

# LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Fourteenth Session  
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

12  
2/3/90

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

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## LOK SABHA

Friday, August 4, 1989/Sravana 13, 1911  
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

#### NRI Investments

\*263 SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of the FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of investments by non-resident Indians in the country has been encouraging,

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

(c) whether Union Government propose to provide further concessions in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent this will be popularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALERIO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The existing schemes, rules and regulations regarding NRI investments

are continuously under review and suitable changes are made where necessary.

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: Sir, the Minister has not given proper answer to my question. NRI people are very eager to invest their foreign money in different schemes in India, especially in electronics industry, as it is coming up very fast in this country. In this connection may I know from hon. Minister how many NRI people have invested money and how much amount has been invested in this country, in different fields?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: I will tell the hon. Member, with your permission, how much money has been invested in this country. Bank deposits which were on 31st March, 1983 Rs. 1,866.04 crores have risen by 31st March, 1989 to Rs. 13,971 crores. So, there has been this much of increase of Rs. 1,866 crores to Rs. 13,971 crores in bank deposits alone. Then there have been also investments in different other headings, like investment on repatriation basis, direct investment on non-repatriation basis, portfolio investment, deposit in Indian companies etc., in addition to different deposits which constitute the majority of inflow of money. All this has been an increase of inflow from the NRI.

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: My second supplementary is about the existing scheme, the rules and regulations of which we do not know. I would request the hon. Minister to lay down the rules and regulations on the Table of the House. I would like to know how many proposals have been received upto now out of which, how many applications are pending and whether the Government has been giving direction that they will have to invest their amount only in the non-industrial areas and, if so, how many applications are received from Karnataka.

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** This information does not arise directly from the question. I do not have it at the moment.

**SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:** Can the hon. Minister enlighten the House as to from which countries we are having most of the investment from NRI? Can the hon. Minister tell me the first three or four countries where non-resident Indians in those countries are leading in the field of making investments? Can the hon. Minister also enlighten us what is the volume of the contribution made by the Keralites abroad or, if he does not have that figure, whether he will collect it and give it?

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** It is not possible. We do not maintain this type of records for Keralites abroad and others. All Indians are there. I would like to say something that may enlighten the hon. Member because I have been recently to the Gulf countries. I was in Bahrein some time back and NRIs from the Gulf countries have contributed substantially.

[*Translation*]

### Railway Schemes in Bihar

\*264 **SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the railway schemes pending in Bihar and since when;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to undertake these schemes; and

(c) the time by which these will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA**): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

### STATEMENT

Construction of Chhitauni-Bagaha rail link and conversion of Samastipur-

Darbhanga MG and BG, approved in 1974-75 are pending.

As regards Chhitauni-Bagaha, the State Governments of U.P. and Bihar have been requested to indicate their willingness to bear their share of cost of project.

In the case of Samastipur-Darbhanga, a survey carried out for a parallel BG line has shown it to be not viable financially.

**SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, our hon. Minister is a very efficient Minister. In his Budget speech he stated that by the end of this century the rest of the 2 thousand steam locomotives would be replaced by diesel and electric engines. There has been a loco shed at Jhajha in my constituency for the last one hundred years. The engines of the west bound trains from Calcutta are changed there. Four thousand employees are employed in that loco shed. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether any scheme has been formulated to convert the said loco shed into diesel or electric shed in case the steam engines are totally withdrawn from the Railways. If this is not done, the future of those labourers will be dark. I would like to know whether any scheme for such a loco-shed has been included in the ensuing Five Year Plan.

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** This question is related mainly to the important railway schemes. So far as steam engines are concerned, they were to be withdrawn from the Indian Railway System by 2013 A.D. Now it has been decided to do the same by the year 1995. A few steam engines will still remain after that for small jobs. But steam engines will be replaced by the year 1995. When 4 to 5 hundred steam engines are being replaced every year, loco sheds are bound to be closed. Regarding the question of the hon. Member about that particular place, I would like to say that the hon. Member would be apprised of the position as soon as information is received about it.

**SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH:** My other supplementary is regarding the long

standing demand of providing railway facilities in Bhagalpur Lalmatia Coal-field area. This demand is out standing since 1953. When Shri Kedar Pandey was holding this portfolio, this demand was again made and surveys were also carried. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether any provision is to be made for it in the next plan?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** No provision has been made so far.

**SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister recently visited Patna where he made some announcement about a number of important schemes. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry of Railways is aware of the approval to the gauge conversion of Narkatiaganj railway line given by the hon. Prime Minister in his public meeting held at Gandhi Maidan, Patna. Is this being given serious consideration and is this going to be included in the Eighth Five Year Plan?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, a survey is being conducted for Narkatiaganj gauge conversion so that an estimate of the expenditure to be incurred could be made. This task is being done by the North-Eastern Railway and its report is likely to be submitted by 1989. The hon. Prime Minister had announced that its including in the Eighth Five year Plan would be considered.

**SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to a problem of Khetri, Rajasthan towards which you are quite considerate. A goods-train has been running between Dabari and Sinhana for catering to the needs of Khetri Copper Project since 1958. Ten thousand labourers are employed in the Khetri Copper Project. Will the hon. Minister consider attachment of 1-2 passengers bogies to this goods train? Is there any such proposal under consideration of the Government?

**SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I remember that when Shri Lalit Babu was the Railway Minister in 1972, a

number of schemes were forwarded by the Bihar Government to the Ministry of Railways. Then after a gap of 15 years in March, 1987, the then Chief minister of Bihar met the hon. Railway Minister and submitted him a list of some new and old schemes required to be implemented in Bihar. But he was given told that since he was approached at the end of March, it was not be possible to include them in the next year's plan. I would like to know as to how many of the schemes submitted by the then Chief Minister of Bihar to the hon. Railway Minister in 1987 have been implemented, on how many of them a survey has been conducted and how many of them have been approved or rejected?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is quite a long list and I can send it to the hon. Member so far as Bihar is concerned. I am glad to inform that gauge conversion for 770 kilometres long track was done during the Sixth Five Year Plan period from 1981 to 1985 at an estimated cost of Rs. 200/- crore. Besides, a new project of gauge conversion of Chapra-Orhar line—a part of which Passes through the territory of Bihar—has also been included in the current year's Budget. Apart from this, 19 per cent of the total Budgetary provision meant for doubling of track for the whole country has been set aside for Bihar and for traffic facilities also, 13 per cent of the total country's budgetary provision has been earmarked for Bihar. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to inform that according to the figures pertaining to availability of railway track per thousand square kilometre, Bihar ranks fourth in the country. Compared to the other states, Bihar is comparatively better placed in the matter of railway lines. This however, does not mean that further schemes have been stopped in Bihar. Bihar's interests will be kept in view in future also.

[English]

#### **Financial Assistance to Tamil Nadu for Telugu Ganga Project**

\*269. **DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to give financial assistance to the Tamil Nadu Government to meet the cost of Telugu-Ganga Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No such request has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: According to the press report that appeared in the month of June, on his assumption of office as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. Karunanidhi gave an assurance to the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh that the DMK Government would give its share of Rs. 60 crores for Telugu-Ganga Schemes.

The DMK Government in Tamil Nadu and the Telugu Desam Government in Andhra Pradesh may not continue for long. Under the circumstances, may I know whether the Central Government will take steps to see that the funds released for this purpose by the DMK Government are not utilised for their political purposes, and whether the Central Team will supervise the execution of the project as also utilisation of the public funds.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: This is with regard to the water supply scheme to the Madras city. The Central Government has made strenuous efforts even during the time of Mrs. Indira Gandhi when she initiated a discussion among the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu on the question of supply of drinking water to Madras city. Now, though the Central Government had never any objection in this, the real objection came because of some issues between the States concerned, for example, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh Andhra Pradesh themselves could not remain within the limits of the earlier

agreement on sharing of Krishna water where five TMC of water was proposed to be given by Karnataka, by Andhra Pradesh by Maharashtra to the Madras city. Now, the hon. Member is desirous of knowing about the stand of the Chief Minister Mr. Karunanidhi after taking office of the Chief Ministership recently. Sir, it is true and we have information that Mr. Karunanidhi has written to the Prime Minister a letter about a week ago stating that he is taking up the matter with the Governor of Karnataka and a meeting has been fixed for the 8th of August for getting clearance from Karnataka for getting this water. Meanwhile, there were some press reports that Ministers from Tamil Nadu went to Andhra Pradesh to see the project and availability of water etc. This Government is certainly serious that the water supply must be given to Tamil Nadu without interruption. But the inter-State issues are an impediment. We are trying our best to solve these issues.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good for the maiden reply, Mr. Minister.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Thank you, Sir.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: I would like to know whether the Central Government will consider taking over this project to execute the project under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana so that thousands of people may be able to get employment.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Sir. It is for the State Government to decide about the work. We are only an agency to advise and guide them. It is a State subject and the State has to do it.

PROF. N.G. RANGA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there have been complaints from the Andhra Pradesh Government and their Ministers that the Centre is not doing enough in order to help the concerned State Governments to come to some helpful solution in regard to this matter. May I request the hon. Minister to enlighten the House as to what steps the Central Government have taken? What steps do you propose to take to help these Govern-

ments solve this matter, expedite the implementation of this particular project and to supply water for Madras?

**SHRI M.M. JACOB:** The Central Government has initiated in the past several meetings at the official level, technical level and at the Chief Ministers level also. But what happened lastly was that we were not able to get all the Chief Ministers together. In fact, the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister wrote to the Government of India at that time,—I have got the copy of the letter—that it was not possible for him to attend the meeting and he did not think that there was any necessity for him to attend the meeting. He feels that this is not an issue at all between the States.

As per the agreement which we see from the records, it is an inter-State issue in which all the States have agreed during the time of Mrs. Gandhi to supply water to the Madras City. That is the latest position.

**SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:** I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Telugu-Ganga project was originally planned for irrigation purpose or for providing drinking water.

**SHRI M.M. JACOB:** The original plan was prepared because Madras city was finding it very difficult to get drinking water supply. The plan was thought of for providing water to Madras city.

[*Translation*]

### **Stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Surat**

\*271. **SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the industrial importance and the pressing demand of the people of Surat City in Gujarat, a proposal to provide a 'request stop' of Rajdhani Express there is under consideration of Government and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the time by which a decision on the proposal is to be taken and the steps initiated in this direction?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, Surat ranks as the second biggest industrial town in Gujarat. Its population is 17 lakh. Big offices of the Central Government as well as the State Government are situated there. Besides, there is concentration of textile industries, which have witnessed tremendous expansion. Goods are transported from Surat to many places in the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the reason for not providing a stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Surat. Will you kindly re-consider your decision of not providing this stoppage?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** We are well aware of the importance of Surat and there is no doubt about it. But the purpose of introducing Rajdhani Express trains is to provide over-night service from New Delhi, the capital of the country, to Howrah in the East and to Bombay in the South. Therefore, as per our policy, it has been decided that these trains will stop at intermediate stations only for operational requirements and no stoppage as such is given for these trains. Therefore, the question of providing a stoppage at Surat does not arise. I would like to inform you that as many as sixteen Bombay bound mail express trains have been given stoppage at Surat and 5 express trains, which stop there, are connected with New Delhi. Hence, Surat has been provided adequate railway facilities.

**SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:** A large number of people from Surat have submitted a representation in this regard. Will the hon. Minister consider the same?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** It is neither being considered nor likely to be

considered in the near future.

**SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding 31 Down and 32 Up Express train, I would like to ask the hon. Minister.....

**MR. SPEAKER:** No, no, you can only ask supplementary connected with this question only.

**SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Railway Minister stated the concept of Rajdhani Express just now. However, according to my knowledge, when the same question was raised recently in the Divisional Railway Consultative Committee meeting, the Divisional Railway Manager, Bombay Division, stated that the proposal to provide a stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Surat was under consideration. Borivali station is considered to be the entrance of Bombay and after departing from Baroda Jn., Rajdhani Express stops direct at Bombay Central. My submission is that the passengers living in the suburban areas of Bombay should also be provided facilities to make use of this train. So a stoppage of this train should be provided there as well. A discussion on this matter has already taken place in D.R.U.C. meeting. Will the hon. Minister kindly reconsider these proposals after obtaining the required information from the Divisional Railway Manager and the Divisional Railway Headquarters?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** I have no information regarding the discussion that took place in the Divisional Railway Users' Committee meeting. If at all the Divisional Manager, Railways gave an assurance in this regard, he had no right to do so because this is our policy that its stoppage will be provided only for operational requirements.

**MR. SPEAKER:** If you want to ask any question regarding Rajdhani Express, you may do so

**SHRI U.H. PATEL:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to my information, the Railways had taken a decision to provide stoppage for

2 minutes each of 13 trains at the stations located in the vicinity of Delhi. The distance between Baroda and Bombay is very long. The hon. Minister should provide a stoppage of this train at any one of the suitable stations between Baroda and Bombay. There are no two opinions that Surat is a very big and beautiful city. If you do not want to provide a stoppage of Rajdhani Express there, you should arrange to provide a stoppage at least at Balasore.

**MR. SPEAKER:** No, no. Shri Brajamo-han Mohanty.....

[English]

### South Eastern Railway Hotel

\*272. **SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for transfer of South-Eastern Railway hotel at Puri and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for improving the management of this hotel and if so, the details of the plan?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to renovate the hotel and to upgrade the level of management.

**SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY:** The South-Eastern Railway Hotel is one of the most lovely and romantic hotels. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the detailed picture of the official renovation and upgradation of the management and I would like to know whether there is any extensive programme for the hotel.

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** I agree with the hon. Member that this is one of the most beautiful hotels. But as far as the romantic part of it is concerned, I accept his



word from his experience. At present, we have drawn up a renovation plan for about 33 lakhs of rupees, out of which we would like to take up 25 lakhs of rupees rightaway and another 6 to 7 lakhs of rupees later. We also want to improve the management, the efficiency of the hotel and services of the hotel and therefore a decision has been taken to upgrade the post of the Manager of the hotel to J.A. Grade.

**SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY.** May I know whether the hon. Minister has figures about the percentage of the occupancy of the hotel and figures about the loss or profit. May I also know whether the hotel is earning profits regularly?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA** Sir, I am happy to inform the hon. Member that the hotel has been making profits. I have the figures from 1982 to 1987. The profit ranges, in each year, from a low of about one lakh fifty thousands to a high of about five lakhs ninety three thousands. This is the range. Unfortunately, the occupancy has dropped considerably from 49% to about 26% and as the hon. Member well knows, this is because of the mushroom growth of new hotels, the problems of sewage discharge into the beach, which we are trying to take up with the local authorities, the heavy establishment costs and what we thought was some sort of lack of professional management because primarily we are trained to run the railways, not to run the hotels and inadequate investment for renovation. That is why we have taken up this investment plan because we want to restore it to its earlier glory and also—improve the management by upgrading the manager so that there is a more professional and senior level of management.

**SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:** May I know whether it is a fact that the foreign tourists are not coming to that hotel because it has not been upgraded as a 5-star hotel and, therefore, the occupancy got reduced last year? Has the Government any plans to make it a 5-star hotel so that the occupancy may increase?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** There is no need to make it a 5-star hotel as the requirements of 5-star hotel are not really necessary.

### Gold Smuggling

\*273. **SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of gold smuggled into the country during the last 3 years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether there has been spurt in gold smuggling in past few months; if so, the causes thereof, and

(c) the steps taken recently to contain this evil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

### STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Smuggling being a clandestine activity, it is not possible to estimate the quantity of gold that has been smuggled into the country as a whole or the quantity that has been smuggled into each State. However, the quantum and value of gold seized by the Customs authorities during the last 3 years are given in the table below.—

| Year                 | Quantity of gold seized (in Kgs) | Value of gold seized (Rs in crores) |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1987                 | 2255                             | 65.78                               |
| 1988                 | 6094                             | 200.53                              |
| *1989 (upto 24.7.89) | 5569                             | 176.38                              |

\*Figures are provisional.

The increase in the value of the seizures

need not necessarily mean a spurt in the smuggling activities and it could be due to intensified anti-smuggling effort.

(c) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery throughout the country especially in the vulnerable areas of land borders as also at the international airports has been geared up. Close co-ordination is being maintained with all the the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling. Sophisticated equipment like: X-ray baggage machines, metal detectors and night vision binoculars are being increasingly used.

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: I would like to know how many cases are ending against the smugglers in different courts for the last three years and what steps are being taken for early disposal of these cases?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: I have got figures from 1984 to 1989. The cases when instituted do not get disposed of in the same year. They are carried over. In 1984 the number of prosecution cases pending was 2069; 1985—2463; 1986—3106; 1987—3757; 1988—4223 and 1989—4589.

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: What is the policy of the Government regarding disposal of the seized gold which has been procured from the smugglers in different years?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: The policy of the Government is that it is not disposed of in public but it is deposited with the Reserve Bank of India.

SHRI K.S. RAO: By any stretch of calculation a smuggler will resort to smuggling only if there is margin of 25 per cent profit. By one catch he losses 3 times the property apart from the punishment that the Government levies. From this we can understand that if the catch were put at Rs. 176 crores per annum the quantum of gold smuggled should have been ten times, namely, about Rs. 2000 crores. Every time,

when we ask on various platforms, the answer that we get from the Department is that there is no correct assessment of gold smuggling because it is a clandestine affair. I am not satisfied with this answer. How can the officials continue for ever to say that it is a clandestine affair and they do not have any calculation. I wish to know whether the hon. Minister will make some scientific assessment of the quantity of gold in terms of rate and weight and also bring out some stern measures to check this?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: We have taken stern measures to check this, but the clandestine activity is there. We cannot say that all gold which is coming in we can lay hand on it. Sir, our coastline is 5689 km and we find that gold smugglers are adopting the sea, the land and also the air for the purpose of smuggling. The land border is 9,712 kilometres. That's why to stop this activity, as far as possible, we are taking the help of Central Economic Intelligence Bureau....

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: He has not asked about this. Be specific to the question.

SHRI A.K. PANJA: May I complete it? ...Narcotics Control Bureau, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Preventive Collectorate and also the help of Coast Guard, the BSF and other border security forces. We must get some information input for the purpose of coming to know what is the total gold smuggled. The hon. Member said that because the amount is increasing, that is why more gold must be coming. It is not so. We have adopted a new procedure. That's why we could catch hold of gold of which I have given the figures in the answer itself. In the whole of last year, we could get worth Rs. 200,53,00,000. In 1987, it was worth Rs. 65,78,00,000. Because of the new strategy adopted, because of intelligence and giving information in various places, we have been able to lay hands on. Even up to 24th July 1989, it has crossed Rs. 176.38 crores. Therefore, there is no possibility of having any scientific assessment because the information input is not possible.

### **Demands of Northern Railway Employees**

\*274. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a notice from the All India Federation of Railways regarding the Northern Railway workers decision to go on strike;

(b) if so, their main demands; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Sir, I have asked whether All India Federation of Railway Workers have given any notice to the Government to conduct a strike from September onwards. He has said: no. But there was a newsitem in *The Indian Express*. It says that they have given a notice and also a memorandum to the Government regarding their demands. They have said that the strike will start in the month of September.

Their main demands appear to be to set up a permanent wage review body as recommended by the fourth Pay Commission. Will the hon. Minister enlighten the House, as stated in the memorandum, whether it is a fact that there was such a recommendation for setting up a permanent wage review body according to the report of the Fourth Pay Commission?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I would like to repeat that no strike notice has been received by the Northern Railway.

However, as far as the demands which have been mentioned by the hon. Member are concerned, they do fall into two categories. One of the two categories are those which concern the Central Government employees as a whole, on these the Rail-

ways are not competent to take a decision on these demands by themselves.

The second category is of those demands which concern Railway employees alone on which negotiations, discussions, meetings take place between the Railway management on the one side and the Railway staff on the other.

As far as the permanent wage review body is concerned, I believe that there is a committee, chaired by the Finance Secretary, which is engaged in looking into these demands. As I said, they concern the Government employees as a whole and not Railways' alone. Therefore, we are not competent to really give our opinion on this particular demand by ourselves.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: We are always seeing that on account of these strikes, a lot of mandays are lost and a large amount of money is lost to the Government. The main question is with regard to the exploitation by private agencies and contractors by paying small amounts—even below the minimum wage payable—to the workers. I am not here to authenticate the news item that appeared in the Indian Express. But they have already given the details of the demands. One of the demands happened to be stoppage of handing over the railway works to the contractors and private agencies. I do not know how far it would be practical. Will the hon. Minister enlighten the House as to whether the involvement of such large scale contractors and private agencies will be stopped or not? If it is not possible to do so totally, at least the Minister can reduce the number of contractors and private agencies and take up the work departmentally.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: In such a massive undertaking, it is natural that some work does go to the contractors. Further, all the matters mentioned by the hon. Member are matters of discussion, as I said, between the Railway Management on the one hand and the two Federations, namely, the All-India Railwaymen's Federation and the National Federation of Indian Railway-

men I think, some decision can only be arrived at in these meetings.

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Rajhans.

PROF. N.G. RANGA: No supplementaries in addition to the main question of the hon. Member? Can we have an assurance....

MR. SPEAKER: No deviation, Sir.

PROF. N.G. RANGA: Can we have an assurance that these contractors will be paid at least the minimum wages?

MR. SPEAKER: You are taking advantage, Sir.

#### **Railways Link between Santhal Parganas and Hazaribagh**

\*276. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to connect Santhal Parganas and Hazaribagh districts with railways in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: There is hardly anything to ask in addition to what has been told by the hon. Minister. But may I ask him to be a little literal and give a second thought to it?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Mandar Hill-Dumka-Baidyanath Dham new broad-gauge railway line comes in this area. We have decided to update the survey and then it will be considered as to whether it should be referred to the Planning Commission or not.

#### **Foreign Assistance to Nationalised Banks**

\*277. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the nationalised banks are in receipt of financial assistance from overseas organisations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). A statement given below.

#### **STATEMENT**

Under Loan Agreement signed by Government of India with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) for Industrial Export (Engineering Products) Project and Export Development Project in January 1986 and May, 1989 respectively, Government India is able to obtain financial assistance to pass on to certain nationalised banks and to State Bank of India for providing credits to enterprises in India for promotion and upgradation of technology to increase competitiveness and exports of manufactured products.

These loans are to be repaid by Government of India to IBRD over a period of 20 years inclusive of a grace period of 5 years. The rate of interest is variable every six months depending on the cost of borrowings of the IBRD.

SHRI N. DENNIS: May I know the number of enterprises to which this assistance is extended, the names of the enterprises and the basis on which the selection is made? May I know the nationalised banks to which this assistance is passed on? We have negotiated two projects. The first project is the Industrial Export (Engineering Products) Project which was negotiated on the 21st January 1986 and the loan amount is 70 million US dollars. The benefits will go,

in this as well as in the next agreement which I will mention in a moment, to Bank of Baroda, the Punjab National Bank and the Canara Bank in terms of equity and to the State Bank in terms of quasi-equity. The second project is the Export Development Project which had been negotiated on the 26th May recently and the value is 66 million US dollars.

SHRI N. DENNIS: I would like to know whether the amount would be extended for the promotion of small scale industries in rural and backward areas. May I know the rate of interest of loans to the banks and the rate of interest that is levied from the enterprises?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: The participating banks which I have mentioned will provide credits to enterprises in India for promotion and upgradation of technology to increase competitiveness and exports of manufactured products. (*Interruptions*)

#### Writing Off the Agricultural Loans

\*278. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether some State Governments have approached Union Government to write off agricultural loans;

(b) whether Union Government have pointed out that if the practice continued it would lead to total collapse of agriculture credit system;

(c) whether any State Government has written off the agricultural loans during the last three years;

(d) if so, the names of the State Governments which have written off the loans; and

(e) the total number of farmers benefited so far and the total amount involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e). A statement is given below.

#### STATEMENT

Government and Reserve Bank of India are in principle not in favour of any generalised write off of agricultural (and other) loans as it tends to vitiate the climate of recovery as also the viability of the credit structure as a whole. According to available information, only the Government of Haryana is reported to have written off short/medium and long term cooperative loans in 1987 amounting to Rs. 33.52 crores. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has further reported that as per their information the State Government do not appear to have entirely reimbursed this amount to the concerned cooperative institutions.

SHRI H.B. PATIL: Sir, it has been mentioned in the Statement that the Government and Reserve Bank are in principle not in favour of any generalised writing off of agricultural loans, whereas a lot of concessions are given to the industries. Why is the Government not thinking on those lines? When certain units become sick, you take a decision to write off their loans, but when the farmers do not get yield due to drought or other natural calamities, why should the Government not think to give them concessions and writing off of their loans etc.?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: There is no divergence as far as industry and agriculture are concerned in regard to the writing off of loans. Writing off of loans is done in terms of the general principles which govern the law of insolvency. When the money cannot be recovered, it is totally irrecoverable, then the only way is to write off the money. There is no discrepancy between the industry and agriculture on this fundamental principle.

[*Translation*]

SHRIBALKAVIBAIRAGI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a separate half-an-hour discussion may kindly be allowed on this subject.

MR. SPFAKER: First of all, 15 minutes time may, be utilised, 'half-an-hour' can be admitted later on only.

[*English*]

SHRI H.B. PATIL: I am not satisfied with the answer of the hon. Minister. When the industries become sick, they take all possible measures to assist them as also write off their loans. I would like to know whether the Government has any proposal to write off the loans given to the farmers in case of drought and other natural calamities for two or three consecutive years. Why should the Government not think on those lines to write off those loans?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO. I have already mentioned the principle which governs the writing off of loans. In case of drought etc., a lot of assistance and facilities are given, which have already been mentioned in this House.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK. The hon. Minister said that when a particular loan cannot be recovered, that is the only criterion for writing off of the loan. But at times, there are several circumstances under which the writing off of loans can be considered and should be considered. Will the Government consider framing a policy on writing off of loans to farmers in such circumstances?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: These matters, as the hon. Member knows, are not dealt with by the Government, they are dealt with by the Central Bank, the Reserve Bank of India. It is so in India; it is so in other countries, and their guidelines will be followed.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): So far as the policy of the Government in this matter is concerned, it is depositors' money which ultimately is being advanced for different kinds of purposes. Sometimes, a comparison is made as to what are the facilities available to the industry and what are the facilities which are being provided for agriculturists. There is a pro-

posal under consideration whether we can treat both of them at par. That is one of the issues which is engaging the attention of the Government. But if the loans have to be written off, then Government should be in a position to totally compensate the banks, if that amount is to be waived off. I do not think that the Finance Ministry and for that matter, even the Government can take the responsibility of totally compensating the banks concerned. There is another proposal which, in fact, is engaging the attention of the Government and that is about setting up of a fund, where calamities are involved, whether the banks can possibly be compensated if any concessions are to be extended to the agriculturists.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV. Mr. Speaker, Sir, different recommendations and demands have been made by the various political parties and sections in various States with regard to the policy to be adopted about waiving of loans some people have also made political capital out of it and they are still trying to do so. The country can no longer afford such misconceptions created in the minds of the farmers who are being misled by them. Therefore, it is necessary that the Government should decide some definite policy in this regard so that such a misconception does not arise in minds of farmers. Besides, it is also necessary that at places where drought, flood or such natural calamities strike, the policy of the Government regarding the farmers who have suffered losses and are not in a position to repay the loans, should be made clear. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government is aware of the fact that the Chief Minister of Haryana secured votes of the farmers through such a facade and whether any such announcement was made by him with the consent of the Central Government and what is the attitude of the Government in this regard. Will you kindly give information to the House in this regard?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this regard the Chief Minister of Haryana

had stated a number of things before elections as well as after coming to power. But according to our information received from NABARD, he has written off neither loans nor interest on loans of any one. If at all anything has been done, efforts have been made to provide interest-free loans from the banks and nothing beyond this.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, this requires a Half-an-hour discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow a discussion.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, it is most unfortunate that some of the political leaders in our country resort to the kind of populist gimmicks which are detrimental to the national interest. If loans given by the banks are to be written off, how are the banks going to function? What will be the future economy of the country? So, this is detrimental to the basic interest of the country. Some of the political leaders and even the Chief Ministers have announced about it. Another man who has now resigned and went away, Shri V.P. Singh, had also announced that once he will come to power he will also do it. I think he knows that he will not come to power and that is why he made such a statement. When he was the Finance Minister, he never proposed it. The Finance Minister, Shri V.P. Singh, is different from the real V.P. Singh. There are two incarnations, as has already been said. So, the point is, how do you allow such statements to be made by these leaders and then go scot free, when you are absolutely sure that these statements are detrimental to the national interest? What action are you going to take in this regard?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Government cannot stop anyone from making any statement. Whether it is a responsible or an irresponsible statement, it is ultimately for

the public to judge. I have just now stated that Government is seriously considering as to how we can go to the rescue of those who are affected by the natural calamity, by setting up some kind of a fund so that on the one hand we are able to help the bank and on the other hand help the agricultural sector also.

SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: I want to know from the hon. Finance Minister whether the Government of Maharashtra has approached the Union Government or the NABARD for reducing the rate of interest on agricultural loans.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: As far as my information goes, an effort was made with the Reserve Bank of India and the NABARD for reducing the rate of interest. The NABARD and the RBI have said, "Those who follow the discipline laid down by them will be financed. If you don't want to follow that, then ultimately, it is for you to decide whatever you feel like." But ultimately, the Apex Co-operative Banks gave an undertaking to the NABARD saying that they are prepared to accept this position and they will be able to follow the discipline which was laid down by the RBI and the NABARD. That is why that problem no more survives.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the RBI had issued any guidelines towards the writing off of interest and penal interest for the loans borrowed by the small and marginal farmers, in case the interest and the penal interest become overdue. That is called *Damdu Pattu*. It is not advisable to discriminate small and marginal farmers because after the land legislation, most of the farmers have become small and marginal farmers. I want to know whether you will treat all the farmers equally.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: So far as the definition of small and marginal farmers is

concerned, the hon. Member must be aware of the fact that there is a particular limit of acreage. If the farmers were to hold acreage below a particular level, then they are being treated as small and marginal farmers. The principle of *Damdu Pattu* will be applicable in those cases only and not in the case of others.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, every year, the nationalised banks write off a minimum of Rs. 200 crores as bad debts. They are not even brought here for discussion. They are also protected under the Act.

As per the hon. Finance Minister's statement, now both industry as well as agriculture are going to be considered at par. We welcome this. Pending that, I would like the Government to come forward and make a declaration that the penal interest which is being collected from the agriculturists or the farmers would be stopped. At least before we come to the conclusion, this penal interest should be stopped.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: So far as the treatment of the agricultural community is concerned, they are being treated on par with the industry. The first implication which the hon. Member seems to have drawn is that as in the case of the money which in fact was waived by some of the banks, similar kind of treatment should be given to all. The only implication, according to me, will be the concessions which are available to the industrial sector, and to the extent possible, we are examining it as to how far we will be able to extend the same concessions to the agricultural community so that agriculture also may be undertaken on commercial lines. That is the idea that the Government has in view.

So far as penalty part of the interest is concerned, it is with a view to see that the money does not get blocked with any particular section because, ultimately, the money

has to get circulated. Unless the people pay back, I do not think that the banks will be in a position to advance the money required by other sections, among the cultivators themselves.

SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL: Is it a fact that the industry people are getting loans actually without large security? The poor farmer has to give all this land for security and he is getting only 30 per cent or 40 per cent of the value of the money. That is why you are not writing off.

At the same time, you are not writing off the industrial advances and direct advance. They can escape. In the meantime, the farmers are not getting any concessions in the matter of interest. The rate of interest charged by the NABARD and the Reserve Bank is very high compared to that of in the case of industrial and other sectors. Can you be able to reduce the rate of interest? You have to consider the security point. You have to see that the industry should be brought at par with agricultural also.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: There seems to be some kind of a misunderstanding about the security demanded from the industrial sector and also from the agricultural sector. Actually, we do not make any distinction of this nature. If at all any distinction is made, it is in favour of the cultivator and not the industrial sector. I don't think that it will be a correct proposition to say that we should write off money. If we have to write off some money, we can do it. But, thereafter no money will be available for being advanced to the cultivators. That is why, it is not in the interest of any community, any section of the community, to write off the money.

MR. SPEAKER: The question Hour is over.



**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS***[English]***C&AG's observations on Performance of Railways**

\*265. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any action on the observations of the C&AG contained in his Report on Union Government (Railways) (No. 10 of 1989) laid on the Table of the House on 10 May 1989; and

(b) if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

**STATEMENT**

Out of the total 69 paragraphs contained in the Comptroller & Auditor General of India's Report for the year ended 31.3.1988 (No. 10 of 1989), four paragraphs have been selected for detailed examination by the Public Accounts Committee. Questionnaires have been received from the Secretariat of the Public Accounts Committee in respect of three of these paras and the required information has been furnished in one case. Other two are under finalisation

2. Action of the remaining 65 paragraphs of the Report is being processed in accordance with the procedure prescribed in this respect.

**Changes in FERA**

\*267. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for changes in the guidelines on the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act are being considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the main features of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Government of India have received suggestions for amending Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, 1973. These are being examined.

**Under Bridge at Dahod**

\*268. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide an under bridge at the railway crossing on Chakaliya Road in Dahod (Gujarat) in view of the general demand for such a bridge;

(b) if so, the time by which the bridge is likely to be provided; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) No proposal for construction of a road underbridge at the location has been received from the State Government.

**Non-payment of customs duty by M/s Indian Express**

\*275. SHRI NATVARSINH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since completed examination of the Report of the Company Law Board submitted in 1987 regarding financial irregularities and non-payment of Customs duty on newsprint and other items by the Indian Express Pvt. Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action is being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). An extract of the inspection carried out under Section 209-A of the Companies Act, 1956 which was received in the Central Board of Excise & Customs on 26.2.87, was examined. This extract of the inspection report refers to the Writ Petition filed by M/s. Indian Express Newspapers (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd. on the question of rate of customs duty on newsprint. M/s. Indian Express (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd. were earlier paying duty on the imported newsprint in terms of an interim order dated 2.6.1981 of the Supreme Court. In terms of the final orders passed by the Supreme Court on 6.12.84, duty was fixed at Rs. 550/- per M.T with effect from 1.3.81. A total amount of Rs. 87.64 lakhs on this basis has been recovered from the company.

Recently, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence received information to the effect that the Indian Express Group of Companies did not give a correct and truthful account of the total quantity of newsprint which was purchased on 'High Sea Sale basis' from the S.T.C as well as against REP import licences. The relevant documents in this connection, were taken over from the Headquarters office of the State Trading Corporation, New Delhi and its Regional Office at Bombay and also from the Registrar of Newspapers, New Delhi. As a result of the scrutiny of the above documents, it came to light that the Indian Express Group of

Newspapers imported/purchased 27,947 MT of newsprint on which they paid Customs duty at a reduced rate as against a quantity of 21,495 MT indicated by them as imported/purchased by them during the period 1.3.1981 to 6.12.1984. The short payment of Customs duty works out to approximately Rs. 20 lakhs. A show-cause Notice is under issue for the short recovery.

### **Nagpur Railway Station**

\*279. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expansion work at the Nagpur Railway Station has since been completed;

(b) if so, the amount spent so far on the expansion of the Nagpur Railway Station;

(c) whether any work still remains to be done; and

(d) if so, the time by which the entire work is likely to be completed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (A) No, Sir.

(b) Rs. 73.00 lakhs have been spent so far.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The entire work for development of Nagpur Station as a model station will be completed by March 1992, subject to availability of funds.

### **Master Plan for River Basin of Karnataka**

\*280. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has prepared Master Plans for the various river basins in the State and submitted to Union Government for approval;

(b) whether Government has examined these plans; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to sanction the Master Plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Master Plans for river basins in Karnataka prepared by an expert committee are under consideration of the State Government. These have not been received at the Centre.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Violation of COFEPOSA and FERA by Industrial Houses**

\*281. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Birla Group of Companies and other ten top industrial houses to whom show cause notices have been issued for violation of COFEPOSA and FERA during the last three years;

(b) the amount involved in each case; and

(c) the action taken by Government against the companies their Presidents, Managing Directors and Directors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Informa-

tion is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

#### **Over-bridge in Sagar**

\*282. SHRI NAND LAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which it is proposed to accord final sanction to the construction of an over-bridge at railway crossing opposite Kalpna Bhawan near Sagar railway station in Central Railway;

(b) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has agreed to provide the amount of its share in the said project;

(c) the time by which the said over-bridge is likely to be constructed; and

(d) the amount estimated to be spent on the construction of the bridge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) On receipt of the technical details and estimated cost for the road approaches for the proposed over-bridge from the State Government, the work will be sanctioned in the Railways' Works Programme.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Construction of will be taken up jointly by the Railway and the State Government after the scheme is finalised and sanctioned. A time schedule will be drawn up jointly with the State Government for expeditious completion of the work.

(d) The estimate for the work has not yet been worked out.

[English]

**Smuggling Racket**

2543. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a racket has been unearthed where smugglers in connivance with the Customs officials are blackmailing genuine importers to provide them with a cover for their clandestine activities as reported in the Times of India dated 9 July, 1989;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of customs officials and others arrested and action taken against them; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to safeguard the interest of genuine importers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Government are aware of the news-item.

(b) to (d). One Inspector of Customs Collectorate, Delhi named Satvir Singh was arrested in a trap case registered on 7th July, 1989 by the Central Bureau of Investigation while accepting a sum of Rs. 60,000 at his residence No. 234, Gagan Vihar, New Delhi on 8th July, 1989. He has also been placed under suspension.

This case and its related aspects are being investigated. Disciplinary action is taken against the officers found involved in such cases. They are also, prosecuted in Courts of law in suitable cases.

**World Bank Assistance for Modernisation of Industrial Training Institutes**

2544. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any negotiations have been concluded with the World Bank for modernisation of Industrial Training Institutes in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount expected to be received and the terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). An agreement with the World Bank was signed on 16th June, 1989, for an IBRD loan of \$ 30 million, and an IDA credit of \$ 250 million, for the Vocational Training (ITIs) Project. Project components include modernisation of about 400 ITIs, setting up of about 100 new women's ITIs, and introduction of new trades. The IBRD loan carries a variable interest charge, revised semi-annually, and currently 7.74% It is repayable in 20 years, inclusive of a 5 year grace period. The IDA credit is repayable over 35 years, inclusive of a grace of 10 years. A provision for payment of commitment charges on undisbursed balances exists for both the IBRD loan and the IDA credit. The commitment fee for the current year is 0.25% for the IBRD loan, and zero for the IDA credit.

**Regional Committees to Advise Nationalised Banks**

2545. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Regional Committees for various States for advising nationalised banks for their programmes have been set

up by Government by including some Members of Parliament and State Legislatures;

(b) if so, the dates on which these Committees have been set up alongwith their composition as on date for the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) if not, whether such Committees would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). In pursuance of the Nationalised Banks (Management & Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1970 notified on 16th November, 1970 Regional Consultative Committees (RCCs) in respect of each of the six Regions specified in the Second Schedule of the Banking Companies (Acquisition & Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 were set up. Each RCC shall consist of the following Members:

- (a) not more than three persons to be nominated by the Central Government.
- (b) two representatives from each of the States and one from each of the Union Territories included in the respective regions to be nominated by the Government of the State or the Union Territory, as the case may be; and
- (c) one representative each to be nominated by each of the nationalised banks having office in the region as may be designated by the Reserve Bank.

Meetings of the Regional Consultative Committees shall be presided over by the Minister of Finance or by such Minister or Deputy Minister in the Union Ministry of Finance. Members of Parliament/Members of Legislative Assemblies are not included in the RCCs.

The States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan and the Union Territories of Chandigarh and Delhi form part of the Northern Region.

Furthermore, Members of Parliament will now be invited to the meetings of the district Level Review Committees.

#### **Purchase of Minerals in Orissa by MMTC**

2546. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of iron ore pig iron, manganese, bauxite and other minerals purchased by MMTC from various private companies and State Government mines in Orissa during the last three years as against the targets fixed for that period; and

(b) the reasons for not achieving the targets and the steps taken to purchase minerals in Orissa according to the target fixed every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) The total quantity of iron ore purchased by MMTC from various private companies and State Government Mines in Orissa during the last three years is given as under:-

*(Qty. in lakh tonnes)*

|         |       |
|---------|-------|
| 1986-87 | 21.12 |
| 1987-88 | 20.25 |
| 1988-89 | 10.36 |

No separate target for procurement of iron ore from Orissa State is fixed by MMTC. Composite procurement target is fixed for both Orissa and Bihar States.

The target fixed and the actual quantity purchase by MMTC of Chrome Ore from Orissa during the last three years is given as under:-

*(Qty. in lakh tonnes)*

| Item       | 1986-87 |             | 1987-88 |             | 1988-89 |             |
|------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|
|            | Target  | Procurement | Target  | Procurement | Target  | Procurement |
| Chrome Ore | 2.03    | 0.57        | 1.75    | 1.39        | 1.50    | 4.85        |

In respect of Manganese Ore, no procurement target was fixed by MMTC. However, during 1988-89, a quantity of 0.11 lakh tonnes Manganese Ore was procured by MMTC from Orissa. There is no purchase of Bauxite from Orissa nor is it exported, MMTC has not purchased any Pig Iron for export and so there is no procurement of Pig Iron from Orissa.

(b) While targets fixed for procurement of iron ore in Orissa/Bihar States were almost achieved every year, the procurement targets for Chrome Ore could not be achieved during 1986-87 and 1988-89 due to depressed market conditions. MMTC has already made efforts to enter into new markets and to revive old markets for Chrome Ore as a result of which the procurement targets for Chrome Ore during 1988-89 were far exceeded.

#### Replacement of Steam Engines in Baroda

2547. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the inadequate transport facilities in the Baroda Division, particularly in Adivasi dominated areas;

(b) whether Government propose to replace steam engines by diesel engines on the narrow gauge lines of Baroda Division to provide quick and efficient service in this backward area; and

(c) if so, when the steam engines are likely to be replaced by diesel engines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The facilities are adequate for the present level of traffic.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The first Narrow Gauge diesel locomotive on Vadodara Division will be introduced during the current financial year. Complete elimination of Narrow Gauge steam in Vadodara Division will follow in due course.

### Insurance of Coal

2548. DR. DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal is insured in railway wagons;

(b) if so, what percentage of the coal transported by railway wagons is insured; and

(c) whether insurance companies decline to insure coal booked by small consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There is no system of insurance by Railways of coal booked for carriage by them. Railway's liability as carrier is governed by provisions of the Indian Railways Act.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Railway Ministry have no information on the subject.

### Export of Sugar

2549. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Indian sugar exported during the period January to June in the current year;

(b) whether government propose to review its policy regarding export of sugar; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) 10,000 M.T.

(b) and (c). Policy regarding export of sugar is under constant review taking into account domestic availability, internal demand and other relevant factors.

### Institutional Finance for Ground Water Development

2550. SHRI PARASRAMBHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts have been made to streamline procedure for the flow of institutional finance to the water resources sector since a large part of Ground Water Development depended upon the private enterprise of the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the question of development of ground water resources within the social and economical perspective as well as coordination at the State level was also discussed at the conference of State Secretaries in charge of Ground Water Development which took place recently in New Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Steps taken to streamline procedure for the flow of institutional finance for priority sector lending, including term loans for minor irrigation developments, include expansion of bank branches, adoption of the Service Area approach to Rural lending, time-bound clearance of applications for loans upto Rs. 25000 and rationalisation of forms and procedures. There is also a High Level Committee on Credit under the Chairmanship of Union Secretary, Department of Rural



Development to review the flow of institutional credit for the Integrated Rural Development Programme. Instructions have been issued for the Integrated Rural Development Programme to ensure an even flow of applications from Block Offices to banks, to finalise all cases upto the stage of sanction of loan applications at camps, and to observe a non-banking working day to enable bank officials to go to the field and attend to the problems of beneficiaries. There are also Coordination Committees at the State, District and Block levels to review the flow of institutional credit.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The State Secretaries in-charge of Ground Water Development in a Conference held at New Delhi, viewed Ground Water as a natural and economic resource for development planning and funding. Important issues discussed included the need to develop an information system, basin-wise resource planning, periodic assessment measures, conjunctive use, ground water monitoring, ground water augmentation, research and development needs, people's participation and organisational strengthening.

#### **Non-Development Expenditure**

2551. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the non-development expenditure of Government is showing an increasing trend during the current financial year in comparison to the corresponding period last-year;

(b) whether the amount earmarked for development has also decreased in comparison to the last year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) The rate of growth of non-development expenditure in 1989-90 B.E. is less than the growth of such expenditure in 1988-89 R.E. over 1987-88.

