

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Eighth Session—Second Part
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXX contains Nos. 61 to 70)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, August 11, 1987/Sravana 20,
1909 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Today you are in a good mood.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. A.K. Patel.... Not present. Then, Shri Braja Mohan Mohanty.

SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: Question No. 203.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Sir, with your permission, I would like to suggest that Q.No. 203 and Q.No. 217 may be clubbed together..

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, I have seen that they are two different questions. They do not relate to each other.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Sir, you may please ask the hon Minister.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): Sir, I don't mind, if you are pleased to allow. The idea appears to be the same, shortage of power. If she wants to club it...

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I think, today you seem to be very polite.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: The hon. Minister is so sympathetic. Why are you not so sympathetic?...

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: If I had not been strict, they would have not been polite.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The Minister is always sympathetic towards ladies, Sir.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: It is you, who can say this.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Power Shortage in Orissa

*203. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total power shortage in the State of Orissa; and

(b) the steps being taken to supplement the power supply of Orissa to meet its existing needs, with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) During the period from April to July, 1987, Orissa had a power shortage of about 13.6%.

(b) To supplement the power availability in Orissa, assistance is being provided from the Farakka and Chukha power stations and from the neighbouring systems.

Completion of Power Projects in Eastern Region

*217. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gestation period of power projects completion in the eastern region is longer as compared to other regions in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to reduce the gestation period and expedite the early completion of power projects in the eastern region; and

(d) the details thereof?

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

STATEMENT

(a) The gestation period for completion of thermal projects in the Eastern Region is

longer as compared with other Regions. The period of completion of hydroelectric power projects is, by and large, the same as in the other Regions.

(b) The main reasons for the longer time taken in the completion of thermal projects in the Eastern Region include delays in regard to acquisition of land, finalisation of design and engineering, execution of civil works, and delays in the supply and erection of plant and equipment; paucity of funds; problems of industrial relations; and weak project management.

(c) and (d) The progress of on-going power projects is being closely monitored by the Department of Power and the Central Electricity Authority. Joint coordination meetings are held regularly with project authorities and other organisations concerned to identify and overcome the problems. Senior officers of Central Electricity Authority and the Department of Power also visit project sites to assess the progress and advise the project authorities in regard to the corrective measures required. The need for effective project management is also emphasised.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Sir, on 31st March, 1987, in this Lok Sabha the Minister had, in reply to a question, answered that the anticipated shortage of power in Orissa would be around 30.1 per cent, and this is the highest in the country. Now, in Orissa, there is a power-cut of 75 per cent so far as power industries are concerned and there is a power cut of 50 per cent so far as large industries are concerned. Orissa is importing power from Madhya Pradesh and Eastern Region Electricity Board, at a very high cost. So, the entire economy has been almost paralysed. I wanted a specific answer to my question. I would like to know as to what is the total extent of power available from Farakka and what is the cost and so also of Chukha power station. What is the extent of power we are getting i.e. Orissa is getting and what is the cost of it? In answer to another question, the hon. Minister has replied that the question of external assistance for the implementation of the proposed IB valley power project in Orissa

would be considered further. May I know from the hon. Minister as to how many external assistance proposals have been received by the Government in this regard and the reason as to why consideration has been withheld. I would like to have a detailed reply from the hon. Minister about these things.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI: Sir, there are a number of questions, five questions in one supplementary. Anyhow, I would like to answer whatever is possible.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: These are various facets of the same question.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You do any one of the five.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI: Sir, Orissa depends largely on the storages at the reservoirs like Hirakund and Balimela and the performance of the Talcher Thermal Power Station. Now, the hydel reservoirs in Orissa are not in a very satisfactory position. The water level has not been there in Balimela and Machkund, during the last two years.

Therefore, we find that, while the demand had been going up, because of this, there is a gap in supply and, therefore, there is some shortage. As a result, the State had to impose a power cut of 75 per cent, as the Hon. Member said, on heavy and power intensive industries and 50 per cent on large industries. Therefore, there are restrictions on peak-hours and the rural supply is restricted to night time only.

As we go through the pages, we find that the thermal generation has been actually more or less the same. The Hydel had gone down because of the low water level. The total came to 91 per cent. This is the figure for the period from April 1986 to March 1987.

We find that, in spite of the help given from Farakka and Chukha, this is the picture. From Farakka the share was 59 million units and the actual given was 64.52 million units. Therefore, greater share had been given from the Farakka Unit. For 1987-88, the share is 32.7 million units and the actual provided is 36.7 million units. Therefore, what has been given to it has been more. About Chukha also we find that the actual is more than the share. In 1986-87 the actual was 43.09 MU as against the share of 41.51 MU.

Here we find that the neighbouring State has also been giving assistance. From April to July, 432 million units have been given by the neighbouring State.

We find that the operation of the thermal plant has not been good and it is much below the national average. This has to be improved. This is the totality of the power situation today.

The second part is, he wanted details for the various years about performance. That too, I can give...

MR. SPEAKER: You can lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI: I would like to say that last year there was a slight progress in the PLF, thanks to the mediation by the various Ministers and the State Electricity Board Chairman from time to time; some efforts have been made by the Orissa State Electricity Board. So, there has been a slight improvement of five per cent last year in the PLF.

About IB valley project, it will be coming up in some form or the other. The letter of intent has been placed on BHEL by the State authorities. The Planning Commission has accepted the feasibility of the project subject to funds being located, which is a very big factor. The offer of external assistance had been received by the State authorities. However, now the State authorities have issued a letter of intent to BHEL. This is the latest position.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: This is not the latest. The latest is this. I am quoting from the answer given to an Unstarred Question on 28.7.87:

"Offers of external assistance for implementation of the proposed IB Valley thermal power project in Orissa could be considered further with due regard to utilisation of the available indigenous capacity..."

This is more confusing. Therefore, I wanted clarification.

Another question, along with this, that could be answered is this. Perhaps it will be most appropriate for the hon. Minister Shri Sathe to answer this. Two Committees were set up: one, the Kaul Committee, an official committee; and another Committee set up under the Development Council for Heavy Electricals and Allied Industries. The first Committee recommended that the country's industrial policy should be changed to allow private entrepreneurs to enter into the areas of power generation, transmission and distribution; besides, the policy of reservation for small scale sector should be relaxed so as to de-reserve some more electrical equipment now earmarked for exclusive production by the small scale units. The other Committee has recommended that the I.D.R. Act should be suitably amended to permit the private sector...

MR. SPEAKER: How am I going to allow this, Mr. Mohanty?

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: I am only putting the question. It is only a part of the question.

MR. SPEAKER: How long can a question be? A supplementary has only to be a supplementary. It cannot be a diatribe.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: You have taken more than half an hour for one question. This is also equally an important question.

MR. SPEAKER: This is something which must be within some reasonable limit.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: I want to draw the attention of the Government. So far as recommendation for amendment of the I.D.R. Act is concerned...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a debate. This is a question.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: This is very much a question. What is the reaction of the Government? So far as Minister is concerned, he believes...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is re-action.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: He also believes that unless the private sector and the foreign assistance is introduced, the power shortage problem cannot be solved.

I would like to know the reaction of the Government regarding this. This is the most important part of the question.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): The most important thing is to get power. We are doing our best in having Talcher Super Thermal Power Station with World Bank assistance which will be of 1,000 Megawatt and IB Valley which is a State unit also has been cleared. The Letter of Intent has been placed on BHEL. Even we are accepting offer of NRI for this collaboration.

As far as general policy is concerned, I would want power to be inducted. Whoever has the capacity and the resources to bring it for generation of power. We have put all public resources available and we are still going to be short of 10,000 MW. So, if private resource from Indian side comes, as there is, for example, in Bengal for

Bakeshwar, that is welcome. There is an offer from American company Kujjian for 680 MW. There is also an offer from Russian side. Whosoever is willing to offer, we are ready for that. We want more power to be inducted. This is our policy.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: About amendment of the IDR Act.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It can be done within the Industrial Policy Resolution.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: The Minister has said that the gestation period for completion of the thermal power project in the Eastern region is longer. He has already admitted this. The reason for inordinate delay is the inadequate funding for the project. The Minister has just now replied about the Super Thermal Power Project in Talcher. We are really having doubts with the present provision of funds in 1987-88, whether the project will go ahead with the objective of completion in the schedule time.

I am coming to the IB Valley Project. In the IB Valley Project, State Government will bear 200 crores and the BHEL has offered a credit package including foreign credit to be made available by them.

Secondly, Sir, in order to have the project at a reduced cost, there was a report that inputs like steel and other thing to BHEL should be supplied at a reduced cost by exempting the Excise Duty and other duties. Whether the Minister will consider this, and will expedite this, by impressing upon the Finance Department and the Economic Affairs Department?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I have already said that as far as both these projects are concerned, Talcher is already underway, it is cleared. There is no resource constraint or anything that cannot hold it. It was only land acquisition and environment clearance etc., which had delayed the things. There is no likelihood of any more delay now. Talcher will be completed. Work will

be started in the Seventh Plan and it will be completed in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

As far as IB is concerned, we have already said, State Government has limited resources. That is why external assistance was sought. It has come. They have placed a letter of Intent on BHEL. There is a collaboration. I have no doubt that IB Valley Project also will be completed in due time.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: My second question is regarding the Farakka and Chukha projects. What does the recent review made by the Power Department of the Union Ministry of Energy point out? The Chandil-Santalidih 225 KVS line necessary for wheeling over power from Farakka and Chukha to the power starved States like Orissa and Bihar systems which is held up. How is the Government going to help the power starved States to get their share by removing bottlenecks?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I do not know which line she is referring to. Is it Orissa line?

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: It will go to Orissa line.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, I can only coordinate. I will take up the matter both with West Bengal Government and Bihar Government to see that these lines are completed so that Orissa can get its share.

SHRI ANIL BASU : While replying to the question, the Minister mentioned about setting up of Bakreshwar thermal power project in West Bengal. The proposal has been given by both American and the Soviet side. The West Bengal Government has forwarded its proposal to the Union Government. It has been pending in the Ministry since long. I would like to know categorically from the Minister when are they going to take decision on this project?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: As far as Bakreshwar is concerned the proposal has been sent to us. Its financial viability has to be examined. After all it is the Government

of India which will have to under-write the liability. So we have to examine the financial feasibility. We are already in discussion with these parties. You will agree that whichever is in the best interest of our country that should be accepted and that will be done.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: How long will it take?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I cannot give up a concrete date. I can only say that it will be as early as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: It is okay now. Please sit down. Q. No. 204.

Sugar Consumption, Production and Export

+

*204. **SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:**
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:

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

(a) the quantity of sugar required for consumption including buffer stock w.e.f. 1st April, 1987 to 31st March, 1988;

(b) the estimated production of sugar by March 1988 and how much is likely to be imported from 1 April, 1987 to 31 March, 1988;

(c) the time by which the country is going to become self-sufficient;

(d) the details of the programme in this regard; and

(e) whether sugar was exported during previous years and if so, the reasons for stoppage of the export of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):
(a) to (e). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Sugar year is reckoned from 1st October to 30th September and as such the information received from the factories in respect of production, consumption etc. is maintained on the above basis. The production of sugar and internal consumption during the sugar year 1986-87 is estimated at about 85 lakh tonnes and 87 lakh tonnes respectively. The estimates for the next crushing season are yet to be formulated. The quantum of consumption/import during the period from 1st April, 1987 to 31st March, 1988 will depend upon the trend of sugar production during the next sugar season 1987-88. As a result of increased sugar production during 1986-87 season and also taking into account the imports, there is sufficient availability of sugar stocks to meet the domestic requirement.

The new sugar policy for the 7th Plan period announced by the Government in December, 1986 envisages various measures which would benefit the sugarcane growers, consumers and increase the viability of the sugar industry leading to greater sugar production and early attainment of self-sufficiency. However, sugar being an agro-based industry, its improved performance depends on agro-climatic factors i.e. drought conditions, excess rains etc. Given favourable weather conditions, it would be possible to maintain sugar production at higher levels. Due to limited availability of sugar in the country, decline in sugar production and increase in domestic consumption, the import of sugar was resorted to and export of sugar had been restricted to meet the preferential EEC and US quotas, besides, small quantities to Nepal and Maldives.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present the production of sugar is at a higher level in almost all the states of the country, but the production of sugar in Bihar is going down. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he has ascertained the reasons thereof? If so, what action is being taken in this regard?

o.

[English]

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: The hon.

Member is correct in saying that during the year 1986-87 the sugar production in the country has increased while sugar production in States like U.P. and Bihar is not what it should be. There are climatic conditions and certain other problems. I had a discussion with the Chief Ministers. I have written to them. We are very keen to help them so that we can have more drawals from the sugar, to improve the quality of the sugar and do whatever can be done in the circumstances. We are in touch with them as to what best we can do in these two States and the other States. We are very keen for improvement of sugar and for better production of sugar.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that he should pay his attention to the main reason for the shortage of sugar. Keeping in view the power supply position in Bihar, the sugar mills in Bihar are facing a lot of difficulty in the production of sugar. As an example, I would like to refer to the South Bihar Sugar Mill at Bihata in Patna district of Bihar, which is 30 or 40 years old. Dues of farmers are pending against that mill for the last 8 or 10 years and as a result, the farmers have stopped the production of sugarcane and its production has gone down. Would the Central Government issue instructions to the Bihar Government to the effect that all the pending dues of the farmers against the South Bihar Sugar Mill and other sick mills in Bihar be paid without any further delay so that farmers are encouraged to have adequate production of sugar-cane?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: The hon. Member has asked two questions. First, he has stated that due to short supply of power to some sugar mills in Bihar, the mills are facing difficulties. I have some discussion regarding it. I would write to the Chief Minister of Bihar to make efforts to solve this problem. Secondly, he has said that the farmers have not been paid the arrears of their dues.

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: The dues are pending for the last eight years.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: The hon. Member has also mentioned the names of certain mills. If there are certain other mills, he may tell their names to me and I will call the Chief Minister of Bihar and talk to him about all these mills. I would like to submit that the question of arrears of dues against the mills is a very serious one and I have held talks about it and I have written many letters also. As a result, overall position of the country regarding arrears has improved to a great extent, more money has been paid to the farmers and the percentage of arrears has gone down, though at the moment, I do not have figures regarding the position of Bihar. There is a provision in the law also that if dues to the farmers are not paid within 14 days, interest should be paid to them. At present, interest is not being paid to them. I have written to the Chief Ministers about it also. The mills which have not paid the arrears have also been asked to pay the interest on them. I will definitely take a separate action about the mills in Bihar.

SHRI SUBHASH YADAV: I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that the reply to the question is totally inadequate and many points have not been touched at all. I would like to know what steps are being taken to increase the sugar production and reduce the import? What is the future programme in this regard and what steps are being taken to increase the production by paying higher price to the farmers? All such points have not been touched by the Minister. I would like to submit that many hon. Members are linked with the farmers and they are aware of their problems. We should reduce the import and increase the indigenous production, whether it is of oil-seeds or that of sugar. A meeting of such hon. Members should be convened and such matters should be discussed with a view to see how import of agricultural commodities could be minimised. Unfortunately, such a discussion has not been held so far. I hope steps would be taken to

reduce the import and the farmers would be encouraged by ensuring them remunerative prices. As the hon. Member has said, there are many such mills which are not able to clear the arrears of the farmers. If the farmers do not get the payment, how could they be able to increase the production. We do not have any programme for them. If there is not adequate production of sugarcane, what steps are we taking to increase the production? Are we providing cheaper finance to them? Is there any programme to provide them funds at subsidised rates so that they could increase the production? Would seeds be made available to them at cheaper rates? Has the hon. Minister issued any such guidelines; if so, the details thereof?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: In this connection, I would like to say that so far as the target is concerned, our target is to achieve self-sufficiency in the matter of sugar production and we are making efforts in this direction. Our position has improved also. Our position in 1982 was very good. We had surplus production, but later on due to drought and certain other reasons, the production declined to a certain extent, but since last year our position has been very good. We expect the production of sugar to be of the order of 85 lakh tonnes and our consumption is 87 lakh tonnes. We are moving in the direction of self-sufficiency. Concrete steps have been taken in this direction. New sugar policy has been formulated. Minimum price is fixed and announced much in advance so that farmers may know about it before sowing season. In addition, the information in regard to the steps proposed to be taken in the interest of the farmers is given to the farmers in advance. Also, assistance from the Sugar Development Fund is provided to improve the sugar technology and to modernise the sugar mills. Arrangements have been made to provide new licences and expand the capacity. Many steps have been taken to bring about improvement in the situation and to ensure timely payment to the farmers so that they do not have to face any difficulty. The suggestion which has been given by the hon. Member is most

welcome and the new sugar policy has been discussed at many levels. Whatever suggestions the hon. Member gives, I will discuss with him all the suggestions with great pleasure and try to take full advantage of his experience.

[*English*]

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Sir, what is the total quantity of sugar imported during 1984-85 and 1986-87 and how much it costs to foreign exchequer? How are you going to minimise the import and how much remunerative prices are you giving to the farmers?

[*Translation*]

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: First, I would like to reply to the second part of the question. So far as payment of remunerative price is concerned, the Central Government fixes the minimum price of sugar and then the State Governments fix the prices and we fix the price much in advance. This time also, we have fixed the price much in advance. Later on, the State Governments fixed the prices. The price for the 1988-89 season would be fixed on the recommendation of the Agricultural Costs and Prices Commission. Thereafter, the State Governments will fix the prices on the basis of which payment would be made. It is very difficult for me to say at this moment as to what would be the price in future? Second point you have raised about the import. So far as import is concerned, in 1984-85, 4.85 lakh tonnes of sugar worth Rs. 110.99 crores was imported, in 1985-86, 20.22 lakh tonnes of sugar worth Rs. 446.87 crores was imported. For the year 1986-87, figures are provisional i.e. 7.81 lakh tonnes of sugar and the provisional value of which works out to be Rs. 210.48 crores. This includes the quantity which is in transit. According to our estimate, our production is likely to be of the order of 85 lakh tonnes, whereas our estimated consumption is 87 lakh tonnes. By the end of 1990, our consumption is likely to be 99 lakh tonnes. Our efforts are to have minimum import. I cannot say now whether we

will resort to import in future or not. It all depends on the situation. Sowing will start in one or one and a half month. Import will depend on the production of sugarcane as also the requirement of sugar in the country. It is, therefore, very difficult to say now as to how much sugar will have to be imported in future?

[English]

Sale of Adulterated Petroleum Products

*205. SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that adulterated petrol, diesel and fake lubricants are freely available at the licensed and unlicensed outlets in the country;

(b) whether any raids have been conducted by Government during the last six months to trace out the unscrupulous traders of petrol and fake lubricants; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and what further steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir. However, complaints are occasionally received in this regard.

(b) and (c). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

The oil companies and the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations conduct regular and surprise inspections of retail outlets periodically to check, *inter alia*, quality and quantity of the products and take action against the defaulters under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and the law/regulations in force.

2. Over 20,600 inspections have been conducted by the oil industry and State Government agencies between January and June, 1987. While cases of suspected adulteration did come to light, adulteration of MS/HSD had not so far been established in any of them. In keeping with the Marketing Discipline guidelines of the Oil Industry, the marketing companies have, in suitable cases taken action like suspension of supplies, issue of warning letters etc. In other cases, the State Government agencies initiated necessary action.

3. The State Governments have been advised to review, for cancellation or non-renewal, cases where licences for storage, etc., of MS/HSD have been granted by local authorities to persons other than dealers of oil marketing companies in order to prevent malpractices in the sale of petroleum products. They have been advised to also take preventive and punitive action against those who store and sell petroleum products without any valid licences, etc. This is being periodically pursued with the respective States/Union Territories.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, everyone is aware that kerosene oil is being freely mixed in petrol all over the country. 20 to 25 per cent kerosene oil is mixed in diesel and petrol due to which the poor people are not getting kerosene. Shortage of kerosene oil exists everywhere in the country. This question has been raised in the House many times and the Government has been assuring us that appropriate action would be taken but we have not seen any positive result so far. I want to submit that at least something ought to be done in this regard. It has been stated that 20,600 inspections have been conducted. May I know the number of cases of adulteration that came to light, the action taken thereon and also the number of people who have been prosecuted?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: Sir, I want to submit that in spite of acute drought conditions, efforts are being made to see that there is no shortage of high speed diesel. I have been to many places myself but haven't received any such complaints.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: They indulge in adulteration...

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: First, let me give a reply to the question which the hon. Member has asked. I will take up the question of adulteration later on. You do not understand what he has said and that is the difficulty...

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Only you are intelligent and no one else

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: You please try to understand him.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Choubey, this is not the way; you always interrupt.

[*English*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: No Sir. I do not always interrupt.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I am afraid the Minister has not yet come out of the hangover of Fairfax

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: The hangover is still on you. I have come out of it.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

In the past 3 years we have been inspecting 40 to 45 thousand cases every year. In 1984-85, there were 70 suspected cases of adulteration, in 1985-86, there were 57 such cases and in 1986-87, there were 83 cases. We have looked into the other kinds of cases also like short weight, etc. In 1983-84, there were 5 cases of termination, and 2 each in 1985-86 and 1986-87. In other cases of adulteration in which temporary suspension of supply is resorted to, letters are issued. There are certain guidelines of market discipline which are absolutely clear. Apart from that, we have identified a chemical called Pharpharal which is used for colouring kerosene oil. This chemical is being tested in our labora-

taries at present and the report will come out within 10 to 15 days. Then it would be possible to check the adulteration of diesel with kerosene. In high speed diesel, the percentage of adulteration is the maximum and this test will clearly show the extent of adulteration. Apart from that, we get it checked by the oil companies and the State Governments also do it. We have 70 to 80 laboratories and some mobile laboratories also. A control order in respect of petroleum products was issued in April 1987. We are going to issue a control order in respect of high speed diesel also. These are the steps which we have taken. I want to state from my own experience that we do receive other types of complaints but not of this nature. However, if complaints of this nature are received, we take immediate action.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Now-a-days sub-standard lubricants are available in the market. Even the residual burnt oil is sold and the people are fleeced in this way. Stringent action should be taken against such people. They charge Rs. 20 for the material worth Rs. 2 only. You should look into this matter. What measures are proposed to be taken to make the mobile laboratories more effective and to strengthen them throughout the country?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: In regard to lubricants, a new control order, namely 'The Lubricating Oil and Diesel (Processing, Supply and Distribution Regulation) Order 1987' has been issued in April this year. At present, we have 5 mobile laboratories under the Indian Oil Corporation.

[*English*]

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: In reply to part (a), the Minister has said, No. In para 2 of the reply to parts (b) and (c), it is stated that over 20,600 inspections have been conducted by the oil industry and the State Government agencies between January and June 1987. It is also stated that cases of suspected adulteration did come to light. This shows that there is a large number of cases of adulteration. Adulter-

ated petrol and diesel and fake lubricants are sold particularly on State and National highways and in some of the big cities. So many times we have ourselves been cheated by these dealers. Therefore, they should keep a strict vigil in these places to check illegal trade in these adulterated petroleum products.

So, I would like to suggest that there should be a separate Vigilance Cell in the oil companies to conduct surprise raids on these dealers so that stringent action can be taken against these unscrupulous traders.

Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will please consider this proposal?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: Your proposal is a very good proposal. There is already a Vigilance Cell set up in the oil companies to enquire into such cases. So, it is already there.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VISHNU MODI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the dual pricing of kerosene oil, the consumer is not getting its adequate supply because its prices is low and on the other hand, the price of oil for commercial use is much higher. In this way people are facing a lot of hardship. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he proposes to revise the dual pricing policy and adopt a single pricing policy?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: Sir, the poor people make more use of kerosene oil. The Government's policy is to keep the prices of the items used by the poor people at the minimum. Therefore, the price of kerosene oil which is mostly used by the poor is kept low and the price of kerosene oil for commercial use is kept high. The wholesale price of kerosene is under the control of the Centre but its retail price is under the State Government's control and we are making efforts with the cooperation of the State Governments to ensure that

there are no irregularities committed. But if we increase the price of kerosene oil, it will have adverse effects on the poor consumers which we do not want. Therefore, we will have to maintain dual pricing policy and we do not intend to revise it for the time being.

[*English*]

Expansion of Telecommunication Facilities in Hilly Areas

*208. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comprehensive plan has been prepared for the expansion of telecommunication facilities in the country, especially in the hilly and inaccessible areas;

(b) the details thereof and the progress made so far under the current Five Year Plan; and

(c) the targets expected to be achieved by the end of the Plan period?

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

(b) and (c) A Statement is given below

STATEMENT

The Department of Telecommunications has formulated a liberalised policy of providing long distance public telephones in the rural, hilly, backward and tribal areas of the country. Under this policy the country has been divided into Hexagons of 5 Km side each. It is proposed to provide a long distance public telephone on fully subsidized basis at a principal village in each hexagon progressively. Hexagons with population of 5000 or more in normal areas and 2000 in hilly/backward areas are given priority for providing telephone facility.

Further, if there is a registered demand for 10, 23 & 46 telephone connections, a new

exchange with a capacity of 25, 50 and 100 lines respectively can be opened irrespective of likely revenue to be earned. It takes about 12 to 24 months to provide the exchange in the light of indigenous availability of

equipment.

The details of the existing facility and the progress made so far and the targets to be achieved by the end of Plan period are given below:-

	Equipped capacity of Exchanges in the country	No. of Exchanges in the country	Equipped capacity in Rural areas	No. of Exchanges Rural Areas	No. of LDPTs	Telegraph offices in Rural Areas
As on 31-3-85	33,07,000	10,708	5,27,000	8,588	23,136	34,792
As on 31-3-87	39,88,000	12,292	6,10,000	10,048	24,959	36,950
Anticipated as on 31-3-90	54,08,000	—	*7,95,000	13,600	30,900	**

* This includes C-DOT and ILT Exchanges.

** Telegraph facility on Phono-cum basis will be provided on PCOs opened in the Post Offices.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given a detailed reply to my question with which I am satisfied. But due to the ban on fresh recruitment, the targets are not being achieved. Will the hon. Minister reconsider the issue in the light of the liberal policy which has been formulated because little work is being done in the telephone exchanges opened in the tribal and hilly areas of the country. This is the position in my constituency and I think the position is the same in the constituencies of other hon. Members as well. There are two reasons behind it, firstly outdated technology and secondly, shortage of manpower. In view of these difficulties, will the ban on recruitment be lifted and whether telephone facilities will be made available in the remote areas by using appropriate technology so that the target of providing telephones in remote areas is achieved?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, a revised policy on these long distant telephones, specially in tribal areas, has been revised and the population pattern is taken as 2000, as against 500 in other hexagons. It is a fact that at present, we are giving these long distance telephones on open wire. The ITI and C-DOT has introduced some new techniques on the small exchanges. These are on test basis. This technique is introduced in Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. We are also trying to introduce a digital type of 10-line exchanges. When it comes about—it is expected within a year or so—the service will improve. But with the long distance telephone wire connection, there might be some difficulties for these telephones, which we fully appreciate. Recently, we have issued a circular fixing responsibility on different officers in different areas to monitor it. We shall take care that these are maintained properly.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to go into the

details of what the hon. Minister has stated in his reply but I have only one question to ask. Under the scheme which you have formulated, some microwave links have been provided for the distant areas and in some places, the hardware has already been supplied. But these projects have been shifted elsewhere in some cases; for example, a microwave station was to be set up in Pipiria, which is situated in my constituency, but now that project has been transferred somewhere else. I want to know whether your plans regarding the setting up of microwave stations in the Tribal and industrial belts, in particular, under the Seventh Five Year Plan, will be implemented and if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Our aim is to implement all plans as per schedule. The hon. Member has raised certain questions about his particular constituency. I would look into them and let him know.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the far-flung areas of Rajasthan are facing severe drought conditions and these include the areas of Jhunjhunu and Sikar. The automatic exchange building which was under construction in Jhunjhunu has been completed. Will the hon. Minister state when will this automatic exchange be inaugurated and when will it start functioning?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: The exchange at Jhunjhunu is almost at the installation stage. The hon. Member had also invited me. Very soon it will be installed. We will take care of other areas of Rajasthan, including your area, Sir.

SHRI WANGPHA LOWANG: Arunachal Pradesh is not only a hilly and inaccessible region, but it is also situated in a far-flung corner of the country. The State is vastly

spread out over hilly and mountainous regions. It is impossible sometimes to contact over telephone people in my constituency.

Some time back, I had requested the hon. Minister at least to introduce a microwave system in each of the district headquarters and in some of the important places like Deomali. His reply was that due to constraint on funds, it could not be taken up during the 7th Plan. So, may I request the hon. Minister to reconsider this, and take up telecommunication facilities in Arunachal Pradesh on a priority basis?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: For the North-East, we have taken up a very ambitious scheme. In fact, about 23 earth stations and satellite stations are there in the 7th Plan. About the particular area which the hon. Member has spoken, I will get it re-examined again.

Industrial Growth Rate

*209. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific measures are being taken to accelerate the industrial growth rate:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any particular steps are in view to widen the areas of joint participation of Government and private industry; and

(d) if so, which are the areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Government have initiated a number of policy measures to stimulate industrial growth. These include liberalisation measures such as delicensing of 28 groups of

industries, 82 items of bulk drugs, broad banding in 32 groups of industries, re-introduction of the scheme of re-endorsement of capacity with reference to the highest production achieved by the undertaking in any of the preceding five years, introduction of the scheme of Minimum Economic Scale of operation etc. Other measures include provision of tax incentives and concessional finance.

