

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Fifth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

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Shri Basudeb Acharia 611-1

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, November 27, 1992/ Aagrahayana
6, 1914 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Balance of Payments Position

[English]

61 DR. D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI PHOOLCHAND VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased
state:

(a) whether, according to the Reserve
Bank of India, balance of payments position
of the country is not likely to improve during
the current financial year, as reported in the
Economic Times dated September 8, 1992;

(b) whether the current account deficit
during, 1992-93 is likely to be more than the
last year;

(c) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the
balance of payments position and reduce
current account deficit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). A
statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) No. Sir. The Reserve bank of India in
its Annual Report 1991-92, has mentioned
that 'Given various uncertainties, it is
somewhat difficult to forecast the overall
performance of the balance of payments in
1992-93. Further, it has been observed in
the Report that 'On the basis of current
trends, it appears that the country's balance
of payments will continue to be under
pressure with a current account deficit of US
\$ 6 to 7 billion'.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The 1992-93 current account deficit
at \$ 6 to 7 billion as estimated by the Reserve
Bank of India would be more than the
estimated current account deficit of about \$
3 billion during 1991-92 mainly because: (a)
the 1991-92 low level of deficit was an
outcome of a massive contraction of imports;
(b) in 1992-93 with the freeing of imports and
various other trade reform measured for
export promotion, there will be a spurt in
imports; and (c) owing to the continuing
uncertainties on trade with erstwhile USSR,
and the depressed scenario of world trade,
growth in exports will be constrained.

(d) The steps being taken to improve the
balance of payments position and reduce
the current account deficit include effective
implementation of the new system of
liberalised exchange rate management;
liberalised trade policy regime; increased
capital in-flows both from bilateral and
multilateral sources consistent with financial

prudence; and attracting direct foreign investment.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister stated in his reply, that the balance of payments will continue to be under pressure with a current account deficit of US \$ six to seven billion in the present year, that is 1992-93. It is stated that in 1991-92 it is much lower, that is about US\$ three billion; and that could be achieved because of the policy, that is being adopted, of curbing the imports during 1991-92; and that the present situation is not on the expected lines.

In this context, I would like to know this from the hon. Finance Minister. When the new policies - the economic policy, trade policy and other policies - are being introduced, it is being observed here that one should assess their performance or the success of these policies by seeking certain things like GDP, industrial growth rate, agricultural production, standard of living, employment generation, etc. If you see GDP, it is about two per cent or so when compared to the previous year's five or six per cent; if you see industrial production it has also come down to four per cent or so; employment generation has also become stand-still; about the standard of living, the inflation rate has become high. Is there any kind of lapse in the implementation of these policies?

In the answer also, he said that the same policies are being taken up to rectify the situation. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, as to whether there is any kind of lapse while implementing these policies. When we assess the system and see the results, the results are in declining trend.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has raised issues which have no connection with the question. The question is about the balance of payments. But, I will be happy to answer him.

If the test of the new policies is the result, I think in the last 16 months, there is ample

evidence of very considerable improvement in our economic position. Our reserves have gone up; our growth rate which was less than two per cent last year, this year there will be a minimum growth rate of 3.5 per cent. Inflation rate which was about 17 per cent last year, this year it is less than nine per cent. So, the overall economic situation is improving and will continue to improve.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Regarding the balance of payments, he does not say properly as to how he is going to correct. Compared to last year's current account deficit of about US\$ three billion, this year it is expected to be US\$ six to seven billion. Could you please give me the answer?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Last year, the balance of payments decline in the current account reserve was because of a steep compression of imports. It is as a result of that compression that industrial production stagnated that prices went up to a double-digit level, that the economy faced a near collapse. We could not have kept on that. Therefore, deliberately we have allowed an increase in import but not to the extent which will be unsustainable.

The balance of payments deficit this year will be higher than last year. But it is necessary to plan for that because if we do not allow increase in import, the economy, growth rate, production, inflation will all be adversely affected. We have made all contingencies to see that the balance of payments situation will not be allowed to deteriorate in the course of this year or the next year.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Hon. Speaker, Sir, on page 2 of the statement, there is a reference to the USSR. The Minister wants to say that owing to the continuing uncertainties of trade with the erstwhile USSR and the depressed scenario of world trade, growth in exports will be constrained.

But throughout last year, whenever the question about the USSR was replied by the Minister, it was said that it would not affect in any way. But I would like to know as to how

the situation in USSR has created a problem as far as our financial aspect is concerned.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: It is common knowledge that about 20 per cent of India's exports used to go to the former Soviet Union. With the disappearance of the Soviet Union and with the grave economic uncertainties that prevail in the successor States, export prospects to these countries are highly uncertain. Therefore, it is obvious that the disappearance of the Soviet Union has implications for our balance of payments because it affects our growth of imports. We used to get in exchange some vital commodities like petroleum products, like fertilisers, like non-ferrous metals. We cannot get them. Therefore, that creates a situation of some pressure on our balance of payments.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question pertains to part (d) of the answer which deals with the steps being taken to improve the balance of payments position. Steps 3 and 4 are: increased capital inflows both from bilateral and multilateral sources and attracting foreign investment.

In view of the forthcoming social and political problems in the country, particularly dealing with Ayodhya, does the Finance Minister think that it will affect the inflow of Foreign Direct Investment very adversely? If that happens, will the balance of payments position continue to become more serious than what it is today?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: There is no doubt that any event which leads to disturbance of peace and orderly conditions in our country adversely affects our economy. Whenever there is uncertainty, whenever there are disturbances, there are doubts in the minds of non-resident Indians. There are also doubts in the minds of foreign investors.

I sincerely hope that our country will have the maturity to ensure that such things are not allowed to persist.

Price rise

62. **SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM;**
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR
RAWAT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of most of the essential commodities have gone up in recent months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the wholesale and consumer price indices position of essential commodities of common use during the last six months treating 1991 as base year;

(d) the impact of increase in prices of petroleum products, issue prices of foodgrains and withdrawal of rebate on chemical fertilisers on the price indices, and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the rise in prices of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (e). A Statements is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) No, Sir. The wholesale prices of essential commodities have been stable from July 1992 onwards. The index number of wholesale prices of 30 essential commodities was 114.9 (1991=100) in July as well as in October, as shown in Table A below. The prices of 12 commodities fell including those of rice, wheat, Jowar, bajra, potatoes, onions and fish. The consumer price index is available only upto August, but it shows only a small rise of 0.7 per cent between July and August.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The wholesale and consumer prices indices of 31 essential commodities for the past six months with 1991 as base are shown in Tables B and C.

(d) The direct impact of the rise in prices of petroleum products on the wholesale price index was 1.2 per cent, and the direct impact of the rise in fertilizer prices was 0.8 per cent.

(e) It is the policy of the Government to keep the prices of essential commodities in check by restraining demand and replenishing supply. To this end it has pursued disinflationary fiscal and monetary policies, and arranged for imports of such basic commodities as wheat, rice and edible oils. The annual rate of inflation as measured by the wholesale price index on a point to point basis has declined to 8.8% on 14th November 1992.

Table - A

Wholesale and Consumer Price Index, 1992-93

(Base: 1991 = 100)

Month	WPI**	CPI*
April	108.8	109.8
May	111.0	113.8
June	112.3	112.6
July	114.9	114.7
August	115.5	115.5
September	115.6	NA
October	114.9	NA

* Based on 31 commodities.

** Based on 30 commodities.

Table: B
Index Numbers of Wholesale Price of Essential Commodities
 (Base 1991 = 100)

Sl.No.	Essential commodities	WPI Weight	1992-93						
			April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	ALL COMMODITIES	100.00	108.9	110.0	111.3	112.5	113.6	113.1	114.5
1.	Rice	3.69	121.2	122.9	123.3	123.8	124.1	125.9	123.2
2.	Wheat	2.25	116.3	111.2	114.0	116.5	121.2	117.0	114.5
3.	Jowar	0.42	156.0	158.9	165.2	167.9	164.3	155.1	146.8
4.	Bajra	0.18	157.9	173.1	162.6	159.8	151.3	133.4	114.3
5.	Gram	0.41	99.2	97.5	95.7	96.7	104.9	104.9	105.3
6.	Arhar	0.27	102.3	100.0	101.7	104.7	104.1	104.6	102.2
7.	Moong	0.20	121.4	125.0	136.0	137.5	135.0	127.4	114.3
8.	Masur	0.50	87.4	87.6	89.9	91.0	99.7	99.1	95.9
9.	Urad	0.15	101.1	101.8	100.8	102.4	106.4	106.9	102.6
10.	Potatoes	0.47	66.7	78.1	90.8	103.4	101.8	101.4	99.9

(Base 1991 = 100)

Sl.No.	Essential commodities	WPI Weight	1992-93						
			April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11.	Onions	0.16	43.0	48.9	55.9	71.3	66.5	59.7	62.7
12.	Milk	1.96	109.6	110.1	110.1	110.2	111.6	116.8	118.8
13.	Fish	0.51	107.7	119.2	115.9	137.1	123.2	123.8	127.8
14.	Meat (Mutton)	0.52	107.8	109.8	111.5	113.4	113.6	115.3	115.6
15.	Chillies	0.32	133.7	142.7	147.1	147.8	144.3	146.3	137.2
16.	Tea	0.56	92.8	108.4	111.7	111.4	101.5	100.3	94.9
17.	Atta	0.76	115.6	117.4	119.7	123.0	123.8	127.2	126.6
18.	Sugar	2.01	112.9	115.8	115.5	117.4	117.0	117.4	117.4
19.	Gur	1.75	88.1	95.9	100.3	111.9	117.1	115.4	122.6
20.	Mustard oil	0.28	95.2	91.8	91.1	93.2	97.3	95.2	93.8
21.	Coconut oil	0.17	115.2	115.6	113.7	114.7	118.2	118.2	120.5
22.	Groundnut oil	0.53	92.4	90.0	89.3	91.1	94.7	92.1	93.4

(Base 1991 = 100)

Sl.No.	Essential commodities	WPI Weight	1992-93							
			April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
23.	Salt	0.04	114.1	112.2	112.2	111.5	112.2	110.1	113.2	
24.	Hydrogenated Vanaspathi	0.52	99.8	99.6	98.7	97.7	99.0	98.9	99.2	
25.	Soft Coke (Coking Coal)	0.35	125.4	125.4	125.4	125.4	125.4	125.4	125.4	
26.	Kerosene	0.87	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	
27.	Long cloth/ sheeting	0.36	110.6	110.6	110.6	110.6	110.6	109.6	109.6	
28.	Dhoties Sames andvolls	1.19	109.4	109.6	109.6	109.6	110.1	113.6	114.7	
29.	Washing soap	0.59	112.3	114.9	114.9	114.9	114.9	115.7	116.5	
30.	Safety match	0.23	102.8	105.4	106.9	107.0	107.0	106.8	106.8	
	Essential Commodities (WPI)	21.77	108.8	111.0	112.3	114.9	115.5	115.6	114.9	

Table C
Index Numbers of consumer Prices of Essential Commodities
 (Base: 1991 = 100)

Sl.No.	Commodities	Weight	1992 Apr	1992 May	1992 June	1992 July	1992 Aug.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	CENTRAL INDEX	100.00	108.9	110.3	111.3	114.1	114.1
1.	Rice	13.45	119.9	121.3	123.1	123.9	124.5
2.	Wheat Whole	4.43	126.6	125.9	126.8	128.7	130.4
3.	Wheat Atta	1.75	120.6	114.8	114.0	114.3	118.6
4.	Jowar	0.46	136.9	142.3	141.9	144.1	151.8
5.	Bajra	0.16	150.0	154.1	148.9	147.5	136.9
6.	Moong	0.53	123.4	130.2	136.4	137.2	141.3
7.	Gram	0.08	94.5	95.6	95.6	97.4	102.4
8.	Masur	0.41	97.7	98.2	97.6	98.9	101.9
9.	Arhar	1.96	97.9	98.2	98.9	101.9	104.1
10.	Urad	0.35	100.9	100.8	101.8	102.7	105.1
11.	Coconut oil	0.09	108.2	107.5	108.0	108.9	112.6

(Base: 1991 = 100)

Sl.No.	Commodities	Weight	1992 Apr.	1992 May	1992 June	1992 July	1992 Aug.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12.	Groundnut oil	2.27	95.9	95.4	92.7	95.3	97.5
13.	Mustard oil	1.44	91.4	91.3	90.8	92.5	97.3
14.	Vanaspati	0.78	97.2	98.0	96.3	96.7	93.6
15.	Goat Meat	2.12	109.3	109.6	110.7	111.5	112.1
16.	Fish Fresh	1.31	102.5	106.6	110.5	115.9	110.6
17.	Milk	5.52	112.7	116.6	118.0	119.3	119.6
18.	Salt	0.15	107.2	108.2	108.1	108.7	109.2
19.	Chillies	0.63	143.1	157.3	159.4	158.8	159.1
20.	Onions	0.67	53.7	60.1	65.3	80.7	76.8
21.	Sugar	2.24	113.3	135.4	114.8	118.3	117.4
22.	Gur	0.47	93.5	80.6	103.1	110.4	119.0
23.	Tra leaves	0.82	99.8	87.1	100.5	100.5	101.6
24.	Soft Cor+	0.80	112.5	104.6	113.8	112.7	113.6

Table C

(Base : 1991 = 100)

Sl.No.	Commodities	Weight	1992 Apr.	1992 May	1992 June	1992 July	1992 Aug.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25.	Kerosene	1.82	96.4	188.5	95.4	96.2	96.4
26.	Match Box	0.23	106.9	98.8	108.9	110.6	121.2
27.	Dhoti	0.35	106.1	96.6	107.4	107.9	108.1
28.	Saree	2.05	107.9	109.9	109.7	109.9	111.3
29.	Long cloth	0.20	111.2	91.3	113.2	114.0	117.0
30.	Washing Soap	1.33	109.7	115.6	111.5	111.7	111.2
31.	Potatoes	1.23	79.2	82.0	98.0	110.9	104.4
	COMPOSITE INDEX	48.63	109.8	113.8	112.6	114.7	115.5

* Latest available.

SHRIR. JEEVARATHINAM: Sir, I have no supplementaries to put.

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

[*Translation*]

SHRIBHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:- Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government claims time and again that price rise is being curbed, it has been checked, price-index is not increasing and so on, but recently I have done market survey and I have come to know that prices of essential commodities have risen by 28 per cent. What effective steps are being taken by the Government to control this price-rise? You have also increased the prices of petrol, diesel and fertilizers. Please tell us the steps being taken to check the continuous increase in the prices of essential commodities.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the steps that have been taken to control rise in prices have been discussed in this House more than once. I am pleased to inform the House that the annual rate of inflation today is less than nine per cent as compared with seventeen per cent in September 1991. The House would also be pleased to know that since July 1992, the wholesale price index of 25 out of 30 essential commodities has remained constant and in recent months, the price of many essential commodities have in fact fallen.

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Is the Government aware of the fact that recent rise in prices of petroleum products and foodgrains has very adversely affected the rural India? The traders have taken advantage of it and kerosene and foodgrains are not available in these villages. What steps is the Government going to take against these hoarders to check price rise and ensure proper distribution of essential commodities?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Government stands

committed in making the public distribution system an effective means of providing relief to vulnerable sections of population. Since the beginning of this year, 1700 blocks, where we have concentration of acute poverty, have been brought under the impact of the revised public distribution system. The Government will remain alert and alive to expand the public distribution system to take care of the needs of the vulnerable sections.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister, in his detailed answer has stated that there is a nominal rise in the prices. But one can see that there is a rise in the prices, the price of rice has increased from Rs. 4 per kg. to Rs. 6 per kg., wheat from Rs. 3 per kg to Rs. 4 per kg., sugar from Rs. 9 per kg to Rs. 12 per kg. and fish is being sold at Rs. 35 per kg. which was earlier Rs. 28 per kg. During the last 2-3 months there has been a steep rise in the prices but hon. Minister has said in his reply that there is a price-rise to the tune of 0.7 per cent only. Have you or your ministry checked the date. Please clearly state about the strategy being adopted by you to remove the imbalance in demand and supply due to price-rise in petroleum products?

[*English*]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, the all-India wholesale price index is compiled by the office of the Economic Advisor in the Ministry of Industry and it is not something which is compiled by the Ministry of Finance. We also have a consumer price index which is compiled by the Labour Ministry.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Does the Finance Ministry check it?

[*English*]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I have no reason to doubt that these figures are not correct.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Sir, rice in Andhra Pradesh is being sold at Rs. 6 or Rs. 7 per KG. But paddy is being purchased by the millers at the rate of Rs. 200 per 75 KG. There is, thus, a vast difference in the prices of paddy and rice. This means that the millers are creating all this escalation in the price of rice. I want to ask the hon. Minister of Finance whether the Income Tax Department is exercising any check on the profits made by the millers who are threatening the economy of the essential commodities.

SHRI MANMONHAN SINGH: I take note of the suggestion of the hon. Member. I do not have the data right now with me.

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply to the question regarding the effects on price-index due to withdrawal of the subsidy on chemical fertilizers, asked in the second portion of part 4 of the question, is very surprising. It says that the effect of withdrawal of subsidy is 0.8 percent....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We receive 20 questions. Daily we are able to cover five questions and 30 persons are given the opportunity to ask supplimentaries. If you ask a question in the form of an essay than it will create a problem for us. It should be in a proper form. The other people also complain of not getting time for asking questions.

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: I am asking a very simple thing that the increase has been mentioned as 0.8 percent in the reply, while the use of chemical fertilizers has reduced due to withdrawal of subsidy. The rise in the prices is 100 percent. I would like to know the measures you are going to take to check rise in the prices of the chemical fertilizers as a result of withdrawal of subsidy by the Government?

MR. SPEAKER: You would see the results of the price-rise of fertilizers in the coming year, not now...

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as I have understood the hon. Member, the question relates to the subsidy of fertilizers. Now, our Government has said more than once, that any change in fertilizer prices will not be allowed to affect the farmers' incentive to get remunerative prices. We have increased procurement prices in the Kharif season by a substantial amount and we will make every effort in future also to ensure that the farmers retain the incentive to get remunerative prices.

The other thing is that if the fertilizer subsidy has been allowed at the rate at which it was prevailing, this year we would have to spend Rs. 8,000 crore on fertilizer subsidy alone. And in that sort of a situation, there would be simply no money for the rest of the anti-poverty programmes for agricultural development and so on. What we are trying to do is that we are reducing the fertilizer subsidy, but we are going to put the same resources in increased investment in agriculture and in rural development, to strengthen the production base in rural areas.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA M EGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the rise in the prices of wheat, rice, Millet and all types of oils is too much. The businessmen take much profits? I would like to know whether you have any other plan to reduce this profit margin so that the consumers may get commodities at fair prices. Does the Government have any plan to check this price-rise?

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, it is certainly true that in the last two years, the prices of foodgrains have risen much faster than the rest. Government have taken several measures to bring the price level under control and one of the measures was to bring some additional imports of foodgrains. Now, if we had not allowed this import of 3 million tonnes of

foodgrains, particularly with regard to wheat, there would have been a further steep rise in the prices of foodgrains.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly give an opportunity to ask questions....(Interruptions) The prices are sky rocketing and the people are in facing hardship. The hon. Minister is misleading the House...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I just told you that we have 20 questions. Yesterday we could cover five questions only....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You first listen to me, yesterday, 30 members were allowed to ask questions. We are doing it for your sake only. I myself do not ask questions...

(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an important question.

MR. SPEAKER: If your question is an important one then you go through the Rules book. You may give a notice for half-an-hour discussion. I will see to it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is the need of mentioning it again. This is wastage of time.

[English]

Performance of HAL

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- * 63. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics

Limited is facing serious crisis due to lack of orders and substantial cut in defence spending;

(b) if so, the turnover of each of HAL units annually during the last three years and the accumulated loss suffered by HAL, till date;

(c) the anticipated support from the Civil Aviation sector and the areas of production proposed to be handled by HAL;

(d) the existing export market, the production areas for purposes of exports and the efforts being made to explore the export market further, and

(e) the overall impact on HAL's manpower due to the existing situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) to (e). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The projected defence requirements are adequate to keep the production and overhaul lines of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) busy in the short and medium terms. However, due to resource constraints, there is a gap between the funds required and those available in the Defence Services budgets to support all the tasks. The division-wise turnover of HAL is given in the annexure. The undertaking is in profit and has no accumulated losses.

HAL is already producing aircraft, accessories, sub-assemblies, components, ground-handling equipment, etc. for the civil aviation sector. Efforts are being made to increase its share of this business as also for the maintenance and overhaul of civilian aircraft.

HAL is exporting components and spares of certain aircraft and engines, computer software, providing repair and overhaul services and consultancy. Thrust areas for the future are exporting aircraft, providing spares and overhaul support and increasing sub-contract work for aircraft manufacturers

abroad.

Rationalisation and re-deployment of manpower between various divisions, depending on the workload, is an ongoing feature. However, there is no direct impact on the manpower in the existing situation.

ANNEXURE

Sales Turnover of HAL's Divisions in the Last Three Years

Name of Division	(Rupees in crores)			
	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	
	2	3	4	
Aircraft	80.64	78.94	25.04	
Helicopter	23.26	29.89	38.27	
Engine	61.08	125.49	111.83	
Overhaul	25.55	35.16	35.20	
Foundry & Forge	10.57	10.10	7.88	
Services		1.73	3.21	
Aerospace	5.82	8.20	11.37	
Nasik	226.49	225.55	270.89	
Koraput	134.53	121.97	157.49	
Hyderabad	65.91	54.85	57.14	
Lucknow	66.25	73.90	66.05	

(Rupees in crores)

Name of Division	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4
Korwa	56.87	64.41	52.59
Karpur	49.50	66.63	86.20
Design	64.52	29.82	101.35
Total	871.30	926.64	1024.41

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the Minister's reply I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many aircraft have been exported till now by Hindustan Aeronautics limited.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARADPAWAR): The spare parts of aircraft have been exported.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is clear from the reply that aircraft are being exported too. I would like to know how many aircraft are being exported.

MR. SPEAKER: He has replied that aircraft have not been exported, only the spare parts have been exported.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I would like to know the quantum of production.

[English]

SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR: The total turnover of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is of the order of Rs. 1024 crores a year.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that most of the combat aircraft, passengers and Transport aircraft, such as Mirage 2000, Jaguar, Air Bus and Boeing Aircraft as also some of the smaller aircraft which are used for Vayudoot are sent abroad for overhauling and for replacement of spares; if so, what is the annual expenditure in terms of foreign exchange, incurred on these repairs and overhauls?

MR. SPEAKER: It comes under the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Civil Aviation Ministry is different from the Defence Ministry. They may not be having the information.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: But, Sir, Jaguar and Mirage 2000 are different aircraft.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, we have got the entire facility to repair and overhaul Jaguar in HAL itself. As far as Mirage 2000 is concerned, we have definitely sent a few aircraft to France for overhauling but we are going to install this overhauling facility in HAL itself.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: I would like to know whether they are having any proposal to have collaboration with the foreign companies for this.

MR. SPEAKER: You could have asked it before only.

[Translation]

Privatisation of Road Construction

* 66. **SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV:**
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since decided to encourage the private sector participation in the field of construction, maintenance and development of National Highways;

(b) if so, the special incentives envisaged for the purpose and response from the private sector;

(c) whether the Government have also invited the foreign private companies to invest in the construction of roads;

(d) if so, the response from the foreign investors;

(e) the total amount of investment, from both the foreign and domestic sources; and

(f) the names of the National Highways/ Expressways which are proposed to be handed over to the private sector?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (f). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) to (f). No, Sir. However, the Government has been contemplating to involve private sector in construction, maintenance and operation of fee based facilities on National Highways. To elicit views in regard to private participation, a seminar was organised in January, 1992 with representatives from private sector, financial institutions, State Governments etc. A study on various aspects of privatisation. Under assistance of Asian Development Bank, has also been got completed recently. Keeping in view these developments, the incentives proposed to be given to the Private Sector in respect of various obligations are yet to be finalised by the Government. It is, therefore, too early to indicate the incentives to be given to the private sector including foreign companies and their response including total amount of investment on various National Highways by private sector in the country.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: It appears from the reply given by the hon. Minister that he has not read the question thoroughly. The points raised in my question have not at all been answered. I had asked whether the Government proposed to hand over the national highways to the private companies or not? He has stated that the discussions have been held between the Central Government and the State Governments and other institutions. I would like to know what sort of discussion you have held and what are the agreed views to construct the National Highways. What sort of proposal you have finalised during the discussion.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: The first thing is that last time when the question was raised, we were unable to levy toll tax on

National Highways. I am happy to note that Lok Sabha had passed this Bill in the last session while Rajya Sabha passed it yesterday now we can proceed towards privatisation. Privatisation because inevitable because the State Governments and the hon. Members have sent a number of proposals demanding repairs of highways at various places and the repair work and the construction of roads require about 49 thousand crores of rupees. The question does not even arise for constructing new roads. So, keeping in view the financial position of the country, we had made a demand of rupees seven thousand crores but we got only twenty six hundred crore rupees. We could not complete even the pending repairing job with this meagre amount so we had to opt for privatisation because we saw that people were willing to take up the work; and even NRIs were also interested in this work. But because V.P. Singh Government had taken a decision in 1990 that cabinet's approval should be sought before announcing privatisation; so we have already sent a note to various Ministries and almost all the Ministries have except the Law Ministry sent it back. The day we receive it back from the Law Ministry we would start the process of enacting laws regarding privatisation. We have received various suggestions in this respect, we have also proposed to hold a seminar of NRI's on the subject of privatisation of roads. Keeping in view all these suggestions, we will initiate the process of privatisation after taking the approval of the cabinet.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: You could have stated all this in the reply to the question.....

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: When would the process of privatisation of the Government start.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Mr. Yadav, Please let me speak.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: He has not been able to give reply to the question. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Government that all the national Highways

are in a badly damaged condition and the Government has not been able to get even a single National Highway repaired. You are going to allot that job to a private company and the final decision is yet to be taken in this regard but till that decision is taken, when the Government is going to get it repaired?

I would also like to know whether the Government had allocated funds; to the Bihar Government for the repair of the National Highways located in Bihar.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I am happy to note that you have raised this question. This question was raised yesterday in Rajya Sabha too. Mr. Yadav; you please also listen to what is being said. Firstly(Interruptions).....we are going to answer your question.

[*English*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: He is addressing me as Yadav. I am not Yadav. He takes everybody who comes from Bihar as Yadav.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I want to reply to Mr. Yadav. When I went to Bihar and wherever I asked the name of anybody, every alternate person told me his name as 'Yadav' so I thought you may also be a Yadav. You have raised a very good question.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It is good that you have identified me with the whole of Bihar.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: We identify you with the whole of Bihar. Please now listen to my answer also. We have identified a few projects in Bihar and last time the Asian Development Bank has approved the projects and sanctioned the amount. We had asked the Bihar Government to sent all the proposals but I am very sorry to state that those proposals have not yet been received by us. Now for the third package which has been approved by the Asian Development Bank, I am writing to the Chief Minister of Bihar and requesting him that he should send all the

proposals. Unless the proposals are received, how can we construct the roads. I have been in Bihar for a month. It is very correct that the roads are in a bad condition there, but I am sorry to say that the amount which had been sanctioned previously, has not been utilised properly....(Interruptions). Please listen to my answer first. I talked to your Chief Minister. I am happy that your Chief Minister responded properly. He said that he would be happy to hold the responsibility and he would manage about the machines which have not been there. We have given funds to Bihar and I am happy to say that now the money is being utilised properly. Please send us the proposals in respect of national highways which are under the third package of the Asian Development Bank so that we may be able to sanction the necessary funds.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: When Mr. Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister, Mr. Jagdish Tytler was the Minister of Surface Transport under his regime. Due to paucity of funds, our National Highways, their construction work and also their repairs work are suffering a lot especially during the rainy season. Since decades, they have not been able to repair them or reconstruct them. Till the Government think of raising funds for this purpose from the public when they undertake the job of reconstructing these National Highways, repairs work of these National Highways and some of the bridges in cooperation with the State Governments? The passersby are very much suffering and the roads are really bad in some of the States.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: No, no, the new toll tax will not be imposed upon the existing facilities, it will be charged on the extra facility, we are likely to provide. We have demanded funds from the Finance Ministry and I believe that when we would approach the Planning Commission, we will get some more money as I have already got some signals and only then we will be able to help you to some extent.

MR. SPEAKER: I think the Minister should use the Cabinet as well as the Parliament to discuss this matter.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: So far as the overall condition of National Highway in Bihar is concerned, this is very much dilapidated and outdated. And it is very much disastrous and difficult to apply any vehicles on such roads. Is the Ministry of Surface Transport thinking over this matter to give it to private hands for maintenance? Moreover, since 1973, there is no grant of even a single km of road in respect of the National Highways. Whatever fund is made available to the State Government, that is very much limited and meagre. Is the Ministry of Surface Transport contemplating to make more funds available to the Bihar State Government? Is the Ministry of Surface Transport also contemplating to give the maintenance work of such roads in the hands of private persons or not?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I am glad that you have put this question. I think we are seriously considering and there is a possibility of giving part of the roads for maintenance to the private people.

As far as constructing new National Highways is concerned, I am sorry, funds do not permit us to do so.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that due to lack of funds no new national highway is going to be constructed during the Eighth Five Year Plan. If it is so, will the private companies or the foreign companies, which have been invited for maintenance of roads, be asked to construct some of the long awaited and neglected routes in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and other States? The State Governments have requested that these routes should be completed on priority basis so that the people are benefited.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I will be able

to take a decision about the new national highways only when the funds are allocated and we are trying, our level best to get the funds as early as possible. As I have already said in the beginning that a note has been sent so that this work can be completed at the earliest.

SHRIMANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister through you to Nagpur-Surat highway which has been declared a national highway. The Nagpur-Dhulia section of this national highway has already been completed. But the road from Dhulia to Surat, which is a distance of 230 kilometre and is an important link road connecting both the States and passing through the tribal areas of both the States, is still incomplete. The Maharashtra Government has been recommending for the construction of this road for the last 5 years. I would like to know from the hon. Minister if this road passing through the tribal areas would be converted into national highway?

[English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Subject to the availability of funds, we will look at it.

Shipping Corporation of India

* 67 **PROF. K.V. THOMAS:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the profit earned or loss suffered by the Shipping Corporation of India during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to add more ships to the existing fleet of the Shipping Corporation of India;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the foreign assistance proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The net profit

after tax earned by Shipping Corporation of India for the last three years is as under:-

Year	(Rs. in crores)
1989-90	101.1
1990-91	54.5
1991-92 (Provisional)	108.8

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In addition to 9 vessels on order, the Shipping Corporation of India have proposed to place orders for 79 vessels of 28.33 lakhs DWT during the 8th Plan period. Out of these, the Shipping Corporation of India acquired two secondhand vessels of 66,000 DWT in April, 1992 from an Indian company.

(d) For the purpose of financing the acquisition from overseas, foreign exchange loans would be raised through (a) Deferred credit offered by the Shipyards and/or (b) External Commercial Borrowings.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: From the answer given by the hon. Minister, it can be seen that the profit of Shipping Corporation of India has just doubled this year. This is a very covetable achievement and I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister and SCI for this achievement. It is also stated that the SCI is going to give orders for 79 vessels during the Eighth Five Year Plan. Our Cochin Shipyard and Hindustan Shipyard are stagnating due to lack of orders. I would like to know whether order for a sizeable number of ships will be given to these Shipyards.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Yes, Sir. Out of the 79 vessels which are needed or are to be replaced in the Eighth Five Year Plan, 40 are to be purchased second hand and out of the balance there are plans to order about 8 vessels on the Indian Yards, subject to the availability of funds or at the concessional rates as it is availability of funds or at the concessional rates as it is available from the foreign yards. This would look after the Indian yards for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: There is an order on Cochin Shipyard for 9th ship from the Shipping Corporation of India but as the price could not be fixed by SCI and Cochin Ship Yard, whether the Minister will intervene in this matter, as both the undertakings come under his Ministry, so that a firm order is given to the Cochin Ship Yard, which during the last one year had made good profit.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I would like to inform the hon. Member that we have already had discussions and we have intervened. I am happy to say that the intervention has been positive and we have sent our proposal, I think, yesterday we intervened and we are going to send the proposal to the Finance Ministry for their credit facilities.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, the Minister has not been categorical about addition of any more ships to the existing fleet of the Shipping Corporation. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, that to augment the income of the Shipping Corporation whether there is any proposal to introduce a ship service between Bombay and Mangalore via Goa, both for transport of cargo as well as passengers.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: We have no intention, but if there is any party, private or any party which is interested, we would be too happy to give the permission.

[Translation]

Pak Firing on J & K Border

70. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:
SHRIMRUTYUNJAYANAYAK.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan resorted to firing at several places in Poonch district and other border areas of Jammu and Kashmir during the last three months;

(b) whether the Union Government have lodged any protest with the Pakistan

Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Pakistan in regard thereto?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRIS. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). With a view to reducing tension and preventing escalation, the Directors General of Military Operations of India and Pakistan maintain weekly telephonic contact with each other. Meetings of Sector Commanders also take place, as and when required, with a view to resolving issues which are potential of causing tension.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Unprovoked firing has become quite a frequent and day to day affair in the border line for Pakistan, in order to provide a fire coverage to the militants to sneak into the country. So, in view of such incidents and untoward situations, what steps have been contemplated to prevent the intrusion of militants into the country?

SHRIS. KRISHAN KUMAR: The Line of Control along the Pakistan border is 793 kilometres long. The firing, especially small arms firing across the border is endemic. There have been incidents from time to time in all the sectors but whenever there is an incident our forces have been able to control the situation and retaliate the firing across the border. Our statistics show, even though I do not want to give the details, that the infiltrations as identified in terms of encounters with the infiltrators, either those killed or apprehended or turned back have considerably reduced over the last two years and this is because of the progressively effective measures taken by the Indian Army along the Line of Control.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: In view of the proposed Kar Seva in Ayodhya — it is a national and international issue — we have

to apprehend any time any kind of events like riot also. So, I would like to know, in view of such an unpredictable situation in the future, what adequate precautionary measures have been taken to prevent such situations and to avoid any militant activity in the borders. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I leave it to the Minister because sometimes I say that it is not relevant and the Minister wants to reply.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: It is quite relevant. At the time of Kar Seva there may be some sort of a riot and it is a national and international issue also. So, I apprehend something.

MR. SPEAKER: If you think that it is not relevant, you are not required to reply.

SHRIS. KRISHAN KUMAR: I feel that it is not relevant to the question. The question is about the Line of Control and we are, at all times, fully prepared to defend the Line of Control in the Pakistan border.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Virendra Singh.

[Translation]

SHRIVIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has confirmed that there have been incidents of firing in some border districts of Kashmir. Our army is in a state of preparedness. Similarly, the terrorism in Punjab and other border areas is also aided and abetted by Pakistan. Day before yesterday, the Hon. Prime Minister had said that he had personal relations with his Pakistanese counterpart and he was developing good relations with the Government there. Then why this crisis? When our Hon. Prime Minister is a personal friend of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, when we are on good terms with the Government of Pakistan, then why is terrorism taking its roots in our border areas.... When the incidents of firing are taking place in border areas continuously what is the relevance of the statements of our Hon. Prime Minister and that of Prime Minister of Pakistan?

MR. SPEAKER: It was stated yesterday that some people want dispute and others want peace.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister has admitted that the incidents of firing have taken place frequently in these areas. I would like to know the number of the injured-soldiers of both the countries during the last three months and also the number of the infiltrators, who were apprehended while trying to cross over the border.

[English]

SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR: Sir, we have statistics which conclusively prove that even though we have casualties from time to time, the casualties on the other side are much higher. By custom and by convention, we do not disclose the nature or the number of such casualties in public interest.

NTC Mills Workers

71. SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK:
SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation workers are going to be retrenched due to lack of working capital and non-supply of raw materials like raw cotton;

(b) if so, the approximate number of workers likely to be affected, mill-wise;

(c) whether the Government have chalked out any scheme to provide refinance and training facilities for rehabilitation of the retrenched workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). No, Sir. However, Government have approved a Turn Around Strategy for NTC mills which, inter-alia, envisages rationalisation of workers, staff and officers through Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

(c) and (d). The Turn Around Strategy provides for a Rehabilitation fund with a Corpus of Rs. 50 crores for retraining and redeployment of the rationalised workers of NTC. Schemes have already been drawn up to provide training, technical and financial assistance and institutional finance to enable such workers to set up Powerloom/Reeling units.

SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK: Sir, I would like to know from the Minister in view of retrenchment of employees, whether the Government has plans to invite the Employees' Union to discuss these issues and to rehabilitate them. What are the specific steps taken by the Government?

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we do hold regular discussions with the union leaders on the issue that has been raised by the hon. Member. I would welcome if the hon. Member brings to my notice more complaints of the union, if there is any. I wish that the complaints might be sorted out through holding a meeting between the union and the management.

[English]

SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK: What is the time bound programme to hold the discussions and dispose of the grievances of the workers? What are the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no timebound programme. We want that the problems should be solved as early as possible. I would like that the

complaints of the union should reach us. The complaints might be sent to the N.T.C. as well as to us.

[English]

SHRI MURALI DEORA: The hon. Minister has replied that under the Turn Around Strategy, he has provided a sum of Rs. 50 crores. Is the Department getting money from the National Renewal Fund also for this purpose? The Minister has also said that under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme the Government is helping the workers who are retiring. How many workers have taken to this Voluntary Retirement Scheme? What are the facilities the Government is giving to them after their retirement?

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that nearly 15 thousand employees have already retired under the V.R.S. As was being referred to by the hon. Member, the Government has also promulgated a separate scheme of Corpus Fund with a provision of Rs. 50 crore besides the V.R.S. in the interest of the retired workers who want to set up their own production units. Under this scheme, the Government provides old Powerloom or if they want, they can even set up new Powerlooms and Reeling units. We have formulated a scheme under which those who work for six months will be provided a subsidy equal to twenty-five per cent part of their investment.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know whether the majority of the workers working in different mills of National Textiles Corporation in Beawar, Rajasthan are being forced to seek voluntary retirement. I would further like to know whether the Government contemplates to close the mills of Beawar. The hon. Minister had earlier informed that those mills were earning profit and now they are suffering loss. I would like to know as to why jokes are being played with the fate of the workers. The hon. Minister had been to that place himself....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You should ask question. What you are doing is a class lecture.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I would like to know as to how many workers have already been recruited there and what steps are being taken by the Textiles Corporation for the proper functioning of those mills.

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT: Sir, I had myself gone to Beawar. The hon. Member do also meet me from time to time. I have already paid that the Government had to introduce the V.R.S. because the N.T.C. is in a bad State and it has already suffered a loss of Rs. 3300 crore. Cash-reimbursement from the Government has already been stopped. The workers who opt for voluntary retirement can do so, but it is not being imposed. If the hon. Member can produce any specific case of voluntary retirement being imposed by the management, then he can bring it to my knowledge, I will talk to the management.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: The hon. Minister has just told that the Government is retiring the workers. There is a Sajjan Mill in Ratlam in my Constitutency. The Mill is in a good state. The Management is contemplating to close this Mill but the workers want to run the mills on Co-operative basis. Now I would like to know whether the Government has formulated any scheme under which they can run the mills and earn profit. The hon. Minister of Finance is sitting here. I would like to ask him whether the Government would sanction a scheme which ensures the participation of the workers in management and which also ensures growth of production in the country. Similarly, I would also like to know as to why the proposed Workers' Pension Bill has not been brought forward. I would like to know whether the Government really intends to formulate any such scheme?

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT: The hon. Member is talking about a private mills instead of the mills of N.T.C.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: How many workers are to be retrenched during the

current year by the Government and whether the Government has any proposal to re-employ them somewhere else after their retirement?

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT: I have already given reply to this question when Deoraji asked it. It is a Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Any number of employees, who want to opt for it, can do it. Thereafter, the Government will undertake modernisation of the mills for which a scheme of Rs. 532 crores has already been formulated. So far as the question of re-employing the workers is concerned, the Government does not have any such scheme.

[English]

Mutual Fund for Small Scale Industries

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74. **PROF. PREM DHUMAL:**
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H.
TOPIWALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received by the Government for setting up a separate mutual fund for the Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The All India Manufacturers' Organisation (AIMO) in a Memorandum submitted to the Government suggested *inter alia* setting up of a Mutual Fund with an initial contribution of Rs. 10,000 crores to make available working capital to the Small Scale Industries sector.

(c) Under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act, 1992, SEBI is empowered to register and regulate the

working of collective investment scheme including Mutual Funds. The Memorandum received from the AIMO has been forwarded to SEBI.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has himself admitted that he has received the representations and sent it to the SEBI. Now, I would like to know whether the Government would be satisfied by sending the representations that is to say whether it will only be doing the work of a Postman or whether hon. Union Minister of Finance would take initiatives to provide some assistance to the small scale industries?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: Many facilities have been provided by the Ministry of Industries and also by many other Ministries to encourage the small-scale industries. A separate institution has been raised through which necessary economic assistance is provided to small scale industries. The hon. Member has asked whether it is sufficient to send the memorandum received from the All India Manufacturers' organisation to SEBI which has suggested the setting up of a separate Mutual Fund with an initial contribution of Rs. 10,000 crore? Since this subject is dealt with by SEBI and since a law has also been enacted in this regard in Parliament empowering to regulate the Fund and to give approval for it, this Memorandum has been forwarded to the SEBI for the necessary action.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: I would like to know when did the hon. Minister receive the Memorandum and when did he send the same to the SEBI and what steps have been taken by SEBI on it till date?

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: We have no information as to what action SEBI has taken on it. As and when we receive the information we would inform the hon. Member but I would certainly like to mention that if any scheme for the Mutual fund is formulated, it is the SEBI that gives approval to it. If a Mutual fund is to be set up, it can be done in

three ways. First, income oriented scheme having thrust on maximum of income, the second is growth oriented having thrust on growth and the third is both income oriented as well as growth oriented in which collection is made on the spot to use money available from the Savings Scheme. In this regard if any organisation wants to make any suggestion, it can do or it can make a proposal or just a suggestion for a practical scheme that is to be framed under the Mutual Fund and if it wants to regulate it, it can put forward that proposal. The Memorandum has been forwarded to SEBI to consider all these aspects. When it takes a decision, the hon. Member will be informed accordingly.

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Sir, the answer given so far does not make it clear whether the proposed Mutual Fund will be set up by SEBI. SEBI can only regulate and give permission. So, we would like to know categorically whether the Finance Ministry is considering setting up of a Mutual Fund specifically for small-scale industries or not, and if not, will the Finance Ministry do

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Mutual Funds do not exist to provide the type of finance which hon. Members have in mind. There are already institutions. The SIDBI, for example, is there to take care of the term financing and the needs of the small-scale sector. Under the priority sector, the needs of the small industries for working capital are taken care of by the banks. Therefore, there is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to set up in the Government sector a new Mutual Fund.

Restrictions of Fiscal Deficit

*75. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
SHRI MUMTAJ ANSARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting was held between the Union Government and the International Monetary Fund regarding restriction of fiscal deficit; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). In October 1992 IMF Mission visited India for the periodical Article IV Consultation and for an exchange of views on the IMF current Standby arrangement. Preliminary views were also exchanged on a medium term arrangement with the Fund for an Extended Fund Facility.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, it is no answer. The question was whether any meeting was held regarding restriction of fiscal deficit. That was the question. But, what is the answer?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, this meeting was a review meeting and, therefore, the purpose of this meeting was to review the progress of the programme that we have with I.M.F. What else can be stated beyond that? (Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Committee on Structure of Emoluments

*64. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expert committee constituted to study and examine the structure of emoluments of the employees of the Central Government, public sector undertakings, nationalised banks and statutory corporations etc. has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the committee and the action being taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The terms of reference of the committee are comprehensive, requiring collection of voluminous data and its detailed analysis in respect of pay and DA structure of Central Govt. employees, employees of Public Sector undertakings, banks, and autonomous bodies. Keeping in view the complex task before the Committee, the term of the Committee of Experts has been extended upto 31.12.92.

Rupee-Rouble Exchange Rate

* 65 DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached with the Government of Russia regarding revisions of rupee rouble exchange rate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

New National Highways

* 68. SHRI SURENDRA PAL
 PATHAK:
 DR. VASANT PAWAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the roads/State Highways which are proposed to be declared as National Highways during 1992-93 and the Eighth Five Year Plan respectively State-wise

(b) the funds proposed to be allocated for construction of new National Highways during the same period, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the foreign assistance proposed to be taken for the purpose?

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

(b) Due to limited allocation for National Highways in the 8th Plan, it is difficult at this stage to declare any new National Highways. The matter will be re-examined at the time of mid-term review of the 8th Plan in case allocation for National Highway is increased.

(c) There is no proposal for seeking foreign assistance for development of new National Highways.

[*English*]

Raids by Enforcement Agencies

* 69. SHRI SURENDER REDDY:
 SHRI HARI KEWAL
 PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the details of the raids conducted by each of the different enforcement agencies from July 1, 1992 to October 31, 1992;

(b) the value of unaccounted money, gold and other wealth detected during these raids; and

(c) the number of persons prosecuted and convicted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWARTHAKUR): (a) and (b). Details of searches/ seizures by enforcement agencies under the Finance Ministry during July 1, 1992 to October 31, 1992

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Agency</i>	<i>No. of Searches Seizures</i>	<i>Value of Unaccounted money, Gold & other wealth seized (Rs. crores)</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1.	Customs	19281	246.86	-
2.	Central Excise	946	25.89	-
3.	Income Tax	1995	169.14	-
4.	Enforcement	362	1.90	-
5.	Narcotics Control Bureau	29	2.64	- In addition to the value of assets seized as reported under col 4 a Maruti car and narcotic drugs including heroin, ganja and methqualone were also seized.
6.	Central Economic Intelligence Bureau	7		-Incriminating documents were seized.

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

[*Translation*]

Assistance from Central Road Fund to Madhya Pradesh

* 72. KUMARI V. MLA VERMA:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA
MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects/schemes sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for assistance from the Central Road Fund during 1991-92; and

(b) the action taken but the Union Government thereon, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A statement indicating the schemes sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in August, 91 for assistance under Central Road Fund

is given in the Statement attached.

(b) since actual augmentation of Central Road Fund in accordance with Revised Resolution adopted by the Parliament in

13.5.1988 has not yet taken place, these schemes could not be processed. However, the State Govt. has already utilised its accruals under Central Road Fund as per Old Resolution upto 31.3.1992.

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3
IST PRIORITY		
BHOPAL MANDAL NO.1		
1.	Bhopal-Deevangunj Road (S.H. 18) (Km. 26, 12, 13, 20, 21, 23) & Km. 22 (Total length 8 Kms)	13.43
2.	Bhopal Seehor Road (S.H. 18) (Km. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 23) Total length 9 Kms)	16.02
3.	Bhopal Bypass Road (S.H. 18) (Km. 5, 6, 8) (Total length - 3 Kms)	3.65
4.	Bhopal Bairaisia Road (S.H. 23) (Km. 16, 25, 26, 27, 28, 37) (Total length - 6 Kms)	8.47
5.	Bhopal Seeranj Road (S.H. 23) (Km. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10) Total length - 8 Kms)	.
BHOPAL MANDAL NO.2		
6.	Bhopal Deevangunj Marg (S.H. 18) (Km. 10, 8)	65.507
7.	Bhopal Indore Marg (S.H. 18) (Km. 30, 40)	255.208
8.	Basoda Seeranj Marg (S.H. 18) (Km. 28, 4)	147.396
9.	Seeranj Aaron Marg (S.H. 23) (Km. 5, 6)	29.064
10.	Seeranj Maksudangarj Marg (S.H. 14) (Km. 30, 60)	158.814

Sl.No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3
11.	Vidisha Ashok Nagar (Odart to Vidisha Marg) (S.H. 19) (Km 70.00)	429.30
	SAGARMANDAL	
12.	Vidisha Sagar Marg (S.H. 18) (Km. 35.2)	51.75
13.	Rahatgarh Bhopal Marg (S.H. 18) (Km. 14.6)	
	GUNAMANDAL	
14.	Maksudangarh-Suthilia Marg (S.H. 18) (Km. 7.8)	12.324
15.	Dehrna Rajhat Marg (S.H. 10) (Km. 22)	54.18
16.	Mungawali Oder Marg (S.H. 19) (Km. 11)	18.57
17.	Mungawali-Chander Marg (S.H. 19) (Km. 33)	31.21
18.	Ashok Nagar Vidisha Marg (S.H. 19) (Km. 33)	77.13
19.	Chachora-Manorathan Marg (upto the border of State) (Km. 8.4)	25.88
20.	Biyara Suthalia Marg (S.H. 14) (Km. 15.8)	63.95
21.	Suthalia Maksudangarh Marg (S.H. 14) (Km. 7)	29.82

Sl.No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3
	UJJAIN MANDAL	.
22.	Ratlam Naseerabad Marg (S.H.31) (Km.16)	75.55
	IND PRIORITY	
	BHOPAL MANDAL NO.1	
23.	Vidisha Bairsiya Marg (Km.3)	3.0005
24.	Bhopal Raisen Marg (Km.5)	22.23
	Bhopal Mandal No.2	
25.	Bhopal Raisen Marg (Km. 29.8)	61.698
	GUNA MANDAL	.
26.	Awana Makudangarh (Km.27.3)	61.698
27.	Ashok Nagar - Ishgarh Marg (Km.23)	48.24
	Total	2005.77 lacs
	Say =	20.06 crores

**ADB Assistance for Ennore and
Paradip Ports**

*73. Dr. RAJAGOPALAN
SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank
is to finance the development of Ennore and
Paradip Ports for transporting coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the condition laid down for the
repayment; and

(d) the extent to which the sale price of
coal is likely to go up in the domestic market?

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

(b) The Asian Development Bank has
given a loan of \$ 285 million which includes
\$ 134.85 million for creation of mechanised
coal handling facilities at Paradip Port and \$
150.15 million for Ennore Port.

(c) The loan is to be repaid within a
period of 15 years after moratorium period of
five years. The rate of interest will be as
determined by the Bank from time to time in
accordance with the procedure applicable to
loan from its ordinary capital resources.

(d) On implementation of this project
and as a consequence of it per sq the
question of coal price going up does not
arise, as TNEB would save approximately
Rs. 300 per tonne in transport cost.

[Translation]

**Financial Stringencies of State
Governments**

76. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN;
SHRI LOKANATH
CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased
to state:

(a) whether some State Governments
have brought to the notice of the Union
Government the financial stringencies being
faced by them;

(b) if so, the names of these States; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken
by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b).
Yes, Sir. some States like Arunachal Pradesh,
Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu &
Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Bihar,
Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa,
Punjab and West Bengal have intimated that
they are facing financial stringencies during
the current financial year.

(c) Transfers of resources to States are
made on the recommendations of either the
Finance Commission or the Planning
Commission. The State's entitlements are
released on monthly/quarterly basis or
reimbursed on the claims filed by the State
Governments, States in overdraft are advised
to take steps to come out of the overdraft.
When the overdraft persists, State's
entitlements are also pre-poned to assist
them in coming out of overdraft.

[English]

National Renewal Fund

*77. SHRI RAMKAPSE: Will the Minister
of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether various Central Trade
Unions have opposed the setting up of the
National Renewal Fund by the Union
Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government had

consulted these trade unions while setting up the above Fund;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (e). The Government's intention to establish National Renewal Fund to provide for social safety net for the workers who may be adversely affected under the new Industrial Policy was announced in the Finance Minister's Budget Speech for 1991-92 made on July 24, 1991. The concept Paper on the National Renewal Fund was presented at the meeting of the special Tripartite Committee which was constituted by the Ministry of Labour to consider the impact of new Industrial Policy on labour and other related issues held on 20.1.1992. The labour side opposed the Concept Paper as it felt that it related only to retrenchment compensation. In pursuance of the announcement Government established the National Renewal Fund on 3.2.1992

Foreign Assistance

*78 SHRI AMAL DATTA:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRA
SEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has recently cancelled an unutilised loan of \$ 1.45 billion to India;

(b) if so, the fields in which the loan was to be utilised and the reasons for its non-utilisation;

(c) the details of the loans taken from foreign financial institutions and various

countries which remained unutilised during the last three years, institution, country and year-wise;

(d) the reasons therefor in each case;

(e) the amount of interest paid on unutilised loans; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the full utilisation of foreign loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). In December, 1991, an arrangement was arrived at between Government of India and the World Bank to cancel an amount of US \$ 1 billion of IBRD loans without adversely affecting the committed physical targets and to redeploy an amount of IDA credit equivalent to US \$ 0.65 billion for financing a structural adjustment loan as a fast disbursing operation. This was necessitated by the fact that a large volume of undisbursed loans and credits had accumulated because of tardy project implementation and there had been significant savings following the depreciation of the rupee. In spite of all possible steps being taken to enhance the utilisation of aid, the large undrawn balance of borrowings on these projects was solwing down overall utilisation, and making it more difficult to negotiate funding on newer projects, as the World Bank's maximum exposure limits had nearly been reached in the case of India. The details of projects from which the cancellations were made are given in the attached Statement-I

(c) Statement -II showing details of undrawn balances as on 31.3.90, 31.3.91 31.3.92 is attached. Further Details are also available in the External Assistance Brochures for the respective years which are placed in the Parliament Library.

(d) Most of the external assistance is

to specific projects and the disbursements are therefore linked to the project implementation schedule. The pace of implementation varies from project to project. However, the loan amount not utilised during a particular year does not lapse, and would be carried forward for utilisation in subsequent years.

(e) No interest is payable on the unutilised amount of loans however, commitment charges are payable on the unutilised amounts of loans from some sources. The total commitment charges paid

in 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 is Rs. 203.5 Crores.

(f) Government have taken a number of steps to accelerate the implementation of externally aided projects and the utilisation of external assistance. These include simplification of procedures for release of foreign exchange and tender evaluation, passing on of 100% external assistance to States, and advance releases on account externally aided projects. Monitoring of externally aided projects has also been intensified.

STATEMENT-I

India's Agreed IBRD Cancellations by Project

(In US\$ million)

Project Name	1	Agreed Cancellations
		2
Himalayan Watershed	-	1.0
A.P. Composite II	-	90.0
National Sericulture	-	30.0
Upper Krishna Irr. II	-	80.0
Watershed Development (Hills)	-	13.0
Watershed Development (Plains)	-	7.0
Punjab Irrigation	-	15.0
Upper Indravati Hydro	-	150.0
Farakka II	-	
Nat Capital Power Supply	-	119.9
Talcher Thermal	-	

Project Name	Agreed Cancellations	(in US\$ million)
1	2	
Chandrapur Thermal	-	20.0
Karnataka Power	-	70.0
Karnataka Power II	-	40.0
U.P. Power	-	303.0
Madhya Pradesh Urban	-	5.0
Uttar Pradesh Urban	-	20.0
Hyderabad Water & Sew	-	10.0
Family Welfare Training	-	11.0
Population Training (VII)	-	10.0
IDDS I (Orissa & A.P.)	-	10.6
Vacational Training	-	30.8
Technician Education	-	25.0

STATEMENT-II

Statements showing closing Pipeline as on 31.3.90, 31.3.91, 31.3.92

Sl.No	Country	(Rs. in crores,		
		Undrawn balance as on 31.3.90	Undrawn balance as on 31.3.91	Undrawn balance as on 31.3.92
1	2	3	4	5
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNT				
1.	IDA	7110.84	8773.08	11083.75
2.	IB.R.D.	11005.14	12283.39	16725.82
3.	IF.A.D.	86.41	71.85	136.17
4.	Abudhabi Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Austria	23.28	6.57	32.94
6.	Belgium	12.26	14.42	19.56
7.	Canada	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Denmark	17.66	20.38	31.91
9.	France	709.40	685.69	931.55
10.	Italy	47.95	104.55	860.40
11.	Japan	2761.32	4466.39	7515.59

		(Rs. in crores)				
Sl.No	Country	Undrawn balance as on 31.3.90	Undrawn balance as on 31.3.91	Undrawn balance as on 31.3.92		
1	2	3	4	5		
12.	Kuwait Fund	94.95	100.75	166.16		
13.	Netherlands	62.27	54.27	115.58		
14.	OPES	50.56	58.83	72.53		
15.	Saudi Fund	135.47	121.94	158.89		
16.	Sweden	293.03	179.44	157.89		
17.	Switzerland	69.93	66.13	156.23		
18.	Bulgaria	3.00	0.00	0.00		
19.	U.K.	0.00	0.00	0.00		
20.	U.S.A.	270.80	268.50	316.99		
21.	U.S.S.R.	15995.74	18451.43	24896.78		
22.	F.R.G.	917.55	1795.93	2022.02		
23.	Czechoslovakia	36.75	0.00	0.00		
24.	Iran	624.37	0.00	0.00		

Sl.No	Country	(Rs. in crores)				
		1	2	3	4	5
			Undrawn balance as on 31.3.90	Undrawn balance as on 31.3.91	Undrawn balance as on 31.3.92	
25.	(S.O.)		0.00	0.00	0.00	
26.	Romania		0.26	0.00	0.00	
27.	(ADB)		2110.92	2634.04	4804.08	
28.	Spain		38.94	7.14	0.00	
29.	Poland		0.01	0.00	0.00	
30.	Iraq		178.51	0.00	0.00	
31.	Hungary		343.29	386.47	621.99	

Death of Cadets in IMA

79. **SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:**
SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the Indian Express dated October 10, 1992 regarding death of cadets of the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, due to negligence;

(b) if so, whether the Government have inquired into the matter;

(c) the outcome thereof and the responsibility fixed for various lapses; and

(d) the preventive measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Government have seen the press reports in the matter.

(b) to (d). Two separate Courts of Inquiry have been ordered in connection with the two cases. The reports are under examination of the HQs Central Command.

[Translation]

Results of Liberal Economic Policy

*80. **SHRI S.N. VEKARIA:**
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the results achieved so far on account of liberal economic policy adopted by the Government,

(b) whether the results are as per expectations; and

(c) if not, the further steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The results of economic reform measures undertaken by the Government have to be seen both in terms of their impact on the immediate changes in the economic situation as well as the structural improvements for achieving a higher sustainable growth in the long run. The changes in the economic policies are far reaching and will have a profound effect on the future performance of the economy. The early results of the reform measures have also been encouraging. The major achievements of the liberal economic polics adopted by the Government are as under.

(i) The international confidence has been restored, and the balance of payments stabilised. Foreign exchange reserves as at the end of October, 1992 stood at U.S. \$ 5.45 billion. the monthly outflow from NRI accounts during first six months of 1992-93 declined to US\$366 million compared U.S. \$ 1287 million during the corresponding period last year.

(ii) The fiscal consolidation programme of the Government is preceeding on schedule. The fiscal deficit which was running at 8.5 per cent of GDP in 1990-91 was reduced to 6.5 per cent last year and is proposed to be brought down to 5 per cent this year.

(iii) The tighter fiscal policy combined with a tight monetary policy has resulted in fringing down the inflation rate, as measured by the Wholesale Price

Index, from 16.7 per cent in August 1991 to 9.1 per cent during the week ended November 7, 1992.