(b) Amount earmarked for developmental expenditure in 1989-90 B.E. is more than that in 1988-89 R.E.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Bank Deposits**

2552. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of deposits from public held by the nationalised banks, the State Bank of India and its subsidiaries as on 31 December, 1988, 31 March, 1989, 28 April, 1989, 26 May, 1989 and 30 June, 1989;

(b) whether there has been any negative growth in deposits as on 28 April, 1989 as compared with deposits as on 31 March, 1989; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to arrest fluctuations in deposits of banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

#### **Relief under Revised Income Tax Act**

2553. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:



(a) whether the assesseees who hold letters of intent for industrial licences for setting up industries in the listed backward areas are denied relief under the provisions of the revised Income-Tax Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Certain blocks and taluks, which were previously included in the list of backward areas contained in the Eighth Schedule to the Income-tax Act, were excluded from the list of backward areas as notified by the Central Government with effect from 1st April, 1983. In the result, certain assesseees who were previously eligible for the tax concession under section 80HH became ineligible for the said concession.

(c) The hardship arising from the said notification was sought to be removed, to the extent considered necessary, by a public circular dated 1st May, 1987 issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes to the effect that all such areas, which has been specified in the list in the said Eighth Schedule but had been excluded from the list in the said notification, will continue to enjoy the tax concession under section 80HH in cases where the industrial undertaking began to manufacture or produce articles before 10th September, 1986 or where the business of the hotel started functioning before the said date.

#### Joint Ventures with China In Third World Countries

2554. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to

state:

(a) whether India and China have agreed for the setting up of joint ventures in the third world countries; and

(b) if so, the details of agreements and the names of the countries where such joint ventures are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Export of Spices

2555. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for the current year for the export of spices like pepper, cardamom, cinnamon and cloves for the State of Kerala;

(b) the percentage of the target achieved during the first quarter of the financial year 1989-90;

(c) whether the rate of export of spices has increased as compared to the previous year;

(d) if so, the comparative figures thereof; and

(e) the quantity of arecanuts being exported annually from Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). State-wise export targets are not fixed. However, overall tar-

gets for 1989-90 are in the process of finalisation.

(c) In some cases the exports have increased and in some cases declined.

(d) A statement is given below.

(e) Figures of export of arecanuts from different States are not prepared.

## STATEMENT

## Export of Spices from India

Qty: M.T. Value: Rs. Lakhs

| Commodity        | April-June 89 |       | April-June 88 |       |
|------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|
|                  | Qty.          | Value | Qty.          | Value |
| 1                | 2             | 3     | 4             | 5     |
| Pepper           | 9250          | 4929  | 19304         | 9038  |
| Cardamom (Small) | 71            | 96    | 200           | 301   |
| Cardamom (Large) | 45            | 19    | 121           | 51    |
| Chillies         | 2450          | 586   | 824           | 140   |
| Ginger           | 1330          | 286   | 1152          | 258   |
| Turmeric         | 3100          | 324   | 2362          | 284   |
| Curry Powder     | 520           | 85    | 913           | 162   |

| Commodity               | April-June 89 |       | April-June 88 |       | Qty. M.T. | Value: Rs. Lakhs |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|-----------|------------------|
|                         | Qty.          | Value | Qty.          | Value |           |                  |
| 1                       | 2             | 3     | 4             | 5     |           |                  |
| Seeds & Other Spices    | 2500          | 240   | 5246          | 550   |           |                  |
| Spice Oils & Oleoresins | 80            | 314   | 96            | 365   |           |                  |
| Total :                 | 19346         | 6879  | 30218         | 11149 |           |                  |

### **Yardsticks for Review of work of Class III Employees**

2556. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is provision for review of the yardsticks of work performed by Class III employees in Railways;

(b) if so, whether such review is being done regularly on South Eastern Railway;

(c) if so, the name of divisions of South Eastern Railway where such review has been done during last five years along with dates of review and the action taken to implement the decision taken as a result thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No specific time frame has been prescribed for undertaking review of yardsticks of work performed by Class III employees in Railways.

(b) Reviews are undertaken as and when required.

(c) No review of yardsticks was undertaken on South and

(d) Eastern Railway during last 5 years as the same was not considered necessary.

### **Setting up of a Separate subsidiary of GIC for Housing Development**

2557. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 24th February, 1989, to Unstarred Question No. 464 regarding study group to review working of LIC and GIC and state:

(a) whether the GIC has established a separate subsidiary for housing development;

(b) whether the LIC and GIC have taken steps to publicise their schemes for the benefit of low income groups in rural areas; and

(c) if so, whether the number of beneficiaries/claimants under these schemes have shows a rise, since the schemes came into operation, with the total number of claims made in the country as a whole, quarter-wise, since the inception?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) GIC and its subsidiaries have decided to set up a Housing Finance Company in association with Indian Overseas Bank etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The number of beneficiaries/claimants under the schemes operated by LIC and GIC for the benefit of low income groups in rural areas has steadily increased since these schemes came into operation. For example, under the Personal Accident Social Security Scheme operated by GIC, in the first quarter of 1989, the number of beneficiaries was 3693, as opposed to the figure of 2800 in the last quarter of 1988 and 2621 in the third quarter of 1988. Likewise, under the Hut Insurance Scheme for poor families in rural areas, operated by GIC, the number of beneficiaries in the first quarter of 1989 was 13597, as opposed to the figure of 3865 in the last quarter of 1988. Similarly, under the Group Insurance Scheme covering landless agricultural labourers, operated by LIC, the number of claims settled was 12159 in the first quarter of 1989. (For the earlier period, quarterly statistics of claims settled by LIC are to readily available. However, 17186 claims were settled in all, by LIC, under this

Scheme, up to the end of December, 1988).

### Special Financial Assistance to Goa

2558. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Union Government are rendering special financial assistance to Government of Goa to fill their budgetary gap in view of the fact that Goa is newly born State; and

(b) if so, the details of assistance given in that regard since the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) and (b). With a view to ensuring that the planned development of Goa does not suffer on its attaining Statehood, a term loan of Rs. 50 crores was provided to fund its approved Plan Outlay for 1987-88. No special loan assistance was, however, provided to the State Government during 1988-89, as there was no gap in resources for the State Plan 1988-89.

### Import Policy for Units In EPZ

2559. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have amended the import policy for the units established/to be established within the perimeter of Export Processing Zones (EPZ);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria followed for setting up such units within these zones; and

(d) the steps taken to support units whose performance is not satisfactory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). The following principal amendments, *inter-alia*, have been carried out in the Import & Export Policy 1988-91 relating to units established in the Export Processing Zones:-

(i) In the case of re-export of imported goods, the requirement of furnishing a "No Objection Certificate" from the Reserve Bank of India, has been dispensed with.

(ii) The facility of imports through agents, as contained in paras 120 & 121 of the Hand-Book of Procedures, 1988-91 has been discontinued for the units situated in Free Trade Zones/ Export Processing Zones.

(iii) In case of imports in respect of controlled items from USA, units located in Export Processing Zones and Free Trade Zones will have to obtain Import Certificate to be issued by Chief Controller of Imports & Exports/Department of Electronics through the Development Commissioner of the concerned Zones.

(c) Applications for establishing projects are examined with reference to factors which include economic viability, value added content, volume of export earning, employment generation involved, nature of operations, experience and financial background of the promoter etc.

(d) The scheme of Export Processing Zones provides for due input support for organising production on a competitive basis. The performance of the unit is the responsibility of the entrepreneur. The Development Commissioners in the zones monitor the

performance of the units and extends guidance wherever possible.

### Export of Sea food

2560. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are making efforts to increase the export of sea food;

(b) if so, the quantity of seafood exported during the last three years;

(c) the names of the countries to which sea food is being exported; and

(d) the projection made for the export of sea food during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantity of seafood exported during the last three years are:-

| Year    | Quantity (Tonnes). |
|---------|--------------------|
| 1986-87 | 85843              |
| 1987-88 | 97179              |
| 1988-89 | 99777              |

(c) The countries to which seafood is being exported by India are Japan, USA, U.K. Spain, Singapore, France, Greece, Netherlands, Italy, UAE, Kuwait, Sri Lanka & Belgium.

(d) Exports of Marine Products during 1988-89 as per DGCIS figures were an all-time high of Rs. 632.26 crores. The terminal year of Seventh Five Year Plan is likely to surpass this figure.

### Assistance given by SCICI to fishing Companies

2561. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

The details of loans and interest thereof over-due to the Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India (SCICI) from fishing companies as on 30th June, 1989, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Limited (SCICI) has reported that as on 30th June, 1989 the loan outstanding from deep sea fishing trawler companies assisted by it stood at Rs. 9.02 crores, and none of these companies were in default in respect of payment of principal. The interest amount overdue stood at Rs. 1.08 crores as on 30th June, 1989. The list of fishing companies sanctioned assistance by SCICI is given in the statement below.

### STATEMENT

| S. No. | Name of the Company             |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| 1.     | Indus Food Limited              |
| 2.     | Sumura maritime Trades Limited  |
| 3.     | Seal Fisheries Limited          |
| 4.     | Chendur Sea Food Limited        |
| 5.     | Meenam Fisheries Limited        |
| 6.     | Surya Sea Food Limited          |
| 7.     | Navabharat Ferro Alloys Limited |
| 8.     | Gautham Construction Limited    |

| <i>S. No.</i> | <i>Name of the Company</i>            |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| 9.            | Motherland Ocean Products Limited     |
| 10.           | Indamar Fisheries Limited             |
| 11.           | Young Fisheries Limited               |
| 12.           | Oceanic Enterprises Limited           |
| 13.           | Atlanta Shipping Pvt. Limited         |
| 14.           | Pallava Sea Foods Pvt. Limited        |
| 15.           | Royce Marine Limited                  |
| 16.           | Bangalore Marines Limited             |
| 17.           | Maharaha Fisheries Limited            |
| 18.           | Nekkanti Sea Foods Limited            |
| 19.           | Sindhu Shivathi fisheries (P) Limited |

**Opening of a Branch of Punjab National Bank at Jaunpur (Uttar Pradesh)**

2562. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was proposed to open a branch of the Punjab National Bank at Jaunpur (Uttar Pradesh);

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

(c) the time by which the branch is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

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

**All India Banking Service**

2563. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are actively considering to introduce a new All-India Banking Service for various categories of posts in all the nationalised banks instead of the existing regional banking service system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Renewal of Aligarh-Chandausi Railway Track**

2564. SHRI PURAN CHANDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is proposal to renew Aligarh-Chandausi railway track for the purpose of making it fit for running high speed trains; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Vidisha and Sanchi Railway Stations**

2565. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:



(a) whether there is any proposal to construct new platform shed at Vidisha and Sanchi railway stations during current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Sanchi is also proposed to be developed as a model station; and

(d) if so, by what time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Procedure for Appointment of Judges in High Court and Supreme Court**

2567. SHRI I. RAMA RAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to change the norms for appointment of High Court and Supreme Court Judges so that vacancies are filled up within specified time limit;

(b) if so, when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The present norms are considered satisfactory.

#### **New Station Buildings in Kerala**

2568. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new buildings are proposed to be constructed for railway stations in Kerala during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the schedule for completion of these works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Construction of new station buildings at Payyanur and Trivandrum Central railway stations is being taken up in phases, commensurate with the availability of funds. The works are likely to be completed in 1990-91 and 1992-93 respectively.

#### **Earnings of Railways**

2569. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise/division-wise income of the Railways;

(b) whether the investment in railway development in a particular State has any relation to the income generated therein; and

(c) if so, the figure in respect of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There is no system of State-wise/Division-wise apportionment of railway earnings.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Fast Passenger Trains between Delhi-Amritsar and Delhi-Jammu**

2570. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations for the introduction of fast passenger trains between Delhi and Amritsar, and between Delhi and Jammu Tawi;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to introduce such fast passenger trains for the benefit of the poor and weaker sections of the society; and

(d) if so, the time by which such trains will be introduced and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d). New Superfast services between New Delhi and Amritsar and New Delhi and Jammu Tawi have been provided from May, 1989.

**Excise Duty Evasion cases in Delhi**

2571. SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 21 July, 1989 to Unstarred Question No, 609 regarding Excise duty evasion cases in Delhi and state:

(a) the number of surprise visits made during the last three months to units in Delhi and with what results;

(b) the steps taken to adjudicate the cases without delay; and

(c) the number of cases adjudicated finally during the last six months and how does this compare with the cases adjudicated during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) 58 visits were made by the Central Excise Officers to the units located in Delhi during the period 1.4.1989 to 30.6.1989. As a result of these visits 49 cases of evasion were detected involving Central Excise duty of Rs. 32.66 lakhs.

(b) Efforts are underway to investigate the cases and issue the show cause notices without any delay. The cases are adjudicated expeditiously on receipt of reply to Show Cause Notice and after giving personal hearing to the parties.

(c) Number of cases adjudicated during the last six months as compared with the cases adjudicated during the same period of last three years, are as under:

|                       |          |             |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------|
| 1.1.1989 to 30.6.1989 | :        | 444         |
| 1.1.1988 to 30.6.1988 | :        | 315         |
| 1.1.1987 to 30.6.1987 | :        | 223         |
| 1.1.1986 to 30.6.1986 | :        | 150         |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>:</b> | <b>1132</b> |

**Assistance by financial institutions to Development of Industries in Backward Areas**

2572. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its latest report on the working of state financial institutions has commented on them for diverting most of the

assistance from developing of industries in backward areas to city and urban areas; and

(b) if so, the modifications which have been and are being made in the functioning of financial institutions, both at Central and State Government level in the light of the said report of the C&AG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). No such mention on diversion of assistance meant for development of industries in backward areas to those in cities and urban areas has come to notice. According to IDBI assistance sanctioned to backward areas by SFCs and SIDCs during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 indicated an increase as shown below:

| Year | Assistance sanctioned to backward areas |  |
|------|---|--|
|      | (Rs. crores)                            |  |

|         | SFCs  | SIDCs |
|---------|-------|-------|
| 1985-86 | 564.9 | 357.2 |
| 1986-87 | 682.1 | 362.0 |
| 1987-88 | 718.4 | 422.5 |

Cumulatively upto March, 1988, assistance sanctioned by all SFCs to backward areas constituted 51.2% of the total assistance sanctioned by them. Similarly, cumulative assistance to backward areas by all SIDCs accounted for 64.3% of the total assistance sanctioned by them.

#### Harassment of Minorities in Assam

2573. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the widespread apprehensions of harassment among the minorities in Assam consequent to the controversial directive of the Election Commission to adopt the voters list of 1966 as the basis for revision of electoral rolls;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government

to ensure that no such harassment takes place;

(c) the steps, if any taken by Government to prevail upon the Election Commission to adopt the voters List of 1985 as the basis of revision of rolls is conformity with law and practical consideration; and

(d) the steps, if any, taken by Government for strict vigilance on the process of revision of electoral rolls in Assam particularly through deployment of central staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d). The Election Commission has not issued any directive that in the revision of electoral rolls in Assam the voters list of 1966 should be adopted as the basis. What the Election Commission has ordered in Assam is an intensive revision. In such a revision there is no question

of using any earlier roll as the basis. Such rolls can only be used as evidence.

In Assam enumeration has been completed in respect of 121 out of 126 Assembly constituencies and it is expected that the work in respect of the remaining constituencies will be completed shortly. The matter being sensitive the Election Commission has been adopting a very cautious approach and monitoring the work on day today basis and will continue to do so until the work is completed. The Election Commission has also decided to depute Centre observers and officers from the Commission at the appropriate stage to supervise the work.

#### **Computerised of Banks**

2574. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the type of computers to be used in banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether Indian Computer firms will have opportunity to participate in banks computerisation; and

(d) whether specific instructions have been issued to ensure participation by indigenous firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). As recommended by Dr. Rangarajan Committee on Computerisation/mechanisation in banks, Mainframe Computers, Mini Computers and Advanced Ledger Posting Machines (ALPMs) are being installed by the public sector banks at their Head Offices, Regional/zonal Offices and Branches respectively.

(c) and (d). Reserve Bank of India has reported that indigenous manufacturers/vendors have been empanelled by it for supply of ALPMs, Mini Computers and Mainframe Computers to the public sector banks. The names of the empanelled vendors and details of the equipment are advised to the public sector banks by Reserve Bank of India from time to time.

#### **Revision of electoral rolls**

2575. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are taking steps to revise the electoral roll;

(b) if so, the progress made in that regard; and

(c) the date by which the revision of electoral roll will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation or revision in the electoral rolls and vested in the Election Commission. The Election Commission has initiated steps for special revision of the electoral rolls for enrolling the voters in the age group of 18 to 21 with 1.4.1989 as the qualifying date and this task has been completed and the final rolls also published in all the States and Union territories except in Assam and in the snow bound segment of a Parliamentary constituency in J&K. In the case of Assam, the Election Commission had ordered an intensive revision and enumeration work has been completed in as many as 121 out of 126 constituencies. The Election Commission is closely monitoring the work for completing the task speedily.

**Proposals for Joint Ventures Abroad**

2576. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a number of proposals for joint ventures abroad;

(b) if so, any what time the final decision will be taken;

(c) the names of countries where these joint ventures will be set up;

(d) the total number of Joint ventures operating at present; and

(e) what was the position in the regard during 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). There are 22 joint venture proposals under consideration. These involve projects in Cayman Island, Malaysia, Hungary, USSR, USA, Somalia, Nepal, Australia, Singapore, Jordan & Thailand. At will not be possible to indicate the time schedule for arriving at a final decision as proposals are considered by the Committee on Joint Ventures Abroad as soon as these are ripe for consideration.

(d) There are 150 joint ventures operating as on 30.6.89.

(e) There were 152 joint ventures operating as on 31.12.88.

**Sick Units Registered with BIFR**

2577. SHRI DEBI GHOSAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick units registered

with the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (B.I.F.R) till date, State-wise;

(b) the number of units out of them which could be revived through B.I.F.R. State-wise;

(c) the number of units wound up, State-wise; and

(d) the number of such cases still pending for disposal, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) BIFR has reported that 716 references received under Section 15 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 in respect of sick industrial companies have been registered with them as on 30.6.89. State-wise break up of the number of units registered is given in statement below.

(b) The Board has sanctioned schemes for revival of 30 sick companies as on 30.6.89. The revival schemes are under implementation.

(c) As on 30.6.89 in respect of 25 companies that Board has formed the opinion under Section 20 of the Act that it is just and equitable that the company should be wound up and has record this opinion for transmission to the concerned High Court.

(d) As on 30.6.89, in 73 cases the Board dismissed the references as not maintainable. In respect of 79 other cases, the Board has accorded approval under Section 17 (2) of the Act on being satisfied that the company concerned can make its net worth positive on its own within a reasonable time. The remaining cases are under various stages of inquiry under the Act and the BIFR Regulations.

## STATEMENT

Sick units registered in 1987, 1988 &amp; 1989 state-wise break up

| Sl. No. | Name of the State | No. of Units |      |                        |   |   |
|---------|-------------------|--------------|------|------------------------|---|---|
|         |                   | 1987         | 1988 | 1989<br>(Upto 30.6.89) | 4 | 5 |
| 1.      | Maharashtra       | 65           | 53   | 15                     |   |   |
| 2.      | West Bengal       | 40           | 42   | 13                     |   |   |
| 3.      | Gujarat           | 34           | 33   | 11                     |   |   |
| 4.      | Andhra Pradesh    | 30           | 35   | 9                      |   |   |
| 5.      | Tamil Nadu        | 30           | 25   | 7                      |   |   |
| 6.      | Uttar Pradesh     | 29           | 21   | 7                      |   |   |
| 7.      | Karnataka         | 24           | 28   | 6                      |   |   |
| 8.      | Bihar             | 18           | 11   | 2                      |   |   |
| 9.      | Rajasthan         | 17           | 13   | 3                      |   |   |
| 10.     | Haryana           | 11           | 11   | 6                      |   |   |

| Sl. No.   | Name of the State | No. of Units |      |                        |    |    |
|---|-------------------|--------------|------|------------------------|----|----|
|   |                   | 1987         | 1988 | 1989<br>(Upto 30.6.89) |    |    |
|   | 2                 | 3            | 4    | 5                      | 5  |    |
| 11.   | Punjab            | 11           | 8    | —                      | —  | —  |
| 12.   | Madhya Pradesh    | 10           | 10   | 6                      | 6  | 6  |
| 13.   | Kerala            | 10           | 7    | 3                      | 3  | 3  |
| 14.   | Himachal Pradesh  | 3            | 6    | 3                      | 3  | 3  |
| 15.   | Orissa            | 2            | 6    | 2                      | 2  | 2  |
| 16.   | Assam             | 1            | —    | —                      | —  | —  |
| 17.   | Chandigarh (UT)   | 1            | —    | —                      | —  | —  |
| 18.   | Delhi (UT)        | 1            | 3    | 1                      | 1  | 1  |
| 19.   | Pondicherry (UT)  | 1            | 3    | —                      | —  | —  |
| 20.   | Goa               | 1            | 2    | —                      | —  | —  |
|   |                   | 339          | 317  | 94                     | 94 | 94 |
| Total number of sick companies without reckoning their units located in different States. |                   | 317          | 300  | 99                     | 99 | 99 |

[*Translation*]

**Manufacturing of Narcotics and Drug Trafficking**

2578. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether manufacturing of narcotics and drug trafficking has been increasing tremendously;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to check this trade; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A K PANJA). (a) to (c) While there have been few attempts at illicit manufacture of crude heroin/morphine, it is not a fact that the illicit manufacturing of narcotics has been increasing tremendously

In view of its geographical location between the two major sources for illicit supply of drugs, namely, the Golden Crescent and the Golden Triangle, India is increasingly

facing the problem of transit traffic in drugs.

Government have launched various aggressive counter measures which, inter alia, include provision of deterrent punishments to drug traffickers, strengthening of preventive and intelligence machinery (especially) around borders and vulnerable areas), adoption of a liberalised reward scheme for officers and informers, strengthening of bilateral co-operation between neighbouring countries (including regional co-operation under the aegis of SSARC). The Prevention of Illicit traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 provides for preventive detention upto a maximum period of 2 years for drug crimes. 343 persons have so far been detained under the said Act.

The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 1988, inter alia, provides for death penalty on second conviction in respect of specified offences involving specified quantities of certain drugs and also forfeiture of property of drug offenders. Besides, all drug-related offences have been made cognizable and non-bailable.

As a result of concerted drive against drug trafficking, huge-quantities of drugs had been seized, as shown below:



| Sl. No. | Drug     | 1986             | 1987            | 1988            | 1989 (upto June)<br>(Provisional) |
|---------|----------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1       | 2        | 3                | 4               | 5               | 6                                 |
|         |          |                  | (in kilograms)  |                 |                                   |
| 1.      | Opium    | 8,789<br>(1,692) | 2,929<br>(433)  | 3,304<br>(512)  | 576<br>(126)                      |
| 2.      | Morphine | 207<br>(45)      | 115<br>(38)     | 23<br>(24)      | 16<br>(5)                         |
| 3.      | Heroin   | 2,621<br>(405)   | 2,747<br>(351)  | 3,029<br>(489)  | 1,262<br>(125)                    |
| 4.      | Hashish  | 18,909<br>(374)  | 14,796<br>(301) | 17,523<br>(419) | 2,531<br>(98)                     |
| 5.      | Ganja    | 60,619<br>(684)  | 53,920<br>(635) | 45,994<br>(552) | 23,727<br>(139)                   |

(Bracketed figures indicate the number of cases)

**Smuggling of Drugs**

2579. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a continuous increase in the smuggling of drugs from the neighbouring countries into India:

(b) if so, the action to stop the smuggling of opium and other drugs through these border areas since January, 1988; and

(c) the quantity of various drugs seized during this period, the number of persons

died, arrested and put in jails, the number of smugglers' gangs still at large and the details of money, etc. recovered from them and other actions taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). Due to its geographical location between the two sources for illicit supply of drugs, namely, the Golden Crescent and the Golden Triangle, India is increasingly facing the problem of transit traffic in drugs.

The quantities of various drugs seized in 1988 and upto June, 1989 are as below:

|                       | 1988   | 1989 (upto June)<br>(Provisional) |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>(in kilograms)</i> |        |                                   |
| 1. Opium              | 3,304  | 576                               |
| 2. Heroin             | 3,029  | 1,262                             |
| 3. Hashish            | 17,523 | 2,531                             |
| 4. Ganja              | 45,994 | 23,727                            |

Details, as reported to Narcotics Control Bureau, of the number of persons prosecuted, convicted and arrested and given below:

|                              | 1988  | 1989 |
|------------------------------|-------|------|
| 1. No. of persons prosecuted | 3,074 | 730  |
| 2. No. of persons convicted  | 339   | 98   |
| 3. No. of persons arrested   | 2,350 | 614  |

No precise details relating to the number of gangs still at large, number of persons died and the money, etc. recovered from the could be furnished as no separate statistics are maintained for the purpose.

Government have launched various aggressive counter-measures which, inter alia, includes provision of deterrent punishments to drug traffickers, strengthening of preventive and intelligence

machinery (especially around borders and vulnerable areas), adoption of a liberalised reward scheme for officers and informers, strengthening of bilateral co-operation between neighbouring countries (including regional co-operation under the aegis of SAARC). The Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 provides for preventive detention upto a maximum period of 2 years or drug crimes. 343 persons have so far been detained under the said Act.

The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 1988, inter alia, provides for death penalty on second conviction in respect of specified offences involving specified quantities of certain drugs and also forfeiture of property of drug offenders. Besides, all drug-related offences have been made cognizable and non-bailable

#### **Over-bridge at Khurai, Bina and Makronia**

2580 SHRI NANDLAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether a demand has been made to construct overbridges at railway crossings opposite Gurukul School near Khurai Station (Central Railway), Jhansipatak crossing near Bina Junction and crossing near Makronia Station, Central Railway; and

(b) if so, the details of the bridges sanctioned so far, names of places where survey has been conducted and names of remaining places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. A few representations in this regard have been received by the Railways.

(b) None of these overbridges has been

sanctioned so far, as firm proposals therefor have not been received from the State Government.

#### **Appointment of women Judges in Courts**

2581. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a women delegation has demanded for thirty per cent reservation for the appointment of women judges in the court recently;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted this demand;

(c) if so, the time by which Government propose to implement this; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No such demand has been received.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Trains between Dombivall-V.T**

2582. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals to start Dombivali local from Dombivali to V.T. on Bombay Suburban Railway; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Not found operationally feasible.

### **Inter-State water Disputes**

2583. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) which are the inter-State water disputes pending for settlement in South India; and

(b) what action has been taken for the speedy settlement of the disputes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Only one, namely, Cauvery water dispute.

(b) Inter-State meetings to discuss the issue were convened by the Centre.

[*Translation*]

### **Ken Multipurpose Irrigation Project, M.P.**

2584. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ken-Multi-purpose Irrigation project of Madhya Pradesh is pending with the Central Water Commission for approval; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The project has been returned to the State Government for

appropriate modifications in February, 1987.

[*English*]

### **Defaulting Multinationals and other Companies**

2585. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending before Central Board of Direct Taxes regarding defaulting multi-national and other companies for non-payment and evasion of direct taxes; and

(b) the steps being taken to recover the dues and imposition of penalties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA): (a) and (b). The Officers of the Investigation Wing as well as the Assessing Officers of the Income-tax Department undertake investigation for detecting tax evasion in the cases of companies and other assesses. In the absence of specific names of multinationals and other companies, reference would have to be made to the assessment records of all companies located all over the country for ascertaining the information required. This will involve stupendous labour and time. The results sought to be achieved may not be commensurate with the efforts involved. Any specific information about a particular company if asked for can be furnished.

[*Translation*]

### **Loans Advanced Under 20-Point Programme in Uttar Pradesh**

2586. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of loan applications

received by the banks under 20- Point Programme during 1989-90 (so far) in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of persons, out of them, granted loans and the total amount advanced;

(c) whether any annual target was fixed for banks in this regard; and

(d) if so, the names of banks which have not achieved the target and the action proposed to be taken against the defaulting banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that, in view of the diverse nature of activities covered under 'New 20 Point Programme' (TPP) and in the absence of concrete schemes in respect of each point, there are no fixed targets earmarked for the banks for the TPP as a whole or for each point thereunder. Further, the present data reporting system does not also provide information in the manner asked for. However, as per information received from Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the outstanding advances of all scheduled commercial banks in Uttar Pradesh under Twenty Point Programme (TPP), as at the end of June 1988 (latest available) were Rs. 1097.91 crores in 25 85 lakh borrowal accounts.

[English]

#### Coffee Export

2587. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India will benefit from the two year extension of the International Coffee Agreement as no quota have been fixed

for exporting countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). With sufficient exportable surplus of coffees available and the quality of Indian Coffee being of a very high order, India is likely to benefit with the waiver of quota restrictions by the ICO.

[Translation]

#### Varanasi-Aunrihar Chhapra Rail Line

2588. SHRI KESHORAO PARDHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the necessary funds for conversion of Varanasi Aunrihar-Chhapra metre gauge line into broad gauge have been provided; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this conversion work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). For the conversion of Aunrihar-Chhapra MG to BG, an allocation of Rs.1.51 crores has been made in the Budget 1989-90. Its completion will depend on availability of resources in coming years. Varanasi-Aunrihar, which is a part of Varanasi-Bhatni gauge conversion project is likely to be completed by March 1991, subject to availability of resources in 1990-91.

#### Assistance given by Rural Banks in Barabanki and Sitapur Districts of Uttar Pradesh

2589. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities have been noticed in the regional rural banks function for the upliftment of the poor in Barabanki and Sitapur district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct an inquiry in this regard;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). Bank of India, sponsor bank for Barabanki Gramin Bank and Allahabad Bank, sponsor bank for Bhagirath Gramin Bank functioning in Barabanki and Sitapur districts of Uttar Pradesh respectively have reported that these Gramin Banks are providing all necessary assistance in the development of rural economy of these districts by providing credit facilities to the weaker sections of society. Both the banks have further reported that they have not received any complaint regarding serious irregularities in the functioning of concerned Regional Rural Banks. However, complaints regarding non-sanction of loans by these Gramin Banks are received from different quarters and remedial action taken after proper investigation.

[English]

#### **Berhampur-Phulbani Road**

2591. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa has submitted proposal for the improvement of Berhampur-Phulbani Road at an estimated cost of rupees forty crores;

(b) whether the State Government has requested to include the road under the World Bank assistance;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) the assistance, if any, made available from the World Bank for the Road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). World Bank is providing assistance of \$250 million for a State Roads Project to improve the construction and maintenance of State Roads in Bihar, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and U.P. The proposal of the Government of Orissa for improvement of the Berhampur-Phulbani Road was received after the above loan was approved. At present there is no proposal under consideration for seeking World Bank assistance for another State Roads Project.

#### **Irrigation Projects of Bihar Pending for Approval**

2592. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation projects approved for execution during the Seventh Five Year Plan in Bihar; and

(b) the number of projects completed and the details of projects yet to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). 39 on-going and 20 new irrigation projects were included in the Seventh Five Year Plan for execution. Of

these, 15 projects are scheduled to be completed during the Seventh Plan. The remaining to spill over the Eighth Plan, include Subernrekha Multipurpose, Bagmati, Western Kosi Canal and North Koyal Reservoir Projects.

#### External Debt

2593. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the amount of external debt of the country towards the end of the financial year 1988-89;

(b) whether this included the investments made by the Non-resident Indians (NRIs) during the year;

(c) if not, the amount invested in the country by the N.R.I.s during 1988-89; and

(d) the amount spent by the country for servicing the debt mentioned in (a) above (i.e. payment of interest) during 1989-90 (so far)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The total external debt outstanding of the country is estimated to be Rs. 68831 crores as on 31.3.1989 at the exchange rate prevailing on that date

(b) No, Sir.

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

(d) The amount of interest to be paid on the outstanding external debt is estimated to be Rs. 3342 crores during 1989-90.

#### Advertisements in Railway Compartments

2594. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE

PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total earning by the Railways on account of advertisements in the compartments of the local trains in Bombay and other metropolitan cities during the last one year; and

(c) steps Government propose to take to attract more advertisements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Rs 31, 131, 95/- in 1988-89.

(b) Personal contacts with trade and Advertising Agencies are made to attract more business.

[Translation]

#### Ban on Publicity of Narcotic Drugs

2595. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to impose a statutory ban on the publicity of narcotic drugs;

(b) whether Government have banned the publicity of narcotic drugs on Radio, T.V. and the press, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA): (a) to (c). Reports do not indicate any publicity efforts for encouraging illicit traffic and abuse of narcotic drugs. Such publicity could be construed as abetment and liable to be punished under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. There is,

therefore, no separate proposal to impose a statutory ban on the publicity of narcotic drugs at this stage, through media like Radio, T.V. etc.

#### Fake Currency Notes

2596. SHRI MADAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a gang circulating fake currency notes has been unearthed during the last two months;

(b) if so, since when this gang is engaged in this work;

(c) the number of persons arrested in this regard and the value of currency notes recovered from them;

(d) whether Government have taken any action against them so far;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Seizure of Goods at Trivandrum Airport

2597. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of goods seized by the Customs authorities from the passengers at Trivandrum Airports during 1988 and during the currency year;

(b) the amount realised by sale of confiscated items during the above period; and

(c) the value of goods lying undisposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). The value of contraband goods seized by the Customs authorities from the passengers at Trivandrum airport during 1988 and during the current year upto 30 June, 1989, as well as the amount realised by sale of confiscated goods during this period are given in the table below:-

| Items             | Value of goods seized |   |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---|
|                   | 1988                  | (Rs. in Lakhs)<br>1989 (upto 30th June, 1989) |
| Gold              | 627.12                | 358.54  |
| Indian currency   | 1.76                  | 0.06  |
| Foreign currency  | 2.44                  | 0.58  |
| Other goods       | 126.42                | 76.27   |
| goods disposed of | 80.79                 | 31.75   |

(c) The value of goods lying undisposed as on 30.6.1989 in the Custom's Warehouse

at Trivandrum airport is given below:-



Gold : Rs. 508.86 Lakhs

Other goods : Rs. 27.96 lakhs

**Mobile Library-cum-Book Stall in Vaishali Express**

2598. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Mobile Library -cum-Book Stall has been provided in 153 Up/154 Dn Vaishali Express running between New Delhi and Barauni;

(b) if so, the particulars of the contractors, the number of berths ear-marked for the purpose in these trains and rail passes issued to persons manning these libraries;

(c) whether any checks are being exercised to see that there is no un-authorized use of berths for the library; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The contract is held by Smt. Malka Ravin. One berth is allotted in each rake. Eleven II Class passes are issued.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. None checks have been conducted during the last three years and no case of un-authorized use of berths was found.

**Export Pepper**

2599. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of pepper exported during the last three years;

(b) whether the export of pepper has decreased considerably recently;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the price of pepper has fallen considerably within the country on this account; and

(e) whether Government propose to fix a support price for pepper to protect the farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) The quantity and value of paper exported during the last three years was as follows:-

| Year    | Qty. (MT) | Value (Rs. lakhs) |
|---------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1986-87 | 37083     | 20033             |
| 1987-88 | 41011     | 24058             |
| 1988-89 | 41065     | 18778             |

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) With the improvement in the world supply position in '88, the prices of pepper in international market declined as compared to those in 1987. This had impact on India's domestic prices also. However, since the beginning of the current year the prices started firming of and at present prices are ruling at reasonable levels.

(e) No, Sir.

**Excise Duty Pending Realisation Against M/s Indian Tobacco Company**

2600. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the M/s Indian Tobacco Company (ITC) is in arrears of excise duty of Rs. 20,000 crores from 1982-87 to Government;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to collect all the arrears; and

(c) whether the ITC is charged with excise duty evasion of Rs. 2,3000 crores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) It is premature to say anything in this regard as the matter is under adjudication under the provisions of the Central Excises & Salt Act, 1944.

(b) The question of taking steps to collect such arrears would arise only after adjudication of the matter.

(c) The amount of duty alleged to have been evaded is being reassessed.

#### **Unauthorised Sellers at Delhi and New Delhi Railway Stations**

2601. SHRI A.C. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that hundreds of unauthorised persons are working at Delhi and New Delhi Stations, selling all sort of items.

(b) if so, whether any agency like CBI, Vigilance have checked up this practice during the last three years;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to clear the stations of unauthorised persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Such cases have come to notice.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A special task force consisting of railway commercial staff, RPF and GRP personnel has been formed which conducts regular surprise checks to apprehend unauthorised vendors/hawkers. The persons so apprehended are dealt with in accordance with law.

[*Translation*]

#### **Electrification of Jammu Tawi-Sealdah Railway Line**

2602. CHAUDHARY AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to electrify Jammu Tawi-Sealdah (Via Muradabad-Lucknow) railway line; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Sealdah/Howrah-Mughalsarai via Grand Chord is already electrified. Electrification of Mughalsari-Lucknow-Muradabad-Saharanpur-Ludhiana alone is under consideration. At present, there is no proposal to electrify Ludhiana-Jammu Tawi section.

#### **Construction of Barrage on Ganga River at Kanpur**

2603. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the implementation of the expert Committee's recommendations for constructing a barrage on river Ganga at Kanpur;

(b) whether Union Government have held talks with the Government of Uttar Pradesh in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the State Government has contributed any amount for this purpose; and

(e) the time by which Government propose to start the construction work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M.JACOB): (a) It is for the State Government to implement the recommendations

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Detailed project report has not been received at the Centre.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Calcutta Metro Rail Service

2604 SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Metro Rail, Calcutta has increased its sales of tickets due to rise in number of daily commuters in relation to past years of operation;

(b) whether the Railways unable to

provide more coaches and to reduce the frequency of time between the train's arrival and departure;

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

(d) what further action is proposed to be taken to improve the functioning of Metro Rail, Calcutta?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

(d) To improve the functioning of Metro Railway, measures like installation of latest signalling/telecommunication equipment and provision of Automatic Fare Collection and Passenger Control System have been programmed.

#### Export of Rice

2605. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of rice exported in the last two years;

(b) whether Government propose to further increase the export of rice during the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the countries importing rice from India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) The quantity and value of export of rice during the last two years were as follows:-

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Quantity<br/>(Tonnes)</i> | <i>Value<br/>(Rs. crores)</i> |
|-------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1987-88     | 3,88,919                     | 352.35                        |
| 1988-89     | 3,85,440                     | 353.76                        |

(Provisional APEDA Estimate)

(b) Export of Basmati rice is allowed under Open General Licence. Export of non-basmati rice is allowed within limited ceiling. Export of rice during the current financial year will depend on the exportable surpluses available and international trading environment.

(c) The major countries importing rice from India are Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA, USSR and Senegal.

#### **Survey Regarding Fitness of Underground Water for Human Consumption**

2606. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Central Ground Water Board regarding the fitness of underground water for human consumption during the current year; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome of the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB) : (a) and (b). Studies carried out by the Central Ground Water Board have shown that ground water is potable in the entire country except in localised pockets where problems due to salinity, fluoride,

iron, nitrates or contamination from industrial effluents have been noticed.

#### **Licensed Vendors and Stall Holders**

2607. DR. PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licensed vendor and stall holders including book-stall at railway stations in 1988-89 zone-wise; and

(b) the total earnings of Railways on account of licence fee during that year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a)

| <i>Railway</i> | <i>No. of licensed vendors<br/>and Stall Holders</i> |
|----------------|--|
| Central        | 400  |
| Eastern        | 1145   |
| Northern       | 2139   |
| North Eastern  | 781  |
| N.E. Frontier  | 744  |
| Southern       | 451  |
| South Central  | 301  |
| South Eastern  | 363  |
| Western        | 1583   |

(b) Total earnings on account of licence fee during 1988-89 was Rs. 1.25 Crores.

#### **Proposal From Government of Gujarat Regarding Relief to Farmers**

2608. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received any proposal from Government of Gujarat regarding relief to the farmers in the clearance of their debt of commercial and cooperative banks which has been increasing due to accumulated cumulative interest on the original amount of loan for the last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The State Government of Gujarat have submitted a proposal to the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for extending certain relief measures to defaulters in the State. They have also written to the Union Government in this regard.

(b) The main elements of the proposal are given below:-

|   | <i>Amount Rs. in crores</i> |
|---|-----------------------------|
| (i) Writing off all overdue interest of all farmers, small or large   | 60.00                       |
| (ii) Reschedulements of overdue principal of small and marginal farmers—Govt. to bear entire interest at 10% on rescheduled instalments | 12.60                       |
| (iii) Reschedulement of overdue principal instalments of other farmers and 6% subsidy on interest                                       | 28.00                       |

(c) The proposal of the State Government is under examination.

[*Translation*]

#### **New Income Tax Forms**

2609. SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new forms of income-tax, wealth tax and T.D.S. books had reached in all the income tax offices before 30 June, 1989; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to waive the interest on the tax payer for late filing of returns due to non-availability of return forms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The Directorate of Income-tax (Research, Statistics, Publications and Public Relations), New Delhi has reported that income-tax return forms (ITS-2 and ITS-3); wealth-tax return forms (WTS-1 and WTS-1A); and the prescribed forms for certificate of tax deducted at source were ready in the Government of India Presses for lifting by the Commissioners of Income-tax before 30th June, 1989. Information regarding the exact dates on which these forms were lifted by the Commissioners of Income-tax and supplied to the various income-tax offices is not available with the said Directorate and can be obtained only by making reference in this regard to the various Commissioners of Income-tax and the income-tax offices throughout the country.

(b). The question of waiver of interest need be considered only if it is found that returns of income or wealth could not be submitted by taxpayers by 30th June, 1989 due to non-availability of the relevant return forms.

[English]

#### **Cancellation of Train on Dadar-Virar Section**

2610. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 12 bogged train running between Dadar and Virar was cancelled for eight days during July, 1989;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it has been restored now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Due to derailment in Virar. Yard and cyclonic weather later on, the 12 car rake services have been suspended.

(c) No, Sir.

#### **Approval to Cases of Equity Issues**

2612. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether approval to certain cases of equity issues has been given during 1989;

(b) if so, the details thereof with specific names of companies covered under this approval;

(c) whether Government propose to take some concrete steps to safeguard the interests of small investors in these equity issues;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). During the period January-June, 1989, 160 companies were allowed to raise equity shares (including Bonus Shares). The names of the companies and amounts of share issues approved by the Controller of Capital Issues are regularly published in the form of press release which appear in the newspapers.

(c) to (e). Various steps for the protection of the interests of the investors, including small investors, are taken from time to time. This is an ongoing process and would continue.

#### **Trade with Pakistan**

2613. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has agreed to give boost to the private sector trade with India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistan has expanded its existing import list to achieve this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the names of items included in the expanded list of imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (e). The Government of Pakistan have expanded the list of items permitted for imports from India by the Private Sector. A list of the additional items

is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT 8264/89]

[*Translation*]

#### **Manufacture of Locomotives**

2614. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed any foreign collaboration agreement for manufacturing locomotives in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of locomotive manufactured in the country during the current year and the demand therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to start more fuel efficient locomotives in order to extend rail services and if so, by what time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 67 Nos. upto June 1989 Railway Sector and the demand exists for 290 locomotives.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government have already embarked upon a programme of improving efficiency of locomotives. The programme will be implemented as soon as the requisite components become available.

[*English*]

#### **Members of Jaipur Stock Exchange**

2615. SHRI RAJ KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which Jaipur Stock Exchange was recognised by Government;

(b) the number of members of selected by the Said Exchange before recognition by Government and the guidelines/criteria adopted for their selection;

(c) the number of those applicants who applied for its membership after recognition;

(d) the criteria/guidelines being adopted for their selection; and

(e) the total number of members to be/ being selected any by when the selection process is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Jaipur Stock Exchange was granted recognition by the Government on 9th January, 1989.

(b) According to the information furnished by the Stock Exchange, the number of members selected by it before the grant of recognition was 200. These members were selected by the Exchange taking into account the requirements of eligibility qualifications for membership as contained in its Articles of Association.

(c) The Stock Exchange received 1843 application for membership.

(d) and (e) The selection of new members of the Exchange was made by a Screening Committee constituted by the Government taking into account the requirements of eligibility qualifications as contained in its Articles of Association and other relevant factors such as educational qualifications, experience of business in securities, the financial position, etc. The Exchange has already completed the process of selection of new members and the number of such members selected is 300.

**Evasion of Excise Duty and Income Tax**

2616. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount involved in excise duty and Income-tax evasion by various tax payers, up-to-date;

(b) the amount involved in litigation both in respect of excise duty as well as Income tax;

(c) the percentage of amount of arrears which is not involved in litigation collected during the last two years; and

(d) the action taken to expedite the process of litigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) During the years 1987, 1988 and 1989 (upto June, 1989) the Excise duty evasion is Rs. 1198.72, Rs. 355.43 and Rs. 179.15 crores (provisional) respectively.

The value of assets seized and the amount of concealed income surrendered during search operations by Income Tax authorities is given as under:-

| Year    | Value of assets seized (Rs. in crores) | Amount of concealed income surrendered. (Rs. in crores) |
|---------|--|---|
| 1987-88 | 145.02                                 | 147.49  |
| 1988-89 | 152.07                                 | 249.35  |
| 1989-90 | 24.22                                  | 24.21   |

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

(d) The recovery of arrears of taxes including arrears involved in litigation is ongoing process and administrative, legal and other steps continue to be taken from time to time. These steps include moving the various Courts and appellate authorities from avation of stays and early decisions and engaging eminent lawyers to defend Government interests effectively in important Cases.