(c) and (d). Detailed guidelines already exist in regard to pattern of shareholding in the Joint Sector projects promoted by State Industrial Development Corporations.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, after going through the reply of the hon. Minister to my question, it seems that he has not made much effort to answer my question. His reply is evasive. Our industrial growth rate has been declining and it was low even last year. In 1985-86, our achievement was 1.7 per cent and the target for 1986-87 has been fixed at 7.5 per cent. This year also a low growth rate has been registered in every quarter. On the one hand, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission says that everyone will come above poverty line by the year 2000 but on the other hand, the figures tell a different story and it seems that it will not be possible to achieve our targets. Hence, what concrete steps are being taken by the Government in this regard? De-licensing and re-endorsement are going on for years. Many of our mills have become sick today because of shortage of raw material. The Government wants to reduce the number of sick mills and also the loss of money invested therein. Therefore, what do the Government propose to meet this situation?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): The Plan target was 8 per cent. In 1984-85, the growth rate was

8.6 per cent; in 1985-86 it was 8.7 per cent; in 1986-87, upto January it is 7.7 per cent.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: The question regarding the mills becoming sick on account of re-endorsement has not been answered. Secondly, I had asked about joint participation. I want to know the names of industries and the sectors in which those are being started with joint participation of private sector? Along with it, I also want to know the projects and industries which are being brought under the joint sector? Are you doing so because of technological reasons or because of shortage of funds? Further, are you going to start any joint sector project in collaboration with those people who have been apprehended for economic offences under FERA or who have accepted their fault and, if so, the reasons therefor?

[*English*]

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: This is about growth rate of the industry. The main hurdles are: (a) power shortage in most of the States; (b) coal shortage; and (c) steel shortage. Even then we are going to achieve the 7th Plan target of 8 per cent.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: My question was different. My question was: "whether any particular steps are in view to widen the areas of joint participation of Government and private industry." That is not replied; only about the growth rate he has replied. What about the guidelines given to the State Governments? I asked a supplementary and he has not replied to that. What is the use of putting a question?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The Government have issued certain guidelines for permitting fresh investment by private sector in some of the areas included in the Schedules A and B of the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 on a case-to-case basis.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: It is being said that the growth rate in 1986-87 was

about 9 per cent. Is it not a fact that because of the change in the yardstick for measuring the growth rate during 1985-86, that is, changing index items and as a result of that this growth rate is reflected there, but the actual growth rate is low?

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: Sir, I have already mentioned the real facts. The main hurdle is about power shortage and sufficient power is not there throughout the States. We are not in a position to utilise the installed capacity and that is why we are not in a position to achieve the growth target.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Sir, I did not take it, as an answer.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, Mr. Madhav Reddi was not followed by the Minister.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Industrial growth should be there all over the country, especially in the backward areas. It is a good proposal of the Government. But because of the expansion of the industries whatever infrastructure and facilities are there, the big houses are taking advantage of them, simultaneously they are closing down some one lakh units; in Maharashtra about 5000 units are closed. And in another 141 units about two lakh workers are retrenched. Hundreds or thousands crores of rupees are misused. Are the Government going to do anything to ensure that industrial growth rate is achieved even where these big houses are concerned? While giving the assistance like infrastructure and licences the Government must stipulate to the large industrial houses that they should not close down the smaller units. If they still close them down they should be told that they would not be given such assistance.

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: You know very well the position in Maharashtra. If Dr. Datta Samant cooperates we will certainly achieve the target.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: This is not a reply. Those units are closed because of their employers not paying the electricity bills or the wages or the salaries. I am not talking regarding agitation of workers.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If they pay, then he takes up.

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: There is a lot of unrest in the industrial sector in Maharashtra. Most of the sick units in the country are located in Maharashtra. In the truck tyre industry the International Modi Unit was closed in Bombay only due to this unrest.

(Interruptions)

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Sir, the hon. Minister is blackmailing me. Those units were not closed down due to any agitation. They retrenched people and they closed them because they did not want to pay the DA, they wanted to reduce the wages and so on. The hon. Minister must pay attention to this. The employer has closed those units because he wanted to reduce the DA.
(Interruptions)

This is not an answer.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chaturvedi.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to say.....

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chaturvedi.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: I am Choubey, both mean the same.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already spoken enough, without permission.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main question has not been answered fully. However, the reply has revealed that coal and power are in short supply. Everyone knows that

power and coal are under the control of the Central Government. If coal and power are in short supply, why more units are being set up? On the one hand, the existing industries in which crores of rupees have been invested, are not getting power and coal and on the other, you are issuing licenses for setting up new units. I want to know from the hon. Minister the policy being followed and whether there is any consistency between the two?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: You know very well, that for the last three years due to lack of rains and due to drought almost all the hydel projects are not in a position to supply power. Except Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh all the States are deficient in power and are not supplying power to their units. Even then we are trying to achieve the target.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a good question but Shri Sathe and you can sit together and discuss it. It is correct that if old units are not getting power, then what is the use of establishing new units.

[English]

Power to Bihar from Central Power Projects

*210. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar is getting full quota of power from the central power projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). During April to July, 1987, Bihar received a total supply of about 129.8 million units from the Farakka

and Chukha power stations as compared with its share of about 133.6 million units.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: The hon. Minister has referred to the Chukha project in his reply. Of late, there has been a rumour and it has also appeared in some newspapers of Bihar that from there power will be supplied to South Bihar instead of to North Bihar. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that instead of indulging in procrastination, he should ascertain the truth from the Government of Bihar and arrange to supply power to North Bihar.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI: Sir, while accepting his demand absolutely, I want to say that there is no question of procrastination. We have been in constant touch with the State Government of Bihar and we will again approach them. I want to inform the hon. Member that there is a need to make improvements in the performance of the thermal plant installed there. In comparison to last year, the performance of our thermal plant has declined by 4 per cent. Many Ministers of that State have come here and met us and correspondence is also going on in this regard. I agree that in April, they received a lower share of power supply from Farakka and Chukha power stations but in May, June and July they have received more than their actual share. While accepting her demand, I want to request her to ensure improvement in the performance of thermal power plant in the State.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: The hon. Minister should ask the State Government and not the hon. Member.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the hon. Minister assure us that first of all, this benefit will be extended to North Bihar, which is the most backward area?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI: We want that power should be available in the

whole of Bihar so that it can make progress. The matter will be discussed with the concerned Minister and action will be taken accordingly.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): I want to add something to it.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to connect more power or...

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I want to connect more power. There is no question of power-cut. It is the question of construction of the 10 km. section of Fatua-Haripur transmission line passing through the river, which transmits power from North Bihar to South Bihar and is taking a little more time. However, we are constantly requesting the Bihar Government to expedite the work. If this line is constructed, it will help in supplying power from the Farakka and Chukha as well as from Muzaffarpur and Barauni in North Bihar to the southern parts of the State. We are making every effort to make adequate power available there.

[*English*]

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Mr. Speaker Sir, because of the continuous and constant drought in various parts of the country, there has been an acute shortage of power in recent months. Sir, in most of the States, there has been closure of many industries resulting in lockouts and lay-offs and most of the labourers have been thrown on to the road. In view of the acute power shortage during drought period, will the Minister come up with some alternative arrangements for making available power wherever there is shortage of power in the States.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We are acutely aware of this problem. With the coming drought the situation of power will become more important because for irrigation....

SHRI AMAL DATTA: What about West Bengal?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: West Bengal should be least concerned.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Why?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Do not interrupt. I will come to that. West Bengal should give power to other States...(*Interruptions*) This is a question about Bihar. Why do you jump up the moment one utters the word West Bengal, as if a scorpion has stung you from behind? Why do you do that? I am not making allegations against you..(*Interruptions*) We are on a larger issue.

MR. SPEAKER: The question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Action Plan for Speedy Implementation of Projects

*202. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an action plan for speedy implementation of projects under his Ministry has been prepared as per recent directives of the Prime Minister;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of projects to be taken up under this action plan, their total cost overrun with the foreign exchange component and the revised schedule for their completion; and

(d) whether under the action plan overall accountability for completion according to schedule in each case, has been assigned to a particular authority or agency and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). Following a review of the system of monitoring of major central projects, a new system has been introduced by the Government under which the project authorities have been advised to draw targets for completion of milestones of individual major projects and report the progress on a monthly basis.

(c) Details of major projects under the Ministry of Industry, including their cost overrun and revised schedule of completion, are given in the Statement below.

(d) Under the new system of monitoring project authorities have been advised to nominate a senior executive for coordinating the various activities involved in a large project so as to ensure implementation of project to schedule

STATEMENT

Details of Major Projects

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Location	Date of approval	Approved cost (Rs. in crores)	Anticipated cost (Rs. in crores)	Scheduled date of completion	Actual/ Anticipated date of commissioning	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<i>I. Cement Corporation of India</i>								
1.	Tandur Cement Project (1 million ton/annum)	Tandur A.P.	Apr. '85	53.96	173.58	Dec. '85	June '86	Since commissioned
2.	Yerraguntla Cement Project (1 million ton/annum)	Yerraguntala, A.P.	Oct. '81	75.72	177.25	Oct. '89	Apr. '90	
3.	Nayagaon Expn. Project (1 million ton/annum)	Nayagaon	Apr. '81	89.40	172.44	Oct. '86	Sept '87	
<i>II. Hindustan Paper Corporation</i>								
1.	Newgong Paper Project (1 lakh MT/annum)	Newgong, Assam	Mar. '77	114.00	278.54	Dec. '80	Sept '86	Since commissioned
2.	Cachar Paper Project (1 lakh MT/annum)	Cachar, Assam	June '77	114.00	377.00	Mar. '81	Dec. '87	
<i>III. Maruti Udyog Ltd.</i>								
1.	Passenger car Mfg. (1 lakh vehicles/annum)	Gurgaon, Haryana	Sept '82	269.00	269.00	Mar '87	Mar. '87	

IV.	<i>Hindustan Photo Films Mfg Co</i>	Udaga- Mandalam, Tamil Nadu	Mar. '86	168.12	182.70	1991.92	1991-92
	Expansion of capacity of various films. (12 MSQM)						
V.	<i>Burn Standard Co. Ltd.</i>	Jeilingam, W.B.	Apr. '85	8.44	38.99	Oct. '84	Dec. '87
	Off-shore Project (10500 TPA)						
VI.	<i>Andrew and Yule and Co.</i>	Kalyani, W.B.	Jan '86	19.95	37.20	Oct '88	Oct. '88
	Stell Cord Belt for conveyor						
VII.	<i>National Newsprint and Paper Mills Ltd.</i>	Nepa Nagar M.P.	Jan. '84	35.41	60.75	Oct. '87	May '88
	Renovation, Modernisation and Expansion etc. of Mills (88,000 tonnes)						
VIII.	<i>Hindustan Cables Ltd.</i>	Allahabad	July '86	28.67	46.88	Phase I in 15 months Phase II and III in 27 months	
	Optical Fibre Cable (40000 CKM)						
IX.	<i>Cement Corporation Ltd.</i>	W.B.	Oct. '82	21.99	35.00	September	— 1988
	Damodhar Cement and Slag Unit						

Details of Major Projects

Sl. No.	Project	Location	Date of approval	Sanc-tioned cost	Antici-pated cost	Scheduled date of completion	Actual/ antici-pated date of comple-tion	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I. Indian Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd.								
1.	Polypropylene Copolymer expansion from 30000 to 55000 TPA	Baroda	Dec. '82	58.65	69.36	Oct. '86	Jul. '87	Project implemented and production commenced in July 1987
2.	Bicomponent Acrylic Fibre expansion 12000 to 24000 TPA	Baroda	Dec. '82	99.46	99.46	May '87	Nov '87	—
3.	Xylene expansion project from 40500 to 96500	Baroda	Dec '82 (FC approval in Sept '84)	59.36	70.70	Sept '88	Sep '88	—
4.	Gas Turbine Power Plant (2x28 MW)	Baroda	Jul '85	72.51	72.51	Jan '88	Jan '88	—
5.	Maharashtra Gas Cracker Complex (MGCC)	Nagathane Maharashtra	Aug. '84	1167.00	1167.00	Aug '89	Aug '89	—
II. Petrofils Cooperative Ltd.								
1.	PFY expansion project from 7000 to 9000 TPA	Baroda	First stage clearance given in April, '86	Investment approval yet to be accorded	Investment approval	Aug '89	Aug '89	Investment and FC approval expected in the third quarter of the year 1987-88 CG approval expected in 4th quarter

2.	Nylon Project- 6000 TPA	Bharuch (Gujarat)	Mar '86	74.35	74.35	Mar '90	Mar '90	—	
3.	Spandex Project- 300 TPA	Bharuch (Gujarat)	May, '87	34.85	34.85	Oct '89	Oct '89	—	
4.	POY Project- 15000 TPA	Baroda	First stage clearance given in June, 1987. Investment approval yet to be accorded.						Government approval expected in fourth- quarters of 1987-88
III. Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.									
1.	Buta-Chlor Project 1000 TPA	Rasayani (Maharashtra)	Nov. '86	3.60	3.60	Apr. '88	Apr. '88	—	
2.	Monocrotophos Project- 300 TPA	Rasayani (Maharashtra)	May, '87	2.39	2.39	Apr. '88	Apr. '88	—	
IV. Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd									
1.	Diphenyl Methane Di- isocyanate (MDI)— 5000 TPA	Rasayani (Maharashtra)	Project yet to be approved.		Investment		—		
2.	Poly Tetra Flora Ethylene (PTFE)— 200 TPA	Medak (A P)	Oct. '82	23.37	31.84	Oct. '85	Aug. '87	Expected to be commi- ssioned in Aug., 1987.	
3.	Downstream Products based on Phenol/Acetone	Investment decisions yet to be taken and the project is yet to be approved by the Government							
j) Cyclohexanone/Cyclohexanol Projects—15000 TPA									

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	ii) Epichlorohydrin/Glycerine Project—1000 TPA		Investment decisions yet to be taken and the project is yet to be approved by the Government					
4.	100 TPD Formaldehyde		Investment decisions yet to be taken and the project is yet to be approved by the Government					
5	Conc. nitric Acid 50 TPD		Investment decisions yet to be taken and the project is yet to be approved by the Government					

National Commission for Consumer Protection

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

(a) whether a study made recently indicated that Indian consumers are cheated to the tune of Rs. 20,000 million a year;

(b) if so, the main features of the study;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up National Commission for Consumer Protection; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this respect and how far it will help the consumers?

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

(a) and (b). An article in the Hindustan Times dated 29-5-87 mentions of a recent Study which indicated that Indian consumers were cheated of Rs. 20,000 million every year by way of adulteration, spurious goods etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Consumer Protection Act, 1986 provides for a 3-tier consumer disputes redressal machinery at the District, State and National levels respectively. At the National level a National Consumer Redressal Commission is proposed to be established which shall consist of a person who is or has been judge of the Supreme Court as its president and 4 other members, one of whom shall be a woman. This Commission shall entertain complaints (i) where the value of goods or services and compensation claimed exceeds Rs 10 lakhs and (ii) appeals against the orders of the State Commissions

Arrangements for making this Commission functional are being made.

Collaboration with M/s. Fiskars of Finland

*207. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a collaboration with Fiskars of Finland has been approved for manufacture of scissors in India;

(b) whether the foreign collaboration is to be allowed to have forty per cent equity of the joint venture company to be incorporated to implement this collaboration; and

(c) if so, what are the considerations on the basis of which such a high level of foreign equity is allowed in a low-priority and low technology industry?

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

(b) (matter of policy, specific information, particularly in relation to financial details, terms offered, terms approved etc., in respect of foreign collaboration are not revealed in public interest.

(c) Foreign equity is permitted having regard to a variety of considerations, such as sources of technology, quality improvement, export possibilities and import substitution

Drilling Programme at Godavari Basin

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

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

(a) the details of drilling programme at Godavari basin in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the composition of gases available there with their usage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Dur-

ing 1987-88, it is planned to drill seven wells onland in Krishna-Godavari basin (Andhra Pradesh).

(b) Gas so far discovered onland contains on an average about 85% of methane (C1) and small quantities of ethane (C2), propane (C3) and butane (C4).

ONGC have entered into contracts with five parties for supply of gas for being used as fuel.

[*Translation*]

Power Requirement of Delhi

*212. SHRI BHARAT SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present supply and requirement of power in the capital;

(b) the reasons for frequent resort to load shedding almost daily in different parts of the capital;

(c) whether any perspective plan has been prepared to meet the increasing requirement of the growing population in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) During July, 1987, against the requirement of about 19.8 million units per day the availability of power in Delhi was about 19.4 million units per day.

(b) DESU has to resort to load shedding to the extent of the shortfall in the availability of power vis-a-vis the demand, on account of low generation at the Indraprastha and Badarpur stations, the extent of assistance available from the Northern Grid keeping in view the requirements of the other constituent States of the Northern Region, and the need to maintain the

system parameters of frequency and voltage within permissible limits.

(c) and (d). The measures taken to meet the growing demand for power in Delhi include installation of 840 MW capacity at the National Capital Power Project at Dadri and 135 MW capacity at the Rajghat Power Station, improving the performance of the Indraprastha and Badarpur stations, and strengthening the transmission and distribution system. In addition, Delhi will receive its share of power from the Central Power Stations under implementation in the Northern Region

[*English*]

Regularisation of Extra Departmental Employees

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

(a) whether Government have received numerous representations from the Extra Departmental Employees of the Postal Department for regularising them;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered them favourably; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Representations are received from time to time from Extra Departmental employees in regard to their absorption in departmental posts and other matters related to their service.

(b) and (c). In 1984 the Government had appointed a one man Committee to go into the extra departmental system. This Committee has recommended that the conversion of the entire extra departmental cadres is not practicable. This position has been accepted by the Government.

Complaints against Maruti cars

*214. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
SHRI AMAL DATTA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing complaints about Maruti cars by the users;

(b) whether it is a fact that non-availability, high cost and poor quality of spare parts alongwith false claim for fuel efficient performance cause immense harm to users of the car; and

(c) whether the spare parts are generally sub-standard needing frequent replacement at abnormally high cost?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J VENGALA RAO) (a) to (c) Maruti vehicles have been well received in the market and fulfil fuel efficiency norms as prescribed. The position with regard to availability, price and quality of spare-parts has improved considerably and the Company expects to fully meet the requirements of its customers with the stabilisation of the process of indigenisation

Power Units Located in West Bengal

*215. SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH Will

the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names and capacity of the different power units located in West Bengal;

(b) whether each of these units is producing to its full capacity;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to see that these units produce to their optimum capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) (a) The information required is given in the Statement below

(b) and (c) Power generation from hydro stations mainly depends on the reservoir levels. The main reasons for the low plant load factor of the thermal stations of the West Bengal State Electricity Board include the long time taken for maintenance and major repairs, frequent outages of units and part load operation of units due to various operational problems

(d) A Centrally sponsored renovation and modernisation programme is under implementation at the Bandel, Santaldih and DPL Durgapur Projects (Ltd) thermal stations in West Bengal. In addition, measures are being taken for the preventive maintenance of units and reducing the periods of forced outages of thermal units

STATEMENT

Organisation	Power Station	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3
W.B.S.E.B.	Bandel	530
	Santaldih	480
	Gouripore	28
	Gas Turbines	100

1	2	3
	Jaldhaka Stage I	27
	Jaldhaka Stage II	8
	Messanjore	4
	Rinchington	2
West Bangal Power Development Corpn.	Kolaghat	420
Durgapur Projects Ltd.		390
C.E.S.C.		559
N.T.P.C.	Farakka	630

Legal Aid to poor

*216. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for legal aid to the poor is working satisfactorily;

(b) whether any complaints have been received about its operation; and

(c) if so, the nature of the complaints and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE: (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): According to the information furnished by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes:—

(a) Legal Aid Schemes in most of the States are, by and large, working well

(b) and (c). No complaints of a serious nature have been received. Whenever any complaint is received, it is forwarded to the Legal Aid and Advice Board of the State concerned to take suitable follow up action.

Setting up of High Court benches in States

*218 SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received some proposals from various State Governments for setting up benches of High Courts in those State;

(b) if so, the details of these proposals and since when these are pending;

(c) whether Government have formulated any policy, for setting up such benches, and

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

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE: (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (d) Proposals for establishment of Benches of High Courts of Allahabad, Gauhati, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and

Madras were received from the concerned State Governments. Details are given in the Statement below.

It has been decided to establish permanent Benches of the Gauhati High Court in the capitals of the States of the north-eastern region, which require them, after

the requisite infrastructural facilities have been provided by the State authorities.

The recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission were referred to the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh in October, 1986 for their views and comments in consultation with the concerned Chief Justices.

Their specific and complete proposals have not yet been received.

The Government is fully conscious of the need to bring justice as close to the people as possible, consistent with the need to ensure that the quality of justice dispensed by the High Courts is in no way impaired.

STATEMENT

The following proposals were received from the concerned State Governments for establishment of Benches of the respective High Courts:-

S No.	High Court	States	Places where Benches proposed	Year in which proposals received.
1	Madras	Tamil Nadu	Madurai	1980
2	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	Location of Bench for Western Districts of Uttar Pradesh left to the Central Govt.	1981
3	Karnataka	Karnataka	Hubli-Dharwar	1981
4	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh	Raipur and Bhopal	1985
5.	Guwahati	Manipur	Imphal	1977
		Tripura	Agartala	1977
		Nagaland	Kohima	1981
		Meghalaya	Shillong	1983
		Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	1987

- 2 The recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission were referred to the Govts. of Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh in October, 1986 for their views/ comments in consultation with the concerned Chief Justices.
3. The Government of Uttar Pradesh, in their reply, have not sent their definite views and proposal. Clarifications have been sought from them.
4. The Govt. of Tamil Nadu have asked for a Bench at Madurai but the proposal is incomplete as they are still awaiting the views of the Chief Justice of the High Court.
- 5 The Governments of Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh have not yet sent their replies.
6. Further action in the matter could be taken only after receipt of specific proposals from the State Governments concerned in the light of the recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission.

Linking of Wages with Productivity in Public Sector

*219. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL ·
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering proposals to link the future wage revision in the Public Sector Units with productivity,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government and the managements have received charter of demands, memoranda etc. from various Trade Unions in the matter during the last two years; and

(d) whether any consultation has been made with the managements and the Trade Unions in the matter and if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). According to the wage policy approved by Government, increase in wages should in no way affect the targets of internal resources generation and additional resource mobilisation and a substantial portion of wage increases should be absorbed in increases in productivity and other measures of cost reduction and incentive schemes linked with productivity should be framed in the enterprises, where it is not in existence.

(c) Unions submit charter of demands to the management of the units/enterprises immediately before or after expiry of their periodical wage agreements.

(d) Managements and unions negotiate wage revision proposals and incentive schemes and relevant proposals are received in Government for approval. These are examined on merits and approved by Government with modification, when called for.

Import of Turbine and Diesel Generators by Karnataka Government

*220. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Karnataka has requested Union Government to allow import of 120 MW turbine generator plant and diesel generator sets under deferred payment basis; and

(b) if so, the response of Union Government thereto and the present position of the case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is receiving consideration of the Government in the Deptt of Economic Affairs

Deficit of Power in Karnataka

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

(a) whether it has been reported that power deficit States like Karnataka would not have experienced heavy power cuts, if the benefits of inter-connection had been passed on to the States,

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto, and

(c) the steps being taken at the national level to increase the per capita consumption of electricity in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The constituent power systems in the various Regions of the country have adequate interconnections to enable regional

integrated operation and exchange of power.

(c) The measures being taken to increase the availability of power include expediting commissioning of additional capacity, implementing short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reducing transmission and distribution losses and implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures. The per capita consumption of electricity has increased from about 132 units in 1980-81 to about 176 units in 1985-86.

Filing of writ Petition in Supreme Court of United States

2187. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have filed a writ petition against Union Carbide with the United States Supreme Court urging it to quash a lower U.S. court decision so as to compel the company to abide by the decisions of the Indian courts,

(b) when the writ was submitted;

(c) whether it is a fact that United States district court had dismissed the case earlier;

(d) if so, on what ground; and

(e) what is the response of the United States Supreme Court on India's new petition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (e). The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York had dismissed the suit filed by the Government of India on the ground of forum non conveni-
ence subject to Union Carbide consenting to three conditions, namely (i) to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of India; (ii) to

satisfy any judgement rendered against it by an Indian court, and if applicable, upheld by an appellate court, where such judgement and affirmance comport with the minimal requirements of due process; and (iii) to be subject to discovery under the model of the United States Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Union Carbide Corporation after consenting to all the three conditions, subject to its right to appeal, moved the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit against the condition relating to discovery. The Appellate Court deleted the condition relating to satisfaction of judgement rendered against it by an Indian Court and modified the condition relating to discovery. The Government of India thereafter moved the U.S. Supreme Court by filing a writ of certiorari on 22nd May, 1987, seeking to reinstate the conditions imposed by the U.S. District Court. The writ petition is yet to be taken up by the United States Supreme Court.

Closing down of Chembur Unit of Union Carbide India Ltd.

2188. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chembur (Bombay) unit of Union Carbide India Ltd. has decided to close down in view of an order given to relocate the unit because of pollution and health hazard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) (a) and (b). M/s Union Carbide India Limited gave notice for closure of its Chembur unit on 16th April 1987 under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. However the Government of Maharashtra have not agreed to the closure.

Assistance to West Bengal

2189. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Central financial assistance provided during the last three years to the private sector in West Bengal for major industrial ventures; and

(b) the details of private sector which have been provided with such financial assistance and the amount of assistance provided in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) and (b). Information regarding reimbursement of central subsidy on industry-wise/sector-wise basis is not maintained. An amount of Rs. 4.91 Crores has been reimbursed to entrepreneurs for setting up industries in industrially backward districts of West Bengal during the last five years

Public Call Offices Under MARRS Scheme in Himachal Pradesh

2190. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey for the location of Public Call Offices under the MARRS Scheme in Himachal Pradesh has been completed;

(b) if so, the names of the places identified for this purpose in the Districts of Hamirpur, Bilaspur, Una, Kangra and Chamba; and

(c) the likely date by which the Public Call Offices would be sanctioned and installed during the Seventh Plan?

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

Sir. It is only partially completed for Hamirpur & Thanedar schemes.

(b) Hamirpur scheme with 16 LDPTs has been identified and found feasible. Name of places are given in the Statement below:

(c) PCOs are likely to be sanctioned and installed under various schemes by 31.3.90 subject to:

- (i) Technical feasibility of the schemes,
- (ii) Availability of funds, and
- (iii) availability of MARRS equipment from indigenous sources.

STATEMENT

Names of LDPT locations identified and found feasible under Hamirpur MARRS Scheme

Sl No	Name of LDPT Locations found feasible
1	Kangu
2	Dhaneta
3	Awahdevi
4	Tauni Devi
5	Didwin
6	Aghar
7	Hatli (Glore)
8	Balyt
9	Bhiar
10	Losar
11	Dian
12	Jarlog
13	Bhamla
14	Binal
15	Sialkar
16	Sera

Approval to Power Projects in West Bengal

rejection?

2191. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the power projects of West Bengal which have been approved and those which have not been approved by the Planning Commission; and

(b) the reasons for the delay and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). The details of the approved and on-going power projects of West Bengal for providing benefits in the Seventh Plan, under West Bengal's State Plan, and the status of new projects proposed by the State Government of West Bengal are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme (Capacity in MW)	Benefits during 7th Plan(MW)	Status of new projects
<i>Approved/Ongoing Projects</i>			
1	DPL's 6th Unit (110)	110	
2	Kolaghat TPS Stage-I (3x210)	240	
3	Rammam HEP Stage-II (4x12.5)	50	
4.	Kolaghat TPS Stage-II (3x210)	210	
5.	Teesta Canal HEP (3x3x7.5)	22.5	
6.	Rinchington Augmentation	1	
7.	Fazi Augmentation	1.2	
	Total	814.7	

New Projects

1.	Bakreshwar TPS (3x210)	Accepted 'in principle' by Planning Commission
2.	DPL's 7th Unit (1x210)	Department of Civil Aviation did not permit to erect 220 Mtr. Chimney.
3.	Sagardihi TPS (5x210+2x500)	Some inputs such as availability of coal and cooling water have yet to be tied up.
4.	Rammam Stage-I (2x15)	Revised Project Reports are awaited from West Bengal State Electricity Board.

Construction of Rajghat Thermal Power Station by BHEL

2192. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rajghat Thermal Power Station is being constructed by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be commissioned;

(c) the reasons for delay in its execution;

(d) how much electricity will be generated; and

(e) the details of checking air pollution by this power house?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (d). M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) have been entrusted with the execution of 2x67.5 MW Thermal Replacement unit projects at Rajghat Power House of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU) on a turn-key basis. The project is expected to be commissioned in 1988-89. There has been some delay in the project due to the delay in the clearance of certain pockets of land and delay in placement of certain orders for purchase of equipment.

(e) The measures envisaged to check air-pollution include installation of high efficiency electrostatic precipitators and installation of 160 meters high RCC Chimney for wider dispersion of gases.

Oleo Pine Resin Production

2193. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oleo Pine Resin has wide industrial application in rubber, paper, pharmaceuticals etc;

(b) if so, whether the production of this resin has gone down;

(c) if so, whether it has led to avoidable imports; and

(d) the steps taken to increase production?