(iv) Our exports during April-September 1992 recorded an increase of 5.37 per cent in U.S. dollar terms. The performance of exports is considerably higher if exports to General Currency Area (GCA) are considered. Exports to GCA have registered a growth of 12.06 per cent during April-September 1992. Our export friendly policies have contributed to growth in the exports.

(v) The industrial production during April-July 1992 recorded an increase of 2.1 per cent as against a decline of 1.4 per cent in the same period last year.

(vi) As a result of liberal policies to attract foreign direct investment, the total foreign investment approvals during August 1991 to July 1992, have increased to Rs. 1954 crores compared to Rs. 166 crores in the same period last year. The foreign investment approvals during August-October, 1992 amounted to Rs. 1725 crores compared to Rs. 162 crores in the same period last year.

The process of restructuring of the economy has turned out to be much less painful and much less prolonged than was initially anticipated and the results of the reform measures so far have by and large been in line with the Government's expectations.

[English]

Child Labour in Delhi

692. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of child labour in Delhi is on the increase;

(b) if so, the present number thereof;

(c) the percentage rise in child labour during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the government propose to formulate any scheme for the welfare of the child labour; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (c). The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have informed that no survey has been conducted regarding the number of child labour in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. However, the 1971 and 1981 Census gives the number of working children between the age group 0-14 years as 17,120 and 25,717 respectively.

(d) and (e). Legislative provisions have been made in various laws to protect children from exploitation at work and to improve their working conditions. In addition, the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits employment of children in certain hazardous occupations and processes and regulate their employment in other areas; For strengthening the enforcement machinery of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations who are mainly responsible for enforcing these provisions 50% assistance is made available under a centrally sponsored scheme.

The National Policy on Child Labour, 1987 has been formulated which inter alia envisages focusing on general development programmes for the benefit of child labour and project-based plan of action in areas of high concentration of child labour.'

Financial assistance to voluntary organisations is provided for taking up action-oriented projects. In addition, with ILO's assistance, two projects for the benefit of working children namely CLASP (child Labour Action and Support Programme) and IPEC (International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour) have also been taken up.

The above measures are operative throughout the country, including Delhi.

Pavement on national Highways

693. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the major part of the road network in the country remains unpaved even the paved surface of National Highways being inadequate to meet the requirements of heavy traffic vehicles;

(b) if so, the whether any study has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action plan chalked out by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) to (d). Government of India are primarily concerned with development of National Highways. All other roads are under the control of the respective State

Governments. An assignment of the inadequacies of pavements thickness on National Highways has indicated that out of the total length of 33689 Kms, strengthening of pavement is required in 19,000 kms during the 8th Plan period. Strengthening of National Highway pavements is a continuing process and it is being undertaken in various plan periods depending on the availability of funds. For the 8th Plan, an allocation of Rs, 2600 cores has been made available for Central Sector Road Programme against the projected requirement of Rs, 7830 crores. Within the budget available, strengthening works on National Highways will be taken up in 8th Plan in a phased manner.

[Translation]

Disbursement of Institutional Credit in Bihar

694. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether institutional credit has been disbursed in Bihar

(b) if so, the details of the institutional credit disbursed during 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b). The institutional credit disbursed in Bihar in 1989-90 and 1990-91 is as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

	1989-90	1990-91
Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI).	82.6	42.8
Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI).	11.7	5.4
Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI).	7.9	9.1
Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).	-	43.8
Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI).	8.5	5.7

Note: The SSI port-folio of IDBI was shifted to SIDBI during 1990-91 after the later come into existence on 2.4.1990. This accounts for the decline in IDBI's share of assistance to Bihar in 1990-91.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of Rural Industries In Orissa

695. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Scale Industries Development Bank of India has formulated a project in Orissa to set up rural industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the future schemes of the Small Scale Industries Development Bank of India for the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b). Since the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is an all India Institution, its schemes are not drawn worth reference to any particular State. SIDBI has been providing assistance to units in tiny and Small Scale Sector under its refinance schemes thorough the state level institutions and Commercial banks all over the country. Small Scale Industries in Orissa have also received significant share of assistance provided by SIDBI.

(c) While no specific schemes are being contemplated by SIDBI with reference to Orissa, it would endeavour to step up in future the flow of assistance to the small and tiny units in the state under its various schemes.

Laws Regarding farm labour

696. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for the

enactment of a Central legislation for the improvement of the condition of farm labour and to protect them against their economic and social exploitation has been ending since long;

(b) if so, the difficulties being faced in enhancement of such a legislation; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to enact the above legislation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Since agriculture is a State subject, all the State Governments have to be consulted in this matter. As such a Committee of State Labour Ministers with labour Minister of Maharashtra as chairman has been constituted to look into the demand for enactment of a Central legislation for Agricultural labour. The Committee has been directed to expedite its report. Further action by the Government will be taken up on receipt of the report.

Domestic loans

697. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) The total outstanding amount of domestic loans as on April, 1992;

(b) the interest due on these loans per annum; and

(c) the present position and system of the payment of due interest and the repayment of domestic loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) The total amount of market loans raised by the Central

Government from domestic sources and outstanding at the end of 1991-92 Revised Estimates was Rs. 76066 crores.

(b) the interest due on the loans varies from year to year depending upon the amount outstanding at the end of the previous year, the fresh borrowings on which interest falls due from the current year and the rates of interest at which the loans were raised.

(c) The payment of interest and repayment of the loans are subject to terms and conditions laid down in the loan notifications. The interest amounts are paid half yearly while the repayments are made on maturity of the loans. The Budget for 1992-93 includes a provision of Rs. 1150.65 crores for repayment of loans maturing this year and Rs. 8250 crores for interest on market loans.

Financial Crisis in JOI

698. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS:
DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jute Corporation of India is unable to check distress sale of jute due to Finance crunch;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor.

(c) whether the Union Government propose to provide adequate funds to the Jute Corporation of India mainly for proper operations/functioning and to open new Centers in view to increase the storage capacity of JCI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (d). Jute Corporation of

India is required to purchase raw jute that is offered for sale at minimum support prices in order to protect the interests of the jute growing farmers, JCI has accordingly, in association with its agents purchased 6, 77, 554 bales of raw jute upto 15.11.92 during 1992-93 jute seasons. Government already guarantees the margin money requirement of JCI in order to enable it to conduct price support operations and also reimburse losses, if any that maybe incurred by JCI in such operations.

Women Bus conductors in D.T.C.

699. SHRI SUKHENDU KHAN:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA
GHANGARE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of women conductors in the Delhi Transport Corporation's buses in 1975;

(b) the number of such conductors in 1991;

(c) whether there is any decline in the numbers; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) 35

(c) No, sir.

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

Service Rules for Central Pension Accounting Office

700. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Service Rules/

regulations have not been finalised for the employees of the Central Pension Accounting Office even after a lapse of three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) The time by which the rules/regulations governing the service conditions are likely to be finalised and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) Finalised Recruitment Rules /Regulations exist for all categories of staff working in the Central Pension Accounting Office except for computer operators, data entry operators and staff car driver.

(b) and (c). The draft Recruitment Rules for the three categories mentioned above are under various stages of examination. They are expected to be finalised soon.

[*Translation*]

Nizamuddin Bridge

701. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigation into the incident of collapse of a part of Nizamuddin bridge built on the river Yamuna in Delhi has been completed;

(b) if so, the details of the findings of the investigation; and

(c) the action taken so far against the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There was an incident of caving-in of a portion of the road in the eastern approach of the Nizamuddin bridge on Yamuna river in Delhi

during April, 1992. A Technical committee has conducted enquiry into the incident and has since submitted its report.

(b) and (c). The finding of the investigation is that the caving-in was caused by leakage of water mains of Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking of Delhi Municipal Corporation. The final decision and follow up action on the findings of the Technical Committee is yet to be taken in consultation with Municipal Corporation of Delhi/Delhi Administration.

[*English*]

Shortage of Foundry Coke in Maharashtra

702. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of foundry coke in the Western region of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take for the regular supply of foundry coke in western region of Maharashtra?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c). Coal India Limited (CIL) have reported that they are not aware of any shortage of Foundry Coke in the Western Region of Maharashtra. Apart from CIL, foundry coke is being produced in private sector. Coke is also allowed to be imported. Supply of Hard Coke is arranged by CIL mostly by rail to the consumers in Maharashtra as per the sponsorship issued by the Director of Industries of the State. Consumers linked to CIL are also permitted to draw the shortfall entitlement from CIL by road. The quantity of Hard Coke of different quality supplied to consumers in Maharashtra in the year 1991-92 and during the period April to September, 1992 is as given below:

(Figure in '000 tonnes)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity supplied</i>
1991-92	18
1992-93 (April -September)	6

Violation of Rules by Drug Manufacturing Companies

703. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of alleged evasion of income tax, excise duty and customs duty by some drug manufacturing companies have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). 162 Cases of alleged violation of the Central Excise Rules, 1944 by drug manufacturing companies all over India have come to the notice of Central Excise authorities during the last one year. Estimated amount of Central Excise duty evasion involved in these cases is Rs. 21. 59 crores (Provisional);

(c) Action is being taken in these cases under the provisions of the Central Excise Act, 1944 and the rules made, thereunder.

Information in regard to Customs duty and Income tax is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Foreign Exchange Reserves

704. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Foreign Exchange reserves as on October 31, 1992;

(b) whether the position of Foreign Exchange reserve is comfortable;

(c) whether there is still a need to secure further loans from the International Monetary Fund or the World Bank; and

(d) if so, the justification thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The foreign exchange reserves were Rs. 14, 120. 39 crores (excluding Gold and Special Drawing Rights) on 31.10.92.

(b) The foreign exchange reserves position at the end of October, 92 was comfortable compared to the position at the end of October, 91 when the reserve were Rs. 6032,47 crores.

(c) and (d). The exceptional financing of US \$ 3 billion agreed to at the Aid India Consortium Meeting in 92 which includes loans from IMF and World Bank are considered sufficient to meet our essential requirements for the year.

[Translation]

STA Permits to SCs/STs

705. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the private buses plying under the Delhi Transport Corporation and State Transport Authority separately, in Delhi at present;

(b) the number of buses under DTC and STA being run by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes permit holders;

- (c) whether the said number is par with the number reserved for them;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the corrective steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The details of buses plying on stage carriage permits in Delhi as on 24.11. 1992 are as under:-

	<i>No. of buses</i>	<i>of which owned by SC/ST</i>
STA	1867	98
DTC	606	10

(c) to (e). In the case of 3000 Stage Carriage Permit Scheme (Red Line Services) the Delhi Administration have insured that reservation criteria prescribed in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 are followed with regard to SC/ST permit holders.

In the case of DTC, out of 606 private buses, 10 permits holders are SC/ST applicants. The shortfall was due to lack of response from SC/ST applicants. As no further permits to private operators for playing under DTC are being given, the question of corrective action, in so far as DTC is concerned, does not arise.

[English]

2nd Labour Commission

706. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up second labour commission; and
- (b) if so, the when the labour commission is going to be set up.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). In the Indian Labour Conference held in September, 1992, representatives of certain central trade

unions had suggested constitution of a second National Commission on Labour. The matter is under examination.

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Comprehensive Plan for Promotion of Handloom Weavers

707. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of deteriorating economic condition of handloom-weavers in the country;

(b) if so, whether the government have formulated any comprehensive action plan for the promotion of handloom sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan Period;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any allocation has been made for the said purpose;

(e) the number of weavers covered under the scheme;

(f) Whether the Government have also made any review of schemes implemented for strengthening of handloom sector during the Seventh Plan; and

(g) if so, the details thereof Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) While the earning of handloom weavers varies from season to season depending on the demand and prices of raw materials and finished goods, Government has no particular information that economic condition of handloom weavers in the country is deteriorating.

(b) Government has formulated a comprehensive plan for the development of handloom sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan Period.

(c) (d) and (e). Under the Eighth Plan there is a total proposed outlay of Rs. 300.00 crores against an expenditure of Rs. 131.53 crores during the Seventh Plan under a number of Plan Schemes.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Based on the review of Seventh Plan, several modifications have been made in the approach for the handloom sector during the Eighth Plan. Greater emphasis has been placed on Welfare Package Scheme, Thrift Fund Scheme and workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Group Insurance Scheme, Margin Money for Destitute weavers, Integrated handloom Village Development Scheme and Silk Yarn Bank Scheme have been introduced. Statewise allocation of funds for every scheme is done as per proposal from the State Government and after due examination thereof.

Royalty on Coal

708. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure laid down for the revision of rate of royalty to coal producing States;

(b) when the rate of royalty was last

revised;

(c) whether the Government propose to revise the royalty on the request of some State Governments; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Section 9 (3) of Mines & Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 empowers Central Government to amend Second Schedule to the said Act by notification in the Official Gazette, so as to enhance or reduce the rate at which royalty shall be payable in respect of any mineral with effect from such date as may be specified in the notification. In past, the Central Government have been constituting Study Group(s) to examine various aspects of fixation of royalty rates and make recommendations to Government in this regard.

(b) The rates of royalty on coal were last revised w.e.f. 1.8.91.

(c) and (d). The proviso to aforesaid Section bars the Central Government from enhancing rates of royalty in respect of any mineral more than once during a period of 3 years. Since last revision of royalty on coal was done on 1.8.1991, next upward revision of royalty on coal could be undertaken only after 1.8.1994.

[*Translation*]

New Ordnance Factory

709. MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering any proposal to establish ordnance factories in the country particularly

(b) if so, the location decided for this purpose; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Unemployment Insurance Scheme for Industrial workers

710. SHRI KALKADAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from trade unions and labour organisations to start unemployment insurance scheme for the industrial workers; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) A suggestion from

the Social Security Association of India, New Delhi about unemployment insurance scheme for the industrial workers was received by the Government on 6.7.92.

(b) The Government is examining the suggestion.

[*Translation*]

Central Trade Unions Representing the work force

711. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the percentage central trade unions represent of the total work force in organised and unorganised SECTORS in the country; Union-wise and Sector-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): The membership strength of the Central Trade Union Organisations verified as on 31.12.80 union-wise and sector (Industry-wise) is given in attached Statement

However, no such distinction as organised and unorganized sector is made while conducting general verification of the strength of Central Trade Union Organisations.

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Industry	Union-Wise & Industry-Wise							
		INTUC			BMS				
		Claimed	Verified	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Textile	343	4,90,519	203	3,95,570	183	1,94,786	138	1,20,056
2.	Iron & Steel	63	1,21,258	30	1,01,378	24	33,376	21	51,585
3.	Metal Trades	61	19,502	28	12,279	13	8,113	12	7,003
4.	Engineering	455	2,39,607	213	1,37,500	193	1,52,890	151	1,22,895
5.	Electricity, Gas & Steam Power	100	1,79,575	29	49,407	61	1,37,303	43	75,597
6.	Transport	279	5,73,250	115	4,85,467	98	4,54,122	79	3,56,335
7.	Plantation	60	3,44,000	29	3,15,640	7	42,338	6	34,798
8.	Mining	133	2,63,359	74	2,33,778	41	1,07,897	32	67,617
9.	Quarrying	9	3,645	-	-	-	-	-	-

Sl.No.	Industry	NTUC					BMS				
		Claimed		Verified		No. of Unions	Claimed		Verified		No. of Unions
		Membership	No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions		Membership	No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
10.	Agriculture	83	1,95,829	15	25,931	45	60,148	34	44,377		
11.	Sugar	173	89,038	123	71,723	76	39,579	70	32,253		
12.	Cement	59	36,608	42	27,042	20	9,004	13	6,056		
13.	Chemicals	194	69,938	85	49,793	79	19,064	65	16,399		
14.	Building, Civil Engg. & Public Works	115	85,991	46	27,377	41	44,518	31	41,241		
15.	Food & Drinks	153	53,294	76	36,111	60	11,451	48	9,040		
16.	Tobacco	40	26,972	20	6,153	18	14,720	15	14,500		
17.	Tanneries & Leather Goods Mfg	14	6,118	6	669	11	2,777	9	2,679		
18.	Paper & Paper Products	48	28,223	28	18,430	16	6,266	13	4,169		
19.	Printing & Publishing	76	18,975	37	8,489	42	10,483	37	9,053		

Sl.No.	Industry	INTUC					BMS								
		Claimed		Verified		No. of unions	Claimed		Verified		No. of unions				
		Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions		Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10						
20.	Local Bodies	155	54,559	54	24,254	129	39,820	88	25,952						
21.	Glass & Potteries	71	25,280	36	13,447	17	4,391	15	3,813						
22.	Petroleum	29	20,856	15	15,735	4	3,765	1	15						
23.	Salained Employees & Professional Workers	421	2,76,074	175	87,119	208	3,25,960	156	55,005						
24.	Personal Services	100	21,620	34	8,423	47	22,112	42	20,090						
25.	Banks & other Financial Institution	90	1,30,843	27	19,278	110	62,169	82	36,816						
26.	Port, Docks & Maritine	30	89,523	23	51,341		11,606	8	3,248						
27.	Coir	9	7,574	4	1,026	1	100	-	-						
28.	Bricks & Kilns	5	695	2	240	-	-	-	-						

Sl No	Industry	INTUC					BMS				
		Claimed		Verified		No of unions	Claimed		Verified		No of unions
		Membership	No of unions	Membership	No of unions		Membership	No of unions	Membership	No of unions	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
29	Wood & Wood Products	15	1,573	2	150	9	1,750	9	1,643		
30	Plywood	12	1,699	6	583	1	360	1	180		
31	Rubber Products	38	26,286	16	9,694	6	2,709	5	1,501		
32	Pencil Products		-		-	1	250	1	50		
33	Rural Workers	5	1,353	2	340	2	205	-	205		
34	Miscellaneous	19	5,601	9	1,680	153	55,696	106	47,174		
	Total	3,457	35,09,326	1,604	22,96,128	1,725	18,79,728	1,333	12,11,345		

Sl.No.	Industry	HMS						UTUC(LS)					
		Claimed			Verified			Claimed			Verified		
		No.ofunions	Membership	No.ofunions	Membership	No.ofunions	Membership	No.ofunions	Membership	No.ofunions	Membership	No.ofunions	Membership
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
1.	Textile	86	1,21,069	40	38,831	15	36,716	14	23,941				
2.	Iron & Steel	17	64,852	5	18,116	6	46,393	6	19,316				
3.	Metal Trades	20	12,469	8	3,970	2	123	1	88				
4.	Engineering	193	1,18,516	72	49,610	15	32,675	13	31,377				
5.	Electricity, Gas & Steam Power	22	13,188	7	1,167	3	2,939	3	1,309				
6.	Transport	71	6,22,459	23	3,11,128	13	5,572	12	4,940				
7.	Plantation	21	1,52,375	4	50,516	2	8,495	2	8,417				
8.	Mining	39	1,44,548	15	49,198	10	80,897	10	66,885				
9.	Quarrying	1	1,583	1	1,005	3	11,171	3	2,097				
10.	Agriculture	19	48,113	5	10,785	8	7,85,093	6	3,32,248				
11.	Sugar	95	54,473	55	32,853	-	-	-	-				
12.	Cement	21	12,370	11	6,973	1	8,525	1	6,685				

Sl.No.	Industry	HMS				UTUC(LS)			
		Claimed		Verified		Claimed		Verified	
		No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
13.	Chemicals	51	45,307	16	6,348	10	3,386	9	1,145
14.	Building, Civil Engg. & Public Works	24	18,373	7	3,810	4	16,463	2	727
15.	Food & Drinks	42	14,047	17	2,307	7	7,530	6	7,125
16.	Tobacco	16	27,120	6	3,946	6	1,39295	6	86,176
17.	Tanneries & Leather Goods Mfg	6	6,270	-	-	6	16,326	4	667
18.	Paper & Paper Products	14	8,451	4	1,114	-	-	-	-
19.	Printing & Publishing	23	14,470	10	11,861	4	13,921	4	12,288
20.	Local Bodies	62	43,932	16	4,967	4	5,498	4	4,948
21.	Glass & Potteries	25	9,148	13	4,090	8	5,573	8	5,569

Sl.No.	Industry	HMS		UTUC(LS)					
		Claimed	Verified	Claimed	Verified				
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership
31.	Rubber Products	1	3,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
32.	Pencil Products	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33.	Rural Workers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34.	Miscellaneous	85	48,885	22	35,669	12	5,682	9	1,341
	Total	1,122	18,48,147	426	7,62,882	154	12,38,891	134	6,21,359

TABLE

Sl.No.	Industry	NLO				NFTU			
		Claimed		Verified		Claimed		Verified	
		No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1.	Textile	50	2,09,977	42	1,76,169	13	72,981		
2.	Iron & Steel	2	2,000	1	200	7	13,480		
3.	Metal Trades	1	53	-	-	6	2,953		
4.	Engineering	17	16,380	11	7,202	24	29,357		
5.	Electricity, Gas & Steam Power	7	6,044	7	3,568	8	40,880		
6.	Transport	18	19,050	17	3,568	8	40,880		
7.	Plantation	3	2,181	1	81	2	29,346		
8.	Mining	4	7,820	3	3,996	8	27,838		
9.	Quarrying	-	-	-	-	1	2,000		
10.	Agriculture	4	66,695	1	3,529	8	81,673		

Sl.No.	Industry	NLO				NFTU			
		Claimed		Verified		Claimed			
		No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
11.	Sugar	4	66,695	1	3,529	8	81,673		
12.	Cement	2	682	2	674	-	-		
13.	Chemicals	14	8,117	11	5,948	13	8,580		
14.	Building, Civil Engg. & Public Works	5	825	2	269	1	6,000		
15.	Food & Drinks	10	7,757	6	6,549	19	73,737		
16.	Tobacco	4	1,453	2	199	1	169		
17.	Tanneries & Leather Goods Mfg	3	2,050	2	1,350	1	3,917		
18.	Paper & Paper Products	1	80	1	39	2	14,614		
19.	Printing & Publishing	3	478	1	33	4	1,901		
20.	Local Bodies	33	10,723	19	5,028	2	7,400		

Sl.No.	Industry	NLO				NFTU			
		Claimed		Verified		Claimed		Membership	
		No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
21.	Glass & Potteries	5	2,151	3	945	3	239		
22.	Petroleum	1	1,600	-	-	-	-		
23.	Salaries & Professional	12	3,616	7	2,074	9	24,259		
24.	Personal Services	7	1,610	3	515	1	667		
25.	Banks & other Financial Institution	3	792	-	-	1	3,613		
26.	Port, Docks & Maritime	4	461	3	217	2	17,487		
27.	Coir	-	-	-	-	2	340		
28.	Bricks & Kilns	-	-	-	-	-	-		
29.	Wood & Wood Products	1	70	1	100	2	9,742		

Sl.No.	Industry	NFITU				TUCC			
		Verified		Claimed		Verified		Claimed	
		No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership	No. of Unions	Membership
i	2	9	10	11	12	13	14		
13.	Chemicals	11	1,094	7	1,100	6	692		
14.	Building, Civil Engg. & Public Works	-	-	-	-	-	-		
15.	Food & Drinks	10	970	5	3,054	4	1,897		
16.	Tobacco	1	169	3	600	1	250		
17.	Tanneries & Leather Goods Mfg	-	-	-	-	-	-		
18.	Paper & Paper Products	-	-	2	195	2	140		
19.	Printing & Publishing	1	21	2	1,784	2	374		
20.	Local Bodies	-	-	-	-	-	-		
21.	Glass & Potteries	3	239	4	6,401	-	-		
22.	Petroleum	-	-	-	-	-	-		

Sl.No.	Industry	NFITU				TUCC			
		Verified		Claimed		Verified		Claimed	
		No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14		
23.	Salaries & Professional Workers	1	31	-	-	-	-	-	
24.	Personal Services	-	-	2	1,155	-	-	-	
25.	Banks & other	1	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	
26.	Port, Docks & Maritime	2	618	2	24,000	-	-	-	
27.	Coir	2	242	-	-	-	-	-	
28.	Bricks & Kilns	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
29.	Wood & Wood Products	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
30.	Plywood	-	-	2	280	1	174	-	
31.	Rubber Products	3	77	2	98	1	58	-	

Sl.No.	Industry	NFTU		TUCC			
		Verified		Claimed		Verified	
		No.of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
32.	Pencil Products	-	-	-	-	-	-
33.	Rural Workers	-	-	-	-	-	-
34.	Miscellaneous	7	2,520	39	23,675	1	8,963
Total		80	84,173	182	2,72,229	65	1,23,048

TABLE

Sl.No.	Industry	UTUC				AITUC			
		Claimed		Verified		Claimed		Membership	
		No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1.	Textile	37	50,286	14	3,937	207	1,97,233		
2.	Iron & Steel	3	3,130	-	-	26	52,339		
3.	Metal Trades	14	2,192	2	175	42	11,800		
4.	Engineering	85	45,582	26	17,369	150	98,123		
5.	Electricity, Gas & Steam Power	9	8,779	-	-	21	48,846		
6.	Transport	36	22,349	9	1,821	67	73,699		
7.	Plantation	24	1,27,501	8	92,733	11	59,611		
8.	Mining	13	44,113	4	2,074	34	1,54,400		
9.	Quarrying	-	-	-	-	-	-		
10.	Agriculture	22	76,879	1	21	20	14,842		

Sl.No.	Industry	UTUC				AITUC			
		Claimed		Verified		Claimed		Verified	
		No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
11.	Sugar	19	10,264	9	2,116	50	17,375		
12.	Cement	2	132	-	-	23	11,668		
13.	Chemicals	39	7,491	15	1,205	71	25,214		
14.	Building, Civil Engg. & Public Works	14	9,575	6	1,010	45	57,022		
15.	Food & Drinks	57	62,326	10	4,037	88	15,329		
16.	Tobacco	7	10,258	1	79	49	29,718		
17.	Tanneries & Leather Goods Mfg	12	8,862	1	200	13	5,700		
18.	Paper & Paper Products	5	2,354	1	200	13	14,572		
19.	Printing & Publishing	19	24,815	7	21,291	26	8,355		
20.	Local Bodies	19	9,270	5	1,575	41	48,063		

Sl.No.	Industry	UTUC				AITUC			
		Claimed		Verified		Claimed			
		No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
21.	Glass & Potteries	2	460	1	218	11	5,904		
22.	Petroleum	10	11,818	4	790	10	6,406		
23.	Salari ed Employ- ees & Professional Workers	31	9,433	5	2,09	66	13,910		
24.	Personal Services	27	8,319	11	3,079	27	4,929		
25.	Banks & other Financial Institution	-	-	-	-	2	7,982		
26.	Port, Docks & Maritime	4	4,702	2	1,446	15	25,676		
27.	Coir	3	7,095	-	-	6	4,012		
28.	Bricks & Kilns	-	-	-	-	12	3,499		
29.	Wood & Wood Products	-	-	-	-	20	3,084		

Sl.No.	Industry	UTUC				AITUC			
		Claimed		Verified		Claimed			
		No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	
30.	Plywood	4	841	1	0	8	1,066		
31.	Rubber Products	4	1,033	1	26	8	2,915		
32.	Pencil Products	-	-	-	-	-	-		
33.	Rural Workers	-	-	-	-	-	-		
34.	Miscellaneous	97	38,193	31	8,248	174	61,038		
	Total	618	6,08,052	175	1,65,614	1,360	10,64,330		

S.No.	Industry	AITUC			CITU		
		No. of unions	Membership	Verified	No. of unions	Membership	Verified
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Textile	142	42,814	178	2,09,126	122	27,515
2.	Iron & Steel	16	3,313	30	47,684	21	4,521
3.	Metal Trades	37	4,363	29	25,154	23	9,382
4.	Engineering	109	22,973	393	1,50,595	352	71,039
5.	Electricity, Gas & Steam Power	11	2,939	36	37,767	24	9,425
6.	Transport	55	10,328	124	90,877	104	24,177
7.	Plantation	6	27,852	27	99,024	15	5,847
8.	Mining	19	65,061	25	63,901	15	12,484
9.	Quarrying	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Agriculture	18	9,478	16	6,317	14	2,212
11.	Sugar	41	8,160	38	7,918	35	5,812
12.	Cement	15	2,676	11	2,690	10	2,084

Sl.No.	Industry	AITUC			CITU		
		Verified		No. of unions	Claimed*		Verified
		No. of unions	Membership		No. of unions	Membership	
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
13.	Chemicals	59	7,409	118	20,720	113	16,667
14.	Building, Civil Engg. & Public Works	36	19,554	33	10,974	27	4,355
15.	Food & Drinks	81	12,013	87	24,731	79	15,563
16.	Tobacco	44	24,302	41	17,262	37	11,904
17.	Tanneries & Leather Goods Mfg	10	1,237	7	1,669	7	1,669
18.	Paper & Paper Products	21	4,894	29	8,063	26	4,854
19.	Printing & Publishing	22	3,814	44	11,975	39	5,839
20.	Local Bodies	32	6,059	38	17,261	31	6,214
21.	Glass & Potteries	6	1,150	4	643	3	473
22.	Petroleum	8	4,789	40	14,408	37	7,988

Sl.No.	Industry	AITUC		CITU			
		Verified		Claimed*		Verified	
		No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership	No. of unions	Membership
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
23.	Salaried Employees & Professional Workers	57	7,804	62	13,337	57	8,598
24.	Personal Services	22	2,236	58	14,216	54	9,568
25.	Banks & other	1	32	4	1,335	4	1,355
26.	Port, Docks & Maritime	15	14,630	8	29,200	7	14,520
27.	Coir	4	824	4	2,804	4	2,285
28.	Bricks & Kilns	10	2,125	5	9,241	2	3,362
29.	Wood & Wood Products	18	1,781	18	2,413	18	2,413
30.	Plywood	8	1,066	5	1,264	5	1,264
31.	Rubber Products	6	1,229	30	13,399	23	6,522
32.	Pencil Products

Sl.No.	Industry	AITUC		CITU			
		Verified	Membership	Claimed*	Membership		
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
33.	Rural Workers	-	-	1	60	1	60
34.	Miscellaneous	151	27,341	194	77,404	165	31,070
	Total	1,080	3,44,746	1,737	10,33,432	1,474	3,31,031

* As per RTU records.

MgIprrnd -3 Labour/85-VII-21.5.85-2000.

Role of Black Money in film Industry

712. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment on the role of black money in film industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the black money finding its way to film industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWARTHAKUR): (a) to (c). There is no official estimate or assessment of black money in film industry. Besides changes in economic policies such as liberalisation of economic controls, delicensing and reduction in tax rates, various legislative and administrative steps have been taken to curb the menace of black money. Thus, statutory provisions have been made in section 44AA of the Income tax Act requiring every persons carrying on profession to keep and maintain accounts prescribed by law and these are examined in the scrutiny of assessments. The Central Board of Direct Taxes have notified film artists, cameramen, directors etc. as professionals who are required to maintain accounts under section 44AA. Specialised film circles have also been created for assessment of such persons to enable better handling and detection of tax evasion in such cases. Statutory provisions have been made in section 285B regarding contemporaneous submission of statement of payments of over Rs. 5, 000/- by film producers. This is examined in the scrutiny of assessments. The Income-tax Investigation Wing also carries out cross-verification of such payments of over Rs. 10,000/- Actions by way of search, survey

and other investigations are also resorted to in such cases when any specific information of tax evasion is received.

Housing Schemes of LIC

713. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India has taken up housing schemes in a big way;

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

(c) the number and details of such schemes taken up in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b). The Life Insurance Corporation has been taking up the policy holders' housing scheme depending upon the availability of suitable land, internal manpower and technical resource etc. Under the policyholders housing scheme, LIC has so far constructed 3710 residential units in the following places, Bombay-1538 units, Hyderabad-106 units, Kanpur-156 units, Ahmadabad-324 units and at Bangalore-1592 units, As on date 429 units at Bangalore and 800 units at Madras are under construction.

(c) In Andhra Pradesh, 106 units have been constructed at Hyderabad under the Policy holders' Housing Scheme. At Visakhapatnam, 200 residential units have been proposed for construction.

[Translation]

LIC Assistance to Bihar

714. SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: the names of the projects in Bihar for which Life

Insurance Corporation of India is likely to provide assistance during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) LIC's investment in the State of Bihar will be for the projects such as State Government Housing Scheme, State Electricity Board and Apex Co-op. Housing Finance Society. In Addition, LIC subscribes to State Government securities.

Assistance by National Housing Bank to Madhya Pradesh for Construction and Repair of Houses

715 SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of a FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Housing Bank have provided refinance facilities to the State Rural Bank in Madhya Pradesh for the construction and repairing of the houses during last year and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) to (c). National Housing Bank (NHB) has reported that its refinance scheme was made applicable to Scheduled State Co-operative Banks with effect from January 1, 1989. NHB provided Rs. 3.90 lakhs by way of refinance to Madhya Pradesh Rajya Shakari Bank Limited in July, 1989 and Rs. 78.18 lakhs in 1992-93 upto 5th August, 1992. Refinance by NHB is provided on the receipt of applications from the primary lenders. No refinance was provided during 1991-92 to madhya Pradesh Rajya Sahakari Bank Limited in the absence of any application from the bank.

Working of RRBs

716. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the working of Regional Rural Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of desposit and disbursements by these banks in Gujarat during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b). The working of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) has been under constant review by Government, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The major issue relating to RRBs is their poor viability which has been accentuated with the revision of pay scales of RRB employees as per the award of National Industrial Tribunal and Equaton Committee report. The Working Group on RRBs reviewed the working of RRBs and had suggested certain measures for improving their operations. The Committee on Financial System in its report submitted recently has recommended that to order to impart viability, the RRBs may be allowed to engage in all types of activities through their focus should continue on the target groups. Further, the Committee has also recommended that a mechanism be worked out under which the RRBs could place their surplus funds with either NABAARD or with a special federal type of agency to be set up for this purpose for investment in high yielding assets. NABARD has advised the RRBs in September, 1992 that while the focus of financing of target group and the weaker sections by the are RRBs would continue, the RR's may at their discretion go in for

financing non-target group to an extent not exceeding 40% of their incremental lending. They have been advised that it should be ensured that such lending are only for productive and developmental purpose, subject to the usual banking norms.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Deposits as at the end of March			Loans disbursed during (April -March)		
1990-	1991	1992	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
6822.68	8640.54	10594.2	2782.59	2438.96	3111.31

[English]

Production and Sale of Coal

717. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total stock of coal at the mine head as on April 1, 1992 in the hands of the coal producing companies;

(b) the production of coal during the first six months of 1992-93 and the corresponding figure for 1991-92,

(c) the total sale of coal during this period and the corresponding period in the preceding year; and

(d) the ex-mine head price of coal at quarterly intervals as on April 1, 1992, July 1, 1992 and October 1, 1992 and the

Government have also initiated a process of consultation for restructuring of the RRBs.

(c) The deposits and disbursements of RRBs in Gujarat, as reported by NABARD, during the last 3 years are as under:-

corresponding figures for the last two years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NAYAMAGOUDA): (a) The total stock of coal in Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) as on 1 4 1992 was as under:

(in million tonnes)

CIL	47.80
SCCL	0.70

(b) and (c). The coal production and despatches of coal in Coal India Ltd. and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. during the period April to Sept. 92 as compare to the same period last year are given as under:

(in million tonnes)

(Data provisional)

Company	Production		Despatches	
	April-Sept. 1992-93	1991-92	April-Sept. 1992-93	1991-92
CIL	85.38	82.26	94.83	91.39
SCCL	9.4	8.91	9.10	9.14

(d) The average pithead prices of coal per tonnes for Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL)

during the current year and the last two years were as below:

Date	1992		1991		1990	
	CIL	SCCL	CIL	SCCL	CIL	SCCL
as on 1st April	Rs. 322.	Rs 388	Rs.249	Rs. 297	Res. 249	Rs. 297
as on 1st Jly	Rs. 322	Rs. 386	Rs. 249	Rs. 297	Rs. 249	Rs. 297
As on 1st Oct.	Rs. 322	Rs. 388	Rs. 249	Rs. 297	Rs. 249.	Rs. 297

Benefits to Retired Bank Employees

718 SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
SHRI A CHARLES:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from Retired Bank Employees for grant of pension and other benefits to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. In their representations federation/associations of retired bank officers/employees had demanded pension, medical facilities, travel concession facility, higher rate of interest on deposits for retired staff, preference for children of the staff for recruitment in banks, facility of avilment of loan against NSCs, etc. for the retired bank employees/officers. The bank officers, employees, are generally eligible to the benefits of the CPF and service Gratuity which are considered to be sufficient and comparable benefits keeping in view the retirement benefits available to Govt. servants and employees of other public undertakings which provide Pension, Gratuity and GPF only. Since the bank employees do not come under the purview of pension

during their service, it has not been possible to provide pensionary benefits to the retired bank employees. Further, Service conditions of bank employees/officers are settled through bipartite negotiations/Officers Service Regulations and the benefits in these settlements/regulations are provided in the bank employees/officers.

[Translation]

D.T.C BUS Service from Amritpuri to Central Secretariat

719. SHRI KESRI LAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether office goers residing in 'B' block Amritpuri, D block East of Kailash, Kailash Hill and Sant Nagar are facing a lot of inconvenience in absence of direct bus service between these points and the Central Secretariat;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce a direct bus service for Central Secretariat from these points., and

(c) if so, the time by which these buses would start plying?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The residents of Amritpuri, D block East of kailsh, Kailash Hill and Sant Nagar can reach

Central Secretariat by availing a single change over facility provided by DTC at Lajpat Nagar/Sriniwasपुरी.

(b) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Direct Taxes Collection

720 SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance in regard to direct taxes collection so far during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of each of the direct taxes collected during the current financial year so far; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to further improve the direct taxes collection during the remaining period of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The direct tax collection during April -October '92 compares favourably with the corresponding collection during April-October '91. The position with reference to the Budget Estimates 92-93) is also satisfactory.

(c) The figures of collection from various direct taxes during the financial year 1992-93 (upto 31st Oct, '92) are given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Corporation tax	3406
Income tax	3344
Wealth tax	239
Interest tax	158
Expenditure tax	64
Gift tax	5
Estate duty	1

(d) Appropriate legal and administrative measures are continuously taken to improve the tax collections. High priority is being given to expeditious disposal of bigger appeals and realisation of outstanding demands. Chief Commissioners and Director Generals of Income-tax have also been asked to pay greater attention to the area of tax deduction at source. The regionwise performance with reference to the targets fixed is being continuously monitored.

[Translation]

Profit and Loss by Central Cooperative Bank in Madhya Pradesh

721. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of average profit earned

and loss incurred by the Central Cooperative Bank and the Regional Rural Bank in Madhya Pradesh during each year of the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure that these banks do not incur loss in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):(a) The average profits of the profit making Central Cooperative Bank (CCBs) and average loss of the loss making CCBs during each of the three years namely 1988-89, 1989-90 1990-91 (latest available) is reported as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

	<i>Profit</i>	<i>Loss</i>
1988-89	8.17	19.08
1989-90	13.78	20.86
1990-91	13.16	N.A

In case of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in Madhya Pradesh, the figures for the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

	<i>Profit</i>	<i>Loss</i>
1989-90	Nil	54.05
1990-91	Nil	52.49
1991—92	Nil	120.36

(b) The losses incurred by the CCBs arise on account of various factors like low business turnover, high cost of management, low operating margins, lack of diversification of loan portfolio, failure to manage funds prudently and low recovery. CCBs are under the administrative control of State Government and are governed by the receptive cooperative legislation of the State. CCBs are inspected by the State Government and NABARD also conduct their statutory inspections and suggest remedial measures.

The performance of the RRBs is

monitored by NABARD and the Government of India at regular intervals. The Committee on Financial system which has submitted its report recently, has recommended that in order to impart viability, the RRBs may be allowed to engage in all types of activities though their focus should continue on the target groups. In September 1992, NABARD has advised that RRBs may at their discretion go in for financing non-target groups to an extent not exceeding 40% of their incremental lending. The paid up capital has also been increased from Rs. 50 lakhs to Rs. 75 lakhs in respect of all the 196 RRBs. A proposal to amalgamate all the RRBs in the country into

a National Rural Bank has also been mooted

by India in restoring economic stabilisations

Visit of World Bank President

[*Translation*]

722 SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI
BHANDARI
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR:

Construction of Bridges in Bihar

723 SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please
to state

(a) the number of bridges proposed to
be constructed on the National Highways in
Bihar during 1992-93,

(a) whether the World Bank President
has visited India

(b) the number of bridges being repaired
on the National Highways in Bihar and

(b) the details of the discussions held
with him and the outcome thereof?

(c) the details of the expenditure incurred
on the repair of the bridges on the National
Highways during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
RAMESHWAR THAKUR) (a) and (b) Mr
Lewis T Preston President of the World
Bank visited India from November 10 to 15
1992. During his visit discussions were held
with him on matters pertaining to the World
Bank's portfolio of projects in India and on
the prospects of continued and increased
support from the World Bank in view of the
general appreciation of the progress achieved

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) 3 numbers

(b) 2 numbers

(c) Details of allocations for repairs of
bridges during the last 3 years are as under

<i>Year</i>	<i>Ordinary Repairs</i> (Rs in lacs)	<i>Special Flood Damage Repairs</i> (Rs in lacs)
1989-90	41.00	19.74
1990-91	28.00	10.08
1991-92	29.70	25.47

**Amount Released to Bihar Under
ARDS**

the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief
Scheme, 1992 as on November 1, 1992

724 SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI Will
the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(b) the number of persons benefited as
a result thereof

(a) the amount released to Bihar under

(c) whether the full amount sanctioned

under the above scheme has been released to Bihar;

(d) if not the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b). As per information available, as on 16.11.1992, in the State of Bihar, a total number of 37.45 lakhs persons have been provided relief involving an amount of Rs. 828 crores through public sector banks, Co-operative and Regional Rural Banks. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that an amount of Rs. 274.75 crores has been sanctioned and released to the cooperative banks in Bihar by way of loan and grant under the scheme.

(c) to (e). NABARD has advised all State Cooperative banks and State Land Development banks and Regional Rural Banks to conduct 100 percent verification of relief provided by them and submit the revised claims after excluding the claim relating to ineligible borrowers. Release of further amounts would be considered only after receipt of such final claim statements from the cooperatives.

[*English*]

Ramagundam Stage-II Project

726. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ramagundam stage-II project is still not ready for commissioning in near future;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount of foreign aid received

for the project and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) by when it is likely to be commissioned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a), (b) and (d). The schedule of commissioning of Ramagundam Stage-II project is, as per the latest approval of the Govt., March, 1995. The development of the project is in progress and the contract with the General Contractor, for implementation of the project came into force with effect from the 13th May, 1992. The project is now likely to be commissioned by the end of 1995.

(c) Out of the total of DM 172.39 million of German Credit provided for this project in the Protocol, an amount of DM 14.95 million has been utilised so far.

[*Translation*]

Coal Supply

728. SHRI LAKSHMI NARYAN MANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total Quantity of coal lifted from the mines in the country and the quantity out of it, transported by rail and road transport during 1991-92;

(b) the quantity of coal supplied during the above period, quality-wise; and

(c) the quantity and quality of coal; supplied, industry-wise during this period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) The total quantity of coal despatched from Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) during the year 1991-92 by rail, road and other means is given as below:

(In million tonnes)

<i>By Rail</i>		<i>by Road</i>		<i>by Road</i>	<i>Others Means</i>
<i>CIL</i>	<i>SCCL</i>	<i>CIL</i>	<i>SCCL</i>	<i>CIL</i>	<i>SCCL</i>
108575	10.39	27.55	5.75	62.23	4.45

(b) The quality-wise breakup of coal despatched during 1991-92 was as follows:

	<i>Quality (Data provisional)</i> <i>(In million tonnes)</i>	
	CK	SCCL
Coking coal	0.742	NIL
Blendable	2.341	NIL
Other Coking	24.836	NIL
Steel/Washery		
Coking Coal	<i>Quality (Data Provisional)</i> <i>(In million tonnes)</i>	
	CIL	SCCL
	Med.Coking	
NLW BCCL	9.337	NIL
Med.Coking	0598	NIL
NLW (WCL)	0.067	NIL
NLW(SECL)	0.087	NIL
Non-Coking Coals		
Grade "A"	3.813	
Grade 'B"	20.374	
Grade "C'	42.006	3.627
Grade "D'	18.134	4.786
Grade "E"	24.508	7.352
Grade "F"	47 208	4.231
Ungraded/NSC	0.479	0.594

(c) The coal supplied to various sectors by CIL and SCCL during the year 1991-92 is given as below:

(In million tonnes)						
	<i>Power Utilities</i>	<i>Steel</i>	<i>Railway</i>	<i>Cement</i>	<i>Fertilizer</i>	<i>Others</i>
CIL	120.69	20.77	3.92	7.83	3.64	37.58
SCCL	14.08	-	0.49	2.12	0.67	3.23

The industry-wise breakup of quality of coal supplied is not available.

[English]

Assistance by Small Scale Industries Development Bank to Small Scale Industries

729. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA
CHIKHLIA:
SHRIMATI SHEELA
GAUTAM:
SHRI KHELAN RAM
JANGDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Scale Industries Development Bank of India has recently introduced a new scheme to help the small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details of the industries which are proposed to be provided assistance under the scheme;

(c) whether States are being provided assistance by the Bank under various schemes; and

(d) if so, the names of such States wherein the industries have been benefited therefrom and the amount provided to them as assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b). The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) have informed that they have recently introduced a direct finance scheme for acquisition of new machinery/equipment both indigenous and imported by existing well run SSI units to facilitate modernisation, technology upgradation, expansion and diversification which is not related to any specific project. All the existing units, which are eligible for assistance from SIDBI, are also eligible for assistance under the scheme provided they have been in operation for a period of at least 3 years and have earned profit or declared dividend during the two years preceding to taking up the proposed scheme.

(c) and (d). Under its various schemes SIDBI provides assistance to the units in the SSI sector all over the country irrespective of the State in which they are located. The State-wise assistance disbursed by SIDBI

STATEMENT*Stat-wise Assistance (*) Disbursed by SI DBI*

	<i>Rs. Crore</i>	
	<i>April 90- March 91</i>	<i>April 91-March 92</i>
Andhra Pradesh	139.12	135.89
Andhra Pradesh	0.80	0.25
Assam	11.25	10.06
Bihar	43.78	34.33
Goa	17.33	25.47
Gujarat	207.30	270.14
Haryana	53.22	58.64
Himachal Pradesh	23.13	24.67
Jammu & Kashmir	26.02	18.71
Karnataka	159.89	182.35
Kerala	95.35	107.87
Madhya Pradesh	85.45	90.25
Maharashtra	227.26	285.35
Manipur	2.23	3.46
Maghalaya	2.80	1.68
Mizoram	3.65	1.44
Nagaland	2.75	1.12
Orissa	45.05	44.80
Punjab	85.71	81.65
Rajasthan	78.20	90.82

	<i>Rs. Crore</i>	
	<i>April 90- March 91</i>	<i>April 91-March 92</i>
Sikkim	1.62	1.97
Tamil Nadu	208.27	213.25
Tripura	2.06	1.89
Uttar Pradesh	165.53	136.20
West Bengal	85.18	83.27
Union Territories	54.45	108.83
Grand Total	1317.90	2016.36

(*) - comprises assistance under all the schemes of SIDBI excluding that under NSIC, Factoring & short Term BRS.

Export of Hosiery Goods from Tirupur

730. SHRI C.K. KUPPUS WAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state.

(a) whether hosiery goods are exported from Tirupur;

(b) whether any Central Assistance is provided for boosting the export of such quality goods;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether there are any guide lines to encourage those engaged in such field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Government have taken several steps to boost export of garment including hosiery in the recent past. These include introduction of Liberalised Exchange Rate Management System, fixing of floor

prices for quota items in terms of convertible currencies, facilitating import of new textile and garment machinery without licensing requirements, import of second-hand machinery required by the garment and hosiery sectors without licensing requirements, subject to certain conditions, introduction of Export Promotion (Capital Goods) Scheme under which Capital Goods could be imported at concessional customs duty subject to export obligation, introduction of special value based Advance License scheme, encouragement to manufacturer-exporters and non-quota exporters through appropriate Policy measures under the Garment Export Entitlement Distribution Policy etc.

[Translation]

Supply of coal to Bricks and Tiles Industries

731. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to frame a scheme for allocation of coal at a fixed rate to bricks and tiles industries regularly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c). Coal India Ltd. is following a well laid down policy for supply of coal to Brick and Tile Industries. The Railways have been earmarking wagon ceiling limit for movement of coal rakes to Brick Industries in different States. In addition to movement of coal by rail, Coal India Ltd. has also offered 9.73 lakh tonnes of slack coal per month for the year 1992-93 for Brick industries in indifferent States for movement by road. Coal supplies both by rail and road are made available within the earmarked quantities on the basis of sponsorships issued by concerned Sponsoring Authority of each State.

In addition to the coal Supplies by Rail and Road against sponsorship, Coal supplies are also available from various sources under the 'Liberalised Sales Scheme'. Any interested buyer, including the Brick-Kilns, can draw Coal supplies upto 1000 MT at a time, from any of the identified sources.

Commercial use of Defence land in Gujarat

732. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to sell or to put to commercial use the surplus Defence land in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of criteria being adopted

by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. No surplus Defence land has been identified in Gujarat.

(b) and (c). Do not arise, in view of reply to (a).

Sale of Janata Cloth

733. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any instructions/directives to the State Governments for the proper distribution of Janata cloths/controlled cloth under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaint about the malfunctioning of the said scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). The implementation of Janata Cloth Scheme in the handloom sector is governed by a comprehensive set of guidelines issued by Government of India to all implementing States. Under these guidelines each implementing agency is required to distributed at least 85% of its total production through consumer cooperatives and such other agencies conforming to the definition of Public Distribution System. The State Level Implementation Committees functioning under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary/Secretary-in-charge of Handlooms with members drawn from Department of Civil Supplies, Non-Governmental Organisations, consumer representa-

other experts etc., have been entrusted with the functions including monitoring the performance of distribution arrangements in their respective States. The distributions of mill-made controlled cloth is effected through outlets of National Textile Corporation, their authorised dealers and the National Consumers' Cooperative Federation. Regular monitoring of sale of controlled cloth is undertaken by the National Textile Corporation.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) While specific action is taken in respect of specific complaints, the provisions under the guidelines are modified from time to time as long term preventive measures

[English]

Servicing of External Debt

734. SHRI S.B. THORAT:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest estimate of the cost of servicing external debt during the current year in comparison to the corresponding period of last two years; year-wise for Government loans as well as commercial borrowings;

(b) the estimated total outflow of foreign exchange during each of the last three years till-date on this account;

(c) the total estimated earning of foreign exchange by way of trade during the said period, year-wise;

(d) the total estimated inflow of foreign exchange during the current year by way of additional borrowings on Government and

non-Government Accounts;

(e) the impact of decline in the value of rupees against U.S. Dollar on the service cost;

(f) whether the debt servicing ratio has reached an unprecedented level; and

(g) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to keep it within limits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The Repayment of principal and Payment of Interest on External Debt outstanding was Rs. 8464 crores, Rs. 9693 crores and Rs. 13759 crores during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively. It is estimated to be Rs. 17609 crores during the current financial year

(c) The total earning of foreign exchange by way of trade during the last three years was Rs. 28229 crores, Rs. 33178 crores and Rs. 44706 crores during the 1980-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively.

(d) The inflow of foreign exchange during the current year (upto September, 1992) by way of additional borrowings on Government Account and Non-Government account is estimated to be Rs. 3008 crores.

(e) The entire external debt is not designated in US Dollars but in a mix of currencies. While the debt burden expressed in rupees would change as a result of changes in the exchange rate of rupee against US dollar, the debt denominated in the respective foreign currencies is not affected by such changes in the exchange rates of US dollar.

(f) and (g). The external debt burden and the debt servicing liability of the country is within manageable limit. Government is conscious about country's debt service liability

conscious about country's debt service liability and has already introduced programme of economic reforms which would improve the economic condition of the country and revitalise our growth process, including our export earning capacity, so as to enhance our capacity to repay the loans and to ensure that this debt servicing burden does not exceed the capacity of the economy to service such loans.

Child Labour Laws

735. SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Child Labour Laws in the country, far from curbing the social evil, are legitimising it;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to review them; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) No, sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Facilities at Major Ports for Import of LPG

736. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are facing difficulties to import more quantity of L.P.G. due to inadequate port handling facilities; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the

Government to create additional Port handling facilities for the import of L.P.G. at various major ports?

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

(b) There are proposals to augment LPG import capacity through existing Ports by revamping of facilities at Bombay and Vizage. It is also proposed to set up New Import Facilities at Kandla and Mangalore.

Abolition of Octroi Duty

737. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a Committee to examine all issues pertaining to octroi and 'Pathkar';

(b) if so, the details of the composition of the Committee and its terms of reference; and

(c) the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

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

(b) The composition of the Committee is as under:

1. Minister of State for Surface Transport ..Chairman
2. Minister of State for Urban Development Govt. of India ..Member
3. Minister for Urban Development Govt. of Maharashtra .. Member

- Govt. of Gujarat ..Member
5. Minister for Urban Development
Govt. of Rajasthan .. Member
6. Minister for Transport
Govt. of Haryana ..Member
7. Minister for Transport
Govt. of Orissa .. Member
8. Minister for Transport
Govt. of Madhya Pradesh ..Member
9. Secretary, Ministry of Surface
Transport, Govt. of India
..Secretary & Convenor

The Committee shall examine all issues relating to Octroi & Pathakar, with special reference to the difficulties faced by the Transport operators and the steps that may be necessary to resolve this.

(c) The Committee has been asked to give its report within one year from 23rd October, 1992.

D.T.C. Losses

738. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:
SHRI N.J. RATHVA:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Transport Corporation is incurring heavy losses after the introduction of the White Line and Red Line Express Services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make up the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). There has been a decline in the daily earnings of DTC on its city services in September and October 1992. The daily average income of DTC on city services during September, 1992 was Rs. 44.29 lakhs whereas in October 1992 it was Rs. 40.67 lakhs only.

(c) Government have been continuously monitoring the performance of DTC with a view to improve its functioning. Increase in fuel efficiency and tyre life, reduce number of break downs by better maintenance practice and economy in expenditure have been some of the measures regularly being undertaken. Plugging leakage of revenue is another measure which DTC undertakes through effective checking. Speedy disposal of scrap, route rationalisation are other measures being taken to augment the DTC revenues.

[*Translation*]

World Bank Aided Projects

739. SHRI CHINMAYANAND
SWAMI:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount received from the World Bank other foreign agencies for various projects during 1991 and 1992 till date, project-wise;

(b) the total amount of annual interest to be paid on the loans;

(c) whether the Government have chalked out any modalities for the repayment of these loans; and

(d) the number of years in which these loans are likely to be repaid, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Details of
assistance committed by World Bank and
other multilateral agencies during 1991 &
1992 are given in the attached statement

(b) Amount payable by way of interest

would depend on disbursement, possible
cancellations and redunds under the
assistance and hence is not quantifiable

(c) and (d). The Government has evolved
a suitable debt servicing strategy to repay
loan instalments within the due schedule of
repayment.

STATEMENT

Name of the Project		donor Agency	Amount of Assistance	
1		2	3	
1991				
1	Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation project	IDA	US\$ 109.9	M.
2	Second Technician Education project	IDA	US\$ 307.1	M.
3	Industrial Pollution Control Project	IBRD/IDA	US\$ 155.6	M.
4	2nd Road project	AED	US\$ 250.0	M.
5	Private Utilities (BSES)		US\$ 200.0	M.
1992				
7	IWD(Plains) Project	IBRD	US\$ 58.17	M.
8	IWD (Hills) Project	IBRD	US\$ 77.66	M.
9	ADP TamilNadu	IDA/IBSED	US\$ 107.53	M.
10	Shrimp & Fish Culture	IDA	US\$ 107.53	M.
11	Maharashtra Forestry	IDA	US\$ 124.0	M.
12	West Bengal Forestry	IDA	US\$ 124.0	M.

Name of the Project	Borrow Agency	Amount of Assistance
1	2	3
13. Child Survival & Safe motherhood Project	IDA	US\$ 219.7 M.
14. National AIDS control Project	IDA	US\$ 84.0 M.
15. Second National Highway Project	IDA/IBRD	US\$ 306.0 M.
16. Second Railway Project	ADB	US\$ 306.0 M.
17. Power Utilities efficiency impoirmnt project		US\$ 260.0 M.
18. Maharashtra Power Second		US\$ 350.0 M.

**Loan to Priority Sectors by
Nationalised banks**

740. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued directions to the Nationalised Banks that out of total amount of loans advanced by them, share of priority sector should not be less than 40 per cent;

(b) if so, the percentage of loan sanctioned, separately, to Agricultural sector, Small Scale Industries and Cottage Industries against the total loans advanced by these banks during the first six months of the

current financial year separately; and

(c) how does this loan compare with the loan given to agriculture sector, small and big industries during the corresponding period of the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Public Sector Banks are under instructions of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to lend at least 40% of their net bank credit to Priority Sector.

(b) and (c). The information system of RBI does not generate the data in the manner asked for. However, the outstanding bank credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks as also their advances to Agriculture, Small Scale Industries and Medium and Large Industry are given below.

(Rs. in crores)

	March	March	March	Variation during	
	1990	1991	1992	1990-91	1991-92
Bank Credit	95132	109293	118024	14166	8726
Agriculture	16526 (17.4)	16750 (15.3)	18187 (15.4)	224	1437
Small Scale Industries	15543 (16.3)	17181 (15.7)	18158 (15.4)	1638	977
Industry (Medium & Large)	38262 (40.2)	44508 (40.7)	47330 (40.1)	6246	2822

(Figures in bracket represent percentage share in the total credit.)

[English]

**Privatisation of Bank Note Printing
Press**

741. SHRI AJOY MUKHO-
PADHYAY:
PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRA-
BORTY:
SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK:
DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to privatise the state owned Nasik and Dewas note printing presses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government

propose to develop indigenous technology for printing currency notes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All the currency/bank notes are being printed indigenously in the country at Bank Note Press Dewas and Currency Note Press Nasik.

Minimum Wages

742. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI MANJAY LAL:
SHRI RAM SAGAR:
SHRI RAMDEW RAM:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of minimum wage fixed for a labour;

(b) whether the Government propose to revise the minimum wages of labourers with the hike in the Consumers Price Index;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be revised; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Under the Minimum Wages, Act, 1948 both Central Government and State Governments are the appropriate Governments for fixing/receiving of minimum wages in their respective spheres.

(b) to (d). The Government have under their consideration a proposal to amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 providing for revision of wages within a period of two years unless there is a provision for Variable Dearness Allowance. Pending amendment of the Minimum Wages Act, the State Governments and Union Territories Administrations have been requested to fix minimum wages with a component of Variable Dearness Allowance linked to All India Consumer price Index.

Development of Ports

743. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHARY:
SHRIGOPINATHGAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of ports during the year 1992-93 and in Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, whether a number of modernisation measures are also to be taken at the various major ports; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, portwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. An outlay of Rs. 2976 has been tentatively provided for major ports in 8th Plan and a provision of Rs. 541.66 crores has been made in Annual Plan 1992-93 for various development schemes aiming at modernisation of major ports. The port-wise break-up of these outlays is given in the attached statements.