**Conversion of Quilon-Madras Railways Line**

2617. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert the Quilon-Madras line via Shenkottai into a broad gauge line in phases; and

(b) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, only Dindigul-Madurai-Virudhungan section on Madras-Quilon MG route is being converted into BG as part of Karur-Dindigul-Madurai-Maniyachchi Tuticorin sanctioned BG new line project as under:-

- i. Dindigul-Madurai; Parallel BG line.
- ii. Madurai-Virudhunagar; Straight



conversion.

### **Uniform Sales Tax**

2618. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are requests from some of the State Governments to bring uniformity in sales tax in all over the country;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have made this request; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c) Some State Governments had brought to the notice of Central Government the rate cuts on certain high value added items and consequent diversion of trade and loss of sales tax revenue. This problem was discussed at various forums with State Governments and a Committee of Sales Tax Commissioners was set up which identified 29 items on which it recommended minimum floor level rates. The report of the Committee was circulated to the States and Union Territories.

2. The issue was also discussed at the Chief Ministers' Conference held in February 1989 wherein it was resolved to end the differentials in rates of sales tax in respect of 29 identified items. The Finance Minister has also written to all Chief Ministers of States and Administrators of Union Territories for taking necessary follow-up action.

3. As levy of sales tax is a State subject of taxation under the Constitution, the Central Government can only persuade the States in the matter and uniformity in sales tax rates can be achieved only with the consent and cooperation of all States and Union Territories.

### **Passenger amenities at Katni Railway Station**

2619. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds provided for improving the passenger amenities at Katni railway station during 1989-90;

(b) the projects proposed to be undertaken for extension of passenger amenities at Katni railway station; and

(c) the progress of the work in hand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The works proposed to be undertaken during 1989-90 for improving the passenger amenities at Katni railway station and the funds required thereof are under finalisation.

### **Floatation of Joint Sector Mutual Funds**

2620. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided in principle to allow the floatation of Joint Sector mutual funds as a Prelude to eventual privatisation of mutual funds;

(b) if so, the broad features of this scheme;

(c) whether some measure of security has been provided to an investor's funds and prevent a quick erosion of the fund amount; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

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

**Licences Given to Punjab National Bank for Opening of Branches in Himachal Pradesh**

2621. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab National Bank authorities have approached the Reserve Bank of India with the request that the licences given to it for opening satellite branches at Dabat Majari and Rani Kotla in Bilaspur district and Gaalian in Hamirpur district of Himachal Pradesh in 1989 may be converted into licences for full-fledged branches as they find it difficult to operate the satellite branches at these centres and are ready to open regular branches;

(b) if so, whether the Reserve Bank of India has since issued licences for full branches at these places;

(c) if so, the dates on which they have been issued; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and the likely date by which the licences would be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). Reserve bank of India (RBI) has reported that request from Punjab National Bank (PNB) for opening its full fledged branches at Dehat majari in Bilaspur District and Gahli in Hamirpur District was received and RBI's approval in this regard was communicated to the bank on 30.6.1989. RBI has not received a request from PNB for opening its full fledged branches at Rani Kotla in Bilaspur District.

**Tobacco Production**

2622. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States growing tobacco;

(b) the production in each of the States during last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether Government have received any representations that tobacco growers in Karnataka and Maharashtra are not getting remunerative prices of their produce; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in their regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) A state ment is given below:-

**STATEMENT**

(a) and (b).

| Sl. No. | State             | Production (Thousand Tonnes) |         |         |   |   |
|---------|-------------------|------------------------------|---------|---------|---|---|
|         |                   | 1985-86                      | 1986-87 | 1987-88 | 4 | 5 |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh    | 145.5                        | 152.0   | 120.0   |   |   |
| 2.      | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.1                          | 0.1     | 0.1     |   |   |
| 3.      | Assam             | 2.9                          | 2.4     | 2.1     |   |   |
| 4.      | Bihar             | 15.3                         | 16.9    | 18.8    |   |   |
| 5.      | Gujarat           | 167.8                        | 182.8   | 121.8   |   |   |
| 6.      | Haryana           | 0.1                          | 0.1     | 0.1     |   |   |
| 7.      | Himachal Pradesh  | 0.1                          | 0.1     | Neg.    |   |   |
| 8.      | Jammu & Kashmir   | Neg.                         | 0.1     | 0.1     |   |   |
| 9.      | Karnataka         | 31.9                         | 37.4    | 27.1    |   |   |
| 10.     | Kerala            | 0.9                          | 0.8     | 0.8     |   |   |

| Sl. No. | State          | Production (Thousand Tonnes) |         |         |       |  |
|---------|----------------|------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|--|
|         |                | 1985-86                      | 1986-87 | 1987-88 |       |  |
| 1       | 2              | 3                            | 4       | 5       |       |  |
| 11.     | Madhya Pradesh | 0.5                          | 0.4     | 0.4     | 0.4   |  |
| 12.     | Maharashtra    | 7.7                          | 7.9     | 10.3    | 10.3  |  |
| 13.     | Meghalaya      | 0.5                          | 0.5     | 0.5     | 0.5   |  |
| 14.     | Mizoram        | 0.5                          | 0.8     | 0.6     | 0.6   |  |
| 15.     | Orissa         | 9.6                          | 9.7     | 8.7     | 8.7   |  |
| 16.     | Rajasthan      | 2.8                          | 2.6     | 2.3     | 2.3   |  |
| 17.     | Tamil Nadu     | 18.3                         | 11.4    | 9.4     | 9.4   |  |
| 18.     | Tripura        | 0.3                          | 0.2     | 0.2     | 0.2   |  |
| 19.     | Uttar Pradesh  | 21.5                         | 20.4    | 20.4    | 20.4  |  |
| 20.     | West Bengal    | 14.0                         | 15.2    | 15.2    | 15.2  |  |
| Total : |                | 441.2                        | 461.8   | 358.9   | 358.9 |  |

Source : Agricultural statistics Division, Ministry of Agriculture.

(c) and (d). Some representations have been received from the tobacco growers regarding remunerative prices of their produce. The tobacco Board could purchase VFC tobacco at Minimum Support Prices, if the prices at the auction platforms fall below the MSP. The STC is also at times requested to make purchases of tobacco as a part of their commercial operations.

At the auction for sale of VFC tobacco conducted by Tobacco Board during 1988-89, the farmers realised highest ever average price since the introduction of auction system. At present Tobacco board is not controlling the sale of non-virginia tobacco.

#### Production and Export of Tea in Seventh Five Year Plan

2623. SHRI H.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for production and export of tea during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) to what extent the targets in production and export have been achieved and reasons for shortfall, if any;

(c) whether the Tea Board in its draft approach paper, has envisaged still higher targets of production and export during the Eight Five Year Plan Period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). The targets fixed for production and export of tea in Seventh Five Year Plan period and achievements are as follows:-

| Year    | Targets |        | Fig: M. Kgs. |         |
|---------|---------|--------|--------------|---------|
|         | Prod.   | Export | Achievements |         |
| 1       | 2       | 3      | 4            | 5       |
| 1985-86 | 651     | 235    | 652          | 214.2   |
| 1986-87 | 677     | 244    | 618*         | 196.23  |
| 1987-88 | 702     | 252    | 686*         | 201.83  |
| 1988-89 | 734     | 267    | 683*         | 208.82* |
| 1989-90 | 760     | 281    | 106@         | 16.10@  |

\* Estimated.

@ April, 89 - May'89 (Estimated)

Source: Tea Board's statistics

Unfavourable weather condition in most parts of the tea growing regions in the country attributed to the shortfall in the achievement of the targets of the production during the Seventh Five Year Plan period, which is in its terminal year.

Stiff competition from other exporting countries and sharp rise in the domestic consumption of tea in the country over the relevant period remained the hindrances on the export front.

(c) and (d). Tea Board in its draft approach paper for the Eighth Five Year Plan period has envisaged higher targets of production and export. The approach paper has been sent to the Planning Commission for consideration and finalisation.

#### **New Food Packet Scheme**

2624. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have introduced a new food packet scheme.

(b) if so, the number of trains which have been covered under this scheme;

(c) the reaction of the passengers thereto;

(d) whether this scheme has proved successful; and

(e) if so, what steps are being taken to introduce this scheme in other trains also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Meals are now being served in Aluminium Casse-roles in selected trains.

(b) 242

(c) Opinion Polls conducted reveal that an overwhelming majority of passengers appreciated this service.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) This scheme is being gradually introduced on other trains.

#### **Electrification of Ahmedabad-Jamnagar Okha Lins in Gujarat**

2625. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to electrify the track between Ahmedabad to Jamnagar on Okha;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this regard; and

(c) the length of railway lines lelectrified so far in railway zones covering Gujarat State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 623 route Kilometres.

#### **Seizure of Fake RBI Bearer Bonds**

2626. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news items captioned, "9 held with fake RBI honds" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated 18 June, 1989; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, the number of persons arrested of this gang during the last two years, the amount seized and action

taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The case is reported to be under investigation by the police. Prior to it, during the last two years two gangs alleged to be operating in fake bearer bonds were caught by the policy authorities in Delhi (on 12.2.1988) and in Deonar (on 21.5.1988) in which forged bearer bonds for a total value of Rs 37.40 lakhs were recovered. It is for the law enforcement agencies to take further necessary action in these cases.

#### **Vacancies of Checking Staff on South Eastern Railway**

2627. SHRI CHINTAMANI JANE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of sanctioned posts of checking staff under South Eastern Railway have fallen vacant during the last three years, if so, the number of vacant posts year-wise and division-wise;

(b) whether due to the large number of vacancies of checking staff the number of ticketless passengers are increasing day by day and thereby causing huge loss to Railways; and

(c) if so, what concrete measures are being taken to fill up these vacancies and the specific time by when such vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Information in regard to the South Eastern Railway as on 31.3.1987, 31.3.1988 and 31.3.1989 is being collected and will be laid

on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **Transportation of Sal Leaves and Dhoonas**

2628. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the booking of Sal Leaves and Dhoonas on various railway stations of Kharagpur and Khurda Road division on South Eastern Railway have been drastically reduced for the last 6 months; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide additional wagons and for the transportation of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. the main reason being insufficient demands.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Acts about personal laws of Communities**

2629. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the title of act relating to personal matters such as marriage, divorce, succession, maintenance, charitable endowments etc. which apply to particular religious communities, community-wise;

(b) the titles of such legislations which apply to all citizens without distinction of religion; and

(c) the constitutional provisions and titles of legislation which recognise the customary law of the tribals or any specified tribal group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). The more important of the provisions in this regard are mentioned in the Statement below:-

### STATEMENT

#### LIST-I

*More important Central Acts relating to personal matters such as marriage, divorce, succession, maintenance, charitable endowments etc. which apply to particular religions communities, community-wise*

#### Christians

1. The Indian Divorce Act, 1869 (4 of 1869)
2. The Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872 (15 of 1872)
3. The Indian Succession act, 1925 (39 of 1925)

#### Hindus

1. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 (25 of 1955)
2. The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 (30 of 1956)
3. The Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956 (32 of 1956)
4. The Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956 (78 of 1956)

#### Muslims

1. The Kazis Act, 1880. (12 of 1880)
2. The Muslims Personal Law (Shar-

iat) Application Act, 1937 (26 of 1937)

3. The Cutchi Memons Act, 1938 (10 of 1938)
4. The Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act, 1939 (8 of 1939)
5. The Wakf Act, 1954 (29 of 1954)
6. The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986 (25 of 1986)

#### Parsis

1. The Parsi Marriage and divorce Act, 1936 (3 of 1936)

#### LIST-II

*More important Central Acts relating to Personal matters such as marriage, divorce, succession, maintenance, charitable endowments etc. which apply to all citizens without distinction of religion*

1. The Religious Endowments Act, 1863 (20 of 1863)
2. The Married Women's Property Act, 1874 (3 of 1874)
3. The Indian Trusts Act, 1882 (2 of 1882)
4. The Charitable Endowments Act, 1890 (6 of 1890)
5. The Guardians and Wards Act, 1890 (8 of 1890)
6. The Official Trustees Act, 1913 (2 of 1913)
7. The Charitable and Religious Trusts



- Act, 1920 (14 of 1920)
8. The Indian Succession Act, 1925 (39 of 1925)
9. The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (19 of 1929)
10. The Special Marriage Act, 1954 (43 of 1954)
11. The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 (28 of 1961)
12. The Foreign Marriage Act, 1969 (33 of 1969)
13. The Family Courts Act, 1984 (66 of 1984)

LIST-III

*Constitutional Provisions Which Recognise the Customary Law of Tribals*

Articles 244, 244 (A), 371A, 371 G and Schedules V and VI of the Constitution of India.

LIST IV

More important Central Acts which recognise the customary law of the Tribals.

1. The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908)
2. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 (25 of 1955)
3. The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 (30 of 1956)
4. The Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956 (32 of 1956)

5. The Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956 (78 of 1956)
6. The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974)

[Translation]

**Drugs Smuggling**

2630. SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH:  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of drug smuggling traced by CBI since 1 May, 1989, the value of drugs seized from them and particulars of persons arrested;

(b) since when these persons were engaged in this trade; and

(c) the action taken so far by Government against these persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). As per the information made available by the Central Bureau of Investigation, 2 cases of drug smuggling have been detected by them since 1 st May, 1989. Three persons in all, belonging to Moradabad in U.P. who were reportedly engaged in this trade for the last 4 to 5 years arrested in this connection, for taking appropriate action under the law. Two criminal cases have been registered by the C.B.I.

No precise value of the drug seized can be furnished as this is dependent upon various factors like purity, place of origin, demand and supply; etc.

**Revision of electoral rolls in Assam**

2631. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission has revised the existing guidelines for the revision of the electoral roll in Assam on 17 May, 1989.

(b) if so, the text of the revised guidelines;

(c) whether the revised guidelines have led to objection and protest by the religious and linguistic minorities of Assam;

(d) if so, whether several minority organisations had submitted memoranda to Union Government in this regard; and

(e) whether the Election Commission has been advised by Union Government to reconsider the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir. It is not a fact that the Election Commission has revised the existing guidelines for the revision of the electoral rolls in Assam.

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

**Border Allowance to Central Government Employees**

2632. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow special border allowance to the Central Government staff posted in border areas of Punjab and Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) Border allowance has already been granted to the Central Government employees posted in border areas of Punjab and Rajasthan with effect from 1.8.1988.

(b) The allowance is paid at rates varying from Rs. 20/- to Rs.100/- depending upon the pay range, at such places within 30 miles of the international border in Rajasthan and within 16 kms of the international border in Punjab, excluding District, Sub-district and Tehsil Headquarters.

This allowance is not admissible to the members of Security Forces and other Central Government servants whose conditions of recruitment primary cover service in border areas.

**Drug Offences**

2633. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding the cases of drug offences which resulted in convictions during the last three years and the number of cases which were filed by police in the courts;

(b) whether a workshop on the role of judicial and police officers in the prevention of drug uses was organised recently; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) As per report of Narcotics Control Bureau, no such assessment has been made regarding the cases of drug offences which resulted in convictions during the last three years and the number of cases which were

filled by police in the courts.

However, according to the reports received by the Narcotics Control Bureau from

different enforcement agencies in the country, action taken against persons involved in drug trafficking during the period from 14.11.1985 to 30.6.1989 is as under:-

|                            | 1986  | 1987  | 1988  | 1989             |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|
| (14.11.85 to 31.12.86)     |       |       |       | (Upto 30.6.1989) |
| <b>Number of persons:-</b> |       |       |       |                  |
| i) Prosecuted              | 5,525 | 4,863 | 3,074 | 730              |
| ii) Convicted              | 586   | 297   | 339   | 98               |
| iii) Acquitted             | 170   | 559   | 481   | 116              |

(b) and (c). No workshop on the role of Judicial and police officers in the prevention of drug used was organised recently by the Ministry of Finance.

[Translation]

#### U.S. Aid to India

2634. SHRIKRISHAN PRATAP SINGH:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States has recently proposed to extend financial assistance to India for development with certain conditions;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Foreign Aid Authorisation Bill proposed by U.S. Administration is yet to be taken by the Senate. After passage through the Senate there would be a conference between the two U.S. House before the legislation if fi-

nally cleared by the Congress. Therefore, it is too early to say what will be the final quantum of development assistance to India for the fiscal year 1990.

[English]

#### Contract for Railway Projects in Iraq

2635. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU:  
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iraq has sent two offers to India for award of contracts for railway projects;

(b) if so, whether any agreements has been reached;

(c) if so, the details thereof and estimated cost of these projects;

(d) whether offers have been received from any other country also for railway projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). No, Sir. However, Indian Railway Construction Company Ltd. (IRCON) has been awarded a contract for a Branch Line to Baiji Fertiliser Factory costing Rs. 10 crores but the agreement has not been signed.

(d). No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise

### Deposit Scheme for Retised Employees

2636. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have started a deposit scheme for the retired and retiring Central and State Government employees;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the rate of interest payable under the scheme;

(d) whether the rate of interest will be more than the interest offered by the private sector; and

(e) if so, the extent to which the employees (retired and retiring) will be benefited by this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ED-ULRDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e). Deposit Scheme for Retiring Government Employees 1989 has been introduced from 1st July, 1989. The scheme is operated through selected branches of the public sector banks. The salient features of the scheme are as follows:-

- (i) The scheme is open for investment by retired/retiring Central/ State Government employees.
- (ii) Investment may be made upto the maximum of total of the retirement benefits received by such employees.
- (iii) A depositor may open only one account under this scheme, minimum deposit being Rs.1000/
- (iv) A depositor may at his option, withdraw the entire balance or part thereof after the expiry of 3 years from the date of deposit.
- (v) Deposits carry interest @ 9% per annum. The interest earned on the deposit is exempt from income-tax.
- (vi) Premature withdrawal is allowed after dexpiry of one year from the date of deposit, subject to conditions indicated in the scheme.
- (viii) The whole of amount of deposits under this scheme is exempt from wealth tax.

### Stoppage of Super Fast Trains and Reservation Facilities at Dahod

2637. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of commercial importance and large passenger traffic of Dahod (Gujarat) and also need to develop this tribal area, Government propose to provide there stoppage for super fast trains as well as quota for berth reservations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI**

|     |               |   |                  |
|-----|---------------|---|------------------|
| 4   | Frontier Mail | 2 | II Class berths. |
| 25. | Paschim       | 4 | II Class berths. |

The journey by 3 Frontier Mail towards Delhi and 26 Paschim towards Bombay from Dahod is a day journey. As such, no quota has been provided by these trains.

**Foot overbridge at Dahod**

2638. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Ministr of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the difficulties being experienced by the people of Dahod town (Gujarat) in crossing the railway lines from northern to southern side of the Dahod Railway Station;

(b) whether Government propose to provide a foot overbridge at Dahod Railway Station and if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF RAIWLAYS (SHRI  
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Construction of a foot overbridge connecting both sides of the station at Dahod as a staff amenity work, has been sanctioned and is in progress. The estimated cost of the work is Rs.11.03 lakhs.

(c) Does not arise, in view of the reply to part (b) above.

**MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):** (a) to (c). Two pairs Superfast trains viz. 3/4 Frontier Mail and 25/26 Paschim Express are already stopping at Dahod and following reservation quotas have been provided in these trains;

**Ban of Trade in Ivory**

2639. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have benned the trade in ivory products.

(b) if so, when was the ban imposed and the reasons that led to the imposition of ban;

(c) whether the ivory trade is still going on despite the ban imposed by Government ; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIU P.R.  
DAS MUNSI):** (a) and (b). Domestic trade in Indian Ivory was banned in November, 1986 through an amendment of Wild Life (Protection) Act to provide protection to wild elephants in India. Export of articles made out of Indian Ivory is also banned.

(c) and (d). Trade in Indian Ivory is totally banned in India. However, trade in articles made out of African Ivory is permitted on the basis of reexport certificate issued by the Management Authority (Director of Wild Life Preservation) Deptt. of Forest and Wild life.

Wildlife wigns of States and Central

Government officials exercise frequent checks of the stocks of traders to ensure that no trade illegally procured ivory takes place. Special Assistance to State Government is provided for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife. System of rewards to persons providing information regarding poachers and illicit traders has been introduced.

Closer coordination is being kept among Wild Life Department, Customs Officials and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence to check the illegal trade in ivory.

### Smuggling of Heroin

2641. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantity of Heroin and its value which is smuggled into India;

(b) the quantity of Heroin and its value seized during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken recently to stop this evil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). As smuggling is a clandestine activity, no precise estimated of the quantity of heroin smuggled into India could be made. However, the quantities of the drug seized by various drug law enforcement agencies in the country from 1986 to 1989 (upto 30.6.1989) are as under:

|        | 1986  | 1987           | 1988          | 1989  |
|--------|-------|----------------|---------------|-------|
|        |       | (in Kilograms) | (Provisional) |       |
| HEROIN | 2,621 | 2,747          | 3,029         | 1,262 |

(State-wise figures are not available)

No precise value of the drugs seized can be determined as this is dependent upon various factors like purity of the drug, place of origin, local demand and supply position, etc.

Government have launched various aggressive counter-measures which, inter alia, includes provision of deterrent punishment to drug traffickers, strengthening of preventive machinery (especially around borders and vulnerable areas), adoption of a liberalised reward scheme for officers and informers, strengthening of bilateral co-operation between neighbouring countries (including regional co-operation under the umbrella of SAARC). The Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act, 1988 provides for preventive detention, upto a maximum period of 2

years for drug crimes. 343 persons have so far been detained under the said Act.

The narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 1988, inter alia, provides for death penalty on second conviction in respect of specified offences involving specified quantities of certain drugs and also forfeiture of property of drug offenders. Besides, all drug crimes have been made cognizable and non-bailable.

### North Zone Railway users Consultative Committee

2642. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present composition of the Rail-

way Users Consultative Committee, North Zone;

(b) the number of meetings of the Committee held during the last year;

(c) important decisions taken or recommendations made at these meetings; and

(d) which of these have been implemented/accepted by the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI

MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) A statement is given below.

(b) One meeting was held in 1988.

(c) and (d). The important suggestions made in the meeting include provision of more passenger amenities, stoppage/extension/speeding up of trains, reservation facilities, construction of new railway lines, etc. Each suggestion has been examined on its merits and implemented wherever feasible subject to availability of funds and other constraints.

#### STATEMENT

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Members of Parliament representing Lok Sabha.  | 2  |
| 2. Members of Parliament representing Rajya Sabha.  | 1  |
| 3. M.L.As, M.L.Cs and M.M.C., representing State Legislatures and Metropolitan Council, Delhi | 6  |
| 4. Nominees from State Governments.   | 5  |
| 5. Chambers of Commerce and Industries.   | 5  |
| 6. Semi-Government, Undertakings  | 2  |
| 7. Agricultural Interests.  | 2  |
| 8. Passenger Associations.  | 5  |
| 9. Elected Members from DRUCCs.   | 8  |
| 10. Special Interests.  | 34 |

#### Railway Bridge at Patna

2643. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a railway bridge at Patna in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI  
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Specific proposals to be taken up during the 8th Plan have not been identified.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Delay in Administration of Justice.

2644. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Min-

...  
 ister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken any study into the question of delay in the administration of justice by the judicial besides, non-judicial bodies and quasi-judicial bodies; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Government entrusted the study of delay in administration of justice to the Law Commission and its Report on 'The High Court Arrears—A Fresh Look' is being examined in consultation with State Governments and High Courts. Recommendations of the Committee of 3 Chief Justices set up in 1984 to reduce arrears have been forwarded to the High Courts and the State Governments for appropriate action. Government have also recently set up an informal committee of three Chief Justice to study the problem afresh.

#### **Appointment of Counsels**

2645. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are appointing counsels for the various Ministries in each State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the mode of selection of these officers and their tenure?

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

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

#### **Rupee-Sterling Exchange Rate**

2646. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rupee has been devalued in terms of Sterling in 1989 by the Reserve Bank of India.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The exchange rate of the rupee is fixed with reference to the exchange rate movement of a suitably weighted basket of currencies. In a regime of floating exchange rates, upward or downward movements of the value of rupee, which depends upon the fluctuations in the value of these currencies, is a normal phenomenon.

#### **Insurance of Private Buildings under occupation of Central Government**

2647. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any directive that the buildings belonging to private parties under the occupation/to be occupied by Central Government offices should be insured;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R.K. GADHVI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.



(c) There is no statutory Act/Rule etc. empowering/compelling the Government to issue any directive on insurance of private buildings under occupation of it.

#### **Reservation Quota at Nagpur**

2648. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reservation quota of various important express trains from Nagpur railway station is too meagre to meet the demand of the Nagpur passengers boarding from that station;

(b) if so, the details of reservation quota of express trains from Nagpur railway station in each category;

(c) since when this reservation quota has not been increased; and

(d) whether Government propose to increase the reservation quota of various express trains from Nagpur railway station, and if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Some passengers do remain on waitinglist.

(b) A Statement is given below.

(c) The reservation quotas were last increased on 1.5.1989.

(d) Due to limited availability of accommodation and heavy pressure on quotas at other intermediate stations, at present there is no proposal to enhance these quotas at Nagpur.

## STATEMENT

| Train No. | Destination                     | Quota as on 1.5.1989 |      |           | IInd class |       |     |
|-----------|---------------------------------|----------------------|------|-----------|------------|-------|-----|
|           |                                 | IAC                  | AC2T | 1st class | Berths     | Seats |     |
|           |                                 | (3)                  | (4)  | (5)       |            |       | (6) |
| (1)       | (2)                             | (3)                  | (4)  | (5)       | (6)        | (7)   |     |
| 1         | Dn Bombay—Howrah Mail           | Howrah               | 2    | 36        | 6          | 74    | —   |
| 2         | Up —do—                         | Bombay               | 6    | 25        | 3          | 70    | —   |
| 40        | Up Dadar Express                | Bombay               | —    | 20        | 14         | 315   | 23  |
| 39        | Dn —do— (RJQ)                   | —                    | —    | —         | —          | 8     | —   |
| 29        | Dn Bombay—Howrah Express        | Howrah               | —    | —         | 2          | 64    | —   |
| 30        | Up —do—                         | Bombay               | —    | —         | 4          | 32    | —   |
| 60        | Up Geetanjali Express           | Bombay               | —    | 4         | —          | —     | 36  |
| 59        | Dn —do—                         | Howrah               | —    | 6         | —          | 95    | —   |
| 84        | Up Kolhapur Express             | Kolhapur             | —    | —         | 16         | 182   | —   |
| 21        | Dn Hyderabad—Nizamuddin Express | Delhi                | —    | 2         | 2          | 34    | —   |

| Train No.                       | Destination | Quota as on 1.5.1989 |              |     |     |     | IInd class |     |
|---------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|-----|-----|-----|------------|-----|
|                                 |             | (1)                  | (2)          | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6)        | (7) |
|                                 |             |                      |              |     |     |     |            |     |
| 22 Up                           | —do—        |                      | Hyderabad    | —   | 4   | —   | 8          | 6   |
| 15 Dn G.T. Express              |             | Delhi                |              | 1   | 2   | 2   | 50         | —   |
| 16 Up                           | —do—        |                      | Madras       | 2   | 4   | —   | 33         | —   |
| 121 Dn T.N. Express             |             | Delhi                |              | —   | 4   | 3   | 60         | —   |
| 122 Up                          | —do—        |                      | Madras       | —   | 2   | 2   | 26         | —   |
| 123 Dn A.P. Express             |             | Delhi                |              | —   | 4   | 2   | 28         | —   |
| 124 Up                          | —do—        |                      | Secunderabad | —   | 8   | —   | 66         | —   |
| 125 Dn Kerala Express           |             | Delhi                |              | —   | 2   | 2   | 22         | —   |
| 126 Up                          | —do—        |                      | Trivandrum   | —   | 4   | 4   | 26         | —   |
| 133 Dn Ahmedabad—Howrah Express |             | Howrah               |              | —   | 2   | —   | —          | —   |

(6 days) (1 day)

(2 A.C. Chair Car)

| Train No. | Destination              | Quota as on 1.5.1989 |      |           |     |     | IInd class |              |       |
|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------|------|-----------|-----|-----|------------|--------------|-------|
|           |                          | IAC                  | AC2T | 1st class | (5) | (6) | (7)        | Berths Seats |       |
|           |                          |                      |      |           |     |     |            | Berths       | Seats |
| (1)       | (2)                      | (3)                  | (4)  | (5)       | (6) | (7) |            |              |       |
| 134 Up    | —do—                     | Ahmedabad            | —    | 5         | 2   | 33  | 21         |              |       |
| 137 Dn    | Chattisgarh Express      | Amritsar             | —    | —         | 2   | 18  | —          |              |       |
| 138 Up    | —do—                     | Bilaspur             | —    | —         | —   | 3   | —          |              |       |
| 139 Dn    | Mahanagri Express        | Varanasi             | —    | 2         | 4   | 12  | —          |              |       |
| 140 Up    | —do—                     | Madras               | —    | —         | —   | 8   | —          |              |       |
| 943 Dn    | Madras—Patna Express     | Patna                | —    | 2         | 4   | 12  | —          |              |       |
| 944 Up    | —do—                     | Madras               | —    | —         | —   | 8   | —          |              |       |
| 911 Dn    | Cochin—Gorakhpur Express | Gorakhpur            | —    | 2         | —   | 6   | —          |              |       |
| 912 Up    | —do—                     | Cochin               | —    | 2         | 2   | 4   | —          |              |       |
| 926 Up    | Amarkantak Express       | Bilaspur             | —    | 8         | —   | 70  | —          |              |       |
| 925 Dn    | —do—                     | Bhopal               | —    | 4         | —   | 38  | —          |              |       |

| Train No. | Destination                    | Quota as on 1.5.1989 |      |           |     |     | Ind class    |     |
|-----------|--------------------------------|----------------------|------|-----------|-----|-----|--------------|-----|
|           |                                | IAC                  | AC2T | 1st class | (5) | (6) | Berths Seats |     |
|           |                                |                      |      |           |     |     | (7)          | (7) |
| (1)       | (2)                            | (3)                  | (4)  | (5)       | (6) | (7) | (7)          |     |
| 956       | Up Bilaspur—Cochin Express     | Cochin               | 2    | —         | —   | 24  | —            |     |
| 982       | Up Indore—Cochin Express       | Cochin               | 2    | 2         | —   | 6   | —            |     |
| 5         | Dn Vidharba Express (RJQ)      | —                    | 4    | —         | —   | 8   | —            |     |
| 6         | Up —do—                        | Bombay               | 18   | 16        | —   | 234 | —            |     |
| 989       | Dn Hyderabad—Gorakhpur Express | Gorakhpur            | 4    | —         | —   | 25  | —            |     |
| 907       | Dn Himsagar Express            | Jammu Tawi           | —    | —         | —   | 16  | —            |     |
| 908       | Up —do—                        | Kanyakumari          | —    | —         | —   | 8   | —            |     |
| 131       | Dn Madras—Jammu Tawi Express   | Jammu Tawi           | —    | —         | —   | 18  | —            |     |
| 132       | Up —do—                        | Madras               | —    | —         | —   | 8   | —            |     |
| 991       | Dn Tirupati—Varanasi Express   | Varanasi             | —    | —         | —   | 19  | —            |     |
| 992       | Up —do—                        | Tirupati             | —    | —         | —   | 17  | —            |     |

| Train No.                     | Destination | Quota as on 1.5.1989 |      |           |       |           |
|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|-----------|-------|-----------|
|                               |             | IAC                  | AC2T | 1st class |       | Ind class |
|                               |             |                      |      | Berths    | Seats |           |
| (1)                           | (2)         | (3)                  | (4)  | (5)       | (6)   | (7)       |
| 994 Up Lucknow—Madras Express | Madras      | --                   | --   | --        | 32    | --        |
| 83 Dn Kolhapur Express (RJQ)  |             | --                   | --   | --        | 8     | --        |

### **Violation of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act**

2649. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officials of the Enforcement Directorate at Bombay arrested some persons for violating the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA), 1973 during the past six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action contemplated by Government against these persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). During the last six months ending 30th June, 1989, officers of the Directorate of Enforcement at Bombay had arrested 60 persons. Out of these, 46 persons have since been released on bail. Two persons are continuing under judicial custody as they could not furnish bail bond as per orders of the court. Remaining 12 persons are in judicial custody as per orders of the courts.

Appropriate action is taken against the offender as warranted under the law.

### **Circulation of Freak Currency Notes**

2650. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the circulation of freak currency notes is increasing day by day;

(b) if so, the details of freak currency seized by the Reserve Bank of India during the last one year; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to investigate the channel by which such freak currency is in circulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Freak currency notes, also called defectively printed notes, are very rare in comparison to the total printed notes in the country. The 2 currency/bank note printing presses at Nashik and Dewas printed a total of 6754 million pieces of notes during 1988 and 3455 million pieces of notes in 1989 (upto June). Out of this, only 1229 notes were found to be defectively printed in 1988 and only 180 defective notes were noticed in 1989 (upto June). The currency/bank note printing presses exercise minute control so that defectively printed notes are not despatched to RBI. Whenever instances of defectively printed notes are brought to the notice of the concerned presses disciplinary action against those workmen who have handled these notes at the time of printing/despatch is initiated.

### **Drug Smuggling from Burma**

2665. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an unprecedented spurt in drug smuggling from Burma during the last few months;

(b) if so, the number of times, the Customs authorities conducted raids at Indo-Burma border to unearth the drug traffickers during the past few months; and

(c) the steps Government propose to further strengthen its machinery at Indo-Burma border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The Indo-Burma border sector remains vulnerable to drug trafficking in view of its proximity to Burma and the quantities of

opium and heroin seized in 1989 (upto June) indicate a noticeable increase over those seized in 1988, as follows:

| <i>Drug</i>                              | <i>1988</i>           | <i>1989<br/>(Provisional)</i> |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
|  | <i>(in kilograms)</i> |                               |
| 1. Opium                                 | 21                    | 70                            |
| 2. Heroin                                | 6                     | 7                             |
| (Figures rounded off to the nearest kg.) |                       |                               |

(b) As per the report of Collector of Central Excise, Shillong, 90 raids have been conducted at Moreh, Champai, Imphal and Chorachandpur which include 33 raids jointly conducted with the officers of Narcotics Control Bureau, during the last one year, since July, 1989.

(c) Government have launched various aggressive counter-measures which, inter alia, include provision of deterrent punishment to drug traffickers, strengthening of preventive and intelligence machinery (especially around borders and vulnerable areas), adoption of a liberalised reward scheme for officers and informers, strengthening of bilateral co-operation between neighbouring countries (including regional co-operation under the aegis of SAARC). The Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 provides for preventive detention upto a maximum period of two years for drug-related crimes. 343 persons have so far been detailed under the said Act.

For the purpose of preventive detention for the maximum period provided under the Act, the inland area 100 kms. in which from the Indo-Burma border in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland have been defined as areas 'highly vulnerable to illicit traffic'. Further the Police

Officers of the North-Eastern States have been entrusted the functions of Customs Officers under the Customs Act, 1962 for the purpose of provisions of Chapter IV-B of that Act to check illicit movement and outward smuggling of acetic anhydride (a chemical precursor used in the illicit manufacture of heroin) which has been notified as a "specified item" under Section 11-I of the Customs Act, 1962.

The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 1988, inter alia, provides for death penalty in second conviction in respect of specified offences involving specified quantities of certain drugs and also forfeiture of property of drug offenders. Besides, all drug-related offences have been made cognizable and non-bailable.

[*Translation*]

#### **Income Tax/Excise Duty Pending Realisation**

2652. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the ten big industrial houses whose income tax and excise duty cases are pending upto April, 1989 and total amount involved therein;



(b) the amount involved in each case;

favour of Government and those in favour of industrialists from 1982 to April, 1989?

(c) the name of each industrial house, and the number of industrial houses against whom suits have been filed in the Courts to recover the amount and names of persons/companies against whom a decision has been announced; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). As on 31.3.89, the Excise duty & Income Tax pending against 10 Big Industrial houses is as under:

(d) the number of court cases gone in

| <i>Name of Industrial House</i> | <i>Net Income Tax outstanding (Rs. in lakhs)</i> | <i>Central Excise outstanding (Rs. in lakhs)</i> |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 1                               | 2  | 3  |
| 1. Tata                         | 431.09   | 1297.31  |
| 2. Birla                        | 381.73   | 1279.05  |
| 3. Reliance                     | 180.20   | 2.97   |
| 4. J.K. Singhania               | 172.89   | 2094.98  |
| 5. Tharpar                      | —  | 178.14   |
| 6. Mafatlal                     | 159.72   | 1417.38  |
| 7. Modi                         | 1249.42  | 1822.47  |
| 8. M.A Chidambaram              | 19.93  | 14.13  |
| 9. Bajaj                        | —  | 415.20   |
| 10. Larsen & Toubro             | —  | 74.36  |

(c) Under the Income Tax Act there is no need to file any suit in any Court to recover taxes.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

The Central Excise authorities have not filed any suits to recover the amounts.

(a) whether the passengers are facing difficulties due to acute shortage of coaches in all the trains in Samastipur division, if so, the reasons therefor;

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

**Shortage of Coaches In Samastipur Division**

2653. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN:

(b) whether all the trains in this Division have been provided First Class coaches, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to provide sufficient number of First Class and Second Class coaches to the trains running on North Eastern Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There is a countrywide shortage of M.G. coaches due to production limitations.

(b) No, Sir, due to poor occupation.

(c) Allotment of new coaches is an ongoing process depending upon the production of new stock and requirement on the entire Railway system.

[English]

#### Adoption of New System by FICCI and FIEO

2654. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Federation of Indian Exports Organisation have adopted some system to give a new thrust and direction to the export efforts of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the estimated annual benefits likely to accrue by the new efforts being made by way of exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) have joined each other's organisation with the objective of giving a new thrust and direction to the export efforts of

the country. These two Apex organisations would endeavour to jointly sponsor delegations to foreign countries, organise international meetings, seminars, buyer-seller meets etc. both in India and abroad. In addition, they would evolve a data bank for providing timely information to exporters about specific business opportunities for export to other countries. The tie-up between FICCI and FIEO is likely to give boost to the working of joint business councils. The joint efforts of both the organisations will certainly help in boosting exports.

[Translation]

#### Railway Projects In Sagar

2655. SHRI NANDLAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the different types of works undertaken by his Ministry in Sagar (Madhya Pradesh) during the last five years indicating their cost separately; and

(b) the works proposed to undertaken during the years 1989-90 and 1990-91 indicating estimated cost of each work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

#### Compensation to victims of Perumon accident

2656. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:  
SHRI A. CHARLES:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any claims for compensation with regard to the Perumon Rail tragedy are still pending;

(b) the number of claims which have so far been settled;

(c) the total value of claims lodged;

(d) whether any controversy has arisen with regard to the claims for compensation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to resolve it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 274.

(c) The value of claims lodged was Rs. 4,47,48,513/-

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Balipattanam Bridge (Kerala)**

2657. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made to ascertain the safety/durability of the Balipattanam Railway Bridge;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to revive the footpath along the Railway bridge; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Replacement of bridge girders, which have corroded due to marine environments and earlier existence of road deck, was found necessary.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Subsequent to construction of a separate road bridge, the road deck along with footpaths on Railway Bridge was dismantled with the consent of the State Government, which met the cost of providing and maintaining the same. No proposal for providing footpaths has been received from the State Government thereafter.

#### **Trade Fair Authority of India**

2658. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days during the last three financial years, year-wise, when the Trade Fair Authority of India (TFAI) Complex at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, was in full use;

(b) the number of days during the last three years, year-wise, when the Complex was in partial use;

(c) the amount spent by the TFAI in construction, repair and maintenance, and interior decoration of the Complex separately, during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) income from the renting of facilities and grant-in-aid by Government, separately, during the last three years, with the purpose of grant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). Since the launch-

ing of the Activation Programme' in Pragati Maidan in October, 1988, the exhibition grounds have remained active throughout the year with trade fairs, shopping facilities, theatres, restaurants and permanent attrac-

tions like Nehru Pavilion, Indira's Vision, village complex, Defence Pavilion, Appu Ghar etc.

(c) and (d). A Statement is given below.

### STATEMENT

*Details of expenditure incurred by TFAI on Pragati Maidan Complex, income derived by it from the Complex and grant-in-aid given by Govt. for the Complex.*

|   | 1986-87        | 1987-88 |
|---|----------------|---------|
|   | (Rs. in lakhs) |         |
| <i>Expenditure incurred by TFAI on activities in Pragati Maidan</i> |                |         |
| i) Construction   | 32.46          | 14.00   |
| ii) Repairs & Maintenance   | 169.12         | 151.51  |
| iii) Interior Decoration  | 35.00          | 19.92   |
| <i>Income of TFAI from all activities in Pragati Maidan</i>         | 686.51         | 781.22  |
| <i>Grant-in-aid by Govt. for Pragati Maidan Complex.</i>            |                |         |
| i) Maintenance of Pragati Maidan                                    | 50.00          | 50.00   |
| ii) Maintenance of Nehru Pavilion                                   | 15.50          | 15.90   |

The accounts for the year 1988-89 have not been finalised.

#### Exports and Imports during 1988-89

2659. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:  
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of exports and imports (excluding invisibles) by the country during 1988-89;

(b) the percentage of increase in terms

of rupees and SDRs over the previous year;

(c) whether Government have noticed a deceleration of import demand since January, 1989; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R.  
DAS MUNGSI): (a) According to the provisional figures, India's exports and imports during 1988-89 amounted to Rs. 20280.92

crores and Rs. 27692.87 crores respectively.

(b) India's exports during 1988-89 registered an increase of 29.0% in Rupee Terms, and 14.7% in SDR Terms, as compared to the corresponding provisional figures of the previous year. India's imports during 1988-89 registered an increase of 23.9% in Rupee Terms and 10.2% in SDR terms, as compared to the corresponding provisional figures of the previous year.

(c) Yes, Sir. The import growth rate has decelerated from 48% in the month of December, 1988 to 38% in January, 1989, 30% in February, 1989 and to 11% in March, 1989.

(d) The growth in imports during the first nine months of the financial year 1988-89 was particularly high due to increase in imports of food-grains, to replenish the stock depleted on account of adverse weather conditions prevailing in the preceding two years, strong revival of the economy which necessitated additional imports of machinery, raw materials and components to sustain high level of industrial growth and unusually high prices in international markets for metals, fertilizers, etc. The upsurge in the demand for import abated in the later months of 1988-89 as the economy approached its normal trend growth rate.

[*Translation*]

#### **Gold Control Act**

2660. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of rising prices of gold and increasing incidents of smuggling in the country; he had indicated in his last Budget speech that some relief would be provided in the existing Gold Control Act; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard and the time by which Government propose to take a decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). The Government set-up two Working Groups to study the working of the Gold Control Machinery and the Gold policy of the Government. Reports of these two Working Groups have been received and are being examined. Decision of the Government may be announced shortly.

[*English*]

#### **Boosting Exports during the Eighth Five Year Plan**

2661. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new areas have been identified by Government for boosting exports during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of offices/establishments set up abroad to boost the export of India/products and their location; and

(d) the results achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). Identification of Thrust Sectors for export promotion is continuous process. The broad sectors identified for special thrusts in markets abroad are as under:

1. Tea, especially in package and value-added forms;
2. Cereals, in particular wheat;
3. Processed foods, including fruits and juices, meat and meat products, and fresh

fruits & vegetables; 4. Marine products, especially in value added forms; 5. Iron ore; 6. Leather and Leather manufactures, with an emphasis on the latter; 7. Handicrafts and Jewellery; 8. Capital Goods and consumer durables; 9. Electronics goods and computer software; 10. Basic chemicals; 11. Fabrics piece-goods and made-ups; 12. Readymade garments; 13. Woollen fabrics and Knitwear; 14. Projects and services and 15. Granite.

(c) A statement indicating the offices functioning abroad to boost the export of Indian products is given below.

(d) There has been an acceleration in India's export growth rate from 14.3 percent in 1986-87, to 26.4 per cent in 1987-88 and to 29.0 per cent in 1988-89. According to provisional figures, India's exports registered an increase of 39.8 per cent during the first quarter (April - June) of the current financial year 1989-90.

