All the employees and officers working in his Ministry also deserve congratulations. Now the time has come when our intellectuals, journalists and other people who can express their views, should come forward to serve the country. They should express their views through newspapers to strengthen national unity and integrity. They should publicise through TV and the Press, the stories about our national heroes who have made sacrifices for this country. In the TV programmes, the work done by our freedom fighters like Sardar Bhagat Singh, Gandhi, Nebru and Indira should be highlighted.

About language, I would like to say that now the time has come when we should publicise our languages, particularly Tamil, Telgu, Malayalam, English, Hindi, Bengali etc. There should be a key through which we may understand language of each other. In addition to it enough time should be given to prepare booklets in other languages also.

Rajasthan is not only a border State but also a backward area, where neither water nor any other facility is available. In spite of this, the people of that State want to remain in touch with the developed areas of the country and this can be done through television. I come from Jhunjhunu area where 90 per cent men serve in the Armed forces and the Selection Board of that area is also famous. The people of that area are still truthful and honest but that area is still deprived of T.V. facility. The Hon. Minister was with us last year during mass-contact movement in Punjab and after that he was appointed as a Minister. Therefore, we should, atleast get his cooperation in granting an approval for a TV tower at Jhunjhunu.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Ayub Sahebji, you have forgotten about the constituency of the Speaker.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Sir, as he has pointed out, the constituency of the Speaker is also adjacent to my constituency. It is, therefore, requested that T.V. relay centres should be set up at both these places, viz. Jhunjhunu and Sikar simultaneously. If it is set up only at one place, that will create a trouble.

It should be appreciated how our jawans fight for our country. After coming here, I have heard the kind of speeches which are made here. They are least concerned with our national unity and fate of the country. They speak very fluently in English and in other languages, but they do not make any reference to our soldiers who shed their blood to protect every inch of our motherland. We should show due respect to our jawans who make sacrifices to defend our holy country. Reference should also be made to those who are award holders. Their deeds should be highlighted through TV. pro-

grammes to strengthen our national 'unity and integrity.

The morning T.V. programmes should be started with the singing of the National Anthem which will be helpful in building up our national character and it will inculcate the feeling of patriotism among our countrymen. The sense of patriotism should be imbibed in the minds of our people so that they do not indulge in corrupt practices. Those people, particularly the pressmen who are doing good work for the country should be provided free accommodation and all other facilities as provided to other employees. They provide good literature, and good newspapers to the people, therefore, they should also be given encouragement. We should also keep an eye on those people who want to destroy the country and publish such news — items which damage the interest of the country. Now the time has come when we should see that this country remains free of Jaichands, and Mir Zafars. The views of those people, who talk of religion and try to cause harm to the country in the name of religion, should never be given any publicity.

In the end, I once again would like to say that T.V. towers should be set up both at Jhunjhunu and Sikar.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to refer to only two-three points. Today T.V. is the most powerful medium which should be properly utilised. M. Ps should be involved in T.V. programmes, particularly in T.V. serials. In this regard I would like to cite an example. When Shri Gadgil was the incharge of this Ministry, he invited 6-7 M.Ps and showed us the T.V. serial 'Ramayana' of Ramanand Sagar. We saw the serial for hours together and rejected it with the remarks that if it is shown, riots will take place indifferent places of the country. The Hon. Minister was asked to see the original tape. In the light of our suggestions various amendments were made there in. There are still some drawbacks in it. I do not want to disclose in the House what was shown in it, but I am giving an example. In case of such T.V. serials which affect the entire country, M. Ps. must be involved in the process of selection. In Railways, besides the consultative

[Dr. G. S. Rajhans]

Committee, the Minister of Railway calls an M. P. of every area once in two to three months. Similarly, the minister of Communications also calls an M. P. of every area once in two or three months. Therefore, he should also invite M. Ps. of his choice to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for selecting T.V. serials. Talented M.Ps are available in both Houses of the Parliament. He should not evade this issue by saying that only non-officials are invited for this purpose. I have serious objection about the procedure being followed in selecting T.V. serials. I do not say that he should select serials only on the advice of M Ps., but he must invite suggestions from them. I once again request him to compare the original version with the new version which is now being telecast. In the context of this 'Ramayana' serial I would like to point out that it has become a practice to prolong the T.V. serial as much as one can. It took two months to complete the 'Dhanush Bhang' episode. Similarly, if camera is focussed on the face of Dashratha, it remains focussed for two minutes. What is there on the face of Dashratha to show for two minutes. But the producer wants to consume more and more time, so that the serial may be prolonged 2 to 3 years. My suggestion is that no serial should have more than 15 or 26 or maximum 52 episodes. If it is long one you should show it twice in a week and some new programmes should be presented on television.