STATEMENT

Details of tentative outlay provided for major ports in 8th Plan 1992-97 and the provisions made in Annual Plan 1992-93 for Development Schemes of Major Ports

Sl.No	Port	Outlays (Rs. in crores)	
		8th Plan 1992-97 (Tentative)	Annual Plan 1992-93
1	2	3	4
1.	(a) Calcutta	180.00	45.00
	(b) Haldia	175.00	45.00
	(c) River Related Schemes	76.00	43.58
	Total Calcutta	431.00	130.00
2	Bombay	251.00	70.43
3.	Jawaharlal Nehru	290.00	57.30
4.	Madras	639.39	34.69
5.	Cochin	96.54	42.17
6.	Vizag	234.46	65.57
7.	Kandla	220.00	40.00

Sl. No.	Port	Outlays (Rs. in crores)	
		8th Plan 1992-97 (Tentative)	Annual Plan 1992-93
1	2	3	4
8	Mormugao	125.13	11.76
9	Paradip	568.48	67.00
10	New Mangalore	59.00	4.91
11.	Tuticorin	65.00	17.05
Total - Major Ports		2978.00	541.66

New Bank Branches in Orissa

744. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up more branches of different commercial banks in Orissa during 1992-93; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas of State where these branches are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Under the extant licensing policy, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allocated the following branches in urban/metropolitan/port town centres of Orissa:-

<i>Name of Centre</i>	<i>No. of bank branches allotted</i>	<i>No. of bank branches opened</i>
Cuttack	11	4
Ganjam	3	-
Bhubaneswar	14	6
Puri	5	2
Sambalpur	5	1
Sundargarh	6	1
Total	44	14

As regards semi-urban centres, RBI, has allocated a specific number of semi-urban centres of commercial banks within which they can open branches at the centres of their choice.

Regarding rural centres, the individual banks have to identify the centres falling within their service area and such centres with necessary particulars have to be given to the lead bank of that district. The lead bank after consolidating the list submits it to the District Collector for recommendations and onward transmission to RBI through the concerned State Government. RBI have so far received proposals for opening branches only in the Districts of Kehar, Sambalpur and Mayurbhanj through the State Government.

Net Inflow of External Assistance

745. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of net inflow of external assistance during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there is any decline in the rate of net inflow of external assistance, every year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have made any plan to improve the net inflow rate; and

(e) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The amount of net inflow of external assistance (net of repayment of principal) during 1990-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 was Rs. 3815 crores, Rs. 4375 crores and Rs. 7965 crores respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Government have taken a number of steps to accelerate the implementation of externally aided projects and the utilisation of external assistance. These include simplification of procedures for release of foreign exchange and tender evaluation, passing on of 100% external assistance to State, and advance releases on account of externally aided projects. Monitoring of externally aided projects has also been intensified.

Loss of Coal India Limited

746, SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total accumulated loss of the Coal India Limited;

(b) the quantity of coal written off after verification of stock and the corresponding value of such written off Stock, Subsidiary-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make up the loss?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B.NYAMAGOUDA): (a) According to information furnished by Coal India Limited

(CIL) the total accumulated loss of CIL upto the end of 1991-92 was Rs. 2353.99 crores (provisional).

(b) According to information furnished by the coal companies Eastern Coalfields Limited (EGL) have written off 2.43 lakh tonnes of coal and Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) have written off 0.79 lakhs tonnes of coal during 1991-92. Assuming an average price of Rs. 322 per tonne the value of stocks written off works out to Rs. 10.37 crores.

(c) The steps taken/proposed to be taken to make up the loss incurred by Coal India Limited are:-

- (i) Increased production and productivity.
- (ii) Control effectively and contain the cost of production so as to have an adequate margin for sustained growth.
- (iii) Implementation of "Cash and Carry Scheme" for better sales realisation of coal.
- (iv) Improved manpower planning including re-deployment of surplus labour and restricting the intake of new hands against vacancies caused by natural wastage.
- (v) Reduction in manpower through voluntary retirement.
- (vi) concept of all men all jobs ' is being tried on experimental basis.
- (vii) improvement in availability and utilisation of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery by providing adequate workshop support, improved management of spares and timely rehabilitation of equipments.

- (viii) Procurement of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery and other equipments are scrutinised closely so that addition to plant and machinery is minimised.
- (ix) special emphasis on underground mines to improve the productivity and profitability.
- (x) steps taken for maintaining better coordination with State Governments and also with the appropriate authorities for acquisition of requisite land so that the mining activities can be taken as per schedule.
- (xi) capital expenditure reduction without impairing short term/long term production potential so that impact of interest and depreciation in the future cost of production is minimised.
- (xii) Periodical revision of price of coal/ coke to neutralise the cost.

Merger of SBI associate Banks with State Bank of Hyderabad

747. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN
SHRI RAM BADAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government propose to merge SBI associate banks with State Bank of Hyderabad as reported in the Economic Times dated August 29, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Government have received a proposal from the State of India for the merger of its seven Associate Banks into a single Associate Bank. Government have solicited the views of Reserve Bank of India on the proposal. It would not be possible at this stage to indicate time limit for a decision on the proposal.

Protection to People living near Coal Mines

748. PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of subsidence occurring frequently after each accident in Eastern Coalfields Limited, Collieries in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken steps to protect the people of the neighbouring villages of coal mines;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMA GOUDA): (a) and (b). Accidents in mines of any type in the Eastern Coalfields Ltd., do not necessarily cause surface subsidence. At times, sudden collapse of roof or parting between developed seams underground may trigger surface subsidence as happened at Madhusudanpur Colliery on 21.9.92. An accident occurred on 17.9.92 in the colliery due to collapse of parting between Jambad top and Jambad bottom sections. This collapse affected the equilibrium of the overlying old abandoned water logged

workings of Upper Kajera seam and this played a part in causing the surface subsidence.

(c) to (e). A number of locations in the operational areas of the E.C.L. located over old abandoned workings of the past, are apprehended to be prone to subsidence and, as such, declared unsafe by the Director General of Mines Safety as early as in 1950. With a view to checking the growth of habitation over these unsafe areas, the Govt of West Bengal had passed legislation in 1979 prohibiting construction over unsafe areas.

There is no provision mentioned of stabilising inaccessible, water-logged, old abandoned workings. E.C.L. has developed through R & D, a system of hydro-pneumatic method of stowing for stabilising, water-logged, inaccessible workings and at present a part of the Raniganj township has been taken up for stabilisation under the supervision and guidance of an 'Apex Monitoring Committee' constituted by the State Government of West Bengal and Coal India Ltd. Necessary remedial measures are taken by E.C.L. to shift the affected persons due to subsidence as and when required.

Amendment in the Industrial Law

749. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA
KUMAR:
SHRI SOBHANADREE-
SWARA RAO VADDE.
SHRIMRUTYUNJAYANAYAK:
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted to go into the findings of Ramanujam Committee on industrial law during the 40th conference of labour Ministers convened in February 1992 has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the committee;

(c) whether the Government have finalised the new industrial relations bill on the basis of the recommendations made by Ramanujam Committee and the committee constituted to go into its recommendations;

(d) if so, the salient features of new industrial relation bill; and

(e) the policy of the Government regarding labour participation in management?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). The Group of five State Labour Ministers under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State for Labour and Coal constituted in pursuance of the decision taken in the 40th Labour Ministers' Conference held in February 1992 examined the areas of disagreement in the Report of the Ramanujam Committee on New Industrial Relations Law. The gist of the views of the Group is given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). The matter was placed before the Indian Labour Conference held in September, 1992. In pursuance of the decision taken in the Conference, action to draft the Bill amending Trade Unions Act, 1926 and Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 has been initiated.

(e) The policy of Government is to promote workers' participation in management. A number of schemes in this regard had been introduced in the past. At present a scheme of Employees' Federation in Management, 1983 is in operation. In order to provide a statutory backing to the scheme, the Government has introduced the "Participation of Workers in Management Bill, 1990" in Rajya Sabha in 1990. The Bill seeks to provide for a meaningful participation

of workers in the management at shop floor, establishment and board levels in industrial establishments.

STATEMENT

Views of the Group of Ministers on some important recommendations of the Ramanujam Committee

TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926

(I) Ban on recognition of trade unions on the basis of caste, creed etc.

The Group unanimously agreed that registration of trade unions based on caste, creed, community and religion should be banned. Exception could, however, be made in the case of trade unions based on craft or occupation.

(ii) Outsiders as office bearers of a trade union

The Group unanimously agreed to restrict outsiders to 1/3rd of the total number of office bearers as recommended by the Ramanujam Committee. All except the Labour Minister of West Bengal were against a Central or State Minister being an office bearer of a trade union.

(iii) Disqualification

The Group of Ministers are in favour of retaining the existing provisions of the Act. However, West Bengal supports the dissenting view, namely, disqualification should be only on ground of conviction for dereliction of union funds or on charges of corruption.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE ACT, 1947

(I) Definition of 'Industry'

All the Ministers except Labour Minister

of West Bengal were in favour of a separate legislation/grievance redressal machinery for hospitals and educational institutions. The Labour Minister of West Bengal was of the view that the 1982 amendment may be enforced after excluding hospitals and educational institutions from the list of exempted establishments and that the State Governments may form Tripartite Committees to look into the day-to-day grievances of the hospital employees.

(II) Coverage of employees

The Group unanimously agreed that the present pay limit of Rs. 1600/- may be raised to Rs. 3000/- per month for wider coverage of employees. The Labour Minister of West Bengal was of the view that there should not be pay limit for supervisory staff. It was also agreed that employees in the managerial and administrative capacity, as already provided in the Act should not be covered under the proposed law.

(III) Exemption

All States except West Bengal agreed that State laws such as the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, should continue to be exempted. However, there should be general uniformity in the State laws.

(iv) 'Appropriate Government

West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu were in favour of retaining the existing provisions in the Industrial Disputes Act regarding the Appropriate Government. Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh were of the view that in addition, Central Government should be the appropriate Government in respect of a company in which 51% of the paid up capital is held by the Central Government.

There was unanimity that the State Government should continue to be the

appropriate Government in respect of an Industrial establishment owned by Body Corporate even if it is operating in more than one State.

employees should be reduced from 100 workmen to 50 workmen.

(x) Go-slow

(v) Voluntary Arbitration

It was unanimously agreed that the existing provisions should continue.

The Group was of the view that 'go-slow' should be discouraged. All except West Bengal agreed that provisions for proportional reduction in wages for loss of production due to go-slow may be made. West Bengal Labour Minister was of the view that the Group should refrain from making any comment on the subject since the Ramanujam Committee did not make any recommendation in this regard.

(vi) Industrial Relations Commission

The Group rejected setting up of I.R.C. as recommended by the Ramanujam Committee.

(xi) Union recognition

(vii) Strike and Lock-outs

All States except West Bengal agreed for one month's notice for strike and lock-out, both in essential and non-essential services. West Bengal was in favour of retaining the existing provision of 14 days' notice for essential services.

The Group of Ministers was in favour of secret ballot as the method for verification of membership of unions and identification of a negotiating agent. West Bengal was of the opinion that trade unions should be eligible to contest for a position in the Negotiating Council right from the date of its registration. It was also of the view that the machinery for verification of membership should be decided by the individual states.

No strike or lock out should be permitted during the pendency of conciliation proceedings. Such provision should, however, be only in respect of issues related to the matter in conciliation.

(xii) Recommendations relating to Individual Grievances Procedure, Negotiating Councils etc. are left to be considered by the Indian Labour Conference.

(viii) Retrenchment compensation

It was unanimously agreed that retrenchment compensation should be raised from 15 days to 45 days' wages for every completed year of service.

[Translation]

Constitution of Board of Directors for Management of Banks

(ix) Chapter VB

(a) It was agreed that the coverage of the provisions of Chapter VB (special provisions relating to lay off, retrenchment and closure) should be extended to 'other establishments' in addition to factories mines and Plantations.

750. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted Board of Directors for all the Public Sector Banks;

(b) The threshold for coverage of

(b) if so, whether the representatives of

the employees have also been included in such boards along with other people;

(c) whether the Supreme Court's decision in this regard has been complied with, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). The boards of directors of public sector banks are continuing entities and Vacancies that arise are filled up from time to time

Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the appointment of non workmen (Officer) directors on the boards of the public sector banks, in which matter the Supreme Court passed orders on 14.8.1989. In the light of the judgment of the Supreme Court, non workmen directors have already been appointed in 23 public sector banks. Government have initiated necessary steps for appointing non workmen directors in the remaining five public sector banks.

[English]

Modernisation of Coal Washeries

751. SHRI PRAKASH V PATIL
SHRI N J RATHVA
SHRIGOPINATHGAJAPATHI

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) the total capacity of coal washeries

of the Coal India Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited;

(b) whether the Government propose to modernise all the coal washeries of the Coal India Limited,

(c) if so, the details thereof,

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred for each coal washery and the time schedule fixed in this regard,

(e) whether the Government propose to set up some new Coal Washeries under CIL, and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S B NYAMA GOUDA. (a) The total installed capacity of Coking coal washeries in the Coal India Limited, at present is 27.76 million tonne per annum, out of which the installed capacity of washeries in the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd is 14.25 m.t.p.a.

(b) to (d) Modification/modernisation works undertaken in the existing Coking coal washeries in accordance with the recommendations of an Expert Committee include installation of deshaling plants, provision of fine coal beneficiation and introduction of instrumentation/automation system. Expenditures likely to be incurred with anticipated schedule of completion of modification works, washery-wise, are

Washery	Projected Expenditure (Rs. crs)	Anticipated completion
Bhojudih (BCCL)	18.9	Dec. '93
Dugda I (BCCL)	12.3	Dec. '93

<i>Washery</i>	<i>Projected Expenditure (Rs. crs)</i>	<i>Anticipated completion</i>
Dugda II (BCCL)	6.2	July '93
Sumadih (BCCL)	8.8	July '93
Patherdih (BCCL)	29.5	June '95
Moonidih (BCCL)	0.3	Completed (March '93)
Kargali (CCL)	20.0	Oct. '94
Kathara (CCL)	15.6	March '94
Gidi (CCL)	20.0	Dec. '94
Swang (CCL)	2.5	March '93
Rajrappa (CCL)	2.2	-Under trial run.

Besides automation works of B.C.C.L. washeries would cost Rs 12.0 crores and the job is likely to be completed by June '95.

(e) and (f) The details of new coal washeries currently being set up under CIL are:

<i>Washeries</i>	<i>Capacity (m.t. p.a.)</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Madhuband (BCCL)	2.5	Coking coal to be supplied to steel plants.
Kedla (CCL)	2.6	-do-
Bina (NCL)	4.5	Non - Coking coal to be supplied to power houses
Piparwar (CCL)	6.5	-do-
Kalinga (MCL)	8.0	do

[*Translation*]**Value of Rupee**

752. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:
SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:
SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present internal value of rupee treating 1947 as a base year;

(b) the present exchange value of rupee in comparison to major foreign currencies; and

(c) the impact of downward trend of value of rupee in relation to major foreign currencies on the country's trade, economy and balance of payment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The internal value of the rupee as determined by the reciprocal of the consumer price index for industrial workers treating 1947 as the base year has been 5.98 Paise in September, 1992.

(b) The average exchange value of the rupee vis-a-vis selected major currencies for the month of October, 1992 has been as follows:-

<i>Currency</i>	<i>Official Rate</i>	<i>Market Rate*</i>
US Dollar	25.8900	30.0471
Pound Sterling	42.8616	49.8933
Deutsche Mark	17.4242	20.2505
Japanese Yen	0.2136	0.2481
French Franc	5.1352	5.9597

* FEDAI indicative rate.

(c) The depreciation of the rupee enhances external competitiveness of the country which in turn encourages exports, import-substitution and invisible earnings and thereby improves the balance of payments. This is advantageous for an economy with a deficit in the balance of payments.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
DR. ASIM BALA:
SHRISUBRATAMUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small and marginal jute grower are facing great difficulty in selling their produce at support price resulting in mounting of unsold stock;

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

(c) whether the Union Government are

[*English*]**Distress Sale of Jute**

753. SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS:

aware of sharp decline in raw jute prices in the domestic market;

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

(e) whether the Government have issued any directives recently to J.C.I. for purchase of raw jute from the farmers directly at support price in jute growing States particularly in West Bengal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (f). JCI has, in association with its agencies, purchased 6,77,554 bales of raw jute upto 15.11.92, during the 1992-93 jute season in order to protect the interests of the jute growing farm. This timely intervention of JCI, along with the release of a quota for the export of 1.5 lakh bales of raw jute to GCA countries and instructions to jute mills to raise their inventories to cater to their requirements of consumption for ten weeks has helped arrest the decline in prices of raw jute. This jute has been purchased directly from the farmers on the basis of jute cards issued by the State Government.

[*Translation*]

World Bank Assistance for Projects in Bihar

754. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign assistance is being taken from the World Bank for the development of hilly and tribal areas and for the completion of a large number of projects in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof, projects -

wise;

(c) the names of the projects pertaining to the development of Southern Bihar for which funds have been allocated by the World Bank from January 1, 1990 to till date and the details of their implementation;

(d) the number of such projects which could not be started due to non-payment of necessary funds;

(e) whether any action has been initiated by the Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Bihar Plateau Development Project has recently been negotiated with the World Bank for an IDA credit of SDR 80.7 million (US\$. 117. Million equivalent). The Project is designed to increase rural incomes in the Plateau region of Southern Bihar through the provisions of investments in critical areas including infrastructure agriculture, minor irrigation, rural roads and drinking water.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). Does not arise.

[*English*]

Child Labour Engaged In Carpet Industry

755. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement was reached between the All India Carpet Manufacturers Association (AICMA) and Committee for Eradication of Child Labour in Carpet Industry December 1991 for ridding the industry of

migrant child labour;

(b) if so, the steps taken for the implementation of the agreement;

(c) whether the Government are aware of a move in carpet importing countries for boycott of Indian carpets produced by the manufacturers who employ child labour; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and b). An agreement between All Indian Carpet Manufacturers' Association (AICMA) and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) was reached on 17.12.91 for reverting migrant Child Labour to their respective native by 31.3.92. The Government was not a party to this agreement.

(c) and (d). Government is not aware of any organised boycott of Indian carpets by the importing countries. However, a Bill was introduced in the Senate of United States of America which has lapsed. Various steps are being taken to tackle the problem within the country and to project the reality of the situation abroad.

External Debt

756. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present size of external debt;

(b) the amount of annual assistance received from the Asian Development Bank during the current year so far.

(c) the amount of assistance received from the Paris-based Aid India Consortium during the said period; and

(d) the details of ratio of debt to export of goods and services and the ratio of debt to GNP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The foreign loans outstanding as at the end of September, 1992 are estimated to be US 57125 million equivalent to Rs. 171310 crores at the exchange ration prevalent on that date..

(b) The external assistance received from Asian Development Bank during the year 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 (upto September 1992) was Rs. 325 crores Rs. 763 crores and Rs. 67 crores respectively.

(c) The Members of the Paris-based Aid India Consortium have pledged aid assistance of TS 7.2 billion for the year 1992-93 subject to approvals under their respective laws and regulations.

(d) Normally the debt service ratio is computed on the bases of debt service payment i.e. repayment of principal and payment of interest as percentage to current receipts i.e. export of goods and services. On this basis the debt service ratio was 21.3 percent and debt outstanding ratio to GNP was 27.4 percent during 1991-92.

[Translation]

Retrenchment of Bank Employees

757. SHRI RAM BADAN:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to retrench a large number of officers and staff of the nationalised banks as reported in the daily 'Rashtriya Sahara' published from

Delhi dated September 26, 1992;

(a) social security;

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

(b) central legislation for agriculture labour;

(c) the manner in which the retrenched employees are proposed to be rehabilitated?

(c) central legislation for construction workers; and

(d) appointment of National Commission on Bonded Labour.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No such scheme regarding retrenchment of bank employees is pending. However, Indian Banks' Association is examining the feasibility and relevance of a Scheme for Voluntary Retirement for the officers of the public sector Banks.

Composition

Chairman: Labour Minister, Government of Maharashtra

(c) Does not arise.

Members: Labour Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh (12 States)

[English]

Committee of the Welfare of Workers

758. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(ii) A Committee of Labour Ministers to consider the suggestions contained in agenda item No. 12 to 47 (as given in the attached statement with the following composition:

(a) whether the Government have constituted two separate committees of State Labour Ministers to consider important matters connected with the welfare of workers; and

Composition:

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Chairman: Labour Minister, Government of West Bengal

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). The 41st Labour Minister Conference held on 13.8.92 appointed the following two committees of Labour Ministers:-

Members: Labour Ministers of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Pondichery, Rajasthan and Sikkim (10 States).

(i) A committee of Labour Ministers with the following composition to go into the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour (NCRL) relating to the following:

STATEMENT

41st Labour Ministers ' Conference,
New Delhi - 13.8.92

AGENDA

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.

12. Uniform Policy regarding Minimum Wages

12. Fixation on Minimum Wages for Beedi Workers on Regional Basis

14. Unfair Labour Practices, Adjudication before Labour Court Tribunal

15. Dual Remedies for Industrial Disputes

16. Minimum Wages Act, (Section 20)

17. Trade Unions Act, 1926 Empowering Labour Courts/Tribunals regarding Election Dispute.

18. National Guidelines for the

Declaration of Public Utility Services under Section 2(N) (VI) of the I.D. Act

20. Workers Participation in Management (Section E-A of I.D.

21. Protection of Unorganised Labour

22. Recoveries/Limitations under various Labour Laws - Reconsideration

23. Issues to be framed under Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act

24. Special Provision for Women Workers

25. Welfare Funds to Unorganised Sector.

26. Improvement in Functioning of State Labour Institutes

27. Computerising of Data using NICNET

28. Indian Embassies abroad as Liaison regarding export of the Surplus Manpower from India.

29. Inclusion of Minimum Wages Act in the IX the schedule Barring Court Jurisdiction in fixation of Minimum Wages

30. Measures for Unorganised Labour

31. Transferring Beedi Workers Welfare Fund into State Government.

32. Revival of Labour Appellate Tribunal

33. Central Government contribution for ESIC implementation

34. ~~Withdrawing Notification~~ order in respect of certain establishments.

35. ~~Abolition of Freight~~ Equalisation of Coal

36. Formulating effective measures for realising PF and ESI dues

37. Cash benefits for Sickness and Maternity-Removing Time-Lag, between contribution period and benefit period.

38. Extending ESI benefits when employers default in depositing contribution

39. Amendment of Inter-State Migrant Labour Act

40. Amendment of Payment of Wages Act 1936

41. Amendment of Payment of Bonus Act

42. Amendment to Section 10 (1) (c) read with Sec 2-A of I.D. Act

43. Amendment to Section 36 read with 2-A I.D. Act

44. Amendment to Minimum Wages Act Section 22 (AA)

45. Amendment of Section 20 (I) and 21 (II) of Payment of Wages Act, 1936

46. Amendment of Section 26 (I) & 26 (II) of I.D. Act, 1947

47. Amendment of Workmen's Compensation Act.

Changes in Procedure for Issue and Sale of Shares

759. PROF. RITA VERMA:
SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR (DEEPA):
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has made some changes in regard to issue of the shares by companies and sale thereof by allottees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main benefits likely to accrue to investors as a result thereof;

(d) whether some companies have been found guilty of not following the norms/guidelines laid down by the SEBI while issuing shares to the public;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). With the abolition of Capital Issues (Control) Act, 1947 the companies are free to issue shares to compliance of guidelines for disclosure and investor protection issued by SEBI on June 11, 1992 and subsequent clarifications thereto. The salient features of the guidelines include a specified minimum percentage of contribution from the promoters seeking to raise capital from the market, a lock in period of 5 years for the promoters contribution and a stipulation that promoters contribution shall not be raised by way of private placement from unrelated investors through market intermediaries. As regards sale of shares by the allottees, SEBI has laid down certain restrictions on sale of shares by the allottees who have acquired the shares by way of firm allotment for a period of 3 years from the date of allotment.

(c) The benefits that are likely to accrue to the investors are:

A minimum stake by the promoters

would help ensure that the promoters also partake financially in the project. Linking of the lock in period for shares allotted to the promoters with the date of commercial production would help ensure that the promoters pay adequate attention to implement the project in time. Such lock in also helps to avoid dumping of huge quantities of shares acquired by the promoters on firm allotment basis. In the open market on listing which would go to depress the share price, prohibition on private placement of shares with unrelated investors through market intermediaries is done with a view to avoiding gullible investors from being taken in by promises held out by the promoters.

(d) and (e). Guidelines have come into force only from June 11, 1992. It is, therefore, too soon to identify if any company (ies) has/ have violated the guidelines laid down.

(f) Does not arise.

Third Report of Janakiraman Committee

760. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL
KATHERIA:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Janakiraman Committee has submitted its third report; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Third Report of the Janakiraman Committee contains its findings relating to irregularities in securities transactions of City Bank, Bank of America, Andhra Bank,

Bank of Karad (in liquidation), Metropolitan Co-operative Bank Ltd (in liquidation), Syndicate Bank, Bombay Mercantile Co-operative Bank Limited., Nedungadi Bank Limited, and functioning of the Public Debt Office (PDO). A summary of its findings are in Chapter II of the Report. The copies of the Report have been placed in the Library of the Lok Sabha Secretariat and sufficient number of copies have also been given to the Lok Sabha Secretariat for distribution among the Members of the House.

Sales Tax Dues of H.S.L. Visakhapatnam

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

(a) whether the Revenue Department of the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent auction notice to the Hindustan Shipyard at Visakhapatnam to recover the dues from it;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Hindustan Shipyard and management to overcome this situation.

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

(b) The Commercial Tax Department of the Government of Andhra Pradesh sent auction notice to Hindustan Shipyard Limited on 21.5.1992 for public auction of certain immovable properties belonging to Hindustan Shipyard Limited to recover areas of sales tax amounting to Rs. 9.82 crores.

(c) Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. made several appeals to the State Government requesting to waive the sales tax liability and not to resort to any coercive action for

collection of sales tax arrears. Similar requests have been made to the State Government by this Ministry also at the highest level.

Road Accidents in Delhi

762. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN
CHANDRA KHANDURI:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAJAKTA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of road accidents in Delhi during the last ten months;

(b) the number of persons killed/injured in these accidents and the number of D.T.C. buses/buses under D.T.C. operation and Government vehicles involved in these accidents;

(c) the main reasons for these accidents; and

(d) the steps taken to minimise the road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 7116 road accidents were reported in Delhi during the first ten months of 1992

(b) 1493 persons were killed and 6987 persons were injured in these accidents.

The number of DTC buses/buses under DTC operation and Government vehicles involved are given below.-

1. DTC	710 buses
2. Private buses under DTC operation	- 102 buses
3. Government vehicles	- 15

(c) The main reasons for these accidents are:-

1. Rash congligant driving.
2. Mechanical failure'.
3. Lack of road sense by road users.
4. Error of Judgement.
5. Mixed traffic condition.
6. Bad road condition.
7. Indiscreet alighting/boarding of commuters.
8. Heavy congestion on the roads of Delhi

(d) Steps taken to minimise accidents in Delhi are given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

1. Strict and rigid enforcement of traffic rules and regulation.
2. Organisation of special drives against rash and regligent driving, driving without licence, drunken driving red light jumping etc.
3. Regular prosecution of violator by issue of notices
4. Road Safety education to school children
5. Road Safety advertisement through newspapers, radio, and T.V.
6. Introduction of traffic signals/ blinkers in accident prone areas.
7. More police presence in accidents prone areas.

8. Introduction of traffic management techniques viz one way speed limits, imposing ban/restriction on turning movements, ideal flow operation.
9. Synchronisation of traffic signals in a Network.
10. Special mobile checking on National Highways.
11. Prosecution through most modern equipments viz alcometer radar guns.
12. Painting of bicycle tracks, yellow boxes and bus boxes etc.
13. Entire fleet of D.T.C. has been calibrated and governed to restrict speed upto 40 km. per hour, in Delhi.
14. Refresher courses are arranged for the drivers in order to prevent accidents. In this regard lectures are being delivered & video films on traffic rules are also being displayed.
15. Enforcement of road discipline by special squads of inspectors with driving back-ground.
16. The traffic Supervisory staff have been deployed on important bus stands during peak hours to ensure proper parking of buses and safe boarding/alighting of passengers.
17. Besides the action from Court of law, deterrent departmental action is being taken against the erring staff.

[Translation]

Forged Insurance of LIC In Meerut

763. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware

of forced case of insurance in Meerut division of the Life Insurance Corporation of India during the last one year, as reported in the Jansatta dated October 31, 1992;

(b) if so, the details of such cases; and

(c) the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) to (c). The zonal Manager, Kanpur has been directed by the Life Insurance Corporation of India to investigate into the allegations of inflated business figures to the tune of Rs. 100 crores in Meerut Division and other complaints as reported in the newspaper. As regards the allegation relating to Shri B.B. Tandon, Senior Branch Manager, Ghaziabad Branch regarding dishonour of cheque for Rs. 35,000/- against Jeevan Akshay policies taken by him for income-tax rebate, it has been decided by the LIC in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission to initiate major penal proceedings against the officer. Necessary disciplinary proceedings have since been initiated as advised by the CVC.

[English]

Disinvestment of Shares of LIC

764. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of shares LIC held by the Government;

(b) whether it has been decided to disinvest shares of the Life Insurance Corporation of India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Central Government had provided Rs. 5 crores as original capital for

establishment of the Corporation in 1956.

[*Translation*]

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Development of National Highways in Maharashtra

765. SHRIDHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of funds for development of the National Highways in Maharashtra and its utilisation thereof during 1992-93; and

(b) the details of the developmental works undertaken and achievements thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) During 1992-93, an amount of Rs. 31 crores has been allocated for development of National Highways in Maharashtra. Against that, an expenditure of Rs. 24.98 crores has been incurred till the end of the September, 1992, as reported by the State P.W.D.

(b) At end of September 1992, 204 development works with an estimated cost of Rs. 185.09 crores were in various stages of progress on National Highways in Maharashtra State and expenditure of Rs. 89.24 crores had been incurred on these works as per information furnished by the P.W.D.

Salary Limit for Bonus to Central Government Employees

766. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether bonus is given only to those Central Government employees whose salary is less than Rs. 2500/-;

(b) when this limit was fixed;

(c) the extent of increase in the dearness allowance to the Central Government employees since the fixation of this limit;

(d) whether the Government propose to increase the salary limit proportionately for the purpose of bonus;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) Only such of the Central Government employees, other than those in the Railways, are eligible for Bonus whose total emoluments, which includes basic pay, personal pay, special pay, deputation (duty) allowance and dearness allowance, does not exceed Rs. 2500/- p.m.

(b) November, 1985.

(c) Prior to 1.1.86, the dearness allowance was regulated under the old formula. Consequent on acceptance of the recommendations of the 4th Pay Commission, Dearness Allowance is regulated under a new formula. The two formulae are not comparable. The rate of D.A. is as follows w.e.f. 1.7.92:-

Pay Range	Rate of Dearness Allowance per mensem
Basic pay upto Rs. 3500/- p.m.	83% of Pay.
Basic pay above	62% of pay subject to a

Rs. 3500/- p.m. & upto
Rs. 6000/- p.m.

minimum of Rs. 2905/-

Basic pay above
Rs. 6000/- p.m.

54% of pay subject to a
minimum of Rs. 3720.

(d) There is no proposal at present to increase the salary limit for the purpose of calculating the bonus.

(e) and (f). Does not arise.

[English]

Shortage of Coal for Power Plants

767. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether electricity boards in the Western region of the country are facing acute shortage of coal for generating power in the power plants;

(b) whether these boards have submitted any representation to the Government demanding release of coal on priority basis;

(c) the quota earmarked for supply of coal of each state electricity Board in Western region and the quantity actually supplied during the last two years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Central Electricity Authority have reported that some Thermal Power Stations in the Western Region are operating on critical level of coal stocks and some Thermal Power Stations have suffered Generation loss also for want of coal.

(b) Coal requirements of Thermal Power Stations are worked and finalised on quarterly basis by the Standing Linkage Committee (SLC) in which the representatives of State Electricity Boards, Ministries of Coal and Railways, Department of Power, Central Electricity Authority and Others are represented.

(c) As per the information made available by the Coal companies, the Annual coal are requirement of State Electricity Boards in the Western Regions and the quantity of coal supplied in the year 1990-91 and during the year 1991-92 are given as below:

Year 1990-91 and during the year 1992-92 are given as below:

(Figures in Million Tonnes)					
Name of State electricity Board	Annual requirement for Power Generation during 1990-91	Supply of coal during 1990-91	Annual requirement for Power Generation during 1991-92	Supply of Coal during 1991-92	5
1	2	3	4	5	5
Gujarat State Electricity Boards (4 TPSs)	7.82	8.40	9.01	9.27	9.27
Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board (4 TPSs)	11.61	9.83	10.35	9.72	9.72
Maharashtra State Electricity Board (7 TPSs)	19.1	17.51	20.16	20.31	20.31

**Accident at Madhusudanpur
Colliery**

768. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether an accident took place at Madhusudanpur Colliery, Kajora area of the Eastern Coalfields Limited, recently causing death of workers and injuring several others and subsidence damaging a large area of neighbouring villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the compensation paid to the affected persons in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c). An accident occurred at Madhusudanpur Colliery on 17.9.92 due to collapse of a parting between the top and bottom sections of Jambad Seam, resulting in the death of one worker and injury to another. Ex-gratia payment and payment for funeral expenses were made to the family of the deceased worker and amount of compensation due under law was deposited with the Commissioner of Workmen's Compensation for payment to the heirs of the deceased.

There was incidence of subsidence at the above colliery on 21.9.92, due to which cracks developed in some mud hutments and two brick houses in a neighbouring village. The affected families were evacuated and provided with full facilities of temporary rehabilitation, pending provision of permanent rehabilitation in consultation with the affected families.

**Employees Provident Fund of the Tea
Gardens of Assam**

769. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some industrial undertakings along with tea gardens of Assam have failed to deposit the current deductions and outstanding amount of Employees Provident Fund with the Regional Commissioner of Provident Fund, Guwahati;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

New Banks in Private Sector

770. DR. G.L. KANAUIA:
SHRI K. THULASIAH
VANDAYAR:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI
SINGH PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India propose to give permission for opening new banks in private sector;

(b) if so, the modalities for giving licence to such banks;

(c) the number of proposals received by RBI so far and the details thereof;

(d) the time by which the schemes is likely to be implemented; and

(e) a the likely impact of the proposed banks in private sector on the banking system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b) The Indian Banking Sector includes several private sector banks and Government has consistently taken the view that these banks have an important role to play. There has been no bar on the entry on new private sector banks though it is true that no new banks have entered for several years. The policy towards the banking system has been reviewed in the light of the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee. The Committee has recommended that new private sector banks should be allowed to enter provided they are able to meet transparent prudential norms including those relating to capital adequacy. The Government has accepted this recommendation and has decided that new private sector banks will be allowed entry into the financial sector subject to their fulfilling comprehensive and transparent requirements on which guidelines will be issued by the Reserve Bank of India.

(c) Reserve Bank of India have reported that they have received 59 enquires/proposals including those from individuals seeking permission/applying for licences for private sector banks. These will be processed in accordance with the above policy.

(e) The Indian money market is growing and developing and new intermediaries such as private sector banks will enable mobilisation of resources for their effective deployment in the country.

Setting up of Indian Rural Bank

771 SHRI CHETAN P S
CHAUAHAN
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI
SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up an Indian Rural Bank,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which the Bank is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) to (c) Government have initiated a process of consultation for restructuring of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). A number of models have been worked out and effectiveness of each is being examined from all angles. This also includes the proposal for establishment of a National Rural Bank of India (NRBI), by merging all the existing 196 Regional Rural Banks with a view to improve the viability of RRBs and increase the flow of credit to rural sector. However, no final decision has so far been taken in this regard.

Freezing of Dearness Allowance

772 SHRI K PRADHANI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to freeze the further release of instalments of Dearness allowance,

(b) if so, the period for which dearness allowance is proposed to be frozen,

(c) the reason therefor, and

(d) the other austerity measure proposed to be adopted during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) (a) No such proposal is at present under consideration of the Government

(b) and (c) Does not arise

(d) The economy measures which were in vogue during the year 1991-92 are also being continued during the current financial year. Efforts to keep a check on expenditure has been a continuous process.

[*Translation*]

Release of World Bank Aid for Projects in Uttar Pradesh

773. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has been unable to contribute its share in the World Bank aided projects in the State;

(b) whether it has adversely effected the release of financial assistance received from the World Bank by the Union Government for these projects;

(c) if so, the details of such projects; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). World Bank assisted projects are taken up for implementation in states on the basis of agreements arrived at between the State Government, the central Government and the World Bank. On the basis of actual expenditure carried out, reimbursements are provided to State Government through the provision of additional central assistance. Fund for the non-assisted portion of the project are expected to be provided in the budget of the State Government.

[*English*]

National Commission on Bonded Labour

774. SHRI ARJUN CHARANA SETHI:
SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI

SINGH PATIL:
SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government for setting up a National Commission on bonded labour on the lines of the National Commission on Women; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). The proposal for setting up a National Commission on Bonded Labour was placed before the State Labour Ministers in the Conference held in August, 1992, when it was referred to a Group of 11 State Labour Ministers under the Chairmanship of the Labour Minister of Maharashtra. The Government will take a final view of receipt on the report.

Amendments to Employees Provident Fund Scheme

775. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain important amendments like withdrawal of more advance from employees' own contribution have been made in the Employees Provident Fund Scheme;

(b) whether the Government propose to further streamline the provident fund schemes available both to employees and general public and make more comprehensive reforms taking into consideration various needs like housing and health care; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE

MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The provisions of the Employees Provident Fund Scheme are periodically reviewed by the Central Board of Trustees and the Scheme is amended as and when considered necessary. Recently, the Government has decided to enhance the amount of advance for illness from 3 months 'basic wages and dearness allowance to 6 months' basic wages and dearness allowance or member's own share of contribution in the fund together with interest, whichever is less. The Government has also decided to allow a separate withdrawal upto 24 months 'basic wages and dearness allowance from the fund to enable the employees to purchase site for construction of house. As regards the Public provident Fund Scheme, there is presently no proposal to streamline it and make comprehensive reforms in the Scheme.

Investigations into Alleged Theft of Maruti Vehicles

776. SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL:
SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR
SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Excise department have started investigating the alleged evasion of excise duty due to theft of Maruti Vehicles;

(b) if so, the findings of the preliminary investigations and the time by which the investigations are likely to be completed; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such evasion in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b).

Following a newspaper report on 30.9.92, the officers of Central Excise Collectorate Delhi contacted Gurgaon Police on 1.10.92 regarding stolen vehicles. The S.S.P. Gurgaon informed that 7 (seven) vehicles were stolen from M/s Maruti Udyog Ltd. and were presently in Police custody, being the case property in the case FIR No. 611 dated 31.9.92. On enquiry from M/s Maruti Udyog Ltd. it was found that on four of these vehicles no excise duty had been paid and two had been cleared on payment of duty. Information regarding the seventh vehicles is still awaited. The S.S.P., Gurgaon had been informed on 7.10.92 that the four non-duty paid vehicles stand seized under the Central Excise Law. He has replied stating that these vehicles will not be released unless cleared by the Central Excise authorities. On enquiries from General Manger (Production) Maruti Udyog Ltd., it was reported that after assembly of vehicles, every vehicle is tested and if found that faults are beyond repair the same is dismantled. Some of the vehicles shown to have been dismantled had, in fact, been stolen. All efforts are on to complete the investigation as soon as possible.

(c) Further course of action will be decided on the basis of outcome of the investigations.

[*Translation*]

Introduction of Motorcycle Taxis In Delhi

777. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce motor-cycle taxis in the capital soon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the routes on which these motor-cycle taxis would run in the beginning; and

(d) The fare proposed to be charged per head by these motor cycle taxis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The scheme of operation of motor-cycle taxi service in Delhi is to be drawn up after a decision to this effect is taken by the State Transport Authority Delhi.

(b) to (d). Do not arise in view of the (a) above.

Cotton Monopoly Purchase Scheme

778. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received some proposals from the State Government for seeking permission to introduce/continue the Cotton Monopoly Purchase Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). The Government of Maharashtra had sought extension of the Scheme of Monopoly Procurement of Cotton in the State for a period of ten years with effect from 1st July, 1990. Government have granted extension to the Scheme for a period of 3 years with effect from 1st July, 1990 on the existing terms and conditions. No further request has been received so far.

[English]

Setting up of New Cotton/Spinning/ Yarn Mills

779. SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI TEJ SINGH RAO
BHONSLE:
SHRI KALKA DAS:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the production of yarn in order to meet the requirement of handloom/powerloom sectors fully;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from some State Governments for setting up of new cotton/spinning yarn mills under the cooperative sector during the current year and in the Eighth Plan period;

(d) if so, the details of such mills for which approval has been accorded and the estimated cost of the approved mills with the capacity of each unit, State-wise; and

(e) the reasons for not according clearance to the pending proposal and the time by which these are likely to be approved, unit and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). In the wake of the new Industrial Policy, textile industry has been delicensed and thus there should not be shortage in the availability of yarn.

According to National Co-operative

Development Corporation (NCDC), 12.5 lakh spindles are proposed to be installed under the centrally sponsored/Central Sector Scheme in the country during the 8th Five Year Plan

(c) to (e) During the current year 1992-93, five proposals for financial assistance have been received by NCDC for setting up of 4 cooperative spinning mills in Karnataka and 1 in Tamil Nadu. 40 mills are to be set up during the 8th Plan period. Tentative State-Wise break-up is as under

Andhra Pradesh - 4, Maharashtra 8, Haryana - 2, Rajasthan - 2, Karnataka - 4, Tamil Nadu - 2, Punjab 2, West Bengal 28, Uttar Pradesh - 2, Kerala -, 2 Assam -2, Orissa - 2, Bihar - 1, Tripura - 1, Madhya Pradesh - 4, Out of the 5 mills, 4 mills in Karnataka are for the assistance under NCDC-IV Scheme, which is yet to crystallise. The remaining 1 proposal has been sent back by NCDC to the State Government of Tamil Nadu with a request to approach the Financial Institutions without availing the loan assistance and to approach NCDC late on for Share Capital loan assistance.

Since the decision in regard to NCDC-

IV Scheme is yet to be taken up by the World Bank and the Government, it may not be possible to indicate the time frame by which the proposals will be finalised.

[*Translation*]

Bank Deposits in Uttar Pradesh

780 DR P R GANGWAR Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the total deposits in the nationalised banks in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years and the amount of loan sanctioned by them, year-wise,

(b) whether the amount of loan sanctioned is as per the targets, and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to increase the amount of loans sanctioned by these banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) The deposits (excluding inter bank deposits) and outstanding gross credit for nationalised banks in Uttar Pradesh for the last two years are as under

(Rs. in crores)

	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Credit</i>
March 1991	13020 39	5656 00
March 1992	14140 78	5971 02

(b) No State-wise targets are fixed by banks for loan disbursement or maintenance of any prescribed credit-deposit ratio. However, a credit deposit ratio of 60% in rural and semi-urban areas has to be achieved for the bank as a whole of All India basis.

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

Nationalised Banks in Bihar

781 SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches and nationalised banks in Bihar as on September

30, 1992, bank-wise; and

(b) the number of small scale units in the State which have been provided loan by these banks during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR

SINGH): (a) Bank-wise number of branches of scheduled commercial banks functioning in Bihar as on 31.3.1992 (latest available) are given in the attached statement.

(b) The total outstanding advances by all scheduled commercial banks in respect of small scale industries (SSIs) units in Bihar for two year (latest available) are given below:-

(Rs. in crores)

<i>As on the last Friday of</i>	<i>No. of units</i>	<i>Amount Outstanding</i>
March 1990	179298	496
March 1991	199780	564

STATEMENT

Bank-wise number of branches of scheduled commercial banks functioning in Bihar as on 31.3 1992 (latest available)

<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>No. of branches.</i>
1. State Bank of India	900
2. Associates of SBI	8
3. Allahabad Bank	222
4. Andhra Bank	3
5. Bank of Baroda	96
6. Bank of India	382
7. Bank of Maharashtra	1
8. Canara bank	94
9. Central Bank of India	365
10. Corporation Bank	2
11. Dena Bank	9

	<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>No. of branches</i>
12	Indian Bank	24
13	Indian Overseas Bank	14
14	New Bank of India	10
15	Oriental Bank of Commerce	2
16	Punjab & Sind Bank	10
17	Punjab National Bank	413
18	Syndicate bank	22
19	UCO Bank	204
20	Union Bank of India	72
21	United Bank of India	110
22	Vijaya Bank	7
23	Other Scheduled Banks	4
24	Regional Rural Banks	1888

[English]

Supply of Raw Materials to Weavers in Gujarat

782 SHRI HARIN PATHAK Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the supply of cotton yarn per month to Gujarat

(b) the quantity of cotton yarn presently available to weavers in Gujarat.

(c) whether the prices of cotton yarn, dyes and chemicals have registered unprecedented increase due to which weavers are not in a position to purchase

these items in the open market without the central assistance.

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken any steps to provide assistance to handloom weavers in Gujarat so as to save them from starvation and improve their living standard, and

(e) if so, the details of assistance/fund provided by the Government to the weavers of Gujarat during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT). (a) Government do not directly supply cotton yarn to the weavers in the country. A number of State agencies with

financial assistance from Central Government are undertaking supply of cotton yarn to weavers of Gujarat in addition to private sources of supply. The National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) is also supplementing the yarn supply of operations of State Handloom Agencies.

(b) Since the commodity of yarn has a national market and as this trade and its consumption is mostly in decentralised private sector, it is not possible to quantify the yarn available to weavers in Gujarat.

(c) Trade of yarn, dyes and chemicals has been affected by the rise in prices in these commodities; but there are no reports of shortages of yarn and dyes and chemicals.

(d) A number of schemes like workshed-cum-housing scheme, Thrift Fund scheme, Market Development Assistance, Janta Cloth Scheme and Special Package Scheme are in operation in Gujarat. Weavers Service centre located at Ahmedabad has been providing improved designs to weavers for increasing the marketability of their products. A scheme for supply of yarn at mill gate prices has been recently started under which 10 million kgs. of yarn will be supplied to handloom weavers of the country including those in Gujarat during 1992-93.

(e) Substantial assistance for implementation of various ongoing schemes for the development of the handlooms has been provided to the State Govt. of Gujarat as per following details:

(Rupees in lakhs)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount of assistance provided</i>
1989-90	641.38
1990-91	634.24
1991-92	141.84

Outstanding Income tax and excise Duty

783. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the income tax and excise duty dues as on October 31, 1992;

(b) the details of the defaulters;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to realise the dues from the assesses; and

(d) the budget deficit during the current financial year expected to be reduced as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The income tax (including corporation tax) and central excise duty demands, outstanding on 30th September '92 were Rs. 6992 crores and Rs. 1718 crores., respectively. The figures upto 31.10.92 have not been compiled yet.

(b) There were 37,10,724 arrears entries of income tax demand as on 31.3.92 and 1,24,603 cases of excise duty demand as on 30.9.92.

(c) Appropriate legal and administrative measures are continuously taken to realise the outstanding demands of income tax and

(d) Budget deficit is the net result of numerous transactions of receipts and expenditure and hence any specific correlation of arrear collection to budget deficit is not possible.

[*Translation*]

Seizure of Gold by Custom Department

784. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of gold seized by the Customs Department during the last six months; and

(b) the number of persons against whom cases are pending in the courts or have been punished during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) * 1372 Kgs. of gold have been seized under the Customs Act 1982 during the last 6 months from May to October, 1992.

(b) * 6510 number of cases prosecution under the Customs Act, 1982, are pending as on 31st August, 1992. * 209 persons have been convicted by the courts in Customs cases during the last six months from May to October, 1992.

Unemployment among Labourers

785. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent economic reforms of the Government are likely to result in unemployment of a large number of labourers according to a report prepared by the National

*Figures are provisional.

(b) if so, the steps taken to check the unemployment of such a work force?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Grievances of Ex-Servicemen in Kerala

786. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received many complaints of ex-servicemen from Kerala regarding canteen facilities, pension, hospital facilities and other welfare and retirement facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c). A number of representations have been received from ex-servicemen of Kerala; the majority of these relate to pensionary matters. These representations are handled promptly by the Pension Grievances Cells set up in the Ministry, Services Headquarters and subordinate offices. Among the representations received, some are from World War II Retirees regarding pension and retirement facilities. Such retirees are not entitled to any pensionary benefits; they have been informed about the position of their cases. There are no representations regarding medical facilities. There is one representation for opening of a Canteen at

Pathanamthitta, which was not found feasible

Development of textile industry

787 SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA
SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH
CHAUHAN

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the textile industry is facing crisis of finance and raw material,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Union Government have received any proposal/ request from any State Governments especially from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing financial assistance of other facilities in order to meet the requirements of raw materials etc. for the textile mills,

(d) if so the details thereof,

(e) whether textile is the major foreign exchange earner for the country, and

(f) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken for the development of domestic textile industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK
GEHLOT) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise

(e) Yes, Sir

(f) Government have taken several measures for development of textile industry, like,

(i) The Liberalised industrial policy announced by Government on 25-7-91 has removed ban in setting up of the textile units subject to certain locational guidelines

(ii) All capital goods including second hand machinery has been placed under OGL for import for development of the domestic industry. Capital goods are also allowed to be imported at a concessional rate of Customs duty at the rate of 15% and 25% subject to an export obligation of four times the CIF value to be fulfilled over a period of 5 years and 3 times the CIF value to be fulfilled over a period of 4 years respectively

(iii) Import duty on Textile Machinery has been brought down from 5% to 55%

Modernisation of handlooms and Rehabilitation of Weavers

788 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether any conference of handloom weavers was organised at Masras in May, 1992,

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have received any representation from the said conference for the modernisation of handlooms sector and the rehabilitation of weavers;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the action taken/promised to be taken by the Government thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK
GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). It was recommended, inter-alia, to enhance the quantum of assistance under modernisation of looms upto Rs. 10,000/- Government has revised assistance available under the modernisation of looms scheme upwards. Assistance is available upto Rs. 8000/- for Jacquard/pedal looms.

Government is in agreement with general recommendation for extensive efforts of rehabilitation of the weavers and has provided adequate outlays for welfare and development schemes aimed at providing sustained and regular employment to the handloom weavers.

World Bank Assistance for Schemes in Tamil Nadu

789. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of assistance provided by the World Bank and other financial institutions for the various schemes/projects during each of the last three years in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the total amount spent on these schemes so far, scheme-wise;

(c) whether some schemes are still lying incomplete;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Details of assistance committed by World Bank & other multilateral agencies for the projects in Tamil Nadu during the last three years and the amounts disbursed on these schemes are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). External assistance is tied to specific projects and the disbursements are therefore linked to the project implementation schedule. The pace of actual implementation varies from project to project. However the loan amount not utilised during to particular financial year does not normally lapse and would be carried forward for utilization in the subsequent years.

(e) Government has taken a number of steps to accelerate the implementation of externally aided projects and the utilisation of external assistance. These include simplification of procedures for release of foreign exchange and tender evaluation, passing on of 100% external assistance to States, and advance release on account of externally aided projects. Monitoring of externally aided projects has also been intensified.

STATEMENT		Annexure	
SI No	Name of the Project	Amount of Assistance	Cumulative disbursement upto
1	2	3	4
1	TamilNadu Women s Development (IFAD)	US\$ 17 00 M	US\$ 2 73 M
2	Second TamilNadu Nutrition	US\$ 90 26 M	US\$ 8 48 M
3	Second Technician Education	US\$ 291 54 M	US\$ 17 358 (Multistate State specific details not available)
4	Vocational Training	US\$ 218 M	US\$ 44 43 M (Multistate State specific details not available)
5	Child Survival and Safe Motherhood	US\$ 219 72 M	US\$ 29 40 M (Multistate State specific details not available)
6	A D B TamilNadu IDA IBRD	US\$ 87 53 M US\$ 20 00 M	US\$ 6 84 M
7	N A R P - II	SDR 57 80 M (SDR 11 80 M Cancelled)	US\$ 39 75 M

Sl/No	Name of the Project	Amount of Assistance		Cumulative disbursement upto
31.10.92	1	2	3	4
8	The Second National Dairy Project	IDA IBRD	US\$ 160.00 US\$ 200.00	M US\$ 126.3
9	National Sericulture Project		SDR 133.8 (equivalent to US\$ 147 M)	M US\$ 44.691
10	Dam Safety Project	IDA IBRD	US\$ 130.0 US\$ 23.0	M US\$ 8.260

Reward to the Excise and customs Officials

790. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated value of contrabands seized during January-October, 1992-vis-a-vis in 1991;

(b) the estimated amount of reward given to the informers during the above periods as against the amount of reward given to the officials of the customs and Excise departments;

(c) whether there is any proposal to raise the rate of reward to the informers and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Contraband valued at approximately *Rs. 426 crores has been seized during the period from January to October, 1992 as against contraband valued at *Rs 642 crores approximately seized during the same period in 1991.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid in the Table of the House.

(c) There is no such proposal at a present.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Interest Rates on Deposits In Foreign Currency

792. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

*Figures are provisional.

(a) the dates on which the interest rates on foreign currency deposits have been increased/decreased since January 1, 1990;

(b) the details of changes in interest rates on each occasion;

(c) the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently announced an additional 0.50 per cent interest on deposits made in American dollars and reduction in the rate of interest on other foreign currency deposits under the foreign currency Non-resident Account Scheme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Details of changes in the interest rates under FC (NR) A Scheme since 1st January 1990 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) During the financial year 1990-91 there was a net inflow of US\$ 164.88 million and during the financial year 1991-92 there was a net outflow of US\$ 1687.75 million. However, the outflow seen in 1991-92 can be attributed to the fact the NRIs were allowed to withdraw their FCNR deposits for investing under new Schemes announced by the Government of India, viz. (1) India Development Bonds, (2) Foreign Currency (Ordinary Non-reportable) Deposit Scheme and (3) Non-resident (Non-repatriable) Rupee Deposit Scheme. During the period 1.4.1992 to 13.11.1992 the outflow is significantly low namely, US\$ 281.12 million.

(d) to (f). Yes. As the interest rates paid on US dollars deposits of comparable maturities in overseas markets increased,

the interest rates paid on FCNR US Dollar deposit became less attractive. There was, therefore, need to restore the interest differential and therefore the rates for all maturities on U.S. Dollars deposit rates were

increased. On the other hand, interest rates in respect of pound sterling and deutsche mark deposits were reduced because of the fall in interest rates paid on such deposits of comparable maturities in overseas markets.

STATEMENT

Changes in interest rates under FC(NR)A Scheme since 1st January, 1990

Effective from	Interest rates on Pound Sterling deposits for				
	6 months	1 years	2 Years	3 Years	5
1	2	3	4	5	
27.12.1989	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
17.1.1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
31.1.1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
20.2.1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
12.3.1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
27.3.1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
4.5.1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
30.5.1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
19.7.1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
13.8.1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
3.9.1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00

<i>Effective from</i>	<i>Interest rates on Pound Sterling deposits for</i>				
	<i>6 months</i>	<i>1 years</i>	<i>2 Years</i>	<i>3 Years</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>
25.9 1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
26.10 1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
4.12 1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
14.12 1990	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
8.2 1991	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25
12.12 1991	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
27.1 1992	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
27.3 1992	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
13.7 1992	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
12.10 1992	9.75	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.25
2.11 1992	8.00	8.00	8.75	8.75	9.25
27.12 1989	8.75	8.75	9.25	9.25	9.50
17.1 1990	8.75	9.00	9.50	9.50	9.75

Effective from	Interest rates on Pound Sterling deposits for				
	6 months	1 year	2 Years	3 Years	5
1	2	3	4	5	
31.1.1990	8.75	9.00	9.50	9.75	9.75
20.12.1990	8.75	9.00	9.75	9.75	9.75
12.3.1990	9.00	9.25	10.00	10.25	10.25
4.5.1990	9.25	9.75	10.25	10.50	10.50
30.5.1990	9.00	9.50	10.00	10.25	10.25
19.7.1990	9.00	9.25	9.75	10.00	10.00
13.8.1990	9.00	9.25	9.75	10.00	10.00
3.9.1990	9.00	9.25	9.75	10.00	10.00
25.9.1990	9.00	9.25	9.75	10.00	10.00
26.10.1990	9.00	9.25	9.75	10.00	10.00
4.12.1990	8.75	9.00	9.50	9.75	9.75
14.1.1991	8.25	8.50	9.00	9.25	9.25
6.2.1991	7.50	8.00	8.50	9.00	9.00

Effective from	Interest rates on Pound Sterling deposits for				
	6 months	1 years	2 Years	3 Years	5
1	2	3	4	5	
12.12.1991	6.50	6.75	7.25	8.00	8.00
27.1.1992	5.50	5.75	6.75	8.00	8.00
27.3.1992	5.75	6.25	7.50	8.25	8.25
13.7.1992	4.75	5.25	6.25	7.00	7.00
12.10.1992	4.00	4.50	5.50	6.25	6.25
2.11.1992	4.50	5.00	6.00	6.75	6.75
27.12.1989	8.75	8.75	9.00	9.00	9.00
17.1.1990	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
31.1.1990	9.00	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.25
20.2.1990	9.25	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75
12.3.1990	9.25	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75
27.3.1990	9.25	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75
4.5.1990	9.25	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75

Effective from	Interest rates on Pound Sterling deposits for				
	6 months	1 years	2 Years	3 Years	
1	2	3	4	5	
30.5.1990	9.00	9.50	9.75	9.75	9.75
19.7.1990	9.00	9.50	9.75	9.75	9.75
13.8.1990	9.00	9.50	9.75	9.75	9.75
3.9.1990	0.00	9.50	9.75	9.75	9.75
25.9.1990	9.25	9.75	10.00	10.00	10.00
26.10.1990	9.25	9.75	10.00	10.00	10.00
1.12.1990	9.50	9.75	10.00	10.00	10.00
14.1.1991	10.00	10.25	10.50	10.50	10.50
8.2.1991	10.00	10.25	10.50	10.50	10.50
12.12.1991	10.00	10.25	10.50	10.50	10.50
27.1.1992	10.25	10.25	10.50	10.50	10.50
27.3.1992	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50
13.7.1992	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50

Effective from	Interest rates on Pound Sterling deposits for				
	6 months	1 year	2 Years	3 Years	
1	2	3	4	5	
12.10.1992	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75
2.11.1992	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
27.12.1989	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.25
17.1.1990	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
31.1.1990	7.75	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
20.2.1990	7.75	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
12.3.1990	8.00	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25
27.3.1990	8.25	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50
4.5.1990	8.00	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25
14.1.1991	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50
8.2.1991	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50
12.12.1991	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
27.1.1992	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00

Effective from	Interest rates on Pound Sterling deposits for				
	6 months	1 years	2 Years	3 Years	5
1	2	3	4	5	
27.3.1992	6.00	6.00	6.50	7.00	
13.7.1992	5.75	6.00	6.00	6.50	
12.10.1992	4.75	5.00	5.25	5.75	
2.11.1992	4.75	5.00	5.25	5.75	

Development of Handloom Sector

793. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action plan has been chalked out by the Government for the handloom sector for generating employment opportunities for weavers who were living below the poverty line in the years 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the production of handloom items during the said period, year-wise;

(d) how much employment have been generated during 1991-92; State-wise;

(e) the details of countries to which the handloom products are being exported; and

(f) the total foreign exchange earning in rupees by way of exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). While the schemes for handloom weavers are intended to benefit handloom weavers of all income groups, certain schemes like Janata cloth scheme are, inter-alia, targetted for weavers in lower incomes bracket. During 1991-92 a scheme called 'Margin Money for Destitute Weavers' has been introduced to specifically target at weavers living below the poverty line.