#### STATEMENT

*There are 66 Trade Offices functioning at present in Indian Missions abroad, including the Office of the Ambassador to the GATT in the Permanent Mission of India, Geneva. In addition, there are a number of foreign offices of the export promotion and trade organisations under the Ministry of Commerce/ functioning abroad. The location of these Offices are given below:*

1. *Trade Offices in Indian Mission abroad*

1. Accra

2. Addis Ababa

3. Aden

4. Algiers

5. Amman

6. Baghdad

7. Bangkok

8. Belgrade

9. Bucharest

10. Budapest

11. Berne

12. Brussels

13. Zemalek

14. Colombo

15. D Jakarta

16. Dakar

17. Demascus

18. Dares Sallam

19. Dacca

20. Frankfurt

21. Hamburg

22. Hong Kong

23. Jeddah

24. Kampala

25. Khartoum

26. Kathmandu

27. Lagos

28. London

29. Lusaka
  30. Manila
  31. Moscow
  32. Nairobi
  33. New York
  34. Toronto
  35. Paris
  36. Prague
  37. Rangoon
  38. Rome
  39. Rabat
  40. San Francisco
  41. Sydney
  42. Stockholm
  43. Tunis
  44. Tokyo
  45. Tehran
  46. Tripoli
  47. Vancouver
  48. Washinton-D.C.
  49. Warsaw
  50. Abu Dhabi
  51. Loneva
  52. Berlin
  53. Sofia (Bulgaria)
  54. Kuwait
  55. Muscat
  56. Singapore
  57. Islamabad
  58. Sanna (Yeman Arab Republic)
  59. Bonn
  60. Copenhagen
  61. Athens
  62. Port Louis
  63. Seoul
  64. Bahrain
  65. Riyadh
  66. The Hague
2. *Marine Products Export Development Authority*
    - i) New York
    - ii) Tokyo
  3. *Engineering Export Promotion Council*
    - i) Chicago
    - ii) Los Angeles
    - iii) London
    - iv) Duccessendorf
    - v) Abidjan (Ivory Coast)

vi) Nairobi

vii) Dubai

viii) Singapore

ix) Sydney

4. *Tea Board*

i) London

ii) New York

iii) Brussels

iv) Sydney

v) Cairo

vi) Kuwait

5. *Trade Development Authority*

i) Frankfurt

ii) New York

iii) Tokyo

iv) Harare

v) Dubai

vi) Kuala Lumpur

6. (a) *State Trading Corporation and Projects and Equipment Corporation of India Limited*

i) New York

ii) London

iii) Frankfurt

iv) Moscow

v) Berlin

vi) Nairobi

vii) Zimbabwe

viii) Kuwait

ix) Jeddah

x) Colombo

xi) Dhaka

xii) Hong Kong

xiii) Singapore

xiv) Tokyo

xv) Sydney

(b) *Projects & Equipment Corporation of India Limited*

i) Paris

ii) Al-Beida

iii) Hanoi

**Rail Link between Rajkot-Porbander and Rajkot-Veraval**

2662. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajkot and Porbander are proposed to be connected to broad gauge line;

(b) whether Government also propose to extend the broad gauge line from Rajkot to Veraval Via Junagarh because of the historical importance of the place; and



(c) if so, when this project is proposed to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Rajkot is already connected by BG with Porbander via Hapa.

(b) and (c). The proposal for conversion of Rajkot-Junagadh-Veraval MG line (185) into BG was sent to the Planning Commission for clearance. The Commission have advised its consideration in VIII Plan.

#### **Over-bridge at Dhakuria Belghoria and Sodepur**

2663. SHRI DEBI GHOSAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether people using the road crossing at Dhakuria, Belghoria and Sodepur railway stations under Sealdah division of Eastern Railway are facing difficulties because of non-completion of over-bridges/flyovers in these stations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Alternative arrangements have been made for the diversion of the road traffic/pedestrian traffic through the nearby level crossings/foot overbridges at Belghoria and Sodepur where the works are in progress. Road overbridge at Dhakuria has already been commissioned to traffic.

#### **Rules Governing Payment of Compensation to Accident Victims**

2664. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item published in the Times of India (New Delhi) dated 8 July, 1989 under the caption 'absence of rules handicaps Railways';

(b) if so, Government's response to the news item especially to the mention that the Railways are handicapped in the absence of rules regarding payment of compensation to minors, unmarried women and unemployed persons, if they are victims of any train accident resulting in the inability of the Railways to pay compensation to the dependants of 13 persons who were among 106 persons killed in the accident involving Island Express at Quilon last year;

(c) if so, the exact position in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to overcome these lacunae?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Under the provisions of Clause 'd' of Sub-section 1 of Section 82C of the Indian Railways Act, 1890, compensation for claims arising out of death of passengers in train accidents, as defined in Section 82A of the Act, are to be paid to the dependants of the deceased as defined in Clause 'd' of Section 2 of the Workmen Compensation Act, 1923. Claims cases in respect of 17 deceased passengers were dismissed, as under the provision of the extant Act the claimants were not considered 'dependants' of the deceased. However, the Railways Act, 1989, which is yet to be notified, has defined the 'dependants' of the deceased vide Clause 'b' of Section 123 of the Act. This includes some near relatives of deceased passenger, such as wife, husband, son, daughter, parent in case of the deceased passenger being unmarried or a minor, a

minor child of a pre-deceased daughter if wholly dependant on the deceased passenger, grant parent wholly dependant on the deceased passenger, etc.

#### Opening of Bank Branches in Rural Areas

2665. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has taken note of the fact that some centres identified by the State Governments and surveyed by certain nationalised banks for opening new branches in the rural areas since the beginning of the new Current Branch Licensing Policy, have still not been given these licences;

(b) if so, the names of such centres which were either surveyed by the nationalised banks and/or were later identified by the Governments in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir, district-wise for each year of the Seventh Five Year Plan and which still have not been given the necessary licences;

(b) whether all these centres would be given licences in view of the Service Area Scheme; and

(c) if so, the likely date by which it would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90, allotment of eligible centres in the rural and semi-urban areas has been made to banks on the basis of lists of identified centres received from Lead Bank Groups as finalised by the State Governments and not on the basis is applications received from bank. Therefore, the question of individual banks surveying the rural and semi-urban areas for opening branches in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir under the current Policy does not arise.

(c) and (d). RBI has reported that allotment under Service Area Approach (SAA) may not be linked directly with the survey of centres by banks and individual applications made by them to RBI for opening of their branches. In the context of Service Area Approach to rural lending, RBI advised the Lead Banks/State Governments to identify additional centres which may be necessary for implementation of the scheme. Accordingly, on the basis of lists of identified centres received from the following State Governments, RBI has recently allotted the centres indicated against them to banks in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir:

| Name of State    | No. of centres identified by State Government |           |       | No. of centres allotted by RBI |           |       |
|------------------|---|-----------|-------|--------------------------------|-----------|-------|
|                  | Under the policy                              | Under SAA | Total | Under the policy               | Under SAA | Total |
| 1                | 2   | 3         | 4     | 5                              | 6         | 7     |
| Himachal Pradesh | 233   | 45        | 278   | 162                            | 36        | 198   |
| Punjab           | 339   | 37        | 376   | 117                            | 6         | 123   |

|                 | 1 | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6  | 7   |
|-----------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| Haryana         |   | 252 | 129 | 381 | 128 | 10 | 138 |
| Jammu & Kashmir |   | 66  | 7   | 73  | 51  | 4  | 55  |

The remaining centres were not allotted to banks as they did not conform to the norm laid down in the policy. Since the allotment of centres under the current Branch Licensing Policy and under Service Area Approach for the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir has been completed, the question of allowing any more centres does not arise for the present.

#### **Over-Bridge over Railway Crossings on National Highway Nos. 1, 1A and 21**

2666. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Northern Railway Administration has sanctioned the construction of over-bridges on the railway crossings on the National Highway Nos. 1, 1A and 21;

(b) if so, the names of the railway crossings alongwith their locations where such over-bridges have been sanctioned including the estimated cost of each such project sanctioned during the Seventh Plan; and

(c) if not, whether any such over-bridges would be sanctioned on the request for their construction each of these National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The State Government has recently sponsored

proposal for construction of road overbridge near level crossing No. 2-B at Km. 1/8-9 at Phagwara on National Highway No. 1 on 'deposit terms'. The work is in an advanced stage of planning. The cost of the work has not yet worked out.

(c) Yes, Sir. if firm proposals for the works are sponsored by the State Government/National Highway Authorities, duly agreeing to bear the cost, as per rules.

[*Translation*]

#### **Liberalisation of Foreign Capital Investment Policy**

2667. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have liberalised the foreign capital investment policy to a great extent;

(b) if so, whether this liberalisation would encourage foreign investors to a great extent;

(c) whether Union Government have recently discussed the issue of capital investment with the Japanese delegation; and

(d) if so, the details in regard thereto and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The basic frame-work of our investment policy is laid down in various documents including the Industrial Policy Resolution. Although it is not an open door policy, it has a substantial degree of flexibility. It permits technical as well as financial collaborations over a wide range of industrial activities. It is the intention of the Government to promote more direct foreign investment within the broad frame-work of this policy.

#### **Insurance Scheme to Cover Acts of Terrorism**

2668. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation of India had started an insurance scheme to cover damages caused by acts of terrorism;

(b) if so, whether any suggestions to review the above scheme have been received;

(c) whether Government propose to consider those suggestions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir. The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) has been insuring terrorist risk effective from 1st January, 1987 as an extension of Riot, Strike & Malicious Damages in various classes of insurance business.

(b) to (d). Requests have been received by the GIC from some clients for increasing the existing limit of indemnity which is Rs. 2.50 Crores at one location in case the premises are under sole occupation or Rs. 10 lakhs per insured in case of multiple occupancy premises.

In view of the limited retention capacity of the Indian Market, the GIC has not been in a position to accede to above requests. Any revision is possible only if adequate reinsurance support from Overseas Reinsurance Market becomes available on reasonable terms acceptable to the Indian Market.

[English]

#### **Private Commercial Banks**

2669. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the credits standing of the first ten private commercial banks as on date; and

(b) the details of their branches, bank-wise and place wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the credit outstandings of the commercial banks in the private sector. The information relating to outstanding advances as reported by the Reserve Bank of India at the end of March, 1989 of the first ten private commercial banks, in terms of amounts outstanding, is given below:

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| <i>S. No.</i> | <i>Name of the Bank</i>   | <i>(Rs. in crores)<br/>Bank Credits</i> |
|---------------|---------------------------|---|
| <i>1</i>      | <i>2</i>                  | <i>3</i>                                |
| 1.            | Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. | 440.57                                  |
| 2.            | Vysya Bank Ltd.           | 385.09                                  |
| 3.            | Federal Bank Ltd.         | 308.05                                  |
| 4.            | Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.    | 300.08                                  |
| 5.            | Karnataka Bank Ltd        | 250.54                                  |
| 6.            | South Indian Bank Ltd.    | 234.70                                  |
| 7.            | United Western Bank Ltd.  | 210.64                                  |
| 8.            | Catholic Syrian Bank Ltd. | 187.15                                  |
| 9.            | Sangali Bank Ltd.         | 179.43                                  |
| 10.           | Bank of Madura Ltd.       | 174.05                                  |

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(b) Information relating to the number of these branches bank-wise and place-wise

as on 31.12.1988 is given in the Statement below.

## STATEMENT

Position of first 10 Private Sector Banks in India as on 31.12.1988

| (1)     | (2)                                   | (3)                          | (4)                | (5)                  | (6)                       | (7)                    |
|---------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Sl. No. | Name of the State/<br>Union Territory | Jammu & Kashmir<br>Bank Ltd. | Vysya Bank<br>Ltd. | Federal Bank<br>Ltd. | Bank of Rajasthan<br>Ltd. | Karnataka Bank<br>Ltd. |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh                        | 1                            | 128                | 4                    | 1                         | 11                     |
| 2.      | Assam                                 | —                            | —                  | 5                    | —                         | —                      |
| 3.      | Bihar                                 | —                            | —                  | 2                    | —                         | —                      |
| 4.      | Chandigarh                            | 1                            | —                  | —                    | 1                         | —                      |
| 5.      | Delhi                                 | 9                            | 3                  | 4                    | 12                        | 2                      |
| 6.      | Gujarat                               | 2                            | 2                  | 2                    | 5                         | 1                      |
| 7.      | Goa                                   | —                            | 1                  | 1                    | —                         | 4                      |
| 8.      | Haryana                               | 4                            | —                  | —                    | 5                         | —                      |
| 9.      | Himachal Pradesh                      | 2                            | —                  | —                    | —                         | —                      |
| 10.     | Jammu & Kashmir                       | 241                          | —                  | —                    | —                         | —                      |
| 11.     | Karnataka                             | 1                            | 96                 | 5                    | 1                         | 219                    |

| Sl. No.        | Name of the State/<br>Union Territory | Jammu & Kashmir<br>Bank Ltd. | Vysya Bank<br>Ltd. | Federal Bank<br>Ltd. | Bank of Rajasthan<br>Ltd. | Karnataka Bank<br>Ltd. |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| (1)            | (2)                                   | (3)                          | (4)                | (5)                  | (6)                       | (7)                    |
| 12.            | Kerala                                | —                            | 10                 | 271                  | —                         | 9                      |
| 13.            | Madhya Pradesh                        | 1                            | —                  | 1                    | 11                        | —                      |
| 14.            | Maharashtra                           | 4                            | 7                  | 5                    | 9                         | 10                     |
| 15.            | Meghalaya                             | —                            | —                  | 1                    | —                         | —                      |
| 16.            | Nagaland                              | —                            | —                  | 1                    | —                         | —                      |
| 17.            | Orissa                                | —                            | —                  | 1                    | —                         | —                      |
| 18.            | Pondicherry                           | —                            | 1                  | —                    | —                         | 1                      |
| 19.            | Punjab                                | 6                            | —                  | —                    | 3                         | —                      |
| 20.            | Rajasthan                             | —                            | 1                  | —                    | 213                       | —                      |
| 21.            | Tamil Nadu                            | 1                            | 26                 | 17                   | 1                         | 12                     |
| 22.            | Uttar Pradesh                         | 2                            | 2                  | 3                    | 4                         | —                      |
| 23.            | West Bengal                           | 1                            | 3                  | 9                    | 4                         | —                      |
| <b>Total :</b> |                                       | <b>276</b>                   | <b>280</b>         | <b>332</b>           | <b>270</b>                | <b>269</b>             |

**STATEMENT***Position of first 10 Private Sector Banks in India as on 31.12.1988*

| (1)     | (2)                                   | (8)                       | (9)                         | (10)                         | (11)                | (12)                   |
|---------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Sl. No. | Name of the State/<br>Union Territory | South Indian<br>Bank Ltd. | United Western<br>Bank Ltd. | Catholic Syrian<br>Bank Ltd. | Sangli Bank<br>Ltd. | Bank of Madura<br>Ltd. |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh                        | 9                         | 1                           | 6                            | 2                   | 6                      |
| 2.      | Assam                                 | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |
| 3.      | Bihar                                 | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | 1                      |
| 4.      | Chandigarh                            | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |
| 5.      | Delhi                                 | 3                         | 1                           | 1                            | 1                   | 6                      |
| 6.      | Gujarat                               | 1                         | 3                           | —                            | 1                   | 3                      |
| 7.      | Goa                                   | 1                         | 1                           | —                            | 1                   | —                      |
| 8.      | Haryana                               | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |
| 9.      | Himachal Pradesh                      | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |
| 10.     | Jammu & Kashmir                       | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |



| Sl. No. | Name of the State/<br>Union Territory | South Indian<br>Bank Ltd. | United Western<br>Bank Ltd. | Catholic Syrian<br>Bank Ltd. | Sangli Bank<br>Ltd. | Bank of Madura<br>Ltd. |
|---------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| (1)     | (2)                                   | (8)                       | (9)                         | (10)                         | (11)                | (12)                   |
| 11.     | Karnataka                             | 15                        | 3                           | 7                            | 24                  | 5                      |
| 12.     | Kerala                                | 180                       | —                           | 182                          | —                   | 6                      |
| 13.     | Madhya Pradesh                        | —                         | 9                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |
| 14.     | Maharashtra                           | 5                         | 157                         | 3                            | 135                 | 6                      |
| 15.     | Meghalaya                             | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |
| 16.     | Nagaland                              | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |
| 17.     | Orissa                                | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |
| 18.     | Pondicherry                           | 3                         | —                           | 1                            | —                   | 1                      |
| 19.     | Punjab                                | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |
| 20.     | Rajasthan                             | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | —                      |

| Sl. No. | Name of the State/<br>Union Territory | South Indian<br>Bank Ltd. | United Western<br>Bank Ltd. | Catholic Syrian<br>Bank Ltd. | Sangli Bank<br>Ltd. | Bank of Madura<br>Ltd. |
|---------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| (1)     | (2)                                   | (8)                       | (9)                         | (10)                         | (11)                | (12)                   |
| 21.     | Tamil Nadu                            | 79                        | —                           | 27                           | 2                   | 208                    |
| 22.     | Uttar Pradesh                         | —                         | —                           | —                            | —                   | 2                      |
| 23.     | West Bengal                           | 5                         | —                           | 2                            | —                   | 5                      |
| Total : |                                       | 300                       | 175                         | 229                          | 166                 | 249                    |

**Railway Station at New Dombivall**

2670. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for construction of new railway station at New Dombivali on Vasai-Diwa railway line; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A proposal is under consideration for setting up a station between Km. 48/9 and Km. 48/12 on Diva-Vasai Road B.G. Single Line Section in connection with introduction of E.M.U. Services.

**Subarnarekha Multi Purpose Project**

2671. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: SHRI HARIHAR SOREN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the multi-purpose Subarnarekha Project as on 30th June, 1989;

(b) the total hectares of land in Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal to be brought under irrigation on completion of the project;

(c) the number of villages in Orissa to be submerged by the construction of dam; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to rehabilitate the affected people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The progress reported

upto February, 1989 on various components of the project is, 64% on Chandil Dam, 23% on Icha Dam, 86% on Kitanala Dam and ranging from 24% to 75% on other components of the project.

(b) The project envisages irrigation to CCA of about 94 thousand hectares in Orissa, 158 thousand hectares in Bihar and 5 thousand hectares in West Bengal.

(c) Six villages.

(d) The State Government of Orissa have constituted a Rehabilitation Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Revenue Divisional Commissioner to advise in the matter of effective rehabilitation of the oustees.

**Export of Oil Seeds to South Asian and Eastern Countries**

2676. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a good scope for exporting Oil seeds and solvent extractions to South Asian and Eastern countries;

(b) whether Government have explored the possibility in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to increase the export of these items to those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). The export potential in respect of HPS groundnut, sesame seed; and solvent extracted oilmeals in South East Asian and Far East countries was explored through delegations sponsored by the Indian Oil & Produce Exporters Association in January, 1989 and Solvent Extractors' Association of India in March, 1989 to these countries. The visit has helped in establish-

ing contacts with the importers and in projecting our capability to supply these items. Contacts with the importers in these countries is being maintained.

### **Lok Adalats in Orissa**

2673. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Lok Adalats held in Orissa during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases settled in those Lok Adalats; and

(c) the details of the assistance proposed to be given to the down-trodden and women approaching Lok Adalats in the redressal of their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). As per information made available by the Orissa Legal Aid & Advice Board, 411 Lok Adalats have been organised during the period from June, 1986 to June, 1989, where 1,6,159 cases have been settled.

(c) No expenses are to be incurred by the litigants for bringing their disputes for settlement before Lok Adalats. As regards the people belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society, efforts are being made to organise more and more Lok Adalats in the rural and tribal areas. Similarly, special benches are organised at Lok Adalats to settle matrimonial and family disputes to help the women and children.

### **Central Assistance for Development of Ground Water in Kerala**

2674. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be

pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has sent any proposal for the central assistance for the study and economic use of ground water resources in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### **Foreign Branches of Indian Banks**

2675. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of branches of Indian banks in foreign countries has been decreasing every year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Indian banks branches abroad have failed to tap local potential for bank business; and

(d) the remedial measures being planned to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The operations of the foreign branches of the Indian banks are continually reviewed by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The Banks are also advised to review the performance of their foreign branches and close down the non-viable branches. RBI had carried out an exercise to rationalise and strengthen the operations of foreign

branches of Indian public sector banks operating in the United Kingdom. As a result of this exercise, the foreign branches of four Indian Banks were closed down and their assets and liabilities were transferred to the branches of some other public sector banks operating in the United Kingdom. Some other Indian public sector banks have also closed down some of their foreign branches after reviewing their business vis-a-vis their cost of operations and profitability.

(c) and (d). According to RBI, Indian banks operating abroad are making continuous efforts to improve their business prospects by tapping the available potential and diversifying their loan/assets portfolios. They are also computerising their operations to ensure faster service to customers. This has resulted in the overall increase of business of the Indian banks operating in foreign countries.

[*Translation*]

#### **Opening of Zonal and Regional Offices of Nationalised Banks in Uttar Pradesh**

2676. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether certain nationalised banks

have opened their zonal and regional offices in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of such banks with details of the offices opened by them;

(c) whether there is proposal to open regional offices in Almora and Pithoragarh by the Central Bank of India and the Punjab National Bank; and

(d) if so, the time by which these offices are likely to be opened there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The particulars of the public sector banks which had opened their Zonal/Regional Offices in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the years 1986, 1987 and 1988, as reported by the Reserve Bank of India, are given in the Statement below.

(c) and (d). Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has not received any proposal from Central Bank of India and Punjab National Bank for opening of their Zonal/Regional Offices in Almora and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh respectively.

**STATEMENT**

*Particulars of the Public Sector Banks which had opened their regional/zonal offices in the State of Uttar Pradesh during 1986, 1987 and 1988*

| <i>Name of the Bank</i> | <i>Name of the Centre</i> | <i>Whether Zonal/Regional Office</i> | <i>Date of Opening</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| (1)                     | (2)                       | (3)                                  | (4)                    |
| Allahabad Bank          | Gonda                     | Regional Office                      | 8.12.86                |
| —do—                    | Kheri                     | —do—                                 | 1.12.86                |
| —do—                    | Moradabad                 | —do—                                 | 22.12.86               |
| —do—                    | Varanasi                  | Zonal Office (UP) E Zone             | 1.12.86                |
| —do—                    | Nainital                  | Regional Office                      | 29.10.87               |
| Bank of Baroda          | Bareilly                  | —do—                                 | 20.2.86                |
| —do—                    | Varanasi                  | —do—                                 | 28.3.87                |
| —do—                    | Shahjahanpur              | —do—                                 | 31.3.87                |
| —do—                    | Moradabad                 | —do—                                 | 30.3.87                |
| —do—                    | Haldwani                  | —do—                                 | 14.11.87               |
| —do—                    | Meerut                    | Zonal Office Western UP Zone         | 31.3.87                |

| Name of the Bank          | Name of the Centre | Whether Zonal/Regional Office | Date of Opening |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| (1)                       | (2)                | (3)                           | (4)             |
| Central Bank of India     | Agra               | Zonal Office                  | 1. 1.87         |
| Punjab National Bank      | Jhansi             | Regional Office               | 27. 1.86        |
| —do—                      | Varanasi           | —do—                          | 27. 1.86        |
| —do—                      | Bulandshahr        | —do—                          | 19. 5.86        |
| —do—                      | Muzaffarnagar      | —do—                          | 27. 1.86        |
| —do—                      | Shahrampur         | —do—                          | 27. 1.86        |
| —do—                      | Moradabad          | —do—                          | 2. 6.86         |
| —do—                      | Kashipur           | —do—                          | 31. 3.88        |
| —do—                      | Faizabad           | —do—                          | 18. 7.86        |
| —do—                      | Aligarh            | —do—                          | 30. 9.88        |
| —do—                      | Bareilly           | —do—                          | 27. 1.86        |
| Oriental Bank of Commerce | Dehradun           | —do—                          | 19.12.86        |
| Union Bank of India       | Bareilly           | —do—                          | 30.12.86        |

| Name of the Bank    | Name of the Centre | Whether Zonal/Regional Office | Date of Opening |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| (1)                 | (2)                | (3)                           | (4)             |
| —do—                | Gorakhpur          | —do—                          | 17.8.87         |
| State Bank of India | Gorakhpur          | —do—                          | 23.11.87        |



**Hill Allowance**

2677. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether employees of certain financial institutions and departments, posted in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh are given hill allowance and special allowance;

(b) if so, whether employees of many Central Departments and Public Undertakings including nationalised banks posted in the same areas are not getting hill allowance; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to remove this anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) and (b). Central Government employees working at hill stations in Uttar Pradesh are granted Composite Hill Compensatory Allowance subject to specific conditions. Similarly, a Special Compensatory (Remote Locality) Allowance is also admissible to them in specified areas.

Public Sector Banks and Life Insurance Corporation of India have separate schemes for payment of Hill Allowance. They are, however, not governed by the Central Government's orders in this regard.

The information in respect of employees of Public Sector Enterprises posted in Hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh is being collected.

(c) Does not arise.

**Opening of Branches of State Bank of India in Garhwal and Kumaon Divisions of Uttar Pradesh**

2678. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has granted licences under the Current Branches Licensing Policy to State Bank of India to open new branches of the Bank in Garhwal and Kumaon divisions of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of licences granted to the Bank for these areas;

(c) the names of districts in the above divisions where the State Bank of India has so far opened its branches with locations thereof;

(d) whether the Reserve Bank of India has not issued licences to open branches of the Bank at all the places requested for; and

(e) if so, the time by which licences for these places are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90 and Service Area Approach to rural lending, 57 licences have been issued to State Bank of India (SBI) for opening its branches in the rural and semi-urban areas of Garhwal and Kumaon Divisions of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) As per the information available with RBI, SBI has opened its branches at the following centres:—

| <i>Name of centre</i>       | <i>Name of District</i> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Dhauladevi                  | Almora                  |
| Chalnichhina                | - do -                  |
| Gagrigoal                   | - do -                  |
| Paisia                      | - do -                  |
| Chiliyanola                 | - do -                  |
| Gaurikund (Seasonal Office) | Chamoli                 |
| Patranpur                   | Nainital                |
| Sisaiya                     | - do -                  |
| Dudbarkhal                  | Pauri Garhwal           |
| Jakhpuran                   | Pithoragarh             |
| Paurikhal                   | Tehri Garhwal           |
| Silkakhal                   | Tehri Garhwal           |

(d) and (e). RBI has reported that allotment of centres under current Plan has been made on the basis of lists of identified centres received from State Government. Out of the 257 centres identified by the State Government in these districts, RBI has allotted 185 eligible centres to commercial banks including Regional Rural Banks equitably on the basis of their representation in the District/Block/Area. The remaining centre were not considered for allotment as they did not conform to the norm laid down in the Policy. The allotment of centres for opening of bank branches in Garhwal and Kumaon Divisions has been completed both under current Plan and under Service Area Approach. Hence, the question of issuing of more licences to SBI during the current Plan does not arise.

[English]

#### **Loans to Sick Small Scale Industrial Units**

2679. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans given to sick small scale industrial units by the State Bank of Indore during 1986, 1987 and 1988; and

(b) the number of such units, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). RBI has reported that the number of sick small scale industrial units State-wise and the amount

outstanding against them as per the half yearly return submitted by State Bank of Indore are indicated below:

| Period         | Uttar Pradesh |      | Maharashtra |      | Madhya Pradesh |       | (Rs. in crores)<br>Total |       |
|----------------|---------------|------|-------------|------|----------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
|                | Units         | O/s  | Units       | O/s  | Units          | O/s   | Units                    | O/s   |
| 1              | 2             | 3    | 4           | 5    | 6              | 7     | 8                        | 9     |
| December, 1986 | 1             | 0.06 | 2           | 0.44 | 149            | 5.49  | 152                      | 5.95  |
| June, 1987     | 1             | 0.05 | 2           | 0.45 | 157            | 7.77  | 160                      | 8.27  |
| December, 1987 | 2             | 0.11 | 2           | 0.45 | 153            | 8.11  | 157                      | 8.67  |
|                | 4             | 0.22 | 6           | 1.34 | 459            | 21.37 | 469                      | 22.93 |

#### Change in name of Pune-Ahmedabad Express

2680. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently started a Pune-Ahmedabad Express;

(b) whether there is any proposal to change the name of this train;

(c) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Deccan Passengers Association (Solapur) in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir, with effect from May, 1989.

(b) to (d). Representations for changing the name of the train have been received but there is a proposal at present.

#### Channelisation of Financial Activities by NRIs through Indian Banks

2681. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESHWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have urged all foreign and non-resident Indians interested in India to channelise their financial activities through Indian banks;

(b) if so, whether the NRIs have agreed in this regard;

(c) the number of NRIs who have agreed to the suggestion of Union Government; and

(d) the steps being taken to encourage NRIs in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). Government has formulated various schemes such as FCNR, NRE, accounts and Portfolio in-

vestment by NRIs for attracting foreign NRI investments which are operated through banks. The banks made an effort, as part of their marketing strategy, to channelise NRI deposits into Indian banks. There is no specific directive in this regard.

#### **Financial Position of Karnataka**

2668. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the finance position of the Karnataka has improved recently;
- (b) if so, the extent thereof;
- (c) the steps taken to introduce economy drive in the State; and
- (d) to what extent they have succeeded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) to (d). These have been dealt with in the statement made by the Minister of State in Ministry of Finance on 31st July, 1989 while presenting to the House the Budget of the State of Karnataka for the year 1989-90.

#### **Railway Projects in Karnataka**

2683. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Union Government propose to undertake the pending railway projects in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the total number of such projects that will be undertaken during 1989-90; and
- (c) the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). West Coach Line between Mangalore and Roha is one of the pending projects, which is partly in Karnataka. During 1989-90, Mangalore-Udupi (69km) section of the above line has been approved at a cost of Rs. 52.6 crores with an outlay of Rs. 0.50 crore. None of the other pending proposals is being undertaken during 1989-90.

#### **Development of Ground Water Resources**

2684. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether great stress had been laid on the development of ground water in Seventh Plan;
- (b) if so, the target set for that purpose for the Seventh Plan;
- (c) the steps taken to achieve that target; and
- (d) the various steps taken in 7th Plan period for the development of ground water resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (d). Considerable emphasis has been given to Ground Water Development during the Seventh Plan period. A target for creating an additional irrigation potential of 7.1 million hectares was set against which the likely achievement would be 6.98 m ha. Some of steps taken include (i) Regular Monitoring of the programme at the national level (ii) Ground Water Service, investigations, assessment and exploratory drillings carried out by State and Central

Ground Water Boards (iii) Central assistance on matching basis given to States for providing drilling rigs and other equipments, (iv) Subsidy to small and marginal farmers for minor irrigation works, (v) Providing irrigation wells free of cost to poor, small and marginal farmers belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes and free bonded labour; and (vi) Construction of wells etc. under Jawahar Rojgar Yojana, and (vii) Adequate financial assistance both from Government and institutional agencies.

**Modernisation of Railway Stations on Adilabad-Mukhed Section**

2685. SHRI UTTAMRATHOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway stations on Adilabad-Mukhed section are all located in sheds made of corrugated sheets;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct pucca buildings for these stations under the scheme of modernisation of Railway Stations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Improvements to stations, including remodelling of station buildings is a continuous process and the same is done on a need-based programme, in phases, commensurate with the availability of funds.

On Adilabad-Mukhed section, works relating to provision of pucca station buildings at Hadgaon Road and Boath Road stations have been sanctioned and the same will be taken up this year.

**Railway time table in all Regional Languages**

2687. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to publish railway time tables in all the Indian languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Apart from Hindi and English, Zonal Railways time-tables are also published in regional languages viz. Assamese, Bengali, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Gurumukhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu depending upon the regions they serve.

**Customs duty on luxurious items**

2688. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of Customs duty on luxurious items like TV, VCR, tec.

(b) whether Government propose to increase Customs duty on such items so as to encourage the domestic production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Customs duty on items like TV and VCR is generally 145% ad valorem plus countervailing duty, equal to the excise duty leviable on such items. The countervailing duty in the case of TV varies from nil to Rs. 4000 per set depending upon the size and functional features and in the case of VCR,

it is Rs. 2100 per set.

(b) At present, Government has no proposal to increase the customs duty on such items.

[*Translation*]

### Lok Adalats

2689. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the functioning of Lok Adalats had come to a standstill;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Union Government propose to revitalise Lok Adalats and provide cheap and speedy justice to the people; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). No, Sir. During the last one year, about 720 Lok Adalats have been organised in different parts of the country. However, in some States, due to local reasons, such as prevailing semi-famine conditions, strike by the staff or the advocates, there has been some set back in this regard. Nevertheless, the Executive Chairman of the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes, is consistently motivating the public; the judiciary; and the bar in settling disputes through Lok Adalats. Wherever necessary, the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes is also extending financial assistance to the State Legal Aid Boards for organising more and more Lok Adalats. The All-India figure is on the increase.

[*English*]

### Computerisation of Railway Reservation

2690. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will

the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the cities where computerised railway reservation has been started and the number of booking offices in each city;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up more computerised railway booking offices in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the names of cities and the criteria being adopted for opening such booking offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Computerised passenger reservation facility has been provided at Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Secunderabad. Presently, there are nine reservation offices in Delhi, three in Bombay, seven in Calcutta, one in Madras and three in Secunderabad. Further, five more reservation offices at Calcutta and three each at Bombay and Madras are under installation.

(b) and (c). Four other cities, viz. Ahmadabad, Bangalore, Bhopal and Lucknow are proposed to be provided with computerised reservation service by December, 1989. For the present, projects for nine more cities, viz. Pune, Guwahati, Jaipur, Patna, Gorakhpur, Trivandrum, Jammu Tawi, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack have been sanctioned to be provided during the Eighth Plan. The cities are selected mainly on the basis of reservation workload.

### Conversion Projects

2691. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the zone-wise details of metre gauge to broad gauge conversion projects of railways which are in progress;

(b) by when these projects are likely to be completed; and

(c) whether there is any project for conversion of railway lines going on in S.E. Railway, Orissa, State, if so, the progress

made in each project and by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). A statement giving zone-wise details of Metre Gauge to Broad Gauge conversion projects is given below.

(c) No, Sir.

**STATEMENT***Gauge conversion from MG to BG**(Rs. in crores)*

| Sl. No. | Works                                  | Estimated cost | Outlay 89-90 | %age progress upto 6/89 | Likely date of completion |
|---------|--|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1       | 2                                      | 3              | 4            | 5                       | 6                         |
| 1.      | <i>North Eastern Railway</i>           |                |              |                         |                           |
| 1.      | Varanasi—Bhatni (161 km)               | 80.8           | 23           | 75                      | Mau-Bhatni by 31.3.90     |
| 2.      | Kashipur—Lalkua (60 km)                | 20.00          | 1.0          | 0                       |                           |
| 3.      | Samastipur—Darbhanga (37 km)           | 26.02          | 0.0001       | 0                       |                           |
| 4.      | Chhapra—Aunrihar (171 km)              | 85.13          | 1.51         | 3                       |                           |
| 2.      | <i>Southern Railway</i>                |                |              |                         |                           |
| 5.      | Mysore-Bangalore (138 km)              | 68.17          | 17           | 27                      |                           |
| 3.      | <i>South Central Railway</i>           |                |              |                         |                           |
| 6.      | Manmad—Parbhani—Parli Vajnath (354 km) | 140.00         | 15           | 21                      |                           |



| (Rs. in crores) |  |                |              |                         |                           |
|-----------------|--|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sl. No.         | Works  | Estimated cost | Outlay 89-90 | %age progress upto 6/89 | Likely date of completion |
| 1               | 2  | 3              | 4            | 5                       | 6                         |
| 7.              | Guntur—Macherla (130 km)   | 66.38          | 23           | 74                      | 31.3.90                   |
| 8.              | Parbhani—Purna & Mudkhed—<br>Adilabad conversion and Purna—<br>Mudkhed parallel BG line (248 km) | 107.42         | 0.0001       | 0                       |                           |

**Note :** The completion of other projects will depend on the availability of resources in the coming years.

**Funds from MRTS Madras**

2692. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided by the Tamil Nadu Government and the Railways for the implementation of Mass Rapid Transport System at Madras for 1989-90 separately;

(b) the amount actually utilised for the implementation of the scheme so far; and

(c) whether any time-schedule has been fixed for the completion of the scheme, if so, details thereof together with cost involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) Tamil Nadu Government Railways - Nil - Rs. 9.85 crores

(b) Rs. 34.92 crores, upto 30.6.1989

(c) No, Sir.

**Trade Turnover of State Trading Corporation**

2693. SHRI V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trade turnover of the State Trading Corporation has declined during the past few months;

(b) if so, the targets fixed for 1988-89, if any, and the achievements made; and

(c) the reasons for shortfall and remedial measures being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir. The total turnover of the State Trading Corporation has declined from Rs. 653 crores during April-June, 1988 to Rs. 371 crores during the corresponding period this year. However, exports have more than doubled from Rs. 72 crores during the period April-June, 1988 to Rs. 150 crores during the corresponding period this year.

(b) the targets for 1988-89 and the achievements against them are as under:-

|                | Target | (Rs. crores)<br>Actuals |
|----------------|--------|-------------------------|
| Exports        | 700    | 530                     |
| Imports        | 3506   | 2045                    |
| Domestic       | 21     | 19                      |
| Total turnover | 4227   | 2594                    |

(c) The shortfall in exports in 1988-89 was mainly due to decanalisation of Semi-processed leather, footwear and Lemon-grass oil and non-availability of food grains for exports. The decline in import was on account of sharp cut-back in import of edible

oils due to greater indigenous availability of oil-seeds and also on account of suspension of sugar imports by the Government.

The State Trading Corporation has drawn up Business Action Plan for 1989-90

which envisages an increase of 32% over previous year in STC's exports.

### Collection of Wealth/Gift Tax

2694. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Wealth tax and

Gift tax collected during the last financial year and the number of assesses; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to increase the collection of such taxes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA):

(1988-89)

|                    | W.T.               | G.T.            |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| (a) Net Collection | Rs. 115.06* crores | Rs. 5.59 crores |
| No. of Assessees   | 6,25,000           | 93,000          |

\*Provisional

(b) Several instructions have been issued for early completion of assessments for increasing the collection of these taxes. The progress is being watched through monthly monitoring reports pertaining to pendency and disposal of assessments as well as collections of taxes.

### External Assistance for Development Programmes in Punjab

2695. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Punjab Government had sought any external assistance for implementing developmental programmes in Punjab during the last three years ending 31st March, 1989;

(b) if so, the number of projects under implementation in Punjab with external assistance;

(c) whether any project has been started in Punjab with the World Bank assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The National Agricultural Extension Project-III, providing for investments in 4 States, including Punjab, is currently under implementation with World Bank assistance. The World Bank has committed an IDA credit of \$ 85 million. The agreement for this project was signed on 29.6.1987.

### Sheds at railway stations in Punjab

2696. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Railway Stations in Punjab having no covered platforms and the number of stations having small sheds at platforms;

(b) the criteria fixed by Government for covering the uncovered platforms or small

sheds at Railway Station; and

(c) the number of stations where platforms are likely to be covered in Punjab during 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) 96 Railway Stations are not having cover over platforms and 35 Railway Stations are having small sheds.

(b) Cover over platforms at a station is provided normally to enable half the maximum number of passengers dealt with at any time at the station to be accommodated at the rate of 6 Sq. ft. for each passenger.

(c) 5 Stations.

#### **Trade with Austria**

2697. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to expand trade with Austria;

(b) if so, the various steps taken in that regard; and

(c) the various fields in which Indo-Austria trade was established earlier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). It has been the Government's constant endeavour to expand bilateral trade keeping in view the country's interest to increase its exports. As per provisional figures available from DGCI&S, India's bilateral trade turnover with Austria has increased from Rs. 134.55 crores in 1987-88 to Rs. 162.75 crores in 1988-89.

Major items exported to Austria include leather and leather goods, shoes and shoe

uppers, textile and readymade garments, carpets, coffee, tea, spices, tools, chemicals and some agricultural products. Austria's exports to India include item lime machinery, iron and steel, precision and testing instruments, organic chemicals, etc.

Steps taken to promote Indian exports to Austria to include exchange of delegations, market studies, buyer-seller meets, etc.

#### **Guidelines for Joint Ventures**

2698. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:  
SHRI H.G. RAMULU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to further revise the guidelines for joint ventures abroad;

(b) whether any proposals are pending for the consideration of Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of revision proposed to be made; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (d). Suggestions for revision of the existing guidelines for joint ventures abroad have been received from an Inter-Ministerial Group. Government has not taken a decision on these suggestions.

#### **Grants by Tea Board for Medical facilities for Tea Plantation workers**

2701. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tea Board has sanctioned any capital grant to any institution looking after the health of the tea plantation workers and their dependents in Assam;

(b) if so, whether specific measures have been taken for setting up new health centres, extension of existing hospitals/ medical clinic buildings and purchasing of medical equipments;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Tea Board has sanctioned a capital grant of Rs. 1 lakh to Tejpur Children Hospital in Assam. A sum of Rs. 1.14 lakhs was granted and released in favour of Surma Valley Branch of India Tea Association, Silchar, Assam during 1986-87 for purchase of one Ambulance to cater to the needs for transportation of sick tea plantation workers.

The Board also sanctioned a capital grant of Rs. 6 lakhs in 1988-89 to the Red Cross Society, Silcher (Assam) for additional construction of the hospital at Silchar for extending referral medical facilities to the patients of the Tea Estates in the area.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Export to Soviet Union

2702. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of goods exported to the Soviet Union in 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the efforts made by Government to increase exports to Soviet Union?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). The items exports from India to USSR during 1986-87 and 1987-88 comprised of agricultural items including plantation items, minerals and ores including mica and mica products, chemicals and allied products, leather/leather manufacturers including finished leather and shoe uppers, textile including cotton textiles, readymade garments and jute goods, a wide range of engineering goods and miscellaneous items like handicrafts, books and periodicals, etc. The value of exports to the USSR in 1986-87 and 1987-88 was as under;

|         |   |                    |
|---------|---|--------------------|
| 1986-87 | - | Rs. 1859.50 crores |
| 1987-88 | - | Rs. 1971.49 crores |

(Source: DGCI&S)

As per the Indo-Soviet Trade Agreement which provides for rupee payment, the exports were paid for in non-convertible Indian Rupees.

(c) Efforts are continuously being made to expand the basket of goods exported by enhancing the provisions for existing items and by adding new items. Visits of business delegations, participation in exhibitions, etc. are being encouraged. As imports generate funds for exports given the balanced rupee trading system, imports are also being encouraged.

#### Income Tax Defaulters

2703. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of income-tax defaulters identified by the income-tax department during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89; and

(b) the amount recovered from them, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The number of Income-tax defaulters are in thousands and the number varies from day to day. Therefore it is not possible to furnish the number of defaulters during 1987-88 and 1988-89. However if information is required as on a particular date, the same can be furnished.

(b) During 1987-88, out of the total arrear demand of Rs. 3695.03 crores, a sum of Rs. 1846.81 crores were reduced/recovered. During 1988-89, out of the total arrear demand of Rs. 4211.91 crores, a sum of Rs. 1768.69 crores were recovered/reduced

### Export of Engineering Goods

2704. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any decline in the exports of engineering goods, electronic items automobile parts and sugar in 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to revise the trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). The following are the figures of export during 1986-87 and 1987-88

*Value in Rs. crores*

| <i>Item of Export</i>               | <i>1986-87</i> | <i>1987-88</i> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Engineering goods                   | 1043.73        | 1105.00        |
| Electronic items including software | 160 00         | 250.00         |
| Automobile parts                    | 46 93          | 45.00          |
| Sugar                               | 18.48          | 13.93          |

There has been no significant decline in the above exports except in the case of sugar where a slight decline has been noticed. Exports of sugar in 86-87 and 87-88 consisted mainly of exports against preferential quotas to the USA and to the EEC and small amounts to Nepal against bilateral treaty. The amount of sugar exported was therefore determined by the above quotas and obligations under the bilateral treaty.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

### Loans advanced by Nationalised Banks in Rural Kanpur

2705. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the nationalised bank branches functioning in rural Kanpur;

(b) the amount of loan disbursed by

these branches to the entrepreneurs and farmers of rural Kanpur till the end of 30 June, 1989;

(c) whether Government propose to open more bank branches in the rural Kanpur in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as at the end of March 1989, 130 branches of scheduled commercial banks were functioning in Rural Kanpur.

(b) Under the Annual Action Plan for the year ended 1988, against Priority Sector scheduled commercial banks have disbursed Rs. 2017 lakhs for Rural Kanpur.

(c) and (d). Under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90, RBI has allot-

ted 9 centres to banks for opening branches in Rural Kanpur. As per the information available with RBI, banks have opened branches at all the centres except two centres namely Bansathi and Sisahi.

[English]

#### Opening of Bank Branches in West Bengal

2708. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of branches of different commercial banks opened in West Bengal during 1988 with their location, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that during 1988 commercial banks have opened 219 branches in West Bengal. District-wise locations of these branches are set out in the statement given below.