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

(b) and (c) As per available information there has been a shortfall in production in recent years. Oleo Pine Resin is under the Open General list of the Import-Export Policy and actual users can import it to meet their shortfall.

(d) The State of Jammu and Kashmir, which is the major producer of Oleo Pine Resin, has been advised to employ improved technology and use modern tapping methods to extract Oleo Pine Resin so that their production increases in future.

Setting up of New Telephone Exchanges in West Bengal

2194 SHRI MATILAL HANSDA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme for setting up new telephone exchanges in West Bengal during Seventh Plan has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) A total of about two lakh telephone lines are proposed to be added during the Plan Period, out of which about 5000 lines will be provided for small Automatic Exchanges (SAXs)

Industrial licences/letters of intent for setting up of industries in backward regions and no industry districts

2195. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise total number of industrial licences and letters of intent granted for setting up of industries in the backward regions and no industry districts during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the names of those regions and districts which have been granted letters of intent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVEL-

OPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Statements I and II indicating State-wise and year-wise break-up of letters of intent and industrial licences granted during the years 1984 to 1986 for setting up of industries in centrally declared backward districts and 'no-industry districts' are given below.

(b) Details, such as name and address of the undertaking, location (indicating the name of district), item(s) of manufacture and capacity etc., in respect of all letters of intent and industrial licences issued are being published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to the Parliament Library regularly.

STATEMENT-I

State-wise break-up of Letters of Intent (LOIs) & Industrial Licences (ILs) issued for backward areas including No-Industry Districts during the years 1984, 1985 & 1986.

State/U T	1984		1985		1986	
	LOI	IL	LOI	IL	LOI	IL
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Andaman & Nicobar Island	2	—	1	2	—	1
2 Andhra Pradesh	56	23	88	37	72	22
3 Arunachal Pradesh	2	3	1	6	1	1
4 Assam	14	8	12	12	20	5
5 Bihar	10	6	7	3	3	3
6 Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	1	5	2	8	1
7 Goa, Daman & Diu	9	10	15	4	23	2
8 Gujarat	58	30	84	34	52	46
9 Haryana	29	11	33	13	25	11
10 Himachal Pradesh	18	5	29	12	18	9
11 Jammu & Kashmir	9	8	18	6	5	4
12 Karnataka	29	19	39	23	29	18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13. Kerala	5	13	18	15	11	8
14. Madhya Pradesh	70	23	79	29	48	25
15. Maharashtra	79	39	78	43	67	28
16. Manipur	—	—	1	—	1	—
17. Meghalaya	2	—	1	—	1	2
18. Nagaland	1	2	—	—	4	—
19. Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—
20. Orissa	7	5	23	6	8	1
21. Pondicherry	11	3	13	12	12	2
22. Punjab	17	15	14	15	23	6
23. Rajasthan	31	15	25	25	30	12
24. Sikkim	2	2	—	—	—	—
25. Tamil Nadu	49	32	47	68	48	23
26. Tripura	—	1	1	—	—	—
27. Uttar Pradesh	97	35	105	44	79	34
28. West Bengal	14	12	31	15	25	9
29. State not indicated/ More than one State	6	2	6	3	6	3
Total	627	323	774	427	621	273

STATEMENT-II

*State-wise break-up of Letters of Intent (LOIs) & Industrial Licences (ILs) issued 1984, 1985 & 1986
Specifically for No-Industry Districts*

State/U.T	1984		1985		1986	
	LOI	IL	LOI	IL	LOI	IL
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	—	—	1
2. Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	1	5	1	—
3. Assam	3	—	1	—	2	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4 Bihar	4	2	1	2	1	2
5. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	1	5	2	8	1
6 Gujarat	5	—	1	—	—	2
7 Himachal Pradesh	2	—	1	—	—	1
8 Jammu & Kashmir	—	1	1	—	1	—
9 Karnataka	4	3	8	—	6	2
10 Kerala	—	—	2	—	1	—
11 Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—
12 Madhya Pradesh	33	10	45	10	33	9
13 Maharashtra	—	—	1	—	5	—
14 Manipur	—	—	1	—	1	2
15 Meghalaya	1	—	1	—	1	2
16 Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—
17 Nagaland	—	—	—	—	2	—
18 Orissa	3	—	11	5	5	1
19 Rajasthan	2	—	6	1	8	—
20 Sikkim	2	2	—	—	—	—
21 Tripura	—	1	1	—	—	—
22 Uttar Pradesh	22	6	19	5	14	9
23 West Bengal	2	—	7	2	5	—
24 State not indicated/ More than one State	—	—	1	1	—	1
Total	84	27	114	33	94	29

Generation targets of National Thermal Power Corporation

2196. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has failed to achieve its gener-

ation targets fixed for 1986-87 and upto 30 June, 1987;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to appoint a technocrat as Chairman of National Thermal Power Corporation and

to replace the present Chairman:

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) No, Sir. Both in 1986-87 and upto 30th June, 1987, the NTPC exceeded its generation targets.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The present Chairman and Managing Director of the Corporation has yet to complete his tenure.

Setting up of Heavy Industries in Andhra Pradesh

2197. SHRI KATURI NARAYANA

SWAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are considering to set up some heavy industries in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) to (c). The 7th Plan has made an allocation of Rs. 3579.17 crores for Central industrial and mineral projects in Andhra Pradesh excluding coal, power and petroleum. The investment includes the outlays for existing projects as well as for new schemes. In the Department of Public Enterprises following major allocation has been made:—

	Name of enterprise	(Rs crores)
1	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd Hyderabad	20 00
2.	Bharat Heavy Plate & Vessels Ltd., Vizag.	20 50
3.	HMT Ltd., Hyderabad	8 00
4.	High Voltage Direct Current Transmission Project.	5 00
5.	Hindustan Cables Hyderabad	54 00
6.	Cement Corpn of India	155 47
7.	Tyre Corpn. of India Ltd.	15.00
Total :		277.97

Demand, Generation and Supply of Electricity

2198. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
DR. A.K. PATEL:
SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH
GOSWAMI:
SHRI AMAL DATTA:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased

to state:

(a) the demand, generation and supply of electricity in the country during the last three years, year-wise, State and Union Territory-wise details thereof;

(b) whether there is any gap, between demand and generation of electricity;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remove the gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). The requisite information regarding generation and requirement/availability is given below in the Statements I and II respectively.

(d) To improve the availability of power, the various measures taken include expediting commissioning of new capacity optimum utilisation of existing capacity, implementation of Centrally Sponsored Renovation & Modernisation programme for thermal stations, reduction in transmission & distribution losses, assistance from neighbouring States/Systems to the extent possible, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures.

STATEMENT

Board/State-wise Generation (Gwh) during 1984-85 to 1986-87

Board/System/State	Type	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
1. BBMB	3	4	5	6
2. DELHI	HYDRO	10056	10570	11719
DESU	THERMAL	1602	1584	1794
BADARPUR (NTPC)	THERMAL	3014	2901	3317
DELHI TOTAL	THERMAL	4616	4485	5112
3. J & K	THERMAL	0	7	0
	HYDRO	862	863	1053
	TOTAL	862	870	1053
4. H.P.	HYDRO	469	576	591
HPSEB	HYDRO	656	678	808
BAIRASIUL (NHPC)	HYDRO	1124	1254	1399
HP TOTAL				
5. HARYANA	THERMAL	1261	1207	1517
HSEB	HYDRO	—	—	37
	TOTAL	1261	1207	1554
6. RAJASTHAN	THERMAL	1103	1111	1057
RSEB	HYDRO	847	923	1255
	TOTAL	1950	2034	2312
RAPS	NUCLEAR	1078	1292	1325

RAJASTHAN TOTAL	1103 1078 847 3028	1111 1292 923 3326	1057 1325 1255 3637
7 PUNJAB PSEB	2342 968 3310	4275 1487 5762	5143 1622 6765
8 UTTAR PRADESH UPSEB	6790 4545 11335 5315 12105 4545 16650	7752 4582 12334 6331 14083 4582 18665	9515 5203 14728 6875 16390 5213 21603
SINGRAULI(NTPC) UP TOTAL			
9 GUJARAT GEB	9952 626 10578 1737 11689 626 12315	10427 291 10718 2214 12641 291 12932	12119 481 12600 2082 14201 481 14682
GUJARAT PVT GUJARAT TOTAL			
10 MAHARASHTRA MSEB	13731 4356 18087 172 1930 4680 1370 6050	17223 4000 21223 156 1962 3981 1235 5216	19651 3720 23371 112 2000 4598 1162 5780
CHOLA(RLY) TARAPUR MAHARASHTRA PVT			

NEYVELI	4057	3937	5107
KALPAKKAM	1070	1731	1698
TAMIL NADU	8994	9631	11246
TOTAL	1070	1731	1698
NUCLEAR	4452	2944	3321
HYDRO	14516	14306	16265
TOTAL			
16. BIHAR	2492	3089	3465
BSEB	274	235	217
TOTAL	2766	3324	3682
17. ORISSA	1326	1304	1307
OSEB	2269	2169	2735
TOTAL	3595	3473	4042
18 WEST BENGAL	3609	4620	4937
WBSEB	122	121	100
TOTAL	3731	474	5037
DPL	705	677	1030
CESC(PVT)	2314	2465	2553
FARAKKA(NTPC)	—	1	555
WEST BENGAL TOTAL	6628	7763	9075
	122	121	100
	6750	7884	9175
19 DVC	6146	6059	5328
	362	405	370
TOTAL	6508	6464	5698
20. SIKKIM	16	30	33
21 ASSAM	848	840	997

1	2	3	4	5	6
	22.	MEGHALAYA MANIPUR & TRIPURA	—	—	33
		THERMAL	811	998	887
		HYDRO	811	998	917
		TOTAL	99770	114119	128818
	ALL INDIA	THERMAL	4078	4985	5023
		NUCLEAR	53785	50933	53764
		HYDRO	156633	170037	187605
		TOTAL			

STATEMENT-II*Year-wise actual power supply position 1984-85 to 1986-87*

(All figures in MU Net)

State/System	84-85	85-86	86-87
NORTHERN REGION			
CHANDIGARH			
Requirement	306	354	432
Availability	303	340	401
Surp (+)/Defi (—)	-3	-14	-31
(%)	(1.0)	(3.9)	(7.2)
DELHI			
Requirement	4175	4880	5676
Availability	4448	4869	5674
Surp (+)/Defi (—)	+273	-11	-2
(%)	6.5	0.2	(0.0)
HARYANA			
Requirement	5571	5507	5945
Availability	3963	4223	5147
Deficit (—)	-1608	-1284	-798
(%)	(28.9)	(23.3)	(13.4)
HIMACHAL PRADESH			
Requirement	614	786	925
Availability	650	783	922
Surp (+)/Defi (—)	+36	-3	-3
(%)	(5.8)	(0.4)	(0.3)
JAMMU & KASHMIR			
Requirement	1549	1719	2055
Availability	1270	1457	1820
Surp (+)/Defi (—)	-279	-262	-235
(%)	(18.0)	(15.2)	(11.4)
PUNJAB			
Requirement	9585	10525	11679
Availability	7741	9581	11197
Deficit (—)	-1844	-944	-482
(%)	(19.2)	(8.9)	(4.1)
RAJASTHAN			
Requirement	6570	7100	8090
Availability	5903	6573	7448
Deficit (—)	-667	-527	-642
(%)	(10.2)	(7.4)	(7.9)

State/System	84-85	85-86	86-87
UTTAR PRADESH			
Requirement	16352	17633	20204
Availability	14193	15477	17198
Deficit (—)	-2159	-2156	-3006
(%)	(13.2)	(12.2)	(14.9)
NORTHERN REGION			
Requirement	44722	48504	55006
Availability	38471	43303	49807
Deficit (—)	-6251	-5201	-5199
(%)	(14.0)	(10.7)	(9.5)
WESTERN REGION			
GUJARAT			
Requirement	12565	14128	15968
Availability	12784	13866	15431
Surp (+)/Defi (—)	+219	-262	-537
(%)	(1.7)	(1.8)	(3.4)
MADHYA PRADESH			
Requirement	9810	11226	12781
Availability	10232	11211	12781
Surp (+)/Defi (—)	+422	-15	—
(%)	(4.3)	(0.1)	—
MAHARASHTRA incl Goa			
Requirement	24055	25957	28945
Availability	23102	25518	27051
Deficit (—)	-953	-439	-1894
(%)	(4.0)	(1.7)	(6.5)
WESTERN REGION			
Requirement	46430	51311	57694
Availability	46118	50595	55263
Deficit (—)	-312	-716	-2431
(%)	(0.7)	(1.4)	(4.2)
SOUTHERN REGION			
ANDHRA PRADESH			
Requirement	11287	13534	150557
Availability	12035	13534	15057
Surp (+)/Defi (—)	+749	—	—
(%)	(6.6)	—	—
KARNATAKA			
Requirement	10277	12166	14163
Availability	9532	9463	10350
Deficit (—)	-745	-2703	-3813
(%)	(7.2)	(22.2)	(26.9)

State/System	84-85	85-86	86-87
KERALA			
Requirement	4775	5225	5567
Availability	4662	5225	5146
Surp (+) Defi (—)	-113	—	-421
(%)	(2.4)	—	(7.6)
TAMIL NADU			
Requirement	13390	14610	16391
Availability	13580	13076	14983
Surp (+)/Defi (—)	+190	-1534	-1408
(%)	(1.4)	(10.5)	(8.6)
SOUTHERN REGION			
Requirement	39729	45535	51178
Availability	39810	41298	45536
Surp (+)/Defi (—)	+81	-4237	-5642
(%)	(0.2)	(9.3)	(11.0)
EASTERN REGION			
BIHAR			
Requirement	4418	4315	4877
Availability	2678	3108	3564
Deficit (—)	-1740	-1207	-1313
(%)	(39.4)	(28.0)	(26.9)
D V C			
Requirement	6576	6584	6928
Availability	5344	5956	7806
Deficit (—)	-1232	-628	1122
(%)	(18.7)	(9.5)	(16.2)
ORISSA			
Requirement	5194	5374	6328
Availability	4339	4342	4807
Deficit (—)	-855	-1032	-1521
(%)	(16.5)	(19.2)	(24.0)
WEST BENGAL			
Requirement	6769	7370	8416
Availability	6621	6970	7683
Deficit (—)	-148	-400	-733
(%)	(2.2)	(5.4)	(8.7)
EASTERN REGION			
Requirement	22957	23643	26549
Availability	18982	20376	21860
Deficit (—)	-3975	-3267	-4689
(%)	(17.3)	(13.8)	(17.7)

State/System	84-85	85-86	86-87
NORTH EASTERN REGION			
Requirement	1594	1753	1929
Availability	1632	1690	1810
Surp (+)/Defi (—)	+38	-63	-119
(%)	(2.4)	(3.6)	(6.2)
ALL INDIA			
Requirement	155432	170746	192356
Availability	145013	157262	174276
Deficit (—)	-10419	-13484	-18080
(%)	(6.7)	(7.9)	(9.4)

Automatic Mail Handling Scheme

2199. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for automatic mail handling scheme to be operated from the four metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme including its financial implications; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is expected to come into operation?

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

(b) The Planning Commission has allocated an amount of Rs. 39 crores in the 7th Five Year Plan for modernisation and mechanisation of postal services. There is a proposal for setting up mechanised mail processing system in Bombay. The Government appointed M/s Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd., New Delhi, in 1985 to carry out a feasibility study in this regard. The report of the Consultants which was submitted in May, 1986, has been further reviewed by the Departmental Committee of officers whose recommendations are under examination. The question of financial implications will arise only when the proposal are nearing finalisation.

(c) Does not arise

Shortage of Vanaspati and Edible Oils in Rural areas

2200. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been acute shortage of vanaspati oil and edible oils in various parts of the country, particularly in the rural areas;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of edible oils is being imported to meet the demand of edible oils in the country, which is distributed only in cities and not in the rural areas; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Union Government for the proper distribution of vanaspati oil and edible oils particularly in the rural area?

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

(a) There has been no shortage of vanaspati in any part of the country. The production of vanaspati in this oil year upto June, 1987 has been higher as compared to last year. There has been a gap between the demand for and supply of indigenous edible oils in the country.

(b) Edible oils are imported to meet the gap between the demand for and supply of indigenous edible oils for distribution to

consumers under PDS both in the urban and rural areas. States distribute imported edible oils in the urban as well as rural areas.

(c) Vanaspati is distributed through private channel only and more than half of the vanaspati consumption is accounted for in the rural household. Instructions have also been issued to State Governments to distribute imported edible oils to the consumers including weaker and vulnerable sections of the society both in urban and rural areas through fair price shops.

Central Investment for Industries in West Bengal

2201. SHRI R.P. DAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that central investment for industries in West Bengal have been reduced from Plan to Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) No, Sir

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

Source of Fuel

2202. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study/survey has been conducted to determine the annual consumption of the various types of fuel in the country;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) what is the chief source of fuel in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MIN-

ISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The annual consumption figures of the commercial fuels, namely, oil (including gas), power and coal, are regularly compiled by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Central Electricity Authority and Department of Coal respectively. In the case of non-commercial fuels like fuelwood animal dung and agro-residues, such information is not compiled on a regular basis. Based on sample surveys, however, non-commercial fuels are estimated to constitute roughly 40% of the total energy consumption in the country.

(c) In terms of primary energy supply, coal and fuel-wood are the chief sources of fuel in India.

Opening of Post Offices and Installation of New Telephone Exchanges in West Bengal

2203. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

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

(b) whether the targets for the years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 were fully achieved,

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): *POSTAL*: (a) Thirtythree post offices in the rural/tribal areas of West Bengal are proposed to be opened during the current year.

TELECOM: The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) *POSTAL*: No targets for opening of post offices were laid down during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 on account of the ban on creation of posts. During 1984-85 under a special dispensation, a limited number of rural post offices were opened in the country including 4 in West Bengal.

TELECOM: The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) *POSTAL*: Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

TELECOM: The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) *POSTAL*: Does not arise in view of (b) above.

TELECOM: The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of new Telephone Exchanges

2204. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the

Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up new telephone exchanges in the country during the current year;

(b) if so, the details of the places selected for this purpose; and

(c) the time by which the proposed exchanges will start functioning?

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

(b) Details are given below in the Statements I and II. The names of places where MAX-III type of exchanges are planned to be opened cannot be furnished since their opening depends on registration of demand. State-wise allotment is given in the Statement-III below.

(c) The exchanges are targetted to be commissioned during 87-88 subject to availability of equipment.

STATEMENT -I

New Exchanges likely to be set up during 1987-88

(Large Capacity Exchanges)

1	2	3
1. Surat III	SXS	2400 M
2. Gandhi Nagar (Jammu)	ICP	2000 M
3. Naranpura (Ahmedabad)	X bar	2000 M
4. Ulsoor III (BG)	C.DOT	4000 M
5. Pune City III	X Bar	2000 M
6. Amritsar Albert Road	E 10B	5 K
7. Noida	E 10B	4 K
8. Calcutta Sibpur	E 10B	4 K
9. Bombay Bandra-II	E 10B	8 K

	1	2	3
10.	Hyderabad-Secunderabad	E 10B	10 K
11.	Bangalore-Malleswaram	E 10B	10 K
12.	Bombay-Mazagaon	Fetex (100L)	10 K
13.	Calcutta Saltlake	-do-	5 K

STATEMENT- II

New Exchanges to be set up during 1987-88 in conversion to NEAX (615)

In addition 61 new medium capacity Electronic Exchanges are proposed to be installed for replacement of existing manual/MAX II exchanges in various cities during 1987-88. A total number of 27,600 lines are proposed to be commissioned.

STATEMENT-III

Exchanges likely to be set up during 1987-88

(Small Capacity Exchanges of 25 and 50 Lines)

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of Exchanges
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58
2.	Bihar	55
3.	Gujarat	35
4.	Haryana	20
5.	Himachal Pradesh.	26
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	4
7.	Karnataka	50
8.	Kerala	2
9.	Madhya Pradesh	80
10.	Maharashtra	44
11.	North East	29
12.	Orissa	15
13.	Punjab	20
14.	Rajasthan	60

1	2	3
15.	Tamil Nadu	24
16.	Uttar Pradesh	70
17.	West Bengal	12

Total number of lines proposed to be 35,000 lines added during 1987-88.

Decentralisation of N.T.P.C.

2205. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM:
SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation is being decentralised; and

(b) whether the principle of tripartite management will be introduced in the National Thermal Power Corporation in this new decentralisation scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The organisation structure of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) provides for delegation and accountability on a three-tier basis. No proposal in respect of further decentralisation is presently under consideration.

Committees have been set up with representatives of management of employees/unions at the apex, project and the departmental levels to promote the culture of the participative system of management.

Investment in Central Projects in States

2206. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount invested by Government in Central Sector Projects;

(b) what is the criteria laid down by

Government for allocating funds for Central Sector projects in various States;

(c) whether the investment made in various States conforms to the laid down policy; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to correct the position?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) The investment in 225 Central public enterprises as per the Public Enterprises Survey 1985-86 works out to Rs. 50,341 crores as on 31.3.1986.

(b) to (d). The investment in Central projects are made by the Government in pursuance of its Industrial Policy Resolutions and provisions made in the Five Year Plans. Overall resource availability also affects the funds allocation for various Central Sector projects. The investment decisions by the Central Government in industrial projects are mainly based on techno-economic considerations through regional imbalance is also taken into account while considering the projects.

Shortage of edible oils

2207. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of edible oils in the market and the prices of both the imported as well as indigenous oils are spiralling;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) its impact on the manufacture of vanaspati and its prices;

(d) whether the position is likely to deteriorate further owing to the delayed and scanty monsoons in some of the oilseeds and groundnut producing areas of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, the steps Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a). There has been a gap between the demand for and availability of indigenous edible oils. There has been a rising trend in the prices of indigenous edible oils. The imported edible oils are supplied at a pre-determined price fixed by the Government.

(b) The main reasons are (i) lower production of edible oilseeds during the last two years (ii) lean period and (iii) delayed and wayward behaviour of monsoon.

(c) The production of vanaspati in this oil year till June, 1987 is higher as compared to last year. Due to increase in prices of indigenous permitted oils and prices of vanaspati has also increased.

(d) The overall monsoon has been delayed and erratic in various oilseeds producing areas of the country including Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu so far. This situation may influence the oilseeds productions during the Kharif season.

(e) The Government is making efforts to increase area under Toria and other Rabi oilseed crops with a view to compensate the Kharif losses.

Clearance to Bakreswar and Sagar Dighi Thermal Project

2208. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bakreswar and Sagar Dighi Thermal Projects (West Bengal) have been cleared by Union Government;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). The proposed Bakreswar Thermal Power Project (3x210 MW) has been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). The Planning Commission have accepted, 'in principle', the feasibility of the project to enable the State Government to take up associated arrangements and infrastructural works. Implementation of the project could commence after the funds required have been tied up, the clearance of the State Forest Department in respect of the ash disposal system has been received and investment approval is accorded.

The project report in respect of setting up of a Thermal Power Station, envisaging the installation of five units of 210 MW each and two units of 500 MW each at Sagar-dighi in Murshidabad district, was received in the CEA. The proposal could be techno-economically appraised by the CEA after essential inputs, such as the availability of coal and cooling water etc., are tied up and necessary clearances, including from the environmental and civil aviation angles, have become available.

Bio-gas plants in Andhra Pradesh

2209. SHRI SRIHARI RAO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of bio-gas plants in Andhra Pradesh as on 30th June, 1987 and the number of plants installed during 1983 to 30th June, 1987;

(b) the number of bio-gas plants to be installed during 1987 in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether there is any proposal to give the financial assistance to Government of Andhra Pradesh for the development of bio-gas plants and for research work; and

(d) if so, the details and the financial assistance provided, if any?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) A total of over 68,300 family type biogas plants have been set up in the State of Andhra Pradesh during 1981-82 to 1987-88 (upto June, 1987) under the National Project for Bio-gas Development. It includes a total of 64,650 plants installed during the period 1983-84 to 1987-88 (upto June, 1987).

(b) A target of setting up of 10,000 family type biogas plants has been allotted to the State Government for the year 1987-88.

(c) and (d). Under the National Project for Biogas Development (NPBD) some financial assistance is already being given to all States including Andhra Pradesh for setting up bio-gas plants and demonstrating new models, subject to the over all funds allotted. In the State of Andhra Pradesh, research projects on biogas are in progress at Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, Regional Research Laboratory and Jawaharlal Nehru Technology University, involving a total sanctioned financial outlay of Rs. 12.18 lakhs.

Cost overruns of Hydro-Electric Power Projects

2210. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost overruns of the hydro-electric power projects that are likely to slip over further from 1986-87;

(b) whether while sanctioning approval, precaution was taken to assign in the case of each unit, over-all accountability and completion responsibility within the original estimates, to a definite and competent authority/agency;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, who is accountable for the huge cost overruns and resulting losses in each case; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). A Statement giving the names of the Hydro Electric Power Projects which have slipped from 1986-87, with details of their capacity, original and latest estimated costs is given below. The Project authorities are responsible for implementation of projects as per scheduled and within the cost estimates. However, the delay in completion is due to various factors such as unforeseen geological problems, delays in supply of equipments, paucity of funds, changes in the scope of the project, weak project management, industrial relation problems etc. Cost escalation in the projects is not only due to delays in completion but also on account of factors such as changes in the scope of the project, increase in the cost of equipments/material, escalation in prices etc. In view of this, it would not be practicable to fix specific accountability. In order to avoid delays in completion of projects, various measures have been taken which include extensive monitoring of the projects, expediting supply of equipment and materials, visit to project sites by senior officers of Department of Power and CEA to identify and overcome the constraints. The need for effective project management is also being constantly emphasised.

STATEMENT

Details of Hydro Electric units slipped from 1986-87

Sl. NO.	Name of the Project/ State	Unit No. slipped	Installed Capacity of slipped units (MW)	Original Cost (Cr.) Base Year	Latest estimated cost (Cr.) Base Year
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Western Yamuna Canal (Haryana)	3	8.00	<u>45.72</u> 1980	<u>98.22</u> 1986
2.	Andhra	1	5.65	<u>9.74</u> 1976	<u>41.23</u> 1986
3.	Anoopgarh (Rajasthan)	2 3	5.65 5.65		
		Units 1 to 6	9.00	<u>36.51</u> 1980	<u>14.60</u> 1986
4.	Stakna (Jammu & Kashmir)	2	2.00	<u>0.02</u> 1968	<u>22.00</u> 1986
5.	Salal (NHPC)	1	115.00	<u>55.15</u> 1970	<u>567.35</u> 1986
		2	115.00		
		3	115.00		

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Ukai L.B.C. (Gujarat)	1	2.5	<u>3.05</u> 1977	4.91 1986
7.	Vaitarna Dam Toe (Maharashtra)	1	1.5	<u>0.94</u> 1984	1.98 1986
8.	Lower Mettur (Tamil Nadu)	5	15	<u>83.60</u> 1980	<u>163.85</u> 1986
9	Upper Kolab (Orissa)	1	80	<u>51.39</u> 1975	<u>186.04</u> 1985
10.	Kopili	1	50	<u>56.77</u> 1975	<u>212.00</u> 1986
	Mini & Micro Total shipped :	2	<u>50</u> 590.45		
			<u>9.325</u> 599.775		Details not available.

Electricity through non-conventional sources of energy in Maharashtra

2211. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in some of the States some satisfactory work has been done in rural areas by providing electricity through non-conventional sources of energy;

(b) if so, whether demand gap for power in rural areas of Maharashtra has been assessed and how much of it can be mopped up through non-conventional sources of energy;

(c) whether any scheme has been drawn up in this regard for Maharashtra Pradesh for being implemented during the next three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Electricity produced from non-conventional energy sources is being provided satisfactorily in some villages including those in Maharashtra for such purposes as street lighting, community TV, primary health centres, micro irrigation, etc. based on solar photovoltaic technology. Other non-conventional energy devices for producing electricity such as gasifier systems, with biogas engine generator systems, wind battery charges, etc. are being field-tested for possible wider scale use. These devices can at present meet the electricity requirements in a limited way but have the potential to meet larger needs in the long run.

(c) and (d). Under Solar Photovoltaic demonstration programme, the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has provided a large number of solar powered street lighting systems to Maharashtra State Electricity Board for their installation in unelectrified villages in Maharashtra. So far, such systems have been completed in about 100 villages and work is in progress in several more vil-

lages. A project for a 100 KW biomass gasifier generator has been sanctioned to the Maharashtra Energy Development Agency. These programmes are being continued during the next three years and will be expanded depending on the availability of funds.

Expansion of paper industry in Madhya Pradesh

2212. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received suggestions from the State of Madhya Pradesh regarding the need for expanding the forest based paper industry in that State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Ministry of Industry have not received any such suggestions.

(b) Does not arise.

Demand for medical stores of Super Bazar in R.K. Puram, New Delhi

2213. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Super Bazar, Delhi has opened medical stores/pharmacist shops all over Delhi;

(b) the reasons for not opening a medical stores/pharmacist shop in Sector IV, R.K. Puram, New Delhi by Super Bazar although a shop has been earmarked; and

(c) the time by which it is to be opened there?