(c) The production of handloom cloth during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 has been estimated at 4217 million meters and 4170 million metres respectively.

(d) The estimated employment generation in the handloom sector during 1991-92 has been 96.02 lakh persons.

(e) The following are the major importing countries for Indian handloom e textiles:-

1. USA
2. Japan
3. U. K.
4. Germany
5. Italy
6. Sweden
7. Australia
8. Singapore
9. France
10. Denmark
11. Norway
12. Canada

(f) The exports of handloom textiles and garments have been of the order of Rs. 1,188 crores during 1991-92.

Bilateral Indo-German Agreement

794. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have signed any bilateral aid agreement with Germany recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the financial aid is committed through multinational institutions like the World Bank, UN bodies etc; and

(d) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) a Financial Cooperation Agreement for a total of DM 427.3 million for the year 1992 between the Govt. of India and the Govt of Federal Republic of Germany was signed on 12.10.92. This amount comprises of soft loan of DM 296.6 million, grant assistance of DM 55.7 million and export credit of DM 75.0 million.

(c) and (d) The above mentioned financial assistance is not committed through any multi-national institution.

Nationalisation of Textile Mills in Bombay

795. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to nationalise N.T.C. managed textile mills of Bombay.

(b) if so, the time by which these mills are likely to be nationalised; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir Since Government has not taken a decision on the future disposition of the taken over mills which are being managed by NTC.

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

Amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act 1923

796. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a monitoring and coordinating cell in the Ministry for speedy disposal of complaints and repatriation of inter-State migrant work-force in the country;

(b) the percentage of migrant work-force during 1990-91, 1991-92 State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposal from the State Government for the amendment in the Workmen's Compensations Act, 1923

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A statement showing state-wise percentage of migrant workforce as given in the 1981 Census is enclosed. Figures of workforce during 1990-91 and 1991-92 are not available.

(c) to (e). The Government of Orissa have suggested for a suitable provision in Section 21 empowering the State Government to transfer the workmen's Compensation cases of Inter-State Migrant Workmen to the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner of the home State of the concerned workmen. The suggestion of the State Government is under examination.

STATEMENT

State-wise Percentage of Migrant workforce as given in the 1981 census (Referred to in reply to L S UQ No 796)

Name of the State	Total Migrant	Migrant Workforce	Percentage
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	12,35,282	26,67,193	21.62
Assam	3,02,837	58,878	19.77
Bihar	24,34,510	8,51,023	34.88
Gujarat	10,65,311	2,37,525	22.28
Haryana	11,99,243	2,22,575	18.57
Himachal Pradesh	2,80,943	82,786	29.44
Jammu & Kashmir	1,06,574	28,719	26.93
Karnataka	13,30,180	2,88,755	21.69
Kerala	9,62,732	3,67,750	38.19
Madhya Pradesh	15,12,443	2,22,612	14.71
Maharashtra	15,24,900	3,05,612	20.03
Manipur	20,399	3,603	17.64

Name of the State	Total Migrant		Migrant Workforce		Percentage
	1	2	3	4	
Meghalaya		18,547	4,046		22.02
Nagaland		9,354	1,983		21.24
Orissa		5,36,030	1,63,367		30.42
Punjab		13,21,635	2,94,974		22.69
Rajasthan		15,33,894	3,85,371		23.57
Sikkim ¹ .		12118	1701		14.12
TamilNadu		13,48,589	3,94,945		29.26
Tripura		25,506	4,079		16.16
Uttar Pradesh		46,46,734	17,19,461		37.01
Westbengal		10,21,982	2,07,006		20.25

Supply of Tasar to Weavers in Orissa

797. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of weavers of Western Orissa are facing difficulties due to non-supply of raw materials like tassar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) While no such report about non-availability of raw material is available, Government is aware that because of wild nature of tassar rearing, availability of reelable cocoons varies from season to season and year to year.

(b) An Inter-State Tasar Project for increasing production of tasar cocoons is under implementation by Government of Orissa with the help of Central Silk Board. The Orissa State Tasar & Silk Coop. Society is procuring tasar cocoons on monopoly basis and tasar cocoons are being supplied to weavers' coop. societies of the state on priority basis.

Investments by UTI

798. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Union Trust of India has been making large additions to its invisible funds during the past three years;

(b) if so, the details of the amount received during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of the fields in which these funds have been invested during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI REMASHWAR THAKUR). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details regarding the amount of investible resources received each of the last three years are given below:-

<i>Year (July-June)</i>	<i>Amount received (Rs. crores)</i>
1989-90	5,816
1990-91	3,725
1991-92	10,430

(c) Investible funds of UTI are invested in various instruments, such as, equity, debentures, loans, deposits with companies, Government Securities and money market instruments. Details of investment during the last three years are given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT		<i>Investments by UTI</i>			
<i>Type of Investment</i>	<i>Amount Invested year ending</i>				<i>(Rs Crores)</i>
	<i>30.6.1990</i>	<i>30.6.1991</i>	<i>30.6.1992</i>		
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	
1 Equity Shares	3434.55 (19.6)	4734.01 (19.6)	8861.78 (27.9)		
2 Preference Shares	(14.3) (0.1)	19.13 (0.1)	21.93 (0.1)		
3 Debentures	3767.83 (21.3)	4430.88 (20.7)	6185.46 (19.4)		
4 Term Loan	1230.94 (7.0)	1756.94 (8.2)	2688.18 (8.5)		
5 Advance Deposits Against Investments Commitments	48.05 (0.3)	99.54 (0.5)	105.36 (0.3)		
6 Special Deposits	809.73 (5.0)	1623.57 (7.0)	2959.48 (8.4)		
7 Fixed Deposits	283.11 (1.6)	472.27 (2.2)	767.20 (2.4)		

Type of Investment	Amount Invested year ending			
	30.6.1990	30.6.1991	30.6.1992	(Rs Crores)
1	2	3	4	
8	Edge Finance	18.73 (0.1)	2.81 (0.1)	67.24 (0.2)
9	Application Money	12.94 (0.1)	2.49 (0.0)	17.42 (0.1)
10	Advance Call Deposits for Ordinary shares	0.05 (0.0)	0.05 (0.0)	0.00 (0.0)
	Total Investments in Corporate Sector(1-10)	9,59.33 (55.3)	12751.69 (59.7)	21374.05 (67.2)
11	Bills, Call Deposits and other investments with scheduled Banks	4572.33 (25.9)	3514.94 (16.4)	4676.16 (14.7)
12	Government Securities	3310.26 (18.8)	5109.85 (23.9)	57,55.47 (18.1)
	Total other Investments	7891.59 (44.7)	8624.79 (40.3)	10431.63 (32.8)
	Total Investible Funds	17650.92 (100.0)	21376.48 (100.0)	31805.68 (100.0)

(figures in brackets are percentage to total)

Strike by Transporters

799. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether truck owners have again threatened to go on a nation wide strike from January 1st, 1993.

(b) if so, whether the Government are seriously considering their demands in order to stop them from going on strike;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the steps being taken to meet their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The All India Motor Transport Congress have threatened to go on a nation-wide strike from 1.1.1993.

(b) to (d). Demands of the All India Motor Transport Congress and the details of those demands which have been accepted fully or partially by the Govt. are given in the attached Statement I and II.

The Govt. have also set up a Review Committee with representative of the All India Motor Transport Congress, which continuously monitors the progress of decisions taken on the various demands of the All India Motor Transport Congress. All efforts would be made by the Government to persuade the All India Motor Transport Congress to call off their threatened strike.

STATEMENT-I

The main demands of the All India Motor Transport Congress are:-

1. Abolition of Pathkar in Haryana, Rajasthan, Orissa, Gujarat, U.P. & M.P.
2. Abolition of Octroi from all parts of the country w.e.f. 31.5.92 and abolition of terminal tax in Delhi.
3. Reduction of Insurance premium.
4. Withdrawal of multiple enforcement agencies for M.V. Act, 1988.
5. Strict enforcement of anti-overloading provisions.
6. Opening of training schools for training of drivers for issue of vehicles licences.
7. Laying down of principles of taxation on Road Transport.
8. Control on Highway Robberies.
9. Abolition of permits for inter-state operations and change in nomenclature of National Permits coupled with change in some conditions.
10. Removal of vehicles' age restrictions from permits.
11. Updating of Carriers' Act.
12. Withdrawal of surcharge on diesel imposed during Gulf War and Bangladesh War.
13. Giving diesel outlets to Associations and co-operatives of operators.
14. Removal of tolls on Permanent Bridges.
15. Control of prices of vehicles and Tyres.

16. **Reduction of Excise Duty on commercial vehicles.**

List of Demands which have been Accepted Fully or Partially by Government

1. *Pathkar & Octroi*

It was noted with reference to the demand for abolition of Pathkar, that the matter is pending before the Supreme Court in a Writ Petition filed by the all India Motor Transport Congress. Government would await the decision of the Supreme Court on the issue.

The Government have decided to abolish Octroi from All Union Territories, except A & N Islands and Lakshadweep.

Government has set up a Committee constituting of representatives of the Central Government and the State Governments, which is examining all issues pertaining to Octroi and Pathkar.

2. *Multiple Enforcement Agencies*

It was agreed that necessary amendments would be made in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to withdraw the powers of Police in the following matters:

- (i) **Overloading;**
- (ii) **Checking of Permits;**
- (iii) **Checking of Permit conditions;**
- (iv) **Checking of Insurance certificates;**
- (v) **Licences of Conductors;**
- (vi) **Certificate of fitness (except when the vehicle is involved in accident)**

3. *Overloading of Vehicles*

It was pointed out to the representatives of the AIMTC that there already exist strict penalties for overloading in the Motor Vehicles Act.

Instructions to the State Governments to curb overloading have been reiterated.

4. *Driving Licence*

It was agreed that suitable amendments to the section 7 of the Motor Vehicles Act would be made whereby eligibility of obtaining a learner's licence would be the possession of a light or medium motor vehicle driving licence for a period of one year.

5. *Highway Robbery*

Ministry of Surface Transport have received representations in this regard and have already taken up the matter with the concerned State Governments. The Ministry of Surface Transport has called a meeting of the IGS of Police of the States of U.P., Haryana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar on 25.11.92 to chalk out a strategy to curb the menace of highway robberies. The AIMTC would also be invited to the above meeting.

6. *Permit Requirements*

A Technical Committee has been set up to report as to whether the age limit of vehicles operating under a National Permit should be raised and, if so, to what extent.

7. *Updating of Carriers' Act:*

This would be examined.

8. *Toll on Bridges*

It was agreed that a list of bridges

constructed by the Central Government where tolls were being charged and the present stage of collection would be intimated to the AIMTC

Upgradation of Cities

800 SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL
SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether some cities have been upgraded during August 1, 1992 to October 31, 1992,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether a number of requests for upgradation of cities, particularly Jamnagar in Gujarat and Bhubaneswar and Cuttack in Orissa, are pending with the Government,

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) : (a) No, Sir

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

(c) and (d) The details of cities in respect of which representations have been received for upgradation for the purpose of grant of HRA/CCA to Central Govt. employees during last one year are given in the attached Statement

(e) Upgradation/re-classification of cities for the purpose of HRA/CCA is done on the basis of final population figures as revealed in a decennial census. Upgradation/re-classification of cities, wherever necessary, will be taken up after receipt of the final population figures of 1991 census from the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India

STATEMENT

Sl.No	Name of Cities/Towns	Name of State/U.T.
1	2	3
1	Warngal	Andhra Pradesh
2	Belampalli	
3	Bhavnagar	Gujarat
4	Jamnagar	
5	Himmatnagar	
6	Candhinagar	
7	Goa	Goa
8	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
9	Kasaragod	
10	Jammu	J & K
11	Belgaum	Karnataka
12	Mangalore	
13	Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh

Sl. No. Name of Cities/Towns	Name of State/U.T.	1	2	3
14.	Raipur			
15.	Virar			Maharashtra
16.	Aurangabad			
17.	Osmanabad			
18.	Cuttack			Orissa
19.	Bhubaneswar			
20.	Puri			
21.	Kota			Rajasthan
22.	Gangapur City			
23.	Dhobur			
24.	Puliyangudi			Tamil Nadu
25.	Thiruchirappalli			
26.	Sankarankovil			
27.	Agartala			Tripura

Sl.No. Name of Cities/Towns	Name of State/U.T.	3
1	2	3
28.	Dehradun	
29.	Aligarh	Uttar Pradesh
30.	Haldwani	
31.	Pauri	
32.	Baraut	
33.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry
34.	Tura	Meghalaya

**Report of Working Group Re:
Employees of Regional Rural Banks**

802. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government have received the report of the working group headed by the Chief General Manager, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to sort out problems arising out of the implementation of National Industrial Tribunal Award given in respect of the employees of Regional Rural Banks;

(b) of so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Consequent upon the implementation of the Award of the National Industrial Tribunal for Regional Rural Banks and the recommendations of the Equation Committee, certain changes were to be brought about in service Regulations, Recruitment and Promotion Policy for the RRB employees. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) had accordingly constituted a Working Group in September, 1991, with the following terms of reference:

- (i) to frame service regulations for all categories of employees of Regional Rural Banks;
- (ii) to frame recruitment and promotion policies in RRBs and
- (iii) any other matter relating to the implementation of the award of the Tribunal read with the Equation

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to whom the Working Group submitted its report have advised the Government on the implementation of the recommendations relating to staff Service Regulations, Recruitment and Promotion Policy etc. The recommendations of the Working Group are under consideration and decisions on the same will be taken in due course.

[*English*]

Wheat Import and Foreign Debt

803. SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of wheat, to check price rise in the domestic market, is likely to add to country's foreign debt;

(b) if so, the reasons for making such imports; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the increased foreign debt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir, The imports are being financed entirely from current account earnings.

(b) During 1992-93, Government have contracted for import of about 29.90 lakh tonnes of wheat to correct the imbalance between demand and supply and to maintain the supplies for the Public Distribution system with a view to containing the open market prices of wheat.

(c) To reduce the need for borrowing abroad, Government have stimulated exports by ensuring an improved exchange rate, introducing partial convertibility, and

improving arrangements for export-related advance licensing and duty drawbacks. Government have also encouraged non-debt capital inflows by selected liberalization of foreign direct investment, by allowing reputed Indian companies to issue equity abroad and by allowing approved foreign investment institutions to invest in the Indian capital market subject to SEBI regulations.

Translation]

Dearness Allowance to Central Government Employees Drawing Basic Pay Above Rs. 3500/-

804. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dearness allowance is paid to the Central Government employees to give them immediate relief for the hike in prices;

(b) whether the Central Government employees drawing basic pay above Rs. 3500/- P.M. are not paid the additional instalments of dearness allowance in cash and above that they are required to pay income tax on that amount;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to alleviate the inconvenience caused to such employees as a result thereof;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKE): (a) Dearness Allowance payable to the Central Government employees is determined on the basis of percentage increase in 12 monthly average

of All India Consumer Price Index for the Industrial Workers (General) (base 1960 =100) over the average index of 608, to which the existing scales of pay from 1.1.86 are related.

(b) to (f). Additional instalments of Dearness Allowance payable from 1.7.90 onwards are not paid in cash in respect of the Central Government employees drawing pay above Rs. 3500/- p.m., but are credited to their respective Provident Fund Accounts. The amount of DA being part of salary, is income and therefore, taxable. However, such savings in the provident Fund qualify for suitable tax rebate under Section 88 of the Income Tax Act. At present, no change is envisaged in these instructions.

[English]

Construction of Bridges in Gujarat

805. SHRICHANDUBHAIDESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of bridges, over bridges constructed in Gujarat by the Union Government during the last ten years;

(b) the number of those out of them in respect of which toll tax plaza are over and the number of those where these are still continuing; and

(c) the details of the rules framed in regard to toll tax plaza by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) In the last 10 years, 13 Nos. of bridges/over bridges were completed on National Highways in Gujarat.

(b) Out of these 13 bridges only to bridges qualified for levy of fee. Fee collection is already over in case of one bridge and it

is continuing in respect of the other bridge.

(c) Collection of fee is covered by the National Highways (Fee for use of permanent bridges) Rules, 1992. These rules inter-alia cover rates of fee and its payment, provision for displaying of rates of fees, procedure for collection/realisation, mode of collection of fee, remittance of fees collected, the tenure of collection of fee etc.

Overdraft by Government of Punjab

806. SHRIGURUDASKAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has warned the Government of Punjab against accumulated overdraft;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total accumulated overdraft with State Governments as on date; and

(d) the action being taken against States which have not refunded the overdraft within the prescribed period of seven consecutive working days?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). Between October 24 and 31, 1992 when the Government of Punjab was in overdraft, the Reserve Bank of India had advised the State Government of the daily position and requested them to clear the overdraft.

(c) The total aggregate overdraft of State Governments as on November 25, 1992 amounted to Rs. 11.11 crores as detailed below:-

(Rs. in crores)

1.	Manipur	4.06 (3rd day)
2.	Mizoram	0.33 (1st day)
3.	Nagaland	4.91 (6th day)
4.	West Bengal	1.81 (1st day)
		11.11

(d) Under the Overdraft Regulation Scheme, which came into force from October 2, 1985, no State Government is allowed to run an overdraft with the Reserve Bank for more than seven consecutive working days. In case a State Government runs an overdraft beyond seven consecutive working days, the Reserve Bank would not make payments on behalf of that State Government.

Jute Processing Units in Orissa

807. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal to set up jute processing units in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the number and location of such units in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). In terms of the new industrial policy jute industry has been delicensed and no permission is now required from the Government to set up jute processing units anywhere in the country.

[*Translation*]

Waiving of Loans in U.P.

808. SHRI RAM NAGINAMISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the then Government had waived off loan upto Rs. 10,000 in the country;

(b) if so, the amount of loan waived off in Uttar Pradesh under this scheme; and

(c) the amount given to the Government of Uttar Pradesh in compensation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Government of India formulated the Agricultural & Rural Debt Relief Scheme (ARDR), 1990 for providing debt relief not exceeding Rs. 10,000/- per borrower to selected category of borrowers of public sector banks (PSBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). The State Governments have also formulated their own schemes on lines of the Central Scheme for borrowers of cooperatives. While the debt relief given by PSBs and RRBs were to be reimbursed by Central Government under the State Scheme, the burden of providing debt relief was to be shared by Central and State Government on 50:50 basis. Loans to State Governments representing their share of 50% of debt relief provided by cooperatives are being disbursed by NABARD out of funds provided by RBI for the purpose.

(b) As per information available as on 16.11.1992, in the State of Uttar Pradesh a total number of 51.81 lakhs persons have been provided relief by the public sector banks, regional rural banks and cooperatives under the scheme involving an amount of

(c) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that as on 16.11.1992 an amount of Rs. 477.43 crores has been sanctioned and released by way of loans and grants to U.P. State Cooperative Bank and U.P. State Land Development Bank under the ARDR Scheme. NABARD has now advised all State Cooperative Banks, State Land Development Banks and Regional Rural Banks to conduct 100 percent verification of relief provided by them and submit the revised claims after excluding the claims relating to ineligible borrowers. Release of further amounts would be considered by NABARD after receipt of final claim statements from the cooperatives.

Collieries in Palaman Districts of Bihar

809. SHRI RAMDEW RAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal mines commissioned and the number of those ordered to be closed in the Palaman district of Bihar;

(b) whether the Government have ordered the closure of the Gore mines also;

(c) the number of labourers displaced due to closure of Gore mines; and

(d) the number of the labourers absorbed so far with the names of the establishments absorbed and the names of the establishments where remaining labourers are likely to be accommodated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) In the District of Palamau, Bihar, two existing coal mines namely Hutar and Rajhara were taken over after the nationalisation and a new Hurlong

has been sanctioned by Central Coalfields Ltd., which is presently under implementation. No coal mine in the District has been closed.

(b) Gore Magnetite mine has been closed due to non-availability of proper grade of magnetite ore and also due to incurring of

heavy financial loss.

(c) and (d). Out of a total of 320 persons employed in the Gore magnetite mine, seven persons have been provided jobs in the mine itself, looking after its maintenance and security. The remaining persons were absorbed in other establishments as under:-

(i)	Kathara area	-	307
(ii)	Piparwar	-	3
(iii)	B & K	-	1
(iv)	Rajrappa	-	1
(v)	Argada	-	1

Noise Pollution by Vehicles

810. SHRIGIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding noise pollution due to blowing horns of trucks and other vehicles;

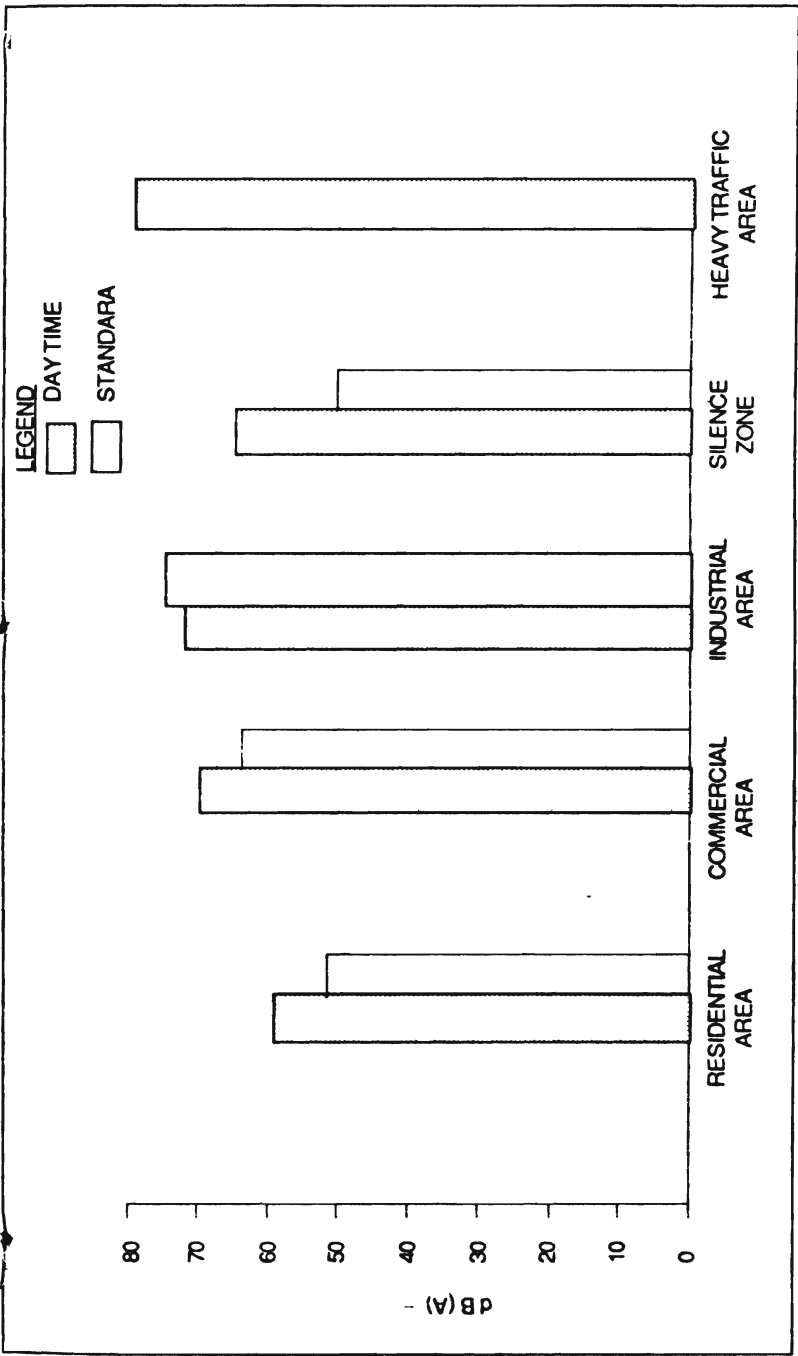
(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas in which noise pollution has been found more than the standard norms and the impact thereof on the people particularly the pregnant ladies and infants, residing in those areas; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such noise pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). The Central Pollution Control Board had undertaken a survey in 1989-90 of the noise

level in 8 metropolitan cities of the country. The study also monitored the noise level in heavy traffic areas also. The average ambient noise level in residential, commercial and heavy traffic areas and sensitive areas in Delhi were exceeding the standard during day time while in industrial area the noise level was below the standard. Vehicular noise was found to be major source in residential, commercial, heavy traffic areas and Silence Zones. A Histogram showing the ambient noise level in different areas of Delhi city is annexed as statement. No specific study on the impact of noise pollution, particularly of the pregnant ladies and infants has been made. However, studies have shown that noise is an irritant which causes psychological and physiological changes, arouses emotional response and has an impact on health. The Delhi Traffic Police have declared areas around 23 educational institutions, 15 residential colonies and 32 hospitals as 'Silence Zones'. There is regular prosecution against the violators of noise pollution. During the year from 1.1.92 to 15.11.92, 1,02,918 drivers of vehicles have been prosecuted for violating sound regulations.



HISTOGRAM SHOWING AMBIENT NOISE LEVEL IN DIFFERENT AREAS OF DELHI

[*English*]

Work on National Highway No. 31

811. SHRI AMAR ROY-PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of work on new alignment road from Falakata to Pundibari via Ghoksardang including new bridge on river Torsa on National Highway No. 31;

(b) the estimated cost and the amount sanctioned so far; and

(c) the expected date of completion of the bridge and the road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The work of new alignment of National Highway -31 from Falakata to Pundibari including the new bridge across river Torsa was sanctioned on 10.11.88 at a cost of Rs. 13.72 crores. The work has been divided into two packages viz. Package I pertaining to the Torsa Bridge which has just started and Package II pertaining to the approaches, minor bridges and culverts where the progress is about 20%. The entire project is scheduled for completion by January, 1995.

[*Translation*]

Debt Relief Scheme

812. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of relief provided by the rural banks under the Agriculture and Rural Debt Relief Scheme;

(b) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

(NABARD) has received second instalment of Rs. 200 crores from the Union Government under the scheme but the rural banks have not been given amount in proportion to the relief provided by them, and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether rural banks are suffering losses due to non-release of this amount of relief to them, by the Government and if so, the amount of loss sustained by these banks during the year 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The National bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that a total debt relief of the order of Rs. 798.97 crores has been provided by the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990. The figure is provisional as the banks have been advised by NABARD to conduct cent per cent verification of the relief provided and furnish revised claims after excluding the portion relating to ineligible beneficiaries.

(b) and (c). NABARD has released Rs. 413.31 crores by way of grant to RRBs under the Scheme. The balance amount available will be sanctioned to RRBs on pro-rata basis of their claims after receipt of final/revised claims from banks. In the absence of details such as size-wise, purpose-wise and period-wise classification of loans, rate of interest charged on such loans, the dates of write-off of such loans etc., it is not feasible to qualify the amount of losses sustained by the RRBs in this regard.

[*English*]

Commercialisation of D.T.C. Land

813. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred

Question No. 1623 on July 17, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised plan for the commercialisation of surplus DTC land;

(b) if so, the details thereof and surplus land of DTC, depot-wise; and

(c) the details of the nature of commercial activities for which these surplus lands are likely to be utilised, depot-wise?

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

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

Ceiling on RBI Credit to Union Government

814. SHRI M.V.V S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to impose a ceiling on the amount of net RBI credit to the Union Government as imposed on the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDHUKE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The assistance required to be

provided to States for their Plan and Non-Plan expenditure on the basis of the scheme of financing the Annual Plan approved by the Planning Commission and the accepted recommendations of the Finance Commission forms part of the Center's deficit. Reserve Bank also provides ways and means advances to the States to tide over their temporary cash deficits. Hence, over and above these, the States are not expected to run into continuous over-drafts with RBI. The position of the Centre and States in relation to RBI credit is not, therefore, strictly comparable. Government however keeps a close watch on the increase in net RBI credit and takes all possible measures to keep it within reasonable limits.

Development of National Highways in Kerala

815. SHRI THAYIL JOHNAJALOSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved some schemes for development of National Highways in Kerala during the year 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total length of the roads likely to be developed under the schemes and the amount earmarked therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The following one Project has been sanctioned during 1992-93.

<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Amount sanctioned</i>
Construction of Aukulam Bridge on NH -47	Rs. 4,90,03,000/-

(c) The scheme relates to a bridge project. Budget Provision for the work is Rs. 1 lakh for the current year.

NRI Deposits in Kerala

816. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of deposits made by NRIs in Kerala in various banks; and

(b) the banks in Kerala in which maximum deposits have been made by NRI along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

SLR and CRR

817. SHRIK. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present Statutory Liquid Ratio (S.L.R.) and Cash Reserve Ratio (C.R.R.) prescribed by P.B.I.; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to bring it down further?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) for scheduled commercial banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) on the level of the outstanding net demand and time liabilities (excluding non-resident liabilities) as on April 3, 1992 is stipulated at 38.5 per cent and for any increase in net demand and time liabilities above the April 3, 1992 level, the SLR is prescribed at 30 per cent. The SLR on non-resident liabilities is prescribed at 30 per cent. It has been announced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) that on the liabilities as on April 3, 1992, the SLR would be reduced as follows:

<i>Effective Date Fortnight beginning from</i>	<i>SLR on Net Demand and Time Liabilities (excluding FCNR and NPE deposits) outstanding as on April 3, 1992 (per cent)</i>
January 9, 1993	38.25
February 6, 1993	38.00
March 6, 1993	37.75

The Cash Reserve Ratio (CRP) for scheduled commercial banks both for domestic and non-resident liabilities is prescribed at 15 per cent. In addition, the cash balances under the incremental CRR remains impounded. It has been announced by RBI that one-third of the impounded cash balance would be released in three equal instalments (fortnights beginning October 17, 1992, November 14, 1992 and December

12, 1992).

(b) RBI has reported that my further reduction in SLP would be planned in consonance with the Government's market borrowing requirements and the reduction in the fiscal deficit. Further reduction in CRR will depend on deceleration in inflation rate and the development of alternative instruments for effective monetary control.

Facilities for New Garment Exporters

relations during 1992;

818. SHRISHASHIPRAKASH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities provided by the Union Government to new garment exporters under the garment quota policy; and

(b) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to protect their interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Under the Garment Export Entitlement Distribution Policy, quantities that become available from time to time on account of flexibilities, surrenders or otherwise are allocated on First-Come-First-Served basis. New garment exporters can apply for allotment for such quotas. They are also eligible for quotas under Manufacturer-Exporters Entitlement System under which 20% of annual quotas are allotted, provided they have set up manufacturing units and fulfill creation conditions. New exporters are also eligible for quotas under the Non-quota Entitlement (NQE) System under which 18% of annual quotas are allotted subject to their export performance in respect of non-quota items to quota countries and to non-quota countries. New exporters can also avail themselves of the facility to seek transfer of entitlements under Past Performance Entitlement System and NQE System. Further there are no restrictions in respect of export of non-quota items to quota countries and to non-quota countries.

Training Course for Retired Defence Personnel

819. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Training (DGR) has organised any training courses for retired defence service officers in industrial

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry of labour has conducted this course; and

(d) how far the retired army personnel are likely to be benefited from this course?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). The Directorate General Resettlement has introduced a Post Graduate Diploma Course in Industrial Relations and Personnel Management for retiring/retired Service Officers from September 1992 to June 1993. The first batch of 21 Officers, from all the three Services, is undergoing training which includes:

- (i) Working conditions in Industries.
- (ii) Wages and Salary Administration.
- (iii) Industrial Psychology and Behavioural Sciences.
- (iv) Industrial Relations.
- (v) Social Security.
- (vi) Industrial Laws.
- (vii) Labour Laws
- (viii) Organisational Behaviour & Management of Human Resources.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The course aims at increasing the employability potential of the trained officers.

Working Group on Non-Banking Financial Companies

820. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the main suggestions made by the

working group on non-banking financial companies (NBFC) set up by the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) whether the Government have considered their suggestions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these suggestions are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The major recommendations of the Working Group on Financial Companies constituted by Reserve Bank of India are as under:

- (i) Dismantling of category-wise classification and application of uniform regulations for Non-Banking Financial Companies.
- (ii) Regulatory attention to be on companies with net owned funds of Rs. 50 lakhs and over.
- (iii) Entry norms for new companies.
- (iv) Shifting of focus of regulation from liability side to asset side of the companies.
- (v) Capital adequacy standard to be introduced based on risk weights for assets and credit conversion factors for off balance sheet items. Pending implementation of the capital adequacy norm, overall debt-equity ratio be 15:1.
- (vi) The amount of funds placed under portfolio Management Scheme may be related to net owned funds of a Company.
- (vii) The periods for acceptance of deposits by Non-Banking Financial

Companies should be from 12 months to 84 months.

(viii) Interest rates on deposits accepted by Non-Banking Financial companies should be pegged at 2 to 3% over the rates offered by commercial banks.

(ix) Norms be prescribing for income recognition, transparency of accounts, provision for bad and doubtful debts.

(b) and (c). The recommendation of the Group have been accepted in principle by Reserve Bank of India. These will be implemented in a phased manner

[*Translation*]

Widening of National Highway No. 2

821. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to widen Mathura-Agra section of the Delhi-Kanpur -Calcutta National Highway No.2;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be started on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Project of four-laning the Mathura-Agra Section of NH.2 from km. 148.33 to 199.66 with loan assistance from J.E.C.F. Japan is included in the Demand of Grants for 1992-93 for sanction.

(c) It is too early to indicate the likely date of start of work which would be after

approved of the project and completion of other necessary formalities including invitation of tenders on the basis of International Competitive Bidding.

[English]

**Interest Rates of Co-operative
Regional Rural Banks**

822. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently announced reduction in lending rate and interest rate on deposits made for 46 days to three years offered by all the Central and State Co-operative Regional Rural Banks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Effective from October 9, 1992 Reserve Bank of India have made the following changes in the interest rates on deposits and advances of State/Central Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)

Deposits rates

(i) Reduction in interest rates on deposits (excluding FCNR/NPE) for maturity of 46 days to 3 years and above by one percentage point to "not exceeding 12.0 per cent per annum". Interest rates on saving bank deposits, however, remains unchanged at 6.0 per cent per annum. State and Central Cooperative banks at their discretion can allow additional interest of 1/4 per cent annum and 1/2 per cent per annum, respectively, on saving deposits and term deposits accounts over and above the prescribed rates. RRBs may at their discretion can allow additional interest of 1/2 per cent per annum only in respect of saving bank deposits.

(ii) Interest rates on deposits under Non resident (External) Rupee accounts (NPE Accounts)

The saving deposit rate in the category has been increased from 5% to 6%. The term deposit rate for NRE accounts for maturity of 46 days to 3 years and above is a single prescription of 'not exceeding 13.0 per cent per annum' as shown below:-

<i>Category of Account</i>	<i>Previous rates</i>	<i>Revised rates effective from 9 October, 1992</i>
<i>Term Deposits -</i>		
(a) 46 days to less than 1 year	8.5	
(b) 1 year to less than 2 years	10.5	"Not exceeding
(c) 2 years to less than 3 years	11.0	13.0 per cent"
(d) 3 years to less than 5 years	13.0	for maturity of
(e) 5 years and above	14.0	46 days to 3 years and over.

Lending rates

The lending rate on credit limits of over Rs. 2 lakhs has been reduced by one percentage point from 19.0% (Minimum) to 18.0% (Minimum). The interest rate on export credit (rupee) has been reduced by one percentage point across the board.

Taxes Outstanding Against Top 20 Business Houses

823. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Central excise duty, customs duty and income tax separately, outstanding against each of the top 20 business houses at the end of the financial year 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to realise the dues from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The statistics regarding outstanding tax arrears are not maintained business house-wise. The time and effort involved in the collection of information relating to large number of companies belonging to these houses, from field formations spread all over the country, will be enormous and not commensurate with the objective sought to be achieved. However, administrative, legal and other measures as are considered necessary, are taken from time to time to recover the outstanding tax arrears.

Project Appraisal Committee

824. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have

constituted a project appraisal committee to ensure expeditious implementation of 408 sanctioned projects to achieve annual production of 291 million tonne of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total cost likely to be incurred thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUA): (a) to (c). The Govt. have not constituted a Project Appraisal Committee regarding implementation of projects in the coal sector. The Ministry of Coal had, however, constituted a Committee for recommending guidelines for project formulation/implementation and these guidelines have been circulated to the coal companies for compliance. CIL have also formed, on the advice of the Ministry of Coal, a Core team to ensure expeditious implementation of all on-going projects.

Many of the sanctioned projects have since been completed. As on 1.10.1992, there are 201 on-going projects in CIL & SCCL and these projects, on completion, would result in an annual coal production capacity of 168.40 million tonnes.

[*Translation*]

Construction of Low Cost House in Coalfield Areas

825. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Mining Research Station propose to formulate a scheme in collaboration with the Bharat Coking Coal Limited to construct low houses for the people belonging to economically backward class residing in coalfield areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of houses proposed to be constructed and the total number of people belonging to backward class likely to be benefited therefrom;

(d) the time by which these are likely to be completed; and

(e) the terms and conditions fixed allotment of these houses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (e). The Central Mining Research Station and Bharat Coking Coal Limited are having mutual consultations on the formulation of a scheme to construct low cost houses. The matter is still in the exploratory stage.

Development of National Highways In Bihar

826. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to widen, develop and increase the area of the National Highways passing through the northern Bihar; and

(b) if so, the amount allocated therefor during the current years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. Development of National Highways is a continuous process and improvement works are taken up keeping in view the existing condition of National Highways, traffic intensity, inter-se priority on all India basis and availability of funds.

(b) National Highways No. 28, 28A and part of National Highway No. 31 (Total length 567 kilometers) serve North Bihar. A provision

of Rs. 444.79 lacs has been made for development of Road/Bridge projects on these stretches of National Highways during 1992-93.

Bank Branches in Pauri and Chamoli Districts of Uttar Pradesh

827. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 753 on July 26, 1991 state:

(a) whether the branches of banks have been opened in all the places of Pauri and Chamoli districts of Uttar Pradesh where Reserve Bank of India had issued licences;

(b) if so, the names of the banks and places where these branches have been opened;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the action proposed to be taken in this regard;

(d) the period for which the validity of the above mentioned sanctioned licences has been extended for opening the branches of the banks; and

(e) the names of the new places in these districts for which the Government have received applications from the public representatives for opening the bank branches and the steps taken so far thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). Out of the pending licences issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in respect of the District of Pauri Garhwal and Chamoli, Punjab National Bank has opened branches at the rural centres of Debiokhal, Chailusain and Gaindkhal. The remaining licences have yet not been utilised. RBI has early this year reminded the banks to open branches at the allocated

centres as early as possible. The banks have attributed lack of basic infrastructural facilities like all weather roads, suitable premises telecommunication facilities etc. for the delay in opening branches at the allocated centres. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has also been requested by RBI to extend their cooperation in providing the necessary infrastructural facilities to enable

the banks to open their branches at these centres. The validity period of the pending licences has been extended upto 31.3.1993.

(e) RBI has reported that representations were received from public for opening branches at the following centres in Districts Chamoli and Pauri Garhwal:-

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Names of Centres</i>
Chamoli	Maithan, Wasukedar, Lamgaudi, Kalimath, Saterakhal, Khal, Nani Paundar, Gopeshwar, Kunigar, Karanprayag, Sidauli, Devalkot, Nainisain, Kedarkhal and Jakh.
Pauri Garhwal	Kotirisain, Khalyundanda, Jamalkhal, Bahedakhal, Dondal, Vyasghat and Satpali.

Under the extant licensing policy for rural centres, the individual banks have to identify the centres falling within their service area and such centres with necessary particulars have to be given to the lead bank of the District. The lead bank after consolidating the list submit to the District Collector for recommendations and onward transmission to RBI through the concerned State Government.

to the available information the institutional arrangement in the UN system where Child Labour is inter-alia dealt with, include ILO's Programme of Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) and Committee on the Rights of the Child under Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted by UNGA on 20th November, 1989. The Government of India is actively participating in the Programme of Elimination of Child Labour.

[English]

UN Cell for Action Against Child Labour

828. DR. SUDHIRRAY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that UN, in order to motivate people against Child labour, has started a cell called Action Against Child Labour; and

(b) if so, what would be the contribution of the Union Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). According

NRI Rupee Account

829. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of the rupee in the international market as fixed by the Reserve Bank of India, as applicable in bank transaction and as prevalent in the open market, separately at monthly intervals since January, 1, 1992.

(b) The total remittance to India by the Non-resident Indians, monthwise since January, 1992.

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints from the NRIs regarding the time and energy consumed in opening and operating the NRI rupee account in India, even though the Indian banks are operating abroad also;

(d) if so, whether any steps have been taken to streamline the procedure;

(e) if not, the exact procedure which an NRI has to adopt to open a foreign exchange account in India through a bank abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWARTHAKUR): (a) Reserve Bank of India has advised that as rupee is not an internationally traded currency there is no value of rupee in the international market as fixed by the Reserve Bank of India. RBI fixed the rate of intervention currency for buying and selling the same from to authorised dealers in India for merchant transactions. Till 1st March, 1992 the intervention currency was Pound Sterling. The rates announced by RBI are given below:

	<i>Middle Rate</i>	<i>Buying Rate</i>	<i>Selling Rate</i>
1st Jan '92	Rs. 48.3014	\$2.0755	\$2.0651
3rd Feb '92	Rs. 46.4337	\$2.1590	\$2.1482

From 1st March, 1992 RBI has changed the intervention currency to US \$. The first rate was announced on 3rd March, 1992 as under:-

Middle Rate : 1 \$ =25.89

Buying Rate ; Rs. 100 = US\$ 3.8720

Selling Rate : Rs. 100 =US\$ 3.8528

The present rates are : Buying : Rs. 100 = \$3.8720

Selling: Rs. 100 = \$ 3.8530

These rates have remained unchanged since 5.3.1992.

The rate announced by RBI is valid for transactions of authorised dealers with RBI and is available only for approved transactions. The market rate for merchant transactions is quoted by commercial banks

on an on going basis based on Foreign Exchange Dealers Association' of India (FEDAI) Guidelines. The indicative market rates are announced by FEDAI on a daily basis. The Rates so announced at the beginning of each month are given below.

	<i>FEDAI Buying Rate</i>	<i>US\$ (per Rs. 100/-) FEDAI Selling Rates</i>
1st March ' 92	3.4500	3.4000
2nd April ' 92	3.2200	3.2150

	FEDAI Buying Rate	US\$ (per Rs. 100/-) FEDAI Selling Rates
5th May '92	3.2800	3.2770
1st June '92	3.2940	3.2910
1st July '92	3.3003	3.2960
3rd August '92	3.3280	3.3250
1st Sept. '92	3.3180	3.3150
1st Oct '92	3.3320	3.3300

(b) Data on remittances in Non-resident (External) Rupee Account (NRERA) and Foreign Currency Non-resident Accounts (FCNRA) is given below:

Inflows net excluding accrued interest (US \$ million)

1992	FCNRA	NRERA
January	30	(-) 18
February	(-) 63	1
March	(-) 119	24
April	(-) 188	52
May	(-) 76	(-) 5
June	(-) 45	57
July	(-) 4	23 *
August	(-) 9	(-) 17 *
September	(-) 3	(-) 18 *
October	14	(-) 23 *

* Provisional

(c) and (d). RBI sometimes receives complaints on procedural matters relating to NRE/FCNR A/C. Matters are promptly taken up by RBI with the International Division of the concerned Authorised Dealers, and, based on the facts received from the banks, these are resolved to the satisfaction of NRIs.

(e) Authorised dealers can freely open these accounts in the name/s of NRIs on completion of forms prescribed, for the

purpose and funds in this regard are transferred to India in an approved manner from the country of residence of the prospective NRI account holders or from any other foreign country provided the country of residence of the account holder and the country from which remittance is received are both in the External Group of Countries. NRI can approach the banks in India authorised to deal in foreign exchange or their branches and correspondents abroad for the purpose of opening such accounts

[*Translation*]

Primary Weaver Cooperative Societies

830. SHRI LALL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of primary weaver Co-operative Societies in the country especially in Bihar, State-wise,

(b) the details of Handloom products produced by these Co-operative Societies during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether there is any stock accumulated with these societies;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Information is given in the attached statement.

(b) to (d). Government of India does not maintain the figures of production and stocks of Primary Cooperative Societies.

(e) A number of schemes are being operated for promoting marketing of handloom goods including those produced by primary weavers cooperative societies. These include scheme for marketing development assistance, scheme for production and exhibition of products under the National Design Collection, Organisation of National level exhibitions in Metropolitan Centres.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the States</i>	<i>No. of Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies.</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	598
2.	Assam	1643
3.	Bihar	1385
4.	Gujarat	1298
5.	Haryana	440
6.	Himachal Pradesh.	148
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	223
8.	Karnataka	270
9.	Kerala	602
10.	Madhya Pradesh	504
11.	Maharashtra	842
12.	Manipur	1056

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the States</i>	<i>No. of Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies.</i>
13.	Orissa	756
14.	Punjab	1127
15.	Rajasthan	636
16.	Tamil Nadu	1505
17.	Tripura	69
18.	Uttar Pradesh	4323
19.	West Bengal	1388
20.	Meghalaya	28
21.	Pondicherry	14
22.	Mizoram	41
23.	Delhi	449
24.	Nagaland	74
Total		19,427

Social Security and Welfare Scheme for the Beedi Workers

831. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend social security and welfare schemes to the workers in beedi industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). *Social Security*: At present around 12 lakhs beedi workers stand enrolled with the Employees Provident Fund Organisation and approximately 21,725 beedi workers are covered under Employees State Insurance

Scheme. For those beedi workers who are not covered under the Provident Fund Scheme, a Group Insurance Scheme has come into operation with effect from 1.4.1992.

Welfare: A number of welfare scheme for beedi workers in housing, health, education and recreation are being implemented through Beedi Workers Welfare Fund.

[English]

Abolition of Posts

832. SHRI V.S. VIJAYA-RAGHAVAN:
SHRI ANANTRAO
DESHMUKH:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts, category-wise, identified by various ministries and departments of the Union Government for abolition;

(b) the steps being taken to abolish these posts;

(c) whether a study of the World Bank on India's restructuring programme has suggested a 10 per cent cut in the number of Central Government employees during the next three years; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Cocoon from Cultivations of Mulberry

833. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA:
SHRIMATISHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the average yield of cocoon per hectare cultivation of mulberry;

(b) the production thereof in comparison to other silk producing countries like China and Japan; and

(c) the details of efforts being made by the Government to enhance the per hectare yield of mulberry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) As per 1991-92 data, the average yield of cocoons per hectare of mulberry in India is 327 kgs.

(b) The details of mulberry reeling cocoon production of India, China and Japan are as under:-

Country	Year	Mulberry reeling cocoon production (tonnes)
India	1991-92	1,07,139
China	1990	4,70,000
Japan	1991	20,821

(c) The steps initiated/being initiated to enhance per hectare yield of mulberry include the following:

(1) Propagation of new varieties of mulberry with higher yields of leaf and nutritious feed characteristics.

(2) Release of new varieties of high yielding and disease/drought resistant silkworm races.

(3) Development of Basic seed farms and establishment of grainages.

(4) Organisation of training programmes, seminars, group discussions etc. for sericulture farmers for propagation of suitable package of sericulture practices.

(5) Supply of chawkie reared disease free layings to farmers.

- (6) Strengthening of extension support.
- (7) Propagation of disease control measures.

Export of Agricultural and Processed Food Products

834. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign bilateral assistance available for economic activities relating to the export of agricultural and processed food products;

(b) the details of schemes/projects/areas in which such assistance is available and the amount thereof; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to utilise such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). United States Agency for International Development (USAID) have committed a grant of US \$ 20 million under the Agricultural Commercialisation and Enterprise Project for development of private agro business. The agreement for this project was signed on 28th August, 1991 and it is expected that it will be completed by 30th September, 1998. The assistance under this project will, inter alia, be used for helping entrepreneurs of Maharashtra engaged in agro business to pete com more effectively in domestic as well as international markets. This project is being implemented by The Industrial Credit extends Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) which assistances to eligible entrepreneurs in agro business under this project. In addition, Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development have agreed to extend an assistance of Kuwaiti Dinars 7 million under the Kerala Fisheries

Development Project for Prawn Culture. The main objectives of this project are to export prawns, provide employment for fishermen and improve the rural economies in coastal areas of Kerala. Government is closely monitoring these projects to ensure timely utilisation of bilateral assistance committed by the above mentioned two donor agencies.

[*Translation*]

Educated Unemployed Persons

835. SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI
TRIPATHI:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA
MUNDA:
SHRI DR. KARTIKESWAR
PATRA:
SHRI RAMACHANDRA
GHANGARE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) The educated unemployed in the country state-wise and Union Territory-wise during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of applicants on the live register of Employment Exchange, category-wise;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme to provide employment to educated unemployed youth; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) The State-wise estimate of educated unemployed, made on the basis of last survey of National

Sample Survey Organisation on Employment and Unemployment (July, 1987-June-1988), are given in the statement annexed.

(b) The number of applicants on the live

register of the Employment Exchanges all whom are not necessarily unemployed, educational category-wise as on December, 1990 were as follows:-

	<i>Education Category</i>	<i>No. (in thousand)</i>
(i)	Matriculate	12327.7
(ii)	Intermediate/Under graduate	5156.4
(iii)	Graduate & above	3622.8
(iv)	Total educated (Matric & above)	21106.9

(c) and (d). Employment is a thrust area of the 8th Five Year Plan. The plan emphasises the need for a high rate of economic growth, combined with faster growth of sectors, sub sectors and areas which have relatively high employment potential for enhancing the pace of employment generation. Geographically and crop-wise diversified agricultural growth, development of waste land and forestry, development of rural non-farm sector and

rural infrastructure, faster growth of small and decentralised manufacturing and expansion of housing, are the basic elements of the employment oriented growth strategy envisaged in the plan. These efforts will generate employment opportunities for the educated as well as the uneducated. Besides, Self-employment programmes, Integrated Rural Development Programme and Nehru Rozgar Yojna aim at providing sustainable employment.

STATEMENT

	<i>States/U. Ts.</i>	<i>Number of Educated Unemployed (in 000's)</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	353
2.	Assam	134
3.	Bihar	313
4.	Gujarat	112
5.	Haryana	147
6.	Himachal Pradesh	38
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	40
8.	Karnataka	229

	<i>States/U Ts</i>	<i>Number of Educated Unemployed (in 000's)</i>
9	Kerala	727
10	Madhya Pradesh	156
11	Maharashtra	365
12	Manipur	9
13	Meghalaya	1
14	Nagaland	2
15	Orissa	194
16	Punjab	159
17	Rajasthan	94
18	Sikkim	1
19	Tamil Nadu	488
20	Tripura	23
21	Uttar Pradesh	387
22	West Bengal	476
23	A & N Island	2
24	Arunachal Pradesh	Negligible
25	Chandigarh	9
26	Dadra & N Haveli	Negligible
27	Delhi	53
28	Goa, Daman & Diu	16
29	Lakshadweep	1
30	Mizoram	Negligible
31	Pondicherry	8
	All India	4537

Seminar on Child Labour

836. DR. D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
DR. K.D. JESWANI:
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRISRIBALLAVPANIGRAHI:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:
SHRI SUDHIR RAY:
SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two-day seminar on child labour in India was held in Yamuna Nagar on May 1, 1992;

(b) if so, the details of the issues discussed therein;

(c) whether any assessment has been made in regard to working Children below the age 14 years throughout the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether any programme has been launched by the Government to free such children from exploitation;

(e) whether the Union Government have urged the State Governments to implement the Child Labour Act, 1986 more rigorously;

(f) if so, the reaction of the State Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGHGHATOWAR): (a) and (b). According to the information made available by the Government of Haryana, a seminar on child labour conducted by Guru Nanak Khalsa College, Ymuna Nagars discussed the issues relating to the lower rates wages given to child labour, ban on child labour and steps for reducing child labour.

(c) and (d). According to assessment made by the Census of India (1981 Census) there was 13.6 million child labour in India. State-wise details are given in the attached statement. The Government has under the National Child Labour Policy launched the programme to free child labour from exploitation.

(e) and (f). The State Governments have been addressed from time to time to intensify the implementation of the provision relating to child labour in various Acts including the child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The State Governments are required to furnish quarterly statement of the number of inspections conducted, violations detected, prosecutions launched and convictions awarded.

STATEMENT

Distribution of Child Workers (0 - 14 Age Groups) According to 1981 Census

Sl.No.	States/Union Territories	Workers in the age group of 0-14
<i>1981 Census</i>		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,951,312
2.	Assam	

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>States/Union Territories</i>	<i>Workers in the age group of 0-14</i>
3.	Bihar	1,101,764
4.	Gujarat	616,913
5.	Haryana	194,189
6.	Himachal Pradesh	99,624
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	258,437
8.	Karnataka	1,131,530
9.	Kerala	92,854
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1,698,597
11.	Maharashtra	1,557,756
12.	Manipur	20,217
13.	Meghalaya	44,916
14.	Nagaland	16,235
15.	Orissa	702,293
16.	Punjab	216,939
17.	Rajasthan	819,605
18.	Sikkim	8,561
19.	Tamil Nadu	975,055
20.	Tripura	24,204
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1,434,675
22.	West Bengal	605,263
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1,309
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	17,950
25.	Chandigarh	1,986

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>States/Union Territories</i>	<i>Workers in the age group of 0-14</i>
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3,615
27.	Delhi	25,717
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	9,378
29.	Lakshadweep	56
30.	Mizoram	6,314
31.	Pondicherry	3,606
Total		13,640,872

*1981 Census could not be concluded in Assam due to disturbed conditions prevailing there then.

Refinance to Cooperative Credit Societies by NABARD

837. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several cooperative credit societies in States and Union Territories have become ineligible for agricultural refinance from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the financial base of cooperative credit societies, in view of restrictions imposed by NABARD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The eligibility norms for the drawal of refinance from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) are determined by it at the level of Central Cooperative Banks (CCBs). At the primary level, NABARD does not

prescribe any eligibility norms to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) for availing credit facilities from CCBs for financing seasonal agricultural operations in regard to limits sanctioned to them. At the primary level, PACS can borrow from Central Cooperative Banks for financing new and non-defaulting members. NABARD has been advising CCBs and State Cooperative Banks in various forms to improve the recovery performance so that the flow of credit to farmers is not hampered.

[Translation]

Relief to Riot Victims

838. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted to inquire into matter of providing financial relief to 1984 riots victims has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made therein; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The Government had constituted a Committee of Officers in May, 1992 to review concessions on bank credit to November, 1984 riot affected borrowers. The Committee submitted its Report to the Government in August, 1992. The main recommendations made in the Report are as follow:

- (i) Loans where the principal of the loan was upto Rs. 5000/- at the time of grant of loans alongwith the interest outstanding till the date of decision of the Government in this regard may be considered for write off. The loan of Rs. 5000/- will be the aggregate of loans taken by a borrower from one bank for the purpose of the grant of the above relief. The accounts which already stand closed on or before 31.3.92 would not qualify for such relief.
- (ii) The cut off date under the Central Interest Subsidy Scheme may be extended upto 31.3.92 by scaling down the rate of interest to 4% per annum (simple) for the period from 1.1.90 to 31.3.92.
- (iii) In case of riot affected borrowers interest on interest should not be charged by banks upto 31.3.92 on the past loans given to such riot affected borrowers. The accounts which already stand closed on or before 31.3.92 would not qualify for such relief.
- (iv) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may advise all the banks to review cases of inadequate financing experienced by existing running units of such units which could be nursed back and provide them

need based working capital/term loan at current rates of interest.

- (v) Fresh credit facilities sanctioned to riot affected borrowers should be at normal rate of interest and subject to us-ual RBI norms announced from time to time.

The Recommendation made by the Committee are being considered by the Government in consultation with RBI.

Soyabean Exporters

839. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soyabean exporters are facing difficulties at Kandla Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to solve their difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). There has been congestion in Kandla Port which has resulted in preberthing detention to vessels including vessels for Soyabean export.

(c) Seventh Cargo berth when commissioned will ease the situation.

[English]

World Bank Loan for NABARD Projects

840. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the World Bank has not

sanctioned any loan for the projects of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to get World Bank loan for some projects of NABARD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The World Bank had sanctioned a loan package of US\$. 375 million under NABARD I Project which was closed on 30.6.91 with utilisation of loan in full;

(b) Does not arise;

(c) Government of India has taken up with the World Bank another project for NABARD which is under consideration.

Pension Scheme for Employees of the Organised Sector

841. SHRIMATI GEETAMUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed pension scheme for employees in the organised sector has not been implemented as yet; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Pension Scheme is yet to be finalised.

Crossing of L.O.C. by Some Pak Groups

842. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the attempts being made from time to time by some groups in Pakistan to cross the actual line of control (LOC) in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the number of times such incidents have taken place in the last six months;

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter; and

(d) the future plan to prevent border crossing?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). Government were aware that groups based in Pakistan planned to cross the LOC in Jammu & Kashmir on October 24, 1992.

(c) and (d). Government had urged the Government of Pakistan to take effective steps to prevent any violations of the LOC/Border and to honour its obligations under the Simla Agreement. Government constantly review the measures required to ensure the inviolability of the LOC and our borders.

Industrial Finance Corporation

843. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the Industrial Finance Corporation of India from a statutory body to corporate one;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is proposed to be converted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Government propose to incorporate a new Government

Company under the Companies Act, 1956 to which the entire undertaking, business and functions of Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) as well as all the assets and liabilities and the staff of IFCI will be transferred on an appointed day to be notified by the Government. The Government is yet to take a final view on the appointed day.

(b) Conversion of IFCI into a Company would enable it to reshape its business strategies, attain greater autonomy, enter capital market for raising resources and create a more level playing field across broadly similar financial institutions.

Oil Tankers

844. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI V.S.
VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an agreement between the Shipping Corporation of India and the Cochin Shipyard Limited for the construction of oil tankers;

(b) if so, the progress made in the construction so far;

(c) whether there is any dispute regarding the price fixation of the oil tankers between these undertakings, and

(d) if so, the steps taken to settle this dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISHTYLER): (a) and (b). Yes. Sir. The Shipping Corporation of India and Cochin Shipyard Limited signed three contracts on 30th March 1986 for construction of 3 Crude Oil Tankers of

85,200 DWT each. The first vessel of this series viz. Hull No. 007 was delivered on 6.10.1990 and the Second vessel viz. Hull No. 008 was delivered on 29th October, 1992. The third vessel viz. Hull No. 009 is under construction.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Foreign Exchange

845. SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total gap in the availability of foreign exchange and national requirement thereof at present;

(b) whether the Government have assessed the net inflow of foreign exchange by allowing direct foreign investment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other measures taken or proposed to be taken to improve the availability of foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) A deficit or surplus in the availability and national requirement of foreign exchange is reflected in the current accountance balance of the Balance of Payment accounts for the country. For the current year it is estimated by Reserve Bank of India that the current account deficit would be of the order of \$ 6 to \$ 7 billion. After accounting for normal flows under capital accounts a financing gap of about \$ 3 billion is estimated.