**STATEMENT**

District-wise location of bank branches opened by commercial banks in West Bengal during the year, 1988

| Name of District                | Name of Centres  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Bankura                         | Bamantore, Shyamnagar, Santore, Kankardanga More Mankanali, Gholgaria, Gerapari, Radhamadhabpur, Mosiara, Machatora, Rudra, Nakajuri, Patrabati, Panchal, Jorhira and Susunia.                                   |
| Burdwan                         | Kalara, Angerson, Debsala, Sunghosh Para, Hosenpur, Berugram, Kandra, Khaspur Pirtola, Jalpara, Garain, Raigram, Antpara, Bijoynagar and Lakshmipur.   |
| Birbhum                         | Hushmore.  |
| Calcutta<br>(Metropolitan Area) | Industrial Finance B, Industrial Finance C, Chakraberia—Calcutta, Ruby Park, Burtolla—Calcutta, Kethopole—Calcutta, Tangra Sil Lane Area, Calcutta—Salt Lake, Chakra Beria Road, Shyambazar Market and Beniapur. |
| Darjeeling                      | Bhajanpur and Hansquea   |
| Howrah                          | Antila, Banamali Nagar, Dakshin Jhaparda, Gauripur, Dhamsia, Gabberia, Gujarapurhat, Narit, Rupasgori, Samanti and Thalia.   |
| Hooghly                         | Dihibagan, Balidaha, Chabbisur, Furfura, Baro—Tapur, Haripur, Harinkhola, Anya, Par Dankuni, Nuisarai, Khatchura, Jejur and Nasibpur.  |
| Jalpaiguri                      | Champaguri, Dalimpur, Damdim, Jalpesh, Kalabari, Hegenhat, Khoardanga, Samuktala Road and Mimiti—Domohani.   |
| Cooch Behar                     | Bakla, Gurahati, Hazrahat, Ichaganj, Kashibari, Mocenga, Rampurbazar and Thaneswarhat.   |
| Malda                           | Gopalpur, Jamtolla, Jalalpur (Hazrat), Kahala, Dalla, Sadarpur, Tenya, Mahanandapur and Tilason.   |



| Name of District    | Name of Centres   |
|---------------------|---|
| Midnapore           | Ashui, Teghari, Kukai, Gholpukuria, Barampura, Mottal Chak, Chanpat, Nazirbazar, Dalpara, Pakursoni, Garchakraberia, Trilochanpur, Gramraj, Halderdighi, Haldia Port Town, Hamirpur, Ismalchawak, Kalikapur, Shankarpur, Kharagpur, Birsingha More, Srikrishnapur, Demarihat, Vidyasagar University, Menkapur, Panchgeria, Bhimtala (Pratappur), Mugbasan, Mughalmari, Labanya Bazar, Baitabazar, Chowkhali, Chaipura Bazar, Annapurna and Burapat. |
| Murshidabad         | Ashariadahaghat, Bansabati, Bazardanga, Parulia, Bazitpur, Kharibona, Balia, Jahangirpur, Kashipur, Kharera, Mirzapur, Nimtita, Dadpur, Patkeldanga, Ranitala, Lakshmpur, Sarbanagar and Tenya.   |
| Nadia               | Anulia, Bahadurpur, Bahirgachhi Bazar, Bhajanghat, Ranabandha, Dharmada, Chanderghat, Hanspukuria, Dogachhi, Fatepur, Anandanagar, Arpara, IDDC—Haringhata, Jeorkhali, Kalinarayanpur, Kanthalia, Ramnagar, Krishnagar, Nrisingapur, Prachin Mayapur, Sadhanpara and Simulia.   |
| 24 Parganas (North) | Asharu, Balidapukur, Beramnagar, Bokchora, Sewli Hanspur Kurulia, Chalki, Hatathgunj, Sohahat, Michael Nagar, Naihati Gauripur, Patulia and Chowberia   |
| Purulia             | Agardh, Chharrah, Jargo, Jhapra and Motour  |
| 24 Parganas (South) | Bakhali, North Bowali, Beitol, Chata, Moudi, Harindanga Sab, Rangabelia, Khasmallickpur, Dakshin Raypur, Masat, Netra, Gabberia, Parulia, Rania, Tardah Bazar, Dighirpar Bazar, Santoshpur and Pana.  |
| West Dinajpur       | Amaljhari, Aminpur, Mangalpur, Madarganj, Bhikhahar, Gati, Gunjaria, Haptiagach, Kulavita, Hemtabad, Kaligani, Kushkari and Tarangapur.   |

**Workshop for Specialisation in Garment Designing for Women**

2709. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workshops conducted by State Trading Corporation to give specialised training to women entrepreneurs in garment designing during 1988; and

(b) the number of women trained in these workshops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

**Stoppage of Gujarat Queen at Itola and provision of other passenger amenities**

2710. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial development and increased passenger traffic at Itola justify more railway facilities for the commuters;

(b) whether Government have received representations to give stoppage of 9 Dn., 10 Up. Gujarat Queen at Itola, which was available to them when the train started but subsequently withdrawn; and

(c) the steps taken to meet these long standing public demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINIDIA): (a) and (b). The existing passenger facilities provided at Itola Station are considered adequate.

(b) Yes, Sir.

**On-going Major and Medium Irrigation Projects**

2711. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major and medium irrigation schemes that have been undertaken for execution during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount involved and target fixed for completion of each project;

(c) whether due to high cost escalation and inadequate allocation of funds the completion of various projects is likely to be delayed;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken for timely completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Besides 181 on-going major and 433 on-going medium irrigation projects, 18 new major and 29 new medium irrigation projects have been taken up during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(b) to (d). An outlay of Rs. 11505.56 crores has been provided during the Seventh Plan period. 58 major and 303 medium projects were provided with full spillover cost with a view to achieve their completion during the plan period. A review indicates that out of these 26 major and 162 medium projects will be completed. In addition, 11 major and 25 medium projects are also likely to be completed during the Seventh Plan period.

(e) Prioritisation of the schemes for

adequate provision of funds during annual plans is one of the major step taken. Besides, Central Water Commission is monitoring certain selected projects with a view to identifying other bottlenecks and suggesting remedial measures.

[*Translation*]

#### **Change in Timings of Utkal Express**

2712. SHRIDAL CHANDERJAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the timings of superfast trains coming from South have been changed from 1st May, 1989, if so, the reasons therefor:

(b) whether the timing of Qutub Express has also been changed;

(c) whether the demand for a change in timings of Utkal Express is being made for long; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not changing the timings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir, to make the schedules more feasible.

(b) It was changed from May, 1989 but subsequently restored to old pattern.

(c) and (d). Requests were received but not found feasible.

#### **Passenger Coaches**

2713. SHRIDAL CHANDERJAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passenger coaches available with the Railway (class-wise);

(b) the number of coaches having been withdrawn and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of coaches being built and put into operation annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The number of passenger carrying vehicles is given in the statement below.

(b) The number of passenger carrying coaches withdrawn during 1987-88, on age-cum-condition basis, is as under:

|      |     |
|------|-----|
| BG.  | 807 |
| M.G. | 374 |

(c) During 1988-89, 1044 BG and 374 MG Passenger Carrying Coaches were added in the fleet, 1092 BG and 439 MG Passenger Carrying Coaches are programmed to be manufactured during the 1989-90.

#### **STATEMENT**

| <i>Type of Coaches</i> | <i>BG.</i> | <i>MG.</i> |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| A.C. First             | 98         | —          |
| A.C. Chair Car         | 86         | —          |
| A.C. 2-tier Sleeper    | 417        | 31         |
| First Class            | 995        | 536        |

| <i>Type of Coaches</i> | <i>BG.</i> | <i>MG.</i> |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| Second class           | 8065       | 4296       |
| Second Sleeper         | 4544       | 1173       |
| Composite coaches      | 3782       | 2210       |
| Total                  | 17987      | 8246       |

[English]

#### Academy for Judicial Officers

2714. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to establish an academy for the training of judicial officers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

#### Slum dwellers on railway land on Churchgate—Dahisar section

2715. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hutments along the railway line between Churchgate and Dahisar on Western Railway;

(b) the total area of Railway land occupied by the slum dwellers; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to

clear these slums from Railway land and to put up a protective wall there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) About 10,580.

(b) 7.41 hectares (Approx.).

(c) The State Government of Maharashtra has been asked to shift the hutments situated on railway land close to the track and on land required for Railway's own developmental works, to alternative sites and to construct the boundary wall at their cost, where warranted.

[Translation]

#### Special Drive for Recruitment

2719. CHOWDHRY AKHTAR HASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased state:

(a) the number of persons recruited in each division/zone of Indian Railways so far by the Government this year under Special Recruitment Drive for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) whether in addition to the above recruitment drive, Railways propose to start a similar Special Recruitment Drive for back-

ward classes and other weaker sections also;

(c) if so, the names of the castes/tribes proposed to be included under this drive; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The number

of persons recruited in each Zonal Railways under Special Recruitment Drive for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is shown in the statement given below.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No reservation has been prescribed for backward classes and other weaker sections.

### STATEMENT

*Recruitment made by Zonal Railways under Special Recruitment Drive for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 1.5.89 to 15.7.89*

| <i>Railway</i>     | <i>Recruitment Made</i> |           |                |           |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
|                    | <i>Group C</i>          |           | <i>Group D</i> |           |
|                    | <i>SC</i>               | <i>ST</i> | <i>SC</i>      | <i>ST</i> |
| Central            | 52                      | 60        | 61             | 65        |
| Eastern            | 131                     | 44        | 64             | 41        |
| Northern           | 77                      | 23        | 16             | 4         |
| North Eastern      | NIL                     | NIL       | NIL            | NIL       |
| Northeast Frontier | 119                     | 51        | 156            | 185       |
| Southern           | 147                     | 133       | NIL            | NIL       |
| South Central      | 31                      | 12        | 35             | 6         |
| South Eastern      | 17                      | 21        | 30             | 107       |
| Western            | 36                      | 17        | NIL            | NIL       |
| C.L.W.             | NIL                     | 5         | 45             | 12        |
| D.L.W.             | 4                       | NIL       | NIL            | NIL       |
| I.C.F.             | 11                      | NIL       | 2              | NIL       |
| R.D.S.O.           | 3                       | NIL       | NIL            | NIL       |
| W & A.P.           | 1                       | 1         | 3              | 9         |
|                    | 629                     | 367       | 412            | 429       |

[English]

**Workshop in Export on Mangoes**

2720. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a workshop to evolve strategies to boost the export of Mangoes was held in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made at the workshop;

(c) whether Government have examined the suggestions; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government there to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (d). The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA) had organised a Technical Workshop on mangoes on 2nd July, 1989. The workshop discussed various aspects for pooling information on pre- and post-harvest management of mangoes and to build up a sound technology for the purpose of export. The recommendations of the workshop will be processed for implementation by appropriate agencies

**Guwahati Stock Exchange**

2721. SHRI RAJ KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether secondary market in Guwahati Stock Exchange Limited has been gradually showing an upward trend, if so, the percentage of increase during the last three years;

(b) the amount of trading volume of the said Exchange during the last year ending

June, 1989 and the percentage of increase/decrease;

(c) whether in view of gradual increase in secondary market and trading volume, the said Exchange has appointed any qualified Secretary and/or Executive Director so as to ensure its smooth functioning;

(d) if not, whether Government propose to direct the said Exchange to appoint the said officers in the overall interest of the Exchange as well as the investors; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) to (e). The Exchange had appointed a qualified Secretary in January, 1986 and when this post fell vacant subsequently, it again appointed a qualified Secretary in January, 1988. However, the post is presently vacant. The Stock Exchange has been asked to fill up the post of Secretary and it has initiated steps for doing so.

[Translation]

**Frequency and Timings of Shatabdi Express  
(Delhi-Kanpur)**

2722. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to run 'Super Fast Shatabdi Express' from Kanpur to Delhi daily.

(b) whether there is any proposal to

start this train from Kanpur in the morning and back to Kanpur from Delhi in the evening, if so, when; and

(c) the average number of tickets sold at Delhi and Kanpur railway stations for this train and the total capacity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAOSCINDIA). (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present

(c) Capacity of this train is 536 seats. During the period 1.6.1989 to 15.7.1989, the average number of tickets sold daily was 365 at New Delhi and 412 at Kanpur Central

[English]

#### **Extension of time to Exercise option for Fixation of Pay**

2723 SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether consequent on the revision of pay scales as per Fourth Pay Commission recommendations, orders regarding extension of time upto 31 August, 1988 for exercising option for pay fixation were issued by his Ministry

(b) whether these orders were not widely circulated in various Government Departments which has resulted in financial loss to a large number of employees, and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to further extend the date and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) Yes, Sir. The extension was allowed to only those Government Servants

who intended to adopt revised scale from the date of increment falling after 1.1.86 but not later than 31-12-87

(b) These orders were circulated to all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India

(c) No, Sir. The orders to exercise option were issued on 27.5.88 and last date for exercising option has been 31-8-88. Thus, ample time to exercise option has already been allowed

#### **Strengthening of Ground Water Organisation in Karnataka**

2724 SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR. Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the amount earmarked for implementing the schemes pertaining to ground water resources during the current years,

(b) the allocation made for implementing these schemes, State-wise,

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested Union Government to enhance the allocation for implementing centrally sponsored schemes for strengthening ground water organisation in the State; and

(d) if so, reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b). During the year 1989-90 Central Assistance amounting to Rs. 8937 lakhs for normal programme and Rs. 5077 lakhs under Special Food grain production programme (SFPP) under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance

to Small and Marginal Farmers for Increasing Agricultural Production has been allocated to various States as per details given in the statements I & II below. In addition, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Strengthening State Ground & Surface Water Organisations an amount of Rs. 765 lakhs has been provided to be given to States against the specific proposals received from them. There are other Centrally Sponsored Schemes like Integrated Rural Development programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Special Assistance for Tribal Area Development

under which assistance provided to States can also be used for ground water schemes but no earmarking is done. Under the Central Sector for carrying out Countrywide ground water surveys and investigations, Central Ground Water Board has been allocated a sum of Rs. 2940 lakhs during the year 1989-90.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.



## STATEMENT I

*Financial allocations for the year 1989-90 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers for increasing agricultural Production for Normal Programme*

| Sl. No. | States            | No. of Blocks | Financial outlay |             | Total   |
|---------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|---------|
|         |                   |               | Central Share    | State Share |         |
| 1       | 2                 | 3             | 4                | 5           | 6       |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh    | 203           | 602.75           | 602.75      | 1205.50 |
| 2.      | Arunachal Pradesh | 40            | 120.00           | 120.00      | 240.00  |
| 3.      | Assam*            | 109           | 231.5            | 291.24      | 682.50  |
| 4.      | Bihar*            | 260           | 895.25           | 895.25      | 1790.50 |
| 5.      | Gujarat*          | 119           | 371.75           | 371.75      | 743.50  |
| 6.      | Goa               | 10            | 25.00            | 25.00       | 50.00   |
| 7.      | Haryana           | 93            | 232.50           | 232.50      | 465.00  |
| 8.      | Himachal Pradesh  | 69            | 172.50           | 172.50      | 345.00  |
| 9.      | Jammu & Kashmir   | 75            | 187.50           | 187.50      | 375.00  |

(Rs. in lakh)

| Sl. No. | States          | No. of Blocks | Financial outlay |             |         | Total |
|---------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|---------|-------|
|         |                 |               | Financial outlay |             | Total   |       |
|         |                 |               | Central Share    | State Share |         |       |
| 1       | 2               | 3             | 4                | 5           | 6       |       |
| 10.     | Karnataka       | 175           | 437.50           | 437.50      | 875.00  |       |
| 11.     | Kerala          | 151           | 377.50           | 377.50      | 755.00  |       |
| 12.     | Madhya Pradesh* | 185           | 667.25           | 667.25      | 1334.50 |       |
| 13.     | Maharashtra*    | 216           | 600.00           | 600.00      | 1200.00 |       |
| 14.     | Manipur         | 26            | 65.00            | 65.00       | 130.00  |       |
| 15.     | Meghalaya       | 24            | 60.00            | 60.00       | 120.00  |       |
| 16.     | Mizoram         | 20            | 50.00            | 50.00       | 100.00  |       |
| 17.     | Nagaland        | 21            | 52.50            | 52.50       | 105.00  |       |
| 18.     | Orissa*         | 166           | 526.00           | 526.00      | 1052.00 |       |
| 19.     | Punjab          | 113           | 295.00           | 295.00      | 590.00  |       |
| 20.     | Rajasthan       | 236           | 590.00           | 590.00      | 1180.00 |       |

| Sl No. | States                    | No. of Blocks | Financial outlay |             |         | Total |
|--------|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|---------|-------|
|        |                           |               | Financial outlay |             |         |       |
|        |                           |               | Central Share    | State Share |         |       |
| 1      | 2                         | 3             | 4                | 5           | 6       |       |
| 21.    | Sikkim                    | 4             | 10 00            | 10 00       | 20.00   |       |
| 22.    | Tamil Nadu*               | 160           | 563 50           | 563.50      | 1127.00 |       |
| 23.    | Tripura                   | 17            | 42 50            | 42 50       | 85.00   |       |
| 24     | Uttar Pradesh*            | 236           | 1078 25          | 1078 25     | 2156 50 |       |
| 25     | West Bengal*              | 147           | 508 50           | 508 50      | 1017.00 |       |
| 26     | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 5             | 25 00            | —           | 25.00   |       |
| 27     | Chandigarh                | 1             | 5 00             | —           | 5.00    |       |
| 28.    | Dadra & Nagar Haveli      | 1             | 5.00             | —           | 5.00    |       |
| 29.    | Delhi                     | 5             | 25.00            | —           | 25.00   |       |

(Rs. in lakh)

| Sl. No. | States      | No. of Blocks | Financial outlay |             |          | Total |
|---------|-------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|----------|-------|
|         |             |               | (Rs. in lakh)    |             |          |       |
|         |             |               | Central Share    | State Share |          |       |
| 1       | 2           | 3             | 4                | 5           | 6        |       |
| 30.     | Daman & Diu | 2             | 10.00            | —           | 10.00    |       |
| 31.     | Lakshadweep | 5             | 25.00            | —           | 25.00    |       |
| 32.     | Pondicherry | 4             | 20.00            | —           | 20.00    |       |
|         |             | 2911          | 8937.00          | 8822.00     | 17759.00 |       |

\*Note : This includes the allocations made for min kits @ Rs. 0.501 lakh per block, land development works with cost of staff @ Rs. 1.00 lakh for all the SFPP blocks.

**STATEMENT II**

*Physical targets and Financial outlay for the implementation of shallow tubewells/dugwells programme for Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP) under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers for increasing Agricultural Production for 1989-90*

| 1       | 2              | 3   | 4   | 5                               | 6           | 7       |
|---------|----------------|---|---|---------------------------------|-------------|---------|
| Sl. No. | State          | No. of Districts/Blocks selected for Shallow tubewells/dugwells programme | No. of shallow tubewells/dugwells to be constructed | Central share                   | State share | Total   |
|         |                |   |   | Financial outlay (Rs. in lakhs) |             |         |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh | 8 (127)   | 20000   | 300                             | 300         | 600     |
| 2.      | Assam          | 8 (25)  | —   | —                               | —           | —       |
| 3.      | Bihar          | 18 (327)  | 46500   | 697.5                           | 687.5       | 1395.00 |
| 4.      | Gujarat        | 7 (99)  | 2000  | 30.0                            | 30.00       | 60.0    |
| 5.      | Madhya Pradesh | 22 (273)  | 25000   | 375.0                           | 375.0       | 750.0   |
| 6.      | Maharashtra    | 7 (80)  | 10000   | 150.0                           | 150.0       | 300.0   |
| 7.      | Orissa         | 5 (148)   | 5000  | 75.0                            | 75.0        | 150.0   |
| 8.      | Tamil Nadu     | 8 (218)   | 5400  | 81.0                            | 81.0        | 162.0   |

| Sl. No. | State         | No. of Districts/Blocks selected for Shallow tubewells/dugwells programme | No. of shallow tubewells/dugwells to be constructed | Central share | State share | Total    |
|---------|---------------|---|---|---------------|-------------|----------|
| 1       | 2             | 3   | 4   | 5             | 6           | 7        |
| 9.      | Uttar Pradesh | 36 (651)  | 203670  | 3055.00       | 3055.00     | 6110.00  |
| 10.     | West Bengal   | 7 (188)   | 20900   | 313.50        | 313.50      | 627.00   |
| Total : |               | 114 (2136)  | 338470  | 5077.00       | 5077.00     | 10154.00 |

**CAG Report on Commerce Ministry**

2725. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has pointed out various irregularities in the payments made under Export Credit and Cash Compensatory Support Scheme (CCS), which resulted in the excess payments of nearly Rs. 524 crores; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSII): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A copy of the report has been obtained from the CAG's office on 28.8.89. Such observations are further scrutinised by PAC. It is therefore, premature to make any comment at this stage.

**Development of railway stations on Quilon-Punalur section**

2726. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the development work has been carried out in any of the stations between Quilon and Punalur in Kerala during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the work proposed to be carried out in railway stations on this section in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Works relating to improvement of station buildings at Punalur and Kottarakara stations have been completed.

(c) Improvements to stations is a continuous process and the same are done, on a need based programme, commensurate with the availability of funds. During 1989-90, works of construction of new booking-cum-reservation office, raising of medium level platform to high level, widening of MG platforms 1 & 2, provision of covering over the passenger and goods platform, and construction of new parcel office at Quilon, are in progress.

**NRI Deposits**

2727. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total deposits under the non-resident Indians account at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that the non-resident Indians (NRIs) are making their deposits more and more in hard currencies and repayment is also made in the same currencies;

(c) if so, the amount that has to be paid every year by way of interest and as capital; and

(d) the areas where the NRI funds are normally used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALERIO): (a) to (d). The information is being collected from the Reserve Bank of India and will be furnished as soon as available.

**Export Earnings**

2728. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of export earnings (in dollars) during the last three years; year-

wise;

(b) the percentage of export increase during each of the last three years;

(c) the commodities in respect of which value has declined during this period; and

(d) the efforts made to arrest decline

and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). The details of India's exports and the percentage increase during the financial years 1986-87 to 1988-89 in terms of US Dollars, are as under:-

| <i>Year</i>  | <i>Exports<br/>(in US Dollars)<br/>Million</i> | <i>Percentage<br/>Increase</i> |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1986-87      | 9745   | + 9.4                          |
| 1987-88 (PR) | 12140  | + 24.6                         |
| 1988-89 (P)  | 14005  | + 15.5 (+)                     |

(+) As compared to the corresponding provisional figures of US Dollar 12123 Million during 1987-88.

P — Provisional

PR —Partially Revised

(c) and (d). The items in respect of which India's exports registered a continuous decline during the period 1986-87 to 1988-89 include agricultural products such as Wheat, Tobacco, Cashew, incl. CNSL and Cotton Raw, primarily due to the drought conditions prevailing in the last two years. With a better monsoon this year, the exports of agricultural products in general are expected to pick up.

#### **Demand for Indian Coffee in World Market**

2729. R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether demand for Indian coffee is deteriorating in the world market; and

(b) if so, the action Government pro-

pose to take in order to help the coffee growers in the country as also to dispose of the surplus production of coffee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Publication of Rules framed under Central Acts**

2730. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to publish rules, as amended up-to-date, framed under Central Act, in codified form; and



(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee on Subordinate Legislation, a scheme for maintaining subordinate legislation up-to-date and making the same available expeditiously to the public has been formulated. Accordingly, the subordinate legislation under an Act is being published by the Ministry which is administratively concerned with the Act.

(b) Compilation of subordinate legislation under 22 Acts has been published so far by the Ministries. Manuscripts of compilation of subordinate legislation under 47 more Acts have been finalised and will soon be published.

#### **Implementation of legal service Authority Act, 1987**

2731. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Legal Service Authority Act, 1987 has been enforced;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Government has received certain proposals from the Chief Justice of India based on the recommendations made at conference of the Chief Justices of the various High Courts as also the conference of the State Law Ministers and Executive

Chairmen of the State Legal Aid & Advice Boards, with regard to modification of certain provisions of the Act. Since the entire legal-aid movement is judicially monitored, Government is keen that the view point of the judiciary should be examined in depth before the Act is enforced.

#### **Listing of Companies in Stock Exchanges**

2732. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to Section 73 of the Companies Act, any Company issuing shares to the public must mandatorily be listed in any one of the country's stock exchange;

(b) whether under a recently issued notification under the Securities Contracts (Regulations) Act, no Company with a total share capital of less than rupees three crores can apply for listing; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the precise position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EUDARDO FALEIRO): (a) Section 73 (1) of the Companies Act states that every Company intending to offer shares or debentures to the public for subscription by the issue of a prospectus, shall before such issue, make an application to one or more recognised Stock Exchanges for permission for the shares or debentures intending to be so offered to be dealt with in the Stock Exchange or each such Stock Exchange.

(b) and (c). With a view to increasing the size of the issues eligible for listing and improving their liquidity prospectus after listing on Stock Exchanges, the Ministry had through a guideline issued in February, 1989

raised the eligibility criteria for listing of securities on Stock Exchanges. According to the revised criteria, the minimum issued equity capital of a company shall be Rs. 3 crores and the minimum public offer to equity capital shall not be less than Rs. 1.80 crores.

#### **Incentives to Financial Institutions and Mutual Funds**

2733. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have taken notice of the failure of the financial institutions and mutual funds in taking advantage of the incentives provided by Government to deal directly in stocks; and

(b) if so, the manner in which Government propose to regulate the capital market operations of financial institutions and mutual funds and check their indirect share dealing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Stock market operations of Financial Institutions and Mutual funds are guided by their respective charters and commercial judgement.

#### **Computer technology in the field of Legislation**

2735. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce computer technology in the field of legislation;

(b) whether Government have chalked out any programme for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The National Informatics Centre (NIC) under the Planning Commission has a programme for giving computerisation support in the field of Legislation to the Ministry of Law and Justice, Supreme Court, Central Administrative Tribunal and Delhi High Court. Towards this end a beginning has been made as follows:-

(i) A computer aided query servicing on matters related to the Constitution of India has been developed for the Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice.

(ii) A Computer based case law information retrieval system has been developed for the Supreme Court which will enable the judges and lawyers to have access to information on settled cases of the Supreme Court.

(iii) A case law system similar to that of the Supreme Court has been developed for Delhi High Court which in addition to Supreme Court cases also include the cases of Delhi High Court.

(iv) A computer based law retrieval system has been developed for the Central Administrative Tribunal for service matters of the Central Government Servants.

### Pay Scales of Grade 'B' Officers

2736. SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rule of fixation of pay of Group 'B' officers on promotion from Assistant scale to Senior scale, which used to be first notional fixation in Jr. scale and then through 'Concordance table' on Indian Railways, has been withdrawn;

(b) whether this system of fixation of pay was discussed by 4th Pay Commission;

(c) whether 3rd Pay Commission had recommended to continue the system and extend it to such all India services too,

(d) if so, the reasons for changing this rule in force since 1960,

(e) whether it is only Group 'B' officers whose pay benefit on promotion has been reduced after IV Pay Commission as compared to pay benefit they were getting before it

(f) whether Government have received representations against it.

(g) if so, whether Government propose to restore the old rule of pay fixation, and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Report of the Fourth Central Pay Commission does not contain any discussion on the Concordance Table. However, in paragraph 23.15 of its Report the Commission has recommended that FR 22 (C) should apply to all cases of promotion from one post of another.

(c) The Concordance Table was already applicable to the three All India Services and some of the Class I Central Services including certain Engineering Services. The 3rd Pay Commission had, however, recommended that this benefit should be made available in other Organised Class I services which had the characteristics of an established service.

(d) Fixation of pay under the Concordance Table has been done away with consequent to the Government's acceptance of the recommendations of the IV Central Pay Commission, for fixation of pay under FR 22(C) in all promotions from one post to another.

(e) Yes, Sir. However, there is no actual drop in emoluments on fixation of pay of Group 'B' Officers in Senior Scale under FR 22 (C)

(f) Yes, Sir

(g) No, Sir.

(h) In view of the Government's decision to accept the recommendation of the Fourth Pay Commission to apply FR 22 (C) for pay fixation in all cases of promotion from one post to another and since under FR 22 (C) pay has to be fixed straightaway in the scale of the post to which a person is promoted with reference to the pay drawn in the post from which he is promoted, the question of fixation of pay in any other manner does not arise.

### Introduction of Trains between Mathura-Kasganj and Hathras-Aligarh

2737. SHRI PURAN CHANDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to (i) introduce a diesel-car service between

Mathura and Kasganj; (ii) provide additional train services between Hathras and Aligarh in view of heavy passenger traffic on this route and (iii) start LMP train from Hathras junction; and

(b) if so, when a decision on these proposals is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Waiting room/sitting arrangement at Hathras junction, Hathras road and Hathras City**

2738. SHRI PURAN CHANDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hathras railway station lack many of the essential facilities;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide additional covered platforms, waiting rooms etc; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Hathras Junction, Hathras Road and Hathras City railway stations have been provided with cover over platforms, waiting accommodation, drinking water facilities etc., as per norms. The facilities provided are considered adequate for the level of traffic dealt with at these stations.

(c) Does not arise.

**Overbridges at Vidisha, Salamatpur, Obedullaganj and Budni Railway Stations**

2739. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of foot overbridges at Vidisha, Salamatpur, Obedullaganj and Budni railway stations have been approved for constructions during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Construction of foot over bridges at Salamatpur and Budni and extension of the foot overbridge at Vidisha have been sanctioned. Work for providing a foot over bridge at Obedullaganj is under the process of sanction. The works at Vidisha, Salamatpur, Budni and Obedullaganj will be undertaken during the current financial year.

**Loans advanced by Bank in Vidisha, Raisen and Sihore district of Madhya Pradesh**

2740. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans sanctioned and disbursed by the nationalised banks in Vidisha, Raisen and Sihore districts of Madhya Pradesh during the first six months of 1989; and

(b) the number of persons to whom loans have been advanced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The present data reporting system from banks does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, information which is

available only in respect of loans advanced by commercial banks in the priority sector for the year ended December, 1988 as furnished by Reserve Bank of India for the districts of Vidisha, Raisen and Sehore of Madhya Pradesh is as under:-

| <i>Districts</i> | <i>Amount of loans advanced by commercial banks upto December, 1988 (Rs. in crores)</i> |
|------------------|---|
| Vidisha          | 12.48   |
| Raisen           | 6.58  |
| Sehore           | 8.40  |

Reserve Bank of India has reported that the data regarding the number of persons to whom the above loans have been advanced is not available.

#### **Opening of Bank Branches in Vidisha, Raisen and Sihore Districts of Madhya Pradesh**

2741. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of new branches of the nationalised banks and regional rural banks proposed to be opened in Vidisha, Raisen and Sihore districts of Madhya Pradesh during the current financial year, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): Under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allotted 12.3 and 8 centres to commercial banks including Regional Rural Banks for opening branches in Vidisha, Raisen and Sehore Districts of Madhya Pradesh. Out of these, banks have opened branches at 5, 3 and 7 centres

respectively. Thus, 7 licences in Vidisha District and 1 licence in Sehore District are pending with banks. In addition, RBI has allotted to banks 10 centres in Vidisha District and 7 centres in Raisen District under Service Area Approach to rural lending. RBI has advised the banks to open branches at the allotted centres expeditiously except in rare cases where minimum basic infrastructural facilities are not available

#### **Licences for opening of Bank Branches in Kerala**

2742. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued for opening of new bank branches in Kerala during the last five years;

(b) the number of branches, out of the above, which have been opened; and

(c) the average utilisation of these licences in the State as compared to the national average?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that during the years 1987, 1988 and 1989, 96 licences for rural and semi-urban centres and 21 licences for urban and metropolitan centres were issued to banks for opening branches

in the State of Kerala. Out of these, banks have opened branches at 83 centres so far.

(c) The position of utilisation of licences issued under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90 and Service Area Approach in the State of Kerala and all India are indicated below:-

|                                 | <i>Kerala</i> | <i>All India</i> |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| No. of licences issued          | 117           | 7206             |
| No. of branches opened          | 83            | 3650             |
| No. of licences pending on date | 34            | 3556             |

**Issue of fixed Deposits Certificates by National Confederation of Bank Employees (Urban) Staff Co-op. Thrift and Credit Society Ltd. New Delhi**

2743. SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Confederation of Bank Employees (Urban) Staff Co-operative Thrift and Credit Society Limited, New Delhi had issued Fixed Deposit Certificates (Bonds) of the value of Rs. 1000/-, 10,000/- etc. during the last four years for the period of twelve months and thirteen months.

(b) if so, the total amount collected through these bonds during the above period.

(c) the amount paid to the bond-holders on maturity of the bonds so far and the amount still not paid despite the fact that the bonds (certificates) maturity date has already lapsed;

(d) the reasons for not refunding public money; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to ensure that the people (bond holders)

get their due amount without further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Manning of Level Crossing on Cuttack-Paradeep Section**

2744. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many level crossings are there in Cuttack-Paradeep branch line in Orissa;

(b) whether a large number of accidents take place as most of the level crossings in that branch line are not manned; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to man those level crossings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There are 56 level crossings, out of which 10 are manned.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Supply of Wagons to Paradeep Port**

2745. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate number of wagons are not being provided to Paradeep Port to transport coal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the supply of wagons to Paradeep Port so that the uncertainty in the coal import through Paradeep Port is over?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

#### **Companies with American Share Holdings**

2746. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that certain companies in which American share holders are taking very less profit to their countries are spending money in India and their products are sold in black market in India; and

(b) if so, the details of such companies and the action taken by Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) It does not arise.

#### **FERA cases against Mackinon Mackenzie & Co. Ltd.**

2747. DR. VENKATESH: Will the

Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the cases filed against Mackinon Mackenzie & Company Ltd., under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 which were adjudicated during the last three years;

(b) the result of the findings; and

(c) the follow up action taken or contemplated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The Directorate of Enforcement initiated adjudication proceedings against M/s. Mackinon Mackenzie and Co. Ltd. and other connected with that company by issue of 6 show cause notices in 1986 and 1987 for violation of the provisions of FERA, 1973. Appropriate action as warranted under the law is taken against the offenders on completion of the proceeding.

#### **Introduction of Departure Tax**

2748. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently introduced a departure tax of rupees three hundred per person going abroad; and

(b) if so, its effect on workers and middle class people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The rates of foreign travel tax viz. rupees one hundred per passenger embarking on international journey to any place other than a neighbouring country and rupees fifty for journey to any place in a neighbouring country, levied under the Finance Act, 1979 (21 of 1979), were enhanced to rupees three hundred and rupees one hundred and fifty respectively under the Finance Act, 1989 (13 of 1989). The new rates of foreign travel tax took effect from the 1st day of June, 1989.

(b) As the increase in tax will represent only a small amount when compared to the cost of international travel, it is not likely to have any significant effect on workers and middle class people.

12.00 hrs.

[*English*]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): In our country, there is a very big private sector in education. They call it private schools and public schools; and up on that ladder, there are Medical Colleges and Engineering Colleges. Where such trusts run these institutions on secular lines, I have no objection. But there are Engineering Colleges and Medical Colleges run in the name of religious denominations. My one objection is that if it is in the name of one community, they must reserve 50 percent seats for that community. They do not do it. They want to earn money by way of capitation fees for admission into the Engineering and Medical Colleges. I know many colleges where public men, politicians and legislators are involved not only in the trusts, but they are Chairmen or the Managers of these institutions; and it goes unchecked. They charge Rs. 3-5 lakhs for a medical seat. So, capitation fees should go. Somebody should look into it.

MR. SPEAKER: We have had discussions on this many times.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Government is not doing anything about it.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Government must look into it. Where an institution runs on secular lines and there are trusts, I have no objection. There are good colleges.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You give in writing, I will be looked into.

[*English*]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: But there are many institutions which are running the name of religious denominations without reserving seats for them. They are only earning money. I have so many legislators in view. People

are making big money. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Apart from the capitation fees, there are other matters on which we can differ. But it is a very controversial matter. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You can have a discussion.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: My objection is that they earn a lot of money.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You give in writing. I have followed your idea. It is all right.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: The Government should look into it.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: We are all very anxious to know the present situation with respect to Sri Lanka. Protracted negotiations are going on and we have not a word here. Today, we will rise in the evening and we will meet again only on Monday morning. At least some idea we must get as to what the situation is. Of course, I know that you have been kind enough to admit a discussion on the subject. But that will come later. Right now we are very anxious to know what the ground realities are?

MR. SPEAKER: We will find out.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: During the course of the day, Government must come forward with a statement on the subject in the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): A tremendous fraud is being committed in Haryana. Twenty-one lakh cubic feet of earth work to be done in one day—how is it possible? Public money is being misused by the



Haryana Government. In one day, can you imagine 21 lakh cubic feet of earth work is being done? Where does this money go? Does it go into the coffers of.....\*\*.....

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot allow that.

*(Interruptions)\*\**

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Look, this matter comes within the preview of state Assembly.

*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: This is Accountant-General's Report. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That can also be discussed in the State Assembly.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Please allow us to discuss this serious matter

MR. SPEAKER: We cannot do it. How can I do it? Under what rules can I do it?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is a State Accountant General's Report. How can I do it here?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: He was threatening you last time. He is giving lectures to everybody.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Weilding threats and being cowed down is a sign of weakness. Leave that aside. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I shall face it. Do not bother about me.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: This is an unprecedented even in the history of corruption. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMSINGH YADAV (Alwar): This is about Haryana Government's Irrigation Department. He has given it in writing. Here is the letter.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: This is about a financial matter. Kindly ask the Finance Minister to look into it.

MR. SPEAKER: I am bound by rules. I will not break them.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No discussion here on that.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PM. SAYEED (Lakshadweep): Sir, Mr. Ashok Singhal, Secretary-General of the Ram Janam Bhoomi Movement has given a Press Conference in which he has made a statement which has appeared in almost every paper, that they are going to construct a *Mandir* at Ayodhya in November. It has already been referred to the court.

MR. SPEAKER: That is what Mr. Chavan was saying — both responsible and irresponsible statements are being made and it is for the public to judge. I do not take notice of them.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Let the Home Minister make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: They must bear the responsibility.

[*Translation*]

It will continue to be theirs.

12.06 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]**Notification under Indian Railways Act,  
1890**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAOSCINDIA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Railway Passengers (Cancellation of Tickets and Refund of Fares) Amendment Rules, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 574 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 1989, issued under sub-section (1) of section 47 of the Indian Railways Act, 1890. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8110/89]

**Notification under Central Excise and  
Salt Act, 1944 and Customs Act, 1962**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944:—

(i) The Central Excise (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 514 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th May, 1989.

(ii) G.S.R. 551 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 87/89-CE dated the 1st March, 1988 prescribing 35 percent excise duty on reproducing apparatus and also defining the scope of picture-in-picture type television receivers.

(iii) G.S.R. 557 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 205/88-CE dated the 25th May, 1988 so as to exempt unconditionally solar photovoltaic cells from excise duty.

(iv) G.S.R. 558 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to fully exempt from excise duty switches, plugs and sockets made by using fully hand operated presses for moulding operations.

(v) G.S.R. 561 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt specific goods from excise duty when removed for sale in foreign currency to duty free shops in the arrival halls of the customs airports.

(vi) G.S.R. 623 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification Nos. 447/86—CE and 448/86-CE dated the 13th November, 1986.

(vii) The Central Excise (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 635 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 1989.

(viii) G.S.R. 675 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 257/88-CE dated the 30th September, 1988.

(ix) G.S.R. 706 (E) published in

Gazette of India dated the 18th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum providing that the duty of excise and special duty of excise on Ammonium Chloride shall not be required to be paid during the period from 10th February, 1987 to 21st June, 1988. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8111/89]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—

(i) G.S.R. 468 (E) and G.S.R. 469 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing concessional import duty on copper cathods/wire bars/wire rods and nickel produced out of copper reverts, copper spent anodes or copper anode slime sent out of India for toll smelting or toll processing at the rate of 95 percent (Basic and auxiliary) of the value representing cost of conversion abroad and freight and insurance charges both ways.

(ii) G.S.R. 470 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 311/88-Cus. dated the 9th December, 1988.

(iii) G.S.R. 471 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 115/89-Cus. dated the 1st March, 1989.

(iv) G.S.R. 582 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to

amend the Notification No. 136/86-Cus. dated the 17th February, 1986 so as to increase customs duty on Methanol from the existing 60 percent *ad valorem* to 80 percent *ad valorem*.

(v) G.S.R. 615 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 355/85-Cus. dated the 6th December, 1985.

(vi) G.S.R. 627 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to increase the basic customs duty on computer software from the present rate of 60 percent *ad valorem* to 62 percent *ad valorem*.

(vii) G.S.R. 628 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to withdraw concessional rate of auxiliary duty of 5 percent applicable on computer software.

(viii) G.S.R. 630 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to replace the entry against S. No. 51 appearing in the table annexed to the Notification.

(ix) G.S.R. 632 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to extend the validity of Notification No. 215/88-Cus., dated the 1st July, 1988 upto 30th June, 1990.

(x) G.S.R. 633 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum withdraw-

ing the existing exemption from additional (countervailing) duty on the pesticide intermediate namely, chloro acetyl chloride.

(xi) G.S.R. 645 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum extending the validity of Notification No. 203/88-Cus., dated the 23rd June, 1988 upto 30th June, 1989.

(xii) G.S.R. 650 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum extending the validity of Notification No. 216/88-Cus., dated the 7th July, 1988 upto 30th June, 1990.

(xiii) G.S.R. 652 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt additional (countervailing) customs duty on pesticide intermediate B-Cisthemic Acid.

(xiv) G.S.R. 664 (E) and 665 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1989 exempting basic customs duty in excess of 40 percent *ad valorem* and whole of the additional duty on butadiene when imported for manufacture of synthetic rubber for a period upto 31st December, 1989 and prescribing auxiliary duty of 5 percent *ad valorem* on butadiene.

(xv) G.S.R. 670 (E) and G.S.R. 671 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd July, 1989 seeking to exempt basic customs duty in excess of 20 percent *ad valorem* and whole of the additional duty on ethylen and prescribing auxiliary duty of 5 percent *ad valorem* on ethylene.

(xvi) G.S.R. 687 (E) published in

Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum governing Import Export Pass Book Scheme, to extend the facility of duty free clearance to goods imported under 'Open General Licence' if at the time of clearance out of customs control from a warehouse or otherwise, a valid Import Export Pass Book is produced.

(xvii) G.S.R. 693 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum laying down the revised rate of exchange for conversion of Russian Rouble into Indian Currency or *vice-versa*. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8112/89]

**Reports etc. of the Pratapgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended 31.3.89, of the Faridkot-Bathinda Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended 31.3.89 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions):—

(i) Report of the Pratapgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8113/89]

(ii) Report of the Faridkot-Bathinda Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8114/89]

(iii) Report of the Etawah Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8115/89]

(iv) Report of the Yavatmal Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8116/89]

(v) Report of the Jamuna Gramin Bank, Agra, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8117/89]

(vi) Report of the Hadoti Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8118/89]

(vii) Report of the Sahyadri Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8119/89]

(viii) Report of the Dungarpur Banswara Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8120/89]

(ix) Report of the Sravasthi Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8121/89]

(x) Report of the Muzaffarnagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year

ended the 31st March, 1989 together with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8122/89]

(xi) Report of the Vidur Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8123/89]

(xii) Report of the Chhindwara-Seoni Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8124/89]

(xiii) Report of the Valsad-Dangs Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8125/89]

(xiv) Report of the Bundi-Chittorgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8126/89]

(xv) Report of the Pinakini Grammeena Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8127/89]

(xvi) Report of the Sangameshwara Grammeena Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8128/89]

(xvii) Report of the Sri Saraswathi Grammeena Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report

thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8129/89]

(xviii) Report of the Gwalior-Datia Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8130/89]

**Notification under Imports and Exports (Central) Act, 1947 and Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1947**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): On behalf of Shri P.R. Das Munsi, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O 565 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 1989 making certain amendments in the Open General Licence. No. 1/88 dated the 30th March, 1988, issued under section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8131/89]
- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963:—

(i) The Export of Linoleum (Quality

Control and Inspection) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 856 in Gazette of India dated the 29th April, 1989.

(ii) The Export of Vinyl Films and Sheetings (Quality Control and Inspections) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 1133 in Gazette of India dated the 13th May, 1989.