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

(a) Super Bazar, Delhi, has opened sixteen drug stores in different parts of Delhi, at the places shown below:

- (1) Connaught Place.
- (2) Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital.
- (3) Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Hospital.
- (4) All India Institute of Medical Sciences.
- (5) Hindu Rao Hospital.
- (6) I.N.A. Market.
- (7) Vasant Vihar.
- (8) Kamla Nagar.
- (9) Shadipur Depot.
- (10) Jahangirpuri.
- (11) Gulabi Bagh.
- (12) Badarpur Thermal Power Station.
- (13) Meena Bagh.
- (14) Palika Bhawan.
- (15) Kalavati Saran Hospital.
- (16) Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital.

(b) and (c). No shop has been earmarked by Super Bazar to open a medical store/pharmacist shop in Sector IV, R.K. Puram. A drug outlet of Super Bazar is already functioning in Palika Bhawan in Sector XIII of R.K. Puram.

ONGC proposals for Major Investment

2214. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for the clearance of the ONGC proposals for major investment;

(b) brief particulars of such proposals pending with the Ministry for clearance with their date of submission by the ONGC;

(c) brief particulars of such proposals cleared by the Ministry but pending with the Public Investment Board with the date of reference of the cases to the Board; and

(d) the steps taken to reduce the processing time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) ONGC's projects costing above Rs. twenty crores are cleared by Government after these are examined by concerned appraising agencies and recommended by the Public Investment Board

(b) There is only one project proposal, namely Captive Gas Turbine Power generation for Eastern Region involving cost estimates of Rs. 26.03 crores for which ONGC furnished clarification on 22.7.87.

However, there are nine more projects which are either pending consideration by different appraising agencies of the Government or awaiting clarification/additional information from ONGC.

(c) At present no proposal is pending with the Public Investment Board for consideration.

(d) Steps taken to reduce processing time include better and more thorough preparation of projects; follow up action with different appraising agencies/departments; obtaining clarification through discussion with ONGC etc.

Demand for more sugar zones in Maharashtra

2215. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the

Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra is being treated as one single zone for fixation of sugar price whereas Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have nearly fifteen zones;

(b) whether it is a fact that Marathwada, Vidarbha and Khandesh regions of Maharashtra continue to remain backward because more cooperative sugar factories cannot be set up being in a single zone and high cost of production and profit viability;

(c) whether Maharashtra Government have requested Union Government to rationalise the zone system to overcome regional disparity; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT).

(a) No, Sir. Maharashtra is not being treated as one single zone for fixation of levy sugar price. Uttar Pradesh and Bihar do not have fifteen zones.

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

(c) and (d). Maharashtra Government had represented that the State be divided into sub-zones for levy sugar price fixation. The States has been divided into two zones, viz. North Maharashtra and South Maharashtra, for levy sugar price fixation from 1986-87 sugar season.

Production of Telephone Instruments by I.T.I.

2216. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the targetted and actual total production of telephone instruments by Indian Telephone Industries Limited during the year 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): The Indian Telephone Industries Limited produced 7,51,922 number of telephone instruments against the target of 8,00,000 numbers during 1986-87.

Dead Dogs Found in Rice Wagons Supplied to Kerala

2217. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that dead bodies of dogs were found in the wagons of rice supplied to Kerala from the godowns of the Food Corporation of India;

(b) whether any tests were made on the rice samples taken from these wagons; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such incidents in future and the steps already taken against those responsible for such incidents?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. Dead body of a dog was found near the flap door of a wagon unloaded in Kerala.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Comprehensive instructions regarding checking of wagons are already in force. Meanwhile, investigations are on to fix responsibility in the instant case.

Production of Sugar

2218. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of sugar during the current year is expected to be higher than the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether import of sugar is proposed to be stopped; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The sugar production during the current sugar year 1986-87 aggregated to 83.92 lakh tonnes upto 22.7.1987. as against 69.11 lakh tonnes on the corresponding date last year showing an increase of 14.81 lakh tonnes

(c) and (d). The import of sugar was reported to, to bridge the gap between domestic availability and internal consumption. Further import of sugar will depend upon the future trend of sugar production, consumption and overall availability of sugar for internal consumption in the country.

[*Translation*]

Sale of Wet Wheat in Delhi and other States

2219. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the traders of Delhi and other States are buying wet wheat from Punjab;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these traders are mixing the wet wheat with the wheat of good quality for selling it on high prices;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to check it;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether some State Governments have complained to Union Government about this wet wheat; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (f). The information is being collected.

[*English*]

Production of Cement

2220. SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production of cement in India during the last three years, year-wise, in different sectors like large, medium, small scale and tiny and the number of plants in operation in each sector;

(b) to what extent Government have achieved its objectives and goals of increasing production of cement of different grades and varieties; and

(c) the sectoral goals set and facilities and concessions granted for development of all the sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Year-wise production of cement during the last three years in different sectors was as under:

Year	Large Sector Plants		Mini cement plants including small and tiny plants	
	No. of Units	Production (in M.T)	No. of Units	Production (in M.T.)
1984-85	77	29.61	30	0.58
85-86	79	32.04	66	1.09
86-87	87	34.83	103	1.67

(b) and (c). Government has not fixed gradewise, and varietywise Cement Production Targets. Targets are fixed for cement production of all varieties and from all sectors taken together. For the current financial year a target of 42.50 million tonnes has been fixed. A target of 49 million tonnes of cement production by the terminal year of the Seventh Plan has also been fixed which is likely to be achieved.

The following facilities/concessions have been provided for the development of cement industry;

- (i) Retention price for levy cement has been increased by Rs. 24.50 per tonne with effect from 15.12.86;
- (ii) Payment of Rs. 9/-per tonne by the cement factories to Cement Regulation Account on the non-levy production of cement has been discontinued from 15 12.86;

(iii) Newer units commencing production on or after 1.4.86 will also be entitled to a rebate in excise duty at the rate of Rs. 50/- per tonne provided their production in the relevant financial year is not less than 30% of the licensed capacity (as may be certified by the Development Commissioner for Cement Industry). The rebate will be admissible during the period 1st March, 1987 to 31st March, 1990;

(iv) There are no price and distribution controls on the production of Mini Cement Plants upto capacity of 300 M.T. per day and hence there is no liability for supply of cement by these plants;

(v) The levy quota of large scale units had been progressively reduced and the present levy obligation is as under:—

(a) New cement Units commencing production on or after 1.4.86	15% of actual production
(b) Cement units which had commenced production between 1.1.82 to 31.3.86	20% of actual production
(c) Units declared sick and expansions materialising after 1.1.82	30% of actual production

(d) All other units viz. those in production prior to 1.1.82

50% of actual production

(vi) To encourage the setting up of the captive DG sets, appropriate relief is allowed in fixing the levy quota to neutralise additional cost involved in generation of power from the captive DG sets installed after 1.1.82

[*Translation*]

Rise in Prices of Edible Oils

2222. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

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

(a) whether there has been a steep rise in the prices of edible oils recently;

(b) if so, the prices of groundnut oil, mustard oil and coconut oil in the first week of July, 1987;

(c) the prices of these oils in the corresponding month of previous two years, and

(d) the efforts made by Government to bring down their prices?

Utilisation of HBJ Pipeline gas

2221. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any change in the allocation of H.B.J. Pipeline gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) how the gas which will remain utilised is proposed to be used; and

(d) what will be the effect of this change on the viability of the H.B.J. project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (d). As delays are indicated in the commissioning of some of the downstream projects, efforts are being made to locate additional consumers so as to utilise the gas to be transported through the HBJ Pipeline to the maximum possible extent.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT). (a) There has been a rising trend in the prices of edible oils

(b) and (c). The wholesale prices of groundnut oil, mustard oil and coconut oil in the first week of July, 1987, July, 1986 and July, 1985 are as under—

(Rs per tonne)

Commodity/Centre	Prices as on		
	3 7.87	4.7.86	5.7.85
1	2	3	4
GROUNDNUT OIL			
Bombay	25844	19968	15028
Madras	25500	18700	13100
Rajkot	23800	18250	14850

1	2	3	4
MUSTARD OIL			
Delhi (paki ghani)	22745	15074	10505
COCONUT OIL			
Cochin	31600	19650	19150

(d) The following measures have been taken by the Government to contain the rise in the prices of edible oils:

- (i) States have been advised repeatedly, even at Chief Ministers level, to take a stringent action against speculators, hoarders and other anti-social elements.
- (ii) The use of expeller mustard oil in the manufacture of vanaspati which was earlier allowed has been prohibited from 15.5.1987.
- (iii) The allocation of imported edible oils under Public Distribution System and to Vanaspati Industry has been increased.
- (iv) Inspection of Vanaspati Units was intensified to ensure that all edible oils are properly used and adequate vanaspati is despatched for sale.

[English]

Stress on Technological Modernisation

2223. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-
WARI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to upgrade technology instead of relying on fiscal incentives to revive the domestic capital goods sector;

(b) whether this decision will lay greater stress on technological modernisation;

(c) if so, to what extent this decision would help the capital goods industries to compete not only in domestic market but also in the international arena; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). The Government had set up five Expert Groups to prepare a package of proposals for modernisation, technology upgradation and accelerated growth of industry in the following industrial sectors:

- (1) Power Generating Equipment covering Turbines, Generators and Boilers.
- (2) Electrical Equipment covering Electric Motors, Electric Transformers, HT Circuit Breakers and AC Drives.
- (3) Machine Tool Industry.
- (4) Castings and Forgings.
- (5) Selected industrial machinery covering Metallurgical and Steel Plant Equipment, Mining Machinery, Chemical Machinery, Sugar Mill Machinery, Paper Machinery, Rubber Machinery, Packaging Industry and Textile Machinery Industry.

The reports of the Expert Groups have been received and studied. A technology upgradation scheme for the capital goods sector will be announced shortly. It is reasonable to state that technological upgradation and modernisation, widening of the product range, cost reduction and quality improvement of the capital goods sector would help in improving the export potential of these industries.

Wood Based Power Technology

2224. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the field of wood based power technology on the basis of results achieved at the pilot projects set up by the Commission for Additional Sources of Energy; and

(b) the time by which the benefits of the latest technology will be available to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). As a result of the indigenous R&D efforts biomass gasifier systems for various applications, using wood and agricultural residues, have been developed and put into commercial production on pilot basis. Stirling Engines using biomass fuel are also entering production.

Benefits from this technology are likely to increase with increased commercial production. Demonstrative application of this technology has already been taken up for irrigation pumping and generation of electricity for farmers.

Development of Technology to utilize Solar Energy

2225. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain research institutes are engaged in the development of tech-

nology to utilize solar energy, particularly to meet the needs of villagers;

(b) if so, the names and number of such institutes who have successfully developed some equipment working with solar energy for both domestic and industrial use; and

(c) whether these equipments are ready for commercial purposes and if so, the details of each of them?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). A number of research institutes and organisations are engaged in the development of technology for the utilisation of solar energy for various purposes. Among these are several Universities, Indian Institutes of Technology, national laboratories and industrial organisations such as Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd., Central Electronics Limited etc. As a result of the indigenous R&D efforts several devices and systems have been developed and put into commercial production. Among these are:

- (i) Solar cookers for domestic and community use.
- (ii) Solar water heating system for domestic industrial use.
- (iii) Solar drying units for industrial and agricultural purposes.
- (iv) Solar powered street lighting units.
- (v) Solar powered TV systems.
- (vi) Water pumping systems for micro irrigation and drinking supply.
- (vii) Solar powered battery charging units.

**Non resident Indians Investment in
Andhra Pradesh**

2226. SHRIMATI N.P. JHANSI LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made by the non-resident Indians in Andhra Pradesh in 1985, 1986 and 1987 so far; and

(b) the names of projects and industries in which the investment has been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). A total number of 33 Letters of Intent/SIA Registrations were issued to the non-resident Indians to set up units in the State of Andhra Pradesh during 1985, 1986 and 1987 (upto 30.6.1987) for the manufacture of audio compact discs, plastic ophthalmic lenses, alkaline manganese zinc batteries, particle board, disposable baby diapers, dot-matrix printers, P.V.C. floor tiles etc. NRI investment of Rs. 1161.93 lakhs is estimated in the projects covered by these 33 approvals.

Plan for growth of Public Sector

2227. DR. V. VENKATESH. Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any long term plan for the growth of public sector as a whole;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any programme and activities are under the consideration of Government to make the SCOPE (Standing Committee on Public Enterprises) to play a more positive role in improving the performance of public enterprises; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). Government have undertaken preparation of a White Paper on public enterprises.

(c) and (d). In order to help SCOPE in discharging its role in a more positive manner an institutionalised mechanism has been set up to facilitate meaningful consultation between Government and SCOPE.

Opening of Ashok Paper Mills

2228. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industries in Bihar which are functioning and those which have been closed, separately;

(b) whether it is a fact that there was only Ashok Paper Mills in Northern Bihar and even that has been lying closed for many years as a result of which about four thousand people have been rendered jobless and are starving;

(c) whether Government are aware that people in Northern Bihar have great resentment due to the closure of this mill and if so, the number of representations received by Government for the opening of this mill; and

(d) the efforts made by Government to restart this mill so that thousands of families may be able to earn their livelihood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) According to the information furnished by the Government of Bihar, there are 62,400 registered units in the State of Bihar. Out of these, 3155 units are reported to be closed.

(b) There are a number of industries in North Bihar, apart from the Rameshwar-nagar unit of Ashok Paper Mills. The unit is lying closed since October, 1982; resulting

in about 800 workers being not engaged in production. The workers are not starving, as the State Government have paid them salary advance for 22 months against their outstanding wages on compassionate grounds.

(c) and (d). Representations have been received from various quarters for the early re-opening of Ashok Paper Mills. The Financial Institutions in consultation with the Government of Bihar and the Central Government are engaged in working out modalities for re-opening of the Mills. A report on the revival and rehabilitation of the Rameshwarnagar unit has been commissioned by the Government of Bihar. The Financial Institutions have also commissioned a report on the division of assets and liabilities of the Jogighopa Unit (Assam) and Rameshwarnagar Unit (Bihar) of Ashok Paper Mills. Further action on the revival and rehabilitation of the unit would be possible after the reactions of the State Government on these reports become available.

Quota of wheat, sugar, kerosene and edible oils for Rajasthan

2229. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether quota of wheat, sugar, kerosene and edible oils being given to Rajasthan for supplying through public distribution system is inadequate to present population of the State;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether wheat and sugar supplied to Rajasthan for public distribution system is of inferior quality; and

(d) if so, whether his Ministry will issue necessary instructions to the department concerned to improve the position?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND

CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The allotment of wheat and imported edible oils made by the Central Government to various States/UTs is supplementary in nature and is not expected to cater to the entire demand of the State. Sugar is allotted on the basis of 425 grams per capita for the projected population as on 1.10.1986. Similarly, allocation of kerosene to all States/UTs including Rajasthan is being made by allowing a 5% growth over the allocations made during the corresponding period of the previous year on a four-month-block basis. Besides regular allocations, adhoc allocations are also made against special requests to take care of situations like flood, drought, shortage of LPG/soft coke etc.

(c) and (d) Wheat and sugar being supplied to Rajasthan conforms to the Central Government specifications.

Supply of Foodgrains to Assam

2230. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the month-wise demand of foodgrains made by Assam Government during the last three years;

(b) whether the supplies of the various foodgrains have been made as per demand of Assam; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c). A Statement indicating demand, allotment and offtake of wheat and rice in respect of Assam during the years 1984, 1985 and 1986 is given below. The allotments are made to the various States/Union Territories on a month to month basis, taking into account the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various States, market availability and other related factors.

STATEMENT

Month	DEMAND			ALLOTMENT			OFF TAKE		
	Rice	Wheat	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Wheat
		PDS	RF Mills		PDS	RF Mills		PDS	RF Mills
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1984									
January	50.0	19.5	21.0	20.0	19.0	9.5	19.5	11.5	10.7
February	50.0	27.0	21.0	20.0	24.0	9.5	17.7	6.8	12.0
March	50.0	19.5	21.0	20.0	24.0	9.5	19.7	10.8	19.5
April	62.0	30.0	38.0	18.0	24.0	9.5	16.3	8.9	15.8
May	62.0	30.0	38.0	18.0	24.0	9.5	17.7	9.8	13.7
June	62.0	30.0	38.0	18.0	24.0	9.5	17.2	9.7	11.2
July	62.0	30.0	38.0	20.0	24.0	9.5	17.3	10.7	12.8
August	62.0	30.0	38.0	20.0	24.0	39.35	20.2	12.4	17.1
September	62.0	30.0	38.0	21.0	29.0	39.35	23.5	20.0	24.4
October	62.0	30.0	39.35	20.0	29.0	39.35	16.2	13.1	16.6
November	62.0	30.0	39.35	20.0	29.0	39.35	17.8	19.5	20.2
December	62.0	30.0	39.35	20.0	29.0	39.35	17.7	8.1	17.4
1985									
January	62.0	30.0	39.35	20.0	29.0	39.35	18.0	10.5	18.0
February	62.0	30.0	39.35	20.0	29.0	40.1	16.5	26.6	7.1
March	62.0	30.0	39.35	20.0	29.0	40.1	18.9	9.7	16.4
April	62.0	30.0	39.35	20.0	29.0	40.1	18.5	10.4	19.1
May	62.0	30.0	40.1	20.0	29.0	40.1	20.0	9.3	17.9
June	62.0	30.0	45.1	20.0	29.0	45.1	19.1	7.4	14.2
July	62.0	30.0	40.1	40.0	29.0	45.1	24.2	13.2	19.6
August	62.0	30.0	45.1	25.0	29.0	45.1	21.1	13.1	28.8
September	62.0	30.0	45.1	30.0	29.0	43.6	29.2	15.2	25.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
October	62.0	30.0	45.1	40.0	29.0	43.6	45.6	19.2	23.8
November	62.0	30.0	45.1	40.0	36.4	43.6	31.2	12.6	20.4
December	40.0	36.4	43.6	40.0	36.4	43.6	32.0	7.5	19.3
1986									
January	40.0	36.4	43.6	40.0	36.4	44.35	23.8	10.1	22.8
February	40.0	36.4	43.6	40.0	36.4	59.03	17.6	6.7	22.7
March	62.0	30.0	45.63	40.0	36.4	59.03	22.9	17.8	30.6
April	62.0	30.0	45.63	40.0	36.4	59.03	31.3	9.4	8.3
May	62.0	36.5	45.63	40.0	36.4	59.03	32.1	17.3	4.8
June	62.0	36.5	45.63	47.0	36.4	59.03	32.7	13.4	5.5
July	62.0	36.5	45.63	47.0	36.4	59.03	40.1	18.5	13.5
August	62.0	36.5	45.63	47.0	36.4	59.03	43.3	17.2	22.8
September	62.0	36.5	45.63	47.0	36.4	59.03	46.2	18.3	24.5
October	62.0	36.5	—	62.0	36.4	—	42.8	18.0	—
November	62.0	36.5	—	40.0	36.4	—	34.2	17.5	—
December	62.0	36.5	—	40.0	36.4	—	34.4	12.8	—

Note: Allocation of wheat to roller flour mills from the Central Pool was discontinued from October, 1986.

Assistance given to Kerala for Self Employment Scheme

2231. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total Central assistance given to Kerala during the last three years for self-employment scheme;

(b) the percentage of educated unemployed who are benefited by the scheme in the State;

(c) whether the ceiling of loan under this scheme has recently been raised;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what is the plan for Kerala for the remaining period of the Seventh Five Year Plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Under the scheme of Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth, loans are sanctioned by banks on the recommendations of DIC Task Forces and Capital Subsidy to the extent of 25% on each loan contracted is paid out of the Central Budgetary Fund routed through RBI. Percentage of achievement of Educated Unemployed Youth against the target for 83-84, 84-85, 85-86 & 86-87 are 87%, 89%, 100% & 95% respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The ceiling of loan under this scheme has been raised from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 35,000/- for industrial ventures from the year 1986-87.

(e) The target under the scheme is fixed on year to year basis. For the year 1987-88, an initial target of 6,000 beneficiaries on ad-hoc basis has been fixed.

Loss of rice and wheat in godowns

2232. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice and wheat damaged in the various godowns in the country in 1986-87;

(b) the estimated cost of rice and wheat damaged; and

(c) the steps contemplated to prevent such damages in future;

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c). There is no mechanism to account for the quantity of wheat and rice damaged in the various godowns in the country, which *inter alia*, include godowns of private trade and farmers besides those of public agencies.

However, to prevent and minimise losses in foodgrains, the public agencies adopt scientific methods of storage and preservation to the extent possible. In so far as the private trade and farmers are concerned, the Deptt. of Food have launched a country-wide Save Grain Campaign Programme to educate and motivate them to adopt scientific storage practices.

Private sugar mills under new sugar policy

2233. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will

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

(a) whether Government have approved private sugar mills in various States under the new sugar policy;

(b) if so, how many licences have been issued and how much increase in production of sugar Government expect; and

(c) how many applications are pending for approval by Government?

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

(a) and (b). The Department of Food have approved 5 cases so far for grant of letters of intent for setting up private sugar mills in Tamil Nadu under the new sugar policy. Against this, 4 letters of intent have been issued by the Department of Industrial Development, which is expected to increase the production of sugar by 1.48 lakh tonnes per annum.

(c) One application for setting up a new sugar factory is pending with the Government.

Plan to Set up Petrochemical Based Industries in North Eastern States

2234. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up a plan to encourage north-eastern States to set up industries which will use petrochemicals produced by the Bongaigaon Refineries and Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited;

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

(c) whether any industry has been set up so far; and

(d) if so, the results achieved?

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

(b) A suitable plan has been prepared for setting up of downstream units like PFY, spinning mills etc based on Bongaigaon Refineries and Petrochemicals Limited's petrochemical products for the development of North-eastern region.

(c) and (d). Till now 3 spinning mills have already been set up in Assam and some more spinning mills are in the process of implementation for utilisation of Bongaigaon Refineries and Petrochemical's products in North-Eastern region itself.

[*Translation*]

Construction of Godowns in Bihar

2235. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in Bihar in respect of which survey has been conducted for the construction of godowns to store 30 thousand metric tonnes of foodgrains during Seventh Five Year Plan and the number of godowns proposed to be constructed in Bihar; and

(b) whether Government are considering to construct a godown in Giridih district, also; if so, the name of the particular place to that district.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The Food Corporation of India has surveyed 10 Centres in Bihar for construction of additional storage capacity for foodgrains. These centres are Koderma, Chakradharpur, Giridih, Jamshedpur, Godda, Dumka, Sahebganj, Hatia, Dhanbad and Siwan. The decision regarding

construction of godowns will depend upon the examination of survey reports and operational considerations of the Corporation. The particular place in Giridih district would be identified by the Corporation, if and when, Giridih district is selected for additional storage capacity.

Increase in price of Edible Oils

2237. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA:
SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARA-
SIMHARAJA WADIYAR

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

(a) the reasons for increase in the prices of edible oils and the steps being taken to meet the shortage of edible oil,

(b) whether any decision has been taken to supply edible oils at concessional rate to the poor people as has been done in the previous years;

(c) if so, the time when it will be implemented; and

(d) the names of the edible oils supplied to the factories manufacturing Vanaspati and the prices thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT)

(a) The main reasons are (i) lower production of edible oilseeds during the last two years, (ii) lean period, and (iii) delayed and wayward behaviour of monsoon. As a short term measure, the gap between the demand for and indigenous availability of edible oils is partly met by imports

(b) and (c) The imported edible oil is already being supplied to consumers including weaker and vulnerable sections of the society under Public Distribution System at cheap rates

(d) Imported oils such as Neutralised Palm Oil; R B D Palm Oil; Crude Soya Bean Oil; and Crude Rapeseed Oil are being supplied to Vanaspati industries.

These oils are supplied at the rate of Rs. 15,000/- per M.T.

[English]

Reduction in Krishna-Godavari gas price

2238. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of gas that can be made available per day by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in the Krishna-Godavari Basin by July, 1987;

(b) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Oil and Natural Gas Commission to reduce the stated price of gas which is prohibitive at Rs. 900 per 100 cubic metre; and

(c) if so, the latest decision of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission to give incentives to the industries which are coming forward to utilise the gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Initially ONGC plan to produce about 1.5 lakh cubic metre of gas per day, and this is proposed to be supplied to about five industries starting 1987.

(b) and (c). As per the pricing policy of the Government in initial years of development of gas fields the gas available from these fields may be sold at concessional prices to be decided by the Government. This concession is proposed to be extended to the consumers of gas from K.G. Basin. No request from Andhra Pradesh Government has been received to reduce price of gas to below 900/1000M³.

[Translation]

Telephone exchange at Dolara in Surat Telephone division of Gujarat

2239. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will

the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new telephone exchange at Dolara in Surat Telephone Division of Gujarat was sanctioned and if so, when;

(b) when the construction work of this telephone exchange was started and the details of the progress in regard to the construction thereof; and

(c) when the telephone exchange at Dolara is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. A 25 line small automatic exchange was sanctioned for Dolara on 7.3.86.

(b) The exchange could not be installed due to non-availability of suitable rented building.

(c) The exchange is planned to be commissioned during the current financial year subject to availability of suitable rented building.

[English]

Recommendation of Hathi Committee

2240. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering nationalisation of multinational companies as suggested by the Hathi Committee;

(b) if so, by what time the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken;

(c) whether all the recommendations made by the Hathi Committee have been considered by Government; and

(d) if so, how many of them are still to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b). No proposal for nationalisation is under the consideration of Government.

(c) and (d). The recommendations of the Hathi Committee were considered by Government and certain decisions were taken which were announced and laid on the Table of the House on 29-3-78. Further, considering certain operational difficulties and other gaps regarding implementation of the 1978 drug policy, Government have announced a set of measures for rationalisation, quality control and growth of the drugs and pharmaceuticals industry in the country in December, 1986.

[*Translation*]

Duplicate LPG Regulators

2241. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether duplicate regulators of cooking gas are being manufactured in the country which cause many accidents;

(b) whether duplicate regulators are manufactured due to shortage of standard regulators; and

(c) the reasons for which regulators are not being manufactured in the country as per the requirement and the time by which this shortage will be over?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). The oil marketing companies are presently procuring all their requirements of pressure regulators only from manufacturers who have obtained ISI certification; no shortage of this item is being experienced by the oil companies.

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

[*English*]

Electrification of "Padas" in Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli

2242. SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of "Padas" in the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli;

(b) the total number of "Padas" where electrification is yet to be done;

(c) whether any action plan to provide electricity to all such "Padas" has been drawn up by the Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli;

(d) if so, the details of such action plan; and

(e) if not, the measures taken by the Administration to electrify all such "Padas"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (e). According to information received from Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, all the 487 identified "Padas" have been electrified, and the 138 extended/newly formed 'Padas' are programmed for electrification by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Foreign technical know-how for oil exploration

2243. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the developed countries are coming forward to render technical know-how and expertise in the field of oil exploration; and

(b) if so, the areas where such experi-

ments are being conducted both in India and abroad?

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

(b) The main areas in which projects are presently going on in collaboration/cooperation with foreign countries are as under:

- (i) The Trun-key projects for intensive integrated exploration of Hydrocarbons in North Cambay, Cauvery and West Bengal onshore basins by v/o Techno export, USSR.
- (ii) Resource Appraisal Study for sedimentary basins of India by a Joint Indo-Soviet team.
- (iii) Integrated Petroleum Geological Study of Krishna-Godavari basin by Robertson Research Ltd., UK.
- (iv) Training of Indian personnel in the USSR.
- (v) A Memorandum of Understanding with Department of Energy of the USA for cooperation in the fields of enhanced oil recovery and underground coal gasification is under ONGC's consideration

Extra Departmental Employees in Postal Department

2244. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Extra Departmental employees now working in the Postal Department all over the country;

(b) the monthly wages given to the different categories of the Extra Departmental employees;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has declared that the Extra Departmental employees shall be treated just like other civil servants in the Central Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government to implement the above judgement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The total number of Extra Departmental employees in the Department is 2,99,641 as recorded in the report of the Committee on ED employees.

(b) As per Statement given below.

(c) and (d). The Supreme Court *vide* judgement pronounced on 22-4-77 had declared that the Extra Departmental Employees are entitled to the safeguards available to Government servants under the provisions of Article 311(2) of the Constitution, inasmuch as enquiries have to be held before imposition of penalties against them. The Judgement does not therefore automatically confer upon the EDAs any other rights, concessions and privileges admissible to regular employees. Action has already been taken to implement the above judgement.

STATEMENT

Basic Allowance as on 1-1-86

	Minimum	Maximum
	Rs.	Rs.
1	2	3
EDSPMs/ED Sorters/ED Sub Record Clerks	385	620

1	2	
EDBPMs	275	440
EDDAs/EDMCs and other ED Agents		
For less than 2 hours of work	240	
For more than 2 hours of work	270	420

In addition to the above D.A. is payable at the rate of 4% from 1-7-86 and 8% from 1-1-87 on the basic allowance.

Augmentation of Power Generation

2245. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether power generation capacity has been considerably reduced during the last one year;

(b) whether several States have failed to supply adequate power and under utilised power generation facilities; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to augment power generation and supply adequate facilities to States?

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

(b) Various States are facing power shortage of varying degrees. The thermal Plant Load Factor of some of the State Electricity Boards is less than the National average.

(c) The various steps taken to improve the availability of power include expediting commissioning of additional capacity, improving the performance of the existing thermal power stations, reducing Transmission and Distribution losses, implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures, and implementing short gestation projects.