(b) and (c). about \$ 400 to \$ 500 million of the net inflow of foreign exchange is expected through direct foreign investment

during the current year.

(d) The other measures already initiated and are being taken up to improve the availability of foreign exchange include export promotion measures, effective implementation of the new system of liberalised exchange rate management and higher utilisation of external assistance.

[*Translation*]

Houses for Beedi Workers

846. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was decided to construct houses for the beedi workers in Madhya Pradesh with the help of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the date on which the said decision was taken and the work done so far in this regard; and

(c) the time by which houses are likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(c). From 1979-80 to 1991-92, under housing scheme for Economically Weak Sections of Beedi workers, 3400 houses have been sanctioned for Madhya Pradesh. Out of these 1241 houses have been completed and 100 houses are under construction. Construction work for balance houses have not yet been taken up by the State Government.

[*English*]

Confiscation of Vehicles

847. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of vehicles have been confiscated by the income tax and customs departments;

(b) if so, the total number of such vehicles confiscated upto June 30, 1992;

(c) whether there is any proposal to auction these vehicles;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Available reports indicate that 287 confiscated vehicles were in the custody of the Customs & Central Excise Department as on 30th June, 1992. The Income Tax Department, however, does not have the power to confiscate vehicles.

(c) to (e). Confiscated vehicles can be disposed of by public auction or otherwise after completion of all departmental/court proceedings.

[*Translation*]

Decontrol of High Quality Coal

848. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to decontrol the high quality coal mainly produced from Raniganj coal fields;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken thereon?

[*Translation*]

Plying of Old Buses by D.T.C.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUA): (a) Govt. in Ministry of coal have received a proposal to decontrol the prices of higher grades of coal.

850. SHRI PHOOLCHAND VERMA:
SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(b) Despite several steps taken by Govt., it has been noticed that due to restricted availability of higher grades of coal, they are being traded in the open market at a price which is much higher than their controlled price. It has been suggested that in case the prices of higher grades of coal were decontrolled, the difference between the market price and the controlled price could accrue to the producing coal companies, which in turn will improve their economic viability.

(a) whether most of the DTC buses have outlived their life but are being plied on the road despite their being unfit for plying;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to ensure plying of only those buses which are road-worthy?

(c) The decontrol if and when decided would be notified. No time limit could be anticipated at this stage.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). All DTC buses, which are put on the road, are road-worthy and have the certificate of fitness of the State Transport Authority, Delhi.

[*English*]

As on 31.10.1992, 41.57% of the DTC buses are over-aged. Due to financial constraints, DTC are unable to replace these buses.

Loan Recovery Tribunals

849. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

Vacancies in Banks

851. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA):
SHRI RAM NAIK:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up loan recovery tribunals for banks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). It has been decided to bring forward legislation for setting up special tribunals for speedy recovery of over due loans above a specified limit.

(a) the details of the public sector banks in which the vacancies of Chairmen, Managing Directors Executive Directors and

all members of Board of Directors exist as on date:

of the Government during the last one year; and

(b) the dates from which these posts have been lying vacant;

(f) of so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter?

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies;

(e) whether instances of violation of the policy regarding appointments to top posts in the banks have also come to the notice

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (f). The Chairman and managing Directors in State Bank of India (SBI) and the Chairmen and Managing Directors and Executive Directors in the nationalised banks are appointed by the Central Government. The details regarding vacancies in these posts are given below:-

<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>Name of the Post</i>	<i>Date from which Vacant</i>
1. State Bank of India	Chairman	1.8.1992
2. Syndicate Bank	Chairman and	5.11.1992
3. Allahabad Bank	Managing Director	25.6.1992
4. Andhra Bank	-do-	1.7.1992
5. UCO Bank	-do-	8.7.1992
6. Bank of Baroda	Executive Director	24.11.1991
7. Central Bank of India	-do-	5.2.1992
8. United Bank of India	-do-	16.4.1992
9. New Bank of India	-do-	22.6.1992
10. Vijaya Bank	-do-	1.7.1992
11. Indian Bank	-do-	1.7.1992

Government also appoint the non official directors on the Boards of the nationalised banks and Central Board of State Bank of India. In the case of the seven associate banks of State Banks of India, non official directors are not appointed by the Government. These are 85 vacancies of non official directors on the board of the

nationalised banks. Most of these vacancies have arisen since January, 1985. In the case of the Central Board of State Bank of India, there are at present four vacancies of non official directors.

Government also appoint the workmen and non-workmen Directors on the Boards

of all the 28 public sector banks. The position of workmen employee directors is vacant in two banks, namely, State Bank of Indore and New Bank of India and these are vacant

from 18.7.1991 and 1.9.1987, respectively. The position of non workmen directors is vacant in 5 banks as per the details given below:-

	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>Date from which vacant</i>
1.	Allahabad Bank	1.7.1987
2.	Bank of Maharashtra	1.7.1987
3.	Central Bank of India	8.4.1984
4.	Union Bank of India	8.4.1984
5.	Punjab & Sind Bank	Not appointed since its nationalisation.

Government have already initiated necessary steps for filling up of the vacancies of the whole directors, non official directors as well as the employee directors.

In the matter of these appointments, the procedure as prescribed in the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Schemes, 1970 and 1980, State Bank of India Act, 1955 and State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, is followed. There are no instances of violation of the statutory provisions in these appointments during the last one year.

[English]

Purchase of Raw Jute by JCI

852. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bales of raw jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India in 1991-92 and how much has been purchased till-date during the current year in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of purchase centres of the JCI in the country and how many out of these are in operation during the current year with district-wise details thereof; and

(c) the constraints, if any, in the smooth operation of JCI, particularly in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The State-wise quantity of jute purchased by Jute Corporation of India in the 1991-92 Jute season, and upto 15.11.92 during the 1992-93 Jute season is as follows:

(in bales of 180 Kgs. each)

<i>States</i>	<i>1992-93 (Up to 15.11.92)</i>	<i>Total Procurement during 1991-92</i>
West Bengal	4,85,000	3,52,701
Bihar	43,333	1,59,992

<i>States</i>	<i>1992-93 (Up to 15.11.92)</i>	<i>Total Procurement during 1991-92</i>
Assam	1,34,722	61,032
Meghalaya	9,167	4,812
Orissa	1,944	13,933
Tripura	1,444	15,863
Uttar Pradesh		993
Andhra Pradesh	1,944	6,350
All India	6,77,554	6,15,676

(b) The State-wise number of Departmental Purchase Centres (DPC) and Sub-Centres of JCI that are in operation during the 1992-93 season are as under:

<i>States</i>	<i>Purchase Centres of JCI</i>	
	<i>DPC</i>	<i>Sub-Centres</i>
West Bengal	76	40
Bihar	16	12
Uttar Pradesh	1	1
Assam	24	5
Meghalaya	1	-
Orissa	5	5
Tripura	4	4
Andhra Pradesh	8	6
Total	135	73

(c) JCI is required to purchase the entire quantity of raw jute that is offered for sale at minimum support prices and has, accordingly, in association with its agents,

purchased 4,85,000 bales of raw jute in West Bengal upto 15.11.92 during the 1992-93 jute season.

Subscription by NABARD

853 DR VASANTNIWRUTTIPAWAR
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) subscribe to the share capital of the institutions engaged in the agriculture and rural development,

(b) if so, the details of the institutions to which NABARD has contributed the share capital, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b) It is not obligatory on the part of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to subscribe to share capital of the institutions engaged in Agriculture and Rural Development. However, for facilitating the implementation of the policy of State partnership and strengthening capital base of cooperative credit institutions, NABARD sanctions loans to State Government repayable on the expiry of fixed periods not exceeding 20 years, from the National Rural Credit (Long Term Operations) Fund to enable the State Governments to subscribe

to the share capital of cooperative credit societies in the States

(c) Does not arise

Tax Evasion by Liquor Barons

854 SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the quantity and value of export and import of alcoholic beverages during each of the three years,

(b) the customs duty received on alcoholic beverages during each of these years,

(c) whether the cases of huge income tax and customs duty evasion by liquor barons have come to the notice of the Government in the recent past,

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken in each such case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) (a) The figures for last three years are as below -

Year	Export		Import	
	Quantity (‘000’ Litres)	Value (Rs. in ‘lakh)	Quantity (‘000’ Litres)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1989-90	269	467	3145	1194
1990-91	7405	1180	953	976
1991-92	5610	1756	486	61

(b) The information regarding customs duty realisations for alcoholic beverages is not maintained separately. However, the

information about customs duty collections from beverages, spirits and vinegar is as below -

Year	Customs Duty Realised (Rs. in crores)
1989-90	12.22
1990-91	16.52
1991-92	18.43

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

Fund Sanctioned under TMFS to Gujarat

855. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received some requests from the Government of Gujarat for Financial help under the Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of requests, which have been accepted along-with the amount sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). According to Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), as on 31.8.92, 56 cases in Gujarat have been sanctioned Rs. 229.00 crores under Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme (TMFS), and Rs. 169.23 crores has so far been disbursed under the scheme.

[Translation]

Limit on foreign Debt

856. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
SHRI SUKHDEV PASWAN:
SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign debt as on August, 1992;

(b) whether, Government propose to fix the maximum limit for foreign loans;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The foreign loans outstanding as at the end of September, 1992 are estimated to be US \$ 57125 million equivalent to Rs. 171310 crores at the exchange rate prevalent on that date.

(b) to (d). Government is conscious about the country's external debt liability and keeps a constant watch on the level of country's indebtedness and likely burden of debt servicing. While contracting foreign loans, it is always kept in view that the debt burden and the debt servicing liability of the country does not exceed the capacity of the economy to service such loans. Government has already introduced a programme of economic reforms aimed at short term stabilisation combined with longer term restructuring. These reforms would improve the economic condition of the country and revitalise our growth process, including export earning capacity, so as to enhance our capacity to repay the loans and to ensure that this debt servicing burden does not exceed the capacity of the economy to service such loan.

Silk Yarn Bank in Bihar

[English]

857. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Silk Yarn Bank Scheme is being operated under the National Handloom Development Corporation in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the work done under the said scheme in Bihar during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT). (a) and (b). Government of India has introduced a new scheme called "National Silk Yarn Bank" from the year 1992-93. National Handloom Development Corporation would be the agency to implement the scheme in Bihar.

(c) No funds have so far been released under the scheme.

Increase in Coal Price

858. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times, the price of coal was increased during last three years;

(b) whether the production and productivity of Coal has also increased during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the loss suffered due to pilferage of coal both in quantity and value during the above period, year-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) The Price of coal has been increased only once during the last 3 years.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The details of production and productivity of Coal India Limited during last 3 years are as under:-

Year	Production (Million tonnes)	Productivity*
1989-90	178.60	1.21
1990-91	189.65	1.31
1991-92	204.14	1.40

Productivity measured in terms of output of coal in tonnes per man shift.

(d) Movement of rail-borne coal is arranged by coal companies on ex-coliery FOR basis, and railway receipts are issued as per the weight recorded at the colliery end. Therefore, coal companies are not in a position to check alleged en-route pilferage of coal resulting in lesser coal reaching the consumers. In view of this, coal companies are also not able to quantify the pilferage loss enroute.

Committee for SSI units

839. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:
SHRIMATI GIRJA DEVI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had

appointed a Committee for SSI units,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report,

(d) if so, the main recommendations/ observations made therein and the action taken by the Government thereon, and

(e) if not, the time by which the report of the Committee is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b) No, Sir. However the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had appointed a Committee in December, 1991 under the Chairmanship of Shri P R Nayak to review the arrangements for meeting the working capital requirements of the SSI Sector, review the guidelines for the rehabilitation of sick SSI units and examine any other related matters

(c) The Committee has submitted its report on 15th September, 1992

(d) The report of the Committee contains findings on adequacy and flow of institutional credit for working capital, adequacy of term credit provided to the SSI Sector, Tandon/Chore Committee norms for inventory levels,

rehabilitation of sick SSI units and other related aspects. The summary of its major recommendations is contained in Chapter 11 of the report. Copies of the report will be placed in the Library of the Parliament when available. These recommendations are being examined by the Reserve Bank of India

(e) Does not arise

Foreign Exchange from the Export of Wollen/Cotton Carpets

860 SHRIKALKADAS Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) the details of foreign exchange earnings from the export of hand knitted woollen carpets and cotton carpets during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to boost their export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) (a) The details of foreign exchange earned from the export of hand-knotted woollen carpets and cotton carpets during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 (April-September) are as under -

(Value Rs Crores)

(Provisional figures)

Year	Hand knotted Wollen carpets etc	Hand-knotted cotton carpets etc
1991-91	425.79	140.30
1991-92	628.58	68.16
1992-93	358.32	82.16

(April -Sept)

(b) A number of steps have been taken to boost the export of hand-knotted wollen carpets and cotton carpets. Some of these are: provision of duty draw-back, facility for import of carpet grade wool, support to Carpet Export Promotion Council for external trade fairs, organisation of buyer-seller meets, sponsoring sales-cum-study teams abroad etc. Triple weightage is given to net foreign exchange earning from the export of carpet for the purposes of recognition as an export house/trading house.

Foreign Banks in India

861. PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARYA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage increase in the profits of foreign banks in India during the last three years, bank-wise;

(b) whether these banks followed the RBI guidelines; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR

SINGH): (a) The details of percentage increase in the profits of foreign banks (bank-wise) having branches in India during the last three years, as reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are given in the attached Statement.

(b) and (c). Foreign banks operating in the country are required to comply with the statutory requirements contained in the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 and other relevant statutes. The RBI are responsible for supervision, control and monitoring of the functions of foreign banks as in the case of other scheduled commercial banks. The irregularities observed in the working of foreign banks by RBI during the course of periodical inspections are brought to the notice of the top management in the bank for taking immediate corrective measures. The banks are also advised by RBI to place the inspection reports before their Indian Advisory Boards and also forward copies to their Head Offices. Thereafter the banks are required to submit their comments to RBI within a period of 3 months. Within one month of the submission of detailed comments discussion are also held by RBI on the findings of the inspections with the Chief Officer of the bank concerned.

STATEMENT

Profit/loss for the years ended 31.3.90, 31.3.91 & 31.3.92

Sl.No.	Names of Foreign Banks	March 1990	Increase %	March 1991	Increase %	March 1992	Increase %
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank Ltd.	30	15.38	32	6.67	121	278.13
2.	A.B.N. Amro Bank Ltd	261	26.70	550	110.73	1493	171.45
3.	American Express Bank	1697	87.72	2242	32.12	4640	106.96
4.	ANZ Grindlys Bank	3534	78.39	3410	N.A.	9202	169.85
5.	Bank of America, NT and SA.	2842	152.30	2207	N.A.	6351	197.64
6.	Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait BEC	34	325.00	150	341.18	280	86.69
7.	Bank of Credit and Comm. International (Overseas) Ltd.	305	12.96	524	71.80	643	22.71
8.	Bank of Nova Scotia	149	161.40	59	N.A.	792	186.96
10.	Bank of Tokyo Ltd.	598	2035.71	605	1.17	962	59.01
11.	Banque Indosues	286	48.96	276	N.A.	792	186.96
12.	Banque Nationale De Paris	540	451.02	193	N.A.	937	384.97
13.	Barclays Bank	-	-	(-81) Loss	N.A.	181	324.04

Sl No	Names of Foreign Banks	March 1990	Increase %	March 1991	Increase %	March 1992	Increase %
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	British Bank of the Middle East	443	101.36	543	22.57	729	34.25
15	Citibank N A	32.53	6.794	5861	90.17	13912	137.37
16	Credit Lyonnais	(-39) Loss	N A	446	1143.59	662	48.43
17	Deutsche Bank (Asia)	335	289.53	608	99.40	1548	131.74
18	Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	1575	5251.00	1467	N A	3827	160.87
19	Comman International Bank S. O G	303	100.00	281	N A	52	N A
20	The Sakura Bank	126	80.00	256	103.17	385	50.39
21	Sanwa Bank	-	-	19*	N A	264	N A
22	Societe Generale	110	66.67	187	70.00	372	99.93
23	Sonali Bank	62	82.35	31	N A	29	N A
24	Standard Chartered Bank	2885	421.70	3118	8.08	(-15870) Loss	N A
N a - Not Applicable							

* Started functioning from December, 1990

**Construction of Bridge Across
Nethravathi River**

862. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to construct a new bridge across river Nethravathi at Panemangalore on N.H. 48;

(b) if so, the details of estimated cost of construction of the bridge; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Estimates for construction of Nethravathi bridge at Panemangalore on NH-48 and its approaches have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 405.28 lakhs and Rs. 757.95 lakhs respectively on 31.1.1992. It is targeted to be completed in 1996.

[*Translation*]

**Disparity Between the Consumer Price
Index and the Rate of Inflation**

863. DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of inflation is increasing again after recording a decline during the last months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the percentage decrease as compared to the previous increase;

(d) whether the expected proportional decrease has not been recorded in the consumer price index in spite of the decline in the rate of inflation; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (e). The annual rate of inflation in terms of wholesale price index had risen again from the second half of September, 1992 upto fourth week of October, 1992 on account of increase in the prices of petroleum products and potassic and phosphatic fertilizers effected during September, 1992 to reduce the fiscal deficit. The consumer price index has recorded a decline from August, 1992 upto September, 1992 (latest available). The month average annual rates of inflation from June, 1992 onwards along with changes in the rate of inflation in each succeeding months are given below:

Month	Annual Rates of Inflation (Percent)				
	WPI		CPI		
	Inflation rate	Change	Inflation rate	Inflation rate	Changes
1	2	3	4	5	5
June, 1992	13.0		12.9		
July, 1992	11.7	(-)10.0	13.1		+1.6
August, 1992	9.4	(-)19.7	11.5		(-)12.2
September, *1992	9.3	(-)11.7	10.0		(-)13.0
October, 1992	9.8	(+)18.1			
November, 1992	9.1	(-)7.1			
(7th Nov.)					

Committee to Review Coal Supply to Thermal Power Stations

864. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of High level Committee constituted for reviewing the coal supply to various thermal power stations;

(b) the details of the latest report submitted by the High Level Committee in respect of thermal power stations particularly of Raichur power station;

(c) whether the Raichur station had to close down its two-three units due to shortage of coal; and

(d) whether the Government have issued instructions to the State Government/State Electricity Board to improve the coal availability at the Raichur Thermal Power Station; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b). Supply of coal to Thermal Power Stations (TPSs) in Western and Southern Regions have been posing some problems due to low coal production in Singarani Collieries Company Ltd. Therefore a Special Group was constituted to review and update the recommendations made earlier by the Task Force headed by the then Secretary, Department of Power with regard to demand and supply of coal for thermal power stations in Southern and Western Regions. The composition of the Group was as follows:

1. Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, *Chairman*.
2. Adviser (Traffic), Ministry of

Railways.

3. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal.
4. Adviser (Energy), Planning Commission.
5. Joint Secretary, Deptt. of Power
6. Member (Operation), Central Electricity Authority.
7. Director (Operation), National Thermal Power Corporation.
8. Adviser (Projects), Ministry of Coal-Member Secretary.
9. Chief General Manager (Coordination), Coal India Ltd., Calcutta.
10. General Manager, Coal India Ltd., Calcutta.
11. Chief Movement & Marketing, SCCL, Hyderabad.

The Group has finalised the coal supply Plan for 1992-93 for ten TPSs in the Western and Southern Regions and the same is under implementation. As per this report, the coal requirement of Raichur TPS for the year 1992-93 has been assessed at 27.72 lakh tonnes for achieving a generation target of 3600 Million Units.

(c) to (e). It has been reported by Central Electricity Authority that Raichur Thermal Power Station has been operating on critical level of coal stock since the beginning of this year and the power station is reporting generation loss due to coal shortage. Power Station-wise targets have been fixed for supply of coal by the concerned coal companies. However coal supplies to Raichur TPS have been lately affected due to non-payment of coal dues to the Coal Companies.

All State Governments and the State Electricity Boards have been advised to ensure timely payments to coal companies to avoid dislocation in coal supplies.

Foreign Investment in Indian Capital Market

865. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
SHRISRIBALLAVPANIGRAHI:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to open up Indian capital markets to foreign institutional investment on more attractive and liberal terms;

(b) if so, the details of these terms; and

(c) the corresponding terms offered to the Indian Investors by leading industrialised nations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Salient features of the scheme are as follows:

1) Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) Institutions such as Pension Funds, Mutual Funds, Investment Trusts, Asset Management Companies, Nominees Companies and Incorporated/Institutional Portfolio Managers or their power of attorney holders (providing discretionary and non-discretionary portfolio management services) can invest in all securities traded on the primary and secondary markets, including equity and other securities/instruments of companies which are listed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges of India including OTC Exchange.

2. The FIIs will require to be registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India and also have to obtain permission of the Reserve Bank of India under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. RBI's general permission will be obtained by SEBI before granting initial registration under a single window approach. This permission will be valid for a period of 5 years and renewable thereafter.

3. Registration with SEBI/permission under FERA to the Foreign Institutional Investors would be granted on the basis of track record, professional competence, financial soundness and holding of a registration from the Securities Commission or the regulatory organisation for the stock market in the country of origin of the Institutional Investor.

4. The Institutional Investor will be allowed to open Foreign Currency Denominated Account with designated banks permitted by RBI, Special Non-Resident Rupee Account to credit all receipts by the Institutional Investor, transfer repatriable (after tax) proceeds from the Rupee Account to the Foreign Currency Account and repatriate capital, capital gains, dividends, incomes etc. arising from the investments made, after deductions of withholding tax on capital gains.

5. There would be no lock-in-period for any investments made by FII in the primary market and secondary market.

6. There is a ceiling maximum of 5% of the total issued capital of a company by a single FII. The Total holdings of all registered FIIs and NRI corporate and non-corporate investments in 24% excluding foreign investment under financial collaborations, permitted upto 51% and off shore funds global depository receipt and euro convertibles.

7. A concessional tax regime of flat rate of 20% of dividend and interest income and a tax rate of 10% on long terms capital gains have been given to the foreign institutional investors.

(c) Indian investors resident in India are not permitted to invest in the Securities Markets outside India, other than as direct foreign investors (original Promoters), with prior permission of Government of India. Hence there is no reciprocity involved.

[*Translation*]

Losses by RREs

866. SHRI SHIBU SOREN:
SHRI RAM SAGAR:
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR
SHARMA:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:
SHRI PAWAN KUMAR
BANSAL:
SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of the Regional Rural Banks running in loss, State-wise;

(b) the losses suffered by these Banks during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the losses by these Banks are likely to increase further this year;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be

taken to make up the losses and to restructure the RRBs in all respects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) the state-wise position of losses incurred by the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) during the last 3 years is given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). The reasons for incurring losses by RRBs can broadly be identified as under:-

- (a) A narrow or negative margin on leadings because of high cost of funds.
- (b) High fixed overheads
- (c) High servicing cost because of a large number of small accounts.
- (d) Low productivity per employees because of restricted operations.

The operational results of this year will be known after the accounts for the year are finalised.

(e) Government have initiated a process of consultation for restructuring of RREs. A number of models have been worked out. This also includes the proposal for establishment of a National Rural Bank of India (NRBI), by margining all the existing 196 RRBs with a view to improve the viability of RRBs and increase the flow of credit to the rural sector. However, no final decision has so far been taken in this regard.

STATEMENT

State-wise position of losses incurred by Regional Rural Banks during the year 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92

Sl.No.	Name of State	Losses incurred by RRBs during the period							
		1989-90		1990-91		1991-92		No. of RRBs	Amount
		No. of RRBs	Amount	No. of RRBs	Amount	No. of RRBs	Amount		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
1.	Harayana	3	0.85	3	0.66	4	3.90		
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1	0.23	2	0.45	2	1.04		
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	1.29	3	1.57	1	1.14		
4.	Punjab	3	0.31	1	0.22	4	0.53		
5.	Rajasthan	14	11.73	13	10.44	13	23.71		
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.	0.10	1	0.12	1	0.23		
7.	Assam	4	0.98	4	3.81	3	6.24		
8.	Manipur	1	0.21	1	0.43	1	0.55		
9.	Meghalaya	1	0.20	1	0.22	1	0.13		
10.	Mizoram	1	0.45	1	0.56	N.A.	N.A.		

Sl.No.	Name of State	Losses incurred by FRRBs during the period									
		1989-90				1990-91				1991-92	
		No. of FRRBs	Amount	No. of FRRBs	Amount	No. of FRRBs	Amount	No. of FRRBs	Amount	No. of FRRBs	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
11.	Nagaland	1	0.08	N.A.	N.A.	1	0.13				
12.	Tripura	1	0.53	1	0.42	N.A.	N.A.				
13.	Bihar	16	8.80	17	14.43	16	29.31				
14.	Orissa	8	8.02	7	8.39	6	17.26				
15.	West Bengal	6	4.13	8	6.99	5	8.32				
16.	Madhya Pradesh	21	13.32	21	11.55	21	25.53				
17.	Uttar Pradesh	34	25.05	30	18.83	31	43.32				
18.	Gujarat	9	3.10	9	3.64	9	7.30				
19.	Maharashtra	8	2.54	10	3.70	9	4.70				
20.	Andhra Pradesh	9	6.95	5	0.93	7	6.89				
21.	Karnataka	11	3.12	9	3.82	11	12.73				
22.	Kerala	-	-	-	-	1	0.32				
23.	Tamil Nadu	3	1.79	3	1.91	3	4.56				

[English]

Amendments to Fiera

867 SHRI SHARAD DIGHE
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973,

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) (a) to (c) The amendment of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 is under active consideration of the government and a bill to this effect is likely to be introduced in the current Session

Cargo Handled by Major Ports

868 DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) the quantum of cargo handled by various major ports during last three years, port-wise and year-wise,

(b) whether the Government had asked the port trusts to increase the cargo handling capacity of the ports, and

(c) if so, the performance of each major port in handling of cargo during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) to (c) A Statement indicating the capacity of Major Ports as on 31 3 92 along with cargo handled during last three years and current financial year up to October is enclosed. The capacity addition in major ports is an on going process and is undertaken through various schemes under the Annual Plans. Five Year Plan the overall capacity of all major ports during 92-93 is likely to go up to 170.23 million tonnes

STATEMENT

'Cargo handled by Major Ports' by Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi

Cargo handled at various Major Ports and cargo handling capacity (In million tonnes)

year	Calcutta	Pardip	Vizag	Madras	Tuticorin	Cochin	NewManglore	Merrugao	J.N.P.T.	Bombay	Kakndla	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1989-90	14.7	6.2	21.1	23.9	5.3	7.1	7.7	14.2	0.7	28.6	18.9	148.4
1990-91	15.2	6.9	19.4	24.5	5.1	7.3	8.0	14.9	2.0	19.8	19.7	152.8
1991-92	15.9	7.3	21.5	25.0	5.9	7.5	8.3	15.1	2.8	27.5	21.0	157.8
April-Oct-ber92	10.2	4.4	12.7	14.7	3.8	4.7	3.4	7.3	1.5	17.2	12.9	93.3
Capacity as on 31.3.92.	22.73	7.65	22.45	22.07	5.10	10.66	9.55	15.92	5.90	26.80	20.40	169.23

Janata Cloth

869. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to withdraw the supply of Janata cloth/cloth at controlled price to the poor and weaker sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) While it is proposed to gradually phase out the production and supply of Janata cloth, there is no change in Government policy regarding production and supply of controlled cloth for the time being.

(b) The phasing-out of Janata Cloth Scheme is in keeping with the policy of Government of India as enunciated in the Industrial Policy (Policy Measures for Promoting and Strengthening Small, Tiny and Village Enterprises) and in line with the policy of phase-out subsidy schemes.

[English]

Chelliah Committee Report

870. PROF. RITA VERMA:
SHRI DATTATRAYA
BANDARU:
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHUZANTYE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tax reforms committee headed by Dr. Raja J. Chelliah has submitted its final report to the Government?

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The Tax Reforms Committee headed by Dr. Raja J. Chelliah has submitted part 1 of its final report. In this report, the Committee has made recommendations in five broad areas:

- o (a) Problems of direct taxes not considered in the Interim Report, namely, corporate profits tax including the taxation of foreign entities, problems relating to business taxation, the interest tax, taxation of agricultural income and the gift tax.
- (b). Further reform of the system of domestic indirect taxes, particularly at the Central level, more details regard the extension of modified value added tax (Modvat) and conversion of Modvat into value added tax (VAT)
- (c) Improvements in procedures, including appellate procedures, removal of complicated provisions and provisions unduly weighted against the assessee: direct taxes-customs and excise.
- (d) Problems of administration: Making administration more efficient and at the same time more humane and more aware of the broader aspects of taxation. Changes in

administrative structure, facilities, emoluments, selection procedures at the higher levels, punishments and rewards.

- (e) Revenue Audit - its role - the attitude of Audit and the problems created for the assesseees - lines of reform.

The recommendations are under examination.

Pending Claims with Life Insurance Corporation of India

871. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of maturity claims pending with the Life Insurance Corporation of India for payment, during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the number of such claims is on the increase;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to settle the claims expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The requisite information is as under:-

<i>Year ended on 31st March</i>	<i>Number of claims pending</i>
1990	64,946
1991	52,968
1992	62,114
Current year (As on 30.9.1992)	81,404 (Provisionally)

(b) No, Sir. The percentage of maturity claims outstanding at the end of the accounting year to the total maturity claims payable during the year was maintained around 3% during the last 3 years.

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

French Collaboration for Coal Mining Project

872. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to seek French assistance, financial and otherwise for coal mining projects;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been reached between the two countries in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. French assistance has been sought for introduction

of new mining methods. Technologies in Coal Sector. The agreements for following Coal Projects have been signed with CDFI France which are under implementation at present:-

1. Agreement for introduction of High Face Longwall Technology at Kottadih U.G. Project of Eastern Coalfields Limited. (Total French assistance French Francs 215.562 Million).
2. Agreement for Establishment of an Indo-French Training Centre at Burradhemu of Eastern Coalfields Limited. (Total French assistance French Francs 9.500 Million).
3. Agreement for Technical Feasibility Study for liquidation of pillars and mining of virgin areas at Rajur of Western Coalfields Limited. (Total French assistance French Francs 1 Million)
4. Agreement for adopting of Blasting Gallery Method in Godavari Khani 10 and 8 Inclines of Singareni Collieries Company Limited. (Total French assistance French Franc: 63.65 Million).

During the Eleventh meeting of the Indo-French Working Group on Coal held in Paris in June, 1992, the Indian side have requested the French side to consider the possibility of assisting India in setting up of an Integrated Coal Project at Ananta (Mahanadi Coalfields Limited), R.K. new Tech. (Singareni Collieries Company Limited), Ghusich Underground (Eastern Coalfields Limited), and Bhanora west UG (Eastern Coal-fields Limited). The modalities and details of these proposals will be worked out after the French side agrees

in principle to the above proposals.

NRIS Investment in Co-operative Sector

873. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to allow the investment by the Non-Resident Indians in the co-operative sector; and

(b) if so, the terms and conditions laid down therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Closure of SICK NTC Mills

874. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRI HARADHAN ROY:
SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR:
SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any decision to close down all the sick units of the National Textile Corporation;

(b) whether the Government have closed down any of the units of NTC recently or likely to close down, in the near future if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of workers retrenched, due to closure of these units, mill-wise, especially in Gujarat;

(d) whether the Government have made any plan to rehabilitate and safeguard the interest of such workers,

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) (a) to (c) Government have approved a Turn Around Strategy for NTC. The key elements of this strategy are selective modernisation, financial and managerial restructuring and rationalisation of surplus workforce through the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS). VRS will also be offered to the officers, staff and workers of such chronically sick mills which have no possibility of viability and which may have to be closed down or merged with adjacent units to ensure viability. The question of closure or retrenchment of individual mills of NTC will be taken up eventually after taking into consideration the impact of VRS on their viability and other relevant factors. As on 31.10.1992, 2009 workers, officers and staff of textile mills under NTC (Gujarat) have availed of VRS under the Turn Around Strategy.

(d) to (f) The Turn Around Strategy provides for a Rehabilitation Fund with a corpus of Rs. 50 crores for retraining and redeployment of the rationalised workers of NTC etc. Schemes have already been drawn up to provide training, technical and financial assistance, and institutional finance to enable such workers to set up powerloom/reeling units.

[Translation]

Bonus to Central Government Employees

875 SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the criteria for fixation of bonus limit of Rs. 1600/- to the Central Government employees,

(b) whether the Union Government propose to enhance the amount of bonus being paid to its employees,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) (a) There is no ceiling on the amount of bonus payable to the Central Government employees.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Bank Credit to Entrepreneurs in Assam

876 SHRI PROBEN DEKA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of entrepreneurs in Darrang and Kamrup districts in Assam who have been granted bank credit during each of the last three years.

(b) the number of educated unemployed youths who were selected and recommended by the respective District Industries Centres but have not yet been granted credit by banks,

(c) the reasons therefor, and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that these youths get credits from the banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) to (d) UCO Bank is Lead Bank

of the above two districts. The cases sponsored by District Industries Centres are considered by the concerned banks for grant of sanctions. The disbursements in some cases were not possible mainly because some applicants were found to be in Government Service, some demanded cash disbursement while others did not turn up.

The lead bank has taken up the matter with District Industries Centre for an appropriate selection and motivation of entrepreneurs.

The progress in case of Kamrup district for the last three years under the scheme was as under:

All Banks

		89-90	90-91	91-92
a)	Number of entrepreneurs granted bank credit	315	356	350
b)	Number of entrepreneur selected and recommended under SEEUY by DIC but not given bank credit	34	15	36

Similar information for Darrang district is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Loans for Poverty Elimination

877. SHRI GOVIND CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up plans and propose to grant loans for elimination of poverty and for solving the problem of unemployment among educated people during 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Loans are granted to the educated unemployed youth whose family income does not exceed Rs. 10,000/- per annum under the scheme for providing Self-

Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) to undertake self employment ventures in industry, service and business. Under the Scheme, banks provide to each entrepreneur, a composite loan of not exceeding Rs. 35,000/- for industrial ventures, Rs. 25,000/- for service ventures and Rs. 15,000/- for small business ventures. The targets are fixed on an annual basis by the Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industries) in the Ministry of Industry who administer the scheme. A target of one lakh beneficiaries has been fixed for financial year 1992-93.

Loans are also granted to house-hold under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) in rural areas under which a physical target of nearly 1.88 lakh beneficiaries has been fixed by the Ministry of Rural Development for the year 1992-93.

In the Urban areas, loans are granted to the persons below the poverty line under the scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) under the Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) for

acquisition of productive assets for self-employment. A target of nearly one lakh beneficiaries has been fixed for 1992-93 by the Ministry of Urban Development (Which administer the scheme) for Urban areas.

The targets are fixed on an annual basis in each of the above mentioned schemes by the concerned Ministries and the corresponding targets for 1993-94 are not yet available.

[English]

**Income Tax Raids on Premises of
Share Brokers**

878. SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income Tax department has conducted raids on the premises of share brokers in the country during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the unaccounted money and other wealth and incriminating documents seized from each of these share brokers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
RAMESHWAR THANKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The details of searches conducted and unaccounted assets seized from the premises of share brokers during the current financial year are given in the attached Statement.

In course of these searches incriminating documents and computerized accounts have also been seized.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the group	Value of assets seized				Total
		Cash	Jewellery	Others		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
(Rupees in lakhs)						
Bombay						
1.	Harshad S. Mehta	20.00	Nil	4881.95	4901.95	
2.	Khandwala group	1.00	18.32	328.34	347.66	
3.	Mantri Bhanthia group	4.89	7.56	1208.35	1220.80	
4.	R. Sreenivasan, Madras	101.71	Nil	1000.02	1101.75	
5.	Rajratn P. Mohta	0.64	6.71	Nil	7.35	
6.	Shrenik J. Shah	Nil	Nil	8.07	8.07	
7.	B.N. Rathi & Sons	1.70	Nil	Nil	1.70	
8.	M/s. A.A. Parekh & Sons	3.59	4.03	40.06	47.68	
9.	M/s J.H. Patel	Nil	13.90	262.70	276.60	
10.	M/s. T.H. Vakil	0.34	2.01	52.69	55.06	
11.	M/s. U.M. Kamal	3.88	13.10	0.60	17.59	

Sl.No.	Name of the group	Value of assets seized					
		Cash	Jewellery	Others	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
		(Rupees in lakhs)					
12.	Hiften P. Dalal	Nil	Nil	467.28	467.28		
13.	Preeti N. Aggarwala	Nil	2.03	33.18	35.22		
14.	Akhil K. Dalal	0.50	8.94	5.51	14.95		
15.	Raj upen C. Dalal	Nil	Nil	1.29	1.29		
16.	A.D. Narottam	Nil	Nil	0.27	0.27		
17.	J.P. Gandhi	0.50	Nil	8.57	9.07		
18.	Mahesh J. Patal	1.00	2.14	40.55	43.70		
19.	Mahesh Kumar D. Shukla	1.00	2.42	Nil	3.42		
20.	Haresh K. Dalal (Prop. Excel & Co.)	1.00	Nil	6.75	7.75		
	HYDERABAD						
22.	M/s. Rathi Bros	63.01	Nil	0.07	63.08		

Sl.No.	Name of the group	Value of assets seized					
		Cash	Jewellery	Others	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
23.	Venugopal Inani	1.00	9.98	5.14	16.12		
24.	Ashok Kumar Gilado	0.50	Nil	8.70	9.20		
	MADRAS						
25.	M/s. abhishek & Co.	0.35	Nil	24.85	25.20		
26.	M/s F. S. Kasthuri & Co.	Nil	Nil	2.20	2.20		
27.	M/s. Shah & Shah	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
28.	M/s. Shah Associates	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
29.	M/s. Vishwanath Arul Kedia	0.50	2.55	28.45	31.50		
30.	M/s. Nirmish Mehta & Co.	Nil	Nil	9.89	9.89		
31.	S.M. Sambasivam	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
32.	Brilliant & Co.	Nil	Nil	6.75	6.75		
33.	Shivram & Co.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
34.	Rohini & Co.	Nil	Nil	5.50	5.50		

Sl.No.	Name of the group	Value of assets seized				Total
		Cash	Jewellery	Others	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
(Rupees in lakhs)						
35.	C. C. William Varghose	Nil	Nil	49.73	49.73	
36.	Namboodripad & Co.	Nil	Nil	1.58	1.58	
37.	O. G. & Co.	Nil	Nil	35.00	35.00	
38.	T. A. Sukumaran, Leela Sukumaran, V. B. Desai	Nil	Nil	21.67	21.67	
NEWDELHI						
39.	Virender Saigal & Co.	128.45	0.99	567.12	696.56	
40.	R. P. Gupta	Nil	1.44	0.51	1.95	
41.	S. S. Jhaveri & Monika Jhaveri	Nil	4.84	Nil	4.84	
42.	M/s N.K. Aggarwal & Co.	Nil	Nil	38.13	38.13	
KANPUR						
43.	Roop Chand Jain	Nil	Nil	5.88	5.88	
44.	D. Jasrapuria	Nil	Nil	2.89	2.89	

Sl No.	Name of the group	Value of assets seized					
		Cash	Jewellery	Others	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	6	
45.	S. Hardayalsingh INDORE	Nil	Nil	4.46	4.46	4.46	
46.	Deepak Kumar Trivedi CALCUTTA	2.36	5.66	141.66	149.68	149.68	
47.	Pannalal Kejriwal	0.80	Nil	Nil	0.80	0.80	
48.	Gopaldas Bagree	Nil	Nil	35.06	35.06	35.06	
49.	M/s Laxmi & Co.	0.10	1.96	2.98	5.04	5.04	
50.	M/s. C. Mackertech & M/s Steward & Co.	0.30	1.70	83.23	85.23	85.23	
51.	M/s Manoj Dhupelia BANGALORE	0.40	4.03	Nil	4.43	4.43	
52.	M/s Kataria & Co.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
53.	M/s. Bhat Associates	Nil	Nil	3.69	3.69	3.69	
54.	M/s. Anant Hegde Associates	Nil	Nil	1.12	1.12	1.12	

**Income Tax Evasion by Doctors,
Private Clinics and Nursing Homes**

879. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment regarding income tax evasion by the privately practising doctors, the private clinics and the nursing homes;

(b) if so, the estimated amount of annual tax evasion by them; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to check such income tax evasion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). There is no official estimate regarding income tax evasion by such persons.

(c) Statutory provision has been made in Section 44AA requiring such medical professionals to maintain accounts prescribed by law and these are examined in the scrutiny of assessments. Specialised professional circles have been created for assessment of such persons to enable better handling and detection of tax evasion in such cases. Moreover the Investigation Wing of the Income Tax Department also carries out cross-

verification of payments over Rs. 10,000/- made by patients to doctors, nursing homes etc. Actions by way of search, survey and other investigations and enquiries are also resorted to in the cases of such professionals about whom any specific information of tax evasion is available.

Narcotics Seized in Bihar

880. SHRIRAMTAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of smuggling of narcotics detected in Bihar during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of the narcotics seized therefrom;

(c) the number of cases registered in this regard; and

(d) the details of the disposal of the seized narcotics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The number of cases of smuggling of narcotic drugs detected in Bihar during the last three years are as under:

	1989	1990	1991
	134	648	401

(b) Details of narcotic drugs seized therefrom:

(In Kgs.)

	1989	1990	1991
Ganja	15319	12434	4829
Hashish	621	1168	1102
Heroin		7.05	1

(c) As in (a) above.

(d) Each of the detecting units such as the Police Stations, the divisional offices of Central Excise & Customs, the circle offices of State Excise etc. are authorised under Section 52A of the NDPS Act, 1985 to obtain orders of Magistrates to organise pre-trial destruction of seized drugs. Where this is not possible, they have to obtain orders of the Trying Judge at the conclusion of trial for similar disposal.

Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour

881. SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sent guidelines to the State Governments to prepare comprehensive village level schemes for the rehabilitation of bonded labour; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the State Governments in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). The Central Government have issued comprehensive guidelines to the State Governments for preparing village level schemes for rehabilitation of bonded labour. The State Governments are implementing the scheme and bonded labourers are being rehabilitated under land based, non-land based, and skill/craft based schemes according to the preference of the bonded labourers.

Balance of Payments Crisis

882. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has warned India against the possibility of another balance of payments crisis in the next few years;

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

(c) whether the Government are contemplating steps to maintain an easy balance of payments situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir. However a World Bank study states that India's balance of payments will remain fragile and dependent on exceptional financing for the next four or five years.

(b) In addition to the short-term and medium-term policy measures initiated already to improve the balance of payments, steps are being taken to arrange for exceptional financing both from multilateral and bilateral sources so as to avoid any crisis situation.

(c) and (d). The steps being taken to improve the balance of payments position and reduce the current account deficit include, effective implementation of the new system of liberalised exchange rate management; liberalised trade policy regime; increased capital in - flows both from bilateral and multilateral sources consistent with financial prudence and attracting direct foreign investment.

Ukni Open Cast Coal Mines

883. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of open cast coal mines in the Western Coal Fields Limited and the annual production from each mine;

(b) whether the Government have given clearance for the development of Ukni open cast coal mines;

(c) if so, the expected production of coal every year in Ukni;

(d) whether there is any proposal to develop such other open cast coal mines; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (e). Ukni Opencast Project of Western Coalfields Limited (Capacity 1.10 m.t.) has been sanctioned by the Government in January, 1992 at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 100.37 crores. The Mine is expected to reach its targetted capacity by March, 1999. During the year 1991-92 WCL had 21 coal producing opencast mines which produced 15.75 m.t. of coal during that year. Besides other sanctioned opencast projects which are being developed, two projects viz. Gondegaon Opencast and Mugoli Opencast are in advance stages of appraisal by Government for investment decisions.

Container Terminal in Cochin

884. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1586 on July 17, 1992 and state:

(a) the details of the response to the offers of the Cochin Port Trust for private participation in the international Container Terminal at Vallarpadom Island, Cochin, Kerala;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the terms and conditions on which the contract for the terminal is proposed to be awarded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Preliminary enquires were made from Cochin Port Trust by 65 parties. Last date of receipt of officers is 31.1.1993.

(b) No firm proposal has been received by the Government.

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

Chelliah Committee Recommendation to Sell Confiscated Gold

885. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of domestic public debt at the end of 1991-92 and the extent of confiscated gold available as on April, 1992 and at present;

(b) whether the committee headed by Dr. Raja J. Chelliah has made recommendations for the sale of gold confiscated and seized by various enforcement agencies, by way of auction and to use the amount so raised alongwith the amount raised by way of disinvestment in public sector equity for clearing the public debt and raising the RBI dividends; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) The amount of internal public debt and other liabilities of the Central Government at the end of 1991-92 (RE) stood at Rs. 3,17,379 crores. The quantity of confiscated gold held in Government account as on 1.4.1992 and 19.11.1992 was 186.8 Kg. and 1,071 Kg. respectively.

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

JCI Purchase Centres

886. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS:
SHRI SURYA NARAYAN
YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of jute purchase centres functioning at present particularly under the Jute Corporation of India, *State-wise*;

(b) the details of new jute purchase centres opened during the current year, *State-wise*;

(c) whether there is any need to open more such centres particular in West Bengal, and Northern Bihar;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to increase the number of these centres; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The *State-wise* number of Departmental Purchase Centres (DPC) and Sub-Centres of JCI that are in operation during the 1992-93 season are as under:-

<i>States</i>	<i>Purchase Centres of JCI</i>	
	<i>D P C</i>	<i>Sub-Centres</i>
West Bengal	76	40
Bihar	16	12
Uttar Pradesh	1	1
Assam	24	5
Meghalaya	1	-
Orissa	5	5
Tripura	4	4
Andhra Pradesh	8	6
Total	135	73

(b) No new centres to purchase jute have been opened by JCI during the current year.

(c) to (e). JCI has decided to use the aegis of cooperative societies in the jute growing areas to function as their agents in order to purchase the entire quantity of raw jute that is offered for sale at minimum support prices to protect the interest of the jute growing farmers.

[*Translation*]

Financial Assistance to Gujarat by LIC

887. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided to Gujarat for various projects by the Life Insurance Corporation of India during 1991-92; and

(b) the names of such projects for which funds are likely to be provided by the Life Insurance Corporation of India during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) Rs. 25870.00 lakhs.

(b) During current financial year, LIC's financial assistance in Gujarat will be available for State Government Housing Schemes, Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes and Schemes of State Electricity Board and State Road Transport Corporation. In addition, LIC subscribes to State Govt. loans and State Financial Corporation and State Electricity Board Bonds.

[English]

30th Session of Indian Labour Conference

888. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRIMRUTYUNJAYANAYAK:
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 30th Session of the Indian Labour Conference was held in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details of the subjects discussed therein; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGHGHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The 30th

Session of Indian Labour Conference was held on 7th & 8th September, 1992 in New Delhi.

(b) The following was the agenda for the conference:-

- i) Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous Conference.
- ii) Action taken on the conclusions of the previous Conference.
- iii) Consideration of the Report of Ramanujam Committee on new Industrial Relations Law with a view to formulating proposals for legislation on Industrial Relations.
- iv) New Industrial Policy : its Impact on Labour
- v) Employment Policy.

(c). The conclusions arrived at the Conference are attached as Annexure.

STATEMENT

CONCLUSION OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE INDIAN LABOUR CONFERENCE (7-8, SEPTEMBER, 92)

1. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed
2. Action taken on the decisions of the Indian Labour Conference of April, 1990 were noted.
3. It was observed that Government of India has before it the considered views of the Central Trade Union Organisations, the Central

Employers' Organisations and State Governments on the recommendations of the Bipartite Ramanujam Committee. In the context, the Conference felt that it would be more useful to discuss the matter after the views of the Government of India are known in this regard. The Chairman assured that the drafts of the proposed Industrial Relation and Trade Union Bill would be prepared keeping in view the ideas and suggestions expressed by all the parties and the changes that have since taken place both inside and outside the country. The Chairman also offered to have a discussion on the draft bill with the representatives of selected groups of parties present in the Conference.

4. On the impact of the New Industrial Policy, the chairman referred to the assurance by the Prime Minister that the New Industrial Policy would not lead to any human distress and the legitimate interests of labour would be protected.
5. In regard to retraining and redeployment, the Conference desired identification of labour for such retraining and redeployment and a scheme for industry-wise and occupation-wise redeployment. The Conference also expressed the view that Government should identify the agency for retraining and indicate what would be the time gap between identification of labour for retraining and their

redemption. The Conference also wanted to know how labour of one unit would be redeployed in another unit.

6. For absorption of surplus labour, if any, and for maximizing capacity utilisation, the Conference suggested diversification and broad-basing by working the units round the clock and on all days of the week.
7. The Conference expressed its serious concern at the low Productivity of Indian Industry and expressed its determination to improve wherever necessary its productivity, enhance its quality and reduce the price of goods to make them internationally competitive. The Conference decided to strive for improvement in discipline and attitude to work at all levels. It also decided that bipartite efforts to improve productivity and quality should be institutionalised.
8. The trade Unions demanded:
 - (i) the removal of ceiling on bonus both for eligibility and for computation by promulgation of an ordinance;
 - (ii) the immediate implementation of the DA rate of Rs. 2 per point of the Consumer Price Index (1960 series);
 - (iii) to allow the management

- of the public sector units to commence negotiations with the unions on their charter of demands immediately;
- (iv) that the Government should give clearance to agreement regarding pension and for the Pension Scheme for its early introduction;
- (v) to enhance the rate of interest on Employees' Provident Fund to at least 13%;
- (vi) to enhance the limits of exemption of income tax substantially.
9. The employers wanted postponement of the decision on removal of ceiling on bonus both for eligibility and computation of bonus by one year so that a well-thought out scheme could be evolved. They also wanted productivity linked bonus as prescribed under the law.
10. The Trade Union indicated that the first National Commission on Labour was appointed about 25 years ago and a time has come to set up another National Commission on Labour to examine the issues that labour is facing today in view of the many changes that have occurred in the meantime.
11. The Labour Cell in the Planning Commission may be revived to facilitate consultation with

Trade Unions while formulating policies concerning labour. The view expressed by the participants in the Conference with regard to employment policy would be conveyed to the Planning Commission for its consideration and for the consideration of the two Sub-Committees of the Planning Commission/NDC which are considering strategies for implementation of the employment policy.

Coal Projects with Soviet Assistance

889. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the major coal projects taken up by the Government with the assistance of erstwhile States of Soviet Union;

(b) whether with the breakup of Soviet Union, supplies of equipment and technology has stopped from that country;

(c) if so, the efforts being made by the Government for alternative supplies of equipment and technology and the outcome thereof; and

(d) the overall impact on the completion of the on-going projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMA GOUDA): (a) The following four major coal projects were taken up for implementation with assistance of erstwhile states of Soviet Union:-

- i) Khadia Opencast (Northern Coalfields Limited).

- ii) Nighahi Opencast (Northern Coalfields Limited).
- iii) Jhanjra Underground (Eastern Coalfields Limited).
- iv) Modernisation of Patherdih washery (Bharat Coking Coal Limited).

(b) to (d). The breakup of Soviet Union had created certain uncertainties in the supply of equipment as well as spare parts for soviet manufactured equipment. However, it is not likely to have any serious adverse effect on the implementation of these on-going projects as negotiations have been/are being held with the concerned Russian Organisations.

The following intermediate steps have been/are being taken to ensure the smooth working of these projects:-

- i) Major assemblies/sub-assemblies of Soviet Manufactured equipment are being planned to be replaced with indigenously manufactured assemblies.
- ii) Indigenisation of spare parts to the extent possible is being undertaken.
- iii) Direct contacts with the Manufacturers are being made to obtain critical spares instead of limiting it to the Trading Houses of Russia.
- iv) Parallel arrangements for procuring future equipment for these projects from other sources are also being made as felt necessary.

Coking Coal Production

890. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand of coking coal in the country;

(b) whether indigenous production is unable to meet the demand;

(c) if so, the total import of coking coal made during 1991-92; and

(d) the steps being taken to meet the demands through indigenous production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMA GOUDA): (a) The estimated demand of raw coking coal in the country during 1991-92 was 33 million tonnes.

(b) and (c). 6.08 million tonnes of coking coal was imported by steel plants during 1991-92, to meet the gap between indigenous availability and the demand and also to improve the quality of overall blend to be used in steel plants.

(d) Some of the steps being taken to augment indigenous availability of coking coal inter alia, include:-

- i) increase in raw coking coal availability by reorganising existing mines and development of new mines;
- ii) restoration of coking coal sources which were delinked in 1984-85 from washeries on account of quality consideration;
- iii) commissioning of two new washeries, one each at Madhub and Kedla for increasing the existing washing capacity;
- iv) modification of the existing coking coal washeries by

implementation of recommendations of the Altekar Committee to improve the capacity utilisation as well as the quality of washed coking coal;

- v) coking coal mines in Meghalaya & Assam are being identified to make available increased quantities of low ash coking coal.

Strikes and Lockouts in the Central Establishments in Gujarat

891. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were strikes and lockouts in some central sector establishments/industries in Gujarat during 1991-92;

(b) if so, the reasons for each of the strikes and lockouts;

(c) whether some strikes and lockouts were withdrawn;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total loss of life and property during this period; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check such strikes and lockouts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) There was one strike in one Central Sector Establishment in Gujarat during 1991-92. It was in Indian Petro-Chemicals Ltd. at Baroda.

(b) The reasons for the same was a demand for bonus at the rate of 35% of annual earning (20% under the payment of

Bonus Act plus 15% incentive).

(c) and (d). The said strike was withdrawn on the same day, i.e., on 15.10.91. Out of 10,000 workers 2627 workers took part in the strike. The strike was withdrawn unconditionally.

(e) Nil.

(f) Before the strike occurred, the State Government machinery had intervened on 10.10.1991 and 14.10.1991.

[Translation]

S.T.A. Permits for Buses

892 SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to reply given to Starred Question No. 47 on July 10, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the State Transport Authority have issued permits for 3000 buses;

(b) if so, how many buses have started plying till now;

(c) whether any machinery is being set up to look into the complaints of the passengers regarding these buses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The State Transport Authority have so far issued 1007 permits for Red Line Buses till 19.11.1992.

(b) 1007 buses are plying as on 19.11.1992.

(c) and (d). A Complaint Cell has been established by the Transport Department, Delhi Admn. at its headquarters to receive complaints from general public regarding

vehicles plying in Delhi. This Complaint Cell is functioning round the clock with following Telephone Numbers:-

2515740, 2517300, 2517403, 2526902, 2526172.

Shortage of Coal in Gujarat

893. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI MAHESH KANDDIA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of coal in Gujarat especially in tribal areas;

(b) if so, the quantity of coal required and being provided to the State;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide more quantity of coal to Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be provided?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (d). There have been some shortfalls in movement of coal to consumers in non-core sectors in the State of Gujarat due to priority movement of coal by rail to core sectors like power etc. However, instructions have been issued to coal companies to ensure supply of coal to the consumers in non-core sectors atleast to the extent of 50% of the linkages either by rail or by road.

Coal companies do not maintain separate data of despatches of coal for a particular district or area. Figures of State-wise despatches are however maintained by them. The total quantity of coal supplied to various consumers in Gujarat from Coal India sources during the last two years is 146.55 lakh tonnes in 1990-91 and 151.81 lakh tonnes in 1991-92. The despatches in the current of year to Gujarat are likely to be higher.

[English]

Financial Assistance to Small Industries

894. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently decided to withdraw the facility of financial assistance to small scale units by banks on machinery and plants costing more than Rs. 35 lakhs;

(b) if so, whether the existing small industries have been adversely affected by this declaration and the new entrepreneurs are getting discouraged;

(c) whether in view of the decline in the value of rupee in the international market as also shortage of money, the Government propose to review their decision and restore the limit of Rs. 60 lakhs which has been reduced to 35 lakhs; and

(d) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) No, Sir. However, the SSI classification under the priority sector is to be given only in respect of those units whose investment in plant and machinery does not exceed Rs. 35 lakhs (Rs. 45 lakhs in the case of ancillary undertakings).

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

Labour Research Studies entrusted to Labour Bureau

895. SHRI S.B. THORAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the important labour research studies entrusted to the Labour Bureau during the current year;

(b) whether the Government propose to

review the performance of the Bureau with a view to revitalise and strengthen it to cater to the needs of policy makers on various issues concerning Labour in organised and unorganised agriculture sector;

(c) when were the last contract labour surveys and surveys of labour conditions and wage census conducted;

(d) whether there is a proposal to undertake these surveys during the Eighth Plan also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) The important labour research studies entrusted to Labour Bureau during the current year are listed below:-

- 1) Annual Survey of Industries.
- 2) Occupational Wage Survey.
- 3) Survey of Working and Living Conditions of Scheduled Castes/Tribes Labour in Urban Areas.
- 4) Survey of Labour Conditions.
- 5) Contract Labour Surveys.
- 6) Working and Living Conditions of Labour in Unorganised sector.
- 7) Rural Labour Enquiry.
- 8) Survey of Socio-Economic Conditions of Women Workers in different Industries.
- 9) Evaluation Studies regarding implementation of Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

(b) Government reviews the

performance of the Labour Bureau from time to time to make it more effective and provide necessary inputs for policy makers on issues concerning labour in various sectors including the organised and unorganised agricultural sector.

(c) (i) Contract Labour Survey in Iron Ore Mines was conducted in the year 1989-90.

ii) Survey of Labour Conditions in Electronics Industry was conducted in year 1991.

iii) Wage-Census-Last round i.e. 4th round of Wage Census (now termed as Occupational Wage Survey) was conducted from 1985 to 1990 as a 7th Plan Scheme.

(d) Yes, Sir. Contract Labour Surveys and survey of Labour Conditions are proposed to be conducted during the Eighth Plan as these are of regular nature.

In case of Wage Census - It is proposed to conduct a fresh round i.e. 5th round of Occupational Wage Survey as an Eighth Plan Scheme.

(e) Under the Contract Labour Survey, it is proposed to carry out a survey of Petroleum Refineries and Oil Fields during the current year. It is also proposed to carry out survey of labour conditions in one out of the 5 listed industries viz. Plastic Articles, Dyes and Paints, Tyres and Two Wheelers, T.V. Manufacture and Computers. The proposed Fifth Round of Occupational Wage Survey is expected to collect occupational statistics on employment, wage rates, dearness allowance, pay roll earnings and overtime etc. of 53 selected industries.

[*Translation*]**Ferry Services for Gujarat**

896. SHRICHANDUBHAIDESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to provide ferry service between Dahej and Ghoga in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]**Closure of J & K State Financial Corporation**

897. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jammu & Kashmir State Financial Corporation is facing financial crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the corporation owes huge sums to the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide assistance to the Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that Jammu & Kashmir State Financial Corporation (JKSFC) is facing severe liquidity constraints due mainly to the following reasons:

i) mounting overdues of the Corporation as a result of its poor recovery due to disturbed conditions in the valley;

ii) losses incurred by the Corporation during the last two years.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The overdues of the Corporation to IDBI and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), as on 31.10.92 are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

	<i>Principal</i>	<i>Interest</i>	<i>Total</i>
IDBI	117	30	147
SIDBI	3214	349	3563

(e) IDBI has reported that it has already advised the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir to take a long term view of the Corporation's requirements and formulate

measures to set it on the road to recovery. IDBI and SIDBI have, however continued to extend resource support to the Corporation despite defaults committed by it.