(iii) The Export of Basmati Rice (Inspection) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 1470 in Gazette of India dated the 10th June, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 8132/89]

12.07 hrs.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in their sixteenth Report presented to the House on 3rd August, 1989, have recommended that leave of absence be granted to the following Members for the period mentioned against each.

|    |                           |   |
|----|---------------------------|---|
| 1. | Smt. Premalabai Chavan    | —21.2.89 to 17.3.89 and<br>27.3.89 to 12.4.89   |
| 2. | Shri Jagan Nath Kaushal   | —17.3.89, 27.3.89 to<br>31.3.89, 1.4.89 to<br>12.4.89, 19.4.89 to<br>30.4.89 & 1.5.89 to<br>10.5.89 |
| 3. | Smt. Kishori Sinha        | —19.4.89 to 30.4.89 &<br>1.5.89 to 10.5.89  |
| 4. | Shri K.V. Shankara Gowda  | —18.7.89 to 11.8.89   |
| 5. | Dr. Sankata Prasad        | —18.7.89 to 11.8.89   |
| 6. | Shri Sunil Dutt           | —13.3.89 to 17.3.89,<br>27.3.89 to 12.4.89,<br>19.4.89 to 15.5.89 &<br>18.7.89 to 27.7.89           |
| 7. | Shri Ranjit Singh Gaekwad | —18.7.89 to 1.8.89  |

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

12.08 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Minutes

[English]

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North): I beg to lay on the Table Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sitting of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House held on the 2nd August, 1989.

12.08/1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

Twentieth Report

[English]

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): I beg to present the Twentieth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances

12.09 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): On behalf of Shri H.K. L. Bhagat, Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 7th August, 1989 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 Constitution (Sixty-fourth Amendment) Bill, 1989.
  - (b) The Constitution (Sixty-fifth Amendment) Bill, 1989.
  - (c) The Constitution (Sixty-third Amendment) Bill, 1989.
  - (d) The Employee's State Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 1989, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
  - (e) The High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1989.
  - (f) The Salary and Allowances of Officers of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 1989.
  - (g) The salary, Allowances and pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill 1989.
3. Discussion on the 5th to 8th Reports of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the 28th Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
4. Discussion on Motion regarding situation arising out of the implementation of Indo-Sri Lanka Agree-

ment signed on 29th July, 1987.

5. Consideration and passing of the Indian Contract (Amendment) Bill, 1988, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

**SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it possible to complete all the business during those five working days that we have? What is the thinking of the Government? One thing I want to say. Sir, you protect us. We have to organise and arrange our own work. All of a sudden at the last moment. If we are told to sit for longer hours and to sit extra days, all our programmes get upset. During this election year, do not upset our programmes. It is also a great protection Sir. Let us be taken into confidence. We will cooperate and do all the work. We would like to know as to what is the thinking of the Government so that we can organise and go happily with you, Sir, on completion of the programme in an organised manner. Let there be no exploitation of the labour here.

**SHRI P. NAMGYAL:** Sir, we will take care of everything.

12. 11 hrs.

#### ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

##### Estimates Committee

[English]

**SHRI K.S. RAO (Machilipatnam):** I beg to move:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the Committee on Estimates for the unexpired portion of the

term of the Committee *vice* Prof. Saifuddin Soz resigned from the membership of the Committee."

**MR. SPEAKER:** The question is:

"That the members of this House to proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the Committee on Estimates for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Prof. Saifuddin Soz resigned from the membership of the Committee."

*The motion was adopted*

12.12 hrs.

#### CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[English]

#### U.S. Government naming India an Unfair Trader' under the 'Super 301' provision of the U.S. Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988

**DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur):** I can the attention of the Minister of Commerce to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Situation arising out of naming India as 'Unfair Trader' by the Government of the United States of America under the Super 301 provision of United States Trade Act and reaction of the Government with regard thereto."

12.13 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]



**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH):** I share the serious concern of the Members at the unilateral decision of the U.S. Government listing India as a priority country under the so called 'Super 301' provision of the U.S. Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988. The U.S. has listed certain aspects of our policies on investment and insurance as priority practices whose elimination it must seek within a time bound period. The U.S. is seeking to assume jurisdiction to determine whether certain aspects of our domestic economic policies are fair or equitable. The step is an unwarranted encroachment on India's sovereignty. We are under no international treaty obligations in these areas and we are free to pursue policies in pursuance of our development objectives.

By initiating investigations under its laws the U.S. has brought about some uncertainty in our export trade. Given the provision of US law and the past precedent there is a real threat to our exports to United States. Both India and U.S. are contracting parties of GATT, which requires prior authorisation before any retaliatory step is taken against trade in goods. By ignoring this provision we believe that U.S. is endangering the multilateral trading system.

As Members are aware India is participating in the current Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations whose agenda includes trade related investment measures and services. By seeking to obtain concessions from India under coercion in these areas U.S. has put these negotiations in jeopardy. It has clearly violated the political commitment on 'stand-still', which it had undertaken at the time of launching of the Uruguay Round.

The U.S. Government has not yet approached us for negotiations in the context of Super 301 decision. We have, however, made it clear that Government of India will not participate in any negotiations under threat of retaliation. We have used every opportunity in GATT as well as in the various negotiating groups of the Uruguay Round to

voice our concerns. India's stand has received wide support and the U.S. action has been criticised by both developed and developing countries. We hope that the pressure of international opinion will deter U.S. from pursuing its path of unilateralism.

**DR. G.S. RAJHANS:** At the outset, I must congratulate the hon. Commerce Minister for his forthright statement. Particularly I congratulate him for the following part of his statement:

"The step is an unwarranted encroachment on India's sovereignty. We are under no international treaty obligations in these areas and we are free to pursue policies in pursuance of our development objectives."

There is no denying the fact that it is a challenge to India's economic independence. India just cannot open its doors to multinationals. In this connection I want to draw the attention of the House to a speech made by Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, recently at a public meeting at Hubli, Karnataka where he said.

"India will not be cowed down by threats like Super 301 and is not prepared to hold any talks with the US on the latter's unwarranted action."

What the US is doing is really a very serious matter. On May 25, the US Trade Representative, Mrs. Carla Hills, unveiled the Bush Administration's plans for seeking tough measures against countries whose trade practices are seen as harmful to the United States. Under Section 301 of the US Trade Act, 1988, popularly known as Super 301, countries held guilty of trade practices considered 'unfair' by the United States will be asked to change their errant ways and fall in line with American demands or else face retaliation from the super power i.e. America.

India, Brazil and Japan are the three countries named under Super 301.

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

The United States' main grievances against India are: (1) trade related investment measures and (2) insurance market practices. Government approval is required for all new and expanded foreign investment and the approval is dependent on a number of factors. Foreign equity participation is generally limited to 40 percent. Investors are also required to use locally produced components rather than import these components. They are also required to meet export targets. America feels that these are unnecessary trade barriers. What can be more ironical than that!

America also feels that both general insurance and life insurance fall under State monopoly. Foreign companies should be allowed to compete with them. Well, we have a very limited foreign exchange reserve and if we allow others to compete in our insurance business, that reserve will be swallowed away immediately.

America's charge is that India is not protecting U.S. intellectual property rights, such as copyrights, trade marks and patents. This is a sort of 'School Marmish' attempt to discipline India. Just as a school teacher asks her students to behave properly otherwise they will be punished, America says: "You must obey our instructions, otherwise you will face retaliation." It is totally unjustified, irrational and unfair. U.S. action is particularly surprising, as the hon. Minister has himself said, because U.S. itself has built and retained a variety of barriers against access to its own markets and is, therefore, hardly in a position to ask others to lift barriers, without doing so itself.

India certainly needs access to USA which, in 1988, bought 3.2 billion dollars worth of goods. India's trade surplus is merely 5,700 million dollars, which is only 0.4 percent of its trade imbalance. This is very insignificant. Hence, it is hoped that the United States may simply not consider it worthwhile to pursue the matter too far. Well,

that is our hope; we do not know what the United States will do.

Super 301 is apparently a threat to our economy. India is a developing country with a per capita income of only \$ 350 per year, as compared to the United States' \$ 20,000 per year. Opening up the economy could also see our small foreign exchange reserves of \$ 54 billion being swallowed up, as I said earlier. Well, we congratulate the hon. Commerce Minister for taking a firm stand in this regard. It is surprising that the U.S. is demanding concession from India in the fields of trade related investment measures and insurance when these are being discussed in the Uruguay round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations. How can we give concessions in these areas bilaterally and, at the same time, meaningfully engage ourselves in multilateral negotiations? This is just impossible because we are discussing these in the Muruguay Round of Negotiations and, at the same time, USA wants that we should discuss these bilaterally. It is almost impossible.

The question is how should we react to the unilateral action. Just now the hon. Commerce Minister said that he has received global support in this regard. We will like to know which are the countries, both developing and developed, that have supported us on this move. I would also like to know how will the Government meet the situation—this is very important—if the worse comes to the worst and the United States carries out its threat, because our exports to the United States are quite substantial. Has any thought been given to this problem? Also, I want to know whether any contact has been made with Japan and Brazil, whose names also figure under Super 301.

As everybody knows, textile and engineering goods are the main items of our exports to the United States.

Which other items would be affected if this threat of 301 Super 301 is carried? I want to know whether any effort has been made to shift our exports from the United States to

other countries.

Lastly, I want to know whether any delegation of Indian business has been sent to the U.S.A. to mobilise the public opinion there.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, the situation arising out of naming India as "unfair trader" under the super 301 provision of United States Trade Act is a matter of great concern for us. India is fully empowered to take a decision on its economic policy. We can never tolerate if a country tries to interfere in our economic policies. India is an independent and non-aligned country and it has great influence on the international market. America wants to put pressure on India through the provision of super 301 and create a situation with a view to strengthening its trade and cover up its serious deficits. No country will appreciate this stand, rather they will condemn it. The stand taken by us in Canada, Australia and other countries of the world has been widely welcomed everywhere. The steps taken by the hon. Prime Minister are in conformity with our policies. The statements made by the hon. Minister of Commerce and Shri Chavan in the House are also commendable. I want to say that we must remain firm on our stand. Irrespective of the situation that may develop and the loss that we may have to suffer in our exports and technology, we cannot compromise our sovereignty. If we allow an attack on our sovereignty or be cowed down by U.S.A., we will confront a very grave situation. I am confident that we will remain firm in all circumstances and we shall do nothing which is detrimental to the country's honour. We are prepared to have a dialogue on the policy formulated by GATT. I want that the U.S.A. should be persuaded to follow the rules laid down by GATT and be prepared for a dialogue. We should create an atmosphere in which the U.S.A. will give up the idea of doing injustice to us and putting pressure on us. We have a voice in the international forum. It has given a jolt to the U.S.A. That is why they

want to put pressure on our export and are reluctant to give technology know how to us. It is, therefore, necessary that we should adopt a firm policy. Without saying much in this regard I want the hon. Minister to assure the House that we will adopt a firm policy on this issue and will not be cowed down by U.S.A. They are advising us to desist from unfair trade practices whereas they themselves are practising unfair trade policies. How can they accuse us of practising unfair trade? We can not accept this humiliation. I request you to take positive steps in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli): Sir, the unfortunate decision of the United States under Super 301 not only affects our trade but also our relations with that country. It is not only India but Brazil and Japan have also been included in that category. On the one hand, America does not want Japan to flood their markets with Japanese goods and on the other, they do not want developing countries like Mexico, Brazil and India to come up very fast. Our trade relations with America are there for the last 40 years. They are our greatest partners in our trade. I do not know why at this particular stage they should have taken recourse to such Super 301 and put impediment or pressure on us to accept certain things which they want us to give to them. It can be anything. It can be the development that we have been achieving independently, it can be the development in other areas also that must have threatened. I only feel our country should find out other allies who can cooperate with us and give the same facilities so that we can go ahead. There are so many options available. This is not 1947. The only thing is that we have to go and discuss with them to get whatever we want from another country. They may be able to give us at concessional rates. We have seen that it was America which supported China. It helped them to build economically and today the same country, the same big brother is not prepared to import from Japan. This shows the method thinking of United States. I only wish though our

[Sh. Uttam Rathod]

relations are good, though so many countries—developed and developing—are supporting us, we should try and get help from other countries. We should not mind going to other countries for trade. After all, America is not everything. A small country like Cuba is not bothered about America. They do not bother about U.S.A. Why should be bother so much about it? No doubt, they are our biggest partner. But we can find out other partners in the international market and I only wish, you could get over it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri G.S. Basavaraju.

[*Translation*]

\*G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the decision of U.S.A. to name India as unfair trader is most unfortunate U.S.A. may think that India is still in the year 1947. We have achieved good progress in the field of technology and science. The developed countries have a eye on the progress of developing countries. Hence we have to be cautious.

We know how America is assisting China and Pakistan. At the same time we need not be afraid of any country. We want to be friendly with all the countries and at the same time we need not bow our head before other countries. I welcome the statement made by the Hon'ble Minister in this regard. I request him to be firm in this regard and take necessary steps in such situations. Sir, with these words I conclude my speech.

[*English*]

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL (Belgaum): Sir, I congratulate the hon. Minister of Commerce on having taken the bold step.

American politics is always very, dangerous because money power is with them. When they finalise their budget, they look into throughout the world as to what countries can be mortgaged and how they should

sell their goods and get those countries indebted. It is evident in the Latin American countries which are suffering now with hyper inflation. Every month there is 50% of the inflation because of this. They want to keep everybody at their disposal.

Many times, it was said whether politics is mistress of money or money is the mistress of politics. Americans play with the money and trade is also one of the political instruments. Right from the history, we see it. Even the British people came to our country under the garb of trade and settled here. Now, we have to examine whether it is a political game or commercial game and if it is political and they want to corner us, we have to be very serious about it. After the dialogue of Brazil and Japan with them, we should see what stand they have taken and whether that is conducive to the health of our economy or our policy. That should be examined.

Secondly, if we do not accept the principle or proposal made in the coming agreement, what is the alternative we have got? Even in Japan when Yen has become very strong in the international field, they want to purchase the products and put their brand and sell those products in the market. There is a lot of market for us. However, imposition of purchases on our country definitely demoralises us in the international field. Therefore, what is the thinking of the Government in this regard? Do we go in for a political compromise or a commercial compromise? In commerce, there will be no compromise and profit is the only motive. This is a very peculiar case. All these days, we imported more than 60-65% and their exports were hardly 18-20%. So, there was never any loss to them. Or, are they going to have slow growth in the coming 90s and getting recessive in their economy and is it in anticipation, having this fear in mind, that they have done this? These are all the important factors to be examined and America is not to be ignored, however they have behaved. We have to examine and compose our mind and go ahead. Political circumstances are a clear indication that they are not happy with our growth and, for that matter, many of the

\*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

countries may not feel happy because we are growing. They might not have been happy even with Agni blasting. Trade is also the main instrument of politics. What is our answer? How should we behave in future and how can we get compensated in other countries?

Lastly, what steps Brazil and Japan have taken and how are they behaving subsequent to this? When these two countries, and specially Japan, are very well in economy and their hands are very stronger than any other country. As the highest purchasing powers, they have also been branded like that. India may not consider it only on political lines. It can be considered on commercial lines. It may be that, if they do not conduct their trade on these lines, their internal economies may be hampered.

The hon. Minister has already taken steps in this regard and I would like to know if these three proposals are workable and viable and acceptable and conducive to our country.

Our country is competent to face any challenge, as my hon. friend has said. We are noting 1947. We are in 80s. We do not have that bad economy now. Today we are ahead of all other countries and we can continue to be ahead of all other countries because Shri Rajiv Gandhi has been working very hard on the concept of 20th century. It is not a casual statement. It is a statement which motivates the people to work hard and to make progress.

In 30 years we have made lot of progress. What progress we have made during the last 30 years, we can make within the coming 10 or 15 years. We can accelerate our growth. Under these circumstances, I do not think we should be afraid of these people. If we are afraid, anybody can hit us. If they are actually not withdrawing or coming to terms, let us accept the challenge and go ahead. Our country will not lag behind any other country.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI

DINESH SINGH): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am most grateful to the hon. Members for the kind support they have extended to the policies of the Government and the kind words they have said about the Prime Minister and me in relation to the 301 Action that the United States has taken against India. May I say that the suggestions that they have made have been very carefully noted down by me? We shall bear these in mind in dealing with the situation as it arises. But in specific matters as such, may I say that a question had been asked as to the countries which have supported us. I have a rather long list of the countries that have supported us in Geneva, in GATT and in the public statements—there are a large number of countries. With your permission, I will give that names of a few of them: the European Economic Community, Switzerland, Australia, Japan, Brazil, Thailand, Mexico, Argentina, Tanzania, Korea, Yugoslavia, Pakistan, Turkey, Egypt, Cuba, Peru, Czechoslovakia, Canada, Nordic Countries, Hong Kong and a large number of other countries. In fact, if the question had been asked the other way round, it would have been easier for me to say that no country in the world has supported the stand of the United States.

I can assure the hon. Member Shri Jain:

[Translation]

That we shall not let anyone harm our sovereignty and national honour. In this regard we have a firm policy and this country will never bow before anyone.

[English]

One of the important points that we have to bear in mind is that during these 40 years of Independence, following the policies laid by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, India has attempted to build a self-reliant economy. This has given tremendous impetus to our development that from a country which produced hardly any industrial goods 40 years ago, we are now a major industrialised country. Therefore we should not be too concerned about this kind of an attempt or

[Sh. Dinesh Singh]

interference in our policies and also a desire to move us away from our policy of self-reliance. The United States, as was very rightly pointed out by Dr. Rajhans, itself has so many barriers against access to its markets. Therefore, it is hardly in a position to request the developing country like India to open up its market to the goods of the United States or to investment or to Services. We have a liberal policy of investment. We do not discriminate against any country. They all enjoy equal facilities for investment. We welcome foreign investment. But we welcome them in areas which we have designated to be of priority to us. Equally, we have welcomed them provided that they do not upset or attempt to take over our economy. Indian economy, we feel, must always be in Indian hands.

Sir, what has surprised us most is that while in the previous year, the United States' investment has doubled as compared to the earlier investment, they have chosen to declare India as a priority country in that area in which they enjoy the largest facility. The United States is the largest investor in India taking into account some earlier historical investment that the United Kingdom have but leaving that apart, the United States is the highest investor and we have not had any complaint from their banks or from their investment agencies about any discrimination or disadvantage that the United States investors may have had in India. In fact, we understand that some of the banks and other companies have represented to the United States' State Representative that the action they are planning or that they have thought of against India is unreasonable, that India is a fair country for their operation in India and for investment. Therefore, we are rather surprised, if not amused, that the United States should have chosen India to be declared a priority country in terms of investment.

Regarding services also it is amusing that they have chosen an area in which India has a particular service, such as, insurance

which they have named, nationalised in this country. and it is surprising that United States expect us to give facilities to its citizens more than we give to our own citizens. If we have nationalised insurance, how can we give an access in insurance to the United States or to any other country? Therefore, it really baffles us and it baffles anybody else we talk to, why the United States has chosen these two areas to declare India as a priority country. And, therefore, it is very difficult for us to prepare a strategy over a totally absurd matter. If there was any point in it, if there was any relation to reality in a matter like this, I could have understood that we needed to discuss, to negotiate, to prepare a strategy. What is there to discuss in a totally transparent issue as we have? That is why, apart from the unreasonableness and total unacceptability of their interference in our internal affairs, even on merits we have not found any reason to negotiate with them. And, therefore, we have made it quite clear that India will not negotiate under Super 301. But I might also say that as a country, we have never declined any request for negotiations. But it cannot be negotiation under threat, Super 301. If the United States wishes to negotiate to discuss, to talk with us on any matter in the world, we are quite open to do so provided it is done in an appropriate manner without any threat or retaliation. and that is why, we have said publicly also that there are many fora in which such negotiations could have taken place, as in fact, had taken place earlier, for instance, in the Joint Indo-US Commission that we have. We have discussed some of these issues even earlier and explained to them our national priority. As I said, it is difficult for us to draw up a strategy for a totally absurd situation. Nevertheless, we have, a question was asked, consulted with Japan and Brazil and with other countries in this matter. Both Japan and Brazil have themselves declared that they will not negotiate under Super 301. Their position is not very different from ours. So far as Japan is concerned, they are already having a total review of their economic relations between Japan and the United States. I suppose, there will be an opportunity to discuss this matter. Brazil has

said that these matters are already under discussion in the multilateral forum and, therefore, they will not discuss it unilaterally but will be discussed in the multilateral forum. Of course, these matters will be discussed in the multilateral forum in which we shall also be participants.

On the question of economic power that the United States has, there is no doubt that they have economic power. But that does not mean that we should bow down to them. They had military power and we did not bow down to them. Therefore there is no question of bowing down to them on this issue.

One hon. Member had asked us as to what could be the reason for this. I said, it baffles us because our trade is increasing, their investment is increasing and there is no reason for them to take any action against us.

We are hoping that wisdom will prevail and that United States would not decide to take any action. But if it does, then the multilateral forum is open to us. They have commitments, we have commitments and we shall take these issues before the disputes settlement machinery of the GATT at an appropriate time.

A mention was also made that we should try to diversify our trade so that there is no treat from any single country. I should like to inform the hon. Members that our trade is diversifying, that we are not dependent on any one country or a group of countries. United States is our largest trading partner; but so is the European Community, Soviet Union and various other countries. We shall continue to diversify our trade so that we are not under pressure from any one country.

12 57 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) **Demand for review of the 'Catchment Programme' for land reforms in the Chambal Command Area of Kota and Boondi districts of Rajasthan**

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota): Since 1975 a catchment programme for land reforms is being implemented in the Cham-

bal Command Area of Kota and Boondi districts of Rajasthan with the financial assistance of Central Government and the Government of Rajasthan. There serious resentment among farmers against this programme from the very beginning, because the programme is not being implemented as a land reform programme. Earlier, the agriculturists used to have land with approach roads and easy irrigation facilities whereas now the situation has reversed. It has increased their problems instead of mitigating them. Even after strong protests, this programme is being implemented forcibly for last many years. Government engineers are taking the signatures of the agriculturists by tempting them.

The said catchment programme was implemented in 52,900 hectares of land affecting 30,000 agriculturists and putting on them a burden of Rs. 15 crores, which they had to take as loan.

I request the Central Government to provide immediate relief to the agriculturists of Chambal Command Area and take up land reform work in their land. At the same time demand for repayment of loans of Rs. 15 crores including interest thereon by the nationalised banks may please be suspended. Besides, steps to make reforms in the entire programme and write off the loan arrears may also be considered in consultation with the representatives of the State Government and the agriculturists.

- (ii) **Demand for construction of wall along the sea coast to prevent water from entering into the houses of fishermen living on the river bank in Bulsar district of Gujarat**

SHRI U.H. PATEL (Bulsar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, some time ago, sea water entered into Bhotidanti and Chhotidanti villages situated on the river bank in Bulsar district in Gujarat, as a result of which 35 Houses collapsed and 300 acres of land became uncultivable. The fishermen living on the river bank have been rendered shel-

[Sh. U.H. Patel]

terless and they have been deprived of their means of livelihood.

The Central Government has to formulate a scheme to construct a wall along the sea-coast to prevent water from entering into the houses and fields of fishermen living on the river bank. Fishermen are either tribals and or belong to backward communities. Their lives should be protected. The sea water has cut deep into the land creating a deep pit, which, if not filled immediately, would pose a grave danger to the lives and properties of thousands of fishermen. A wall should immediately be constructed in the Bulsar district on the pattern of the wall built in Orba-Porbander district. As this is a Central Scheme, it should be undertaken immediately otherwise there may be heavy loss of life and property of fishermen.

**(iii) Demand for giving clearance to the scheme for helping the people affected by gas leak in Bhopal**

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): Justice to the people affected by gas leak Bhopal is being delayed. The work is being undertaken to rehabilitate them but the situation still remains uncertain.

in May, 1988, Rs. 371 crores action plan was submitted by Madhya Pradesh Government to the Central Government but no decision has been taken so far on it. The Central Government provides liberal assistance worth crores of rupees to State Governments to face various calamities, but no magnanimity is being shown towards these victims of the worst kind of tragedy in the world.

The Department of Chemicals and Petro-chemicals has refused to provide financial assistance for a special industrial area project to be set up for the benefit of gas victims, though this project was formulated in consultation with the Government of India and a  $\text{₹} 100$  crore amount has already been spent on it. The foundation stone of this project

was laid by Shri J.Vengal Rao, the Union Minister of Industry. It seems that lack of co-ordination among various Departments is the main cause which led to this decision of not providing financial assistance for this project.

Therefore, I would like to urge upon the Hon. Prime Minister to issue necessary directive to the concerned Department for taking early decision on both these projects. This will be in line with the sympathy shown by him for these hapless victims right from the beginning.

**(iv) Demand for providing more amenities to the freedom fighters, especially reservation of one seat for them in each railway bogie**

SHRIMANKURAMSODI (Bastar): India became independent only because some dedicated, revolutionary and patriotic youths of the country took active part in the freedom struggle to break free Mother India from the shackles of British rule, without caring for their lives. We cannot forget the sacrifices of those freedom fighters as they have immortalised themselves in the pages of our history.

Only a few freedom fighters among them are alive now. The Government has taken steps to honour the living freedom fighters whose sacrifices have gone a long way in the development of the country. As compared to their sacrifices, whatever is being done to honour them is negligible. Therefore, the Government should take a decision that the freedom fighters, who are alive, should be shown due respect befitting the dignity and honour of a freedom fighter because most of them are very old and more than 60 to 65 of age.

Today, the freedom fighters, who want to travel on free railway passes, do not get reservation in trains whereas one berth can be easily reserved in each bogie for the freedom fighter. When they are refused berth in trains, they feel very much insulted. There-



fore, Government should reconsider this serious problem.

[English]

**(v) Demand for Increasing the number of E.M.U.s. and Shuttle Trains between Arakkonam Katpadi Tiruthani and Madras city on the Madras—Bangalore Railway Section**

SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam): Sir, due to a lot of Governmental, commercial and other economic activities in and around Madras City, the necessity of extending Madras City limit upto 70 to 80 Kms. in three directions has already arisen. The Office goes, small and big businessmen, daily-wage workers, labourers, students etc, have to commute to Madras City from Arakkonam, Katpadi, Tiruthani and *vice versa* on the Madras-Bangalore Railway section.

Sir, between Arakkonam-Katpadi-Tiruthani and Madras, the railway track is already electrified. At present, the E.M.U. train service and the shuttle trains running between these stations are hardly sufficient to meet the growing demands of the commuters living in Arakkonam, Katpadi, Tiruthani and other suburban areas. The E.M.U. and other local trains running between these stations are always jam-packed. Due to non-availability of accommodation at reasonable rent in Madras, people have perforce to go and live in suburban areas.

It is, therefore, requested that the Railway Minister may kindly look into this matter and immediately arrange to increase the number of E.M.U.s and shuttle train services between these stations so that the commuters are able to travel comfortably.

**(vi) Demand for a railway bridge on the railway crossing near Dindigul railway junction in Tamil Nadu**

SHRI K.R. NATARAJAN (Dindigul):

Dindigul is a grade I Municipal Town in Tamil Nadu. Since Madurai District was a very large district, the Government bifurcated it and formed a new District with Dindigul as the capital of the District with effect from 15.9.1985. Collectorate, District Police Office and other district Offices have been located there. The city has been growing very rapidly, now having population of about 5 lakhs. The floating population coming to various offices and shopping centres in Dindigul has increased manifold. Dindigul is a Railway junction connecting Railway lines for Madras, Madurai and Coimbatore. Now broad-gauge line has been laid and trains are running between Karur and Dindigul. There are number of national highways and other roads passing through these railway lines. Railway gates are provided at these junctions. When trains are running through these lines, the railway gates have to be closed. Traffic movement is curtailed. On the main railway line bound for Madurai just south of railway junction, there is a gate which remains closed most of the time. It is centre of the town and also very busy road, cutting across the lines. Hence an overbridge needs to be built there immediately. A number of times I raised this matter in Lok Sabha. The then Railway Minister Shri Bansilal had promised an overbridge there. But no over bridge has been built up so far. As it is a very urgent matter of public importance, I request the Railway Minister to carry out his predecessor's promise and construct an overbridge there.

**(vii) Demand for generation of employment opportunities and evolving a National Employment Policy**

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): The national level of unemployment, even among the educated, has reached unprecedented heights, apart from increasing incidence of under-employment all over the country. What is needed is a national policy which should link generation of employment opportunity with a national system of preferential treatment for the local unemployed. This implies that each category of

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job, groupwise, should be related to a well defined catchment area. Some categories must be filled at local levels; some at district level, some at the State level and some at the national level. Lack of national policy is giving rise to situation of conflict between those who claim rights of domicile and the others. Mischievous forces exploit local grievances to rouse anti-national sentiments and organise agitations against linguistic or ethnic minorities as well as against migrants from other parts of the country. Therefore, a national consensus must be evolved for classification and categorisation of jobs and for definition of catchment areas for different categories. This should satisfy local aspirations to maximum possible extent and at the same time ensure a wider field of selection for jobs requiring higher level of skill or expertise.

I, therefore, request the Government to pay attention not only to generation of employment opportunities but also to the evolution of a national employment policy.

- (viii) **Demand for a Committee to review the provisions of the new Motor Vehicles Act and rules mark thereunder**

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Implementation of new Motor Vehicles Act has raised controversies and protests from different sections of vehicle owners and drivers. Taxi owners, truck owners, tourist car owners as well as school bus owners and private car owners are agitated and protests are lodged in the form of strikes and *morchas* particularly in cities like Bombay and Delhi. Several apprehensions have been expressed regarding the intended implementation of certain sections also. Many provisions are considered too harsh. I, therefore, urge upon the Ministry of Surface Transport to set up a Committee to review the implementation of new Motor Vehicles Act and to consider the grievances of the people with a view to revise the provisions of the Act and the Rules.

13.10 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

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*The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Sixteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

KARNATAKA BUDGET, 1989-90 -  
GENERAL DISCUSSION AND DEMANDS  
FOR GRANTS (KARNATAKA), 1989-90

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will not take up further discussion on the Budget for the State of Karnataka for 1989-90 and further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget for the State of Karnataka for 1989-90, items 12 and 13 together.

Shri Basavaraju to continue his speech.

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I continue my speech on the Karnataka Budget. What is the meaning of the Budget? It is a symbol of the aspirations of the people. Unfortunately, in Karnataka the Vote on Account was taken for six months. Never in the history of Karnataka, Vote on Account was taken for six months. Though Assembly was there, Assembly members were there, they took Vote on Account for six months only. This type of system should be dispensed with hereafter. When the new Government is likely to take over, or when elections are going to be held, only then Vote on Account maybe taken for a few months, but unfortunately, the then Government with malafide intentions took Vote on Account. This system is very bad and should be put to an end the, the deficit on record would be around Rs. 180 to Rs. 200 crores. My view is that it might go up to 300 crores of rupees, because there are some manipulations in the figures. For a small State

like Karnataka it is very unfortunate. Karnataka is a golden State, it has its own resources. Unfortunately, the then Government was not in a position to mobilize resources and, therefore, this deficit of Rs. 200 crores.

The total revenue in the year 1983 was Rs. 1484 crores. Then, the Congress Government was in power. Now, in the year 1988-89, the revenue has gone up to Rs. 2200 crores and the expected revenue in 1989-90 is Rs. 2600 crores. That is because a lot of taxes have been imposed on Karnataka people. They are very honest, sincere and pious people. They never agitate and pay their taxes regularly. From 1983 to 1989, Rs. 800 crores of excess taxes have been imposed on Karnataka people.

I give you a concrete example. The Janata Government had been increasing the tax every year. The sales tax alone accounts for more than Rs. 1000 crores every year. When compared with the revenue State like Maharashtra, their sales tax is only 1200 to 1250 crores of rupees. We are 400 crores of people. Every year tax structure is increased. I would like to know where does that amount go? I would say that the vested interests have swallowed all the money. I urge upon the Government that the resources mobilisation should be there. Rs. 125 crores sales tax arrears are there. Nearly Rs. 40 crores of forest revenue arrears are there. Then excise arrears are also there. The total amount of arrears now is more than Rs. 250 crores. That amount should be collected in order to balance the deficit budget.

Now, I come to Plan outlay. For any responsible Government it is very important to achieve the targets set under the Plan outlay. In the year 1987-88 the plan outlay was Rs. 940 crores and the amount spent was Rs. 640 crores. Thus the amount fell by Rs. 300 crores. In the year 1988-89, the plan outlay was Rs. 900 crores and the amount spent was only Rs. 680 crores. So, in the year 88-89 it fell by Rs. 220 crores.

This year, i.e. 1988-89, the plan outlay

is Rs. 1040 crores. I urge upon the Central Government to balance the amount by giving some additional sum. Otherwise, it will hamper the functioning of the State.

Any ideal Government should give priority to the plan system. In Karnataka State, priority should be given to irrigation and electricity. Karnataka State had a tremendous impact of the Janata regime. Only 22 percent of the area is under irrigation and the rest is dry land. There is abundance of water in all the rivers flowing from the State. The Chief Minister of our State has always been saying that priority will be given to agriculture and irrigation but so far he has not given a substantial amount for any irrigational activity. In this regard he has not even laid the foundation stone for irrigation project worth Rs. 10 crores. I will give you the concrete evidence.

For the year 1986-87 the amount allotted for irrigation purposes was Rs. 210 crores out of which they spent only Rs. 186 crores and out of the target of 60,000 hectares of potential area only 50,000 hectares was achieved. In the year 1987-88 the amount allotted was Rs. 230 crores and the amount spent was Rs. 275 crores. Out of the potential area of 54,000 hectares, only 36,000 hectares was achieved. In the year 1988-89, the amount given was Rs. 245 crores out of which Rs. 124 crore was spent and out of 36,000 hectare of potential area only 12,000 hectare was achieved. So, this is the fate of the Janta regime.

In the case of lift irrigation, 246 lift irrigation projects are there out of which 100 are not functioning. This shows that the irrigation potential were not properly achieved by the Janata Government.

No, I come to the Cavery dispute. I also come from that basin. Hemavati comes under the State Plan. Unfortunately, due to the vested interests of the Ministers, no proper fund was provided by the State Government during the Janata regime. Water is there in Hemavati project but there are no channels. There is no proper irrigation system. Even

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today, we are not able to get water for irrigating even an acre of land from Hemavati Reservoir. Now, the President's Rule is there. I would request the Central Government not to take any action until and unless a popular Government emerges in Karnataka. Otherwise, it will hamper the progress of Karnataka State.

One thing I want to mention about Bagur Naveii channel in Hemavathi Project. It is near my constituency. The Ministers of the Janata regime had colluded with the contractors and had swallowed nearly a crore of rupees. You should make an inquiry into this. I do not know what you are doing now. So, I urge upon the Governor to set up an Inquiry Commission for looking into this thing immediately. It should be taken up along with the episode of the son of ex-Chief Minister of Karnataka.

Now, I want to say something about Krishna River. You also know about Telugu Ganga project. I want to say something about Telugu Ganga project in Kannada.

[*Translation*]

\*I have brought this Fair Price (Regulation) Shops Bill with the main objective of plugging the loopholes in the Public Distribution System and to make the system work efficiently. More than six hours of this august House has been taken to discuss the various aspects of the Public Distribution System and more than thirty Hon'ble Members have expressed their concern regarding the working of Fair Price Shops.

I had suggested to set up the boards at different levels, which was referred to by Smt. Basavarajeswari, Shri Krishna Rao and various members. The Boards would have checked all the malpractices and the working of Public Distribution System would have been more effective. However I am happy about the **reply** given by the Hon'ble Minister **Shri Sukh Ram He is making his best efforts**

to improve the service of Public Distribution System. As stated by him he is taking up several measures to curb adulteration and other malpractices of Fair Price Shops.

My Hon'ble colleague has to introduce her Bill and therefore I shall confine myself to some of the very important aspects of the PDS. Palmolene oil is supplied to the Fair Price Shops so that the poor people can make use of it. But what is happening to this oil? There is a Zila Parishad Chief Secretary in my Constituency. He had amassed money in the transaction of palmolene oil. This oil is provided at the rate of Rs.11 per K.G. The same was sold by that officer at the rate of Rs. 22/- in the cities. This process went on and that officer got about eighty lakhs of rupees in a short span of time. I had brought this information to the notice of concerned authorities but I regret to state that no action has been taken against that officer till now. Regarding the other essential commodities like sugar, rice etc. the same kind of malpractice is going on and ultimately it is the poor man who is being cheated.

I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister to improve the infrastructure of the Public Distribution System and its working should be controlled. There should be good cooperation between the various departments and officers to make the PDS a success.

Our Government is providing about 4000 crores to the PDS and the poor man is deprived of this assistance. Major chunk of this money goes to the pockets of black marketeers. This has to be stopped once for all. I am not exaggerating the malpractices that are prevalent in the PDS. Infact members from various States like Kerala, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh etc. have dealt this point in greater detail.

The horrible Minister has said about the action taken about some persons who were indulging in malpractices. The number of such persons against whom action has been taken is only 7000. I say more than 80% of the persons indulge in malpractice and hence immediate measure have to be taken to

check this menace. Punishment must be very severe to blackmarketeers and others who indulge in adulteration and other malpractices. I suggest that there should be a monitoring Cell to look into these matters. The items that are provided to the shops should be made to know to the Common man through radio, Television, newspapers etc. Regarding this point our senior veteran Prof. Ranga also spoke. Rate of various items must be displayed very clearly. The quality of the essential commodities should be maintained.

The Hon'ble Minister has suggested various steps that he is going to take to check the malpractices and to improve and working of Fair Price Shops. I trust that this step would help the poor masses of this country to get all the essential commodities at cheaper rates. Therefore, I withdraw my Bill. Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): As I listened to this debate on the Demands of Karnataka for 1989-90, I am reminded of Milton's *Paradise Lost* and *Paradise Regained*.

It seems that Karnataka was a paradise until 1983 when the Janata Party came to power—right through, all the Chief Ministers who ruled there from 1947 onwards including some of the honourable speakers in this House and finally Shri Gundu Rao—and then of course it turned into a hell under the Janata regime of Mr Hegde and Mr Bommai, and now with the installation of the President's Raj the paradise has been regained under the Governor Mr Venkatasubbiah.

I am afraid the debate here has been conducted on rather irrelevant lines. It is like a *post-mortem* on the performance of the past Governments. But there is hardly any information about what has happened in Karnataka during the last six months, and

absolutely nothing is said about what is to be done in the future under this Budget with the utilisation of the money that we are going to vote for Karnataka.

It is said that beautiful Bangalore has turned into a concrete jungle. Of course, the Janata Party Government has even changed the weather of Bangalore and droughts and floods have occurred because the divine powers are unhappy with the people who were ruling Karnataka. Governments do not determine the course of droughts and floods; and if that be a yard stick then what are we to say about the country as a whole?

It has been said that corruption is rampant. I do not know who is going to throw the first stone. People living in glass houses should know better than throw stones at others. If you look at the country and you look at the history since 1947, one party alone in terms of Government-months has ruled this country with at least 90 per cent to 95 per cent of the available Government-months. And if the sorry state of affairs we see in the country today is to be attributed to anyone's door, it is that party and that party alone. But, they say, no, here in Karnataka everything was absolutely fine, honest before Mr. Hegde took over in 1983 and of course now that the Janata Party and Janata Dal are out of power everything will turn right again.

I come from a State, Bihar and I can say something about the level of corruption that is rampant throughout the country. It is not the story of a State; it is the same story all over the country and as one who has entered public life not more than a decade ago, I would like to place for the consideration of the Treasury Benches a humble suggestion. There is something called a code of conduct for the Ministers. I would say, let us broaden that code of conduct to include anybody, who wishes to stand for the Legislature and thus enter public life. And let every candidate in public life declare not only his immovable but movable property and those standing in the name of his blood relations on the eve of his entry into public life and give a public account of such property annually thereof.

[Sh. Syed Shahabuddin]

ter. And let the law provide that any property which he cannot account for shall stand confiscated in the name of the people of India. Do the treasury benches the courage to bring such a law before this Parliament? And yet they talk of corruption.

Sir, it is said that favours have been shown for transfers and promotions. Favours are shown by the Government. Favour is a well known method for making money. And of course delays and reconsideration are—all the methods that are employed by those in power for furthering their objectives. And in which State, can it be said that transfers and promotions are not for sale? In which State can it be said that excise on alcohol is not being used for filling up the coffers of the ruling party? Where can it be said that education has not been commercialised? Of course, I do realise that Karnataka has been turned into a haven for the uneducated, just as there are some places in the world are tax havens, which Mr. Panja and Mr. Poojary know very well. Karnataka has achieved a certain distinction no doubt. I fully realise. But I would say that every political leader, almost every political leader, of any eminence in Karnataka is associated with one educational racket or the other. Every community leader, every caste leader, every group leader, every political leader in Karnataka is making money and the Government of India do not have the courage to fulfil the oft-repeated assurance in this very House that capitation fee racket shall be put an end to. I challenge the Government, the treasury benches to bring in a law tomorrow to abolish the capitation fee. I assure you that entire country shall laud you. But I know that you will not... (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: Why?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: They know the answer.

Sir, they are saying that Karnataka is suffering from unemployment as if unemployment is yesterday's phenomenon. Un-

employment was there. Let us have figures about the level of unemployment from year to year. The Government has the figures. And let us prove that the level of unemployment in Karnataka during the six years rule of the Janata Party or the Janata Dal rose by a higher margin than the national level, by a higher margin than in all the Congress ruled Governments put together. Let us prove that. No Sir, you cannot. Sir, unemployment again is a national phenomenon and the reasons are deep. We do not have time to go into that. The reasons are very deep. The reasons are basically the wrong priorities and the wrong policies followed in the process of development. That is the reason for the rising unemployment. And Karnataka is no exception.

Somebody was said that everybody wanted to become a Minister. Which M.L.A. and where does not want to become a Minister? Ten per cent rule has been given a go-by everywhere, even in forming the Central Government. There used to be a convention. That is not a law, not an article of the Constitution, but a well known Parliamentary convention that the Ministry's size shall not exceed ten per cent of the strength of the party which supports it. But everywhere, in Madhya Pradesh, in Bihar, in Uttar Pradesh, you have armies of Ministers, and those who cannot add titles of Ministers of their names are given the facilities of Ministers as Chairman of various corporations, which have nothing much to do, whose entire working capital is primarily used for providing a living for the Chairman and his retinue. This is the state of affairs. So, why do you single out Karnataka? For what reason?

Sir, I would like to say that if the Janata Party Government in Karnataka—and I am no advocate for Mr. Hedge or Mr. Bommai—have committed any act of corruption, I stand in this House and say very frankly: let them be charged to prove their honesty before a duly constituted tribunal. I am not here to support any corrupt practice. But I must say that the Government of the Janata Party in Karnataka did introduce some innovations, did introduce some new ideas. It came with

a package of ideas. Maybe some of the ideas did not fructify, maybe they did not have time enough, maybe they did not enjoy adequate support from the Central Government, maybe the time was not ripe for those reforms. And yet there are many innovations that are to the credit of the Janata Party Government. I do not have the time to go into all that. But there are certain proposals that were pending at the time when the Governor's raj was introduced. There is an enactment to enforce reservations for SC&ST and backward classes—not just an executive instruction but a legislative obligation. I would like to know why the law is not being enacted. There was a proposal to introduce reservation of jobs for women. The then Government decided to reserve 30 percent of the jobs in specific categories of Government service for women. The Central Government say that they are going to do that for Panchayat membership. Why can we not do this in Karnataka? Why has the Governor's Administration not taken action in that regard? There was a decision by that Government constituting special courts for the Dalits and women if they are subjected to the violation of civil rights and discrimination. That decision is yet to be implemented. There was a scheme for group insurance for agricultural labour especially for Karnataka—a monthly pension of Rs. 60 for an agricultural worker who is disabled while in service or work and Rs. 2500/- in the case of death. Budget provision was made for that scheme. No action, no progress has taken place during the last six months. There was a housing scheme named after a great man, Nazir, whose name became a by-word for water. He was called *Nir Sahab* and not *Nazir Sahab*. And it is the *Nazir Niwas Yojana* in the name of Nazir Sahab which was to benefit more than 53,000 beneficiaries during one year for construction of 10,000 houses by the Karnataka Housing Board. It has not commenced although a budget provision was made. Sites were to be provided with the help of World Bank to the siteless people and slum dwellers in Bangalore, Hubli, Dharwar and Gulbarga and the scheme was to be later extended to Mysore, Mangalore and Belgaun and yet nothing has been done

so far. Under that scheme Rs. 530 crores were set aside but not a penny has been spent because the approval has not yet been received. There was a 'learn and earn' scheme for the youth. Six months have elapsed. Budget provision was made, but no progress has been reported. 153 Veterinary colleges were approved by the then Government but not a single one has been opened in the last six months. The green card facility was to be extended to the urban areas, but no progress has been reported. Karnataka-Hyderabad area was to have a Special Regional Development Board. Everybody says that area is the most under-developed region of Karnataka, but nothing has been done. The Mudnal report has not been implemented yet. These are among the few schemes that were approved and nothing is known about them.