Conservation of Energy

2246. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHA-

MAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) the measures taken by Government for conservation of energy;

(b) whether the Public Undertakings have submitted their plans for conservation of energy to Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether there is any administrative control for monitoring implementation of energy conservation measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) The measure initiated by Government for conservation of energy include energy audits, fixation of annual targets for reduction in energy consumption in respect of the public undertakings concerned with energy intensive sectors, evolving a system of reporting and monitoring of energy consumption, fiscal incentives such as grant of 100% depreciation allowance under Income Tax Rules on a number of energy saving devices, rectification of inefficient agricultural pumpsets, emphasis on installation of efficient pumping systems in future, modification of existing ISI specifications pertaining to various commonly used electric appliances to ensure display of energy efficiency parameters on the rating plate, and spreading awareness among consumers through publicity.

(b) and (c). Most of the public undertakings in energy intensive sectors like alumi-

nium, steel, paper, cement, coal, fertilizers, chemicals & petrochemicals have set energy conservation targets for the year 1987-88, based on adoption of better housekeeping practices and process/technology changes.

(d) Yes, Sir. The implementation of energy conservation measures in these undertakings will be monitored/reviewed by the nodal officers designated in the concerned administrative Ministries, under the overall coordination and guidance of the Adviser (Energy Conservation).

[Translation]

Linking of District Headquarters in Uttar Pradesh with State Headquarters by UHF or Microwave System

2247. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of those district headquarters in Uttar Pradesh till date which could not be linked with State headquarters by UHF or microwave system;

(b) whether the number of such district headquarters is the highest in Uttar Pradesh as compared to other States;

(c) if so, whether there is any time-bound programme to link these district headquarters by microwaves or UHF system; and

(d) if so, the details of the time-bound programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Out of 57 District Headquarters in Uttar Pradesh, only 22 have not been linked with State Capitals till date by UHF/MW system.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

LPG agencies and petrol pumps in Bihar

2248. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the district in Bihar where there are no LPG agencies and main reasons therefor;

(b) the time by which arrangements for supply of cooking gas will be made in all the districts;

(c) the district-wise details of petrol pumps allotted in various districts of Bihar during 1986-87;

(d) the details of petrol pumps to be allotted to various districts of Bihar during 1987-88 and the number of petrol pumps allotted so far in Muzaffarpur, Saran, Gopalganj, Siwan and Western Champaran districts, district-wise; and

(e) whether these petrol pumps are adequate to meet the local requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b) LPG is being marketed in all districts of Bihar except in Madhepura for which also a Letter of Intent to the candidate selected for the distributorship has been issued.

(c) The required information is given in the Statement-I below.

(d) Presently there are 96 cases of retail outlets in Bihar pending for award of dealerships; the districtwise figures are given in Statement-II below; these are at various stages of the selection process, including advertisement, re-advertisement, selection by Oil Selection Board, etc. A total number

of 70 petrol pumps has been allotted so far
in the five districts as follows.

Muzaffarpur	..	21
Saran	..	15
Gopalganj	..	8

Siwan .. 11

West Champaran .. 15

(e) Yes, Sir, The present requirements
are being met through the existing
facilities.

STATEMENT-I

Name of District	No. of Petrol Pumps
1. East Champaran	3
2. Begusarai	3
3. Madhubani	1
4. Samastipur	2
5. Bhagalpur	2
6. Saharsa	1
7. Purnea	1
8. Patna	4
9. Siwan	1
10. Vaishali	2
11. Bhojpur	1
12. Sahilganj	1
13. Gaya	2
14. Aurangabad	1
15. Darbhanga	1
16. Ranchi	1
17. Deogarh	1
Total :	28

STATEMENT-II*Retail Outlets pending for award of dealerships in various districts of Bihar*

S.No.	Name of District	No. of Retail Outlets
1	2	3
1.	Begusarai	5
2.	Bhagalpur	4
3.	Dhanbad	6
4.	Dumka	1
5.	Gopalganj	3
6.	Muzaffarpur	4
7.	Nalanda	2
8.	Palamau	4
9.	Purnea	3
10.	Ranchi	3
11.	Rohtas	3
12.	Singhbhum	7
13.	Siwan	7
14.	Gaya	1
15.	Hazaribagh	6
16.	Katihar	2
17.	Saran	2
18.	Patna	6
19.	Nawadha	4
20.	Sitamarhi	2
21.	Madhepur	1
22.	Lohar Dagga	1
23.	Deogarh	1
24.	Samastipur	4

1	2	3
25.	Jamshedpur	1
26.	Giridih	1
27.	West Champaran	2
28.	East Champaran	1
29.	Khagaria	1
30.	Aurangabad	2
31.	Madhubani	2
32.	Vaishali	2
33.	Monghyr	2
34.	Purneasadai	1
Total:		96

[English]

Purchase of machinery for Richardson & Cruddas (1972) Ltd.

2249 DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the machinery of Richardson & Cruddas (1972) Limited, Bombay are more than fifty years old;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the management of this unit has made a request to Government to purchase some of the old machines from the BHEL; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) Some of the plant and machinery in the Company is more than 50 years old.

(b) No, Sir. The Company has, however, made a request to BHEL for purchase of some of their old machines.

(c) Does not arise

[Translation]

Complaints regarding non-receipt of Dak

2250. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI I. RAMA RAI:
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMED:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the daily Jansatta' dated 1.7.87 captioned "Shubhkamma Card Apni Manzil Tak Nahi Pahuche";

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the employee responsible for the delay.

(c) whether Government have received any complaint regarding non-receipt of dak;

(d) the action taken by Government thereon; and

(e) the details of concrete steps taken to ensure that such incidents do not recur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Immediate enquiries were taken up. Out of 220 letters obtained from the office of "Jansatta" on 8-7-1987, 177 letters were delivered. The remaining 43 letters could not be delivered since the addressees are not available at their given addresses. Disciplinary action is under process against the concerned postman.

(c) and (d). No other complaint has so far been received in this case.

(e) This being a case of human delinquency, deterrent action is proposed to avoid a recurrence.

[English]

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

2251. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision to appoint some Government Directors on the Board of Peerless General and Investment Company Limited has been taken;

(b) if so, the names of those Directors; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The Company Law Board has issued a notice of Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited to show cause why Directors be not appointed on their Board of Directors under section 408

of the Companies Act, 1956. No final decision has yet been taken.

[Translation]

Installation of Public Call Offices under Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited New Delhi

2252. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public telephones installed at public places and shops separately in various Telephone Exchanges functioning under the Regional Manager (Central) of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, New Delhi from 1 July, 1986 to 30 June, 1987; and

(b) the details of the places or shops where these have been installed?

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

[English]

Filling up of Vacancies of Postman in Department of Posts

2253. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are vacancies of 3,000 postmen in Department of Posts, if so, the reasons for not filling up these vacancies;

(b) the alternative provision made for it; and

(c) whether there is a competition between the speed post service and private courier service, if so, the action taken to give service better than private service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Out of 55,000 sanctioned posts of Postmen about 3,000 posts are lying vacant which could not be filled up. The ban on filling up vacancies was relaxed in August 1985. The recruitment process for filling these vacancies is going on. But the work was not hampered as Extra Departmental Agents and paid substitutes were engaged against these vacancies on daily wage.

(c) As far as speed post is concerned, it is continuously monitored and the incidence of complaints is practically negligible. It is, therefore, not appropriate to say that private carrier service is giving better service than speed post service. Moreover, as per law private carriers can carry only articles, other than letters.

[*Translation*]

Construction of open Plinth Storage at Loonkaransar, Rajasthan

2254. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether open plinth storage space has been constructed at Loonkaransar in Bikaner District;

(b) the details of parties who had undertaken the job for the Food Corporation of India;

(c) whether the land on which the storage has been constructed is public land or it was taken on lease from some one; and

(d) whether any loan was given by the Food Corporation of India to the party who have constructed the open storage?

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

(b) Messers Har Sahai & Associates constructed the plinths at Loonkaransar and

have given it on rent to the Food Corporation of India.

(c) The land in question is owned by M/s. Har Sahai & Associates.

(d) No, Sir.

[*English*]

Supply of Paraffin Wax to S.S.I. Units in Kerala

2255. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Small Scale Industries units manufacturing candles in Kerala have represented that adequate quantity of paraffin wax is not available; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken for supply of adequate quantity of paraffin wax to Kerala Small Scale Industries units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). Government have not received any representation from Small Scale Industries Unit manufacturing candles in Kerala State. However, a request from Kerala State Government for making adequate supply of Paraffin wax to the state has been received. The Government have asked the concerned agencies to ensure adequate supplies in Kerala.

Uniform Power Tariff for Central Power Stations

2256. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no uniformity in the rates of power supplied by different power stations operated by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details of the power tariffs of

different stations and the reasons for the disparities; and

(c) whether it is proposed to take steps to work out a uniform power tariff for all Central Power Stations?

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

supply from different Central Sector generation stations differs on account of various factors like capital cost of the project, cost of fuel, O&M costs, etc. Tariff for supply of power from Central Generating Stations is given in the Statement below.

(c) A Committee has been constituted to examine all aspects of this matter.

STATEMENT

Tariff for supply of power from Central Generating Stations

S. No.	Source	Tariff (P/Unit)
I. National Thermal Power Corporation		
1.	Singrauli STPS	36.27
2.	Korba STPS	37.64
3.	Ramagundam STPS	46.16
4.	Farakka STPS	60.77
5.	Badarpur TPS	71.97
II. National Hydro-electric Power Corporation		
1.	Baira Siul HE Project.	36.41
2.	Loktak H.E. Project	53.10
III. Nuclear Power Board		
1.	TAPS	36.99
2.	RAPS	38.09
3.	MAPS	43.29
IV. Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.		
1	Neyveli Thermal Power Station-I.	45.75

Production of Alcohol from Molasses

2257. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether percentage alcohol production from molasses in India is at par with that in Brazil and USA; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b). In India the average alcohol recovery ranges between 22 and 24 per cent which is only marginally below the recovery rate in Brazil which ranges from 26 to 29%. The difference is mainly on account of somewhat lower sucrose content in the sugar factory molasses. Data regarding USA is not available.

Production programme of crude oil

2258. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI

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

- (a) whether the production of crude oil has become static;
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (c) the names of areas where exploration work is going to be undertaken; and
- (d) the production programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir. Crude oil production target during 7th Plan is 159 million tonnes as against production of 102.8 million tonnes during Sixth Plan.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) At present exploration work is going in the following areas

Onshore

Gujarat, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Tripura, Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Jammu and Kashmir, Arun-

achal Pradesh, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh.

Offshore

East Coast
West Coast

(d) During 1987-88 production of crude oil is expected to be 30.46 MMT.

S.T.D. Service between India and Pakistan

2259. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to start direct Subscriber Trunk Dialling facility from India to Pakistan;
- (b) if so, whether the proposal has been examined from the country's security point of view; and
- (c) if so, the result of the examination?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) This service has been agreed to on reciprocal basis.

Issue of second series of bonds by I.T.I

2260 SHRI E AYYAPPU REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Telephone Industries has issued the second series of public sector bonds in March, 1987;
- (b) the total amount received by the company from the above said bonds; and
- (c) the percentage of interest which the bonds bear?

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

(b) The total amount received by Indian Telephone Industries Limited by issue of 'B' series of bonds was Rs. 304.323 crores.

(c) The public issue of bonds bears interest of 14% and 10% (tax free). The private placement of 'B' series of bonds with banks and financial institutions bears rate of interest of 13%.

Scarcity of Coconut Husk

2261. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is scarcity of coconut husk in the country, particularly in Kerala; and

(b) whether Union Government have taken any steps to supply coconut husk to the cottage industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) There has not been any specific report of scarcity of coconut husks as such for coir production in the country and in particular the State of Kerala.

(b) To augment the supply of coconut husks a levy scheme is in vogue; the Govt. of India have delegated powers to the State Government under the Essential Commodities Act for maintaining an increasing supply of coconut husks and for securing their equitable distribution and availability at fair prices.

Filling of SC/ST posts in the Heavy Engineering Corporation

2262. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reservation rules in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not being followed by the Heavy Engineering Corporation, particularly in Class I and II posts;

(b) if so, the present strength of employees in the Corporation vis-a-vis the strength of SC and ST employees amongst them category-wise;

(c) the number of reserved posts dere-served during the last three years and the steps taken to fill these posts before dereservation; and

(d) the backlog of reserved posts as on 1st June, 1987, category-wise, and by what time this backlog is likely to be filled up and the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No posts have been dereserved during the last three years.

(d) A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

The backlog of reserved posts as on 1.6.1987 category-wise in Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi is as follows:—

Category	SC	ST
1	2	3
Group 'A'	74	23
Executive Trainees	10	5
Group 'B'	—	—
Group 'C'	313	—

1	2	3
Group 'D' (Excluding sweepers)	16	—
Sweepers only	—	—
	413	28

It is difficult to indicate any definite time limit by which the backlog can be filled up because this would depend on availability of vacancies and need to fill them up based on the workload.

Wage Agreements in Public Sector Enterprises

2263. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Will.

the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Public Enterprises where wages and service conditions agreements are pending at present; and

(b) the reasons for delay and the time by which these agreements will be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) A list of public enterprises where the period of validity for wage agreements with unionised employees has expired is given in the Statement below.

(b) Negotiations between the management of public sector enterprises and the workers' unions do take time.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Enterprises
1.	Fertilizer Corporation of India
2.	Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd.
3.	Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Ltd
4.	National Fertilizers Ltd.
5.	Project & Development India Ltd.
6.	Rastriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd.
7.	Electronic Corporation of India Ltd.
8.	Tea Trading Corporation of India
9.	Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd.
10.	Indian Telephone Industry.
11.	Bharat Dynamics Ltd.
12.	Bharat Earth Movers Ltd.
13.	Bharat Electronics Ltd.
14.	Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd.
15.	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.

S. No.	Enterprises
16.	Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd.
17.	Electronic Trade & Technology Development Corpn. Ltd.
18.	Semi Conductor Complex
19.	Coal India Ltd. with its subsidiaries
20.	Neyveli Lignite Corpn. Ltd.
21.	Central Mine & Planning Design Institute.
22.	National Thermal Power Corpn. Ltd.
23.	Bengal Chemical & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
24.	Bengal Immunity Ltd.
25.	Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.
26.	Maharashtra Antibiotics Ltd.
27.	Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
28.	Southern Pesticides Ltd.
29.	U.P. Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
30.	Andrew Yule Ltd.
31.	Hindustan Cables Ltd.
32.	Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.
33.	Hindustan Photo Films Corporation Ltd.
34.	Mandya National Paper Mills Ltd.
35.	NEPA Mills Ltd.
36.	Tyre Corporation of India Ltd.
37.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.
38.	Bharat Heavy Plates & Vessels Ltd.
39.	Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.
40.	Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd.
41.	Scooters India Ltd.

S. No.	Enterprises
42.	Triveni Structurals Ltd.
43.	Indian Tourism & Development Corpn. Ltd.
44.	Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd.
45.	Bongaigaon Refineries & Petrochemicals Ltd.
46.	Engineers India Ltd.
47.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.
48.	Oil & Natural Gas Commission
49.	Oil India Ltd.
50.	Central Electronics Ltd.
51.	Hindustan Zinc Ltd.
52.	National Aluminium Co. Ltd.
53.	Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd.
54.	Manganese Ore (India) Ltd.
55.	Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Ltd.
56.	National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.
57.	Steel Authority of India Ltd.
58.	Vijayanagar Steel Ltd.
59.	Cotton Corpn. of India Ltd.
60.	Hotel Corporation of India
61.	Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

Price of Soft Drinks

2264. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased
to state:

(a) the names of the soft drinks of various makes in Delhi at present;

(b) whether most of the soft drink manufacturers also have their own bottling plants;

(c) whether the approval of Government was sought for increasing the prices of soft drinks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Names of the important soft drinks of various makes marketed in Delhi are given below.

1.	Parle Group	:	Thums-up, Gold Spot, Limca, Rimzim, Maza.
2.	Campa Group	:	Campa Cola, Campa Orange, Lime-Ginger, Tripp, Cola Lite, Funday.
3.	Mac Dowell Group	:	Thrill, Rush, Sprint.
4.	Modern Food Industries (I) Ltd.	:	Rasika, 77, Tingler.
5.	Fruit Juices etc., under different brand names	:	Frooti, Appy, Great Shake, Gee We and Volform.

Besides, there are a number of small units which produce and market soft drinks.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Since there is no statutory control on the prices of soft drinks, Government's permission is not necessary to increase the prices of such soft drinks.

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

Foreign assistance for Joint Projects

2265. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether assistance has been sought from some foreign countries to finalise the various aspects of the joint power projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The Tehri Hydro Power Complex in Uttar Pradesh and the Nathpa Jhakri Hydroelectric Project in Himachal Pradesh are to be executed as joint ventures of the Government of India and the respective State Governments. The Tehri Hydro Power Complex would be

implemented with Soviet assistance involving a 20-year credit bearing 2.5 per cent interest per annum. The Nathpa Jhakri project has been posed to the World Bank.

The Damodar Valley Corporation, in which the Central Government and the State Governments of Bihar and West Bengal participate, have concluded a loan agreement with EXIM BANK of USA for financing a 90 MW (3x30 MW) Turbine Station at Maithon.

Setting up of Petrochemical Units

2266. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision regarding setting up of petrochemical units in the near future;

(b) if so, the locations of these petrochemical units and the amount sanctioned for this purpose; and

(c) the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c). The Committee on Perspective Planning for Petrochemical Industry have estimated the demand

potential for the various petrochemical items for the years from 1986 upto 2000 AD. Based on the above demand estimated, it is noted that there is large demand-supply gap for the various petrochemical items and these gaps have to be met by setting up number of petrochemical units in the country. Location of such petrochemical units is decided on various techno-economic considerations.

Setting up of sugar units in Rajasthan

2267. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar units in Rajasthan and location thereof;

(b) whether Union Government have any proposal to set up some more sugar units in the State in the Seventh Five Year Plan, if so, the details and locations thereof;

(c) the number of applications received for the expansion of the existing units during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89; and

(d) the number of such applications disposed of?

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

(a) There are 3 sugar mills in Rajasthan, locations of which are as under:-

1. Sriganaganagar, Distt. Sriganaganagar
2. Keshoraipatan, Distt. Bundi.
3. Bhupalsagar, Distt Chittorgarh

(b) and (c). No application for grant of letter of intent/industrial licence is pending for setting up of new sugar mills or for expansion of the existing units in the State.

(d) Does not arise

Rural Electrification in Andhra Pradesh

2268. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any evaluation study for the rural electrification in Andhra Pradesh has been undertaken by Union Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether such a study is expected to be undertaken during the remaining period of the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) when it is expected to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). The Rural Electrification Corporation had entrusted a Study regarding "Growth Differentials in Electrified and Un-electrified areas in Andhra Pradesh" to the Council for Social Development, New Delhi. The main objectives of the study include identification of the stages of growth before electrification, contribution of Rural Electrification to integrated rural development, the impact of rural electrification in the field of agriculture, agro-processing and cottage industries, employment generation, trends in the distribution of benefits of electricity in different socio-economic sections etc.

Foreign Exchange for Oil Imports

2269. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated foreign exchange Government will have to earmark for oil imports during the coming three years;

(b) how much of this is on contracted purchases and how much on spot purchases; and

(c) whether spot purchases are more

advantageous as it means savings through competitive prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). It is not possible at this stage, to indicate the foreign exchange that will be spent on oil imports and the percentage of imports through contracts and spot purchases, for the next three years. The foreign exchange expenditure is assessed every year through preparation of Oil Economy Budget which is reviewed during the course of the year.

(c) Prices in the spot market keep varying and are determined by supply demand conditions in the International market.

Shortage of LPG

2270. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was shortage of LPG supply during April to June 1987 in the country;

(b) if so, which are the States severely affected;

(c) whether LPG was imported from Phillipines to meet the demand;

(d) if so, the quantity of LPG imported;

(e) the places where imported LPG was supplied; and

(f) how much imported LPG was supplied to Bangalore city?

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

(b) Arunachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa and Punjab were severely affected;

(c) and (d). A total quantity of 33718 metric tonnes (MT) of LPG was imported during the period from April to June 1987, out of which a quantity of 5294 MT was imported from Phillipines;

(e) and (f). Imported LPG is not segregated but is pooled with the LPG produced indigenously and supplied to the markets in the country.

Use of technology developed by centre for development of telematics

2271. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has proposed that only the technology developed by the centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) should be used in the Second Electronic Switching System (ESS-II) factory planned in Bangalore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Department of Telecommunications has proposed that the C-DOT technology may also be considered as an alternative for the second Electronic Switching System (ESS-II) factory planned at Bangalore.

(b) The Government is considering the question.

[Translation]

Setting up of new industries in Himachal Pradesh

2272. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences given to set up new industries in Himachal Pradesh and the details thereof;

(b) the target date for setting up these industries; and

(c) the central assistance involved in these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, a total of 16 industrial licences were granted during the years 1984 to 1987 (upto June) for setting up of new industrial units in Himachal Pradesh. Details, such as name and address of the undertaking, location, item(s) of manufacture and capacity etc., in respect of all industrial licences are being published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to the Parliament Library.

(b) The initial validity period of an industrial licence is two years within which the entrepreneur is expected to commence production. However, further extensions beyond the initial validity period of two years can also be granted by the administrative Ministry concerned on genuine grounds. It generally takes about three to four years for an industrial project to fructify.

(c) No direct financial assistance is given by the Central Government to entrepreneurs for setting up of industrial units for which industrial licences are granted. However, in order to encourage setting up of industries in backward areas, including Himachal Pradesh—which is wholly covered under category 'A' (No Industry Districts and 'Special Region Districts')—Government of India is providing a number of incentives and concessions, such as, Central Investment Subsidy, concessional finance, transport subsidy etc. Besides providing such incentives, the Central Government is also assisting the State Governments to take up infrastructural development in one or two identified growth centres in each 'No Industry Districts'.

[English]

Supply of gas for power projects

2273. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the flaring of the surplus gas in Assam, Government have committed for the proposed gas based power project at Kathaiguri in Assam, which is to be set up with an installed capacity of 280 MW;

(b) whether Government are aware that an estimated five million cubic metre of unutilised gas is flared up daily from Gujarat gas fields, and the industries in Gujarat have to incur heavy expenditure to bring coal from a distance of above 2000 KM;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to give the gas as feed stock for industries in Gujarat in accordance with the proposal for supply of gas for the power generation in Assam; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Gas for the Kathaiguri Power Project has been committed based on the expected availability of gas taking into account other commitments and likely offtake.

(b) During 1986-87, on an average 0.5 MMCMD of gas was flared in Gujarat.

(c) and (d). The available gas in Gujarat has been fully committed, availability of 0.56 MMCMD of gas was also indicated to Government of Gujarat in February, 1987 with a request to draw up appropriate plans for its utilisation. Supply of additional gas can be considered when the availability position improves.

Investment in Private and Public Sectors

2274. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM: Will

the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total investments in private and public sectors in India for the last three years;

(b) the total percentage of decline or enhancement of cash over the other;

(c) which are the major private industrial houses and Public Institutions contributing such decline or enhancement of investments;

(d) the reasons for such decline or

enhancement of each sector; and

(e) the policy of Government regarding each sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) to (c). According to the latest Annual Survey of Industries brought out by Central Statistical Organisation, invested capital in private and public sectors in India during 1980-81, 1981-82 and 1982-83 alongwith the percentage changes over the previous year are as follows:

INVESTED CAPITAL

Year	(Rs. lakhs)	
	Public Sector	Private Sector
1980-81	2671439 (+13.6)	1692357 (+38.3)
1981-82	3070279 (+14.9)	1924872 (+13.7)
1982-83	3505342 (+14.2)	2284182 (+18.7)

(Figures in bracket represent percentage change over the previous year)

(d) and (e). Details regarding individual houses/institutions are not readily available.

[Translation]

Facilities for no Industry Districts

2275. SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of big and medium industries located in the Districts of Sagar, Damoh, Panna, Chattarpur and Teekamgarh in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if no such industry exists in the above places, the steps being taken by Government to set up industries in these 'No industry districts';

(c) whether central facilities which are available to other 'No Industry Districts', are available to these districts also; if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) the action being taken by Government to provide these facilities there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The number of letters of intent and industrial licences granted under the provisions of Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, during the years 1984 to 1987 (upto June) for setting up of industries in the districts of Sagar, Damoh, Panna, Chattarpur and Teekamgarh in Madhya Pradesh are indicated in the table below:—

Name of the District	No. of letters of intent issued during 1984 to 1987 (upto June)	No. of industrial licences issued during 1984 to 1987 (upto June)
Sagar	2	—
Damoh	2	1
Panna	2	1
Chhättarpur	1	—
Teekamgarh	2	—

Details, such as name and address of the undertaking, location (including the name of district), item(s) of manufacture and capacity etc. in respect of all letters of intent and industrial licences issued are being published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to the Parliament Library regularly.

(b) to (d). One of the important objectives of Government's industrial policy is to correct regional imbalances and to encourage dispersal of industries to backward areas. With this end in view, a number of incentives and concessions such as Central investment subsidy, concessional finance, etc. are being provided for establishing industries in backward areas including 'no industry districts'. Realising that one of the impediments encountered in the industrialisation of backward regions, more particularly the 'no industry districts', is the absence of infrastructural facilities, a scheme has been introduced for assisting the State Governments to take up infrastructural development in one or two identified growth centres in each 'no industry district'.

To give further impetus to industrialisation of backward areas, it has also been decided to reduce the level of export obligation for MRTP/FERA companies in respect of Non-Appendix-I industries to 25% in category 'B' and 'C' backward districts and completely dispense with this

requirement in respect of Category 'A' backward districts which include no-industry districts.

[English]

Supply of wheat to roller flour mills

2276. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for reduction of 50 per cent supply of wheat by the Food Corporation of India to the roller flour mills throughout the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that imported red wheat and 'C' and 'D' category of indigenous wheat was offered to rolling flour mills in 50 per cent quota, and

(c) if so, the reasons for such a change in food policy, when the country has abundance of foodgrain?

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

(a) to (c). With the delicensing of the flour milling industry in July, 1986, the Central Government have no obligation to supply wheat to the roller flour mills. In the open market sales made by the FCI, wheat is sold to the mills to the extent stocks and availability permit. It is a fact that red wheat and 'C' and 'D' categories of wheat, wherever available, have also been offered to the mills.

[*Translation*]

Pension benefit to employees of KVIC

2277. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3971 on 24th March, 1987 regarding grant of pensionary benefits to employees of Khadi Gramodyog and state the time by which employees of commercial organisations of Khadi and Village Industries Commission are likely to get the benefit of pension facility.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): The issue has been examined carefully. The Pension benefits are not being extended to the employees engaged in trading activities due to the following reasons:—

- (i) the distinguishing features that govern the service conditions of the employees of the trading establishment vis-a-vis employees of regular establishment.
- (ii) the fact that the Government does not meet the cost of expenditure of the trading establishment.

[*English*]

Supply of bleached palmolein to Sikkim and Delhi

2278. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7227 on 21 April, 1987 regarding distribution of Palmolein oil to States and state:

(a) the allocation of bleached Palmolein oil made to Sikkim during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 oil years;

(b) whether it is a fact that in Delhi, bleached Palmolein oil is being supplied by Super Bazar against ration card;

(c) if so, the reasons for not supply of Palmolein oil through Fair Price Shops in Delhi; and

(d) when supply of Palmolein oil in 5 Kgs. pack will become available in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) Imported Palmolein oil is not allocated to Sikkim. They are allocated Palm oil and Rapeseed oil.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Delhi Administration have intimated that initially Palmolein was distributed through Fair Price Shops upto 3rd march, 1986. As it was not popular with consumers, its distribution through Fair Price Shops was discontinued.

(d) Delhi Administration have intimated that in view of prescribed issue scale of 2 Kgs. per card fortnight, 2 Kg. packs are supplied. However, occasionally 5 Kg. packs are also made available.

[*Translation*]

Assistance for rehabilitation of Bhopal Gas victims

2279. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are giving any special assistance as loans to Madhya Pradesh Government for the rehabilitation of the persons affected by Bhopal Gas tragedy;

(b) if so, whether State Government has sent any proposal to Union Government for changing the form of assistance; and

(c) the reaction of Union Government thereto?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A moratorium has been granted on the repayment of the outstanding amount of loan for a period of two years.

[English]

Introduction of 'Time of Day' tariff scheme

2280. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation proposes to introduce 'Time of Day' (TOD) tariff scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and its effect on the domestic consumers and the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Time of Day (TOD) tariff is yet to be negotiated by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) with the State Electricity Boards who make bulk power purchases from the Corporation. The effect of introduction of TOD tariff on domestic and industrial consumers will depend upon the tariff policy of the State Electricity Boards as the NTPC do not supply power directly to such consumers.