Smuggling of Drugs

to prevent such activity on the Gujarat border?

898. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge quantity of drugs are being smuggled to European countries from Pakistan through India via Gujarat border;

(b) the quantity of drugs seized from the smugglers by the Government; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Gujarat is on one of the transit routes of narcotic drugs produced in the Golden Crescent, which includes Pakistan, and smuggled to European countries.

(b) Drug-wise seizures in Gujarat in 1991 and 1992 are as under:

Year = 1991

Name of the Drug Seized

i) Heroin (Kgs.)	2.253	No. of Cases=3
ii) Hashish (Kgs)	36.483	No. of cases=10

Year 1992 (PTO October)

i) Heroin (Kgs.)	Nil	No. of Cases=Nil
ii) Hashish (Kgs)	*268.640	No. of Cases=9

*Including 255.345 Kgs. Hashish seized at Kutch Border by Gujarat Police on 5.5.1992.

(c) Instructions have been issued to all enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in the NDPS Act.

Setting up of Ship design and Research Centre at Visakhapatnam

899. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Ship Design and Research Centre at Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The National Ship Design & Research Centre has been set up as a Society under Societies Act, 1860 at Visakhapatnam.

(b) The National Ship Design & Research Centre is the only Organization of its kind in the country and its main objectives are as follows:-

- (i) To promote and develop design and research activities for Shipbuilding;

- (ii) To advise shipbuilding sectors on matters leading to improved efficiency and increase productivity;
- (iii) To promote and develop maritime standards for ship design and construction;
- (iv) To provide consultancy and training facilities in shipbuilding and other related fields;
- (v) To co-ordinate activities and interpret rules, regulations, resolutions etc. of regulatory and classification agencies and to attend to all other matters incidental or allied to the above-mentioned objectives.
- (vi) To act as a data centre-cum-library for the shipbuilding industry.

(c) An amount of Rs. 145.32 lakhs has been allocated for the Annual Plan 1992-93

Development of Handloom in Kerala

900. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made by the Union Government for the development of Handloom Sector during the year 1991-92 and 1992-93 in Kerala;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala for increasing the allocation of funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter so far.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The funds released by the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms during 1991-92 and 1992-93 to the State Government of Kerala for the development of handloom sector has been:

<i>year</i>	<i>Rs. in lakhs</i>
1991-92	174.00
1992-93 (upto 31st Oct. 92)	Nil

(b) to (d). Funds for development of handloom sector are released on the basis of proposals received from State Government subject to their satisfying the criteria laid down in the approved guidelines. This is a continuous process.

Participation of Private Sector in Ship Building Industry

901. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to involve private sector as well as foreign collaborator in the field of ship repair and ship building industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any comprehensive plan has been drawn up to revive the ship building industry in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). According to the new Industrial Policy announced by the Government in July, 1991,

Shipbuilding Industry has been delicensed except for construction of war ships which has been reserved for the public sector. Further, mechanised sailing vessels upto 10,000 DWT have been allowed automatic approval for foreign technology and foreign equity participation upto 51% as per the laid down procedure. Entrepreneurs in the private sector can set up new shipyards in the country with foreign collaboration as necessary.

The Shiprepair Industry is also not a licensed Industry and is open to the private sector. In order to attract the private entrepreneurs/NRIs to enter this field, a number of incentives, concessions and facilities as applicable to 100% Export-Oriented Units under the Import-Export Policy of the country from time to time, are provided to the Shiprepair Industry.

(c) and (d). Keeping in view the recent changes in the industrial and financial policy of the Government, a package of relief measures is being drawn up for revival of shipbuilding Industry.

Involvement of Bank Officials in Exim Scrip Racket

902. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of officials in the Indian Bank have been apprehended in recent months by CBI in the Exim Scrip Racket;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some other persons have also been found involving in the above racket;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) to (e). Central Bureau of Investigation has reported that one Indian Bank Officer of Royapettah branch, Madras was arrested by it in October, 1992 during the investigation of RC. 14 (S) / 92-MAS - a case related to the Exim Scrip racket. Another Officer of Indian Bank obtained anticipatory bail from the court of the Principal Session Judge, Madras on 2.11.92.

In this case, a Madras based Private Ltd. Company was found involved in obtaining Exim Scrip to the tune of Rs. 49.61 lakhs from Joint Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Madras on the basis of forged documents. The Director of the company has been arrested in the case. Indian Bank has reported that the Indian Bank Officer who was arrested by the CBI, has been placed under suspension with effect from 9.10.92 by the bank.

[*Translation*]

Road Condition in Agra Cantt.

903. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agra Cantonment Board has requested the Government to increase the grants for construction and repair of roads in the cantonment area;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to release the grants for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c). Agra Cantonment Board has not sought any special grant-in-aid nor any increase in ordinary grant-in-aid specifically for the repair

of its roads. However, in the current year, road repair works costing Rs. 7.55 lakhs have been sanctioned as against an average expenditure of Rs. 3.71 lakhs in the last three years on this account. The Cantonment Board has been provided Rs. 10 lakhs and Rs. 90 lakhs as ordinary grant-in-aid and service charges, respectively, in 1992-93. There is no proposal to provide additional grant-in-aid in view of the budgetary constraints.

Theft of Coal in BCCL

904. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in incidents of theft of coal on a large scale in the Bharat Coking Coal Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years and in the current financial year and the estimated value thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures being initiated by the Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B.
NYAMAGOUDA): (a) No, Sir,

(b) The details are as under:-

	1990	1991	1992 (Jan. to Sept.)
	2	3	4
1. Total No. of cases apprehended by CISF	808	875	641
2. Cases handed over to concerned colliery management (coal recovered)	698	761	540
3. Total cost of coal recovered during the year by CISF.	Rs. 1410,501	Rs. 22,45,143	Rs. 25,46,830
4. Number of Arrest made by CISF	231	231	189

(c) Raids are being conducted by Central Industrial Security Force alongwith State Government authorities. Besides, constant vigil is maintained by CISF personnel.

Declaration of National Waterway in Bihar

905. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare rivers of northern Bihar as the National waterways;

(b) if so, whether any proposal in this regard has also been received from the Nepal Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the extent of progress made in this regard?

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

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Cases of Border violation

906. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of violation of our land and sea borders and air space by foreign States during January-September, 1992;

(b) whether each case has been taken up with the States concerned; and

(c) the number of jawans killed or injured, sector-wise, in such violations?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c). There have been instances of violation of our territory/ airspace/territorial waters during the period January-September 1992. Government have conveyed their serious concern over these incidents, in some of which there have been casualties, to the countries concerned. It would not be desirable to furnish further details.

[*Translation*]

Declaration of Raw Jute as an Essential Commodity.

907. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: SHRIMATI BHAVAN CHIKHLIA: SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from Labour Unions to declare the raw jute as an essential commodity;

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

(c) whether more than 12 jute mills have been closed down due to the shortage of raw material as a result of which about 50,000 workers are rendered jobless; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government to reopen these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Raw Jute has been already been declared as an essential commodity by the Government in terms of Section 2 (a) of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(c) No jute mill has closed due to shortage of raw jute. However, 14 jute mills were lying closed as on 3.11.92 due to various other reasons e.g. financial crisis, labour trouble etc.

(d) Government have taken several measures to revitalise the jute industry, including enactment of Jute packaging Material (compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 prescribing the compulsory use of jute in the supply and distribution of specified commodities, creation of Jute Modernisation Fund establishment of special Jute Development Fund, grant of fiscal, financial and marketing support etc.

[English]

Export of Defence Equipments by Private Sector

908. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL:
SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY:
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given permission for export of defence equipment by private sector;

(b) if so, the type of defence equipments which are likely to be exported;

(c) whether the Government have taken precautions that the equipments to be exported are defensive and not in the weapons category; and

(d) if so, the guidelines issued in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Military stores produced in the private sector can be exported subject to fulfilment of contractual obligations

to Govt of India and issue of export licence. The private sector can also assist in the export of items produced by the ordinance factories and defence production units in the public sector.

(b) to (d). Defence export covers a wide range of items and is allowed only after clearance from political and strategic viewpoints.

Visit of Defence Minister to Erstwhile Soviet Union States

909. DR. D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT:
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI PARABHU DAYAL
KATHERIA:
DR. A.K. PATEL:
SHRI VILAS HUTTEWAR:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:
SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR
SHASTRI:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN
SINGH:
SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI MANIKRAO MODLYA
GAVIT:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRIMATI KESHARRAT
SONATJ KSHIRSAGAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited Russia recently;

(b) if so, whether Russia has committed to provide all the defence tie base that were existing earlier;

(c) whether he also visited the other States of the erstwhile Soviet Union; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the visit?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) The Russian Government has provided assurances for continued Defence Cooperation. However, the terms and modalities for defence transactions have undergone certain changes on account of the obtaining situation in Russia.

(c) and (d). Raksha Mantri has since also visited Ukraine; understandings have been reached with the Ukrainian leadership on Defence Cooperation and the modalities thereof.

Seminar on Capital Market

910. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two-day seminar on emerging capital market was held in Delhi in October, 1992;

(b) the details of the suggestions made at the seminar; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main suggestions made at the seminar relate to the need for examining the role of foreign investment in meeting the

requirements of the country, curbing fraudulent practices in the capital market, total disinvestment of Government equity in certain non-core areas, undertaking comparative studies on public and private sector by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI); contribution towards steps to be taken to cure the present ills in the capital market by institutes like ICSI, development of true equity by the Company Secretaries through their employer companies, self regulation by companies, streamlining the provisions of the companies Act, mobilising foreign exchange, removing the lock-in-period for Global Depository Receipt (GDR) issues by Indian companies, etc.

(c) The Government are aware of the issues raised at the seminar. It is expected that Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) will be in a position to effectively deal with the fraudulent practices in the capital market, once the regulations under the SEBI Act are notified. The Government have already waived the lock-in-period on GDR issues.

Foreign Debt

911. SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: DR. K.D. JESWANI: PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

DR. A.K. PATEL:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:
DR. ASIM BALA:
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a considerable increase in the foreign debt during the current financial year in comparison to the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof currency-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have requested for further loan from the World Bank/IMF/other multi-national agencies during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(d) if so, the details thereof and its impact on the common people;

(e) how much out of it would be adjusted in interest: payment and repayment of loan;

(f) whether any time limit has been fixed to repay the out-standing amount;

(g) if so, the details thereof and the amount of interest and amount of loan paid during the said period, currency-wise and year-wise; separately; and

(h) the steps taken/long term measures initiated by the Government to free the country from foreign debt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Information is given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). Aid negotiations with foreign countries/institutions are a continuous

process. The aid requirement of the country is normally assessed on a year to year basis, keeping in view the import requirements of the economy, likely debt service liability and the overall international aid climate.

(e) The foreign loans are being repaid out of the country's foreign exchange inflows including export proceeds and invisible earnings, according to the terms and conditions of each loan.

(f) and (g). The foreign loans are being repaid, as and when due, according to the terms and conditions of each loan. The maximum maturity period of existing foreign loans is 50 years including a grace period of 10 years.

(h) Government is conscious about the country's external debt liability and keeps a constant watch on the level of country's indebtedness and likely burden of debt servicing. While contracting foreign loans, it is always kept in view that the debt burden and the debt servicing liability of the country does not exceed the capacity of the economy to service such loans. Government has already introduced a programme of economic reforms aimed at short term stabilisation combined with longer term restructuring. These reforms would improve the economic condition of the country and revitalise our growth process, including our export earning capacity, so as to enhance our capacity to repay the loans and to ensure that this debt servicing burden does not exceed the capacity of the economy to service such loans.

STATEMENT

(In Millions)

Sl.No.	Name of Currency	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (East) (Upto Sept., 92)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	U.S. Dollar	17141.5	17923.8	18973.8	18842.9
2.	S.D.R.	4925.1	6221.3	7473.6	8012.0
3.	UAE Dirhams	27.2	22.7	18.1	15.9
4.	Aust, Shilling	542.4	632.3	633.1	629.1
5.	Belgium/France	3764.3	3574.8	3436.0	3515.4
6.	Can. Dollar	674.2	660.2	643.5	634.4
7.	Den. Krone	987.6	977.7	964.7	956.5
8.	Fr. France	6432.2	6561.4	6774.5	6871.4
9.	D. Mark	5402.8	5586.6	5971.0	6161.6
10.	J. Yen	411960.0	460362.0	547944.0	550058.1
11.	Kuwait Dinaar	55.4	55.3	47.7	46.0
12.	D.G.	1858.2	1902.6	1882.9	1842.4

(In Millions)

Sl.No.	Name of Currency	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (East) (Upto Sept, 92)
1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Saudi Riyal	276.0	300.5	301.4	283.4
14.	SW. Fr.	126.1	184.4	208.8	210.2
15.	SW. Kr.	50.8	360.2	458.1	516.8
16.	Pound Str.	195.2	168.1	142.6	130.7
17.	Rouble	856.1	942.9	939.7	947.3
18.	Ruppee	359.6	523.4	519.6	514.6
	<i>E.C.B.</i>				
1.	U. S. Dollar	6615	7087	8127	
2.	J. Yen	451334	346612	607058	
3.	D.M.	2057	2219	2581	
4.	Pound Str.	368	356	370	
5.	S. France	815	731	771	
6.	Fr. Fr.	420	289	1219	
7.	Others (Equivalent to US Dollar)	868	730	527	

Note: Currency-wise break up of debt outstanding as on 30.9.92 in respect of External Commercial Borrowings is not available. However it is estimated to be equivalent to US dollar 14286 million.

[Translation]

Bank Branches in Madhya Pradesh

912. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Sioni, Narsinghpur and Jabalpur districts of Madhya Pradesh where branches of nationalised banks have been opened during the last three years as per the norms laid down for this purpose;

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Name of Centres</i>
Seoni	Nil
Narsinghpur	Ponia
Jabalpur	Jabalpur (Modan Mahal) Kasli Lohari Murwari Timri Benikheda

(b) and (c). Under the extent licensing policy, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allotted one branch each to Dena Bank, State Bank of India and Bank of Maharashtra for opening branches in urban areas of Jabalpur district. State Bank of India has since opened its branch at Madan Mahal, in Jabalpur on 24.3.1992.

As regards semi-urban centres, RBI has allotted a specific number of semi-urban centres to Commercial Banks, within which they can open branches at the centres of their choice. Regarding rural centres the individual banks have to identify the centres falling within their service area and such centres with necessary particulars have to be given to the lead bank of that district. The lead bank after consolidating the list submits it to the District Collector for recommendations and onward transmission to RBI through the concerned State Government. RBI has not

(b) whether there are proposals to open more branches in these districts; and

(c) if so, the places and the time by which these branches are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) During the last three years (1990 to 1992), the banks have opened branches at the following places in the Districts of Seoni, Narsinghpur and Jabalpur of Madhya Pradesh:-

so far received proposals for the Districts of Seoni, Narsinghpur and Jabalpur from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

Confiscated Foreign Goods

913. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign goods confiscated by the custom officials during each of the last three years along with the total value of goods so confiscated;

(b) the details of goods released so far and the value thereof vis-a-vis the goods still lying confiscated;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints regarding the

replacement of fine and new goods with old and sub-standard goods during the above period;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Performance of Banks

914. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:
 PROF. RAM KASPE:
 DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
 SHAKYA:
 SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
 SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a policy to improve the performance and profitability of the nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above policy is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) to (c) Government and Reserve Bank of India have been taking such measures as are considered appropriate, from time to time, for improving performance and profitability of public sector banks. Some of the measures taken in the recent past are as under:

i) Statutory Liquidity Ratio on incremental net demand and time liabilities has been reduced from 38.5% to 30% from 3.4.1992. The reduction will augment lendable resources of banks and will help them to improve profitability.

ii) It has been decided to release impounded cash balances under the incremental Cash Reserve Ratio maintained by each bank with Reserve Bank of India in 3 equal instalments. This measure also will augment the resources of banks.

iii) Banks have been given freedom to charge/pay interest on advances/deposits keeping in view the minimum and maximum rates prescribed for advances and deposits respectively. This will help in better credit management.

iv) With effect from 17.10.1992, the limit for issue of certificates of deposits has been increased from 7% to 10% of the fortnightly average outstanding aggregate deposits in 1989-90.

v) Banks have been asked to strengthen their credit appraisal machinery and exercise close supervision and control over advances.

[*English*]

Expenditure Incurred on Travelling Allowance

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

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of expenditure incurred by the Government on travelling allowance to the Government servants from July to December, 1991 and January to June, 1992;

(b) whether the expenditure on travelling allowance has increased in spite of instructions to minimise such expenditure; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Premium on Shares

916. DR. VASANT PAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent liberalisation policy has helped the small investors in shares, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the companies are fixing premium in their right issues exorbitantly resulting in under subscription;

(c) whether the banks who are managers to such issues are suffering any losses being underwriters;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the criteria laid down for fixation of premium on shares by the companies while making public right issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The policy relating to issue of capital has been liberalised only in end May/June, 1992. It may be too soon to know the effect of the policy on small

investors.

(b) Under the liberalised policy the companies are free to fix price for their issues subject of course to the approval of the share-holders in the general meeting. The letter of offer requires to give justification for the premium proposed. No reports of under-subscription have been received either by SEBI or Government of India.

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

(e) The companies are free to determine the price for their issues subject to observance of certain conditions and also subject to the approval of the shareholders where applicable. No criteria has been specifically laid down for determination of premium while public/right issue except to specify which of the companies eligible to make an issue at premium.

Development of State Roads

917. SHRI ANIL BASU:
SHRI RAMESH
CHENNITHALA:
SHRI ANANTRAO
DESHMUKH:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR
RAWAT:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by the Union Government to implement the resolution passed by the Parliament on May 13, 1988 to increase Central Road Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount provided to States from the Central Road Fund for development of roads/bridges during the year 1992-93, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the schemes for which the amount was provided, State-wise?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The funds under Central Road Fund are released in lump sum and not workwise. The expenditure on approved works is initially incurred by the State Governments from their own resources and it is reimbursed at the close of the year keeping in view the availability of Funds. Revised Estimates seeking requirement of funds under Central Road fund for 1992-93 invited from the State Governments/Union Territories are still awaited from a number of States/Union Territories.

New Textile Policy

918. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR:
SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced a new textile and garment policy recently;

(b) if so, the salient features of the said policy;

(c) whether the Union Government have received a number of representations from various quarters regarding the new policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (d). Certain provisions of Textiles and Garment Export Entitlement Distribution Policies 1991-1993 pertaining to 1993 were amended recently. The major changes are as given below:

I Textiles:

- i) Allocation under Powerloom Exporters Entitlement System has been increased from 3% in 1992 to 5% in 1993.
- ii) Allocation under Non-Quota Exporters Entitlement System has been increased for 8% in 1992 to 13% in 1993 out of which reservation for handlooms has been raised from 3% to 5%
- iii) In the case of Manufacturer Exporters System, the maximum number of country/category for which an exporter may opt has been reduced to 10.

II Garments

In Garment categories in which top 10 exporters account for more than 60% for Past Performance Entitlements (PPE) the total entitlement of top 10 exporters would be pegged at the level of 60% of PPE and the balance would be allocated under First-Come-First-Served System.

Both in the Textiles Policy and Garment Policy, a new stipulation has been introduced to provide for incentives for timely surrender of quotas under which if an exporter surrenders his entitlement under any system either during the validity period or within a period of 3 days of the expiry of validity, 50% of the Earnest Money Deposit/Bank Guarantee covered by the entitlement would be released to the exporter.

Government have received a few representations on the amendments. No further changes are envisaged in the Policy at present.

Loss of Lives at Pune Based Armament Research and Development Establishment

919. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI RAM SAGAR:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:
SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Scientists lost their lives while conducting routine tests at Pune based Armament Research and Development Establishment during September, 1992;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any enquiry in this matter;

(c) if so, the outcome of the enquiry;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such cases in future; and

(e) the financial assistance being given to the next of kin of these scientists?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Two Scientists lost their lives while conducting experimental firing trials.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The enquiry report has brought out that safety precautions laid down for such

experimental firing had been observed and the probable cause of the accident was premature functioning of the detonator.

(d) All safety aspects of the experimental firings of explosive related stores have been reviewed with a view to enforce stringent safety measures to avoid recurrence of such accidents.

(e) Rs. 22000/- each have been paid to the next of kin of the deceased from the voluntary contribution and non-public funds. Employment on compassionate ground is also being given to one family member of each deceased. This in addition to their entitlement for group insurance, leave encashment, gratuity, GPF, deposit linked insurance and family pension.

[*Translation*]

Opening of UTI Branches

920. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open branches of the Unit Trust of India in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The Unit Trust of India proposes to open 100 branches before June, 1993 at Trivandrum in Kerala and Siliguri in West Bengal.

(c) Does not arise.

order.

2.00 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

**Alleged Censoring of Information
Given to the Joint Parliamentary
Committee on the Security Scam By the
Government**

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this year the most deplorable incident for the House has been the security scam or the share scam. This august House had set up a Joint Parliamentary Committee to probe this Scam. This Committee will present its report by the end of this session as per its term. Generally, a Parliamentary Committee is never discussed in the House, but with your permission, especially because one of my colleagues.....

MR. SPEAKER: I did not allow him.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: My colleague gave a notice regarding the breach of Privilege to which you did not give your permission, but I am not raising any question regarding that. I would like to submit that it is not proper that we may get information regarding all these happenings through newspapers. This is not good. It has appeared in certain newspapers today, that the joint Parliamentary Committee probing the scam had sought certain information from the Government. But the information supplied to it on this request was doctored, censored and certain portions of the documents submitted to the committee were blackened with ink. From it we have reached the conclusion. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a point of order. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will hear his point of

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roposa): What is his point of order? There is no point of order in zero hour. You can allow him; but there is no point of order. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. It is not like this. The working of the J.P.C. and the working of the House have to be done according to certain rules and if I have allowed a matter to be raised here, I have allowed the matter to be raised here because the hon. Members look into it and then raise it. This is not an issue limited to one incident. This is an issue related to the working of the J.P.C. and the House. So, I would like to hear from him. You can also reply if you want to.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You can hear him; but that is not a point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing the point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing it as a point of order. I will allow you to say your point on that point of order.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Bath): You must listen to him. But you will have to listen to also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to enlighten the House on that point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North):
There is no business before the House.
Where is the point of order?

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, the government is failing in its duty to supply information to a committee set up by this Parliament. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I will be referring to specific rules while formulating my point of order. *(Interruptions)*

I request Shri Amal Datta to kindly permit me to speak. *(Interruptions)* Sir, I will first seek your indulgence to refer to Rule 275, subrules (2) and (3) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. It is mentioned in page 109. Rule 275 (2) reads as follows:

"No part of the evidence, oral or written, report or proceedings of the Committee which has not been laid on the Table shall be open to inspection by any one except under the authority of the Speaker".

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: This is no point of order. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

The Committee is being obstructed from giving its division. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Kindly bear with me. I will make my point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Sir, there is no point of order in that. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please resume your seat. I will allow you to speak on that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: There is no point of

order in respect of this issue.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I do not have to be taught by you. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMAL DATTA: There is no point of order on that. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Note the point. You can argue on that.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sub-rule (3) of rule 275 says:

"The evidence given before a Committee shall not be published by any member of the Committee or any other person until it has been laid on the Table:

Provided that the Speaker may, in his discretion, direct that such evidence be confidentially made available to members before it is formally laid on the Table."

This is one rule. The second rule that I would like to refer before I make my argument is..... *(Interruptions)*.

Kindly have the patience, just hear me. *(Interruptions)*.

Sub-rule (vi) of Rules 58 says:

"The motion shall not anticipate a matter, which has been previously appointed for consideration. In determining whether a discussion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, regard shall be had by the Speaker to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the House within a reasonable time."

The last rule that I would like to quote is Rule 343 again regarding anticipating the discussion and it says:

"No member shall anticipate the discussion of any subject of which notice has been given provided that in determining whether a discussion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, regard shall be had by the Speaker to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the House

These are the rules that I was referring to. Now, the first submission that I would like to make is that admittedly some evidence was brought before the committee, Sir, the Joint Parliamentary Committee on authorisation by this hon. House is going into the matter. And evidence which should not have been published has been published. And Sir, at this juncture.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Who is he to decide?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL; This is the rule which is saying. I do not have that authority, I don't arrogate that authority to myself, I never will. This is the rule that I am referring to.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: You said just now that should not have been published.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: The hon. Member has been the Chairman of a Committee. I do not know how the meetings were conducted, I am sure he knows the rules concerning the regulation of the Joint Parliamentary Committees, rules regarding the evidence being adduced before the Committees and the role of the Speaker and the House in those matters. That is all that I am referring to. Nothing I want to arrogate to myself. In this case I was saying it that the evidence is before the Committee itself and the evidence which is found mentioned in the papers today has not been given to the media by the Committee as such and, Sir, till the time that evidence is laid on the Table of this House, we are not supponed to be discussing that because we will be, in that case, making inroads into the functioning of the Joint Parliamentary Committee which has been authorised by us to go into the entire scam, wise issue,

The second point that I have to make is regarding anticipating a matter. Sir, in this case, as honourable Advaniji himself referred to, the mandate to the Committee is that the

Committee has to submit report by the last day of the current Session. That matter as such is under the consideration of this Committee and if you permit a discussion on this today, we are, we are anticipating a discussion on a subject which is not permitted by the rules. Therefore, I would submit that till the Joint Parliamentary Committee discusses the matter, places the report before us, it is for the Joint Parliamentary Committee to haul up a witness for any reason because the rules also say that any witness appearing before a Joint Parliamentary Committee can be called upon to sawar on oath before tendering evidence. He holds himself liable for any perjury, for anything wrong that goes on there. Till then, we have to keep our hands off. That is my humble submission.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are not going into the merits as to what the J.P.C. is investigating and what not. But the issue is only this that the J.P.C. has been appointed by the Parliament and today a news-item has appeared on the front page of a newspaper from which it appears that the front page of a newspaper from which it appears that the J.P.C. is being obstructed obstructed from performing its task or duty? and run on the information sought by the J.P.C. not being supplied to it and the Ministry of Finance is also involved in it. The Ministry of Finance is deliberately. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Look, not like this. I will not allow it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You go through the paper. This is the main point.

MR. SPEAKER: I will go by the book. You tell me whether whatever happens in the J.P.C. can be discussed here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, this issue is being raised here because you have not allowed the Privilege Motion to be moved. Had you allowed this Privilege Motion, this issue would have not been raised here.

MR. SPEAKER: You tell me whether whatever happens in the J.P.C. can be discussed here and if so, under what rule this can be discussed?

SHRI RAM VIALS PASWAN: Sir, we are saying only this much that the J.P.C. is being obstructed from functioning.

MR. SPEAKER: He has raised the Point of Order according to rule and I have asked you to reply to it. He says that whatever has happened in the J.P.C or whatever the hon. Members of JPC want to do, they are free to, that. It need not to be raised here. If you say that it can be raised here, then you please tell me under what rule this can be raised here.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow each one of you if you want to make any point regarding this matter.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Point of Order raised by the hon. Member Shri bansal. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Look, I tell you the Point of Order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir, I have understood the Point of Order.

MR. SPEAKER: No, first hear his Point of Order. He says that the members of the J.P.C are fully empowered to take decision

on whatever is happening in the J.P.C. We can discuss in the House on an evidence received by the J.P.C only when it has been tabled here. You cannot discuss it before its report is laid on the Tale of the House. It is what he wants to say. If you want to discuss it here, before it, report is laid on the Table of the House, please mention the rule under which it can be done.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding the three rules quoted by the hon. Member Shri Bansal, my submission is that first we want to thank you for allowing to raise the Point of Order during the zero Hour on the issue raised by the hon. Member of Opposition as we will also now be able to raise such issues during the Zero Hour in future and it would become a convention.

MR. SPEAKER: The Zero Hour does not mean that we should ignore all the rules to transact business. It is not like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while raising the Point of Order, the hon. Member has quoted three rules. These rules have been exercised on the issue which Shri Advani has raised and other hon. Members too want to raise. The rules quoted here are not relevant. The Point of Order is not relevant at all.

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked you to tell me the rule under which you can discuss the J.P.C.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen to me. We are not interfering with the functioning of the J.P.C. Whatever has appeared in the newspaper, from that it appears that the J.P.C. is not being allowed to function properly, and since the J.P.C has been set up by Parliament it is the responsibility of the Parliament to see whether the J.P.C. is being allowed to function properly or not. It is our fundamental question, Since, the J.P.C. is not being allowed to function properly, the Parliament must look into it. This is our main point. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing this kind of thing. This is not correct. (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Sir, I am on the point of obligation of the Government to give information to any Committee set up by the Parliament, not only the J.P.C. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are a very senior, knowledgeable Member who has a very good understanding of the rules and procedures. Let me know under which rule you can discuss a matter or this kind on the floor of the House.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Sir, I want this to be brought to the attention of yourself and the House that the Government is behaving in a most unconstitutional manner in denying information or withholding information or censoring information to be supplied to a Committee set up by this House. We have not got this information by sneaking into the J.P.C.'s functioning. This information has come to us through the papers. It has come to everybody in Bindia. Now, the citizens want us and expect us to take up this matter in the House today, because if we do not do that, we will be failing in our duty to the people who have elected us and sent us here. Are we to keep mum when we find that the Government is not dise harging its duty? The Finance Minister is here. Let him assure us that nothing untoward has been done, that all the information have been supplied and will be supplied in future. That is the right of the Parliamentary Committee. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL. K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Bansal has raised a point of order to which I would have spontaneously agreed, had it been just another Parliamentary Committee. But, Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may remember that at the time of the constitution of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, many of us had expressed the opinion that if we want the Committee to seriously delve deep into the matter, then this Committees. worth

should not be limited by technical restrictions, as had been the case with all the earlier Committees. In contrast to all earlier conventions and traditions, even the issue of summonng the Minister for evidence before the Committee was discussed. Keeping its importance in mind, you yourself had incorporated a provision in the resolution, under which this committee has been empowered to function with the prior permission of the Hon'ble Speaker, outside those parameters so far applicable to Parliamentary Committees.

So, far as I know, there has never been a Parliamentary Committee, whose chairman briefed the Press, officially. He has been briefing the Press daily., a unmindful of the fact that the Parliament is being kept in the dark. I am not objecting to it because according to the Rules, to which a reference has been made just now, the Chairman of a Parliamentary Committee is not empowered to brief the Press, about its proceedings, unless and until a Report in that regard is not placed on the Table of the House. It has not been placed on the Table of the House. We are not aware of the proceedings, but the nation is being made aware of it because there is a lot of anxiety and concern in the minds of the people. Therefore, I am not raising this matter on technical grounds. I am not objecting to the manner in which Parliamentary Committees have been functioning so far. On two occassions, it has been observed that the Finance Minsitry is putting obstacles in the proper functioning of the Committee. This issuse has been raised earlier and it has come up for these second time today, due to which I would like the Finance Ministry and not the Chairman of the J.P.C., to make a statement in the House on the matter about which the Chairman intends to brief the Press.

The hon'ble Minister of Finance is present in the House. I had verified from a Party colleague about the factual position vis-a-vis the statement that has appeared in the Press today on the basis of which the hon. Member gave a notice for Privilege motion, but you have not accepted it. When I inquired about the facts, I found that the Reserve Bank had

acutally given a Report, whose many portions were found to be darkened by black ink, upon its return from the Finance Ministry and people have drawn some inference, after comparing the same with the original. Shri Rabi Ray had seen the original somewhere and after comparison, it seemed obvious, that an attempt is being made to protect some people. It is not in the interest of the Finance Ministry or the Government, that such an impression gaining ground and therefore, through you, I request the Minisryt of Finance, that the hon. Finance Minister make the necessary clarifications, before the House, in this regard. The newspapers will publish the statements of the J.P.C. Chairman. Therefore, it is my humble request.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Is the Government interested in commenting? Just a minute.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): You have disallowed my privilege motion and not allowed me to raise the matter here.

MR. SPEAKER: You are on a point of order now.

SHRI RAM NAIK: After the discussion, if you allow me to say something, I would like to say. Otherwise whatever Mr. Advani has said, I am in full agreement to it and I do not wish to add anything more.

But I would request you to reconsider your decision on the privilege notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give a ruling.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to say something.

MR. SPEAKER: I will listen to you as well.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I would like to raise such an issue, on which the House would like to know your decision.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give my decision.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: The hon. Minister is nowhere in the picture now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Members want to speak on the point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, how will this Parliamentary Committee function. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This hon. Minister may speak on the Point of Order, if he desires.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: If the hon. Minister says that there cannot be a discussion at the moment in the House on the committee, its proceedings and news items related to it. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Correct.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I am presenting another aspect, which is not related to this.

MR. SPEAKER: Alright.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You know that you have appointed me as the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: I will listen to whatever you say.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You won't regret it.

MR. SPEAKER: I won't regret it at all. Rather, I am proud of it.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been the Chairman of the Publish Accounts Committee. I have also had the opportunity to work with several Joint Parliamentary Committees. You are aware that at times, the Government doesn't disclose certain information to the House

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and also Parliamentary Committees, which enjoy equal powers, on the grounds that the disclosure of such information won't be in public interest. Some similar matters were sent to the Presiding officer and their decision was taken as final. The Parliamentary Committees enjoy those very powers enjoyed by the House. Now in the present case, I see that information is being provided but they are incomplete and facts are being hidden. If the Government wants to cover up some bungling, then it can say that it is not in the public interest to disclose certain things before the Committee and the House. But, I don't think they are deleting the information and wiping it out by darkening it on the grounds that it is not in the public interest to do so. The issue of public interest has not been raised. Then why did they refuse to divulge the information? What is the reason behind it? The hon. Minister may kindly inform the House whether it is not in the public interest to disclose the names of the people involved in the scam. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Is the hon. Minister going to respond the issue raised on point of order? Will the Minister of Finance respond to only the point of order raised by hon. Member?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes . On the point of order.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Not on the demand. On that, let me submit my point please.

MR. SPEAKER: Now I have taken decision. Please don't ask now. I am saying that this is an important point. Let it be first decided. Then we come to the next issue.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Why? It is not necessary. I am fully enlightened now.

SHRI HANNAN MOI LAH: On the point of order, Sir. For the first time, one

Parliamentary Committee decided whether they will allow Press to be present in the proceedings. But in their wisdom, they decided not to allow. But they could allow. Such a precedent is not there in our Parliamentary Committee system. This is a deviation from that rule.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):

MR. SPEAKER, Sir.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Anybody on behalf of Government can reply.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like you to give, I think, ruling on the point of order that has been raised. Without going into that subject, I would like to repudiate any suggestion that the Ministry of Finance is party to or guilty of suppressing any information which ought to be made available to the JPC. I would like to say to you, Sir, you should ask the Chairman of the joint parliamentary Committee in this matter before this matter is brought up for discussion. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Are you contradicting this report? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Well, it is really very refreshing to hear.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am standing for that purpose only. Now it is really very refreshing to watch the battle of wits here.

It is more profitable to have discussion like this than having discussions together on a point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I appreciate the concerns felt by the Members in matters like this also. I am not deprecating their intention to get as much information before the Committee or the House or before the people also. One of the things which has to be borne in our minds is that the JPC is a mini-Parliament and all the authority that is available to the Parliament is available to the Committee also. As is rightly pointed out by Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, the Rule 275 (3) says:

"The evidence given before a Committee shall not be published by any Member of the Committee or by any other person until it has been laid on the Table."

Now, this is something, you know, which is really very important. Here, we are discussing the evidence given before the Committee.

SHRI SAIEUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): This is not the evidence given before the Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me complete. Now, the Members are saying that something has not been given to them.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I do not know whether a matter of this kind can be raised on the floor of the House and can be discussed by us.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt me like this. I am formulating a very important question which will be helpful to you also. You are sitting in the Committee. Now, the question has been very rightly raised by Shri Advaniji.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Advaniji says that if the matter can be brought to the notice of the newspaper, why should it not be brought to the notice of the House also. In all fairness

to the Chairman, I must say that he has said that if the evidence is brought before the JPC, if the Press is sometimes eager to know what is happening in the JPC, and if they are not properly guided in such matters, there will be reports contradictory and then it may become necessary for us to explain all those things, so, without disclosing the evidences as such, we can give some idea as to what is happening so that there may not be contradictory reports in the newspapers and later on it may not become necessary for them to contradict. They had said that they would take a decision with respect to that in the Committee. Probably, they have taken the decision in the committee. I have no idea about it. But in all fairness to the Committee, it must be said that they probably did it to dispel any kind of miscomprehension about the working of the evidence that is brought before the Committee. Probably it is not strictly in accordance with the rules and yet they probably wanted to dispel any misunderstanding and did not want to see that there is some matter in the newspaper. But I would say that no Member of the Committee should go to the Press. If it is possible for the Committee and in their wisdom they want to decide that nobody should brief the Press also.

SHRI MURALI DEORA (Bombay South): Everyday, briefing is taking place. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you have to say, then I am disturbed. If they decide in the Committee not to go to the Press, they can decide that. If they want to decide in the committee to brief the Press briefly, I will leave it to them. I will not say that do this thing or do that thing. The House will not say that do this thing or to that thing. But now what is happening here? In this case, if the matter is before the CBI, if the matter is before the Committee, if the matter is before the Privileges Committee, if the matter is before the House also, if these agencies have to take the decision in a proper manner, then they would require the documents before them. If the documents are not before them, they may not be able to decide also properly. Supposing, we allow the documents to be settled from one agency

to the other agency, then the time required to take a decision also will be very short. That is why, I would leave that to the Committee to take a decision. I am of the view that the Committee has all the right and authority which the House has. The Committee will be guided by what is given in the Civil Procedure Code and the Law of Evidence. The Committee can ask the documents to be produced. If there is something in the documents which is erased, the Committee can ask what was it which was erased. And the officers will be duty-bound to produce those things before the Committee. And if they take a plea that it is not in the public interest that those things cannot be produced, then it is the Speaker who will take a final decision whether that should be produced or not. That stage has not yet come.

One more thing. If the Law of Evidence is applicable, if the Civil Procedure Code is applicable, if the persons is required to produce a document before an agency or before an authority or before a court or before a committee and if that person, for no reason is producing those documents before a committee, then the adverse inference against that agency which has not produced the document also can be drawn. In the judgement, the Committee would be entitled to say that this documents should have been produced, this information should have been given which has not been given and that is why, the Committee has a doubt that there is something wrong in it. In ultimate judgement, they would be pronouncing that all these things can be taken. I would request that, in the interest of the working of the Committees and in the interest of the practice we are following in the House also, such matters should not be raised on the floor of the Houses, although you are very much right to feel concerned about it. I do not deprecate it. I appreciate it. Yet in the interest of the procedure we should avoid taking it out.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): But the matter has appeared in the newspaper. (Interruptions)

12. 32 hrs

RE. DISSOLUTION OF THE DULY
ELECTED AUTONOMOUS DISTRIET
COUNCIL OF KARBIONG LONG LONG
BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

[English]

DR. JAYANTARONGPI (Autonomous district): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the 13th of this month, the Government of Assam dissolved the duly elected autonomous District Council of Karbianglong. I have raised this issue not because I represent that constituency, I have raised this issue because it has got very wider implications in the entire ethnic question of the North-East India.

This Council belongs to such a place, that is, Karbianglong and North Cachar Hills, which has got a history. During the British period when the Britishers were about to go, so many hill tribal floated different demands right from succession to a separate State or even the concept of a 'Crown Colony'. That is the status which Hong Kong enjoys now. Even if there was concern, people of this district overwhelmingly decided and pleaded that they wanted to be within Assam with proper autonomy. This is a place where people at the time of the Constituent Assembly advocated that they would be within Assam with proper autonomy. This is very rare in the scenario of North-East India and the hilly tribals. They have been demanding either separation from the North-East India or they have been demanding a separate State (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We had decided that one Member will raise one issue.

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: At the time of the reorganisation of Assam, the people of karbianglong said, "no, we do not want a separate State, we do not want Meghalaya, we do not want Nagaland, we do not want to be a separate State. We want to remain within Assam with proper autonomy." And a future provision was kept in the Constitution in Article 244(a) by a creation of an

autonomous State within the State of Assam. And after that, during the entire period of the rule of the regional parties for the last five years and prior to that the six years of Assam movement, where there was bloodshed where there was violence, this is the only place where there was complete communal harmony, where there was not a single political murder or communal murder.

We have discussed in Parliament about the insurgency problem in the North-East, ULFA, Bodo Security Force - only the other day it was banned by the Central Government - HMAR Peoples' convention, NSCN and ATTF. In the entire scenario of insurgency, this is the only district in the entire North-East, the only hill area which is completely insurgent-free. Here people are demanding peacefully and moving peacefully. And, what has the Government of Assam done? There, my party- Autonomous State Demand Committee- is having three-fourths majority in the Autonomous District Council. We have been demanding for upgradation and negotiation was going on, political dialogue was going on. On the 27th of March, this year, there was a tripartite discussion where the Union Home Ministry said that "the demand is constitutional but the very word "State" will give a wrong signal to the different parts of the country. So, you drop the word "state" and the Council will be upgraded by amending the Sixth Schedule." And we agreed to that. The Assam Government was asked to submit a joint proposal with the movement leaders for amendment of the sixth Schedule and upgradation of the Council, so that Assam need not be divided. And we agreed to that and the Assam Government submitted its proposals for amendment of the Constitution.

And only on 12th of this month, in the Consultative committee attached to the Home Ministry, in which I am also a Member, when this question was raised, the hon. Home Minister, Shri Chavan has categorically assured that "since this demand does not involve vivisection of the State of Assam, does not involve division of the State of Assam; it involves only amendment of the Sixth Schedule, I am going to consider it

sympathetically and positively and tonight itself I will discuss with the Chief Minister of Assam." And on that very night of 12th, the Government of Assam has dissolved this District Council without any cause. It is not constitutional, its illegal. Anticipating this, we moved a caveat in the Guwahati High Court; and the Guwahati High Court gave the order on 9th saying that the case will be heard on the 19th and the Government of Assam cannot take any action before that. So, after 9th, the Government was silent on 10th, 11th and 12th. And on the 12th midnight, at 12 O'clock, paramilitary and military forces entered into the District Council Headquarters, as if they have entered into an enemy territory and they gheraoed the entire Council Headquarters. They broke open the lock; they removed the sign-board; they went to my residence and they asked my wife to vacate the residence immediately; they had cut my telephone wires then and there and they took away the vehicle and then broke away the lock of the office at my residence. They have done it on 13th only four days after the High Court order was passed. The High court, has passed the order on 9th.

So, in a dishonest way, the Government of Assam has dissolved the District Council. I do not want to take much of the time. I want to appeal to the Government, to the Home Minister because the Chief Minister has categorically stated that he had got the green signal from the Home Ministry to dissolve the District Council, and in a very uncivilized way, they have done it by force and now the situation is very alarming. Today only, I have got a telephone call from the local MLAs. There, they have arrested 20, 000 people who have gathered at the District Council Headquarters and they have lathi charged, tear-gassed, in which 70 people got injured.

So, I appeal to the Central Government to intervene in this matter, to revoke the dissolution order which is illegal and unconstitutional. I demand that the Home Minister himself should go and visit and see the plight of the tribals because they have not allowed any tribals to move by train. I do not know whether the Railway Minister knows it or not but they have asked the trains not to

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stop at any of the stations passing through Karbianglong District, so that people cannot come and go to the District headquarters. And any tribal, any Mongolian looking face cannot travel now by public transport. They have been forcefully pushed out from the public transport and they were not allowed to go to the District headquarters.

MR SPEAKER I have given you ample time. Please conclude.

DR JAYANTA RONGPI This is the condition. Therefore, the Home Minister should go and visit that place. On this matter, I would also like the opposition and the democratic organisations to support the cause and condemn this act of the Government.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur) I have been briefed on this subject by the hon. Member. As we went through the documents regarding the procedures and rules, it is very clear that the rules have not been followed in the dismissal of this Committee. I think you may ask the Home Minister to make a statement on this and also to protect and uphold the rules. It is such actions which lead to alienation. All the other things about conduct that has been said indicating stopping of the tribal movement, the manner in which the office was raided and other details is very serious. We are very much concerned. I request that the Government should make a statement on this. In violation of rules that has taken place. It should be rectified and justice should be done.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by the Hon. Member is not relevant to that area alone, but also for the entire North-East. It is unfortunate that a sense of alienation is growing in the minds of the people, especially the tribal population. Now, the council has been dissolved in utter disregard of all rules because the area is far off from Delhi and the tribals are taken for granted. If this situation continues and this attitude of the Central

Government doesn't change, then it would be very damaging. Therefore, I feel that it would be proper if the hon. Minister makes a detailed statement in the House, in this regard, because all the newspapers have vehemently criticised this action, violation of all rules. Keeping in view, both the facts that the area lies in the volatile North-East and the population involved is tribal, it is my submission to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to make a statement.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roseraj) Mr. Speaker, Sir, a demand for Bodo Land is being made. A similar demand is being made for Jharkhand Land. (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER No, no, he has spoken already. Your leader has already spoken.

[English]

This is not correct, Paswanji.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa) It is quite clear that the constitutional provisions have not been followed. Karbianglong District Council has been formed under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. For the dissolution, according to law, the requirement is that there has to be an enquiry committee. That has not been formed. There is the other provision that one can temporarily take over the power, but that has not been done, it has been permanently dissolved. Also we find the most dubious manner in which the Government tried to thwart the court's order. The court on 9th gave the order that no action should be taken. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR SPEAKER It was decided only yesterday that the issues will be taken up one after the other. There are 40 other issues lying with me. There is no use repeating the same thing.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY But on back date the notification for dissolution

has been issued. This is most myopic and most harmful to the sensitive area of the north-east which is connected with the sentiments of the tribals. This kind of forceful dissolution should not have taken place. It has to be rescinded.

MR. SPEAKER: The rule in the House is that one matter which is brought to the notice of the House need not be repeated. You can say that you are of the same view and that is all.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: This point is very important. An elected Government to thwart the court's order and signing a notification on the back date is very serious. What kind of morality does this Government have? It is quite clear.

MR. SPEAKER: The rule is, if the matter is brought to the notice of the House, the same matter need not be brought to the notice of the House by another Member.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: We are giving our support.

MR. SPEAKER: I understand that and that is why I allowed you. Please understand Saifuddin. On one point if I allow ten Members to speak and other Members are not allowed to speak, they feel hurt.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: You say the same thing everyday.

MR. SPEAKER: What do I do? I cannot stretch the time.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: We all know what is an important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: That is important for you and other matters are important for others.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: This is very important. All other matters are also important; but there has to be answer from the Government of India on that. There has to be an answer. We do not speak on every subject. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are speaking on every subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Yes. But, Mr. Speaker, Sir, you please do not interrupt every time. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No. I have to.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: We know what is important and what is not. We know that. (Interruptions) We want an answer from the Government. (Interruptions) We want an answer from the Government. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is unreasonable. Please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: There has to be an answer. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I allowed you. But you should take into consideration that other Members are sitting behind you who want to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is only yesterday, we decided that one matter will be raised by one Member, and on the next day, you break it. (Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: But you allowed me. Had I not been allowed, I would not have raised it. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not argue like that. Please understand that you are a senior Member and I allowed you in deference to your position as a leader.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Then, you allow me to complete. (Interruptions)

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MR. SPEAKER: You need not repeat what has been said by other Members. We are capable of understanding the things, once it is said on the Floor of the House. That is the rule also.

(Interruptions)

SHRISAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: I was about to complete. I was about to ask a statement from the Government.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is all. Okay, it is very good. Now, you please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): Sir, I am from Assam. Hon. Ex-Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and other senior Members, the Leader of the Opposition and other senior Members have brought certain issues which are quite important. We are equally anxious. *(Interruptions)* I hope that the Speaker has allowed me. *(Interruptions)* If other Members do not want to hear me, I will sit down. *(Interruptions)* Now, one Member asked as to why I am standing. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): I said, I am glad that you are speaking.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, I would like to say this. I do not want to go into the merits or demerits of the case. It is for the Speaker and the Home Minister to judge and say. But I want to put the record straight. xyz

The Government of Assam has taken certain action which is being challenged in the High Court. The matter is being heard in the High court. The next date for hearing is either Second or third of next month. This is number one.

The second thing is that the issue has been brought out in national Press; and Shri Advani has very rightly expressed anxiety. I would like to tell this much that when this Body is an elected Body electrode by the tribals and the elected people are all trebles; and when the same Members come before the Government with certain serious allegations of financial irregularities, the Government is supposed to look into it - right or wrong will be decided by the High court. But this matter has been brought in such a manner as it is alienation of tribals because we do not accept that it is an alienation of tribals. Financial irregularity, if there is any, the Government which is an elected Government has got the right to take action. It has nothing to do against trebles.

Assam Government has got full respect for the trebles. Whether it is Bodo land or whether it is Karbinaglong, we are sympathetic; Government of India is discussing; it should be settled through negotiations. But the message should not go that the action was against the tribals. It is an action against that Body, whose action, according to the Government of Assam is contrary to the interests and contrary to the Constitution; and it has been challenged by them. But we shall abide by the decision of the High Court. *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMETARY AFFAIRS (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD): Sir, my hon. friend has said that the matter is before the High Court. I wonder whether we can discuss when the matter is pending before the High court; and it is coming up again next week. *(Interruptions)* Yet, I will bring this to the notice of the Home Minister to take appropriate action. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the august House towards a very important matter. The economy of the country has been shattered with the introduction of the new economic policy. The Government is trying to sell out major industries to foreign companies and

also trying to transfer some of them to the private sector. The B.H.E.L. is the most prestigious industry in the economic development of the country. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR(Barh): There should have been a statement by the hon. Home Minister on the first issue.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nitish Kumar, you are commenting continuously. it is not good.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are disturbing him and they also.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: he has said that he is bringing to the notice of the Home Minister.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: There was a report in the newspapers that a conspiracy is being hatched to sell out the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited to a multinational company. I would like to know from the Government, whether it is an industry which has become sick and the Government declared it to be so. Was it not a yardstick of our economic progress and development in the world? Is it running in loss?

Besides it, it has also been reported in the newspapers today that Management of the railway stations is also going to be privatised. I do not know, why the Government, as a matter of repeeth for you has started this work from Maharashtra with the privatisation of the Management of Bandra railway station.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Speaker does not do anything in Maharashtra.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Does the new industrial policy aim at privatisation of the prestigious industrial establishments and selling them out to the multinational companies. It appears to me that by the turn of this century we will be seen begging from door to door as national beggars. I want to know about the steps being taken by the Government in this regard. I demand that the Government make a statement in this regard and bring an end to this state of affairs.

SHRI HARPAL PANWAR (Kairana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the irregular and cancelled flights of the Indian Airlines. Uncertainty is prevailing in the flights of the Indian Airlines. The passengers who want to travel by it or who book their luggages in it are always put in a dilemma whether the particular flight will take off or not. The pilots are behaving in a highhanded manner, Even after getting a handsome salary and other perks, they are not attending to their duties. They are getting Rs.40000/- per month, These pilots perform hardly 40-45 hours duty in a month, while the pilots in the private companies work for 80 hours. It seems that the situation is out of control of the Government. Therefore, the Government should be directed of dismiss them service immediately and make fresh recruitment, otherwise this state of uncertainty will continue long and every one will suffer. The Government will have to bear the financial loss.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

12.53 hrs.

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Gazipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the conspiracy that was hatched to murder the hon. Member of Parliament of the Communist Party of India from Monghyr, Shri Brahmanand. The police officers of lakhi Sarai sub-division also know about it. This news has been reported in the November

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20 issue of Jansatta, published from Calcutta. I want to demand, through you, from the Government that the life and property of the hon. Member, Shri Brahmanand Mandal should be protected. He should be provided security and arms licenses of the conspirators should be cancelled.

[English]

SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH (Washim): Sir, I want to raise a very important matter in this House. It relates to an article which has appeared in the German Press on 29.9.92. I will have to translate it to English as it is in German.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do not read out verbatim. You can give the gist of it in English.

SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: I will tell you the text of that article.

"Atomic Power Station - boiling water - people have taken ill because of radiation. Madras people are suffering due to atomic radiation around the power station. Fishes are found cooked and boiling water around Kalpakkam. People have developed blindness and many eye problems. Doctors advice people to leave the village."

If this is true, then the matter is very grave. We would like to know the Government reaction thereon. If it is not true, then I would urge upon the Government that they should take it up with their German counterpart so that they can curb publishing of such an article which is maligning the image of this nation. I would like to have the Government's reaction thereon.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on 22.11.92 a major rail accident took place between Rattam-Dohad railway stations on the Western Railway in which 20 people died and more than 200 people sustained injuries. But no proper arrangements were caused

concerns to provide medical treatment to the injured made by the railways. This has their family members. It has also come to the notice that the railway officials also behaved in an inhuman way. My submission to the hon. Railway Minister is that the families of the deceased and those of the injured persons should be provided some help and those who are in a critical condition should be given treatment so that they could be saved

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, the nurses of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences are on agitation for the past few days on very genuine demands. There have been repeated assurances from the side of the Government that quarters will be given to nurses. Though there are more than 1200 nurses working in that hospital, only 150 nurses have been given quarters. All others are finding it so difficult that with their paltry salary, they are not in a position to get quarters for their residence.

Secondly, their demand is that their conditions of salary and promotions must be made on par with others in Delhi. These are genuine demands. Today, they are on a hunger strike. As you know, the hon. Members of this House are going to AIIMS for treatment. Not only the Members of this House but the nation as such is being served by these nurses. I would plead and humbly suggest the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs to inform the Health Minister about their strike and demands and they may be taken heed to. Please respond for a minute.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): I will bring this matter to the notice of the Health Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV: (Shahjahanpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the problem of 10,000 cultivators of Uttar Pradesh. The cultivation of opium in Uttar Pradesh. The cultivation of opium in Uttar

Pradesh and Rajasthan is done on large scale. A large amount of foreign exchange is earned through export of opium. I am sorry to say that this year the officials have refused to issue licences to opium cultivators due to wrong policies of the Government. Farmers cannot cultivate opium without licence. In this regard, an M.P. from Bareilly raised this issue yesterday in the House. Besides, the Departmental officials don't visit the farms of those farmers whose crops have been damaged. With the result the cultivators don't get licences. Though the Departmental officials have circulated pamphlets inviting people to extract opium from damaged crop, yet licences are not being issued to those who are interested in it. Therefore, I would like to urge upon the Government to issue licences to opium cultivators without any delay. (Interruptions)

13. 00 hrs.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has not been raining in Bihar for the last one year. With the result Bihar is experiencing famine. In Bihar, wells, ponds and rivers have dried up and drinking water is not available there for human consumption. The general public in Bihar is in great distress. The Government of India is well aware of the situation but it has not taken any action so far in this regard. The poor people are migrating from Bihar to other States in search of job. Therefore, I would like to demand that the Government of India should release a sum of Rs. 1400 crore as relief to Bihar so that relief work could be carried out and migration of poor people could be stopped.

Secondly, provision of electricity should be made there. The tube wells, which are out of order, should be repaired and for this purpose, boring be made in every village especially in Harijan localities, so that poor people may get drinking water. I hope the Government of India will take note of it and provide relief to Bihar Government at the earliest so that the Government of Bihar could meet the situation.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Zero Hour is over. We shall go to the next item please I call Shri Pradhanani

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL (Godda): I have been giving notice for the last three days but I am not being given an opportunity to speak. (Interruptions)

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma): I should also be given an opportunity to speak. I have also been giving notice for the last three days. (Interruptions)

13. 02 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED CASTES AND
SCHEDULED TRIBES**

Reports of Study Tours

[English]

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the following Reports:

- (i) Report on Study Tour of Study Group I of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on its visit to Guwahati, Agartala, Calcutta, Darjeeling and Patna during June-July 1992.
- (2) Report on Study Tour of Study Group-II of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on its visit to Bombay, Cochin, Kottayam, Coimbatore, Ooty, Mysore and Bangalore during June-July, 1992.

517. Statement by Minister AGRAHAYANA 6, 1914 (SAKA) Doordarshan staff 518
Situation arising out of agitation by disrupting work of media and steps
taken by Govt. to resolve the issue.

13.02 1/2 hrs

**PETITION RE. PROBLEMS OF
CONTRACT WORKERS WORKING IN
THE SOUTH EASTERN COAL FIELDS
LTD.**

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Raghu Thakur, Acting President, Koyla Kamgar Panchayat, Jahangirabad, Bhopal regarding problems of contract workers working in the South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.

13. 03 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

By Situation Arising out of the Agitation by the Doordarshan Staff Disrupting the work of the Media and the steps taken by the Govt. to resolve the issue involved

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): A small number of the Doordarshan Production Staff (mainly of Delhi and Calcutta) calling themselves the Joint Action Council had resorted to agitation in the form of 'cease to work' for three days from 15th to 17th September, 1992 and "work to rule" with effect from 18.9.92 to press for acceptance of their demands. This is an unregistered/unrecognised union formed only in July, 1992 claiming membership of about 2500 out of almost 35000 staff and employees of AIR and Doordarshan.

The Minister of Information Broadcasting, Secretary and Director General, Doordarshan spent considerable time talking to the representatives of the Programme Production Staff listening to their points of view and explaining the Government's position. The Government assured them that it will consider all their reasonable

demands fairly and their genuine grievances/ demands would be resolved expeditiously. An appeal was made by Minister Information & Broadcasting to the staff that they should withdraw their agitation to Create an amicable atmosphere for discussions on their demands. Thereafter, the Staff decided to "postpone" their agitation. The Government immediately formed a committee consisting of 6 members under the Chairmanship of Shri K.A. Varadan, Additional Secretary to go into the matter and report by 30.12.1992. The committee has started hearing the employees.

They, however in, relaunched their agitation with effect from 12. 10. 92 in the form of "work to rule" which, effect, means that they will work only during 10.00 A.M. to 5. 00 P.M. prescribed for general duty office staff, and not in the pattern hitherto being followed since the inception of Doordarshan. All appeal and assurances made by Minister Information & Broadcasting, Secretary and Director General, Doordarshan have failed to elect any positive response on part of the staff so far, and they have been continuing with their "work to rule" agitation.

In the meantime, discussions were held with leaders of the agitating staff at various levels, including that of Minister Information & Broadcasting. In fact, five meetings have been taken by Minister Information & Broadcasting and Secretary with the agitating staff from a number of meetings held by Director General, Doordarshan to assure them that all their reasonable demands would be conserved objectively. It has also been explained to them that action has already been initiated on a few of their demands which pertain to their service matters.

While the Government has all along been avoiding any direct confrontation with the agitating Production Staff, the agitators have, in some specific cases, resorted to misbehaviour /deliberate and willful infringement to discharge of official duties by those who are. Incidents are discussed in brief in the following paragraphs:-

(i) On the first day of the agitation i.e.,

15.9.1992, a Production Assistant, and a TV News Correspondent, abetted the entry of Press Photographers into the studio premises of DDK, Delhi, which are 'protected' areas and are out of bounds. The press photographers took photographs of the studios. When the Security Officer tried to prevent the photographers from going out with the photograph, THE Production Assistant and the TV News Correspondent pushed the Security Guards aside, forcing the gates open to let the photographers out of the complex.