There are many major projects pending in Karnataka. I would like to remind the hon. Members here including particularly the Members from Karnataka that a meeting of Members of Parliament from Karnataka was held on 4th of April, 1989. A complete compendium is here about the projects whose implementation has been delayed because of lack of decision on the part of Central Government, because of lack of approval from the Central Government, because of lack of allocation from the Central Government. 4th April, 1989 is the date, not long back. I would like to place the entire report before the House and before the hon. Ministers and the Treasury benches for their consideration. Please let us know which of these projects have shown progress during the last six months that you have been at the helm of administration. This includes: a project for the reclamation of the saline and alkaline soil, a project for the development of watersheds in various parts of Karnataka and a project for the development of coconut and mango plantation and for the development of horticulture. This includes the famous nationally important project for Mangalore Refinery and Petro-Chemicals, whose detailed Project Report is with the Government, and I would like to know why no progress has taken place during the last six



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months. There was a project for the take over, by the Steel Authority of India, of the Visvesvaraiya Iron & Steel Company. No progress has taken place. An Export Processing Zone was to be established in Bangalore. There was to be a project for the Road Transport Corporation. A special request was made by the Karnataka Government for funds in order to finance the upgradation of the transports facilities, but there is no response. There were projects for the development of small and medium towns for more roads being taken under National Highways, for a higher share of the Railway network for Karnataka, for utilisation of the Central Road Fund for upgradation of the existing roads, for the conversion of Bangalore Airport into an international airport, for the declaration of Karwad into a proper Customs Port. Nothing has been done. So, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that when he comes to us for funds, he should forget what was done or what was omitted to be done by the Hedge Government or the Bommai Government. Let him tell us what has the Governor done in the last six months.

My last point is about these Demands. I am very happy that these Demands, Education is given Rs. 800 crores—one-third I am very happy that this is so. Irrigation and flood control receive nearly Rs. 500 crores. I think that shows a good sense of priority. Agriculture gets about Rs. 200 crores, but industry and transport get very small amounts. I would like the hon. Minister to consider upgrading the allocation for transport and industry. The welfare of the backward sections gets just Rs. 100 crores. I do not know whether a single penny has been allotted for the Corporation that was established for the welfare and development of the minorities, called the Minorities Finance Development Corporation. Wakf Corporation gets just about Rs. one crore. I still feel that relatively allocations and priorities are in the right direction. But much remains to be seen in the process of implementation. I would, therefore, suggest to the hon. Minister that let us ask the present State Government to look into the pending

projects to see that the funds, to the extent they are available, are well utilised for the welfare of the people. Of course, we all await the final verdict of the people. The restoration of a popular Government, a democratically elected Government is a must under the Constitution. I beg of the Treasury Benches not to toy with the idea of extending the President's rule. I think they will get their fingers burnt. I think there is no case for the extension of the President's rule in Karnataka. Karnataka is and must remain one of the model States of the country. We must keep our faith and confidence in the people of Karnataka. Therefore, I take this opportunity to urge upon the Government to have the elections within the present spell of the President's rule.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister of State in the Department of Rural Development will now intervene.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I heard with rapt attention the contribution that has been made on this debate, both from the Treasury Benches and from the Opposition. Really I was amused when I heard the opening remarks of the hon. Member, an intellectual from Bihar. He has stated to the surprise of all that we should forget the past, that is, the past performance of the Karnataka Government under the rule of Janata party and Janata Dal, and we should look for the future... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I would like to clarify here. I said it only in relation to the budget debate. I don't mind you are making that an issue out when the election campaign is on. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I am putting and also posing a question to the hon. Member. Is he scared by the performance of the Karnataka Government? Is it because since they have committed, you are not proud of mentioning it? It is for the House



to consider. This is the budget speech, this is the budget presented by the honourable second Chief Minister, I can say the first Chief Minister of Janata Dal in Karnataka Assembly on 17.3.1989. He had mentioned what is the resource available and also he had mentioned what are the provisions he is going to make for all the sectors in the developmental activities. It is before you, and it is for you to find out. What he is going to do in the current year, he has mentioned. But unfortunately he is not there, his Government is also not there. The hon. Member, Mr. Shahabuddin Ji, I want to bring to your notice, I want you to recall, that when they came to power in Karnataka your Janata Party gave the assurances, promises, to Karnataka saying that 'we are going to give a clean administration, we are going to have value-based politics and we are going to remove capitation fee and corruption will be unknown to us. We will remove corruption.' And what are you saying now? You are making a point here that there is corruption everywhere, capitation is there, non-performance is there everywhere. That means, you want to defend corruption. You want to say that the performance would be bad because it is like that everywhere. Is it your claim? Was it your claim at that time? You ruled the Karnataka people saying that 'we will give heaven to you. Earlier, the Congress Government had given hell to you.' People of Karnataka believed. But what had your Chief Minister done during the past six-and-a-half years and how was his performance? He told the people that 'Karnataka will be taken forward. So far Karnataka was ruled not by the Karnataka people, but by Delhi; hereafter it will not happen. We are going to give the administration to you and the Chief Minister will be in Karnataka and there will not be anybody dictating from outside.' I will come to you, I will give you the figures to show how long he was there, what type of administration he has given. Now let us come to the budget. A plan outlay of Rs. 1040 crores was given to the Karnataka people. He has shown the deficit as Rs. 91.53 crores. Is it a true picture? There also he deceived the Karnataka people. Earlier plan outlay was Rs. 900 crores. There was a

cut of Rs. 100 crores. It is not stated by me, it is stated in paragraph 15 of his budget speech.

15.00 hrs.

Rs. 900 crores Plan outlay has been cut by Rs. 100 crores. Do you mean to say that Karnataka could be developed in this way? Now, I will give the figures. In the Seventh Five Year Plan period, in the year 1985-86, the Plan outlay was Rs. 651 crores, but the annual expenditure was only Rs. 637.67 crores; in the year 1986-87, the Plan outlay was Rs. 765 crores and the expenditure was only 696.17 crores; in the year 1987-88, Rs. 870 crores was the Plan outlay but it has been reduced to Rs. 769.45 crores; in the year 1988-89 Rs. 900 crores was the Plan outlay and he has reduced it to Rs. 800 crores. For the current year, that is, 1989-90, he has given the Plan outlay as Rs. 1040 crores. I do not know how the Central Government can come to the rescue of Karnataka. What has been the contribution made by him? In the Seventh Five Year Plan, the Central Government's assistance according to the approved Plan was Rs. 1041.53 crores, but the Central Government has given Rs. 1241.69 crores. So far as the Central taxes transferred to the States are concerned, it was estimated at 2283.25 crores as against the Seventh Plan approved target of 1681 crores. Again, from the current revenue, the Seventh Plan approved target was 1436.57 crores. The latest estimate including the approved target for 1989-90 is 784.67 crores. When it was promised Rs. 1436.57 crores, what was the amount provided during this period? For the five year Plan period, it was Rs. 84.67 crores in spite of the fact that the share in Central taxes transferred to the States is estimated at 2283.25 crores as against the Seventh Plan approved target of Rs. 1681 crores. This would mean that the BCR has deteriorated by as much as Rs. 1254.15 crores. Where are you going to find the resources? What have they done during this period? Shahabuddinji, it is for you to see because you are part and parcel of that Government and you belong to that party.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Not now.

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:** Not now, but previously. Now, we are building additional resources so far as this purpose is concerned. You will be surprised to note that the State Government had undertaken to raise Rs. 1514.90 crores in the first four years. At the time of finalising the Annual Plan, it has raised Rs. 1007.18 crores. In the final year, if you include that in the approved target for 1989-90 also, the State's performance in the Seventh Plan will be Rs. 1604 crores as against the Annual Plan outlay of Rs. 2111.94 crores. That means, there is a shortfall of Rs. 510.80 crores. Can Karnataka develop like this? In the last 5 years, there is a gap of Rs. 510.80 crores. You say that Janata Party, Janata Dal Government has do wonders. This is the wonder Karnataka people witnessed! If the actual releases for 1988-89 are taken into account, total Central assistance from 1985-86 to 1989-90 works out to Rs. 1253.89 crores and the Small savings loans at Rs. 912.29 crores during the Seventh Plan.

Somebody was making claim, even outside Parliament, that utilisation of Central Assistance for externally aided projects was very impressive there. How did they use it? The Central assistance for externally aided projects is released on the basis of progress of expenditure incurred by the State Government. In 1986-87 and 1987-88, the State Government could not utilise the external assistance in full, leading to a shortfall of Rs. 24.30 crores. I do not want to give the details.

What about non-Plan expenditure? You were claiming that non-Plan expenditure would be curtailed and curbed and the economy would be introduced in the administration. What is your performance? The non-Plan expenditure of the State has been on the increase. I will show you how. In the year 1984-85, the percentage of increase was 69.62%. In the year 1985-86, the percentage of increase was 70.75%. In 1986-87, it was 65.43%. In 1987-88, it was 65.48% and in 1988-89, it was 70.55%. Where actually had this Janata Government gone wrong?

**SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:** What is the percentage increase over the 5 year period?

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:** I will give you that. I will write to you, if I am not in a position to give that now.

In the current financial year, Karnataka went into overdraft to the extent of Rs. 50 crores as on 8.4.1989 for the third day. The State was able to come out of overdraft as one advance instalment of share in Central taxes amounting to Rs. 48 crores was released as in the case of all other States and small savings loan of Rs. 22.37 crores or about Rs. 70 crores in all, on 10.4.1989.

He has been stating, "I could not fulfil the aspirations of the people because the Plan outlay could not reach us, as there was drought." He claimed that he spent Rs. 800 crores to Rs. 1,000 crores and it had never happened in the country. That was his claim. For the information of the hon. Members, I would give some figures as to how much he spent for the year 1983-84, as stated by his own Government. This is the figure of expenditure reported by the State Government to the Centre for release of the Central assistance. He spent it under the heading "Drought".

In the year 1983-84, it was Rs. 14.68 crores which he spent.

|    |         |   |                  |
|----|---------|---|------------------|
| In | 1984-85 | — | Rs. 36.84 crores |
|    | 1985-86 | — | Rs. 82.01 crores |
|    | 1986-87 | — | Rs. 49.30 crores |
|    | 1987-88 | — | Rs. 28.90 crores |
|    | 1988-89 | — | Rs. 20.00 crores |

The total amount spent so far is Rs. 231.79 crores. From where do you get the money? Where has he shown that the spent more than Rs. 800 crores to 1,000 crores? Does it include Plan outlay? There is a dam constructed in one district. He is including that

also. There is a limit for misleading the people of Karnataka legislature. Shall I compare their performance with that of others? There was serious drought in Rajasthan and Gujarat. The former Karnataka Government could not achieve the targeted Plan outlays in the Seventh Plan. In 1988-89, they reduced the Plan outlay from Rs. 900 crores to Rs. 800 crores as stated by me. Natural calamities is sought as an excuse for the non-performance of the State Government. For the year, 1988-89, Central Government had given a ceiling of Rs. 37.34 crores. They could have spent that amount if he was vigilant, alert and if at all he was interested in the welfare of the State. The State Government could not utilise even this amount fully. In fact, they could utilise only just a little over Rs. 19.70 crores in drought-affected areas. You do not want the people to hear all these things. You do not want these things to be discussed in Parliament. Yes, we can shut our eyes. But the people of Karnataka know it. They know the performance of the Janata Party. Let us compare this with that of others because you know the magnitude of drought in Rajasthan and Gujarat. On the other hand, States which are more affected by droughts, like Rajasthan and Gujarat performed better. Rajasthan spent nearly Rs. 100 crores more than the ceiling of expenditure sanctioned by the Government of India for drought relief. But still they reduced their Plan outlay only by Rs. 61 crores even though they spent more than Rs. 100 crores in addition to the ceiling. A small State, Himachal Pradesh, which was also severely affected by floods was able to fulfil its Plan outlay. They did not cut a single crore. Still he says that he was not in a position to spend because of this drought. What was he doing during that period? Drought was there. People of Karnataka were agitated. Everywhere concern was exhibited. The Karnataka Chief Minister, the then first Chief Minister, did not go to the affected people. He was in power for five years and seven months, for 2,005 days. His foreign tour out of State included the period of his illness there. He fell ill in Delhi also. He also went to Bihar. He did not tour drought-affected area. He toured Bihar and other

places. He was out on tour for 1,305 days, he was out of Karnataka, and the number of days he was available in Karnataka was only 602. He attended Vidhan Sabha for 266 days only. Then the second Chief Minister took charge. Sir, I do not want to mention the name here. The second Chief Minister had stayed in office for a period of 251 days. Out of the 251 days, his foreign trip and outside Karnataka accounted for 176 days. He was out for 176 days. During that period, he was available in Karnataka only for 75 days. He attended the Vidhan Sabha for 33 days.

This is the performance of that exemplary Chief Minister of Janata Party and the Janata Dal Party. What was he doing during that period? During that period, the worst conditions were prevailing in Karnataka. He did not go to see the plight of the people. The people were worried, as I have stated earlier. Our hon. Prime Minister rushed there. He went to the nook and corner of Karnataka. Our Members of Parliament were attending to the relief works. Fodder was offered; cattle-sheds were constructed by the hon. Members from our party. But the Chief Minister did not move. The hon. Prime Minister went to Karnataka and he was asking about the plight of the people. The fact is that the minimum wages were not paid to the people under the Wage Employment scheme. Wages were not paid to them. Nobody was willing to go there. No Minister wanted to see all these things. The people of Karnataka stated this. Our hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi went to Karnataka. He toured more for more than 200 miles. The first Chief Minister of Karnataka did not go to Chickballapura which is situated at a distance of not more than 70 miles. It is a question of one hour or one-and-a-half-hour's travel. I was the President of the Congress Party there. I moved from place to place. I visited several villages. The people in the interior parts of Karnataka stated that their Chief Minister did not visit them and their Ministers also did not visit them. They wanted me to ask the Ministers to visit them. Our hon. Prime Minister came there. Finally, the Congress Party made a declaration. The Congress Party had threatened saying that if the Chief Minister did not

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visit the drought-affected areas within 15 days, there would be agitations throughout the State. The Chief Minister became panicky. He was scared. Then he started moving. When? It was after the break of monsoon. That was the style of functioning of that Chief Minister. That was the personality of that Chief Minister.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Today, we have got the Private Members' Business, Mr. Minister. How much time will you take?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, I will be finishing soon. I now come to my point. What had he done during that period? I will come to your statement also. Shri Shahabuddin appreciated the statement. What had he done during that period? Shall I tell you? If the Government fails to protect the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the weakest among the weaker sections, Harijans, it will not be called the Government. There were atrocities on Scheduled Caste people and the Scheduled Tribes people. I will give the details. You will be shocked to hear. I will give the details from 1983 to 1989. In 1983, the number of incidents of atrocities on them—in one year—was 329. The number of injured Harijans, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was 524. Their property worth Rs. 1,49,300 was destroyed. How many people died in one year? Forty-four Harijans died in one year. In 1984, number of incident was 368, people injured were 412 and Rs. 13650 worth of property was destroyed belonging to them and 33 people were murdered. In 1985, there were 553 incidents in which 623 people injured, Rs. 188,875 worth of property was lost and 49 people died. I shall give you the total figure from 1983 to 1989 because time is running out. The total number of incidents were 3579, out of which 4908 persons belonging to Harijans and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were injured, Rs. 10 lakh worth of property was destroyed and 266 Harijans and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were killed.

If you have got the heart, you should think about this. What has he done for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes? You have stated about his performance. At the time of coming to power, he had announced that for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes if there were very good students getting high marks, there would be direct recruitment for Class-I and Class-II officers post without any interview, and universities could furnish the information and immediately they would be appointed. But not a single person was recruited, till today. You say that we should not talk about this. What has he done for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes? 260 people had been killed so far.

Then in Bindigere village in the Belgaum District, which is the constituency of Shri Sidnal, Harijans were detailed, abused, threatened and forced to eat. Do you know what? Human excreta. What was the allegation? It was for stealing the jowar crop. *(Interruptions)*

It is not like that. What was the promise given by them? The promise was that they would give security to the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Tribes. In the State, the Janata Dal President belongs to a Scheduled Caste community. But, at that time, nobody raised a finger. All the Ministers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were keeping quiet. They continued with him.

Then in Thattur village of Shimoga District, on 29.1.88, Harijans were not allowed to offer puja and were threatened assault with chappals if they entered.

Then, what is the condition of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes officers? In the Yadgir Taluk of Gulbarga District, Assistant Commissioner and Sub-division Magistrate belonging to Scheduled Castes were slapped by a caste Hindu person in the presence of a Janata Dal Minister. If the officers are not given this protection, what about the common people? You still want

him. You have seen it. In the REVA JEETU, his own kith and kin were involved. There was a scandal by name: "Bharat Hedge, Medical Seats Scandal". Who is Shri Bharat Hedge? It is for you to consider.

Then coming to the Government, it has never happened in the history of India that the Home Minister of a State is involved in a murder case. He is an accused today. Do you still want the nepotism and favouritism?

Now, sometimes, you speak very bluntly and openly. I tell you Mr. Shahabuddin that in the Bharat Hedge Medical Seats scandal, he manipulated things. Even he saw that the judge was also removed. He manipulated it in such a way. For defending his son, ... \*\* ... was given the Rajya Sabha membership

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: The name will not go on record.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: But I tell you that this was given for defending the accused in the Indiraji murder case. That is their culture.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr Minister, you know that I resigned from the Janata Party Parliamentary Board on the issue of giving a Rajya Sabha seat to ... \*\* ...

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I don't say. There are people in the country who have got principles.

Coming to the phone tapping issue, he tapped whose phones? Where did he mix politics? He tapped phones not of anti-nationals, not of criminals. But he tapped the phones of Shrimati Nagarathamma, the Opposition Leader; Shri Deve Gowda, his cabinet colleague; Shri Gurupadaswamy, the Opposition Leader in the Rajya Sabha; his cabinet colleague Shri Raghupathy; Shri Chandrashekhara and Shri Ajit Singh. And the transcript was published in the Indian Express. It was recorded and given to his very close paper, Indian Express, his mentors. We can say that.

Has it ever happened in the country before? You gave a statement boldly that it was a shameful act. It has appeared in the Illustrated Weekly. But he did not agree. According to you, it is immoral. The people have said that it is an immoral thing. With all these things, he still strives.

Ultimately what has happened? There was internal race of lust for power. There was no administration, there was no Government. One Minister was fighting with another Minister and the MLAs were harbouring for getting power. Money was exchanged. It is stated by each and everybody. The people of Karnataka know this. Ultimately, their party was broken.

We did not touch it. I was the President. I told, we will not go near them. The credit goes to Shri Oscar Fernandes and Shri Veerendra Patil also. They said, our standard is much more than that, we will not interfere in their affairs at all. The Congress Party's status was taken high.

I don't want to speak more because I am nearing the time. Their Government failed under its own weight. Nobody could help. The people were relieved, they were very happy. The honourable Prime Minister went to Karnataka; he was given a warm welcome. They received him; they thought that he was the saviour. Honour and dignity of the people of Karnataka were at stake. It never had happened.

These are the people who want to come to the Centre. They want to dislodge the Prime Minister. Mr. Shahabuddin, you are here, you are a bold person. You have got the guts to face us here because you have been sent by the people for five years. You did not run away. Those Opposition people including the four MPs from Karnataka ran away. Even Prof. Madhu Dandavate ran away. Even though the Karnataka Budget is being discussed today, they are not here. This is the interest they have got. You said that they have got a lot of interest. Mr. Shahabuddin, you change your opinion about

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your people whom you have once supported. You were one of their colleagues. These are the people who want to dislodge the Prime Minister. What will happen to the country? 7 or 8 leaders are there. They claim, they demand the Prime Ministership and if they come to power, they will quarrel, they will destroy the economy of the country and the country's progress will be damaged to that extent. It will take years to bring it back on the rails. That would be the position and that is why we are very bold. We are not scared by their going out from this Lok Sabha. We know their tactics. How Mr. Hedge also played the drama, Chief Minister after Chief Minister, how the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh also played the drama with all the indictment from the High Court in 7 cases and the first Chief Minister of Karnataka in two cases—not one. The indictment was in 1969 when he was the Minister. This is the position. That is why, I appeal to the Central Government that we have to find out the resources. It will be very difficult; even then, in the interest of the Karnataka people, we have to help them, we have to set right the thing. It is our responsibility now. Even though they are irresponsible. I am appealing to the hon. Finance Minister to come forward with certain measures as soon as possible—they will go to the credit of Karnataka Governor and his Advisors. We have to say that we have taken action against the liquor barrens; that is required today. Ultimately, it will help the people of Karnataka and we can get resources. With these words, Sir, I conclude.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up the Private Member's Legislative Business: Bills for introduction.

Shri Shantaram Naik.

15.32 1/2 hrs.

**LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT)  
BILL\***

**(Amendment of section 6)**

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894".

*The motion was adopted*

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.33 hrs.

**REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE  
(AMENDMENT) BILL\***

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951".

*The motion was adopted*

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.33 1/2 hrs.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS (AMENDMENT) BILL\*

[English]

(Amendment of section 20)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969"

*The motion was adopted*

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.34 hrs.

FAIR PRICE SHOPS (REGULATION) BILL—*CONTD.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of Fair Price Shops (Regulation) Bill moved by Shri G.S. Basavaraju.

Now, Shri Ram Bhagat Paswan may continue his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that

other day that adequate number of Fair Price Shops were there in our country. But as far as the question of supply of essential commodities is concerned, sometimes they are in the short supply. Slackened attitude is adopted in supply of essential commodities, due to which consumers have to face lot of difficulties. This is because of the fact that most of the essential commodities are first transported to urban areas from the rural areas and from there, these commodities are again distributed to the rural areas through Public Distribution System. Big businessmen are the whole-sale dealers of essential commodities. In the cities sometimes these dealers sell these commodities in the black-market as a result of which these essential commodities such as sugar, maida, suji and edible oil etc. are not supplied to the rural people. As per the policy of the Government, licences are to be given to the unemployed, Harijans and widows under 20-point programme but big businessmen are the whole-sale dealer of the essential commodities under public distribution system. Therefore, I would like to request the Minister to review this situation. My submission is that licences of whole-sale dealership of essential commodities given to big businessmen under the public distribution system should be cancelled and these should be given to the disabled, Harijans and widows. Sir, transportation cost for carrying essential commodities to villages is very high. At present, dealers have to bear the transportation cost. Villages are located at a distance of 50 to 60 kms. from the cities in my constituency and they are not linked by railway network or roads with the cities. As a result these items are transported to rural areas by bullock-carts or some other means of transport. I would like to request the Government that transportation cost for carrying essential commodities to remote villages should be borne by the Government. I would also like to state that at many places adulteration is done in essential commodities, due to which many diseases spread and the lives of the people are endangered. Another problem is the artificial scarcity created by the dealers inspite of availability of commodities. They sell these items meant to be sold through the

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[Sh. Ram Bhagat Paswan]

Public Distribution System in the black market. I would like to submit that the Government should pay attention towards this problem also without any delay and take concrete steps to ensure that consumers are not forced to buy these commodities in black-market. The dealers under the Public Distribution System in urban as well as rural areas distribute items upto 4.00 p.m. and after that the same commodities are sold in the black-market. I would like that Government should pay attention towards this and make arrangements to provide essential commodities to the people all the items.

There is no storage facilities available in villages. Due to this, essential commodities are damaged which are sold through the Public Distribution System. In cities also, we have seen that goods lying in the open at the stations get spoilt due to rains and the same are later on sold to the people through fair price shops. I would like to request the Government to construct godowns in every village for the safe storage of essential commodities, to protect it from decay so that the people who consume them are not taken ill.

Our State, Bihar has always been affected by natural calamities. Though it is an agricultural state where people are solely dependent on agricultural for their living, but every year there has been one or the other natural calamity such as floods or drought in that state which has resulted in the meagre production of foodgrains. I would like to urge upon the Central Government to provide 10 lakh tonnes of foodgrains to Bihar every 6 months for distribution among the people of that state through the public distribution system, so that the people have not to face shortage of foodgrains. At present Bihar is in the grip of devastating floods, but no relief has been provided so far to the affected people. Instead they have to purchase essential commodities from the open market at exorbitant rates. I would like to bring it to the notice of the Hon. Minister that the kerosene oil is being sold in Bihar at different rates

ranging from Rs. 10.00 to Rs. 15.00 per litre at different places, because the means of transport are not available in these areas and the supply of essential commodities does not reach the villages. Even if it reaches there, it is not distributed through the public distribution system. Instead these commodities are sold in black-market. So, I would like to urge upon the Central Government to direct the district collectors of flood affected areas to ensure supply of essential commodities by boats or by any other means of transport so that people do not have to face difficulties. I would also like to urge upon the Government to supply foodgrains on subsidised rates to the people without employment and those living below the poverty line. Essential commodities should be made available on subsidised rates to the handicapped, widows, aged and those who have no means of livelihood. Such people should be given free ration, if possible, otherwise they should be provided essential commodities at least on subsidised rates. So far as the question of providing ration cards to the poor people having a daily income of only Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 in Delhi in concerned, a survey should be conducted in Delhi and other metropolitan cities to identify such people for the purpose of issue of ration cards because without a ration card they have to purchase foodgrains and other essential commodities from the market in black and they have to face lot of difficulties in obtaining ration cards. Sometimes they are asked to furnish their house number or on other occasions some other information is demanded and on one or the other ground, they are not issued ration cards as they have to live in slums. I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to issue ration cards to such people lying in Delhi and other big cities after proper enquiries so that they don't have to purchase foodgrains from the black market.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to thank Shri Basavaraju for highlighting the problems of common interest and for presenting a Bill on them in the House. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to pay attention to the suggestions for improvement in the public distribution system and



effect improvements accordingly.

Sir, all the essential commodities should be available on these fair price shops. There should not be any scarcity of these items. Everyone should get all the commodities in time. At times we find that commodities are not available for a period of 3-4 months. This situation should be reviewed and factors responsible for this scarcity should be removed. Sometimes, at the time of festivals, Maida and Suji are sold at a very high rate. All these inconsistencies should be removed. These things should be made easily available to the poor.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important Bill.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore):  
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very much indebted to you for having allowed me to participate in the discussion on this important Bill brought forward by my hon. friend, Mr. Basavaraju. I congratulate him because it is about the genuine problems being faced by the people who are mainly below the poverty line. These poor people are mostly dependent on fair price shops and similar other shops selling the essential commodities.

Why did he think of bringing forward this Bill? It is very clear from the Bill that the difficulties being experienced by the consumers in the rural and the urban areas too can be solved by enacting this Bill into a law. Of course, there are some lacunae on which I will speak later on. But the aims and objects of the Bill are quite clear and no doubt very useful. He has proposed for having Central Board and State Boards for fair price shops. What for? We are experiencing that the essential commodities sold at the fair price shops to the consumers at many places are not according to the prescribed weight. The quality is also not up to the mark. When we contact the owners of such fair price shops, they tell us that the commodities supplied by

the FCI godowns are supplied less in weight to the extent of 5-10 kilograms per quintal. Of course, we should not blame the Central Government on this issue. That is the responsibility of the State Governments to see that commodities supplied from the FCI godowns are correct in weight.

We have experienced that in our State, Orissa, the State Government have appointed supervisors and inspectors to remain present in the FCI godowns when the rations are drawn from there. They would see that the quantities supplied are correct in weight. But with the connivance of the dealers, officers in charge of the FCI godowns as well as the supervisors or the inspectors, the actual weight is not supplied according to the prescribed weight.

My constituency was severely affected by a cyclone on 26th of May this year. At the time when the State Government provided the emergency relief, myself and some officers checked the foodgrains supplied. The weight was less by ten or eight kilograms per quintal. When we asked the dealers as to why they accepted the foodgrains of less weight, they said that the FCI authorities at the godowns told them that if they wanted to lift the foodgrains, they can do so, otherwise they can go away because it was only supplied on a war-footing to the cyclone affected people. So, they lifted the quota allotted for them even if it was less in weight. Ultimately, the consumers had to suffer. What is happening in the fair price shops? In the fair price shops, foodgrains are distributed to the consumers by less weight and the price equal to that less weight of foodgrains is being adjusted by enhancing the rate for which the foodgrains are being supplied. Suppose, the rice supply is made at the rate of Rs. 2.50 per kg and the loss of weight will be adjusted by raising the prescribed rate of Rs. 2.50 per kg. Ultimately, the consumers are the sufferers. Similarly, the quality is also not up to the mark. Of course, the Government at the Centre is giving price in the approved quality. But ultimately, when it comes to the people for consumption, it is noticed that the quality is not good. I do not

[Sh. Chintamani Jena]

know who is fixing the prices and how the prices are being fixed. This has to be gone into. This is another difficulty. Despite our Government insisting that the co-operatives and gram panchayats are to be given top priority for giving dealerships, none of the co-operatives or gram panchayats are coming forward to get the dealership because of the difficulties and bottlenecks, i.e., they are getting less marginal profit. Their profit is so less that they are not willing to get the dealership. Whenever they come forward, they run under loss. I am told earlier that the marginal profit is so less that they had to increase the rate, not on paper but within the knowledge of everybody including the sarpanches. This is another problem which should be looked into. The marginal profit should be increased so that gram panchayats and co-operatives will come forward to get the dealership.

The next aspect is irregular supply of foodgrains. The Government is blaming the Railways for slow movement of foodgrains. But the Railways are saying that they are giving top priority for the movement of foodgrains. I know that top priority is given to the movement of foodgrains but due to some incidents like 'Rail Roko' agitation and other natural calamities, the foodgrains are not reaching the distribution centres on time. That is another reason for which the co-operatives and gram panchayats who are interested to do this job are not coming forward. This aspect should also be looked into. Our State Government on instructions from the Centre have appointed an Advisory Committee for all the fair price shops. Though according to the criterion, persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and women have also to be taken in that Advisory Committee, but unfortunately, that is not being done. These Advisory Committees are not functioning properly. In fact, they are not functioning at all. Of course, on paper there Advisory Committees. We must ensure that these Advisory Committees function properly so that these types of things are avoided.

Then, the retail centres do not open on time. That is another difficulty. The poor man with a sum of Rs. 4, Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 wants to get his ration and go to his work. But if the ration shop does not open in time, he suffers a lot. Therefore, the time fixed for these fair price shops must be strictly followed and the ration shops opened in time.

Further, we should not fix the time according to our choice. That should be left to the local Panchayat or the local bodies. They would see what time suits the consumers so that they can come and draw their rations from those shops.

It must also be ensured that all the essential commodities are kept in one place in the rural areas or the town areas, so that the people may not run to various places for different items of essential commodities. It should not be that for kerosene oil, they have to go for a distance of two kms and for rice or wheat another 3-4 kms. This needs to be looked into.

I must congratulate our Prime Minister and our Government for providing subsidies on foodgrains to the tune of Rs. 2000 crores per year. But it is very necessary that we should ensure proper distribution of foodgrains and other items. Only if we ensure this, the pious intentions of our Prime Minister, who has done so much for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, poor people, poorest of the poor in the society, would be fulfilled. We would only succeed if we take care of all these things.

I would also request that the non-supply of foodgrains should be looked into very strictly and properly. What is actually happening? The Minister can ascertain it. It appears that the Government of India decided and it has come in the newspapers also, that the States which are producing oilseeds should not be given imported oil like palmolein oil. Because of this Orissa is being denied the supply of imported edible oil. I don't know how far it is true. But if it is a fact, I would request the hon. Minister to look into it. Even though these are the statistics given

by the State Government or the Agriculture Department, what is actually happening in the rural areas? Our experience is that the mustard oil and other edible oils are not available for less than Rs. 25 per Kg. This is the situation. So, I would request the Hon. Minister to kindly look into it.

Orissa, Kerala, Andhra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Assam are rice eating states. Whenever the quota for rice is fixed for a particular State, due consideration should be given to this fact. It is not possible for the Centre to meet our full requirement because the Centre is not producing rice. It is the States which are producing the foodgrains and, therefore, they should see that the target for procurement is properly fulfilled. My humble submission is that all the States should have the Procurement Board which can collect the foodgrains from the fields only according to the targets fixed for a particular State. This will also help the States to procure the foodgrains in due time. But what is happening actually? I am telling you about the State of Orissa. There is a Civil Supply Committee. The farmers are selling their products at a cheaper rate. When they go for procuring the foodgrains, the small and marginal farmers would have already sold their products at a cheaper price. So, this should be looked into.

Lastly, I would say that the FCI godown are so inadequate that even if procurement is done according to our expectations there is a very little scope for the storage. My humble submission is that more FCI godowns or warehouses should be there in the rural areas and the procurement process should start before the harvesting period so that the cultivators should get the due support price for their products.

With these words, Sir, I whole heartedly support the Bill brought by Shri Basavaraju.

Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, are left with just 8 or 9 minutes but still there are a lot of Members who want to speak on this Bill.

So, if the House agrees to extend the time for this Bill, then these Members will get the chance to speak.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK (Kalahandi): Sir, it may be extended by one hour.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think we should extend it by two hours so that all the hon. Members who want to speak can be covered. So, the time for this discussion is extended by two hours.

Yes, Shri Jagannath Pattnaik.

[*Translation*]

\*SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I may be permitted to speak in my state language, Oriya.

Sir, I rise to speak a few words on the Fair Price Shops (Regulation) Bill moved by my friend Shri G.S. Basavaraju. The Bill of Shri Basavaraju seeks to regulate the functioning of the Fair Price Shops in the country. In the statement and Objects of Reasons of the Bill, he has stressed upon the need to streamline and strengthen the Public Distribution System all over the country. Besides, he has laid stress on the timely distribution of good quality food-grains and other essential commodities at reasonable rates by the Fair Price Shops. He feels that there is a lack of coordination between the State and Centre in the matter of Public Distribution System and therefore he feels that a way should be found out so that proper coordination is established between the implementing agencies i.e., the State Government and the Central Government and this system achieves a great success.

Sir, our country has now become self-dependent in the matter of foodgrains. It has become possible because of the farmers welfare policy adopted by the Government. Our Government is laying emphasis on the distribution of certified seeds, good quality fertilisers and timely payment of loan assistance to the farmers. Besides, the applica-

\*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Oriya.

[Sh. Jagannath Pattnaik]

tion of modern scientific methods of cultivation and proper utilisation of water resources have increased the production of foodgrains. The Government is encouraging the agricultural scientists and so they are working on the transfer of modern method of cultivation from the laboratory to the land. The combine effects of all these factors led to be increase in the production of foodgrains. Despite all these success, it is regrettable that the interest of the weaker sections are not being safeguarded in every part of the country. Our Government is very much concerned for them. So, Government have opened a large number of Fair Price Shops in the country. Government is determined to strengthen the Public Distribution System. Because our's is a people's welfare state and the main endeavour of our Government is to protect the interests of the weaker sections, more particularly, who are living below the poverty line. The Government is opting strategies through Five Year Plans to increase the production of foodgrains. The Government is giving huge amount of subsidies and loans given to the farmers for buying seeds and fertilisers. Not only that, the Centres has also provided 2000 crores of rupees in the form of subsidy to the Public Distribution System. India is a socialist and democratic country. The schemes are being drawn up for welfare of different sections of the people living in our society. The Government is procuring foodgrains at higher rates and they are being sold to the consumers at lower and reasonable rates. The Government is doing this, because our only aim is to provide benefit to the poor people, the poorer of the poor and we have to raise them above the poverty line. We have to keep them safe and sound and we have to give them justice. There are many schemes being implemented for the people, who are suppressed and neglected for a long time. They have not been benefited by the five year plans programmes. Sir, when the Public Distribution System was started in 1962, there were only 4,700 Fair Price Shops. Now the number of the Fair Price Shops have been increased. The Government have taken policy decision to

set up atleast one Fair Price Shop in every Gram Panchayat. But Sir, there are some hilly areas which are inaccessible. More than one Fair Price Shop should be set up in such remote area. Sir, I would like to say a word about the drought prone areas. I represent Kalahandi district of Orissa which is a drought prone district. More attention should be paid to streamline public distribution system in such districts. I am grateful to our Prime Minister who has time and again toured that district. He is personally monitoring the Public Distribution System in that district. A new system has been adopted in that district on his advice. Hat van or mobile van are going to the weekly market place. People are able to buy, the essential commodities for several days from the mobile vans or Hat vans. This is a very good system. This system should be followed in other drought prone and inaccessible areas in the country. As the Panchayats in the inaccessible areas are very big, it is very difficult for the people of every village to go to the Panchayat Head Quarters to get the rations from the fair price shops. They can get the essential commodities from the mobile vans easily. So this system should be adopted in every Panchayat as far as possible.

Then, we have to be very practical about one thing i.e. transportation cost. As you know the kerosene dealership or Fair Price Shops licences are given to some people. But we are not paying them good amount of transport cost. Even they do not get what they spend towards transport. When they carry kerosene from one place to another some quantum of kerosene oil fall down on the road due to the leakage or some other reason. when carrying rice or wheat from one place to another, such foodgrains get damage due to rain or some other reason. If the dealers are not given some margin, then nobody will come forward to open fair price shops. We are talking of black-marketing and irregularities in the distribution of essential items under Public Distribution System. But we are not realising the practical difficulties of the dealers and retailers. If we do not give them margin of profit they will continue to indulge in black-marketing. Therefore, we

have to think over this issue.

16.07 hrs.

[PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR *in the Chair*]

Now, I would like to say a word about storage system. We do not have good number of rural godown. Even very inadequate number of godowns are set up in the urban areas. Food Corporation of India releases rice for a particular area. It transports the foodgrains by rail or by trucks. Sometimes the foodgrains bags are kept at the pit-heads for days together. When rain starts the foodgrains get damage and later on become sub-standard. In order to save the foodgrains from damage we have to set up more number of godowns. The Cooperative societies are also not in a sound position. As there is no margin of profit the selling of food-grains in the Fair Price Shops, the Cooperative societies do not want to take up the sale of essential commodities. Therefore, there is a need to raise the transport cost. I hope the Honourable Minister would into it.

Sir, our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi wants to decentralise power. Panchayat Raj and Zila Parishad system are being introduced in the country. Decentralisation of administration through Panchayats and Zila Parishad is an approach making incident. Now Public Distribution system will be taken up by the Panchayats. I hope this system will further strengthen once the people in the village and Panchayats manage it.

As I had stated earlier the Prime Minister has paid special attention to strengthen Public Distribution System. Now he has taken decision to pay rice at the rate of Rs. 1.85 to Rs. 2/- per kilogram to the Scheduled Tribes under Integrated Tribal Development Agencies. 13 K.G. of rice is being made available for each family through the Development Cooperative Societies under 17 D.A. This is very inadequate. Therefore, this allocation should be enhanced to 24 K.G. per family. At the sametime I would like to suggest to the Government to make available rice at the

rate of Rs. 1.85 to Rs. 2.00 to the people living in the drought affected areas, hilly areas and inaccessible areas.

Sir, there are certain States in the country where the people are rice eater. As my predecessor Hon'ble Member, Shri Chintamani Jena was saying that more quantum of wheat is being allocated to the States where the people are rice eater. While making allocation from the Central pool the Government should see to it that more quantum of rice should be allocated to the States where people are mostly rice eater. Similarly the wheat allocation should be enhanced to the people who mainly eat floor. I would like to say something about sugar allocation. More quantum of sugar is being allocated to the urban areas than the rural areas. Why this disparity? A feeling is being created among the people of rural area. They feel that they are inferior to urban people. I wonder how their need is less than the urban people? I urge upon the Government to remove this disparity. Equal quantum of sugar should be allocated to every card-holder irrespective of the fact that they live in urban or rural areas. Then one thing about Palmolein. The demand of Palmolein is increasing in the rural areas. But the allocation made to the rural areas is very inadequate. I think Palmolein allocation should be increased for the rural areas. I found one lacunae in the Public Distribution system. All the essential commodities are being sold through Fair price Shops to every card holders whether they are rich or poor. I do not understand why rich people are allowed to take ration from the Fair Price Shops. It is a must for the poor and weaker section. The well-do-do people can afford to buy all kinds of foodgrains at higher rates from the open market. So, the benefit of public Distribution system should be available exclusively to the poor and weaker section of the society. The well-do-do-people should not be given this facility.

Sir, I shall be failing in my duty if I do not say a word about Orissa. It is regrettable that rice and Palmolein allocated to the State of Orissa through Central Pool is very inadequate. there is wide gap between the de-

[Sh. Jagannath Pattnaik]

mand made by the State Government and the allocation made by the Centre. I demand that the allocation of rice and Palmolein to Orissa should be enhanced. Lastly, I would like to say that the basic philosophy of our perspective planning is to see that "the poorest of the poor of the country are in a better position and to provide them food, shelter and clothing is constitutional obligation of ours." So, when we have made a lot of progress in agriculture and when we are self dependent in food production, we must see that the public distribution system functions quite effectively and nobody in this country face starvation in want of food. With these humble submissions, I thank you once again and conclude my speech.

\*SHRI HARIHAR SOREN(Keonjhar):  
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Fair Price Shops (Regulation) Bill brought before the House by Shri Basava Raju. This is a very important piece of legislation. Hon'ble Shri Basava Raju has brought the Bill at a time when we find that there are a lot of irregularities in the Public Distribution system. It is really very necessary to remove those irregularities. Therefore, it is a timely Bill.

Sir, many Hon'ble Members have discussed the functioning of the Public Distribution System in the country. I do not wish to repeat those points. I would only like to give a few suggestions to the Govt. as to how the irregularities in the existing system could be removed and as to how we can strengthen the Public Distribution System.

Sir, there was a time when we had scarcity of foodgrain. India was importing huge quantum of rice and wheat. After making sincere efforts the production increased manifold and now the country has become self-dependent in foodgrain and now we are exporting foodgrains to them. When there is no dearth of foodgrain in the Central pool, every citizen of this country must get the essential commodities like rice, wheat and

pulses etc. according to their need and at the same time at reasonable prices. The Public Distribution System has been introduced in the country to check the hoarding, black-marketing and to ensue the availability of foodgrains to every people, particularly the common men in this country. But it is regrettable that the poor and weaker section of the society are not getting their entire need of foodgrains from the Fair Price Shops. At many places, most of the rations are being sold by the dealers and Fair Price Shop owners at black market in higher rate. The Common men buy them from open market at higher prices. These irregularities are to be checked completely. Otherwise the poor people will not derive any benefit out of the Public distribution system for whom it has been introduced. Therefore, I would like to give some suggestions to remove such irregularities.

Firstly, the Government is appointing strage agent from among the people. The storage agents are profit-minded. They get foodgrains from the dealers and sell them in the open market at higher prices and thus get good amount of profit. These private people should not be appointed as storage agents. I would like to suggest that the Food Corporation of India should open one store in every block and its employees. Should work as storage agents. Since there is a possibility of luring away the Employees dealing with storage by blackmarketers, the activities of these employees may be watched and storages should be regularly checked.

The second point I would like to make about the existing retail network under Public Distribution System. You have opened retailers in every village or Panchayat where Fair Price Shops have been opened. In Orissa, we have got some village or Panchayat level Committees who monitor the effective functioning of the Fair Price Shops. But the tragedy is that the retailers are selected from among the business-men who somehow manage to keep hold on the Committee members. So, the retail Committees are not at all effective. Therefore I would

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\*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Oriya.

like to suggest that no business men or Private individuals should be appointed as retailers. Necessary guidelines should be issued to the State Governments in that direction. The retail net work should be entirely entrusted to the Cooperatives. In this way we can make the Public Distribution System a great success.

Thirdly, I would like to say about Transportation charges. My friend Shri Jena was referring to it. Everybody is aware that the transportation charge which is being paid to the dealers is very low. Even it is much less than what they actually spend. Therefore, it is very necessary to raise the transportation cost. Otherwise, the dealers will continue to sell some bags of foodgrains in the black market in order to bear the transportation costs. At the same time the margin of profit should also be increased. If we do so, then the gram panchayats and the Cooperative societies will agree to take up this work. When we are giving a huge amount of subsidies to the beneficiaries under different programmes why cannot we spend some more money towards transportation charges? Instead of giving huge amount of profit to the businessmen, unscrupulous traders and black-marketeers, why cannot we give some profit to the cooperative societies and the Gram Panchayats? When we are going to vest more powers with the Panchayats, why the Panchayats will not be given this profit? After all, our aim is to provide benefit to the poor men. So, we must do something in this regard.

Sir, fourthly I would like to say a word about consumers card. The ration cards are being issued to the consumers. As you know Sir, the consumers living in the rural areas are simple and innocent. The retailers exploit these consumers. He keeps all the ration cards with him. He issues ration to the consumers according to his wish. He does not issue the full quota of each item to the consumers. But he records everything in the card as well as in the register. He sells a large portion of the quota in black market. In the process, he earns huge amount of profit. On the otherhand, the consumers face prob-

lem in want of essential commodities. We have to stop this practice at any cost.