Gas from HBJ Pipeline for Power Generation

2281. SHRI I. RAMA RAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state whether Government have any plans to divert part

of the natural gas to be carried through HBJ pipeline and earlier earmarked for fertilizer production for power generation through new power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : Delays are indicated in the commissioning of some of the downstream projects along the HBJ Pipeline and, therefore, alternative uses of gas, including for power generation, are being explored

Sick Sugar Mills

2282. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA

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

(a) the number of sick sugar mills in the country in private, public and cooperative sectors, State-wise and sector-wise, and since when these mills have been closed down;

(b) whether it is a fact that sickness of mills is one of the reasons to decreasing production of sugar;

(c) the Government's policy to take over these sick mills;

(d) the names of sick sugar mills so far taken over by Union Government; and

(e) the Government's policy in regard to establishing more sugar mills in public, private and cooperative sectors during the Seventh Five Year Plan to meet the increasing demand of sugar in the country and to avoid import?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The Sugar Industry, being a seasonal industry, subject to fluctuations due to a number of factors including agro-climatic factors, the Department of Food

have not evolved parameters for quantifying sickness in the industry. Most of the sugar mills have since closed down after completing their crushing operations for the sugar season 1986-87. Sugar production has been registering gradual increase during the last two seasons and during the current season it has almost touched the record level of production achieved during 1981-82 season.

(c) and (d). The circumstances in which the management of sugar mills can be taken over temporarily by the Central Government are detailed in the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 and the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. However, at present management of no sugar mills are with the Central Government under the provisions of these Acts.

(e) For licensing of new sugar mills during the Seventh Plan period, the first priority is to be given to the Cooperative sector followed by public sector and lastly by the private sector. The basic criterion for establishment of a new sugar factory would be abundant availability of sugarcane in a compact area around the proposed factory site. Establishment of new sugar units in backward areas would be given priority subject to adequate cane availability and techno-economic feasibility.

Production of sugar, setting and modernisation of sugar mills

2283. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of sugar is increasing year after year;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to increase the production of sugar to meet the demand;

(c) whether there is any proposal to instal more sugar mills in the sugarcane producing areas in the country;

(d) if so, the details of new sugar mills likely to be established during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(e) whether it is a fact that some of the sugar mills have become very old and need renovation as the production of sugar has declined; and

(f) if so, the number of such sugar mills and the steps being taken to renovate them so that the production of sugar may be increased?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following steps have been initiated during 1986-87 sugar season to increase sugar production:—

(i) Increase in statutory minimum price of sugarcane payable by sugar factories to Rs. 17/- per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% with proportionate premium for every 0.1% rise in recovery above the basic level for 1986-87 season.

(ii) Advance announcement of statutory minimum price for 1987-88 season at Rs. 18/- per quintal linked to recovery of 8.5%.

(iii) A rebate in Excise-duty for early crushing during the month of October and November, 86 in excess of average quantity produced during corresponding period in preceding two seasons.

(iv) A rebate in excise duty for late crushing during May and June, 1987 in excess of the average production during corresponding period of the last three seasons.

(v) Change in ratio of levy and free sale sugar from 55:45 to 50:50.

(c) and (d). The Central Government do not propose areas or States for setting up of new sugar factories. The applications for grant of new licences submitted by the entrepreneurs through the State Govts. along with their recommendations are considered subject to favourable Agro-climatic conditions and techno-economic feasibility. Four letters of intent have been granted for setting up of new sugar mills each of 2500 TCD in the country during the 7th Five Year Plan so far.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. Sugar factories are required to renovate/undertake modernisation keeping in view the latest technological developments for achieving maximum efficiency and for improving their techno-economic viability. These renovations/modernisation programmes are continuous process. Sugar factories can avail of soft loans scheme operated by the Central Financial Institutions and under the Sugar Development Fund administered by the Central Government. Under the Sugar Development Fund Rs 6.25 crores have so far been sanctioned to 7 sugar units.

Import of rare drugs

2284. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the agency or company through which the rare drugs are being imported and how these drugs are being distributed/sold;

(b) whether the Consumer Action Group has demanded in its memorandum to supply these drugs to the consumer through public agencies and at cheaper rate; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) In the Import Policy for 1985-86 published by the Ministry of Commerce

vide Appendix 6, any drug not available in the country can be imported by any individual for his/her personal use and Registered hospital/medical institutions use, provided the value of such goods imported at any one time does not exceed Rs. 1000/- and Rs. 25,000/- respectively. In case the value of the drug/drugs intended to be imported exceeds this limit, an import licence under the Import Trade Control Regulation from the Office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports is required to be obtained. The life saving drugs are being imported by various firms in the country.

(b) No such representation has been received by my Department.

(c) Does not arise.

Conversion of automatic Telephone Exchanges in Himachal Pradesh

2285. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest progress regarding the sanction for the posts of Telephone Operators required for the conversion of Automatic Exchanges at Jawalamukhi, Chintpurni and Baijnath in Himachal Pradesh to CBNM Exchanges; and

(b) if the posts have been sanctioned, the likely date by which the conversion would be completed in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The sanctions for creation of posts of Telephone Operators for all the three exchanges have been issued.

(b) The exchanges will be converted after the posts have been filled and other formalities completed by the G.M. Himachal Pradesh.

However, it is expected that Baijnath Auto Exchange will be converted into a

CBNM Exchange by the end of September 1987. The other two exchanges, viz. Jawalamukhi and Chintpurni would also be converted into CBNM exchanges by the end of October '87.

[*Translation*]

Waiting list for Telephone connections in West Bengal

2286. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new telephone connections given in Calcutta and other places in West Bengal during 1986;

(b) the number of requests for new telephone connections in West Bengal which are still on the waiting list; and

(c) the steps taken so far for speedy clearance of the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The number of new telephone connections provided in Calcutta and West Bengal during 1986 are 7,664 and 3,104 respectively.

(b) The number of requests for new telephone connections pending in West Bengal is 40,802 as on 31.5.1987, out of which 35,823 are pending in Calcutta.

(c) New Telephone exchanges are being opened and existing ones are being expanded wherever feasible for speedy clearance of waiting list. As per the enhanced 7th Plan allocation of Rs. 6000 crores, the clearance of waiting list is proposed as follows:—

	Clearance of waiting list upto—
1. Calcutta Telephone District	30.9.1986
2. Telecom. Circle (West Bengal)	
MAX-I (2000 lines and above)	1.4.1987
MAX-II (200 to 2000 lines).	1.4.1988
MAX-III and Manual Exchanges (upto 200 lines).	1.4.1990

[*English*]

Places linked with Delhi by S.T.D.

2288. SHRI MATILAL HANSDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places so far linked with STD service from Delhi as on 31 March 1987; and

(b) the names of the places to be linked with STD service from Delhi during the

current year, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Names of places so far linked with STD service from Delhi as on 31.3.87 are given in the Statement-I below.

(b) Names of places proposed to be linked with STD service from Delhi during the current year (1987-88) are given in the Statement-II below.

STATEMENT-I

Names of the Stations connected from Delhi as on 31.3.87 on S.T.D.

1.	Abhojar	52.	Bullundshahr
2.	Adilabad	53.	Bulsar
3.	Adoni	54.	Burdwan
4.	Adoor	55.	Bhurhanpur
5.	Agartala	56.	Burnpur
6.	Agra	57.	Badagara
7.	Ahmedabad	58.	Baiipatnam
8.	Aizwal	59.	Bidar
9.	Ajmer	60.	Calcutta
10.	Aligarh	61.	Cannanore
11.	Allahabad	62.	Chandigarh
12.	Alleppey	63.	Chalakudi
13.	Alwar	64.	Chengannur
14.	Alwaye	65.	Chhapra
15.	Ambala	66.	Chidambaram
16.	Amraoti	67.	Chingavanam
17.	Amritsar	68.	Chingelpet
18.	Anakapalli	69.	Chitradurga
19.	Anantapur	70.	Ghowghat/Guruvay
20.	Andal	71.	Coimbatore
21.	Angamalli	72.	Coochbehar
22.	Arrah	73.	Gudappah
23.	Asansol	74.	Cuttack
24.	Attingal	75.	Chandrapur
25.	Attur	76.	Chilakulurpet
26.	Aurangabad	77.	Dalmianagar
27.	Alagappanagar	78.	Darjeeling
28.	Ambur	79.	Devangiri
29.	Arkonam	80.	Dehradun
30.	Amreli	81.	Darbanga
31.	Akola	82.	Dhanbad
32.	Bagalkota	83.	Dharampuri
33.	Bahula	84.	Dibrugarh
34.	Bangalore	85.	Dimapur
35.	Baraker	86.	Dindigul
36.	Bareilly	87.	Dispur
37.	Baroda	88.	Durg
38.	Beawar	89.	Durgapur
39.	Belgaum	90.	Dhubri
40.	Bellary	91.	Dharwar
41.	Bhadravati	92.	Ernakulam
42.	Bharatpur	93.	Erode
43.	Bhatinda	94.	Etah
44.	Bhavnagar	95.	Ferozpur
45.	Bhawani	96.	Faizabad
46.	Bhimvaram	97.	Gadag
47.	Bhiwani	98.	Gandhinagar
48.	Bhopal	99.	Gangtok
49.	Bhubaneswar	100.	Guwahati
50.	Bilaspur	101.	Gorakhpur
51.	Bombay	102.	Gudiwada

103.	Gudur	161.	Kothamangalam
104.	Gulbargah	162.	Lamphelpet
105.	Guntakal	163.	Lucknow
106.	Guntur	164.	Ludhiana
107.	Gurgaon	165.	Lingampalli
108.	Gwalior	166.	Machlipatnam
109.	Gobichettipalay	167.	Madras
110.	Haldia	168.	Madurai
111.	Hapur	169.	Mahboobnagar
112.	Harihar	170.	Malda
113.	Hassan	171.	Mallapuram
114.	Hissar	172.	Mangalore
115.	Hosur	173.	Manjeri
116.	Hubli	174.	Mannargodi
117.	Hyderabad	175.	Mavelikara
118.	Hanumkonda	176.	Mayuram
119.	Idukki	177.	Mehsana
120.	Indore	178.	Mercara
121.	Irinjalkuda	179.	Meerut
122.	Itanagar	180.	Metupallayam
123.	Jabalpur	181.	Modinagar
124.	Jaipur	182.	Motihari
125.	Jalandhar	183.	Moradabad
126.	Jammu	184.	Mussoorie
127.	Jamnagar	185.	Muzaffarnagar
128.	Jamshedpur	186.	Muzaffarpur
129.	Jamuria	187.	Mysore
130.	Jodhpur	188.	Mathura
131.	Jowai	189.	Mahabalipuram
132.	Kakinada	190.	Morvi
133.	Kalimpong	191.	Muvattupuzha
134.	Kalyan	192.	Nadiad
135.	Kanchipuram	193.	Nagapathnam
136.	Karaikudi	194.	Nagarcoil
137.	Kanpur	195.	Nagpur
138.	Karim Nagar	196.	Nalgonda
139.	Karnal	197.	Narakkal
140.	Karwar	198.	Nandial
141.	Khammam	199.	Nasakkai
142.	Khandwa	200.	Nasik
143.	Khuzhithural	201.	Nellore
144.	Kodikanal	202.	Neyatinkara
145.	Kohima	203.	Neyamatpur
146.	Kharagpur	204.	Neyveli
147.	Kolhapur	205.	Ongole
148.	Kosikalan	206.	Ooty
149.	Kota	207.	Palai
150.	Katihar	208.	Palakela
151.	Kottayam	209.	Palghat
152.	Koveiyatti	210.	Panipat
153.	Kozhikode	211.	Panjim
154.	Kottarakara	212.	Parmakudy
155.	Kundara	213.	Patancheru
156.	Kunnamkulam	214.	Patiala
157.	Kumbakonam	215.	Patna
158.	Kalpetta	216.	Pillibhit
159.	Kalpakkam	217.	Polachi
160.	Karnool	218.	Pondicherry

219.	Prodattur	263.	Srinagar
220.	Pudukettai	264.	Surat
221.	Pune	265.	Savarkundla
222.	Puttur	266.	Sholapur
223.	Palladam	267.	Shertalai
224.	Porbandar	268.	Tenali
225.	Poranki	269.	Thadepalikudam
226.	Perumbavur	270.	Theni
227.	Quilon	271.	Thirumangalam
228.	Rae Bareli	272.	Thirunelveli
229.	Raichur	273.	Tiruchangedy
230.	Raipur	274.	Trichi
231.	Rajahmundry	275.	Tirupathi
232.	Rajapalayam	276.	Tirupur
233.	Rajkot	277.	Tiruvella
234.	Rajpura	278.	Tiruvarur
235.	Rampur	279.	Trichur
236.	Ranchi	280.	Trivandrum
237.	Ranipet	281.	Tumkur
238.	Raniganj	282.	Tuticorin
239.	Rasipuram	283.	Tiruvallur
240.	Rewari	284.	Turbhe
241.	Rohtak	285.	Tura
242.	Roop narainpur	286.	Thodupuzha
243.	Rourkela	287.	Tanaku
244.	Ranibennur	288.	Udaipur
245.	Saharanpur	289.	Udipi
246.	Salem	290.	Udumalpet
247.	Semastipur	291.	Ujjain
248.	Sagar	292.	Unnao
249.	Sangrur	293.	Udhampur
250.	Sasaram	294.	Varanasi
251.	Sangli	295.	Vashi
252.	Sattur	296.	Vellore
253.	Sangareddy	297.	Vijayawada
254.	Shahjahanpur	298.	Villupuram
255.	Shillong	299.	Virudhnagar
256.	Moga	300.	Visakhapatnam
257.	Silliguri	301.	Vizinagram
258.	Simla	302.	Warangal
259.	Sirsa	303.	Wardha
260.	Sitapur	304.	Yamunanagar
261.	Sonipat	305.	Yeotmal
262.	Srikakkulam		

STATEMENT-II

Names of places proposed to be linked with STD facility from Delhi during 1987-88.

1.	Alipurduar	7.	Bikaner
2.	Bongaigaon	8.	Bundi
3.	Bhagalpur	9.	Bagdogra
4.	Bangerpet	10.	Bhusaval
5.	Behrampur	11.	Bolepur
6.	Balasore	12.	Cranganore

13.	Chinsurah	46.	Nellikuppam
14.	Cherapur	47.	Nainital
15.	Changanacherry	48.	Ollur
16.	Chittur	49.	Paradeep
17.	Dhar	50.	Phagwara
18.	Dhulia	51.	Puri
19.	Daltonganj	52.	Penambur
20.	Dhrangodhra	53.	Pratapgarh
21.	Haflong	54.	Ravulapalam
22.	Hoshiarpur	55.	Raigarh
23.	Hazaribagh	56.	Rewa
24.	Imphal	57.	Renigunta
25.	Jorhat	58.	Sainthia
26.	Jalna	59.	Sivsagar
27.	Jalgaon	60.	Sambalpur
28.	Jaora	61.	Srivilliputhur
29.	Kapurthala	62.	Srirampur
30.	Kavarathy	63.	Sambalkot
31.	Kolar	64.	Surendernagar
32.	Kalady	65.	Suri
33.	Krishnanagar	66.	Sirsi
34.	Kalol	67.	Satara
35.	Karur	68.	Tuni
36.	Kangayam	69.	Tinsukhia
37.	Lungleh	70.	Talod
38.	Morena	71.	Tribeni
39.	Midnapur	72.	Valparai
40.	Margoa	73.	Vasco
41.	Mandasaur	74.	Visnagar
42.	Mahua	75.	Whitefield
43.	Naharilagaon	76.	Veraval
44.	Nanjangud	77.	Forbisganj
45.	Nagaur	78.	Gandhidham

Places linked with Delhi by demand trunk services

2289. SHRI MATILAL HANSDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places linked with Delhi with demand trunk service as on 31st march, 1987; and

(b) the names of the places to be linked with Delhi with demand trunk service dur-

ing the current year, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The names of the places linked with Delhi and demand trunk service as on 31.3.87 are indicated in the Statement-I below.

(b) The names of places to be linked with Delhi with a demand trunk service during the current year is shown in the Statement-II below.

STATEMENT-I

List of the places linked with Delhi with Demand Trunk Service as on 31.3.1987.

S. No.	Station	S. No.	Station
1.	Agartala	2.	Agra

S. No.	Station	S. No.	Station
3.	Ahmedabad	24.	Jalandhar
4.	Allahabad	25.	Jodhpur
5.	Ambala	26.	Kanpur
6.	Amritsar	27.	Lucknow
7.	Bangalore	28.	Ludhiana
8.	Bhatinda	29.	Madras
9.	Bhubaneswar	30.	Meerut
10.	Bombay	31.	Modinagar
11.	Calcutta	32.	Moradabad
12.	Chandigarh	33.	Muzaffar Nagar
13.	Dehradun	34.	Nagpur
14.	Faridabad	35.	Patiala
15.	Gurgaon	36.	Patna
16.	Guwahati	37.	Rae Bareli
17.	Gwalior	38.	Rohtak
18.	Hissar	39.	Saharanpur
19.	Hyderabad	40.	Shillong
20.	Imphal	41.	Simla
21.	Indore	42.	Srinagar
22.	Jagadhri	43.	Trivandrum
23.	Jaipur	44.	Varanasi

STATEMENT-II

List of places to be linked with Demand Trunk Service during the current year 1987-88

(a) Demand Service to the following stations has been Commissioned on 1.8.87.

S. No.	Station	S. No.	Station
1.	Abhor	14.	Kotah
2.	Aligarh	15.	Mathura
3.	Baroda	16.	Mussoorie

S. No.	Station	S. No.	Station
4.	Bareilly	17.	Panipat
5.	Bhiwani	18.	Poona
6.	Bhopal	19.	Ranchi
7.	Bikaner	20.	Rewari
8.	Bulandshehar	21.	Roorkee
9.	Ernakulam	22.	Siliguri
10.	Gangtok	23.	Sirsa
11.	Hapur	24.	Sonipat
12.	Jammu Tavi	25.	Sri-Ganganagar
13.	Karnal	26.	Udhaipur

(b) The Demand Service to the following stations is likely to be Commissioned before 31.3.1988.

1.	Jabalpur	2.	Pathankot
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Downstream project of HBJ Pipeline

2290. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMBEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various downstream projects on HBJ pipeline are progressing so as to synchronise the consumption of natural gas from HBJ pipeline when the HBJ project is ready to deliver the same;

(b) if not, the estimated time when the downstream projects will be ready to consume HBJ gas;

(c) whether clearance of any industrial complex which is proposed to be set up basing on HBJ gas is held up at Government level; and

(d) if so, what are the snags in clearing the same and how soon it is expected to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). Delays are indicated in the commissioning of some of the downstream projects along the HBJ pipeline. Efforts are being made to locate additional consumers so as to utilise the gas to be transported through the HBJ pipeline to the maximum possible extent.

(c) and (d). A proposal has been received by Government from GAIL for setting up an LPG cum propane extraction project based on the gas from HBJ pipeline. This is being processed.

Memorandum of understanding with public sector enterprises

2291. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided to sign Memorandum of Understanding for Annual Performance Plan for 1987-88 with certain public sector enterprises;

(b) if so, the names of such enterprises;

(c) the outlines of Memorandum of Understanding so signed and the outcome thereof; and

(d) Government's future policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) to (d). Presently, proposals are being formulated and concretised for finalising Memorandum of Understanding for Annual Performance Plan with eight public sector undertakings which are The State Trading Corporation, The Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation, The Steel Authority of India Ltd., The National Textile Corporation, The Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., The Coal India Ltd., The National Thermal Power Corporation and Air India. A performance plan for the period 1987-89 has been signed with ONGC, the part relating to 1988-89 being only indicative. The Memorandum of Understanding would contain the performance targets to be achieved by the enterprises during the period and state the obligation of the Government to provide necessary support by increased delegation of powers and quicker Government clearances. The future policy in this regard would depend on the functioning of the MOUs in the above mentioned enterprises.

Renovation and modernisation of Thermal Power Plants

2292. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to renovate and modernise the thermal power plants in the country for improving the functioning of the power stations;

(b) whether any team from the Union Government has visited the thermal power plants; and

(c) if so, the details of the thermal power plants visited and the suggestions made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme is already under implementation.

(b) and (c). Joint Teams comprising engineers of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and Manufacturers/suppliers of main plant and equipment such as BHEL, ILK etc. visited most of the thermal power stations having serious problems (Statement given below) to identify the problems affecting the performance/environment and to find suitable technical solutions therefor. Based on the visits of the Joint Teams, schemes for various thermal power stations were prepared by the SEBs/Organisations for obtaining necessary clearance. The schemes are at various stages of implementation

STATEMENT

Details of thermal power stations visited by Joint Teams for Centrally sponsored R&M programmes

S. No.	Name of the Thermal Power Station visited by Joint Teams.
1.	Badarpur
2.	Indraprastha
3.	Faridabad
4.	Panipat
5.	Bhatinda
6.	Panki
7.	Obra
8.	Harduaganj
9.	Korba
10.	Gandhinagar
11.	Dhuvaran
12.	Ukai

S. No.	Name of the Thermal Power Station visited by Joint Teams
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|-----|------------------|
| 13. | Koradi |
| 14. | Nasik |
| 15. | Kothagudem |
| 16. | Ennore |
| 17. | Tuticorin |
| 18. | Neyveli |
| 19. | Talcher |
| 20. | Chandrapur (DVC) |
| 21. | Bokaro (DVC) |
| 22. | Durgapur (DVC) |
| 23. | Patratu |
| 24. | Barauni |
| 25. | Karbigahia |
| 26. | Santaldih |
| 27. | Bandel |
| 28. | Durgapur (DPL) |
| 29. | Namrup |

Lower Periyar Project

2293. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the time when the lower Periyar Project is expected to be commissioned; and

(b) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). Lower Periyar

Hydro Electric Project envisages installation of 3 Units of 60 MW each. As per the assessment of Kerala State Electricity Board, the project is expected to be commissioned by 1990-91.

Tapping of wind and solar power in Bihar State

2294. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to assist and provide help to Bihar State Government in its attempt to tap wind and solar power; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has been assisting and providing help to the Bihar State Government in its attempt to tap wind and solar power. Under wind energy programme, 127 water pumping windmills have been installed in Bihar; 24 more are under installation. Under solar photovoltaic programme over 60 P.V. water pumping systems and 100 P.V. street lights have been supplied to Bihar. Request for additional P.V. system for this year are under consideration. Under solar thermal extension programme, 2 hot water systems of 6500 Litres/Day capacity at 60°C. have been installed and 14 additional water heating systems of 25,500 Litres/Day capacity are under installation. Under the solar thermal extension programme 1987-88 Bihar Renewable Energy Agency is being allocated a sum of Rs. 8.76 lacs for the installation of solar thermal systems.

Effect of monsoon on foodgrains stocks

2295. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the stocks of foodgrains have come down as a result of erratic mon-

soon for the fourth consecutive year; and

(b) if so, the efforts being made by Government to overcome the shortage of foodgrains to meet the requirement of the Public Distribution System in the current year and in future?

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

(a) The stocks of foodgrains with the public agencies as on 1.7.1987 were estimated at 23.4 million tonnes as against 22.5 million tonnes on 1.7.1984, 28.7 million tonnes on 1.7.1985 and 28.3 million tonnes on 1.7.1986.

(b) The stocks available are adequate to meet the present requirements of the public distribution system. There is also regular replenishment of stocks through procurement operations.

Supply of LPG at subsidised rates

2296. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to provide cooking gas at subsidised rates in order to conserve other sources of fuel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): LPG is already being subsidised for domestic use in view of the resultant saving in kerosene oil of which the country is a net importer at present.

Tellicherry Telephone Exchange

2297. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work for the Tellicherry Telephone Exchange has been completed;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be commissioned;

(c) if not, whether Government will ensure expediting the work; and

(d) the total estimated cost of the above exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Construction of Telephone Exchange Building completed. Installation of 3000 lines cross bar exchange equipment is in progress.

(b) March, 1988.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Rupees Two Crores Seventy Five Lakhs. (Rs. 2,75,00,000/-)

Telecommunication expansion programmes in West Bengal

2298. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various telecommunication expansion programmes taken up in West Bengal during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the total amount to be spent on this expansion programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The Plan for West Bengal including Calcutta envisages addition of about 2 lakh lines of switching capacity, 2300 Telex lines, 970 Long Distance Public Telephones and 12500 lines of trunk automatic exchange capacity. For the above expansion, provision has been made for matching expansion in the Long Distance Transmission network.

(b) The funds are allocated on annual basis depending upon the availability of funds. During the first two years of the Plan. Rs. 107 crores have been spent and

for the current year, provision has been made for Rs. 42 crores.

Central Industrial Undertakings in Rajasthan

2299. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central industrial undertakings in Rajasthan; and

(b) how many of them have shown balance sheet profits?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) There are six Central Public Enterprises having their registered offices in Rajasthan; and

(b) Out of the six enterprises, three have made net profits during the year 1985-86.

Public Undertakings in Rajasthan

2300. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of public undertakings under his Ministry operating in Rajasthan;

(b) the details of their items of produc-

tion, installed capacity, breakeven point of production, actual production in last three years and the amount of operating profit/loss in last three years; and

(c) the number of employees working in various undertakings category-wise and the number of SC/ST employees in each undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) Five public enterprises under Industry Ministry viz. Instrumentation Ltd., Sambhar Salts Ltd., Rajasthan Drugs & Chemicals Ltd., Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Ltd., and Hindustan Salts Ltd., are in Rajasthan having their registered offices there.

(b) Details of items of production, installed capacity, actual production in the last three years and the amount of operating profit/loss in the last three years are given in the Public Enterprises Survey 1985-86 Vols. 2 and 3 which were laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 27.2.1987. Information regarding breakeven point of production is not readily available.

(c) Category-wise employment, SC/ST employees in these companies during the year ending 31st March 1986 is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

	Manage- rial/ Super- visory	Cleri- cal	Skilled	Semi- skilled	Un- skilled	Casual daily rated	Total	No. of SC/ST Employees
1. Instrumentation Ltd.	1284	735	1139	117	607	62	3944	656
2. Sambhar Salts Ltd.	77	69	141	350	1318	0	1955	232
3. Rajasthan Drugs & Chemicals Ltd.	29	16	16	11	56	20	148	7
4. Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Ltd.	32	8	7	28	11	8	94	13
5. Hindustan Salts Ltd.	59	77	66	0	107	204	513	55

Purchase of oil in falling market

2301. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rising oil production in Iraq is likely to lead to fall in price;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make spot purchases in the falling market in view of the higher OPEC prices; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) The behaviour of prices is not determined by rising oil production in any one particular country.

(b) and (c). The Government are constantly watching the market situation to derive the best advantage in its purchases of crude oil.

Allocation of gas of HBJ Pipeline to power stations in Uttar Pradesh

2302. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of gas from HBJ pipeline to be allocated to the two gas based power stations to be set up at Kawas and Auriya in Uttar Pradesh and whether it would be sufficient to meet their requirement; and

(b) whether in view of the fact that there has been practically no sign of progress on the three of the six fertilizer units particularly those two coming up in UP, how is the gas earmarked for them likely to be utilised and which are other customers to whom it will be distributed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a)

Supply of 2.25 MMCMD of gas to Kawas Power Station, on fall-back basis, and an equal amount of gas to Auriya Power Station, on a regular basis, allocated for these two Power Plants from HBJ pipeline, would meet their requirement.

(b) As some of the designated consumers are expected to be delayed, efforts are being made to locate additional consumers so as to utilise the gas to be transported through the pipeline to the maximum possible extent.

Charter hiring Rigs by ONGC

2303. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural gas Commission had mooted the idea of charter-hiring on-board rigs exclusively from Indian companies;

(b) whether the ONGC's plan to charter-hire domestic rigs as a major step towards "promoting indigenous effort in oil related equipment and services" has been successful;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Efforts to promote indigenisation, mainly through price preference to Indian bidders, have been fairly successful and at present 4 out of the 14 off-shore rigs charter hired by ONGC are from Indian entrepreneurs.

Import of LPG cylinders

2304. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG cylinders

imported during the last three years and from which country;

(b) whether Government have any plan to meet the demand of cylinders from indigenous sources instead of importing; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) In terms of the decision taken in December, 1983, the number of LPG cylinders imported during the last 3 years from Brazil is as under:

1984-85	—	6,20,000
1985-86	—	77,500
1986-87	—	NIL
Total :		6,97,500

(b) and (c). The requirement of LPG cylinders is now being fully met from indigenous sources.

Issue of letters of Intent/Industrial licences

2305. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for issue of letters of intent/industrial licences pending with Union Government till date State-wise details thereof; and

(b) the reasons for delay in granting letters of intent/industrial licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM): (a) The state-wise details of the number of Industrial Licence applications received under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 and which are at various stages of processing are reflected in the Statement given below.

(b) Details of pending Industrial licence applications are not divulged till final decision have been taken by the Government thereon. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to dispose off all the pending Industrial Licence applications as expeditiously as possible.

STATEMENT

State-wise details of pending indl. licence applications position as on 3.8.1987

Name of the State		1984	1985	1986	1987 (As on 3.8.87)
1		2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	2	4	43
2	Assam	—	—	—	4
3	Andaman Nicobar	—	—	—	—
4	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—
5	Bihar	—	—	3	9
6	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—

	1	2	3	4	5
8. Delhi	—	—	—	—	5
9. Goa, Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	2
10. Gujarat	2	3	10	27	
11. Himachal Pradesh	—	—	1	7	
12. Haryana	—	1	4	14	
13. Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	2	
14. Karnataka	—	1	2	29	
15. Kerala	—	—	—	10	
16. Maharashtra	1	3	18	56	
17. Madhya Pradesh	—	1	4	22	
18. Manipur	—	—	—	—	
19. Meghalaya	—	—	—	1	
20. Nagaland	—	—	—	—	
21. Orissa	—	—	1	7	
22. Pondicherry	—	—	1	6	
23. Punjab	1	1	7	17	
24. Rajasthan	—	1	3	25	
25. Tripura	—	—	—	—	
26. Tamil Nadu	1	—	8	42	
27. Uttar Pradesh	1	1	15	45	
28. West Bengal	1	1	5	21	
29. Sikkim	—	—	1	—	
30. More than one State	2	2	4	6	
31. Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	
32. Mizoram	—	—	—	—	
Total		10	17	91	400

Setting up of Central Public Sector Units

2306. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Central Public Sector units in different parts of the country, State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up some more such units in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) The break-up of 228 Central Public Enterprises as on 31.12.1986 is given in the Statement below indicating the State-wise break-up in terms of location of registered offices of these enterprises.