- (ii) On 15.9.92, a Graphic Artist, DDK, Calcutta, forcibly stopped a Casual Production Assistant from performing his duties. The Casual Production Assistant was physically manhandled and received injuries in the incident. He had to be admitted to the local hospital for treatment. The Casual Production Assistant has already lodged and FIR with the Jadavpur Police Station.

In fact, in Calcutta, the willing workers are still being threatened and obstructed from performing their duties. The casuals, in particular, have been the target of such threats.

- (iii) In the second phase of the agitation on 17.10.92, a lady ASD, DDK, Delhi was obstructed from performing her official duties by a Production Assistant. According to the lady, the Production Assistant threatened to kill her and used abusive language. The lady has also lodged on FIR with the Parliament Street Police Station.

- (iv) On 27.10.92 wherein a Production Assistance and Cameraman Grade II tried to hit a Cameraman when the later was proceeding to Siri Fort

Auditorium for coverage of a SAARC Function. Both the Production Assistant and the Cameraman chased, on scooter, the Cameraman and tried to hit him with the Scooter itself.

- (v) On 31.10.92, CPC had scheduled recordings of National Programme of Dance by a lady. There was initial resistance to put up the sets for recording but through pursuation, the sets were got erected on 31st October, 1992. However, on 31st afternoon, a group of agitators went to CPC and dismantled the sets. Similarly, two of CPC recordings, scheduled for 3.1.92, were also badly disrupted because of a similar approach on part of the agitators.
- (vi) On 6.11.92, the Defence Secretary of Pakistan calling on Prime Minister could not be covered because of deliberate and wilful infringement caused by the agitating staff in transportation of the required equipments outside DDK premises.
- (vii) The agitators have a ll along been holding lunch hour gate meetings and shouting slogans. They have also been making public threats for stopping transmission. The Production Assistant, one of the leaders in the forefront of the agitation, has been inci-ting all categories of staff to join their agitation. Two Production Assistants have also been critical of the contingency arrangements made by the authorities for keeping the transmission going-through arrangements at Pitampura.

The agitation affected and is still affecting the services of great social and public importance, for example:-

- (a) Owing to the agitation of the staff, the weather report on its original format could not be telecast.

Presently, arrangements have been made through another agency to telecast this regularly.

- (b) Doordarshan's national newscast have also been affected, in-as-much -as, there has been a substantial reduction in the visual coverage of important national events. Captions and titles are also not being carried,
- (c) The telecast of information relating to missing persons, an important social service being done by Doordarshan was seriously affected for approximately one month. This has now been restored.
- (d) All outdoor/indoor recordings scheduled before 10.00 hrs. and after 17.00 hrs. have also suffered because of this so called "work to rule" agitation.

There have also been reports indicating the adverse effect of non-editing of news.

This "work to rule" agitation launched by the said employees has not so far affected Doordarshan Commercial Service. No specific instance of loss of revenue to the commercial service of Doordarshan has so far come to our notice, nor has this been reported by any regional Kendra.

Directorate General of Doordarshan and the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting have been consistently monitoring the situation arising out of their "work-to-rule" agitation. While the demands of the agitating staff are being considered on their merits, the Governments have also decided to deal firmly with the agitating staff in order to maintain the public service of electronic media. Some official have been suspended and show cause memos have been issued to some others. In addition, the Government has examined the possibility of various other actions that can be taken against the agitating employees. However, I would like to make it clear that Government has no intention of being vindictive or make any confrontation.

I hope that good sense will prevail upon the agitating employees and they will resume their normal duties and will start working in the sane manner as they were before launching this agitation. Two Joint Secretaries of Information & Broadcasting Ministry are still continuing negotiation with the agitating employees.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to seek clarification only on two matters. They have suspended their two leaders and sent Police to harass them (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No question should be asked now.

13.10 hrs

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, on behalf of Shri Ghulam Nabi azad, Sir With your permission I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing 30th November 1992, will consist of:

1. Consideration of any item of government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

2. Consideration and passing of;

- (a) The construction (Seventy-second Amendment) Bill, 1991 as reported by the Joint Committee.

(b) The Construction (Seventy-third Amendment) Bill, 1991 as reported by the Joint Committee.

(c) The Constitution (Seventy fifth Amendment) Bill, 1991

3. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the following Ordinances and consideration and passing of the bills replacing these Ordinances:

(a) The Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Amendment Ordinance, 1992.

(b) The Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Ordinance of , 1992.

(c) The Industrial Finance Corporation (Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal) Ordinance, 1992.

(d) The Interest on Delayed payments to small Scale & Ancillary Industrial Undertakings Ordinance, 1992.

4. Consideration and passing of;

(a) The Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1992

(b) The National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd., National Hydro -electric Power Corporation Ltd., and North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd. (Acquisition & Transfer of Power Transmission System) Bill, 1992.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

(1) The explosive situation obtaining at Ayodhya due to the decision to start Kar Seva there from 6th December, 1991;

(2) The situation arising out of the Supreme Court's decision on the Mandal

Commission's Report

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJOYA KUMAR YADAV(Nalanda): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Discussion increasing welfare cess recovered from Bill factory owners for the welfare of bidi workers and spending the recovered amount in full;

2. Need to enact a law on union level to protect farm labourers from exploitation and to raise their living standard.

[*English*]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYAN KUMAR (Mangalore): I request that the following items may be included in the next weeks agenda:

(1) Regarding according of sanction to the project of establishing a southern Gas Pipe Line along the west coast from, Bombay High;

(2) Regarding according of approved on the proposals made by the Government of Karnataka in respect of setting up National Highways including Mangalore-Madikeri-Mysore Road.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR(Bareilly): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Peimbursement of balance amount of loan to the tune of Rs. 166. 872 crore to Uttar Pradesh waived through various cooperative societies and Rural Development Bank under Loan Waiver Scheme;

2. Immediate release of balance amount of Central Road Fund to Uttar Pradesh.

525 Wild life (Protection)
Amend. Bill

AGRAHAYANA 6, 1914 (SAKA) *Expl. Staff giving reasons* 526
for immediate legislation by Wild
Life (Protection) Amend. Ordinance

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda:

The serious problems faced by FACT (Kerala) the largest public undertaking in Kerala, which is facing a threat of closure.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Discussion on the situation of the religious minorities in the light of the annual Reports of the Minorities Commission and the working of the P.M.'S 16 Programme for the welfare of the minorities.

2. Discussion on the situation of the Linguistic Minorities in the light of the Annual Reports of the Commission for Linguistic Minorities and the working of the Three-Language Formula.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. A high power T.V. tower may be set up at Ajmer as early as possible as announced by the Government of India earlier.
2. A Central school should be opened soon at Beawar in Ajmer district (Rajasthan) which fulfils all the criteria for it.

13. 16 hrs

[English]

WILD LIFE (PROTECTION)
AMENDMENT BILL*

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

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF
ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF
OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI
RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): I
beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill
further to amend the Wild Life (Protection
Act, 1992).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Wild Life (Protection Act, 1992)."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARA-
MANGALAM: I introduce the Bill.

13.16 1/2 hrs.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT GIVING
REASONS FOR IMMEDIATE
LEGISLATION BY THE WILD LIFE
(PROTECTION) AMENDMENT ORDINANCE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF
ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF
OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI
RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): I
beg to lay on the Table an explanatory
statement (Hindi and English versions) giving
reasons for immediate legislation by the Wild
Life (Protection) Amendment Ordinance,
1992.

13.17 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till
twenty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at
twenty four minutes past fourteen of the
Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Registration of Multimodal Transport Operators Rule 1992, Driving Licence Condition for exemption) Rules 1992 etc.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we shall take up papers to be laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): I beg to lay on the Table:

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notification under Air Force Act, 1950, Annual Report and Review on the working of Aeronautical Development Agency, Bangalore for 1991-92

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): On behalf of Shri Sharad Pawar, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy of the Notification No. S.R.O. 145 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th July, 1992 specifying the streams of the Flying and Technical branches for induction of women in the Indian Air Force issued under section 12 of the Air Force Act, 1950.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2735/92]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Aeronautical Development Agency, Bangalore, for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Aeronautical Development Agency, Bangalore, for the year 1991-92.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2736/92]

(1) A copy of the Registration of Multimodal Transport Operators ~~Rules~~ 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 185 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 1992 under sub-section (3) of section 30 of the Multimodal Transportation of Goods Ordinance, 1992.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2737/92]

(2) A copy of the Driving Licence (Conditions for Exemptions) Rules, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. GSR 791 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th September, 1992 under sub-section (4) of section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2738/92]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual; Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Madras Dock Labour Board for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Madras Dock Labour Board for the year 1991-92.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2739/92]

(4) A copy of the Third Supplementary Agreement (Hindi and English versions) entered into between the President of India and the Governor of Uttar Pradesh to

Partially amend and/or modify the Principal Agreement dated the 28th February, 1976 regarding maintenance and the development of Urban Links of National Highways under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No LT-2740/92]

Notification under Income Tax Act 1961, Customs Act 1962, dc

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Rule 296 of the Income-tax act, 1961:-

- (i) The Income-tax (Sixteenth Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O) 625 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 1992
- (ii) The Income-tax (Seventeenth Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 697 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st September, 1992
- (iii) The Income-tax (Eighteenth Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O). 729 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th September, 1992.
- (iv) The Income-tax (Nineteenth Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 758 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th October, 1992. [Placed in Library See No.LT 2741/92]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-

- (i) G.S.R. 809 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th October, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to certain Notifications.
- (ii) G.S.R. 839 (E) to G.S.R.S. 841 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th October, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to certain notifications so as to extend the benefit of duty exemption scheme to Computer software imported for export production.
- (iii) S.O. 538 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of Swiss Francs into Indian currency or vice-versa.
- (iv) S.O. 566 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa.
- (v) S.O. 567 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-verse.
- (vi) The Levy of Fees (Customs

[Sh. Rameshwar Thakur]

- Documents) Amendment Regulations, 1992 published in Notification No. 510, 574 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (vii) S.O. 649 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum, regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa.
- (viii) S.O. 650 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 1992 together with explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into India currency or vice-versa.
- (ix) S.O. 707 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th September, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa.
- (x) S.O. 708 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th September, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa.
- (xi) S.O. 712 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa.
- (xii) S.O. 713 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa.
- (xiii) S.O. 720 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa.
- (xiv) S.O. 721 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa.
- (xv) S.O. 790 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th October, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa.
- (xvi) S.O. 791 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th October, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa. [Placed on Library. See No LT-2742/92]
- (3) A copy of the Interest-tax (Amendment) Rules, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 652 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1992 under sub-section

(4) of section 27 of the Interest-tax Act, 1974.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT2743/92]

- (4) A copy of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) Published in Notification No. G.S.R. 870 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th November, 1992 under sub-section (3) of section 30 of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2744/92]

- (5) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 728. (E) (Hindi and English version) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th August, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification no. 150/81-CE, dated the 29th July, 1981 so as to export all excisable goods to Bhutan under Bond without payment of duty from a warehouse or a licenced factory, subject to certain conditions, under sub-section (2) of section 38 of section 38 of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2745/92]

**Notification under Coinage Act 1906,
Government of Savings Banks Act 1873
etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR
SINGH) I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 21 of the Coinage Act, 1906:-

- (i) The Coinage (Standard Weight

and Remedy of Ferritic Stainless Steel Coin of One Rupee containing Iron 82 percent and Chromium 18 percent) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 2729 in Gazette of India dated the 24th October, 1992.

- (ii) The Coinage (Standard Weight and Remedy of One Rupee Coin containing Copper 75 percent and Nickel 25 percent) coined on the theme " Food and Notification" Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 802 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th October 1992.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2746/92]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Banks Act, 1873:-

- (i) The National Savings Scheme (Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 762 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th September, 1992.

- (ii) The National Savings Scheme Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 763 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th September, 1992.
[Placed in Library. See No LT-2747/92]

- (3) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:-

- (i) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year 1991-92

[Sh. Dalbir Singh]

the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992:-

- alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No LT-2748/92]
- (ii) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the year 1991-92 alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT2749/92]
- (iii) Report on the working and activities of the Corporation Bank for the year 1991-82 alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2750/92]
- (iv) Report on the working and activities of the New Bank of India for the year 1991-92 alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2751/92]
- (v) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab and Sind Bank for the year 1991-92 alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon [Placed in Library See. No. LT 2752/92]
- (4) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the State Bank of Saurashtra for the year 1991-92 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon undersub-section (3) of section 43 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2753/92]
- (5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 31 of
- (i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Stock Brokers and Sub-Brokers) Rules, 1992 Published in Notification No. S.O. 627 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th august, 1992 together with a corrigenda thereto published in Gazette of India dated the 19th November, 1992.
- (ii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Insider Trading) Regulations, 1992 published in Notification No. LE/6308/92 in Gazette of India dated the 19th November, 1992.
- (iii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Stock brokers and Sub-brokers) Regulations, 1992 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 780 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 1992.
- (6) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 821 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th Number, 1992 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O 147 (E) dated ~~The 21st~~ February, 1992, issued under sib-section (l) of section 4 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992. [Placed in Library. See. No LT-2754/92]
- (7) A copy of the Results of the twenty-second Valuation (Hindi and English versions) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as on the 31st March, 1992 under section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2755/92]
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report

(Hindi and English versions) of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 48 of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by Government on the working of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for the year 1991-92.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2756/92]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1007 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th April, 1992 specifying certain subject fields in engineering and technology as designated trades, for Graduated and Technical Apprentices, for the purposes of the Apprentices Act, 1961 issued under section 2 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2757/92]

14.28 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Situation Affecting Agriculture and Farmers' Interests Due to Increase in the Prices of Fertilizer and Wheat Import

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Balam Jakhar to reply to the debate.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, more wheat has to

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): What has been shipped has got to reach here.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): The hon. Minister of Pinac has said in the morning that rice and pulses too have to be imported along with wheat in order to control the prices. So, please speak a bit carefully.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am already careful. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would, first of all, like to thank all those hon. Members who participated in this discussion. I know that all of them gave due importance to it and appreciated by giving to priority to it they ultimately endorsed the proposition that the problem of food is above everything else and unless this problem is solved, the country cannot make any progress. This is such a problem which applies to one and all whether one is engaged in farming or not, but everyone is concerned with this problem. We get food by whatever is produced by the farmers and when we get food, we gain strength and that is how life goes. I have observed during the past few years that not even a bird's-eye-view has been taken as to how things have to be implemented, how there can be a coordination and what picture of the country has to be presented.

Some points were raised by Shri Kamaluddin ji and Shri Gogol ji. I will not get into that. I will discuss with them on what they have said. We have already had a talk with them on wheat. We all require support from all in this field even in future. It is hoped that we will get support from all. The Government has also to solve the problems that lie in the way. Some people realise and do also say that whatever has happened is right, whereas there are others who feel that it is improper. The Government has to give answer to those who say so.

Sir, the perusal of the history particularly the history after the year 1947 makes everything clear. We have been noticing the

imbalance that has been existing between farming and industry. Nevertheless, we have made progress to a great extent. I would specially like to congratulate the farmers who made this country self-reliant in terms of food grains. The production of foodgrains was 50 million tonne when the 34 crore Indians which constituted the total population of our country when it attained independence. Then came the issue of P.L. 480. We had also to resort to rationing of foodgrains and we did also import to meet the requirements of the country. Our farmers then came to rescue of the people, they lent their support, agriculture, universities were set-up, research-works were undertaken. The message ultimately reached the masses who accepted it and contributed to it as well. Our present strength is the result of their contribution. The present population of the country is 87 crore. Our hon. colleagues and hon. Members have raised the question as to why 30 lakhs tonne of wheat had still to be imported.

Judging it from a broader outlook, we find that we all are responsible. To some extent the nature is also responsible. All the parties should do a little bit of thinking about our achievements about how the population has increased whereas there is been no expansion of land. population has been increasing and there has been frangmentation of land. The situation will not improve unless the division of land continues. This thing therefore calls for thinking. This is said on the spur of moment because it was pinching me from within. Now what is required is making of a collective effort. Otherwise we will not succeed. We will the have to think as to what we are going to hand over to our posterity. But what causes concern is that the farmers who contributed to the progress of the country have themselves not enjoyed the fruit of progress. Now there is a great difference between the resources of the villages and that of towns. There are differences in the standard of life, in general resources and in income. Yesterday Shri Devegoda ji was telling that he would feel better if he is reduced to the status of a peon.

To some extent he was right when he said that all his land might be taken over by the Government. We provide deduction to young persons. The Government has set-up universities, candidates are admitted for the Government bachelor course in agriculture; but instead of working in the field and increasing the production of grains out of their professional knowledge in the interest of the country, they prefer seeking employment. I am stingily opposed to this system. What I expect from them is that they should utilise their expertise in such a way that the country may derive benefits. The Government has also to see how it is to be done.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR(Barh): The dignity of farmers and the dignity of labour is not there.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: We have to ensure very thing. Farmers and those who total in the fields are both farmers. I do not find any difference between the two. They are closed interrelated. You cannot differentiate them. We have however, to take notice of everything as to how they are there. What the hon. Member has said is already there in mind. I told even yesterday that on the one hand, we have our agriculture and on the other hand, there are other resource which give fourtimes more benefits. This is not good. The Government has to do any with this imbalance and we have to create such a condition in which the farmers may have a sense of right and a sense of participation in the country and they may think that they are also important persons and this is my cherished desire.

I thought that I would get the support of you all in this efforts. We have to correct if there is anything wrong in all those perceptions. With this end in vie, I am trying to introduce this new agricultural policy. I will introduce it before you in a few days and then it will be open for a discussion. If you would bring to my notice some shortcomings in that, then I would revise it. We do not intend to close the doors for your suggestions, the Government needs the help of all. All the fruitful suggestions have to be taken in. Our

only goal is to rectify the errors. I know it.

I recognise the persons who lend support or who have tried to extend support and sympathy. I do also know that there are some political games that are played. Those who have done farming, those who have the experience of the troubles in farming know the reality. I am also aware of the troubles of the farmers. I have not been engaged in anything else; even when I am sitting here I have been attached to the fields. I have the personal experience of it. I have seen everything. Hon. Raja Saheb, I have never forgotten what was faced by my forefathers and what was faced by the other villagers. There is no difference with you, you are my colleague. I love you and I hold you in high esteem. I do love the money-lender also because I am a follower of Bapu. I, therefore, do not keep in any mind the bitterness of the past I am aware of that and I want to remove it. I have myself suffered all this and just because of this my forefathers migrated from there due to social disregard. as we were compelled to sit always on floor. We were also not allowed to ride on the horses back. I am well aware of the adverse pecuniary conditions under which my forefathers migrated from there. They used to fetch drinking water from places 10 miles away. What all have we got today is the fruit of their hardwork and sufferings, I also know the help extended to the farmers by the money-elders even today. However, in times of inflation and cyclone etc. even today an impression is sought to be created that the farmers are quite well off and are the blood suckers. I fail to understand the reasons for such utterance because it is the farmers who toil day in and day out in the fields to feed the people, unmoved by the changing weather, because till 70 the farmers were not supplied even electricity. At that time, there were not even roads. Whoever after toiling in the fields we used to come back to the home either on foot or on tractor. People at home used to find it difficult to recognize us because of the mud being all over our body. I am submitting all this because I did not like your yesterday's comment on my wearing suit and sitting in the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): Such surcastic comments are permissible. (Interruptions) some times on your suit and some times on my cap. (Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am well aware of each and everything because I have toiled hard in the fields day in and day out and also worked on tractor for bread. Therefore, I would like to restore the social esteem of the farming community I am totally against the policy of the farmers being in a position of begging out for things and would like to see the farmers as benefactors. I want to oversee that the farmers get proper rightful remuneration of their hard work.

Shri Indrajit Gupta stated that one-sided increase in prices will adversely affect other sections of society. It is not like this. I will definitely look after the interests of both the farmers as well as the labour class. (Interruptions)

You see, there are no restrictions on movement of the agricultural products. The way ceiling have been fixed in respect of the agriculture alone is not at all justified because the God has already imposed a ceiling on the poor farmers. (Interruptions) we have to see that how best all this could be done. If you cannot do anything in material shape, you can atleast talk about the interests of the farmers. This is such an important issue on which all other things are interdependent

Now the Report of the JPC is before us. Last time in the House Shri Devegowda and some others raised a question as to who gets the lion's share of the subsidies being provided on fertilizers whether it is industrialist or farmers. hence this community who are the beneficiaries of it was set up. However, now the report of the JPC is being interpreted in various ways by the people of all hues. Report has been accepted and adopted. It has got two ramifications viz some of the suggestions are contained in the report and some are not. In the light of all this, these suggestions are also to be examined from the benefit point of view. In fact sometimes harsh measures need to be taken from the

welfare point of view. You may comment anything, but I am always in favour of safeguarding the interests of the farmers and the adoption of any policy for the same. As I have stated earlier too as long as this policy is in force decontrol could be beneficial. Yesterday and earlier too the hon. Prime Minister made it quite clear, while commenting on all the policies is in effect, that all these recommendations have been accepted and for the acceptance of the remaining recommendations efforts should be made. When the hon. Prime Minister has already given the words then all of us stand by him that the remaining recommendations should also be accepted to ameliorate the lot of the farmers. The reason for doing so, as I have been told, is that all the Potassium or Superphosphate i.e. PAP is imported from abroad and not single ton of it is produced in the country. Thus the manufactured products cost high. So, under duress subsidy has been withdrawn and now the factories are running at de-control prices. We will have to make such arrangements as these factors may face competition of their own in a proper way. Regarding imports, I would like to submit that recently MARKFED, Punjab, imported it at Rs. 5,800 per ton and the cost of indigenous production accrues to Rs. 8,800 per ton. By withdrawing excise duty, removing transport charges etc. the cost of it was reduced to Rs. 1000 per ton and now it costs at Rs. 7800 per ton, as is clear from the statics. Later on, during the discussions with the Hon. Prime Minister I informed him that during the period of transition withdrawal will result in total dislocation. The hon. Prime Minister agreed to my contention and commented that all this should be done in a proper manner and then the Government agreed to pay subsidy @ Rs. 1,000 per ton. Therefore, a grant of Rs.340 crore was released to the states in addition to Rs. 5000 crores for minor works. This way on the whole a total subsidy of Rs. 360 crores was given on urea. In this way the Government assessed the position as to how it is to be done and did it accordingly.

All the State levy sales tax.

14.41 hrs.

It varies from state to state. In some states it is Rs. 600-625 and in others it is Rs. 450 per ton. With the increase in price the states revenue released from the sale of fertilisers went up by one and a half times and the JPC has also recommended that Sales tax should be with-drawn. As a result of all these measures the price per ton came down by about Rs. 2,000 per ton. Later on, permission to import under OGL was granted too, to effect the domestic rise in prices. All the fertiliser plants have been directed to bring down their cost of production.

Shri Indrajit Gupta yesterday stated that fertiliser plants are going to be closed down. I would like to inform him that nothing like that is in the air. I would like to tell you something on this.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore):
What about Public Sector Earlier Plants?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am stating all this about the Public Sector Fertiliser Plants only. All the Public Sector Fertiliser Plants are not in bad shape. I would like to submit that NEL, RCF, MFL and PPCL are making profits. But FCI, HFC and PDIL which are also the Public Sector units are running in loss and their accumulated losses stand at Rs. 351 crore. These units are eating into their capital base instead of making profits. Now it is the need of the hour that both the management and the workers should act like custodians.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Choice of wrong technology is a reasons too.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Units like KRJBHCO and IFFCO are making profits. The public sector units must think that these units are not somebody else's property but it is their own. So if they continue to run in loss, and the Government has to bear the burden of it as it has made good the loss of Rs. 360 crore then the element of subsidy will go up further. It will be the example of poet

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Kalidas who cut the branch of the tree on which he was sitting. Therefore, this is fundamentally wrong. These units must make profits. It is my endeavour that these loss-making units should be brought back on rails so that instead of running in loss they may start making profits.

In addition I would like to submit to you many a thing. You have rightly stated that if this is the magnitude of losses then what will be the effect on the welfare of the farmers and if the farmers stop plying fertilisers then the agriculture will suffer. So, all this we have done to maintain the balance and this is also the clear indication of our approach and intentions about the well-being of the farmers. Therefore, I would like to submit that balance needs to be maintained at all cost. I am just concerned about safeguarding the interest of the farmers. The Hon. Prime Minister agreed to my views and advised me not to indulge in things which are outside my jurisdiction. If tomorrow we do not have enough resources and they also refuse to bail us out, how will the imports be possible. It is very simple. It would not be good if the present trend continues, rather it cannot continue, ultimately it will have to be stopped. For instance someone said that a child fell from a roof and fractured his leg, he was weeping. His father came down and suggested to give treatment to his ears to relieve this pain. I want my actual pain to be relieved, the actual difficulties of farmers to be removed so that I may face the farmers and assure them that their interests would be safeguarded and that they need not be worried about it. The need is to remove the actual difficulties of the farmers.

Through the Agriculture Policy, we want to give a status to the farmer which he deserves and also has right to attain. We have to adopt policy accordingly, we do the same.

Yesterday, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singhji wanted to know how the subsidy saved would be utilized. I have already submitted that I want to remove the existing imbalance of trade. I want to change the system for ever. That is why our agriculture

policy has been framed with an objective providing all the facilities in agriculture sector and giving an equal status to farmers, it aims at removing the discrimination against them and not treat them as bounded labourers.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

Has the Hon. Prime Minister given his consent to utilize the saved amount of Rs. 9000/- crore of subsidy to strengthen the agricultural infrastructure? It won't do if he does not give his consent in this regard. (Interruptions). Is he willing for it or not?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The Hon. Prime Minister himself wants the same. Whenever I discuss a matter with him I try to understand his points completely. Whenever he discusses a matter, he does so properly and convinces the other persons. Unless this sector becomes investment would invest money. It hardly matters whether the amount saved is Rs. 300 crores, Rs. 3300 crores or Rs. 4000 crores.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Amount of Rs. 9000 crore of fertilizer subsidy has been saved. It is always said that capital formation is not taking place. It is because of giving subsidy? I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has persuaded the Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Finance to invest the savings of Rs. 9000 crore for strengthening the agricultural infrastructure.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: You should listen. I am giving the detailed information to you, you should at least listen to me. Because he gave the statement in Rajya Sabha, I also came to know about it from the news bulletin on television and read in the newspapers. He said that this would be done next year. The amount will increase from Rs. 9000/- crores to Rs. 12000/- cores next year.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Additional money should be invested.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: It is a matter of figures, it depends on savings. In Arithmetic, two and two makes four and not five,

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SHRI RAM VILAS PAWAN (Rosera):
Whatever amount is saved will be invested
or not?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am stating a
very simple things. I am to tell you that the
entire money will be invited in rural sector, to
provide facilities in that sector so a that rural
upliftment can take place. He has given his
consent for this same.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the
saved money be invested in agriculture
sector?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: It will be
utilized for rural upliftment only, and all will
have a share in it. Why do you bother? I am
making an articulate statement and would like
to explain how we want to accomplish the
work. We want to do everything systematically
and for welfare of farmers. It is meaningful
only if there is complete balance of trade,
proper investment. At the same time my
submission is that you are to be blamed for
creating this imbalance and today you talk of
PDS. Public Distribution Systems should
certainly continue. I am of the opinion that it
should not be abolished. It will have to be
continued for the sake of those sections of
people who really require its service

The Hon. Prime Minister often gives
assurance to strengthen the system. There
is no question of abolishing it. Who will run
PDS, do you want to throw this burden on the
farmer, do you want to continue the system
at the cost of the lives of farmers.
(Interruptions) Uptill Now trade had been
adversely affecting it. Traders are to be
blamed for creating the entire imbalance.
Why do you blame farmers for it ? Strengthen
them to stand at their own feet, give them
their due rights, Give them incentives so that
they may work properly.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN; who will
do it?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: We will do.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: You please tell

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clearly what you want to do or will do.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: It is just like
reading the Ramyana whole night and asking
the next morning who was Sita. (Interruptions)
I am also saying that we will do it. I have never
spoken any bitter word and I never take back
the word once spoken , nor do I want to take
back. I am repeating what the Hon. Prime
Minister said. I never give statement without
consulting the matter. I always try to do what
my conscience directs. (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Do you want
to run PDS on the basis of import of wheat?
Will it not run without import? (Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Do not quote
the example of a particular contingency. new
Year is about to start and more than 100
million tonnes of Kharif crop is expected to
arrive. There after Rabbi crop will come and
that too seems to have a bright future. It is
expected to be more than about 76 million
tonnes. The total production will not be lesser
than that of the last year. Are we bound to
import when we don't need. (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Procurement
is going on decreasing.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I was speaking
in regard to the same matter (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: There is
something wrong with the pricing policy.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am just
coming to the pricing. policy . Do the
manufacturers of goods like car, tractor,
fans, cycles etc. have proper norms to decide
the prices? We also have the same right. We
would nether restrict our earnings nor would
remain bonded labourers. We demand for
an equal share. Farmers have equal right.
Why procurement prices etc. should be
reduced. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (Hassan);
Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Minister can kindly yield for a minute, I want to tell one thing, with the permission of the Chair.

I well appreciate the hon. Minister's stand so far as helping the farmers is concerned. With the permission of the Prime Minister you have taken a bold decision. If you implement it. We will whole - heartedly congratulate you.

But I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to what Prof. John Kenneth Galbraith said which is very relevant so far as the subsidy component is concerned. I quote:

"The basic Indian agricultural policy framework has served the country well and should not be disturbed by tinkering with the pricing policy or by withdrawing subsidies.

The International Monetary Fund may have different ideas but the Indian Policy makers would do well to hear them out politely, but not take them seriously"

In this regard I must compliment Madam Gandhi for maintaining subsidy which made this country to be nearly self-sufficient. But today, by withdrawing this subsidy, you are now reversing back the whole growth of the food production. That is where Prof. Galbraith has cautioned the Indian administrator that he should not take it seriously so far as abolishing the subsidy to oblige I.M.F. That is what he said. Thank you

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: You be carefree. IMF authorities came here and had clear discussion on the matter. They did not raise any objection. I said that the Government propose to give subsidy of about Rs. 30,000 on tractors and similar amount on with regard to irrigation, security drip irrigation, dug well and seeds. I would not let our farmers to suffer. I would like them to prosper.

I would not follow the prevailing trend of import. I am not a person to work under any pressure. I would like to give reply to Raja Sahib. He had asked what had I to do with prices. The farmers had not invested money in the Kharif crop and there was no increase in the produce. the prices of fertilizers were same as before. The crop was about to ripe. I told the Hon. Prime Minister that the farmers were being discouraged. Rather they should be strengthened to purchase it. How will they purchase when they do not have money. You increased the price by Rs. 25/- and I increased by Rs. 40/-

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: What the present value of a rupee?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: There has been no change in the figures during the last one year. The price of jawar was increased by Rs. 35/- price of maize and bajra have also been increased a little. Price of Tur have been increased by Rs. 95/-. price of pulses like moong and urad have been increased by Rs. 95/- prices of gram by Rs. 85/- groundnut by Rs. 105/- sunflower by Rs. 130/- These prices were increased at time when no expenditure was made.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Chiraiyinkil): Those who have surplus, what will they do?

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Those who have surplus have not committed any crime. They have done so for the sake of people. Grants of about Rs. 500 crore have been earmarked for such cultivations and other facilities will also be extended to them.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: They are not getting it.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That is something which has got to be done by the State. I have already given them the money.

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of the days when the inputs and other consumable items used by farmers were also cheap, and the things which were available at Rs. 5 at that time are now costing Rs. 200.

[Translation]

I have given them lot of funds but I can't do it alone. It is the duty of the State Government to do it. The State Government should cooperate with the Centre, only then results can be achieved.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH(Aonla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this year the prices of fertilizers have become double. The Government had raised the procurement price of Kharif crops last year. At what rate will it be this year?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Please listen to me. Now we will procure the Rabbi crop. I am going to tell you about that. We are going to give remunerative price for the Rabbi crops so that farmers may get profit. We want to give farmers not only remunerative price, but also make them profitable. It covers three things.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: The Agriculture University pointed out about harvest.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: They are also like us. many of us have got education there. When there is shortage the prices are increased arbitrarily. When the production is high, prices decrease. There is a price which is practical wherein neither the producer nor the consumer suffers loss. I want that the Government should fix a price in which none suffers loss and the produce gets at least 20-25 per cent profit.

People never remember good old days, but they do remember hard times. During the Green Revolution, the production was so high that in spite of huge population and the prevalent rate of Rs. 200 a quintal nobody was ready to buy wheat at even Rs. 160 a quintal. When wheat was sold at the rate of Rs. 150 or Rs. 120 a quintal, even the people said..

15. 00 hrs.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: You are talking

SHRI BALRAM JAKHARI: Shri Rajveer, why are you disturbing me? You are not listening to me. Please, listen to me. Please listen to my agreement. It is wrong to say that things were cheap at that time. Please listen to me. Why are you behaving like that? When I lend my ears to you, you too should cooperate.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): Would you like to buy wheat at a lower price? You are importing wheat from foreign countries.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Please fix the procurement price of wheat, at Rs. 400 a quintal.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: You purchase the wheat at the price on which the Government is importing it from foreign countries?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: This is no argument. This is not a wise argument. Please listen to me. Please try to understand what I am saying. It is very simple. I am not anti-farmer, rather I am their worshipper and I am their servant..

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA (Bilhaur): You are a big farmer whereas we are small farmers. We have only 8 bighas of land whereas you have 800 bighas of land.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Please listen to me... What can I do if you do not listen to me? Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a way of raising prices. We heard him when he spoke for over 50 minutes and nobody interrupted him. He should now listen to us also. What I want to submit is very simple. Those days when wheat was available at the rate of Rs. 160 a quintal, it was considered cheap, as the rupee had value, there were buyers and that is why the Government purchased it. The same thing is happening today also

particularly so far as Mildest and maize are concerned. I have asked all the institutions to start purchasing them.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Hon. Minister, from when are these institutions purchasing?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Shri Rajveer Singh, please do not interrupt. Please listen to me patiently.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: You are speaking about Rabi prices. I want to submit that the announcement of Rabi crops was generally made before the sowing of crops and we used to announce it before 16th October so that the farmers would decide whether crops should be sown or not. Now crops have been sown, but as yet the prices of Rabi crops have not been announced. I want to ask the Government as to when it is going to make the announcement. Has the Government changed the policy and whether the announcement of the prices of Rabi crops would be made after this time?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I was going to reply to this also. Sometimes this happens. You are right and I fully agree with you that the announcement will be made before the sowing season. In future the announcement will be made before the sowing seasons. I admit that this year there has been delay in this matter.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: When will it be announced this year?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: We are going to announce it in the first week of December and it will be done at the earliest. Every thing is ready in this regard and I am trying to accommodate accordingly.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Have you agreed to what we suggested?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am going to announce the wheat procurement price in such a manner so that the farmers will get more benefit and will not suffer any loss even during the worst period. I am looking how we can help them during the Onam festival and

indulge in market intervention. I want that the Coconut, Pepper growers should also be brought within its purview. In this regard I want to say that farmers will be given remunerative prices. At the same time, I am glad what you suggested. I am already seized of the matter and I too wished that somebody should raise it. I express my gratitude to you all for raising it here...

[English]

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: (Palghat): What about cash crops?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am referring to Kerala only. I am looking into the market intervention also. I have said that in spite of your not referring to it.

[Translation]

I want to submit that as you suggested we are going to allow free movement of foodgrains and other crops within the country by any producer or farmer. The State Governments will be asked not to interfere directly or indirectly in the transportation of the crops. The farmers deserve this right.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: A law should be formulated that if a persons makes any restrictions in the transportation of foodgrains, he will be prosecuted, penalised and sent to jail, because illegally and informally such restrictions are usually made.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: if it become essential, this too will be done.

SHRI RAM VILAS PAWAN: Restriction Movement should be lifted from today itself. We shall move the crops from today itself.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: With restriction movement I have done all this having consultations (Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: We thank you for this. It is farmers' issue and therefore, I express my thanks to you. I think you as you are ready to remove all restrictions in the movement of crops. You should accept our one more suggestion. There are some

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complexities in value addition for example, when we make rice from paddy. We have to get a licence. similarly, we need licence for making flour out of wheat. We will be glad if the Government decides to abolish all such restrictions in value addition as well as movement of corps.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I make an announce ment only when I have consulted properly and everything is decided. A man should not make falls promise.

[English]

I do not want to say a thing which I cannot say. This is the agricultural policy that I pursue.

[Translation]

Taking this thing into consideration I am going to do it.

MR. SPEAKER: Look, the hon. Members are giving very nice suggestions but in my opinion, it will be proper if you consider all these suggestions while replying to the Debate in the end.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we are getting some benefit, why you are stopping him and thus depriving us of it?

SHRI LAL K. ADVAN (Gandhi Nagar): If there is any suggestion in the interest of farmers what is the objection in accepting it promptly?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I think there might be farmers in your constituency too?

MR. SPEAKER: LOOK: I am saying that the suggestions which are being made are good, but you should not commit any such mistake on account of which they cease to remain good. Again these suggestions will have to be placed before the Cabinet which will decide. That should not happen. I have stated that the suggestions are good and

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV(Azamgarh); He has said that he has already consulted the hon. Prime Minister.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH; The hon. Agriculture Minister has said that there would be free movement of corp no value addition and no licence. Just like he used to give rulings the Hosue. That is his style.

MR. SPEAKER: He will do it.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I do not make any false promise or do a thing which I cannot implement. It is a different thing that you want to make a fun of it. Only after seeking advice I have stated these things about movement and the hon. Prime Minister himself has told it yesterday. I am stating it on that basis only. I have spoken about investment after seeking the consent of hon. Prime Minister. I cannot do it on my own. I am a member of the Cabinet, and cannot decide things on my own. Your suggestions are good, but there are some more things to be taken into consideration.

People in Punjab demand having use of harvest machines on the plea that these cause unemployment. But who can convince them? The rate of daily wages in that State is Rs. 60/- whereas in your State it is Rs. 11/- or 12/- I would request Shri Paswan to get them double of the present amount.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The rate of daily wages in our State is very low, that is why the labourers come to your State.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: In fact the problem can not be solved in this way in future. it would be solved only when the States such as Orissa, Eastern Uttar Pradesh etc. also make their contribution equally. You think that the three States would continue of fulful the requiremnts of a other State forever. it is not possible even if these States want to do so. You will have to share the burden and remove the imbalances. The new policy has

been framed for this purpose only. I convened a meeting of all the State Ministers of Agriculture and Chief Ministers and asked them to evaluate the prevailing condition of the country and the States. Some projects are lying incomplete due to the pending construction work of canals while others due to the lack of electric supply or tube wells. You have stated that an amount of only Rs. 1500/- crores would be sufficient to provide power supply to all the tubewells. But only the tubewells won't do. Both electricity and water supply are also essential for the agriculture. If you want to remove imbalance, adequate funds will have to be sanctioned. Just now, an hon. Member wanted to know the amount allotted for the purpose—first it was Rs. 5000/- and then amount was increased to Rs. 10,000/. I know that it is inadequate, I am also not satisfied at this allocation but we will have to cut the coat according to the cloth; so how can I increase it. The amount will be increased gradually year by year. We are making efforts to find out some other sources to increase the production. Just as the hon. Prime Minister pointed out yesterday in the House that there was a diversion of cash crop or cereal or food crop. (Interruption)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Minister, the topic of discussion at the amount is not cash crop. You are delversing a speech of general nature and this speech, of course, would be good because you are a senior member and basically a farmer. But the topic of discussion under rule 193 before the House is fertilizer policy and import of wheat. But you are not speaking on this issue. Please tell us why wheat is being imported. Today, the Minister of Finance has also stated that besides wheat, rice and edible oils were also proposed to be imported. You may please clarify the position in this regard.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: You please take your seat, this is not the situation. Yesterday, I gave the details in regard to the total and estimated production of edible oils. But first of all listen to me, be patient.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: We want to hear you on the matter under discussion. No member suspects your intentions as an

individual. But we would like to know what was the need to increase the prices of fertilizers after withdrawing subsidy and control over it and to import wheat, thus wasting foreign exchange worth Rs. 1500 crores. The hon. Minister may please give statement in regard to the proposed import of rice and edible oils.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: If there is interruption when a person speaks, the sequence breaks and if the Speaker dislikes it. You will know only when you listen. I have already clarified the points. I repeat then. I was speaking with regard to scarcity as to why and when it arises and the present policy is framed on the basis of all the factors. We would produce it in our country itself, this is the only solution. If a person has the thing he would not go for it to others. Instead of importing a thing, it is better to increase its production in the country itself and thus remove the imbalance.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): But is there scarcity of rice too? Why rice is proposed to be imported? The hon. Minister of finance has stated that rice would also be imported. His written statement is there in the House.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: This is matter related to trade.

You have been the Prime Minister and you know each and everything.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: But Please tell whether there is shortage of rice too?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: At least you should not ask these questions. I am about to explain why rice is proposed to be imported. Recently, I have been to Vietnam. They desired to get a sugar mill but since they ran short of foreign exchange they proposed to give rice in exchange of setting up the sugar mill. That is why, rice is being imported. We can export Basmati rice, there is no problem in it. We can export an item which may fetch more

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foreign exchange to us and import a thing which is of low price, what is the harm, in doing the things which are beneficial to us. In regard to your submission about cash crop I would like to ask why does a farmer divert towards the cash crop. When does he does not find it profitable. The other crops. No shopkeeper sells commodities for the sake of consumers, he does so far his own benefit. He sells foodgrains not to earn profits and not just to serve the consumers. of incentives are given to farmers they would in creas their produce. More production would lead to more earning. In that condition we would not have to import the same from outside, we would be relieved of that burden. That is why we want it to be an agro-based industry.

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): What you are saying amounts to this that, in your Agricultural Policy, there is no need to have self-sufficiency in foodgrains.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I did not say that.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: We must know what is your policy-

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: We have to increase production. You cannot increase production in the same land. You have to expand it. That is why, I say that I am going to give 50 per cent subsidy to those farmers who are utilising minimum quantity of water and putting it to maxium use. That is what I am trying to do and that is what we have to do. We have to find ways and means to have new seeds. We have to find those seeds which can resist pests and other things, That is what I am trying to do and that is the policy which I am going to formulat.

[Translation]

That is why I say that alongwith these things, we want to implement the policy. There are proposals to withdraw subsidy. The Government has launched a scheme to

sanction subsidy of Rs. 30. 000 to help the small farmers to purchase tractor.
(Interruptions)

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR(Bareilly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever the hon. Minister has said here, is true. But he may kindly clarify why wheat was imported at such a high price?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, why wheat was imported and the price of fertilizers were increased. Will the import of wheat continue and will the prices of fertilizers be reduced or not? The hon. Minister may kindly give reply to all these questions. So far as the statement of the hon. Minister in general is concerned, we agree with him. We do want the hon. Minister to seek on the subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am speaking on the topic itself. Last year contract of 12 lakh tones of food grains had been signed, tenders were invited. I told him in writing that the crops were about to arrive.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Please sit down. If you are not aware of the factual position, you should not speak. Please sit down.

[English]

A little knowledge is a very dangerous thing.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister is not peaking on the point raised by me. I asked as to why wheat had to be imported, but the hon. Minister is saying nothing about that. While the question No. 62 was being dealt today in the morning during the Question Hour. the hon. Minister

of Finance made it clear on being asked that not only wheat but also rice and edible oils could be imported, if needed. Mr. Speaker, Sir I, therefore, seek protection from you for the whole of the House. You are the Speaker and you are the protector of the House. You should kindly request the hon. Minister to speak precisely on the relevant issue that has been raised and on which a discussion is going on (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Look, we want an open discussion on a very good and important issue like this and, as a matter of fact, we have so far been holding the discussion with an open mind. Questions may spring up in the mind after 5, 10 or say, 20 hours of discussion, because this is such a big question as there cannot be a wholesome reply to it in a single go. Actually, when there has already been a discussion for 7-8 hours, replies on two issues have already been made by the hon. Minister of food and Civil supplies, and now on the third reply is being given by the hon. Minister of Agriculture as the question relates to his Ministry. You should please let him complete his reply in his own way. You should not do the questions that spring up in your mind and you can ask them when the reply of the hon. Minister is over. If you go on intervening him like this by putting question after question during his speech, then how will it be possible for him to both go on with his speech and satisfying you by answering your intervening questions. I would, therefore, suggest that you should take down the questions that you intend to ask.

[*English*]

We will allow you to put the question

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is already getting half past three.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with the increase in the price of fertilizers there has been a dump the trade of wheat. The hon. Minister has, however, hardly felt the need to highlight this point. The hon. Minister is not at all analyzing

the impact on the trade in the wake of raising the price of fertilizers and by releasing the imported wheat in the market.

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised a very good point. You have passed on suggestions as well, but we have to consider the point that whatever has been stated by the hon. Minister be taken lightly. Let him first complete his speech and I will allow you to speak thereafter.

SHRI VISWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you should kindly try to bring him to the point, we want him to hear on this very subject. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, will you address the Chair?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I will address the Chair. But they must listen to me properly.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, replies have been made to all the questions that were raised. I am of the opinion that sooner it is better it will be. I never said all that is being made to by the hon. Member. I was actually all out to explain to you the impact following the price rise. Now, I would like to explain to you the difference that would be there in case of price hike on fertiliser. The target of wheat seed sowing in the stipulated area of North India has almost been achieved. Some slippages have of course, been reported from some States of South India and also from some parts of U.P. I know, the farmers had to resort to more than required use of D.A.P., urea and some other fertilisers. Certain quantity of fertilisers had also to be imported. When we set up our own fertiliser manufacturing units producing good quality of fertiliser then things will be all right in a natural way.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, all my considerations are aimed at ensuring economic well being of the farmers. The Government aims to do it

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by giving remunerative price and profitable price to their produce as also by giving some relief in transport alongwith some other relives. We want to do it in every field. We want to do it in the areas like - irrigation , fisheries dairies poultry bee-keeping etc. We want to lend food value to them. We are contemplating as to how to do all this. We can arrange fertilisers only when we have money with us, Now, we think that it is not proper to take hundred or one hundred and fifty rupees. We want that if the farmers have a rightful claim to take Rs. 500 then they must take that. similarly, if the of their products comes to Rs. 1000 then they must claim that. We do not want to make the farmers bonded-labarrs just by giving them one hundred and fifty rupees. The Government wants to give them prestige. We want them to feel that they are receiving their rightful claim. I think, they do not want handouts.

[English]

I do not want handouts. I want kisans to rub the shoulders with the highest and the mightiest.

Translation]

I want that the question of how to implement that, should be left with the States and the P.D.S should be handled by them, The rightful claims should be met with. Attention should be paid to the demands of the poor farmers, labourers, Harijan agricultural labour. Earlier their wage was Rs. 5 to 10 and now it is Rs. 60 The point , there should be money only then the distribution of it can be possible. Nothing that obliterates the interest of the farmers can be allowed to happen. The Government has the responsibility to ensure their progress. The Government wants to make the credit-system more effective. We want to made it more effective so that the farmers may derive maximum benefit. With the help of all we will try to streamline the systems to make the farmers self-reliant. It is know to all that a wrong has happened to be committed. But there is nothing to bother about, we will

correct that. We are thinking out to make the co-operative societies more viable. Things will be done taking all these points into consideration.

We have to realise that if we really want to bring down the per-centage of unemployment, we will have to set up fertiliser industries in villages. We lack in systems like packaging, trading and marketing, The Government has formulated a scheme of Rs. 662 crore for this purpose.

In spite of all our limits and limitations the Government is committed to safeguard the interests of the farmers.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister is not at all replying queries raised by us. So what is the sense in listening to him....(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to remind the hon. Minister of Agriculture that the subject of today's discussion is not the demands for grants of the Ministry of Agriculture. Today the discussion started with reference to the Adjournment Motion that was brought forth by a record number of Members present that day. There were two aspects of the Adjournment Motion - the first is that there is a simmering discontent among the farmers throughout the country in the wake of price hike on fertilizers, as also due the policy of decontrol and due to withdrawal of subsidy. We wanted to bring this fact to the notice of the Government. The second thing concerns the issue of wheat. Shri Tarun Gogoi is present at the moment. At one time he stated that there was a surplus stock of wheat in the country in as much as that the Government would export wheat and for which a plan was being drawn. Just after 15 days of his statement, the Government had to import wheat. The fact that the price at which wheat was exported was much less than the price at which the same was imported, gives birth to many suspicions. The hon. Minister opined that as technically it could not be an Adjournment Motion, hence that was put as a Discussion under Rule 193. We, however, find that no proper reply to these two points

seem to be coming forth during the course of the present discussion. Regarding both the issues, neither any assurance has been given by the Government that it would give relief to farmers by reducing the prices of fertilizers nor any convincing answer has been given as to why it committed irregularities in importing wheat due to which the farmers of India are forced to feel that on the one hand they are not being given the proper price of their wheat, on the other hand, the farmers of the foreign countries are paid a very high price for the same commodity.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the purpose of the Adjournment Motion is to express resentment of the people and censure the Government. Technically, this issue is not covered under this periphery. We accept your version. But we are completely dissatisfied with this answer given by the Government regarding fertilizers and wheat and we wanted to express the resentment, of people. In a bid to display our resentment, paying due regard to you, we walk out of the House.

15. 24 hrs.

At this stage Shri Lal K. Advani and some other hon. Members left the House.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have only this much of submission to you that the Government is still not clarifying the position as to why it is purchasing wheat from farmers of foreign countries at the rate of Rs. 526 per quintal. On the one hand it is paying much higher price to the farmers of America and Canada and on the other hand it is expecting higher production from the Indian farmers who are being paid very low price of their produce. This policy of the Government is anti-people and anti-farmer. Despite Shri Jakhar's advocacy of the policies of the Government it is very clear from the actions of the Government that it is completely an anti-people and anti-farmer.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midanapore): As the Mover of this motion, I have been

sitting patiently all these three days, listening to the replies given by the three Ministers. And I am very sorry to say that the point which had agitated everybody, not only in the House but outside - two specific points only on those issues, we have got no satisfaction from the replies which have been given. They are evasive replies. They do not give any satisfactory explanation as to why the state of affairs have come to such a pass. Every time, the prices go up, we have to import wheat from outside, this is a peculiar kind of explanation I have heard for the first time. Prices go up and down all the time; fluctuating prices are there. He says: 'Prices have gone up because we went to procure wheat. Prices went up and, therefore, we have no other go but to import'. And importing at such high prices is going to finish off our agriculture for a long time to come.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): I do not agree.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I did not expect you to agree.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: We explained as to why it was done. It is not our intention; if we have got the things, then we would not have imported. It is only a question that we cannot allow the country to go hungry at that time. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): There is enough food in our country. Then how did the question come up?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: According to the Government, we have become self-sufficient in foodgrains. All over the world, we have been saying that we are self-sufficient in foodgrains. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I explained to you as to what steps we are going to undertake to compensate the farmers for that. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): Sir, there is an answer on general Agricultural Policy but on fertiliser import, no Minister is giving any answer. We seriously

[Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

protest this hike in fertiliser prices and also for not giving any answer as to why rice and wheat re being imported . Therefore, we decided to walkup-out and not to further participate in this.

15. 28 hrs

At this stage, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and some other hon. Members left the House

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: We want to know how are you going to protect the farmers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): Why did you not ask yesterday? I am prepared to answer all your questions.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: If you want to say that traders were hoarding and that is why there was shortage, why did you not take any action against the hoardes? There was nothing against the hoardes and traders.

15. 29. hrs.

At this stage, Shri Indrajit Gupta and some other hon. Members left the House

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Why did you spent Rs. 15, 000 crore?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): You have not given any satisfactory reply, *(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: You were not present when I was replying. Why did you not ask me any questions yesterday?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: He has given no reply as to how they are going

to protect the interests of small and medium farmers in the face of steep rise in fertilizer prices. How are you going to protect the small and marginal farmers? You have not given any reply to that. So, we are walking out.

15. 29 1/2 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Saifuddin Choudhury and some other hon. Members left the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there anything else? We have two or three minutes before we start the Private Members' Business.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH (Washim): The hon. Minister has pointed out that the Government has fixed the support price of every commodity and whenever the prices of commodities come down in market, it purchase those commodities at the fixed support price. Today prices of millet (Jowar) has decreased very much in Maharashtra. What is the infrastructure made by the Government in this regard. What is the strategy of the Government to purchase the centre commodity at the fixed support price declared by it?

[English]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That is what I referred to.

[Translation]

I have asked them that whenever there is fall in prices, they should go there immediately and take the necessary steps in this regard on priority basis,

[English]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: He has already asked me and we are going to buy for it. It is brought to our notice and I will instruct my FCI.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to point out to the hon. Minister that when the commodity reaches the market and the mechanism of the Government is not functioning there at that time then what is the use of such a mechanism.

[English]

SHRI TARUNGOGOI: We will buy. I am giving the assurance, whatever is offered to me. I will buy.

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH (Parbhani): I have collected the information regarding the cost of production of different important crops of Maharashtra State from Government authorities. As the rise in the prices of fertilizer and other essential inputs including labour wages, it is very essential to consider all these factors before declaring the price of agricultural produce, otherwise our farmers will not be able to undertake the food production programme in present situation.

Therefore you are kindly requested to look into the matter seriously, otherwise our agrarians economy will be in danger our self-sufficiency will be in danger and even our economic independence will be in danger

[Translation]

I would like to hand over the attached copy to Shri Balam Jakhar (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, not like this you ask your question

[English]

This is not correct. Not like this Mr. Deshmukh. This is not a private House. You should give it to him in his chamber.

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Is there any package program for Kerala?

MR. SPEAKER: Now the Private Members Business. Shri Arjun Charan Sethi.

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Private Members' Business. Shri Arjun Charan Sethi.

[MR. DEPUTYN SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

15.31 hrs.

SPECIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE OF ORISSA BILL*

[English]

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI (Bhadrak): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Orissa for the welfare of Scheduled Casts and Scheduled Tribes and for the development, exploitation and proper utilisation of the mineral resources.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: the question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Orissa for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and for the development, exploitation and proper utilisation of the mineral resources."

The motion was adopted

15. 31 ,1/2 hrs.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: I introduce the Bill.

[Translation]

POPULATION CONTROL AND FAMILY WELFARE BILL*

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saldpur). Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for measures control the increasing population and to

[Sh. Rajnath Sonkar Shastri]

15. 32 1/2 hrs.

encourage small family norm and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"The leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for measures to control the increasing population and to encourage small family norm and for matters connected therewith.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: I introduce the Bill:

15.32. hrs.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES
(FOR CHILDREN OF PARENTS LIVING
BELOW POVERTY LINE BILL*

[English]

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: (Bapatla): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for special educational facilities to the children of parents living below poverty line and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for special educational facilities to the children of parents living below poverty line and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL
(OMISSION OF ARTICLES 356 AND
357)

[English]

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO (Bapatla): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: I introduce the Bill.

15.33 hrs.

PROHIBITION BILL*

[English]

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for total prohibition and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for total prohibition and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: I introduce the Bill.

15. 33 1/2 hrs.

YOUTH WELFARE BILL*

[English]

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for a comprehensive policy for the development of the youth in the country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for a comprehensive policy for the development of the youth in the country."

The motion was adopted

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
introduce the Bill

15.34 hrs.

HINDU MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Amendment of Section 5, etc.)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: I
introduce the Bill.

HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH
(ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT
BENCH AT RAIPUR) BILL *

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent bench of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Raipur and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for establishment of a permanent bench of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Raipur and for matters connected therewith".

The motion was adopted

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Sir, I
introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri
Dileepbhai Sanghani - not present.

15.35 1/2 hrs

RESERVATION OF POSTS FOR
WOMEN (IN GOVERNMENT
SERVICES) BILL*

[English]

SHRIMATI BHAVANA CHIKHLIA (Jugagarh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation of posts for women in Government Service and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation of posts for women in Government Services and for matters connected therewith".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I introduce the Bill.

15.36 hrs

ANCIENT AMOUNTS AND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND
REMAINS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(AMENDMENT OF SECTION 5)

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958".

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I introduce the Bill.

15.36 1/2 hrs

FOREIGNERS (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(AMENDMENT OF SECTION)

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Foreigners Act, 1946.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Foreigners Act, 1946".

The motion was adopted

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
introduce the Bill.

15.37 hrs.

USE OF INDIAN LANGUAGES IN
COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS AND
ON PACKAGES OF CONSUMER
GOODS BILL*

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAT (Hathras): Sir I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the compulsory use of Hindi language and one another Indian language in all commercial advertisements and on packages of consumer goods and for matter connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the compulsory use of Hindi language and one other Indian language in all commercial advertisements and on packages of consumer goods and for matters connected therewith".

The motion was adopted

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.37 1/2 hrs.

[English]

SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND PENSION
OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
(AMENDMENT)* BILL (AMENDMENT OF
SECTION 3)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend to Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

Bill Introduced

AGRAHAYANA 6, 1914 (SAKA)

Bill Introduced 578

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954

The motion was adopted

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I introduce the Bill.

15.38 hrs.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE
(AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Submission of New section for section on 125, etc.)

[English]

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973".

The motion was adopted

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: I introduce the Bill.

18.38 1/2 hrs.

ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY
(AMENDMENT) BILL *
(Amendment of Section 8, etc.)

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920".

The motion was adopted

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I introduce the Bill.

15.39 hrs

PUBLIC PREMISES (EVICTION OF
UNAUTHORISED OCCUPANTS)
AMENDMENT BILL *
(Amendment of Section 2)

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971".

The motion was adopted

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I introduce the Bill.

15.39 1/2 hrs.

PROHIBITION OF CAPITATION FEE
BILL *

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for banning capitation fee charged by educational institutions and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for banning capitation fee charged by educational institutions and for matters connected therewith".

The motion was adopted

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I introduce the Bill.

15.40 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES)
(UTTAR PRADESH) ORDER
(AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Amendment of the Schedule) - *CONTD.*
By Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat on the 7th August, 1992, namely:-

"That the Bill to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Uttar Pradesh) Order, 1967, be taken into consideration".

MR. RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY is not present. Mr. Ramesh Chennithala may speak now.

MR. RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Sir, I rise to support the contents of the Bill introduced by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat. This Bill is mainly for including a particular community, that is, Banjara community in the schedule. There are certain other communities also who are socially and economically backward and who fulfill all other conditions for getting included in the list. Of course, the Banjara community is considered as OBC in Uttar Pradesh. Sir, there are demands from certain other communities to include them also in the list. So, my request to the hon. Minister is to

come forward with a comprehensive bill so that the demands from different communities can be examined and can be included. For example, there are converted Christians. There are converted Christians in Kerala who are demanding for inclusion in Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Even though they have adopted Christianity, their situation is precarious. They are living in filthy conditions. They are converted Christians but still their social and economic background is the same; they are not getting any support from the Government. So, they are demanding for inclusion in the list. They should be considered as SCs and STs. My request to the hon. Minister is that this should be considered. Sir, lot of representations were given to the Central Government and the State Government also examined their request. So, it is high time that this demand is considered. Just like this, there are fishermen in certain areas like Lakshadweep and other Union Territories who are considered as tribes. Their social and economic conditions are also to be considered. So, there is not only Banjara community but there are other communities and sections of people who are suffering a lot and who are fulfilling the conditions for inclusion in SCs and STs list who should be considered. My request to the hon. Minister is he should come forward with a comprehensive bill so that these demands can be met.