Earlier, you used to present some stories, which have become very popular but now you have discontinued them. So far as 'Kashmakash' and 'Swayam idha' are concerned, there are so many complaints. This is the image of women as is being projected there? In *Swayamsidha* an ailing lady was shown. The producer, Director and actor of this serial are my friends and I do not want to disclose their name. He has brought his own daughter as a heroine playing the role of an ailing lady crying for water. The entire episode is worthless. Similarly in *Kashmakash* also you have presented dark aspects of women. I want to say that T.V. is a very powerful medium. Therefore, you should utilise it properly. In this regard I would like to say one thing that every M. P. should be given five minutes' time in a year on Television to speak about his own consti-

tuency. In the advertisements shown on T.V., whether regarding Limca, Vimal Fabrics or Bombay Dyeing, fairies are shown. It is not India; the real India lives in villages. They are poor, remain affected by flood for eight months in a year, they do not get two square meal and have no clothes on their body. Therefore, I want that you should show the real condition of the constituency only for five minutes, so that the people may come to know as what is being done in the country or the M. P. of that constituency should be given five minutes' time to express his own views on Television.

In the end I would like to say about 'Sansad Samachar'. In this programme a long list is given that Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas and Dr. G. S. Rajhans spoke. It should not be done like that. The presentation of Akashwani is better than that of Doordarshan because at least one sentence is included about the speech of the Member. We sit here from morning till evening, therefore, we want that whatever we say here, should reach to the people about whom we have said. I am not saying it because I want my name to be there. I had been publisher of 'Hindustan Times' for many years. Lakhs of copies of Hindustan Times were published everyday and my name used to be printed thereon. I am not after my name. But I am saying because I want that T.V. should be made an effective and powerful medium. You should involve M.Ps. also in this endeavour and depict the real picture of India.

*SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikballapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. While welcoming the demands I would like to give a few suggestions for the consideration of our Hon. Minister.

Ours is a multilingual country. There are several castes, communities, regions and religions. Therefore, our primary concern is to maintain unity and integrity of our country. Radio and television play a vital role in strengthening our country's unity and integrity. All the citizens of our country

*The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

should feel that they are the children of one mother Bharat Mata. Radio and television should help our citizens to be patriots.

Various programmes of our Government are being implemented throughout the country. But, strangely there is no proper coverage of these programmes. For example the 20-point programme is not being given its due share in the Radio and TV programmes. I request the Hon. Minister to go deep into this matter and to allot more time for programmes like 20-point programme and credit camps etc. whose main objective is to ameliorate the condition of the poorest of the poor. TV sets should be installed in village panchayat offices and other important public places so that the programmes of the Government are shown to the common men. Programmes which include sex, rioting, drug addition etc. should be stopped and imparting of education should be main concern of the media.

In my State of Karnataka there are only low power TV transmissions. This will not serve the purpose of a vast and diversified State like Karnataka. I urge upon the Hon. Minister to set up high power TV transmitters in Karnataka.

Regional languages have been neglected by the media especially TV. In Southern and many other States the people of the villages can understand neither Hindi nor English. Then how can these TV programmes which are mostly in Hindi and English serve the purpose of common people. Then Government is working hard for the upliftment of the people who are living below the poverty line. Therefore the primary endeavour of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should be to immediately switch over to telecast the programmes in the regional languages. Hindi and English should not dominate over regional languages which are understood by the common people. English is understood mainly in urban areas. Let our people not become foreigners in our home land.

Kannada is "Kasturi". The fragrance of Kannada language is like the perfume of Kasturi. Kannada literature has a rich heritage. Once T.P. Kailasam, a famous writer and humorist created history in England by

singing a Kannada song. A cultural programme was going on in London, one of the artists sang a song entitled "Constantinople" and threw the challenge to the audience to translate and to sing that song in any other language. T.P. Kailasam accepted this challenge, went to the stage translated and sung the song. He danced merrily to the tune of the music. There was unprecedented applause and TP Kailasam had won the hearts of the audience. Kannada language is soft and sweet.

There is abundant literature in Kannada language. The national poet Kuvempu's composition "TENAVINA, TENAVINA TRUNAMAPINCHALATHI TENAVINA.." has international appreciation. There are other popular writers like D. R. Bendre, Masti Venkatesh Iyengar. All these writers are Jananapeeth Award winners, the highest award for literature in our country. There are other famous writers in Kannada like, T. R. Subbarao. A. N. Krishna Rao etc. etc.

"Mysore Mallige" is a collection of beautiful poems. The fragrance of this Mysore Mallige should be spread throughout the country. This can be done only through radio and TV. The rural people in the nook and corner of our country should get the opportunity to enjoy the cultural programmes through their own languages. Kannada language should get its due share in the programmes of national network.

Kolar district in Karnataka is one of the most backward districts in the country. Hence I request the Hon. Minister to set up a TV centre in Kolar district. In fact there should be at least one TV centre in each and every district of the country.

I really do not understand why so much of importance is given only to cricket. At present national foot ball championship is going on in Calcutta. Why does not the TV cover this championship from quarter final stage. Kho-Kho is a very popular sport in rural areas of our country. Badminton is also a popular sport. Why don't these sports find their due share in the TV programmes.

I hope the Hon. Minister will give serious thought to all the points that I have raised.

[Shri V. Krishna Rao]

I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : So, the Minister will reply tomorrow. Shrimati Sheila Dikshit.

18.52½ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Thirty-sixth Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): I beg to present the Thirty-sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to re-assemble tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

18.53 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, April 22, 1987/Vatsakha 2, 1909 (Saka)