(b) and (c). New enterprises as such are established as and when the necessity arises and hence this cannot be predetermined.

STATEMENT

Location of registered offices of Central Public Enterprises as on 31.12.1986

1.	Andhra Pradesh	13
2.	Assam	4
3.	Bihar	12
4.	Gujarat	4
5.	Haryana	1
6.	Karnataka	14
7.	Kerala	6
8.	Maharashtra	27
9.	Madhya Pradesh	4
10.	Nagaland	1
11.	Orissa	3

12.	Punjab	2
13.	Rajasthan	6
14.	Tamil Nadu	6
15.	Uttar Pradesh	16
16.	Delhi	60
17.	Others	3
18.	West Bengal	46
Total		228

Advisory Committee for Industry Ministry

2307. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to set up an Advisory Committee for his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Central Advisory Council for Industry is being reconstituted in accordance with the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. The Council which has a membership of 30 is appointed by Central Government from among persons capable of representing the interest of:—

- (i) owners of industrial undertakings in scheduled industries;
- (ii) persons employed in industrial undertakings in scheduled industries;
- (iii) consumers of goods manufac-

tured by scheduled industries;
and

- (iv) such other class of persons as in the opinion of Central Government ought to be represented on the Council.

Power Shortage

2308. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in "The Hindustan Times" of 9 July, 1987 that the Planning Commission has sanctioned a sum of Rs. 10,000 crores for power projects during the current Plan period to alleviate crippling power shortage in the country;

(b) if so, the sites selected for this purpose;

(c) the total amount spent for these pro-

jects and the time by which these will be commissioned; and

(d) whether Government propose to minimise the shortage of power in the country and if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MIINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) An additional outlay of about Rs. 11,200 crores during the Seventh Plan has been approved for taking advance action on power projects which are intended to yield benefits in the Eighth Plan.

(b) The State-wise details of the Projects are given in the Statement below.

(c) These projects are in various stages of implementation and are to be completed during the Eighth Plan period.

(d) The measures taken to minimise the shortage of power in the country include expediting the commissioning of additional capacity, implementing short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reducing the transmission and distribution losses and implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures.

STATEMENT

State-wise Details of Power Projects

Sl. No.	Name of the Project (Capacity in MW)	Type of the Project	Name of the State
1	2	3	4

CENTRAL SECTOR

A. *Approved/Ongoing*

I. *Thermal Stations*

1.	Singrauli-II (2x200+2x500)	Thermal	Uttar Pradesh
2.	Korba-I (3x200 + 1x500)		Madhya Prradesh
3.	Korba-II (2x500)		Madhya Pradesh

1	2	3	4
4.	Ramagundam-I (3x200+1x500)	Thermal	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Ramagundam-II (2x500)	"	Andhra Pradesh
6.	Farakka-I (3x200)	"	West Bengal
7.	Vindhyachal-I (6x210)	"	Madhya Pradesh
8.	Rihand-I (2x500)	"	Uttar Pradesh
9.	Farakka-II (2x500)	"	West Bengal
10.	Kahaigaon (4x210)	"	Bihar
11.	Mejia (3x210)	"	West Bengal
12.	Neyveli (4x210)	"	Tamil Nadu
13.	NTPC Gas Turbines (1630)	"	Gujarat
II. Nuclear Stations			
14.	Kakrapar (2x235)	Nuclear	Gujarat
15.	Kaiga/RAPP Extn. (4x235)	"	Karnataka/Rajasthan
III. Hydro Stations			
16.	Salal-I (3x115)	Hydel	Jammu and Kashmir
17.	Chamera-I (3x180)	"	Himachal Pradesh
18.	Dulhasti (3x130)	"	Jammu and Kashmir
19.	Tanakpur (3x40)	"	Uttar Pradesh
B. PIB/CEA Cleared Projects			
I. Thermal Stations			
20.	Kathalguri Gas Turbine (270)	Thermal	Assam
21.	National Capital (4x210)	"	Uttar Pradesh
22.	Talcher-I (2x500)	"	Orissa
23.	Yamuna Nagar (4x210)	"	Haryana
II. Hydro Stations			
24.	Uri (4x120)	Hydel	Jammu and Kashmir
25.	Rangit (2x30)	"	Sikkim

1	2	3	4
26.	Tehri (4x250)	Hydel	Uttar Pradesh
27.	Nathpajhakri (6x250)	"	Himachal Pradesh
28.	Sawalkot (3x200)	"	Jammu and Kashmir
29.	Baglihar (3x150)	"	Jammu and Kashmir
30.	Chamera -II (3x100)	"	Himachal Pradesh

C. Unapproved Projects

I. Thermal Stations

31.	Rihand-II (2x500)	Thermal	Uttar Pradesh
32.	Vindhyachal-II (2x500)	"	Madhya Pradesh
33.	Chandrapur (2x500)	"	Maharashtra
34.	Farakka (1x500)	"	West Bengal
35.	North Karanpura (2x500)	"	Bihar
36.	Maithon (4x210)	"	Bihar
37.	Rajasthan Lignite (3x210)	"	Rajasthan
38.	Neyveli (2x210 + 2x210)	"	Tamil Nadu
39.	GT Shahjahanpur (550)	"	Uttar Pradesh

II. Hydro Stations

40.	Salal-II (345)	Hydel	Jammu and Kashmir
41.	Dhauliganga (260)	"	Uttar Pradesh

III. Nuclear Stations (1440)

Nuclear

STATE SECTOR

A. Approved/Ongoing

Northern Region

42.	Baner (2x3)	Hydel	Himachal Pradesh
43.	Gaj (3x3.5)	"	Himachal Pradesh
44.	Pahalgham (2x1.5)	"	Jammu and Kashmir
45.	Diesel Station (2x20)	Thermal	Jammu and Kashmir

1	2	3	4
46.	Kargil (2x2)	Hydel	Jammu and Kashmir
47.	Thein Dam (4x150+3x15)	"	Punjab
48.	Kota Stage-II (2x210)	Thermal	Rajasthan
49.	Small Hydels (3)	Hydel	Rajasthan
50.	Anpara 'B' (2x500)	Thermal	Uttar Pradesh
51.	Lakhwar Vyası (420)	Hydel	Uttar Pradesh
52.	Vishnu Prayag (4x120)	"	Uttar Pradesh
53.	Srinagar (4x50)	"	Uttar Pradesh
Western Region			
54.	Kadana Units-3 and 4 (2x60)	Hydel	Gujarat
55.	Kutch Lignite (2x70)	Thermal	Gujarat
56.	Sanjay Gandhi Unit-2 (2x210)	"	Madhya Pradesh
57.	Indira Sarovar (4x125)	Hydel	Madhya Pradesh
58.	Bansagar (Tons) (105+5x15)	"	Madhya Pradesh
59.	Bhandardara-II (1x35)	"	Maharashtra
60.	Manikdoh (1x6)	"	Maharashtra
61.	Kanher (1x4)	"	Maharashtra
62.	Dhom (2x1)	"	Maharashtra
63.	Surya (1x6)	"	Maharashtra
64.	Warna (2x8)	"	Maharashtra
65.	Koyna-IV (6x15)	"	Maharashtra
66.	Chandrapur Extn. (2x500)	Thermal	Maharashtra
67.	Trombay-VI (1x500)	"	Maharashtra
68.	Mini Hydel in M.P. (2)	Hydel	Madhya Pradesh
Southern Region			
69.	Vijayasada-II Unit-2 (2x210)	Thermal	Andhra Pradesh
70.	Srisaillam LBC (9x110)	Hydel	Andhra Pradesh

1	2	3	4
71.	Upper Sileru (2x60)	Hydel	Andhra Pradesh
72.	Kalinadi-I I (330)	"	Karnataka
73.	Gangavali (2x105)	"	Karnataka
74.	Gas Turbine Bangalore (120)	Thermal	Karnataka
75.	Diesel Sets (78)	"	Karnataka
76.	Raichur (1x210)	"	Karnataka
77.	Lower Periyar(3x60)	Hydel	Kerala
78.	Puyankutty (2x120)	"	Kerala
79.	Malampuzha (2)	"	Kerala
80.	Madupatty (2)	"	Kerala
81.	Small Hydro (9)	"	Kerala
82.	Tuticorin-III Unit-4 (2x210)	Thermal	Tamil Nadu
83.	North Madras (3x210)	"	Tamil Nadu
84.	Mettur-II Unit-4 (2x210)	"	Tamil Nadu
85.	Kundah-IV (30)	Hydel	Tamil Nadu
<i>Eastern Region</i>			
86.	Kolaghat Units-5 and 6 (3x210)	Thermal	West Bengal
87.	Teesta Canal (3x3x7.5)	Hydel	West Bengal
88.	Bakreshwar (3x210)	Thermal	West Bengal
89.	Tenughat Unit-2 (210)	"	Bihar
90.	Rengali Extn. Unit-5 (3x50)	Hydel	Orissa
91.	Upper Indirawati (4x150)	"	Orissa
92.	Upper Kolab Unit-4 (1x80)	"	Orissa
93.	Ib TPS (4x210)	Thermal	Orissa
<i>North-Eastern Region</i>			
94.	Umiyam Umtru (2x30)	Thermal	Meghalaya
95.	Thoubal (7.5)	Hydel	Manipur
96.	Doyang (3x35)	"	North Eastern Council

1	2	3	4
97.	Garo Hills (2x30)	Thermal.	North Eastern Council
98.	Ranganadi (3x135)	Hydel	North Eastern Council
99.	Baramura Gas Turbine (1x5)	Thermal	North Eastern Council
100.	Borgalai (2x30)	"	Assam
B. CEA Cleared Projects			
Northern Region			
101.	Larji (3x42)	Hydel	Himachal Pradesh
102.	Uhi-III (4x17.5)	"	Himachal Pradesh
103.	Ganvi (3x7.5)	"	Himachal Pradesh
104.	Shahpur Kani (2x47)	"	Punjab
105.	Ropar-III (2x210)	Thermal	Punjab
106.	Bhatinda-III (2x210)	"	Punjab
107.	Chenani (6)	Hydel	Jammu and Kashmir
108.	Palamangri (4x93)	"	Uttar Pradesh
109.	Khara (3x24)	"	Uttar Pradesh
110.	Unchahar (3x210)	Thermal	Uttar Pradesh
111.	Rajghat (3x15)	Hydel	Uttar Pradesh
112.	Lohari Nagapala (3x94)	"	Uttar Pradesh
113.	Sobhla (6)	"	Uttar Pradesh
114.	Yamuna Nagar (2x210)	Thermal	Haryana
Western Region			
115.	Gandhi Nagar Unit-4 (1x210)	Thermal	Gujarat
116.	Sikka Unit-2 (1x120)	"	Gujarat
117.	Kutch Lignite Unit-3 (1x70)	"	Gujarat
118.	Panam C.B.P.H. (2)	Hydel	Gujarat
119.	Narmada Sagar (8x125)	"	Madhya Pradesh
120.	Small Hydro (2.5)	"	Madhya Pradesh

1	2	3	4
121.	Tawa LBC (3x4)	Hydel	Madhya Pradesh
122.	Sardar Sarovar (1450)	"	Gujarat
123.	Uran WHP (360)	Thermal	Maharashtra
124.	BSES (500)	"	Maharashtra
<i>Southern Region</i>			
125.	Sharavati Tailrace (4x60)	Hydel	Karnataka
126.	Raichur Unit-4 (1x210)	Thermal	Karnataka
127.	Small Hydro (8)	Hydel	Andhra Pradesh
<i>Eastern Region</i>			
128.	Mayang (4x1)	Hydel	Sikkim
129.	Upper Rongin chu (8)	"	Sikkim
130.	Chandil (8)	"	Bihar
<i>North-Eastern Region</i>			
131.	Lakwa WHP (1x22)	Thermal	Assam
<i>C. New Additional Projects (not yet cleared by CEA)</i>			
132.	Khaperkheda Units-3&4 (2x210)	Thermal	Maharashtra
133.	Chalakkutty (2x40 + 2x60)	Hydel	Kerala
134.	Cochin Thermal (2x210)	Thermal	Kerala
135.	Mangalore Multifuel (2x210)	"	Karnataka
136.	Muddanar (2x210)	"	Andhra Pradesh
137.	Tenughat Units-3, 4 and 5 (3x210)	"	Bihar
138.	Upper Krishna (68)	Hydel	Karnataka

Allocation of Gas along HBJ Pipeline

2309. SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT:
DR. G. S. RAJHANS:
DR. B.L. SHAILESH :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Differences over gas allocation" appeared in The Hindustan Times dated 20.7.87;

(b) whether any final decision has been taken by Government for allocation of gas along the HBJ pipeline;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, when the matter is likely to be finalised?

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

(b) to (d). As delays are indicated in the commissioning of some of the downstream projects, efforts are being made to locate additional consumers so as to utilise the gas to be transported through the HBJ pipeline to the maximum possible extent.

Exploration of Oil and Gas

2310. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:

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

(a) whether Government propose to intensify oil and gas exploration in both onshore and offshore areas;

(b) if so, the details of the sites identified for this task;

(c) by when the exploration work will start at these places; and

(d) to what extent the crisis of oil and gas will be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Intensification of exploratory activities during the VII Plan period is planned in the following sedimentary basins:

(1) Cambay

- (2) Upper Assam
- (3) Assam-Arakan Fold belt covering Cachar, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh.
- (4) Rajasthan
- (5) Himalayan Foot-hills and Ganga Valley
- (6) Krishna-Godavari (both onland and offshore)
- (7) Cauvery (both onland and offshore)
- (8) West Bengal (both onland and offshore)
- (9) Kutch-Saurashtra (both onland and offshore)
- (10) Bombay Offshore
- (11) Kerala-Konkon (offshore)
- (12) Andamans (offshore)
- (c) The exploration work is already continuing in these basins.
- (d) It is not possible to quantify the results of exploration at this stage

Functioning of Super Bazar

2311. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
DR. G. S. RAJHANS:

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to reports about need for many improvements in the functioning of Super Bazar in the Capital; and

(b) if so, what steps are contemplated to tone up the working of the Super Bazar?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). Government have not received any specific reports about the need for improvements in the functioning of Super Bazar. However, the working of the Super Bazar is reviewed by the Govt. regularly to make its functioning more effective. Amongst the steps being taken to tone up the working of Super Bazar are the reorganisation of various Departments to

ensure profitable use of available space, opening up of a new RDC in Trans-Yamuna to cater to the new branches, computerisation of departments like Stock Accounting, Purchase Accounting, Sales and Establishment Section, etc. to increase the Sales turnover.

Agreement with European Economic Commission

2312. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been made between India and the European Economic Commission for Cooperation in different areas; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). A programme of action for industrial cooperation was drawn up and included in Agreed Minutes signed by the E.E.C. and the Indian sides during the visit of Industry Minister and a delegation of officials in June 1987. The specific areas of cooperation agreed to are as follows:—

- (i) Industrial Standards
- (ii) Quality Assurance and Conformance Testing.
- (iii) Information Technology, Telecommunications and Electronics.
- (iv) Access to European Data Banks, and cooperation in establishment of industrial technology Data Bank in India.
- (v) Specific cooperation action in the Engineering Sector in general and Machine Tools and Medical and Surgical Equipments in particular.

(vi) Energy.

(vii) Steel.

(viii) Science and Technology cooperation, and

(ix) Other areas of cooperation, namely, sericulture, packaging, footwear and pollution control in leather tannery.

Improvement in Chulha Programme

2313. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
DR. V. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are having a fresh look on India's three year old 'Chulha' programme; and

(b) if so, the specific steps taken to improve the 'Chulha' Programme as a national campaign and a key ingredient of the integrated energy programme?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The chulha programme has been very successful and further it is being continuously improved since its inception. The programme has significantly contributed towards energy conservation, improvement in health and reduction in drudgery of women in addition to environmental upgradation. The programme has been widely accepted throughout the country and has started becoming nucleus of integrated energy programmes. It also forms part of the Minimum Needs Programme.

Based on the experience gained during the last three years, the following steps have been taken for its further improvement:

- (1) Thermal efficiency limits of Improved Chulha have been raised from 15% to 20% in fixed

models and 25% in portable models

- (2) Research and Development efforts have been directed to develop more efficient and operationally simple models. As a result, eight numbers of damperless models have been developed.
- (3) Research and Development and Technical back-up support has further been strengthened.
- (4) Guidelines for material specifications of the improved portable chulhas have been issued to ensure better life and performance.
- (5) Efforts have been directed to strengthen the training programmes of the Improved Chulhas.
- (6) In order to ensure that the user has more interest in chulha, a financial contribution from the beneficiary has been introduced apart from labour.

Telecommunication Facilities in Seventh Plan

2314. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether plans for telecommunication facilities in the Seventh Plan have been finalised;

(b) if so, whether a high speed data network is being envisaged to establish computer communication; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A high speed Public Data Network named Vikram has been planned during the 7th Five Year Plan. This will initially have 4 major nodes at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras; 4 minor nodes at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Pune and 12 Remote Access Facility Centres at Baroda, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chandigarh, Ernakulam, Jaipur, Lucknow, Nagpur, Patna, Ranchi, Trivandrum and Varanasi. The network will provide the capability of high speed data transmission between computers as well as inter-active access from telex, Public Switched Telephone Network and data terminals to such computers. It will also provide for electronic mail.

Cooperation with Switzerland in the field of industry

2315. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far to promote cooperation in the field of industry between India and Switzerland;

(b) the results achieved; and

(c) what further steps are contemplated to widen the areas of this cooperation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Cooperation with friendly countries are normally promoted through the mechanism of Joint Commissions/Committees meetings, exchange of visits, holding of seminars, etc. The last meeting of the Indo-Swiss Joint Commission was held at Berne in September, 1985 where areas for mutual Cooperation in Process Control Instrumentation, Pharmaceuticals, Leather goods, Processed food and Packaging, Watches and Jewellery, etc. were identified.

As a result of various efforts for promoting industrial cooperation between the two countries 205 approvals were accorded by the Government of India in collaboration with the Swiss firms.

Public Sector Industries in Growth Centres

2316. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI MANIK REDDY:
SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to establish cluster of industries under public sector at growth centres; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). Presumably the Hon'ble Member are referring to development of ancillary industries catering to the public sector enterprises. Full details regarding growth of ancillary sector have been given in Chapter-11 of Public Enterprises Survey 1985-86, Volume-I placed on the Table of the House on 27th February, 1987.

Regional Office of ONGC in Andhra Pradesh

2317. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI MANIK REDDY:
SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI:

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

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested Union Government for setting up regional office of Oil and Natural Gas Commission either at Rajahmundry or Kakinada; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has a project office at Rajahmundry, headed by a General Manager, to look after its operations in the Krishna-Godavari basin.

The Southern Region Business Centre (SRBC) of ONGC at Madras caters to the over-all needs of Krishna-Godavari, Cauvery and Andaman basins. Due to its Central location, Madras is considered ideally situated for locating the Regional office.

LPG Licences to Rural and Semi-Urban Areas in Andhra Pradesh

2318. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI MANIK REDDY:
SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI:

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

(a) whether Government are considering to issue LPG licences to rural and semi-urban areas to enable the rural people particularly in Andhra Pradesh, to make use of LPG connections;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether it is proposed to issue licences to Bhongir and Deverkonda of Nalgonda District and Vanasthalipuram of Ranga Reddy District; and

(d) if so, the action taken so far and whether any survey has been conducted in this regard; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). The oil industry is normally taking up, in a phased manner, locations with a population of 20,000 and above which offer sufficient potential for economically viable marketing of LPG. Subject to the

above, there is no proposal for marketing of LPG in rural and semi-urban areas as such.

(c) No, Sir. Bhongir in Nalgonda district and Vanasthalipuram in Ranga Reddy district already have LPG facility and there is no scope for opening additional distributorships at these places due to low potential. The feasibility study about opening an LPG distributorship at Deverkonda in Nalgonda district reveals that an LPG distributorship there will not be economically viable.

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

Pending applications for Industries in Kerala

2319. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending at present with his Ministry for clearance of investment for setting up industries in Kerala State; and

(b) by what time they are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). As on 31st July, 1987, 10 Industrial Licence applications received under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for the grant of Letters of Intent for locating industries in the State of Kerala were at various stages of processing. The details of pending Industrial Licence applications are not divulged till final decisions have been taken by the Government thereon. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to dispose off all the pending Industrial Licence applications as expeditiously as possible.

Raising of coal from Ranipur Colliery of Eastern Coalfields Ltd.

2320. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether raising of coal has been stopped in Ranipur Colliery in Sodepur under the Eastern Coalfields Limited; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Depletion of reserves and unsafe mining conditions.

LPG Agencies to SC/ST in Kerala

2321. SHRI K KUNJAMBU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies allotted in Kerala so far;

(b) the number of agencies given to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) the details of the programme of allotment of LPG agencies in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b) Out of a total of 139 LPG distributorships allotted so far in Kerala, 30 have been allotted to Scheduled Caste candidates.

(c) For the present, the oil industry has plans to commission in Kerala 43 more LPG distributorships which have already been included in its various Marketing plans. The details are given in the statement below. These will be commissioned from time to time in the coming years after completion of selection as well as statutory and other formalities.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the location	S. No.	Name of the location
1.	Cochin	23.	Mattanur
2.	Kodiyeri	24.	Trichur
3.	Sultans Battery	25.	Kilikollor/Kottayamkara
4.	Kuthuparamba	26.	Chathannoor
5.	Cochin	27.	Sooranad North/ Sooranad South
6.	Kattakada	28.	Anchal
7.	Payyoli	29.	Kollengode
8.	Karakulam	30.	Aroor
9.	Chirayinkil	31.	Mananthavady
10.	Perambra	32.	Mannar
11.	Thamarassery	33.	Thiruvalla
12.	Kunnamangalam	34.	Alleppey
13.	Palghat/Pudussery	35.	Kodakara
14.	Parappanangadi	36.	Mulanthurthy
15.	Thirurangadi	37.	Mala
16.	Nilambur	38.	Kottayam
17.	Pampady	39.	Changanachery
18.	Erumeli	40.	Vadaseri
19.	Puthupally	41.	Kara (V)
20.	Aranmula	42.	Nedu Madi (V)
21.	Konni	43.	Kasargode
22.	Mallapally		

Vacancies of Judges in Kerala High Court

High Court at present; and

2322. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies in the Kerala

High Court at present; and
(b) the steps being taken to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI
H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) There is no

vacancy at present in the sanctioned strength of 21 Judges of the Kerala High Court.

(b) Does not arise.

World Bank loan on concessional rates to Eastern States

2323. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has considered the proposal to provide loans on concessional rates to the Eastern States to generate additional power;

(b) if so, the specific projects for which the World Bank loan is going to be obtained;

(c) the amount of loan assistance going to be made available for those projects; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). The World Bank have, in June 1987, approved loan assistance of US \$ 375 million (including US \$ 19.5 million for Satellite-based Data Communication Net Work) for the Talcher Super Thermal Power Project (1000 MW) in Orissa. The project, which is estimated to cost Rs. 1291.46 crores, would afford benefits to the constituent States of the Eastern Region and is to be implemented by the National Thermal Power Corporation.

Scarcity of LPG in Orissa

2324. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a severe scarcity of Indane Gas in Orissa;

(b) whether the scarcity is due to the short supply of cylinders from Haldia Refinery;

(c) if so, the steps taken to ensure adequate and timely supply of cylinders to Orissa from that refinery; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) There is presently no scarcity of Indane Gas in the State of Orissa;

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

Optical Fibre Cables and System projects in Orissa

2325. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up Optical Fibre Cables and System Projects in Orissa;

(b) if so, the sites selected for the location of those projects;

(c) the steps taken to expedite the implementation of the above proposal; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise

Increasing Fair Price Shops in Orissa

2326. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to increase the number of Fair Price Shops during the current financial year;

(b) If so, the number of Fair Price Shops proposed to be opened in 1987-88;

(c) whether Government propose to open more number of Fair Price Shops in underdeveloped and backward States; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and how many shops are to be opened in those areas during 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). A target of opening 4035 fair price shops in the entire country has been set for the current financial year 1987-88.

(c) and (d). The Central Government has already impressed upon all States/Union Territories, to open more fair price shops in hitherto underserved and unserved areas, particularly in rural, far-flung, hilly, tribal and inaccessible areas. However, it is for the respective State/Union Territory Governments to finally decide on the exact location of the fair price shops

Growth of Industry

2327. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the factors responsible for the slackening of present growth rate in various industries; and

(b) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to streamline the growth of Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). According to CSO's Quick Index of Industrial Production for January, 1987, a rate of growth of 7.7 per cent was achieved during April-January, 1986-87 over April-January 1985-86. The growth rate during 1985-86 was 8.7 per cent. Thus, the average for the first two years of the Seventh

Plan is expected to be around 8 per cent, which is also the target envisaged for the Seventh Plan.

Issue of letters of Intent in Gujarat

2328. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL:
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial licences, letters of intent and DGTD Licences issued in the State of Gujarat during 1 January, 1985 to 15 July, 1987;

(b) how many of these are in backward and adivasi areas;

(c) the names and details of such licences, letters of intent and DGTD licences issued to individuals, firms, partnerships, Corporations, Limited Companies and industries;

(d) the amount of investment made in each one;

(e) the quantum of production made during the above period and the expectation during 1987-88; and

(f) how much foreign exchange is expected to be earned by the products manufactured by above industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The total number of letters of intent and industrial licences granted under the provisions of Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, for setting up of industries in the State of Gujarat and the number of schemes registered with DGTD in respect of this State during the years 1985 to 1987 (upto June) are given below. The table below also indicates the share of centrally

declared backward areas (BA) in the total number of letters of intent, industrial licen-

ces and DGTD registrations issued for the State:

Year	Letters of Intent issued		Industrial Licences issued		Schemes registered with DGTD	
	Total	Share of BA	Total	Share of BA	Total	Share of BA
1985	151	84	69	34	201	111
1986	105	52	86	46	103	61
1987	28	8	35	19	63	27

(upto June)

Details, such as name and address of the Undertaking, location, (including the name of the district), item(s) of manufacture and capacity etc., in respect of all letters of intent, industrial licences and schemes registered with DGTD are being published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to the Parliament Library regularly.

(d) to (f). Information regarding actual investment made, annual production achieved and foreign exchange earned by way of exports in respect of individual projects for which letters of intent/industrial licences/registrations have been granted is not maintained centrally in the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals in the Ministry of Industry.

Incentives to Industries

2329. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the industries selected for being provided with incentives as per decision of Government;

(b) whether any policy framework is

being decided to regulate the giving of incentives; and

(c) the extent of involvement of the Planning Commission in this exercise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) A statement indicating the types of industries eligible for Central Investment Subsidy is given below.

(b) Details of incentives/concessions for setting up industries in backward areas are given in the Booklet on "Incentives for Industries in Backward Areas", updated upto 20.10.1986; copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(c) The Planning Commission are fully involved in such exercises.

STATEMENT

Industries eligible for Central Investment Subsidy

1. Industries listed in the first schedule of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 as amended from time to time.

2. Industries falling within the purview of the following Boards/Agencies:—

- (a) Small Scale Industries Board
- (b) Coir Board
- (c) Silk Board
- (d) All India Handicrafts Board
- (e) All India Handloom Board
- (f) Any other agency constituted by Government for Industrial Development.

3. (i) Poultry and all agro-industries. Capital expenditure on land, building and equipment alone will be eligible.

- (ii) Hybrid Seeds
- (iii) Mining
- (iv) Cold Storages
- (v) Hotels
- (vi) Service Industries of the type of general workshops including repair workshops. No other service industries are eligible for subsidy.
- (vii) Dry-cleaning by mechanical process.
- (viii) Small Scale Service Establishments
- (ix) Drawings, designs and technical know-how fees.

Fire in F.C.I. Godowns in Delhi

2330. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge fire broke out in some Food Corporation of India Godowns in New Delhi on 19 April, 1987 which caused great damage to foodgrains;

(b) whether a number of fires took place in Delhi during the months of April and May 1987 where foodgrains were stored;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry was conducted; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

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

(a) There was a fire in the godowns belonging to Directorate of Extension, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi, on 19th April 1987, which spread over to one godown of Food Corporation of India. The technical/chemical stores of F.C.I. valued at Rs. 1.36 lakhs kept in an adjoining shed were destroyed. Foodgrain godowns were not affected.

(b) No, Sir.