There are lot of complaints regarding bogus certificates of SCs and STs. Government must take this as serious issue and vigorous punishment should be given to those people who are having these bogus certificates and cheating the Government for getting the facilities which are entirely meant for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Government should give rigorous punishment to those people, who are trying to take away the advantages meant for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, through bogus certificates.

Another point that I would like to raise here is about changing the names of certain communities. There are demands from certain communities to change their names.

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They demand a change of name because the names of the primitive communities seem to be derogative terms. Therefore, this demand for change of names should also be looked into.

Yet another demand is about having a general list. Throughout India, in different States, communities with identical socio-economic status and condition, are known with different names. My request is that we should have a general name for such communities all over India. This aspect may also be given due consideration.

I do not want to take much time of the House. So, I request the Government to come forward with a comprehensive Bill so that the long-standing demands of the different communities for inclusion in the Schedule can be achieved. Certain State Governments have already submitted their demands in this regard. I once again request the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill to do justice to these people who are suffering.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Bill presented by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat is concerned with the inclusion of a particular caste of Uttar Pradesh in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes. It is necessary to pay proper attention to the Bill. It is not just the question of inclusion of a particular caste of Uttar Pradesh because there are many other castes in the other states also which can be included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and I would like to express my views in this regard. It is a fact that the Banjara Community of Uttar Pradesh has been always neglected. Same is the case with Banjara caste in Madhya Pradesh. It is not clear that in which list that caste has been included. A dual system should be adopted in this context. In regard to Meena Caste in Madhya Pradesh it is considered to be upper caste somewhere and in some other places it is included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. Such type of dual situation exists in two different districts. The

Meena caste of Rajasthan is treated as Rajput and also considered as Scheduled Tribe in the same State and somewhere it has been put in general category. There are so many such other anomalies in connection with backward classes, tribes and Scheduled Castes. Karbelia is a roaming community. But there is no reference regarding this community in the Constitution, we should pay attention towards this fact. Banjara community is not only backward socially but educationally also, so it should be included in the list. All these steps should be taken not only in the context of Uttar Pradesh only but in all other related states also. Another caste is Bachra which is also very neglected and there are a number of other castes in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. But neither they are included in Scheduled Castes nor in backward classes. So it is necessary to review the matter. Similarly, there is a caste named as Bairagi or Jogia Community which earns its livelihood by catching the snakes but they have not been included in the list of Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. Information should be sought from all states regarding which castes are included in the list and which are not included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Tribes. There are so many such castes which are not included in SC's or ST's like Yamakshi who are drum beaters and they have been put in the general category. That is why they are not getting the due facilities provided to those by the Government and they have to get false certificates. It would be better if a time bound programme is chalked out for this purpose and the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is prepared again. Only then the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes would be able to get justice.

I would like to repeat my request in respect of Meena caste. If they are included in the list of Scheduled Tribes then they are not allowed to sell their land and in another district they are included in general category and they are allowed to sell or buy the land. Therefore these anomalies should be removed. A comprehensive Bill should be introduced after a thorough review of the situation so that the anomalies in the system

are removed and justice is done to the neglected communities and they may get social justice.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I stand to support the Bill presented by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat. I support the Bill because he has presented the Bill to include the Banjara Community in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes of Uttar Pradesh. Along with this I would like to draw your attention towards the fact that there are some castes whose social status and standard is equal to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But once the list of Scheduled Castes and Tribes has been prepared, great difficulty is being faced now to include some new castes in the list. Through you we would request the Government that a comprehensive policy should be framed after conducting a survey in this connection and such eligible castes should be included....

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time allotted for this subject was two hours and that will be over by five minutes to four. Still there are many Members who want to participate in the discussion and the Minister also has to reply to it. Is it desire of the House to extend discussion on this subject?

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): The debate on this Bill should be concluded in half an hour and then next Bill should be taken up. A detailed discussion has already been taken up during the last session.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: So, in this half hour's time all the five speakers should finish their speeches and the Minister's reply should also be over within this time.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, many such castes have been left from being included in the list. You should frame a new policy after conducting a full survey and on this basis amendment should be made in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There are some such castes as Gaund, Bind, Nunia and Beldar in my state of Bihar. Their social status and educational standard is similar so that of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This question has always been raised in the State assembly. Therefore I urge the Government to include them also in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Similarly there is another caste called Pan. If we look at the list of such castes you would notice many such castes whose social status and educational standard is same as of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes and Pan caste is also the same. It is a very backward class. Therefore, through you, I would like to urge that these castes should also be included in the list.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, once again I would like to request you that a single policy should be frame after conducting a survey and then the list should be revised and made upto date as per the demand, which is being made by the people.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): Sir, I rise to congratulate Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat on bringing to the forefront the need of identifying and inclusion of certain tribes of U.P. into the Presidential Order in Scheduled Tribes.

Sir, I agree with all the hon. Members who are of the opinion that the Government should come up with a more comprehensive Bill to include all the other tribes and castes so that opportunities or protection in the Constitution of India are extended to all of them.

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Sir, on this issue, I would dwell upon the plight, of the Dalit Christians. I thank you very much Mr. Chennithala for drawing the attention of the Government to this very important issue. There are more than 10 million Dalit Christians living all over India. They are there in Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and in almost all the State of India. Now, I cannot understand the philosophy behind your proclamation order that a man or a woman just because he or she is converted into Christianity, they will lose their rights, they will lose their recognition as Scheduled Castes of the country.

India is a secular State. In a secular State, we are protected to believe one's God, in one's faith, according to one's conviction.

Therefore, this presumption that once you are converted into Christianity, you will lose your right as a Scheduled Caste. It is against the fundamentals of the Constitution of our great country.

This issue has been raised for many years. I remember in 1981 during the National Front Government, those who were converted into Buddhism were included in the Presidential Order. Now I do not understand how converted Christians have been denied this right. During the National Front Government, I was one of those MPs who had raised this issue in this honourable House. I remember Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan replied to the debate. He had promised to take up this issue in the next session of Parliament. Unfortunately, their Government fell and the promise made by them could not be fulfilled. If you go through the assurances, you will find that there is a clear assurance that Dalit Christians also will be included in the Presidential Order. Unfortunately, till today, it seems nothing has been done.

I remember in the last Budget Session about 200 MPs of this august House had signed a memorandum and submitted it to the Prime Minister requesting him to bring a new Presidential Order to include those converted Christians also to be treated as Scheduled Castes.

By becoming a Christian you do not become easily well off; you do not become easily well placed in society. It is only that belief in the faith that has made a man or a woman be converted into Christianity. Our social status is the same like anyone else. If a Harijan is converted into Christianity, he is still treated as a Harijan. If a backward caste is converted into Christianity it is still treated as a backward caste. How is it that he loses or that she loses his or her that she loses his or right to be included in the Scheduled Caste Presidential Order?

On the 21st of November, we had a very big meeting in Vijayawada where the Minister of Welfare, Sitaram Kesari, was present there. All the Dalit Christians, more than five lakhs of them, in Vijayawada, with one voice, had requested the Government to bring a change in the Presidential Order to include them also as Scheduled Castes.

Conversion into Christianity does not give them any additional facilities in life; they remain as they are. In fact by becoming Christians they lose their right to be protected under the scheduled Caste Order.

I feel that the Government should now come forward with a comprehensive Bill to take care of those matters which are the crying needs of the hour. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Still there are four hon. Members who have to participate in the debate. Two more names have come. We have to close this debate by 4.25 p.m. including the reply by the hon. Minister. So, I request all those hon. Members to be brief in their speeches.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support this Bill and at the same time, I want to say that the Banjara community is not only confined to Uttar Pradesh alone but it is there in all the States. So, wherever this community is living, it should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes. Along with it, I would like to say that the Gond community has been included in

the list of Scheduled Castes by the Government of Bihar and the High Court has also ordered its inclusion but this community, Gond is not only confined to Bihar alone but it should be included in all the States of the country. Therefore, it should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes at all India level. There are other castes in Bihar also which are socially weak and which are not given due respect in society. Therefore, reservation should be provided to them keeping in view the spirit of the Constitution so that they can achieve dignity and equal status in society. Nothing has been written in the Constitution about the economic equality. If someone says that economic equality has been guaranteed, then man like me is not ready to accept it. Those who framed the Constitution thought that only the social equality for these castes is necessary but not the economic equality. Therefore, for social equality, the castes residing in Bihar like Luhar, Kumhar, Khambkar, Nonia, Been, Rajbhar, Hazzam etc. who are socially neglected, should be given reservation facility. Therefore, I demand that these castes should also be included in the list of the Scheduled Castes.

Along with it, I want to make this demand, also that there is a caste, Paneeri, which too is socially weak. They have no stand in society. To bring them at par with the other castes, it is necessary that the Paneeri caste should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes.

I would like to conclude after making one more point. Since names of various castes have been included in the list of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and their number is increasing continuously, there is need to raise the percentage which is at present a total of 22.5 percent as the number of the casters is increasing in these lists. It is said about the people of the Meena caste that they are also Harijans, therefore they should also get reservation. With these words, I support the Bill in the House and with it make a demand that with the inclusion of Banjara community in the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, other castes,

which I have referred to, should also be included in these lists. So, that they can also avail of the benefit of reservation and they can also make a rise in society. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very much grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to express my views.

In this country, in spite of our 45 years of independence, so many communities are still socially discriminated. There is a lot of discrimination in the villages in regard to the profession of many of the communities like Scheduled Castes.

In Andhra Pradesh, there are many communities who have the profession of washerman. They generally wash clothes of the people in the villages and even in the towns. In many places they have been isolated and their houses have been totally neglected and they are supposed to stay in the corners of the villages. They are socially neglected and are economically very poor. Till date they cannot afford to take two meal a day. That is the opposition of washerman in Andhra Pradesh.

Same is the condition of Barber community in Andhra Pradesh. In Telugu, we call them Mangali. They have the profession of hair cutting. Some of them are well to do but many of them are socially backward and are isolated.

The third community is Pardhi. In Maharashtra they are included in the Tribals list but in Anr'hra Pradesh their economic condition is very poor. They are socially neglected people in Andhra Pradesh.

Another community is Kurma community. In North they are called Gaderia. They are shepherds. They are living in the remotest villages in Andhra Pradesh.

The Vaddara community, has the profession of stone crushing. They live in the

hill areas of Andhra Pradesh. They comprise of a large number of people.

Fisherman community, which is also socially neglected, live in Gangaputra area of the coastal belt. They are socially very backward and they have no livelihood. They live without clothes. The education of their children is very poor.

Lastly, I will say about Erukala community. They have no education. Only 0.22 per cent of people of that community are educated.

Hence, I demand that all these communities should be included in the SC or ST list. I have demanded that even in the Consultative Committee Meeting. I also submitted a petition to the Speaker, Lok Sabha to include these communities into the ST community.

The fishermen, washermen and Vaddra, these three communities should also be included in the list. Hence, my request is that unless and until the social discrimination is rooted out, the reservation must continue for Scheduled Castes and Tribes because lot of opposition is there outside, in the country.

Secondly, the people of those communities are educationally and socially backward and all those communities mentioned by me should also be included so that they also get the opportunities for progressing educationally and the financial institutions can also come to their help.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mumtaz Ansari: Please be brief because three more speakers are there to speak on this Bill

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma): I will just take only two minutes.

I rise to support this Bill, a Private Member's Bill moved by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat which proposes to include through a constitutional amendment, certain Banjara cast in the list of educationally and socially backward communities, so that they can also get the advantage of the facility of

reservation in service and educational institutions.

Much has been said on this issue. Nothing has been left but one point which is very much important, which I would like to emphasise is that there is some sort of discrimination on the ground of religion, because the Muslim community all over the country has become a socially and educationally very much backward. So far as percentage of literacy is concerned, it has also gone down considerably. It is just at eight per cent or ten per cent approximately whereas the national average stands at 52 per cent. So, up till now, no facilities have been extended to such communities which also fall within this category, which have been included in the constitutional amendment for the sake of giving reservation facilities.

For example, there are some communities like the Muslim Dhoabee, Muslim Nut, Muslim Fakir and Muslim Halkhor which are known as sweepers, they are also doing the same activities.

There should be no discrimination on the ground of work. So far as the nature of work is concerned, it is the same that all of them do. But we find that no facility is extended to such communities. So, I would request that there must be some sort of a comprehensive Bill for bring forth an amendment of the Constitution in order to include within its purview all these communities without any grudge any bias on the ground of religion or caste or creed. Because these communities, you will find if you just look at their educational and social backwardness, are worse than even all those which have been included in the category of Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

Since independence, till now, their position has rather worsened. There is no improvement, whatsoever in their social and economic condition. No attempts have been made to improve their condition. That is why I appeal to you that there must be some sort of a comprehensive Bill in order to include all these categories without any bias on the

[Sh. Mumtaz Ansari]

ground of religion.

At the same time, I would like to say that not only Banjara Community which has been mentioned in this Bill, but also other such communities also which are there all over the country should be included in the amendment to include them in the list of Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Of course, I fully agree with this Bill in totality. But the other communities which have been pointed out by our colleagues and friends here just now, they should also be included.

For that purpose, there must be some sort of a survey on a national scale and all these communities must be examined by a Parliamentary Committee and the overall situation must be assessed and then a comprehensive Bill must be brought forward for including them in the Constitution. That should be accepted and a proper constitutional amendment should be brought out for the sake of those communities.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: One more name has been added, the latest being from Assam.

Shri Gopi Nath Gajpathi.

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Uttar Pradesh) Order, 1967 lists certain tribes for providing them with benefits like reservation of seats in educational institutions, services, etc. The basis for inclusion of these tribes in the Schedule to the Order is their socio-economic backwardness. I commend this Bill introduced by my learned colleague Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat, who seeks to include in the Schedule to the Constitution "Banjara", a socially and educationally backward tribe living in various Parts of the State of Uttar Pradesh.

Now, the Constitution of India aims at creating a just and an equitable society in our country. To achieve this purpose, we have many all-round programmes specially for

SCs and STs. The SCs and STs of many States have found their rightful place under the reservation policy. However, in some States they are deprived of it. Let us examine the ways and means of how best we can help this deprived lot.

Indeed, the SCs and STs are the weakest of the weak sections. They are much harassed in the cities. Their exploitation normally takes place in the villages. They have no formal education even. As suggested by our dynamic leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, we should establish Navodaya schools throughout the country for the benefit of SCs and STs. Only then, we can hope to change the social status of this lot.

Sir, I represent Berhampur Parliamentary Constituency of Orissa State. It comprises of seven Assembly segments of Ramagiri, Parlakhemundi, Mohana, Berhampur, Gopalpur, Chtrapur and Chikiti. Most of these segments are predominated by SCs and STs. They are the backward classes belonging to different religions, who since ages continue to be a deprived and underdeveloped lot in significant numbers of over four lakhs in the districts of Ganjam, Koraput and Phulbani of Orissa State. They have no basic amenities even, let alone enjoy any luxuries of life. The Government of India, State Governments apart, can help this deprived lot by providing them with more liberal funds under the Tribal Sub-Plans for improving their village roads network and extend other amenities.

Further, there is also another traditional marine called of fishermen on the class 'Nuleas' on the coastal regions of Ganjam, Puri, Cuttak and Balasore of Orissa State, predominantly in the Gopalpur and Chtrapur Assembly segments. These poor and oppressed lot of fishermen, depend on fishing for their livelihood. However, they have been subjected to a lot of hardships by the big industrial houses, who have taken to fishing as a major business activity, using deep-sea travellers. The helpless fishermen, with their small country boats, are no match vis-a-vis the industrial giants and are thus under constant oppression for their basic livelihood.

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These backward classes and the fishermen are treated as untouchables and are given inhuman treatment. Even now, they are being offended at public places like hotels, schools, shops, rivers, wells etc. Basic needs like education, health facilities, jobs, electricity, water supply and other social amenities are not provided to them. They are thus denied equity and social justice. Till date, they are landless, bonded labourers and as a result, their hopes, aspirations, skills and potentialities are dashed to the ground.

It can be seen that till now, religion, party or government has been able to help free the backward classes and fishermen from economic bondages and accord them socio-economic development. Programmes and schemes should be formulated for economic rehabilitation of the underdeveloped lot. Laws against untouchability should also be strictly enforced to enable this section of deprived people to live like normal human beings. I therefore demand the inclusion of the 'Nulia' fishermen of Orissa State in the list of Scheduled Castes.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government of India, through you, Sir, to enact a comprehensive legislation for due recognition of the under-developed backward classes of all the Indian States and also the poor, oppressed fishermen of Orissa State in the interests of equity and justice.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, even though I am in agreement with the spirit of this Bill, I am unable to support the Bill as such because what we want today is a comprehensive list of both Scheduled Castes communities and the other backward communities so that the demand for including additional list either in the Scheduled Castes or in the other backward communities should not come in future. It is a matter of regret that even after 45 years of Independence from every quarter of this country demands are coming to include more communities either as Scheduled Castes or as backward whereas the proper course would have been for a demand or a struggle to see that the communities go out

of the backward. Now, everybody wants to be backward because they feel that some benefit is attached to the backward community. I belong to backward community. In Kerala, my community has got the reservation and in the Mandal Commission Report, out of the 3753 communities, my community is also included. But, I strongly feel, at some stage the whole reservation should go out of this country because we are a secular State, we always speak of secular and fellowship of this country. But, today, the whole struggle is to divide the country either on the basis of religion or caste or language. All these are barriers that goes into the root cause of creating dissensions and establishing the country. So, even though for some time reservation should be there, I feel that our ultimate aim should be to see that equality is given to every citizen of this country irrespective of caste or creed or religion or language or place of birth. That should be the ultimate goal. I strongly request the Government through you, let them appoint a Commission one for listing out the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the other for finding out the really backward communities including in this list which are not really backward. They are more than forward. If all these communities are given 22 per cent of reservation, a few communities which are really backward will take away the whole recruitment that is reserved for them. The real backward will be thrown out. As suggested by the Supreme Court, within a time frame, an effort should be made to find out the really backward communities and whatever reservation is available should be given to them.

I also suggest that reservation in appointment should not be the main thing. That is a very small thing. Even in the Mandal Commission Report it has been said that we have to equip the communities. We have to give educational facilities; we have to start new schools for them. They have to be financed. All the children of these communities should be equipped in another ten or fifteen years, so that they will be able to compete with other fortunate forward communities. So, that should be our aim. I suggest that an effort should be made to find

out the really backward. A lot of requests are coming. Shri Peter G. Marbaniang was just mentioning about the discrimination shown to the Scheduled Caste Christians. That should be avoided. Dr. Zakir Hussain once said that secularism will be felt by the country only when every citizen of the country does not talk about either religion or community or caste. So, let us try for that society where justice is given to everybody, irrespective of his caste, creed or religion. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The extended time was upto 4.25 p.m. and even that is also lost. One more Member is there to speak and then the Minister will reply.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I shall also speak on this, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: So, shall we extend the time by half an hour?

AN HON. MEMBER: Fifteen minutes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member will take five minutes and the Minister will take about 15 minutes. So, shall we extend it by twenty minutes?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Shri Kabindra Purkayastha.

[Translation]

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA (Silchar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Bill has been brought to include the Banjara community of Uttar Pradesh in the list of the Scheduled Tribes. I would like to make a submission in this regard, particularly with regard to north-eastern region. I know that a number of Scheduled Tribe people live in north eastern region and out of them there are many communities like Koch, Rajvanshi and Riyang, which are Scheduled Tribes but which have unfortunately not been included in the list of Scheduled Tribes till now. Once,

a question was also raised about it in the House and at that time and Welfare Minister had said that arrangements will be made for preparing a detailed list but nothing has been done so far in this respect.

Sir, my submission is that apart from the inclusion of the Banjara community in this list, there are certain other castes, which come under Scheduled Tribes, but have not been included in the list of the Scheduled Tribes. As I have said about Assam that such people should be included in the list. They are deprived of the facilities given to the Scheduled Tribes. Often it is said by the Government that much has been done for the people of Scheduled Tribes but as far as the people of Scheduled Tribes living in the hill areas of the North-East are concerned, it appears that no change has come to them. Therefore, the Government should ponder over it and bring about change for them. This is my submission only that it is necessary to include Rajvanshi, Koch and Riyang in the list of the Scheduled Tribes which have been left out.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Constitution (Amendment) Bill to include a backward community called 'Banjara' in the list of Scheduled Tribes. We have been demanding since very long in this very House to bring a comprehensive Bill in this regard. A number of times we were assured by the Ministers, one after the other, that they would bring a comprehensive Bill for inclusion of those backward castes and communities which the list of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes were left out from the list of Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Why that comprehensive Bill is not coming before this House? Why is it that there are isolated demands from one State or the other for comprehensive Bill, once for all, to include certain communities which are fit to be included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Tribes the problem will be solved. I request you to take such action.

There are certain communities also

which I personally feel that should not be in the list of Scheduled Castes. For certain reasons, they might have been included in the past; but there is a need for exclusion of these communities now from the list.

I have been demanding for inclusion of a community called 'Deswali Maaji' which is there in the district of Purulia. They are like 'Santhal' community. Their culture, their food habits etc. are identical with tribal people. I have been demanding that they should be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. They are economically and socially backward. They need to be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. I have been making this demand since long. I was assured by the Ministers that when a comprehensive Bill would come, they would definitely consider to include that community in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

I also have been demanding about the inclusion of 'Santhals'. They were brought from Chota Nagpur in Bihar some 200 years ago by the Britishers to work in the tea gardens in Assam because the people of Assam refused to work in the tea gardens. They were brought from Chota Nagpur and from my district, Purulia in West Bengal. They are now settled in Assam and have been working there for four to five generations now. They are treated as Scheduled Tribes in Chota Nagpur and in West Bengal. But some of them who are settled in Jalpaigun district and who are working in the tea gardens in Assam are not recognised as Scheduled Tribes. I want to know why these Santhals who were brought by the Britishers to work in the tea gardens and who are settled in Assam are not recognised as Scheduled Tribes.

I also urge upon the Government that when the comprehensive Bill comes — I do not know when, but when that Bill comes at all and if at all the Government brings these Bill, the Government should definitely consider the Scheduled Tribe of Assam, the tea garden workers of Assam, who were brought from Chotanagpur and who have now settled in Assam. Sir, I hope the Minister will give an assurance that he will definitely

bring a comprehensive Bill and that the Bill will come and he will also tell the house when that Bill will come.

[Translation]

**SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palakkad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Puluvan community of Kerala is socially, economically and educationally extremely backward. This community was in the beginning treated as Scheduled Caste like the Pulluyas, Malayas, Vamans, etc. However, in 1956 when the list of Scheduled Castes was revised by the Central Govt. due to printing mistake, the Pulluvan community was taken out of the Scheduled Caste list. In the revised list. The name of this community was written as Pulluvan and not Pulluyan. As a matter of fact there is no community as Pulluvan in Kerala. The list should have shown the correct name of this community, namely the Pulluvan. This printing mistake has deprived this community of the benefit being enjoyed by the Scheduled Caste. When this mistake was brought to the notice of the Kerala Government, it agreed that it was a mistake and it recommended to the Centre that the name of this community should be corrected and till that is done all benefits which are available to Scheduled Castes should be provided to this community. But the same mistake was repeated in 1976 also when the list was again revised. The representatives of this community have been making representation to the State Govt. as well as the Central Govt. But, so far, it has not been corrected. In 1990, when the matter was taken to the Kerala High Court, the Court held that there is no community by the name Pulluvan and the correct name of the community is Pulluvan. I would therefore request the Government that immediate steps should be taken to correct this mistake and include the Pulluvan community in the list of Scheduled Castes.

There is another community by the name Malla Pandaram which is also a very backward community. In Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh this community is treated as Scheduled Caste but in Kerala it is treated merely as other backward caste. Although, it

is treated as OBC, it is not getting any benefits except educational benefits which are enjoyed by OBCs in the State. I would therefore take this opportunity to request the Government that this community should also be included in the list of Scheduled Castes. Thank you.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to thank Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat who introduced this Bill. Sir, not only the Banzara tribe, rather several other such tribes of the country have not been thoughtfully included into the list of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. This is evident. It can be seen that the list of the Scheduled Castes includes the casts which should have been included into the list of the Scheduled Tribes whereas the list of the Scheduled Tribes includes the tribes which should have actually been referred to the list of the Scheduled Castes. It is regrettable that nothing has been done towards even after discussions held in this House on several occasions. In April, 1984 discussions were held on it for two continuous days. During that time it was announced in the House by the hon. Minister of Welfare and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that there would be a complete review about all those anomalies and that the Government would soon bring about the necessary changes in the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to make them more comprehensible. But so far nothing like that has been done. Several Governments came into power and changed. Such Bills are generally brought forward at the advent of every new Government and when the demand of promulgating the Bill is made by the Members during their discussion, it is meted with the assurance that the Government will soon introduce the Scheduled Castes Amendment Bill with a large scale changes. It is, however, never done. Through you I would like to demand that the Government should soon come out with fully amended Bill. Care should be taken that the tribes which should be included into the list of the Scheduled Tribes must be

It is not the issue of Banzara tribe alone, there is also a large number of Mushar in Uttar Pradesh. Similarly, there are casts like Nut, Basfor and Kanjar who by making small groups live in every region of Uttar Pradesh. They are known by different names in different places. These castes are in a very miserable condition. Well, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes do have at least, houses to live in, but the Mushars do not have the houses to live in. They are convinced that they cannot be happy if they live in houses and they should therefore live beneath the trees. I want that their social status should be elevated. There is a tribe (caste) known as Khatik, they are in large number in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. The hon. Minister of Railway is sitting here. I have seen that lakhs of a people belonging to this caste lives in his Constituency. It is unfortunate that the people of this caste have been included in the backward classes. All sorts of agitations were launched by the people of this Caste but were not so effective that it could arrest the attention of the Government. The elected representatives of the public do not pay any attention to their demands. The people of that caste are in such a condition that they sell mutton. Their small children sell mutton in baskets by putting them on their heads. They also sell blood collecting it from the slaughter-houses. This caste has been put in the list of backward classes whereas it enjoy the status of Scheduled Castes in nine other states. I want that such castes of India known as - Khatik, Arya Khatik, Suryavanshi Khatik, Raiya, Shikwa, Dhaukor Kasai, Banwate, Mandwaria, Karsane, Sonkar, Bate should all be included in the list of the Scheduled Castes.

It has been heard that five lakh people belong to the caste of Khatik are going to demonstrate in April. It will surely be bad when five lakh people will assemble in Delhi for demonstration. I would like to submit that throughout the State people of this caste should be included into the list of Scheduled Castes. With these words I would once again like to thank Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat who brought forward such a Bill and I would

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also like to thank the hon. Chairman who gave me an opportunity to express my views.

To deny them an opportunity is not fair.

If you agree, shall we extend the time up to 5.10 p.m.?

MANY HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Many people have participated and are cooperating with us. So, the time is extended upto 5.10. p.m.

SHRI RAMACHANDRA VEERAPPA (Bidar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, welcoming this Bill. I would like to make a brief submission. The question is whether the Government is encouraging casteism or it is trying to remove it. There are already many issues before the Government. To promote casteism has become one more issue. There is a proverb in Hindi:

Jaat main Jaat, Hinduan ki Jaa't Aur
Paa't main Paat Kelan ki Paa't

If you go on peeling the banana tree you will not find any wood in it. More and more castes of Hindus are being included in the reservation list. How long will it continue? There should be only two castes — the rich and the poor. If the rich and the poor are divided there will be thousand divisions. Ultimately the Government will have to face problems. As the casteism increases clashes are also increasing. The Government should therefore try to do away with casteism. I think that this way many of the problems faced by the Government will end. As dog fight is invited by throwing a piece of meat before them, the Government is doing the same. That is why casteism increase. Even after the tall promises made by the new Government. Casteism is on the increasing trend. The present Government is trading on the same path of the previous Governments. My submission to the Government is that there should be only two castes- the poor and the rich. As there are women and men, similarly there should be only two castes in the country. There is no need for the third caste.

Now without taking much time I would thank you for allowing me to express my views.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The extended time for this Bill has also come to an end. Three more Members representing the weaker sections of the society want to speak.

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH (Adoor): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I rise to support this Bill. Sir, a number of Tribal communities like Banjara in Uttar Pradesh are not included in the Scheduled Tribes list. In this country, in many of the States, the real Tribes communities are not included in the list. I am sure the Government of India immediately response to their demand and necessary steps has been taken.

My request is, the Government of India may immediately constitute a committee to go to various States and to study the demands of various communities and after that, they may introduce a Constitution (Amendment) Bill.

My second point is, the Scheduled Tribes are not getting their facilities properly. The Constitution of India has conferred a lot of privileges to the Scheduled Tribes Community. But unfortunately they are not able to get all those privileges. Take the case of employment in the State Government and the Central Government. A number of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Tribes communities remain unfilled. The upper caste bureaucrats are not interested that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe people should come up at the higher posts. I strongly feel that the scheduled tribes people should be encouraged to come to the higher posts in the services of Central Government and the State Governments.

I urge upon the Government of India to take immediate steps in this regard. The Government of India should issue strict directions to the State Governments to examine this matter and to take immediate steps so that all the reserved vacancies are

filled up.

Another important point to which I draw the attention of the Government of India is about the atrocities on innocent and poor tribals in various parts of the country. Every day news appear that there is brutal attack on the Scheduled Tribe community. I demand that the Government of India should set up special courts to deal with the cases of atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Once again I strongly support this Bill.

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise to support the Bill. At the same time, I am thankful to Shri Bhgwan Shankar Rawat who has moved the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Uttar Pradesh) Order (Amendment) Bill to include Banjara community in Uttar Pradesh in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

I would like to speak about the North-Eastern regions, particularly of Assam, Tripura, Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh. There you will find several Scheduled Tribes had to be included in the List of Scheduled Tribes. I mention some of them, for instance, the Hriang and another small tribes are yet to be included in Scheduled Tribes. Shri Basudeb Acharia mentioned that in Assam there are several tea gardens and in the tea gardens, tea labourers, mostly from Karnataka, Orissa and other parts of the country, are really Scheduled Castes, but they are not yet declared Scheduled Caste. So, I feel that there should be another survey of these depressed classes. These depressed classes should be included in the List of Scheduled Castes.

Now I shall say about the reservation on policy of the Government. It is seen that for Scheduled Castes, there is 15 per cent reservation in Services and for Scheduled Tribes 7 1/2 per cent. So far as I understand, at present in India for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, I think the percentage

should come to about 25. But the present percentage of reservation is only 22 1/2 including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This reservation should be raised in case of Services as well as in schools and colleges.

I further feel that this reservation policy of 15 per cent and 7 1/2 per cent are not at all followed by the State Governments. As a result, we find in the States as well as in the Centre, this backlog is there and moreover the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not represented in Class I and Class II Services.

So, I urge upon the Government to see that this backlog as well as reservation policy in case of Services and schools and colleges should be strictly followed.

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the time to speak. On a number of occasion, the issue of inclusion of various castes in different states in the list of reserved category of castes has been raised in the House. However, now this issue has become so sensitive that demands for the inclusion of castes on the basis of economic criterion will be raised time and again. Many an hon. Member have advocated the inclusion of different castes of their respective states in the list of the reserved category of castes. I also would like to submit that the casts which have a life style and culture similar to that of the tribals should be identified first for inclusion in the reserved category and after inclusion if the facilities are once extended to them, these should never be withdrawn. Moreover, the facilities whenever extended to tribals and others have not been much effective in improving their lives or these facilities have not been properly used by the targeted beneficiaries. In this connection, I have repeatedly made submission to the Government, the Hon. Prime Minister and several hon. Ministers that in Vidarbha region 'Mana and Goari' tribes inhabit. Both these tribes have a lifestyle similar to that of the tribals and were also being treated as tribals,

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but since 1980 the facilities enjoyed by them have been withdrawn. As a result of it both these tribes have come as under great difficulty.

Therefore, I would like to submit that when more and more castes are being included in the list of the reserved category of castes atleast the facilities being extended to them at present should in no way be reduced. Before including new castes in the list of reserved category these should be identified first after going into the merits of the claim of each caste for inclusion in the reserved list.

While speaking on the present amendment being considered in the House, I would also like to urge the inclusion of 'Mana and Goari' tribes in the reserved list. I have separately urged the hon. Minister, present here in the House. 40 other hon. Members of my state have also appeared to the hon. Minister that these tribes should be included in the list of reserved category. On this occasion, I would like to submit again that the life style and culture of both these tribes is similar to that of the tribals. Just because both these tribes have not been identified as tribals under the provisions of the Constitution, the facilities extended to them have been withdrawn. I conclude my speak with the submission that all the facilities should be extended to the people having the lifestyle and culture. Similar to that of the tribals and urge the Government to do what all could be done in this regard.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In this subject, 17 Members have participated. It goes to show what an amount of interest the Members have taken in this subject. We have got 15 minutes at our disposal. First, the hon. Minister has to reply and then the Mover of the Bill should speak. I now request the hon. Minister to reply.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI K. KAMALA KUMARI): Sir, I am glad that a very fruitful discussion took place in this House on

7.8.1992 and today on the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Uttar Pradesh) Order (Amendment) Bill, 1992 which was introduced by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat on 28th February 1992 for the inclusion of Banjaras in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Uttar Pradesh. Banjaras stand included in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa and in the list of Scheduled Castes in Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi. The Banjara community has, however been included in the list of other Backward Classes (OBCs) in Uttar Pradesh.

16.57 hrs

[SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG in the Chair]

The proposal for inclusion of Banjaras in the lists of Scheduled Tribes in other States including Uttar Pradesh is being examined in the context of comprehensive revision of list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In this connection it may be mentioned that only those communities/tribes which strictly fulfill the prescribed criteria are included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. The criteria are:- "Indications of primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation." shyness of contact with the community at large and backwardness."

Now I come to the various issue raised by the hon. Members during the course of discussion. Some of the Members have expressed their concern over the delay in bringing a comprehensive Bill on the revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. As the House is aware, the issue of the revision of lists of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe is so complex and sensitive that no hasty decision could be taken in the matter, otherwise some undeserving communities which do not fulfill the criteria may try to get included in the list as Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe which might be detrimental to the interest of the genuine Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Government, therefore, want to go ahead in this matter very carefully. The Government is examining all the proposals received in this regard in

consultation with the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration and the Registrar General of India

It has been suggested by one of the Members that derogatory caste names appearing in the lists of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes may be removed. I want to make it clear that the Government is already seized of the issue and the States/Union Territories have been requested to suggest alternative names.

Some Members have suggested that a common list of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes throughout the country may be prepared. But I would like to tell my friends that the socio-economic and educational conditions of the communities/castes/tribes vary from State to State and within a State from region to region and it will therefore not be proper to generalise any caste as a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe in the whole country. Further, the present Constitutional provisions under Article 341 and 342 also envisage preparation of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe lists in respect of each State/Union Territory separately.

Some of the Members have suggested that severe punishment may be given to those who obtain bogus Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe certificates. We have already issued necessary instructions to the State Governments/Union Territories to take strict measures to detect bogus cases and impose appropriate penalties and take legal action against bogus certificate holders and also those who were responsible for the issue of such certificates.

I would request the hon. Member to withdraw his Bill in view of the comprehensive exercise of revision of lists being undertaken by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT
(Agra) Mr. Chairman, Sir, a long debate

was held on the subject here in the House. As Mr. Deputy Speaker just now said that 17 members have participated in this discussion and I would like to thank all those 17 hon. Members, who have expressed their opinion on the Bill moved by me and gave their support. In this connection, I would like to submit just two things— the first issue is connected with this Bill and the second issue which I will separately put forth is related to the Scheduled Castes.

I would like to request the Central Government that it should make an immediate announcement to include Banjara tribe in the list of the Scheduled tribes by making necessary amendments in the Constitution and a time limit should be fixed in this connection. Undoubtedly, the hon. Minister has just now given an assurance in this regard in the House, but still I would like to submit that a time limit should also be attached to this assurance, otherwise it will linger on. Banjara tribe at present has not been extended the full facilities they are entitled to.

Secondly, I do not agree with the statement of the hon. Minister that the socio-economic conditions of the Communities/castes vary from state to state and even from region to region. It is likely to cause a setback to our national integration programme as one of our hon. colleagues has expressed his sorrowful views in this regard. So a backward caste if identified as backward caste in any of the states, should be recognised as backward caste throughout the country. It will help in curbing the tendency of detaining bogus certificates.

Thirdly, I would like to submit that the Government of India should set up a commission to look into the veracity of the claims of various castes and tribes of the country for inclusion in the list of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the backward communities as per the criteria laid down in this regard. If any Caste/Tribe fulfills the criteria it should be included in the said list. To end all such disputes regarding the inclusion of castes in the said list, the commission should look into the claims of

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various castes and tribes, and only then the dream of social justice will be materialised.

In addition, there is a need to further classify the castes which are considered socially and economically more backward. Among the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the backward in view of the Supreme Courts' recent Judgement. I would like to submit that the proposed commission must classify among the backwards who are more backward and how are less backward. If in addition there is any need to amend the constitution then the Government should go ahead with it without any hitch, because the Constitution is for the people and not vice versa. Therefore the constitutional measures must be taken at the earliest.

I would also like to say that a commission should be set up and it should be ensured that the people who are demanding for their inclusion in the list of backward classes, do really deserve for that, because a number of people belonging to these castes have become affluent, and they cannot be put in the list of poor class and they do not need any sort of reservation. Hunger disturbs both the rich and the poor alike irrespective of caste. Therefore, this issue needs to be looked into on the basis of poverty viz who in the society are really in need of reservation. The Commission should also chalk out norms for providing social justice and security to the poor, who are not covered within the ambit of reservation, but are actually in need of it. For achieving the desired results of reservation it should not happen that the Government should talk only in terms of the Government jobs, because I know that the lakhs of people belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled tribes and backward are in search of jobs and I may say more than half of the population of the country has come in the reserved category and all of them cannot be made the collectors or the prime Ministers. Nowadays a few politicians to talk of the entry in the Government jobs and play with their sentiments, but are not really sincere about their welfare.

I do favour that the backwards in large and large numbers should become the IAS

officers, the Prime Minister and the Ministers, but all of them definitely cannot be accommodated. Therefore, I would like to submit that the Government should evolve such economic policies as the welfare and upliftment of the Scheduled castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the backwards may be ensured. I would like to make a submission that the 'Jatavs' are traditionally associated with the leather industry, but nowadays their plight is so bad that they are on the verge of starving. 'Kumhar' caste was traditionally engaged in the pottery making and was also known as 'Prajapati' but now a days they are starving because of the wrong policies of the Government. Earlier the railways used to procure earthen glasses and earthen pots, in summer, but now the railways have replaced these items by the items made of plastics. Since then, the plight of the 'Parjapati' has become deplorable, because the railways were the largest buyers of their goods.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that in the name of the change and the liberation of the bonded workers, there is a conspiracy to render the carpet, weavers unemployed. The people of 'Kori' caste, who are traditionally engaged in carpet weaving and are also passing on the skills to their children are being arrested in the name of the liberation of the bonded workers, but the Government has made no alternative arrangements for the livelihood and the education of their children. Therefore, I would like to submit that the laws for the welfare of the backwards and for the generation of jobs for them should be enacted. All this gimmickery and political stunts will not do any good. Therefore, the proposed Commission should also look into the reasons for the constant backwardness of the backwards, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes during the last 44 years and also suggest the measures to be taken to remove these hindrances.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these words I hope that the present Government will not adopt an evasive policy like the previous Governments headed by Shri V.P. Singh and Rajiv Gandhi as has already been referred to my me at the beginning of my speech. The

[Sh. Bhagwan Shankar Rawat]

Government should not indulge in the evasive tactics of reconsidering and reviewing the issue and the scheme. There is a need to display tremendous will power to go ahead on the subject.

With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you withdrawing the Bill?

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: I seek leave of the House to withdraw my Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has the hon. member leave of the House to withdraw his Bill?

MANY HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

The Bill was, by leave, withdrawn.

19.08 hrs

**RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE
(AMENDMENT) BILL**

**(Substitution of new long little of long
title etc. by Shri Basudeb Acharia)**

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura):
Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Railway protection Force Act, 1957, be taken into consideration".

Mr. Chairman, Sir, The Railway Protection Force (Amendment) Bill, which I am moving, I hope will receive the support from all sections of this House. I am grateful that whenever this issue was raised on the floor of the House, all the Members in one voice supported the cause of the Railway Protection Force. There had been a very rare occasion in this House when the Members forgot their political affiliation also

as to whether they belonged to the treasury benches or to the opposition benches. Members belonging to the Congress-I, BJP, CPM, Janata Dal etc. and each section of this House were of the opinion that the misdeed - I will not blame the present Railway Minister for that - which was done in 1985 by amending the Railway Protection Force Act of 1957 by adding these in section with one 15-A some ulterior motive. Now the occasion has come, an opportunity has come to undo the misdeed.

I sincerely hope that now wisdom will prevail upon the Ministry of Railways will give honour and respect to the unanimous wishes, desire and aspiration of this august House. Not honoured, definitely the entire House will feel - all honouring the house unanimous sentiment the sections of this House will bear with me - that this is rather an insult to this august House.

When this amending Bill was introduced, I was a member of this House. I was sitting on the front benches by the side of the former Railway Minister Madhu Dandavateji. He was very vociferous and we were actively opposed the introduction of this Bill the RPF (Amendment) 1985 and described the step taken by the Ministry of Railways as a retrograde step. That was the word used by me. The attempt was not that once in 1985 a section of IPS officers who came on deputation to the Railway Protection Force have been very much sore at this. Permanent RPF offices from the initial stages causing several problems a high-powered committee was constituted by this House under the Chairmanship of the then railway Minister, late Shri Ram Subag Singh in 1966. This high-powered committee had gone into all the aspects of this Railway Protection Force. I have with me, the report of that committee. I have gone through the report of this committee. It was a very clear and categorical opinion of this and the Kirpal Singh Committee Report 1975-76 that the RPF should not have two categories of officers in which had been hampering the interests of the Force and the Railways. This Committee strongly recommended for the formation of officers cadre for the Railway Protection Force. The

(Amend.) Bill (substitution of new long officers who have come from Indian Police Service, either should be absorbed and treated as part and parcel of the Railway Protection Force or they should be reported back to the parent post; go back to the States where they were serving previously. The said recommendations of this Ram Subag Singh and Kripal Singh Committee were accepted by the Railway Minister but were never implemented though the committee submitted its report in 1966. It has never been implemented in full by the Ministry of Railway because of opposition from the IPS deputationist IPS Officers. They had been pursuing one Minister after another rights form Pandit Kamalapati Tripathi who refused to yield. When Shri Madhu Dandavate was the Railway Minister, he was also pressurised; rather he was approached by this section of the IPS officers to withdraw the guaranteed fundamental right to form and continue association of the member of RPF but Prof. Dandavate did not do so. They has (IPS officers) had been trying for years together to withdraw the right which was guaranteed under Article 19(c) of the Constitution, where has been very clearly stated:

All citizens shall have the right-(c) to form associations or unions;"

They were conspiring to withdraw this right which was granted. The association was formed in 1971 and recognised by the Railway Ministry in 1993 subject to the acceptance of tough terms and condition. Sir, if I read the circular which was issued in 1972 regarding the condition which was laid down for forming association, it will be surprising. Sir, you will also not be able to find the rationale behind the withdrawal of this fundamental right. I would like to quote some portions. In the year 1973, Ministry of Railways issued a circular regarding recognition of Association of members of RPF on the Zonal Railways. What were the condition laid down at that time form an association?

1. An application for recognition of an RPF Association with relevant papers, i.e. constitution, registration, etc.

2. RPF Association is to be formed primarily with the object of promoting the common service interest of the members."

emphasis condition no. 2. What was the harm in forming the Association?

- 3 The RPF Association is restricted to the members of the Force on the Zonal Railways. No caste, tribe, etc. difference.

4. All members of the Force are eligible for the membership of the Association. Membership shall not be less than 25 per cent of the total number appointed of the Zonal Railways "

For your information, I would like to inform you that this right was withdrawn in 1985 by amending the RPF Act 1957 by farming rules when the membership of the Association was 75000.

5. The executive of the RPF Association is appointed from amongst the members only and not from outside."

Railways have two recognised federations, While presenting the Railway Budget, the Minister of Railways says the same thing every year that there is a very good industrial relation with the two all-India federations and they are cooperating with the Railway Ministry and with the Government. But reality is different regarding percentage of outsiders among the office bearers and regular election to be held in federations. It will be surprising to know that in South-Eastern Railways, one union was stolen. How? When AGM of this Union was going on at Waltair, the General Secretary who was in the post for more than 20 to 25 years, when saw that he would not be General Secretary any more in the list of office bearers, immediately rushed to Garden reach and submitted a fake list of office bearers and got that approved by the Zonal Railway authorities. I call it that the union was stolen.

(Amend.) Bill (substitution of new long
[Sh. Basudeb Acharia]

by Shri Basudeb Acharia

When the AGM was going on, the office bearers list was submitted and was immediately approved by the Railway authorities by the condition in RPF Association is that three executive of the RPF Association is appointed from amongst the members only and not from outside and that too.

behaving in a disciplined manner not and resorting to any form of agitation, to have your grievances redressed, when agitational activities are engulfing almost the entire Police Force of the Country."

"6. the funds of the RPF Association consists of subscription from members and Grants, if any made by the Government and should be used only for the furtherance of the object of the Association.

7. The minutes of the proceedings of every meeting of the Association be submitted without dealt to the General Manager. The General Manager, if deem necessary, may depute one or more officers not below the rank of ASO to attend the meeting as observer".

When was this certificate given to them? You have to go back to 1979, when there was rebellion all over. CISF, Bokaro revolted, But this Force, being such a disciplined Force, never revolted! But that was a non - The IG, RPF, South - Eastern Railway knows very well as to where the General Secretary of this Association stays and where his residence is at Delhi. Without insurance. In spite of that, there was no revolt because they were such a disciplined Force. And what reward did they get? They were not demanding money. They simply wanted this inherent right, this fundamental right enshrined in our Constitution in Article 19 (D) (C) to form and continual association.

You have no control over your federation but you had control over this Association.

I know the love and affection of the Minister for the working class. When I was discussing the problems of the organised labour in one of the meetings, he intervened and told me that I was always supporting the cause of the organised labour only and asked me why I was not fighting for the unorganised sector as well. I know his love, affection and compassion for the working class. That is why we are waiting and we will wait for some more time.

8. No person who is not a member of the Force is connected with the affairs of the RPF Association

9. The Association is to be registered.
(10) The Association does not engage itself in activities subversive to law.

Sir, you must see the plight of the workers and the injustice that was meted out to them since 1981. They are out of jobs. Some of them have already died of starvation. I have seen some of the employees with begging bowls in their hands. Their children are not getting education, Where from would they get the money? I know his intentions. But he told me he did not know that the poor workers had been compelled to go to the Supreme Court. The Railways have money to purchase 30 locomotives spending Rs. 550 to Rs. 600 crores. They have money and they can spend thousands of rupees in fighting cases in the Supreme Court by filing SLPs, even though one of the objectives was to set up Central Administrative Tribunals.

While replying, the Minister may tell us whether he had any experience of any subversive activities on the part of this Force. The RPF is a very disciplined Force. This certificate was given to them by no less a person than the LG, RPF. I quote from the Journal ' Rail Suraksha '. The letter of the then IG, RPF was published in Part II, Volume 48-49-50, April, May and June 1979 of the aforesaid journal. I will request the hon. Minister to go through this article and see the certificate given by the then, IG, RPF. I quote:

I would like to congratulate you for

On the floor of the House it was very categorically made clear by the Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Shrimati Margaret Alva, that if there is no major flow in the judgement, the Government will abide by that judgement. The Railway is filling SLP. The Minister issued orders in my presence that if SLPs will have to be withdrawn. I will have to wait and I will wait for some time. It is unfortunate that when a very categorical order of the Minister is being implemented by the bureaucrats, the Minister's desire is not being materialised. The Minister propose and the Bureaucrat disposes.

RBI association which are recognised or deem to have been recognised, shall comply with the following instructions; and then there are so many conditionalities just like the World Bank of IMF conditionalities I will quote a few:

- (a) The Association shall not send any representation or deputation except on the common interest of the force.
- (b) Association shall not expose or support the cause of the individual members of the Force relating to the service matter.
- (c) The Association shall not maintain any political Funds or lend itself to the propagation of the views of any political party or politicians.

All these conditions are being imposed. Are these conditions being followed by the recognised federations or not. I would like to know. I can give you hundreds of examples where they are not followed; where the members of recognised federations are actively engaged in the political activities.

If members of unrecognised Association apply for leave to go to Delhi to join the workers' march - when lakhs of workers from all over India assemble at Boat Club - the members of the Ministers' Staff Association, Bar council Station Masters' Association they apply for leave even the leave was not granted. I would request the hon. Minister to

find out from the Divisional Railway Manager as to why the leave was not granted. A ban order was instead issued so that they may not join the rally of the workers. The call was not given by the political parties. Even the speech was not made by any political leader. None of the political leaders was to be seen on the as. That was a rally of the workers organised by the sponsoring committee. When the railway employees asked for leave to join the rally it was not granted. I would request the hon. Minister to find out from GRM, Agra, under South Eastern Railway, why the leave as not granted.

What was the emergency? During the Emergency, sometimes, such action had to be taken but there was no emergency; there was no accident. The situation was normal. In spite of that, leave was not granted to the employees who wanted to come to Delhi to join the march of thousands of workers to express their grievances.

- (d) All representation of the Association shall be submitted through proper channel and shall as a normal practice be addressed to the Chief Security Officer or General Manager.
- (e) List of members and office bearers and upto date copy of the Constitution and an audited statement of accounts of the Association shall be furnished to the General Manager soon after the annual General Body meeting. In addition, such other periodical statements prescribed laid down from time to time to the authorities prescribed.
- (f) The Association shall cease publishing of any magazine if directed by the General Manager on the ground to publication is prejudicial to the interest of the Central Government.
- (g) The Association shall not seek affiliation with any other Union or Trade Union, etc.

[Sh. Basudeb Acharya]

- (h) The Association shall not start publishing any Magazine or bulletin without the previous approval of the General Manager.
- (i) Association shall not do any act or assist in the doing by any act which, if done by the member of the Force would contravene any of the provision of Railway Service Conduct Rules or any RPF Act or RPF Rules, 1959.
- (j) The RPF Association shall not address any communication to any Foreign authorities except through general manager who shall have the right to withhold it.
- (k) Communication addressed by any office bearers of the RPF Association to the General Manager or any other authority shall not contain any disrespectful or improper language.
- (l) Any amendment of substantial character in the Constitution of the RPF Association shall be made only with the previous approval of the General Manager and any other amendment of minor importance shall be communicated to the General Manager, through proper channel.

So many conditions were laid down by the Railway authorities while granting from the hon. Minister whether any of these conditionalities were ever violated by this Force, by this Association, by the office bearers of this Association. While replying to the debate he must enlighten this House regarding this. We know that this Force has never revolted. This Association is a very disciplined one. They were obeying all the conditionalities laid down by the Ministry of Railways. They have never disobeyed as certified IG RPF in 1979 and for not disobeying the conditions laid down by the Ministry of Railways, the prize they have got

is, their inherent right, the fundamental right to form and continal Association, was withdrawn. Sir, will you also support this. Immediately accommodation the Office room which was sanctioned were sealed. When this RPF associations were recognised, were a section of IPS Officers were jubilant. Because, they could not do it for years together. They tried to pursue Pandit Kamalapati Tripathi who did not agree. They tried to pursue Prof. Madhu Dandavate who did not agree. How can he agree? How can a democrat agree? Personally he is also a democrat. He also does not want to withdraw the fundamental right, the democratic right of a person. He will also not agree. There are hurdles. There are some difficulties, I hope, he will be able to overcome all those difficulties.

He should definitely assure this House that the misdeeds which were done some years back will be undone now. The justice for which they have been fighting, they will get that justice.

While Section 15(A) was added, on major amendment was there in 1985. If you compare 1957 Act with 1985 Act, you will find what the objective of forming this force; remained unamended. Whether there has been any change in the Act saying that the RPF men will not be treated as railway men. NC. It has been very clearly and vategorically stated un the 1985 Act that for purposes the Railway Protection Force personnel are as Railway employees.

Previously, like that if Indian Railways we had watch and Ward Staff in the Lok Sabha Secretariat. The Ministry of Railway felt the necessity to have a force alike this-Railway Protection Force in 1957. That is why a Bill was brought and passed in 1957. After that the Railway Protection Force came into existence. Why was this Railway Protection Force formed? It was formed to protect the property of the railway. So, for the protection of Railway property, why this force be treated as an Armed force?

The High Powered Committee headed by the late Dr. Ram Subhah Singh, who was

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(Amend.) Bill (substitution of new long drafted by this committee vide para 331 of the report. You kindly go through paragraph (B) of the Committee's terms of reference. One of the terms of reference was that a Bill should be drafted by this Committee. But that Bill was not adopted. What was the opinion of this High Powered Committee the Railway Minister also Ram Subhag Singh's Committee? There are sections 15 to 21. In section 19, there is change. Ram Subhag Singh's Committee very categorically opined that there should be no change; it means the right which was granted to the Special Railway Protection Force should not be denied to them. They had gone into all aspects of the matter pertaining to organisational set up. The committee recommended what powers had to be given to this Force. I have gone through this Report. The Government accepted the recommendation by the IPS officers in this force did not important. The Committee had gone into all aspects of this Force and came to the conclusion that under no circumstances the right which was granted to RPF in 1959 should be denied to them and the penalties prescribed for them should go beyond these prescribed for gazetted officers of this force and the state Police personnel for similar offences. I do not know, what was the rationale behind this to giving this nomenclature of an Armed Force by RPF. There are a number of para-military forces in our country. Assam Rifles is there, Border Security Force is there, CISF is there, CRPF is also there, they are under Ministry of Home Affairs, but this Railway Protection Force is under the Ministry of Railways. If they are to be treated as an armed force then why this Railway protection force will remain under the Ministry of Railways.

What was the objective of forming CISF. The objective of CISF was to protect the industry, the public sector, If CISF., whose main objective is to protect the industrial installations, why not they are under the Ministry of Industry, because they are a para-military force, they are under Ministry of Home Affairs.

Please do not look at the watch. I will continue even after six. You will adjourn at six and I will continue. Many Members have

expressed their desire to highlight their views, Infact, the leaders of various parties have expressed their desire. (interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not destruct yourself.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please continue. You are at the right track. Do not derail yourself

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Nobody can derail me.

So, I was mentioning about CISF. The expenditure is borne by the industrial units. The CISF, which is posted at BCCL i.e. Bharat Coals Limited is incurring the expenditure on CISF. But this force is under the Ministry of Home Affairs. You know, Sir, the Border Security Force is a para-military force and it is not under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, not even under the Ministry of Defence but it is under the Ministry of Home Affairs. But the Railway Protection Force is under the Railways Ministry since for all purposes and the members of RPF are Railwaymen all purposes and they are the railway men.

There was a conspiracy by the deputationist, IPS officers, to include RPF under Article 33 of the Constitution so that if it is brought under this Article then automatically it would have been as an armed force. But it was not included; it was not incorporated in contribution (50 the Amendment) Act 1984. The Constitution was not amended, though there was a proposal to incorporate it and include RPF in Article 33. That was not done. Even Ram Subhag Singh Committee also did not recommend that to the RPF under Article 33. We asked why it was not included. Why was the necessity not felt by the Government to include it? What was the reply given? The deliberation on the constitution (52nd amendment) Bill 1984 may be seen.

We were opposing the Bill at the introductory stage. Shri Bansil Lal was the Transport Minister at that time, I think. That was a joint Ministry. What was his reply to our objection? He said, "The RPF came into existence in 1957. Prior to that it was the Watch and Ward Department of the Railways. Prof. Madhu Dandavate was there in 1977. There was some sort of agitation".

What was this agitation? What type of agitation was it? A leaflet was issued only, but not by this association. A leaflet was issued. I can give a copy of that leaflet to the hon. Minister. The leaflet was not issued by this Association. To issue a leaflet does not mean to revolt. "When you are making it an armed force of the Union", he was told at that time, at the same time he should allow them to continue right to associate. It was not agreed. He just said, "Professor Sahib himself had to deal with it. At that time there was an agitation in 1979". What type of agitation was there? The Minister may enlighten us. There was an agitation. A leaflet was issued, not by the association but by somebody. And immediately, Prof. Madhu Dandavate denied that he faced any agitation by this Force. This Minister just said,

... At that time there was some agitation. I do not want to go back to that; so far as their being railway employees, I wanted to remind him about Section 10 of the Act."

What is there in section 10 of the Act? Section 10 of the Act says —

"Officers and members of the Force be deemed to be railway servants"

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb him.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You follow Bengali, Sir, I know.

It said: "Director General and every member of the Force shall have all powers to be regarded as railway servants within the

Now it has been amended further. I was a member of the Joint Select Committee of the Railways Bill. I know each and every section of that Railway Bill and the Act. So, it has been amended but no major amendment was there. There has been no amendment of this section.

It further said:

"And shall be entitled to exercise the powers conferred on railway servants by and under that Act".

If it is so, if still this force is being treated as a Railway force, of railway personnel, for all purposes, not for some I find, but for all purpose, the Railway Protection Force is treated as consisting of railway men it cannot be made on armed force of the Union. Once there was a question whether they should be given honours. That question was sorted out. Ex gratia payment was made. Once, that question was there. (Interruptions) Do not blame the entire force. And for that reason, the inherent right, the fundamental right should not be withdrawn... (Interruptions)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): We are only blaming the leaders who are instigating them... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Who instigated them? (Interruptions) He was very disciplined when he appeared in TV. I could not recognise that Charles. I wanted to know why he was so sober in TV. when he appeared in Issues before Parliament. That Charles was different from the Charles whom we see on the floor of the House daily... (Interruptions)

SHRI A. CHARLES: I was more realistic there.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Rather he was looking like his colleagues Mr. Narayanaswamy of the other House.

I fail to understand why this new section has been incorporated here. What was the

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is guaranteed in the Constitution under Article 19 (1) (C) has been withdrawn. I think, wisdom will now prevail on the Ministry of Railways and the present Minister will not be guided by the bureaucrats. He has already shown his courage that he can overrule. I think, in this case also he would overrule malicious bureaucratic schedule. (Interruptions)

"The Committee are of the view that this curb on rights of officers and members of the Force to form an Association is not desirable.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chinur): Is this complaint?

This recommendations was made by a very important Committee of Lok Sabha, Committee on Subordinate Legislation. Even after that this was not implemented by the Ministry of Railways. Again the Committee on Legislation under the Chairmanship of Shri Somnath Chatterjee has talked up this issue. It will again examine and ask the Ministry of Railways to implement it. There was also another Committee headed by Shri Kripal Singh, who once was the Chairman of the Railway Board. That Committee also examined all aspects of this Force. That Committee never recommended to rest law and order powers and responsibility to the RPF vide para 9.11 of this report this right. The Ministry of Railways has constituted Committee one after another. These Committees never recommended to withdraw this fundamental right. I want to know as to why this fundamental right, which

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Yes. He is my close friend. He knows me well. I have already referred what he has said. He has already said that he will stand by his word. I will wait for one month and then I will sit on a *dharna* in front of his Chamber.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: There are a number of points. I have collected so many points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can continue your speech next time.

18.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of Clock on Monday, November 30, 1992/ Agrahayana 9, 1914 (Saka).