Sir, one thing I would like to say, regarding the allocation of foodgrains to different States. As you know Sir, the food habits of our people vary from place to place. Suppose, the people of southern state like to eat rice, the people of Northern states do not want to eat rice everyday. The *chapatis* made out of flour is their daily food. But we don't consider the food habits of the people while allocating foodgrains under Public Distribution System. We are allocating both rice and wheat to every part of this country. Suppose, we are locating more wheat to the States where people don't it, then how will the consumers take the wheat? Similarly, the people of the wheat catting states do not like to take so much of rice which we are allocating to them. In Orissa there are some tribal areas. The tribals don't want to ear wheat. So they do not take wheat from the Fair Price Shops. But it is often seen that the wheat is being issued in their name in the ration card. That means it is clear that the surplus wheat or rice are being sold in black market. Whereas there is a shortage of the same foodgrain in some other area. In order to overcome this problem and check such irregularities I would like to suggest that Government should make a proper assessment of the food habits of the people and the actual requirement of the rice or wheat whatever they like in different areas. The allocation should be made accordingly. I hope the Hon'ble Minister will pay proper attention to it. Sir in Orissa rice is being issued to the Consumers. But almost the entire wheat quota is being sold in the black-market. Similar is the case with regard to sugar. When allocation is made to different states, it is seen that equal quantum of sugar is being allocated to the urban and rural areas. The same quantum of sugar is being allocated to the tribal areas. The people living in the urban areas need more quantum of sugar than the rural areas. But the sugar allocated for the rural areas does not reach them. The retailers say that sugar has not come from the Headquarters. In this plea, he sells most of the sugar quota. The less said

[Sh. Harihar Soren]

about tribal areas, the better. As I had stated earlier the tribals are simple and innocent. They do not bother as to how much of which kind of foodgrain come to the fair price shops. They even do not know what is their quota, how much of sugar they are entitled to get. The retailers take the opportunity of their simplicity and divert the entire sugar quota to the blackmarket which is meant for the tribal areas. In this way the unscrupulous traders who are appointed as the retailers or dealers are amassing huge amount of profit. The State Govt. Officials belonging to Civil Supply Deptt., are not able to protect the consumers. It is very unfortunate that in many areas the Civil Supply officials are indulging in the black marketing in connivance with the retailers and dealers. Sir, our main objective is to provide foodgrain to every people of this country at reasonable prices. Keeping that thing in mind, the Public Distribution System has been introduced by the Govt. of India. But it is regrettable that the benefit is not reaching the poorest of the poor, the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, for whom this system has been introduced and huge amount of subsidies is being given under those schemes. Now we have to safeguard the interest of the poor people. Therefore, stringent measures should be taken against the dealers, retailers and other profit makers, who are responsible for the failure of the Public Distribution System. We cannot remain as the silent spectators any longer. The Govt. of India should utilise its machinery to identify the various irregularities that are taking place in the existing system. Those irregularities should be removed forthwith. A new system should be introduced which will protect the interest of the consumers. Govt. of India should issue fresh guidelines to the State Governments so that they implement them systematically. We have to see that the consumers get essential commodities at fair price shops according to their need and at reasonable prices. With this suggestion I thank you every much for giving me this opportunity to take part in the discussion and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRISHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Mr. Chairman, Sir, although the object behind the Bill of Shri Basavaraju is laudable, yet in reality such a Bill will become a flop. It will be impracticable because the entire network of fair price shops the Central Government will not be able to manage. It has to be and it is the primary concern of State Governments to manage the fair price shops. However, it is not because of many reasons that Mr. Basavaraju has come out with this Bill. Maybe in certain States fair price shops are very badly managed and therefore, the Member feels that it is through a State Board constituted by the Central Government to manage the affairs of fair price shops that the things can be set right. However, as I have said, it will be rather impracticable to have a network of fair price shops managed by any Board to be supervised by the State Governments.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as far as our Constitution is concerned, the general provisions regarding the good rest in the State List, namely, Entry 27 which says:-

"Production, supply and distribution of goods subject to the provisions of entry 33 of List III."

Under item 33 in the List III, of the Concurrent List, this item states:

"Trade and Commerce in, and the production, supply and distribution of,—

- (a) the products of any industry where the control of such industry by the Union is declared by Parliament by law to be expedient in the public interest, and imported goods of the same kind as such products;
- (b) foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils;"

Our constitutional experts have rightly in-



serted this subject under Concurrent List. It is because they wanted that the Central Government should have such control on essential commodities—through this provision that the Central Government, from time to time, enacts various orders and guidelines with respect to management of essential commodities.

Sir, I would like to state that recently, i.e. in 1986, we have passed a very ideal legislation known as the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. I would say and as I have said earlier also, this was in fact, a very revolutionary step as far as consumers are concerned and as far as management of essential commodities is concerned. The Act, after it was enacted in 1986, did not create that much impact. It is because it lacked in implementation. In fact, such an ideal legislation would have created a revolution in the matter of distribution of essential commodities and enabled people to get quality products through the network of fair price shops. It has provisions for Central Consumer Protection Council and State Consumer Protection Councils. It also has the provision for redressal of consumer's grievances through District Redressal Forums and State Commissions. There are the four essential bodies created under this Act and in certain cases, the main members of these Committees are no less than judicial officers of very high rank. So, such an important machinery was sought to be built under this Consumer Protection Act and if we had properly implemented this Act, I think, the consumers would have got a lot of relief. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that in many States these bodies have not been established. Therefore, the Act despite having been passed in 1986, had just remained on paper. It is very much essential that this Act should be implemented in all the States. It was an ideal revolution of the entire system. So, I would urge upon you to request the State Governments to implement this legislation very strictly. In my State also, the State Consumer Protection Council and other redressal forums have not been established. So, we should implement this legislation very strictly. Then, we have got the problem

of price control and in that we have got two factors involved. One is the shortage of certain commodities and the other is artificial shortage created by those who are involved. Therefore, this aspect of controlling the prices of essential commodities should be taken care of. So, it has to be assessed as to whether all this has to be done with respect to curtailing of artificial scarcity has been done or not. If the commodities are in short supply, it is very difficult for us to create commodities all of sudden, except by import, which is not feasible always. But if there is any artificial scarcity, I urge upon you to take strong action not only under the Essential Commodities Act but also under other provisions which provide for preventive measures so that relief could be given to consumers under those rules and regulations. People should feel that artificial scarcity will not be tolerated. They can understand sometime if any commodity is in short supply, the Government cannot create that commodity. But they get very much angry if artificial scarcity is created. Therefore, I request you to urge upon the State Governments again not to create any artificial scarcity. As you are aware, certain State Governments—you have duly replied to them—are prone or inclined to make profit at the cost of consumers, at the cost of poor people. For instance, Andhra Pradesh Government case is before us. They have been denying it but they are calling it something else. But the offence that they have committed with respect of rice is nothing less than plain and simple cheating. One who cheats the poor people of rice and when it is being sold at higher prices, what is it, if not cheating, pure and simple cheating? But if they are caught, they get angry. Yesterday I have one example and said that even during floods in 1986, when the money was given under the Centrally sponsored scheme, it was diverted. Out of Rs. 92 lakhs which was given for flood relief, air-conditioners were purchased on large scale. This is the attitude of certain regional parties who are heading Government in certain areas. Your control with respect to these State Governments is very much essential.

I would like to submit another thing.

[Sh. Shantaram Naik]

Since we are strengthening our Panchayat system, we should do this. Although your contact is directly with the State Government and whatever they give as feed back material, whatever information supplied to you, you have to rely upon, kindly try this method. As a sample survey or example, you can ask information directly from certain Panchayats regarding the distribution of essential commodities. If information is sought for directly from Panchayats, you will get a real feed back because State Governments sometimes are prone to give artificial information.

Lastly, I would like to speak about my State. Goa is a very small State. As far as essential commodities supply is concerned, there are problems from time to time and sometimes we do not get proper rice or wheat or other commodities. Goa is a very small State and if you pay a little attention at a particular relevant time, we will be satisfied. There are three major festival times, Ganesh Chaturti, Deepavali and Christmas and at that time, some special attention should be paid to our State. Considering the vastness of the country, to meet the requirements of Goa is nothing. If you meet the requirements of Goa with small addition, you will be fulfilling the requirements of one State and one State will be to your credit, having no problem

With this, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

[Translation]

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Fair Price Shops Regulation Bill and I support this Bill.

It is our aim to provide food, cloth and shelter to each and every individual under our democratic set up. However 30 per cent of our population is still living below the poverty line and these people have to face lot of difficulties in getting these amenities. It

is unfortunate that this section of our population is mostly un-organised. As regards other organised sectors, whether of labourers, Government officers or that of the M.Ps, they are successful in getting all sort of concessions through their pressure tactics and they can also have the subsidised food for them. The labourers working in Government factories or elsewhere, can assert their strength to negotiate their wages and other privileges but such a provision should be made even for those, who live in villages below the poverty line and whose number is quite large but who are unorganised. For the purpose of that provision it is necessary that the State-machinery is very efficient, honest and dedicated. They should be provided with all the necessities of life like food, cloth and shelter. In spite of the Government machinery provided for the purpose the intention of the Government is yet to be fulfilled. The Bill introduced by the Government in this regard is welcome and it will be appreciated if the Central Government takes some steps in this regard.

Every year, we see that after putting in hard labour throughout the year the farmer gets a minimal price for his produce. At times he has even to starve. Just now, you have given the figures in the House, but his margin is hardly Rs. 10 to Rs. 12 and he has to sell his crop at that price only. But after 15 to 20 days, when this produce reaches the hands of the traders after rainfall, the prices doubled within a month. Then it is sold to the consumers by the traders. In this way it benefits neither the grower nor the consumer but the intermediaries who pocket the entire profit. This has thrown the entire system into samples. How a balance can be struck in this regard? An arrangement should be worked out through which the society or the farmer is benefited instead of a particular individual or a class.

Another thing, which should be ensured, is that the other commodities such as cement etc. should be made available in time. The hon. Member, who preceded me, said that some commodities are needed at the time of festivals only. Hence arrangement

should be made to make these things available at the proper time.

It is a very simple thing. The Bill is all right, their demands are also justified and they conform to our principles. But the fault lies with the machinery. This is the situation not only in respect of fair price shops but in every sector—be it the administrative sector or development sector or any other sector. The entire administrative set up has degenerated to such an extent that it cannot benefit the people to the desired extent, unless and until it is tightened up and streamlined.

I welcome the suggestions offered by the hon. member who spoke before me. The Government propose to give more powers to Panchayats beside providing funds to them directly. Earlier, the middlemen used to pocket the entire money thereby depriving poor people from the benefit. I would like to offer a suggestion which you must take into consideration. Essential commodities which are meant to be supplied through fair price shops, should be supplied to Panchayats. The Panchayats are already being given more power and, moreover, they would not be facing the problem of staff. It would enable the Government to fulfill its objective.

Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House. I welcome this Bill and I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN (Damoh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Fair Price Shops Bill presented in the House, is very useful. The intention of the Government behind bringing this bill is also very good. Fair price shops have not been able to fulfil the objective for which they were opened. The Government has not been able to exercise control over these shops to the extent desired.

The essential commodities like sugar, kerosene, rice etc. are not made available to the people in time by these shops in rural and remote areas. These commodities are not available there for months together. People of those areas are not supplied their due

quota of ration saying that the quota for that period has not been received. Resultantly, the people are compelled to purchase commodities at higher prices from the open market.

46 per cent of the total population in Madhya Pradesh belongs to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Adequate quota of sugar and rice required for each person is not supplied to the State and this causes great inconvenience. Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to make a submission that adequate quantities of edible oil, sugar, kerosene etc should be made available to the people. The State administration and the Government officials have tried their level best to exercise control over the fair price shops, so that the essential commodities are made available to the people. However, it has been observed quite often that whenever there is scarcity of foodgrains or some other commodity, shortage is felt in the shops in the open market also. In our area, the foodgrains meant to be supplied through fair price shops are supplied through Gram Panchayats in the absence of such shops. But it has been generally observed that even the Gram Panchayats have not succeeded in making these commodities available to the people. They have also not been functioning properly. Therefore, my assertion is that these commodities should be supplied to the State of Madhya Pradesh by the Central Government in adequate quantity. Apart from that, full control should be exercised over the fair price shops and public distribution system so that the poor farmers and labourers could get the essential commodities at fair prices.

SHRI NANDLAL CHOUDHARY (Sagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while I participate in the discussion on the Bill presented in the House by Shri Basavaraju, I am reminded of pre-independence days when famine struck Bengal and lakhs of people died. At that time, our country was not self-reliant in foodgrains nor proper means for the transportation of foodgrains were available. Today our country have moved far ahead in this field and we have become self-reliant. Not

[Sh. Nandlal Choudhary]

only that, we have even enriched our resources in the meantime. Even since the famine struck in Bengal or ever since our country got independence, not even a single person has died of starvation and this is an achievement for which we feel proud. The whole credit for the achievement goes to the successful implementation of Government policies. Our worthy leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi introduced Panchayati Raj Bill in the House a few days back through which the Government propose to decentralise the power. I appreciate this step. The objective of the present Bill is to make all the essential commodities easily available to the people even in the small villages so that they are relieved of their difficulties. I believe that the proposals made in regard to the measures to be taken to control price-rise through fair price shops as part of poverty alleviation programmes are also commendable. Though fair price shops have been opened, yet it has been generally felt that we have not succeeded in providing the essential commodities to the poor people through this system. Middlemen are engaged in hoarding of foodgrains and selling them in the black-market to make profit. It results in the exploitation of poor people. In my constituency some people have managed to get allotment of shops in fictitious names with a view to selling the foodgrains in the black market, instead of distributing the same to the people through fair-prices shops. This has been causing a lot of inconvenience to the people belonging to the weaker section and poor farmers. I would like the Government to evolve means through which essential commodities could be made available to the people at cheaper rates. Today, black-marketing has frustrated our entire scheme, as a result of which the benefits which the Government intends to provide to the poor people through fair price shops are not reaching them. Actually, fair price shop holders have not been getting the due margin they deserve. That is also one of the reasons for their selling food-grains in the black-market. I feel that if they get proper margin, perhaps, the practice of selling foodgrains in the black-

market could be checked to some extent and food-grains made available to the people at cheap rates. The existing laws do not deter the fair price shop owners, especially those who have their private shops, from selling the items in the black market. Therefore, the law should be made more stringent to punish the offenders so that it could prove to be deterrent. Generally, we see that whenever any such shop holder is caught, he is let off after a nominal fine and the allotment of the shop is again restored to him. My submission in this respect is that instead of re-alloting the shops to such persons, Panchayats and societies should be allotted the shops and the foodgrains should be supplied to the people through these outlets. Rural areas too face great problem in regard to the foodgrains. Hence I would demand that maximum shops should be opened in rural areas. Moreover, provision should be made to provide the commodities to the people in their own village. Two or three days of the week should be fixed on which shops should remain open for the people to get commodities. Similarly in the areas where weekly bazaars are arranged locally, the days of the fair price shops should be so fixed as to coincide with the weekly bazaar. Apart from foodgrains, edible oil etc. should also be made available at these shops.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with regard to the provision about the constitution of Committees or Board under this Bill, I would like to say that committees at village level should be formed on the lines of those formed at district and block-level and representation in these committees should be given to social workers, women and the people belonging to poor section of the society. They should be vested with powers to supervise the working of the shops. Strict monitoring should be done and the shop should be checked from time to time. If such measures are taken, the licence-holders of fair price shops would not get any opportunity to sell the food-grains in the black-market.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the ration quota of the districts is inadequate if per head requirements are taken into consideration.

Therefore, this quota should be enhanced. Further, the quota for the areas and Panchayats where the population of the poor is comparatively more should be fixed at a higher scale because the poor people consume more cereals as compared to their rich counterparts. Therefore, the ration quota should be more in those areas where concentration of poor people is more.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have observed at many places that cereals are stored in the open which results in much damage. I would like to request that more godowns should be constructed for storing maximum quantity of grains. In addition, a large number of fair price shops should be opened so that these items could be made available to the people in time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Member for bringing this Bill and urge the Government to take into the suggestions made by the hon. Members and bring forward a relevant Bill in this regard so that the ordinary people are benefited and black-marketing is checked.

CH. LACHCHIRAM (Jalaun): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Fair Price Shops (Regulation) Bill presented by our hon. friend has already been implemented in the past. It was implemented at a time when essential commodities were in short supply and this measure had benefited the people substantially. This bill is under discussion for quite a few days. Our hon. friends have thrown light on its positive and negative aspects. There can be no two opinions about the fact that the bill has some shortcomings and there are certain reasons behind it as well. Just now the hon. Member was referring to the corruption prevailing in the Fair Price Shop system. There can be no two opinions about the fact that corruption does prevail in this system and it cannot be otherwise when so many loopholes exist for indulging in such malpractices. For example, the essential commodities which are supplied by the F.C.I. to the shopholders are not duly weighed before being supplied. Often sugar bags are soaked in water to increase the weight. The rate of

commission per bag of sugar is Rs. 6. There was a time when a gunny bag could be hired by paying 40 to 50 paise, but today the cost has risen to Rs. 4 and the rate of commission is Rs. 6 only. Similarly, the rate of commission on cereals is Rs. 4 or Rs. 5 per bag and out of this, the loaders deduct their loading unloading charges. This is one of the main reasons of their indulging in malpractices. In spite of our requests to the Government in this respect, the rate of commission has not been enhanced.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Fair Price Shop holders earn 25 paise as profit on palm oil. But they have to part with a portion of their profit of bribing the inspectors. They have to do so in order to run their shops. This is another reason for their indulging in corrupt practices.

The distance between the two Fair Price shops in the rural areas is too long with the result that the people have to cover 2 kms. or more for drawing a little quantity of ration. The result is that they do not draw their ration. Therefore, I would like to emphasise that some fresh legislation will have to be made to control malpractices. Till such malpractices continue, the common people will not get the desired benefits. With these words, I express my gratitude for giving me time to speak.

SHRI R.S. KHIRHAR (Sitamarhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House is discussing the Fair Prices Shops Bill. Many provisions have been made in this Bill, including the opening of additional fair price shops and exercising control over them. The Central Government has made its contribution in this regard. Provisions have been made to deal with the shortcomings of the existing system. However, I would like to draw your attention towards one point. The hon. Minister in charge of the Public Distribution System is present here. If we compare the standard of the fair price shops as existing in the urban and the rural areas, we shall find that the shops in the rural areas are being given a step-motherly treatment. If some commodity is supplied through the Fair Price Shops, its

[Sh. R.S. Khirhar]

supply is generally restricted to urban areas and rural areas do not get the benefit. I hail from the remote area in the Indo-Nepal border and I have seen in my village that although such essential items as cereals, sugar etc. are available during the festival season, items like cloth are seldom available. As an hon. Member has submitted just now, the main reason for the corruption and shortcomings in the Public Distribution System lies in the fact that the shopkeepers are in league with the rationing officers and the former have to pay a percentage of their profits to the latter. The hon. Member has said that the shopkeepers do not earn adequate profits as a result of which they are compelled to indulge in such mal-practices. He is right in saying so and I support him. The Government should make a specific amount available to them by which they may be able to make a living and run the shops properly as well. If arrangements are not made for providing them a proper livelihood, they will be forced to resort to mal-practices out of sheer disappointment. I want to submit that this is not a new bill and this kind of a subject has been dealt with earlier as well. But I would suggest that it will do well if these fair price shops are allotted to the educated unemployed persons and a minimum academic qualifications such as matriculation of B.A. is specified in this regard. When such shops are allotted, the shop holders should be treated as in Government service and they should be Governed by the relevant service conditions applicable to the Government employees. This will act as a deterrent because they will be afraid of losing their jobs in case they are caught indulging in mal-practices. They will have a fixed salary and this will help in checking all kinds of malpractices and under-hand dealings. It will also help in solving the unemployment problem. Therefore, in view of the problem of unemployment, the fair price shops should be allotted to graduate unemployed persons and they should be governed by all service conditions applicable to Government employees. I think this will help in exercising control to some extent. It will also check the

collusion between the shop holders and rationing officers and the consequent black-marketing of the rationed items.

With these words, I thank the hon. Chairman for giving me time to speak.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate Shri Basavaraju, an honourable member of the House for raising an important issue for discussion through this Bill. I am glad that a number of hon. Members have participated in the discussion. But it is quite unfortunate that some of the opposition parties which were supposed to have participated in the discussion on these vital issues facing the country and who could have brought to light the shortcoming in the system have now only one-point programme before them, i.e. to indulge in character assassination of the great leader of this country who also happens to be the leader of the House. But the Congress Party and the Congress Government are committed to solving the major problems of the people of this country. That is why an hon. Member of the House belonging to the Congress Party felt serious concern for the shortcomings in the public distribution system of essential commodities and with a view to finding a solution of it, he has presented this Bill in the House. We are glad that the hon. Members participated in it and offered some very good suggestions. Public distribution system of essential commodities is a vital point in the 20 Point Programme launched by the Congress Government. Besides, it is one of the components of the Minimum Needs Programme and the Government is committed to providing essential commodities at reasonable prices to the people of this country, especially, those belonging to the poor class. The Government has already taken several measures in this regard. At the same time we must keep one thing in mind that all the commodities are provided to them in time and in adequate quantity.

We get 70% of our total procurement of

wheat and rice from Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Thereafter, these commodities are distributed in the entire country. On an average, the foodgrains cover a distance of 1500 Kms. Through a network of 1800 were—houses in various parts of the country, foodgrains are transported to all the States and the Union Territories. I agree that there are some shortcomings which need to be removed.

We must not forget the fact that the drought which our country faced in 1987 was the severest of the century. Had there been inadequate stocks of foodgrains in our ware—houses, had our distribution system not been so strong, the situation would have deteriorated beyond imagination. 2.5 crore tonnes of foodgrains were supplied from the Central pool. We did not have to go to a rich country with a begging bowl; we met the challenge with our own resources

Last year, when I attended the World Food Ministers' Conference, all the representatives from various countries appreciated our achievements and said that the most creditable achievement of India was that it had attained self-sufficiency in foodgrains and met this great challenge with their own resources. This is by no means a small thing. It, indeed, is a big achievement. However, we have to overcome the shortcomings in our Public Distribution System. It is the joint responsibility of the States and the Central Government.

One thing more which should be kept in view is that in the event of any shortage of essential commodities in a particular State even after the full quota is supplied by the Centre, it is not the Central Government's responsibility to meet the shortfall. The concerned State has to take care of it from their own recourses, as centre's role is only to supplement their efforts. At present the Central Government supplies only seven items for distribution to the States. Besides these items, the State Governments are free to add more items if they so desire. We have constituted an Advisory Council too, which meets twice a year. The Ministers of Food of

all the States and Union Territories are the Members of this Council. We always pressurises them to strengthen the public distribution system in the country. Some of the hon. Members have expressed their concern, and rightly so, that the holders of fair price shops are not getting reasonable returns. However, some of the States have taken initiative by adding more items to the list of essential commodities to enable them to increase the margin of the fair price shop holders and, hence, other States can follow suit. So far as the number of fair price shops is concerned there were about 2.34 lakh shops in the whole country in 1979, and the number has now increased to 3.50 lakh. 72 per cent of these shops are in rural areas and 28 per cent in urban areas. We have always been emphasising that the fair price shops should be run under the control of the co-operatives, because we want to associate the Panchayats in this task. We do not want to leave the entire distribution system at the responsibility of Government officials. When crores of people are linked with it, we want that this system should be kept under watch by these crores of people. With this end in view, we have issued instructions to all the State Governments to constitute Vigilance Committees in their respective States.

**SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN** (Barmer): In our State, the Cooperatives have proved to be a total failure. As the commission is not reasonable, the entire system has gone haywire.

**SHRI SUKH RAM:** I am talking about your State. That is why we have instructed the State Governments to form Vigilance Committees. The monitoring is done by our Ministry. Apart from that monitoring is also done at State level and district level. Some of the State Governments have already made arrangement for keeping proper vigilance at fair price shops and the consumers have also been given representation in the vigilance committees so formed, so that they may keep watch over them and ensure that the commodities supplied to the fair price shops are made available to the poor people and others. A scheme for door-step delivery

[Sh. Sukh Ram]

has also been introduced, under which 75 per cent loan and 25 per cent subsidy is given to the States to enable them to purchase mobile vans for this purpose. From the year 1985-86 to 1980-90, assistance worth Rs. 642.88 lakh has been given for the purchase of 276 mobile vans, so that the commodities which the Government wants to supply through fair price shops to the people in remote areas, could be supplied through mobile vans. The complaints made by the hon. Members regarding corruption, hoarding, black marketing, etc. are also genuine. We always issue the directions to the State Governments under Essential Commodities Act to provide essential commodities at cheaper rates. So far as the implementation of this Act is concerned, it is the responsibility of States and Union Territories to implement it. They do take action from time to time. During the year 1986, 9124 persons were arrested for violation of this Act and commodities worth Rs. 1146 lakh were seized from them. Similarly, during the year 1987, 8750 persons were arrested and goods worth Rs. 1580 lakh were seized from them. Recently in 1988-89, 8552 persons were held and goods worth Rs. 1562 lakhs seized from them. This shows that the State Governments do take action in this direction. But in spite of all these measures, people manage to evolve many more methods of indulging in malpractices. As the commodities sold through fair price shops are cheaper as compared to those selling in the open market, the fair price shops remain under more pressure.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi launched a major programme in November, 1985 for the welfare of scheduled tribes under, which the whole country had been divided into 191 blocks spread over 17-18 states. Under this programme, provision was made to supply rice and wheat at cheaper rates to the areas predominantly inhabited by scheduled tribes. While only 5-6 lakh tonnes of foodgrains were provided in the year 1985 for this purpose, the quantity has now been raised to

20-22 lakh tonnes per year. Recently, some people created uproar on this score. The States Governments were selling rice in retail @ Rs. 1.85 per kg.—the price at which the Central Government supplies rice to the State Governments. This system was prevalent not in one State but in many States. But Andhra Pradesh sold it at the rate of Rs. 2 per kg. Not only that, the people of the State did not know the simple fact that the scheme was sponsored by the Central Government. They continued to sell it at Rs. 2 per kg. The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had launched this scheme, but the Andhra Pradesh Government kept the people under impression that the scheme was being run by them. Therefore, the word 'cheating' used by the Prime Minister is appropriate. Centre was providing assistance every year, but that State was running the scheme in its own name. This is nothing but cheating. The States have started realising that they depend on the Centre but even today some regional parties want to prove that they have nothing to do with the Centre. Many hon. Members have expressed their gratitude to the Centre, in this House as well as in the other House, for extending help to the States as a result of which there is progress in these States.

Sir, we are monitoring all our big programmes at Ministry level. Some hon. Members have suggested that sample and price list should be displaced on the shops. Orders have been issued to all the States that price list and samples should be displaced at all the fair price shops. I admit that complaints are there. In a transaction of 15 to 18 lakh metric tonnes complaints regarding sub-standard material and other shortcomings are bound to be there. But before we provide foodgrains to States, joint inspection is carried out by the quality control officers of F.C.I. and the officials of the State Government. Thereafter, it is supplied to Fair Price Shops for distribution. If there is a complaint they should not take it. F.C.I. cannot impose it upon them. If something is found sub-standard in the Fair Price Shops, it is the responsibility of the State Governments and they should ensure the quality. Some com-



plaints were received about rice, as some hon. Members also stated.

So far as procurement is concerned, Punjab contributes the maximum. Some-time back there were floods in Punjab and Haryana which caused extensive damage to the standing paddy crops. The farmers who feed the entire country, were to be helped. Our Prime Minister himself went there, saw the problems of the farmers and decided that relaxation should be given in procurement specification. where we had a target of procuring 40 lakh tonnes, we could procure only 28 lakh tonnes. Rice was distributed to all the States, irrespective of whether it was opposition ruled State or Congress ruled State. 300 lakh tonnes of rice was supplied to West Bengal and 350 lakh tonnes was supplied to Maharashtra. Rice was supplied to all the States and no State declined to accept it. But in West Bengal people were told that this rice was totally sub-standard and it was not fit for human consumption. If States behave in this way and there is confrontation with the centre, nothing can be done. We do not believe in discrimination particularly, in the distribution of essential commodities, no matter which party rules the State. We have never tried to get political mileage out of it. If we go by figures we can prove, we have supplied 41 per cent of total rice to the opposition ruled States where only 31 per cent of our population lives. Out of the subsidy of Rs. 2,200 crores that is being borne by the Central Government, 36 per cent goes to these 4-5 states. If there had been any such intention on our part the figures would have proved otherwise. We are supplying much less to the bigger States than what is due to them but still there is no complaint from them. I have taken note of the questions that have been raised here and I will try to discuss them at the advisory council's meeting, which is held twice a year, and find the solutions. But I had gone a step further and I had said that these problems should be discussed at regional level meetings and we should go into the details to find out how far we can help. I held a meeting in Shillong 3-4 months back. It is a hilly area and the roads are washed away during rainy

season there by disrupting supplies. Perhaps there is lot of problem in Mizoram also. Therefore, we decided that two months buffer stock should be kept there but unfortunately due to Bodo agitation and other agitations, there was some problem. But in spite of these, we sent as much foodgrains as possible. There might have been some shortcomings but we will try to remove them.

We have discussed separately with Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. I also intend to visit all the States and try to solve the problems there. We may come across some difficulty because we cannot meet the demand fully, for example there is demand for rice but it cannot be met 100 per cent. We do not have shortage of any other foodgrain. 170 million tonne of foodgrains have been produced this year in our country i.e. 33 million tonnes more than last year. It is freely available in the market, and there is no shortage of it. We are supplying foodgrains to the State Governments and they are distributing it to the consumers specially to the poor. Although our distribution system is of universal nature but even then we insist upon all the States and the hon. Prime Minister is particularly concerned—that programmes should be formulated for tribal areas. He wants that the poor who are getting foodgrains at subsidised rates, should get it at still cheaper rates. But there are some people who know nothing except levelling in charges and allegations and indulging in character assassination. They are not interested in solving the problems of the country. They want to grab power somehow and create 1977 conditions once again. I hope and I am convinced that people of this country will not repeat that mistake. They have understood their trick. Instead of raising important questions in this august House, they have raised only one question during these 4 years. I have been elected to this House for the first time but during these four or four and a half years I found that instead of pointing out our weaknesses or raising national issues in this House the opposition has been harping on one issue only and the national newspapers are full of it. Besides, they have tried to obstruct the

[Sh. Sukh Ram]

proceedings of the august House on more than one occasion. They had only one point programme i.e. to disturb the proceedings of this august House. The people of this country have recognised them fully now.

[English]

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): I will make one suggestion. For instance, for tribal people, rice is being supplied at a concessional rate. Now, such schemes should be properly advertised so that people would know—all over India, again and again, it may be repeated also on the Radio as well as on the T.V.—at what concessional price, it is being supplied by the Central Government. Then, they will be able to see the difference between the price that is actually being collected from them and the price at which it is really being placed at the disposal of the State Government. That is one thing.

The other thing is that the Central schemes—whatever they are, in order to help different sections of the people—must be properly stated and advertised so that people would know what they are. It is not like in the olden days when they used to come from the Government. Which Government? There are two sets of Governments—Central Government as well as the State Government. When they are vying with each other, how are the public to know. Therefrom, the Centre should take care to see whatever they are specially doing in order to help such and such sections of people, they should give proper publicity for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, this suggestion is very good. But in addition to this, I would add that the monitoring could also be in such a manner that the Members of Parliament who will represent the Centre in the States could be involved in it so that they are able to rectify the lacuna.

SHRI SUKH RAM: I fully subscribe the views of Prof. Ranga. The central schemes should be properly publicised and the people

of this country should know what have been and what are the contributions of the Government of India. It is necessary for the unity of the country. The Central Government has to be strong enough and the people should realise that they depend on their progress and on certain schemes implemented by the Government of India. I fully agree with you. We thought that it is the duty of the State Government also to see that these schemes are being properly publicised. But some State Governments, instead of telling that the schemes belong to the Government of India, that these schemes are their own; this gives an impression that the schemes belong to them as has happened in the case of Andhra Pradesh. They say that the schemes are their own and they are spending the money for them.

[Translation]

I was talking about consumer protection. In the last few years many laws have been passed in this august House and the Consumers Protection Act was passed at the instance of the hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. To my mind no other law is as revolutionary as this one. So we want all the State Governments to act upon it. Some States have already formed the Consumers Protection Councils, while in the other these are yet to be formed. In some States these are functioning effectively while in the others they are not so effective. We are constantly in touch with the States and 3-4 meetings are held in a year. Besides this, we also correspond with the States from time to time. We will continue to exert pressure on the States till they fully implement it.

I appreciate the spirit with which the Bill has been moved in the House by the hon. Member. I have learned a lot from it. We will be benefited by the suggestions that have come forth during the discussion on the Bill in the House. However, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the proposed expenditure of Rs. 100 crores in the Bill is insufficient as Rs. 5000 crores are spent on foodgrain procurement alone, besides maintaining the infrastructure like FCI's 85,000 employees

and officers. Not only this, support price—due to which the farmers are now receiving remunerative prices and the production had also increased—is also to be paid to them. Therefore, I feel this amount would be inadequate. I think the hon. Member has succeeded in drawing the attention of the Government and the House towards the issue. I know there are some shortcomings but they will be removed and in this connection we are in touch with the State Governments.

We will keep in mind the suggestions given by the hon. Member in the House. However, these suggestions cannot be accepted as their implementation is very difficult and they will not bring about any change.

Therefore, I request the hon. Member to withdraw the Bill moved by him. The Government has taken note of the suggestions and will benefit through it.

\*SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): Mr. Chairman Sir, As I was mentioning yesterday, there was corruption in most of the offices in the State during the Janata Rule. Administration was in shambles. The development work had come to a halt. The Ministers and legislators were busy in making money. They never took any interest in the welfare of the State. The former Chief Minister touring the foreign countries in the name of finding NRI investors in the State. He attended the assembly rarely.

Lands were distributed generously to the rich people. The Government said that the land is being distributed to the Societies, but they were all bogus Societies. Infact the land was distributed to the relatives of the former Chief Minister, who does not know about 'REVAJEETHU' affair in the country. Similarly the High Court gave its verdict in the arrack bottling case. The allotment of a seat to the M.D. Course and the involvement of the former Chief Minister's son is well known to one and all. In this way the Government had no time to look into the welfare of the people of Karnataka. They ignored the farmers. Not a single rupee was spent for

irrigation. I request the Hon'ble Minister to complete the upper Krishna Project at the earliest. Finally due to the mess and in fight the Government fell on its own weight. People in the entire state are happy about the Governor's rule and there is some improvement in the administration in State.

New Government Electric Factory (NGEF) affairs is known to the whole country. Electrical goods are manufactured in this factory and it was working very well. What did the former Chief Minister of Karnataka (the first Chief Minister of Janata Government) do with this factory. All the benefits were sold to W.A.G. some I.A.S. Officers are also involved in the affair of NGEF.

I have also received layer of notices alongwith some of my friends. There are some IAS Officers also who mismanaged the administration of NGEF. Such officers should be punished severely. They should be suspended immediately and CBI enquiry should be ordered immediately. Otherwise, we would lose this prestigious factory.

Old age pension is being given in the State. Sir, you would be surprised to know the real recipients of this old age pension. In each village the number of recipients had been increased. According to statistics 12.5 lakh persons are getting this old age pension. Widow pension is also being given for name sake. The husband will take his own wife to the concerned office and get the widow pension to his own wife. Money distribution went on unabated during the Janata rule. In the last 6 years they have sawlloved more than 400 crores of rupees.

The Congress (I) Party has served the poor people. We know about it. But the Janata Party has cheated them. Farmers were the worst hit during Janata Government's rule. They had given various promises to get their votes. Farmers thought that the interest on their loans would be waived. that was not done. Then later farmers were not given any loan. Their position become precarious during Janata Government rule.

\*Translation of the originally delivered in Kannada.

[Sh. G.S. Basavaraju]

The Public Distribution System is not functioning satisfactorily. Corruption is rampant in the Fair Price Shops. Adulteration of sugar, kerosene oil Palmolene Oil has become very common. The middlemen are having a roaring business and they are cheating the common man. Central Government is pending thousands of crores of rupees to these Fair Price Shops such that the down trodden, Harijans and Girijans backward people can be benefited. Unfortunately this benefit is going to the middlemen. Such middlemen should be brought to book and they must be punished severely.

Fees structure in the educational institutions in Karnataka has to be changed. The capitation fees in Engineering College ranges from two to three lakhs of rupees. The capitation fees in Medical Colleges ranges from 2 to 5 lakhs of rupees depending upon the capacity of the applicants' parents. Not only the intake of these Colleges has been increased but also many new colleges have come up. Most of these Colleges are privately managed and there is no specific pattern for collection of fees. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to look into this matter and bring and uniform fees structure in all educational institutions. The atrocities on Harijans and Girijans are unabated. There is no protection for them. Of course now the Governor's rule is trying its best to restore normalcy in the state. Law and order situation is returning to normalcy. The number of atrocities on Harijans is a record during the Janata Government rule. The number of deaths in these atrocities is also a record. Hence I request the Hon'ble Minister to protect the Harijans, Girijans and other down trodden people.

The deficit which has been shown in the budget will definitely go up. The total deficit will be atleast Rs. 300/- crores. Hence I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister to sanction atleast Rs. 300 crores as special assistance.

I support the Budget wholeheartedly. I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity

to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill to regulate the functioning of fair price shops and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to regulate the functioning of fair price shops and for matters connected therewith."

*The motion was adopted*

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: I withdraw the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now let us go to the next item.

Sri H.N. Nanje Gowda  
Absent

Shrimati Usha Choudhary.

17.47 hrs.

#### CROP INSURANCE SCHEME BILL

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY (Amravati): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:-

"that the Bill to provide for comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme and matters connected therewith be taken into consideration."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if something is to be done for the farmers and the agriculture, then the later must be declared as an industry. For the upliftment of the farmers the only alternative is to declare agriculture as an industry. Therefore, this Bill is significant and

there is need to amend the 1985 Act also. That is why I have moved this Bill. The House may be aware perhaps this is the first time that I have gone upto the speaker's podium since my election to the august House. I have never gone beyond writing letters to the Hon. Speaker. This itself explains the important of the Bill. I am grateful to the hon. Members for supporting me in raising the problem of the farmers and to the hon. Minister for his prompt reply thereby enabling me to move the Bill. Today, I have realised that in addition to honesty and labour, manipulation is also necessary but the farmers can never learn to manipulate. However, I feel the way I have manipulated to air the grievances of the farmers in the House is justified. Sir, in the Parliament and in the Legislative Assemblies the issue of the farmers upliftment must be taken up seriously. If manipulation is done for person gain it is bad, but one should be hesitate if it has to be done for the welfare of society, country and the upliftment of the backward sections.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, while speaking on the Public Distribution System the hon. Minister told us about the total foodgrain production in the country. Though India become self-sufficient in foodgrains after Independence, but we must also look at the condition of the farmers. Today, the country has large foodgrains reserves, but we must also see whether the farmer has enough to feed his family. Despite the increase in the foodgrain production and the per capita income, the condition of the farmers, the labourers and the common man has not improved. What is the reason? The reason is prevailing conditions in the country which needs to be changed. We should not see how much the country has progressed but now much has the common man progressed. Has the standard of living improved? To improve the lot of the farmers and the agricultural labourers the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, took several concrete steps and launched many programmes.

Our Government and the Congress

Party has always been committed to the upliftment of the poor and the backward people. Though one may like the reservation policy or not but it has definitely helped the poor, the tribals and the women. Why I am saying all this, is because the insurance scheme introduced in 1985 was not implemented in all the States. I would like to tell those accusing the Congress Government of doing nothing, that Maharashtra is the first State where crop insurance scheme has been introduced, and this has been done by the congressmen there. The Central Crop insurance scheme should be extended to all the States.

I would like to add here-that this year's drought has been the worst of the century. It has caused extensive damage to the crops. If all crops had been covered under the insurance scheme and not a few as is the case, then the farmers would not have suffered such heavy losses. The losses suffered after 1985 have not been fully compensated. Therefore, the loss suffered should be made good under the crop insurance scheme. In addition to this, I would also like to say that the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, the revival of the Panchayati Raj and other schemes are basically meant for the upliftment of the rural masses, the farmers and the labourers. I would like to make a submission about the crop insurance scheme. If we are unable to provide full crop insurance cover to the farmers they cannot be uplifted. We have to work for the upliftment of the poor through the Panchayati Raj system and for that, crop insurance scheme is very essential.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring to your notice that this year, oranges were sold at the rate of Rs. 75 to Rs. 125 per thousand in our region. I know this because I also own an orange orchard and I am myself a farmer. The farmers in the Vidarbha region have got no transportation facilities to bring their oranges to the market. As a result, they resort to distress sale of their produce. They cannot afford freight charges for the transportation of their oranges to Delhi, Madras, Bombay and Bangalore. That is why they have to sell

[Smt. Usha Choudhary]

the oranges at a very cheap rate. While in the market, the oranges sell at Rs. 1 or Rs. 2/- per piece, the traders make the bulk purchase of oranges at the rate of Rs. 125 per thousand. We are also helpless and that is why we had to sell the oranges at cheap rates because this year our region was lashed by stormy winds. Since cotton is grown in a number of States, the Government is considering a proposal to cover cotton under the crop insurance scheme. If we cannot provide a cover for the crops of the farmer, all the allied business activities will come to a standstill and with that, the industries will also come to halt. Since time is short, I cannot go into the details of everything, but I would definitely urge upon the Government to extend crop insurance scheme to cotton, oranges and all other such crops. It has been our slogan that the gap existing between the rich and the poor will be bridged and this thing is repeatedly at the time of Budget presentation. In this connection our hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi as well as our Government took a great risk, to work for the upliftment of backward sections of the society and formulated schemes for the farmers and the villagers. As such when we are formulating a number of schemes for the backward people, we should not think in terms of profit and loss. We will have to bear losses in order to bring them at par with others. As such, in view of the losses suffered, we should increase the amount of insurance which was reduced in 1985 and implement the scheme in all the States.

Besides that provision it may please be noted that the Central Government is yet to pay the amount of its contribution under the crop insurance scheme for Maharashtra. Though the Government of Maharashtra has already deposited its share of insurance money payable to the farmers. The Central Government has so far not paid its 25 per cent share. I would like to request the Government to make payment of its share at the earliest.

The Central Government took a bold

step while extending necessary help by way of paying Rs. 250 crores to Rs. 300 crores for crop insurance in the year 1986-87. For this, I would like to express my thanks to the Government and come to my final point.

The crop insurance scheme was properly implemented in Maharashtra in 1988. In this connection I would like to make a submission. For the purpose of crop insurance, Taluka is being treated as a unit. When the entire block of a Taluka is affected by drought or famine or crop is damaged, we treat it as a unit. Sometimes it so happens that drought affects only two villages of a Taluka and other 4 villages are not affected by it. As such the above law needs to be amended and instead of Taluka, the village should also be taken as a unit at the block level. For the purpose of compensation under the crop insurance scheme, only the extent of loss suffered should be taken into consideration. This year the General Insurance Corporation has earmarked a sum of Rs. 6.73 crores as its share for the payment of crop insurance money to the farmers. The Central Government is yet to make its contribution. It is only after that the farmer will get the insurance money. Under the above circumstances, funds are also required for those states where the insurance schemes has already been implemented. While holding a discussion on this Bill this thing should also be taken into account.

The Bill is in black and white before the House as well as the people. I would not go into further details of it. I hope that besides myself, one or two other hon. Members should also support it.

While making yet another submission I would like to request the Government to reconsider the point of reduction made in the amount of insurance money. It is only during the last 2 to 3 years after 1985 that the people suffered heavy losses and that is why some changes have been made in the crop insurance scheme. The amount of loan payable to farmers has been fixed at Rs. 10,000. It means that the earlier amount has been reduced. The amount of insurance

money which was earlier 150 per cent has now been reduced to 100 per cent. It has been reduced further. Now at the minimum level, 80 per cent compensation is being paid, but earlier it was 80 per cent of the total loss. The Central Government is thinking of bringing it down to 60 per cent. The Central Government has proposed this change in view of the losses suffered during the last 2 to 3 years. Instead of taking the losses into account, it would be more appropriate of a liberal view is taken in the interest of welfare of farmers. The crop insurance scheme may pleased be implemented providing adequate compensation for all the crops and ensuring its implementation in all the States.

One thing that I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much help has been extended to the farmers by the nationalised banks? I want that we should extend maximum help to the poor.

With these words, I introduce the Bill.

[English]

SHRISHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, She can continue in the Ninth Lok Sabha...

MR. CHAIRMAN: She has finished. Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for a comprehensive crop insurance scheme and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

SHRI N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Sir, I suggest that we sit for one more hour. This is the last Session and then we may not be able sit until next time when the Bill can be discussed. May I suggest that we sit for 10 or 15 minutes more? Let the Minister state the Government's policy that they are in favour of crop insurance. Before the new Lok Sabha comes, let us give an opportunity to the Minister to say... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): We can take it up on the next Friday.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Since next Friday is the day of the Resolutions, it cannot be postponed till next Friday.

(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no precedent regarding this. So, the House stands adjourned to re-assemble on Monday, the 7th August, 1989 at 11.00 hrs.

18.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, August 7, 1989/ Sravana 16, 1911 (Saka)*

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