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

Growth of electrical industry

2331. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert group set up to formulate a package for accelerated growth of the electrical industry, has recommended grant of modernisation loans on attractive terms;

(b) if so, whether the expert group has urged that the total of Rs. 200 to 350 crores should be envisaged in the industry to modernise all segments of manufacturing and process technology; and

(c) if it is so, what are the other recommendations and whether Government have examined all the recommendations and how many of them are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). An Expert Group on Electrical Motors, Electrical Transformers, Circuit Breakers and A.C. Drives was constituted in March, 1987 to prepare a package of proposals for modernisation, technology upgradation and accelerated growth of the industry. The Group has submitted its report in April 1987. The report, inter alia, contains recommendations regarding design and product technology, R&D, input costs, Customs duty, raw materials and components, energy saving and improved delivery and payment conditions. The Group has estimated that the total investment on modernisation of the industry would be of the order of Rs. 200 to Rs. 250 crores. Necessary steps have been initiated to process these recommendations by the Ministries and Organisations concerned.

Opening of Post Offices and Sub-Post Offices in Orissa

2332. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post-Offices and Sub Post Offices which are to be opened in Orissa especially in rural areas during this year;

(b) the number of Gram Panchayat Headquarters in Orissa which have not yet got any Post Office, if so, the action being taken to have the Post Offices at Gram Panchayat Headquarters;

(c) whether the Post Offices in Ganjam District (Orissa) are not allowed to function because of the ban on recruitment existing for years and there is public resentment; and

(d) if so, when the ban will be lifted and those Post Offices established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Ten post offices are likely to be sanctioned for the rural areas of Orissa during the current year (1987-88). The exact number will be known after all proposals have been duly examined.

(b) The number of gram panchayat headquarters in Orissa where no post office exists is 489. While due priority is given to villages which are headquarters of gram panchayats, there are also other criteria to be fulfilled such as, distance from the nearest post office, population and expectation of prescribed minimum revenue being realised.

(c) and (d). Certain proposals for opening of new sub post offices were not given effect due to the ban on creation of posts. There is no Government decision so far with regard to the lifting of the ban.

Cases under Consumer Protection Act

2333. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Consumer Protection Act has come into operation in all the States; if not the reasons thereof; and

(b) the number of cases settled under this Act in the country; if so, where and how many cases and what are the results of the cases?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The Consumer Protection Act has come into force in all the States and UTs., except the State of J&K. For redressal of consumer grievances, the Act provides for a 3-Tier quasi-judicial machinery at the national, State and District level. Consumer grievances will be redressed after the machinery has been set up.

Public Sector Industries in Orissa

2334. SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central public sector industries existing in Orissa with their locations;

(b) the profits and losses of each of these

public sector industries for the last three years;

(c) the reasons for losses, if any; and

(d) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken to make them viable?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) The names of Central Public Sector Enterprises having registered office in Orissa along with their location are as indicated below:—

Name of Public Enterprise	Location (Registered Office)
National Aluminum Co. Ltd.	IPICOL House, Janpath, Bhubaneswar.
Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd.	IPICOL House, Janpath Bhubaneswar.
Orissa Drugs & Chemicals Ltd.	98, Surya Nagar, Bhubaneswar.

(b) to (d). Position regarding profit/loss of each of these enterprises during the last three years is as under:

	Profit(+)/Loss (—) Rs. in lakhs		
	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
National Aluminium Co. Ltd.	Under Construction and hence not applicable		
Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd.	"	"	"
Orissa Drugs & Chemicals Ltd.	(—) 27	(—) 16	(+) 1

Orissa Drugs & Chemicals Ltd. has been able to improve its financial performance progressively and has made a marginal profit in 1985-86.

Small Scale Sick Units

2335. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA:
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of small scale units is increasing and simultaneously the number of sick units is also increasing;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise; and

(c) what are the reasons for these units going sick?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). A statement showing cumulative number of small scale industrial units granted permanent registration and another showing the number of sick small scale industrial units at the end of December 1983, 1984 and 1985 are given below as Statements I and II.

(c) A number of causes, both internal

and external operating in combination or singly are responsible for sickness in the small scale sector. Some of the principal causes of sickness are; defective planning and implementation, management deficiency, inefficiency in financial control, diversion of resources, obsolescence of technology and machinery, poor industrial relations, inadequacy of demand, shortage of raw materials, finance and other inputs and infrastructural constraints.

STATEMENT

Cumulative number of SIDO units granted permanent registration by State/U.T. Directorate of Industries

Sl. No.	Name of State/U.T.	Cumulative number of SIDO units as on 31st December		
		1983	1984	1985
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	38530	43574	49142
2.	Assam	4878	5773	6543
3.	Bihar	33333	37852	44309
4.	Gujarat	40004	44606	48733
5.	Haryana	36474	37045	44204
6.	Himachal Pradesh	6406	6883	7486
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	11433	12013	13267
8.	Karnataka	28214	35050	42359
9.	Kerala	23678	26464	29630
10.	Madhya Pradesh	69501	80739	93798
11.	Maharashtra	35349	38456	40944
12.	Manipur	4140	2594	2794 (P)
13.	Meghalaya	435	469	571
14.	Nagaland	361	374	395
15.	Orissa	11592	12474	13319
16.	Punjab	58724	62236	69753

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Rajasthan	41144	43048	47127
18.	Tamil Nadu	43988	49138	59756
19.	Tripura	1715	1400	1715 (P)
20.	Uttar Pradesh	58874	73166	88126
21.	West Bengal	113802	117117	120765
22.	Sikkim	45	50	66
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	189	244	340
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	262	246	262
25.	Chandigarh	1620	1782	1997
26.	Dadra Nagar & Haveli	167	192	209
27.	Delhi	17981	18904	19958
28.	Goa Daman & Diu	2820	3100	3388
29.	Lakshdweep	Nil	Nil	Nil
30.	Mizoram	539	628	684
31.	Pondicherry	1220	13889	1595
Total		687418	757006	853235 (P)

P : Provisional

Source: Directorates of Industries of respective State/U.T.

STATEMENT-II

State-wise number of total sick SSI units for the years ending December 1983, December 1984 and December 1985

Sr. No.	Name of State/UT	Total No. of sick SSI units at the end of December,		
		1983	1984	1985
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5412	5376	8694
2.	Assam	4029	2912	5683
3.	Bihar	3540	5652	8570
4.	Gujarat	2600	2856	4085

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Haryana	1172	1295	1500
6.	Himachal Pradesh	216	321	423
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	5501	677	1382
8.	Karnataka	4565	6234	5705
9.	Kerala	1243	1541	2378
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2329	4166	7843
11.	Maharashtra	7066	8293	8567
12.	Manipur	339	595	669
13.	Meghalaya	189	209	141
14.	Nagaland	—	65	—
15.	Orissa	2135	3843	5299
16.	Punjab	898	1170	1345
17.	Rajasthan	887	3499	5964
18.	Tamil Nadu	16947	18255	15171
19.	Tripura	219	182	245
20.	Uttar Pradesh	7801	9020	12035
21.	West Bengal	14165	13617	18620
22.	Andaman & Nicobar	23	23	—
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	11
24.	Chandigarh	117	130	171
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	3	3
26.	Delhi	1620	1940	2271
27.	Goa Daman & Diu	221	311	808
28.	Mizoram	1	2	2
29.	Pondicherry	114	194	240
Total :		78351	92384	117783

Source: Reserve Bank of India

Capacity Expansion of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation at Visakhapatnam

2336. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capacity of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation at Visakhapatnam is being expanded;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation has identified that several industries such as OXO alcohols, linear Benzene Acrylonitrile, etc. can be developed if raw materials separation facility is set up;

(d) if so, the likely date by which M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation will set up this raw material separation facility at Visakhapatnam; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). HPCL has been accorded approval for separation of propylene at their Visakh refinery for supply to an OXO-Alcohols plant, a joint venture project of Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation and Andhra Petrochemicals Ltd. This project is expected to be completed by early 1990. HPCL has also submitted a proposal for the production of N-Paraffins, a raw materials for manufacture of linear Alkyl Benzene. These facilities will be set up within 33 months from the date of Government approval.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Waiting list for Telephone connections in Vyara Telephone Exchange in Surat Telephone Division

2337. SHRI C.D. GAMIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons in the waiting list for telephone connections in Vyara Telephone Exchange in Surat Telephone Division from 1985 to March, 1987 and the number of telephone connections out of them provided so far with details thereof;

(b) the reasons for not providing the telephone connections to the rest of persons and when the remaining telephone connections will be provided; and

(c) the details of the concrete steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The information is given in the Statement below.

(b) The Telephone connections could not be provided as the exchange could not be expanded due to non-availability of Space in the old exchange building.

(c) The exchange has been shifted and expanded from 300 lines to 360 lines in the new building. The release of connections will be made after issue of Gazette notification regarding introduction of Metering System. The exchange is planned for further expansion by 120 lines this year. Existing Waiting list is likely to be cleared after this expansion, by March, 88.

STATEMENT

1. The Waiting list as on 1.1.86 is 78 (OYT-9. N—OYTs—7, Genl-62)

2. The waiting list as on 1.3.87 is 115 (OYT-12, N-OYTs-13 Genl-90)
3. The Total No. of applicants registered for Telephone connections from 1.1.86 to 1.3.87 (OYT-3, N-OYTs—6 Genl-28)
4. No connection has been provided between 1.1.86 to 1.3.87.

Development of Non-conventional sources of energy in villages of Gujarat

2338. SHRI CHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken by the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources to develop the non-conventional sources of energy by selecting a village in each Parliamentary Constituency or each district as a non-conventional energy village; if so, the details thereof:

(b) the number of villages selected to develop the non-conventional sources of energy in Gujarat; the district-wise names of each village in this respect; and

(c) the nature of non-conventional

energy facilities to be provided in these villages, the details thereof; and the expenditure likely to be incurred on the implementation of this programme for each village?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing a programme for village level integrated energy projects called 'Urjagrams'. Initially, one such Urjagram project is proposed to be set-up in each Parliamentary Constituency of the country.

(b) District-wise break-up of projects completed or under implementation is given in the Statement below.

(c) Non-conventional energy devices and systems, such as biogas plants improved chulhas, solar cookers, solar water heaters, solar dryers, solar stills, solar photovoltaic pumps, solar photovoltaic street lights, photovoltaic powered television and radio, wind mills, biomass gasifiers, energy plantation etc. are used depending on the energy requirements and availability of energy resources in the village. Depending on the size of a village, an expenditure of Rs. 5-10 lakhs is likely to be incurred per village.

STATEMENT

District-wise Break-up of Urjagram Projects in Gujarat

	Village	District
	1	2
I. Completed:—		
1.	Khandia	Vadodara
II. Under Implementation:—		
1.	Tikkar (Rann)	Surrendranagar
2.	Ropar Gadhawali	Katchch
3.	Ugata	Valsad
4.	Mahal	Dang

1	2	3
5.	Malu	Panchmahal
6.	Kalyanpura	Kheda
7.	Antiness	Junagarh
8.	Sialbet	Amreli

[English]

Plans for raising power output

2339. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Investment Board had drawn up any plans to raise power output;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the plans will be implemented?

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

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

Augmentation of Generating Capacity of Neyveli Thermal Power Plant

2340. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have suggested that long-term requirements of industries in the South should be made by augmenting the generating capacity of the Neyveli Thermal Power Plant;

(b) if so, whether Planning Commission has already taken a decision in this regard;

(c) if so, the suggestions made in augmenting generating capacity of the Neyveli Thermal Power Plant; and

(d) if so, to what extent the capacity will be increased?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d). The potential of Neyveli as the main source for meeting the long-term requirements of power in the Southern region has been recognised. To fulfil this objective, Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. has envisaged the development of new mines/expansion of existing mines and setting up of associated power stations. Project proposals would be formulated and brought before the Government for sanction depending upon availability of resources. Some of the projects envisaged are the opening of a third mine (11 million tonnes per annum) and setting up of a third thermal power station (3x500 MW); expansion of first mine (6.5 million tonnes to 10.5 million tonnes per annum) and setting up of two units of 210 MW each. The taking up of these projects is contingent upon the availability of resources.

Memorandum demanding enquiry into Imports by Department of Telecommunications

2341. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. have recently submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister demanding an enquiry into imports by the Department of Telecommunications over the last five years; and

(b) if so, the main issues raised in the memorandum and Government's reaction

thereto and the decision taken thereon?

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

(b) While the Indian Telephone Industries Employees Union, in their Memorandum, have raised many issues and made various demands, the central theme was the need to set up electronic switching system factories at Bangalore and Rae Bareilly for redeployment of as many of the employees as possible who may be rendered surplus as a result of phasing out of the strowger and crossbar production at these factories. There was also the demand to stop the alleged plans to import 2 lakh lines of switching equipment annually at an estimated cost of Rs. 170 crores per year.

The Government is fully alive to the need for a strategy for redeployment of employees who are likely to be rendered surplus as a result of phasing out of the obsolete electro-mechanical switching system production at Bangalore and Rae Bareilly.

The problem of Bangalore is more immediate. Accordingly, the Government has already decided to set up the second electronic switching system factory at Bangalore to produce 500,000 lines a year of exchange equipment against the present production of about 1.5 lakh lines a year of electro-mechanical switching system.

The Indian Telephone Industries has already been given instructions to proceed to set up the production of one lakh lines a year of electronic rural automatic exchange (RAX's) of 128 port capacity of C-DOT design. They have also been asked to set up production of another one lakh lines a year of 512 port electronic RAX's of C-DOT design as soon as the same has been cleared for production.

The question of the type of technology to be adopted for the larger exchanges is under active consideration.

The problem at Rae Bareilly is not so urgent. However, this is also being looked into. The Government has also set up a high powered Committee under the chairmanship of Chairman, SAIL to look into the problems of redeployment of staff likely to be rendered surplus due to phasing out of production of obsolete electro-mechanical exchange equipment, and other allied issues.

As far as the alleged plans to import 2 lakh lines of exchange equipment per annum, the Department has no such plans and therefore there is no case for stopping the same.

Telephone faults during rainy season

2342. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in the Metropolitan Cities and other 'A' class cities underground lines for telephones develop fault during the rainy season;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made to ascertain the causes;

(c) if so, what are the main causes;

(d) whether one of the causes is that the wiring have become very old, which require replacement; and

(e) if so, the measures taken by Government to solve the problem?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Periodical analysis is made to ascertain the causes.

(c) Main cause is damage to the underground cable by various inter-utility civic agencies while digging during the fair season and ingress of moisture/water during the rainy season.

(d) No, Sir. Old wiring is not the cause.

(e) Following measures are being taken to solve the problems:

- (i) Patrolling of main cable routes to detect damage while digging.
- (ii) Formation of inter-utility coordination Boards consisting of all civic agencies to coordinate their digging operations.
- (iii) In big cities laying of some of the important cables in ducts to prevent damage.
- (iv) Use of jelly filled cables to prevent ingress of water.
- (v) Gas pressurisation of Important underground cables in phases.
- (vi) Digging agencies are being requested to dial the specific telephone number before digging to prevent damage to the cable at the spot.

STD facility to Silvassa in Dadra and Nagar-Haveli

2343. SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI . Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the STD facility to Silvassa in Dadra and Nagar Haveli has been approved; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by what time it will be commissioned?

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

(b) Silvassa is planned to be connected to the Trunk Automatic Exchange network for providing STD facility. Work is in progress for providing the transmission medium for connecting Silvassa to the Trunk Automatic Exchange network. Silvassa is included in the STD Commissioning programme for 1987-88.

Postal Facilities

2344. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts found to be deficient in postal facilities in terms of national norms, State-wise;

(b) the number of blocks in each such district found deficient in postal facilities in terms of national norms, State-wise;

(c) the details of new postal facilities in various categories proposed to be established in rural areas during 1987-88, State-wise; and

(d) whether priority shall be given to those Panchayats with no postal facility in deficient blocks in deficient districts for locating new postal facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). There is a comprehensive postal service in the country covering all towns and villages. In addition, surveys have been undertaken to assess the number of additional post offices justified in the country. The results of these surveys are given in the Statement below.

222 post offices have already been sanctioned during the current year covering the following regions/Circles and other proposals are under scrutiny:

1. Punjab.
2. Bihar (Southern Region)

3. Kerala.
4. Rajasthan.
5. Maharashtra.
6. Madhya Pradesh.

(d) Post Offices in rural areas are opened on the basis of certain criteria, mainly population of villages, distance from the nearest post office, anticipated income etc. Subject to these parameters, priority is given to villages which are headquarters of Gram Panchayats

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of Circle	No. of Addl. post offices found justified
1.	Punjab	2
2.	Bihar	68
3.	Kerala	32
4.	Rajasthan	17
5.	Maharashtra	4
6.	Madhya Pradesh	113
7.	West Bengal	33
8.	Karnataka	1
9.	Tamil Nadu	20
10.	Haryana	5
11.	Orissa	1
12.	Uttar Pradesh	91
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	8
Total:		395

Production by Indian Telephone Industries

2345. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the equipment mainly produced by the Indian Telephone Industries Limited; and

(b) the production in Crores of rupees during 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The main products of Indian Telephone Industries are switching equipment of strowger, crossbar and electronic type, telephone instruments of various types, transmission equipment consisting of multiplexing equipment, coaxial equipment, microwave equipment, multi access radio relay system, UHF equipment, frequency division multiplexing equipment, open wire systems and SATCOM equipment.

(b) The total value of production during 1986-87 was Rs. 412.96 crores.

Telephone Instruments and Connections in Metro Telephone Districts.

2346. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide telephone instruments and connections to those who had registered their names on or before 30th June, 1986 in Metro Telephone districts of Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and major telephone districts of Bangalore, Kanpur, Pune, Ahmedabad and Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, the expected date of providing such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Planning Commission has approved an outlay of Rs. 4010 crores for Department of Telecommunications during the 7th Five Year Plan. However,

enhanced Plan outlay for Rs. 6000 crores has been taken up for approval of the Planning Commission. Under the two plans the extent to which the waiting list in Metro and Major Telephone Districts expected to be cleared by the end of the 7th Plan is as follows:-

	Waiting list clearance upto	
	Under Rs. 4010 crores plan	Under Rs. 6000 crores plan
1. <i>Metro. Districts:</i> Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras	1.4.1984	30.9.1986
2. <i>Major Districts:</i> Bangalore, Kanpur, Pune, Ahmedabad and Hyderabad	1.4.1984	30.9.1986

Research and Development Efforts on Telecommunications

2347 PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while during the past two decades developed countries were moving to a period of transition from electro-mechanical to electro-switching technology, the R & D effort in telecommunications in India was mainly concerned with adaptation of original Pentaconta design to Indian conditions and thus failed to boost the indigenous research to cope with the emerging technologies;

(b) if so, whether any effort has been made to promote indigenous research to suit Indian conditions, especially in view of the recommendations of the Sarin Committee on telecommunications that future expansion of network should be on the basis of digital Electronic Exchanges;

(c) if so, whether the Sarin Committee recommendation was accepted and implemented;

(d) if so, the result thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the reasons for continued import of analogue electronic exchanges bypassing the indigenous technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) It is true that the developed countries were working actively to develop electronic switching technology for the last two decades.

In this country also, a Group was set up in the Telecommunication Research Centre for design of an indigenous electronic switching system of the analogue type. The Group initially developed a prototype of 100-line electronic exchange for laboratory trials. Subsequently, a 1000-line analogue SPC electronic exchange was put into trial in 1981 in the Delhi Telephone network.

This R & D work gave considerable insight and expertise to the Indian Engineers. The system, however, could not be productionised because of non-availability

of the necessary components and production technologies indigenously.

Simultaneously work was also started on development of an indigenous digital electronic exchange under the name Integrated Local and Transit Exchange (ILT) jointly by TRC and ITI. 128-port and 512-port exchanges of this design have since been productionised. ITI is to take up bulk production at its Palghat Factory.

However, in parallel, action was also taken for upgradation and Indianisation of the Pentaconta Crossbar system, designs for which had already been procured from abroad. This was necessary to remove the deficiencies in the design and improve the working in the network.

(b) Sarin Committee had recommended that only digital electronic switching system should be manufactured in the new Factories that may be set up in the Department.

(c) The recommendation of the Sarin Committee were accepted.

(d) As a result of the Sarin Committee recommendations, a Factory to produce 500,000 lines of digital electronic exchanges by transfer of technology is under construction at Mankapur. The R&D work on further development of the digital electronic ILT by ITI is in hand. 2 lakh lines of digital exchanges were imported and have been commissioned.

In 1984, a Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) was set up with the specific mandate to develop a new generation of digital electronic switching system. The C-DOT has since then completed the design of 128 and 512-port exchanges. The work on integration of a number of 512-port units to give larger 4000 lines and above exchanges is in hand.

(e) A decision was taken in 1979 to start introduction of electronic switching systems in the country. Tenders were invited for supply of large sized electronic

exchanges. The tenders received indicated that at that time commercially viable digital electronic exchanges were not available, on the other hand, SPC analogue electronic exchanges were offered by a Company in Japan at extremely attractive price. Accordingly, a total of 14 such exchanges were ordered and have been installed in the four metropolitan cities. No new analogue electronic exchanges have since been ordered. Only orders for expansion equipment for the Exchanges already installed have been procured.

Besides the above large sized exchanges, tenders were also invited for medium sized (2000-4000 lines) containerised electronic exchanges. Here again, no commercially viable digital exchanges were offered at that time. Accordingly, SPC analogue electronic exchanges were ordered from a firm in Netherlands. These have been found to be extremely reliable and cost-effective. Some expansions to these Exchanges already procured, have since been ordered. A few additional exchanges are being ordered for certain remote locations in the country.

Apart from these, at present, only digital electronic exchanges are being procured from ITI Mankapur. A few small digital electronic exchanges have also been imported from Japan for certain small district headquarters and industrial townships.

Parallel Telecommunication Channel

2348. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian telecommunications have decided to provide parallel channels so as to ensure speedy telecom services to the business and industry in the country at higher tariff;

(b) if so, the exact tariff in this regard for telecom installations and operations along with the rationale for taking this step; and

(c) whether care would be taken to see that the expansion, maintenance and operations of telecom services in the other category, especially in the rural areas, would not be allowed to deteriorate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) There is a proposal to provide the following networks;

- (i) Satellite based Low Speed Business Data Network.
- (ii) Packet Switched Data Network.
- (iii) Business Subscriber Network for Voice and Data.
- (iv) Cellular Radio Telephone Network.

(b) Tariff has not yet been decided.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Transportation of Gas from Assam to North Bengal

2349. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to transport surplus gas from the Assam oil and gas fields of ONGC and Oil India Limited to North Bengal via Jorhat and Guwahati, through a trunk pipeline; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b). Does not arise.

Renovation of Existing Power Units of Durgapur Projects Limited

2350. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a programme for renovation of the existing power units of Durgapur Projects Limited has been taken up;

(b) if so, the progress made so far; and

(c) when the work will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The total estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 2380 lakhs. Order worth about 32% of the total cost are still to be placed. Major activities for which the orders are still pending are refurbishing of electrostatic precipitators for Units 3, 4 and 5 and installation of an additional stream for DM water. The work on the various activities are at various stages of progress and it is expected to be completed by the end of 1989-90.

Internal Resources Generated by State Electricity Boards

2351. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the internal resources of generation by the State Electricity Boards has come down in 1985-86 as compared to 1983-84; and

(b) the precaution taken in this regard to prevent such a situation and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) (a) According to the figures compiled by the Central Electricity Authority, the State Electricity Boards generated

internal resources of the order of Rs. 325 crores in 1983-84 and Rs. 477 crores in 1985-86, after adjustment of rural electrification subsidies of Rs. 732 crores for 1983-84 and Rs. 971 crores for 1985-86.

(b) Under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, State Electricity Boards are required to earn a surplus of not less than 3% of the net fixed assets. The State Authorities have been advised to capitalise interest during construction and to release promptly the outstanding rural electrification subsidies to the Boards.

Growth Rate of Industrial Output

2352. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN:
SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total industrial output in the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the growth rate of industrial output in 1986-87 is lower than the target set for the year and also lower than the growth achieved in the preceding year; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons identified therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) According to Annual Survey of Industries compiled by Central Statistical Organisation, the value of output during 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 are as follows:—

(Rs. crores)

Year	Value of output
1981-1982	73630
1982-83	86238
1983-84	93537

(b) and (c). According to CSO's quick index of Industrial Production for January, 1987, the rate of growth during April-January, 1986-87 was 7.7 per cent as against a rate of growth of 8.7 per cent during 1985-86. Thus, the average for the first two years of the Seventh Plan is expected to be around 8 per cent, which is also the target envisaged for the Seventh Plan.

[Translation]

Construction of Post Office Building at Champawat (Pithoragarh) U.P.

2353. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for construction of building for the post office in Champawat (Pithoragarh) of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which this proposal is likely to be implemented?

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

(b) The construction of the Post Office building at Champawat has commenced on 23-11-1986.

Rural Electrification in U.P.

2354. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of rural electrification proposals received from Uttar Pradesh during this year so far;

(b) whether necessary approval has been accorded to these proposals; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MIN-

ISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (b). Rural Electrification Schemes received from State Electricity Boards are considered and sanctioned by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) subject to techno-economic feasibility and availability of funds. During the current financial year (1987-88), REC has received 16 Rural electrification proposals from Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board, out of which 5 schemes have already been approved and the remaining are under scrutiny.

Telephone Facility in States

2355. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the steps proposed to be taken by Government during 1987-88 to increase availability of telephone facility

in those States where availability to this facility is less than the national average?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): As a general policy telephone exchanges are sanctioned as per demand. The disparity existing amongst various states is sought to be overcome by allotting more equipment to States having lesser telephone facilities over a period of time.

Statement showing allotment of MAX-III equipment for 87-88 as against projected demand is given below.

LDPTs' in remote areas are provided mainly on spatial distribution. Proportionately higher targets are set for States will lesser achievement/availability.

STATEMENT

State	No of Exchanges	Project demand		Allotment for 87-88	
		25L	50L	25L	50L
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	1618	100	128	58	40
Bihar	305	65	26	55	21
Gujarat	603	35	153	35	54
J & K	75	Nil	7	Nil	7
Karnataka	990	60	100	50	39
Kerala	441	2	163	2	87
M.P.	629	145	52	80	52
Maharashtra	946	92	92	44	45
N. E. and Assam	251	29	15	29	15
Haryana		23	16	20	15
Himachal Pradesh	614	26	48	26	40

1	2	3	4	5	6
Punjab		20	16	20	16
Orissa	258	30	10	15	10
Rajasthan	506	75	20	60	20
Tamil Nadu	927	24	89	24	70
U.P.	782	150	58	70	45
W.B.	309	12	24	12	24

[English]

Increase in the Production of Drugs and Petrochemicals

2356. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to effect sizeable increase in production capacities for drugs and petrochemicals in order to meet the rising demand;

(b) if so, the number of large petrochemical projects are under process;

(c) the number of applications for licences in the drug sector which are under consideration of Government;

(d) whether Government have also decided to set up regional petrochemical complexes;

(e) if so, which are the States where such projects are likely to be set up; and

(f) to what extent the production for drugs and petrochemicals will be increased and to what extent they are likely to meet the demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (f). The new measures for rationalisation, Quality Control and growth of Drugs and Pharmaceutical

Industry announced recently aim at, among other things ensuring abundant availability of essential life saving drugs and strengthening the indigenous capability for production of drugs.

The Committee on Perspective Planning for Petrochemical Industry have estimated the demand potential up to 2000 A.D. Based on this demand estimate there is gap between demand and supply and this is proposed to be met by setting up of a number of petrochemical units in the country.

Locations of such units is decided on techno-economic considerations.

[Translation]

Setting up of Industries in Bihar

2357 SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY. Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is scope for setting up many big industries in Bihar;

(b) if so, whether Union Government have taken or proposed to take any effective steps in this direction during 1986-87 and 1987-88 and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the place-wise and item-wise details of the industries to be set up in Bihar from which there is possibility of achieving good results, and whether Government

have conducted any survey in this respect; and

(d) if so, the main features of that report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The Guidelines for Industries 1986-87 Part II (Scope and Prospects) which is published by the Indian Investment Centre reflects the detailed profiles and prospects for various Industries taking into account the target set for the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d). During the years 1985, 1986 and 1987 (upto 31.7.87) 47, 55 and 18 Industrial Licence applications under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 were received for locations in the State of Bihar. Of these, 9, 18 and 3 Letters of Intent were respectively issued against Industrial Licence applications received during the years 1985, 1986 and 1987 (upto 31.7.87). Details of Industrial Licence applications which are approved and against which Industrial Licence/Letters of Intent are issued, are regularly published in the monthly Newsletter published by the Indian Investment Centre. Copies of these publications are available in the Parliament Library.

With the objective of Development of Industries in backward areas by providing incentives the Government of India have with effect from 1.4.83 re-categorised backward districts/areas into three categories "A" "B" and "C" with graded subsidy. In respect of Bihar State, 6 No Industry Districts Category "A", 5 in Category "B" and 6 in Category "C" have been identified and declared by the Central Government.

[English]

New products of HMT Ltd.

2358. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some products of the HMT Limited have recently been released for commercial purposes;

(b) if so, the details of the products indicating the sale price of each; and

(c) how these products compare with those already in the market, both quality-wise and cost-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). Development have been made recently in respect of the following products pertaining to machine tools whose sale prices are indicated against each:

Products	Selling price for delivery during 1987-88 (for despatching station) Rs in lakhs
1	2
Gear Hobber	7.572
CNC CYL. Grinder Model GNC 18	34.58
Flow Forming Lathe Model FTL 40	10.214
Internal Grinding Machine IGC 90	10.03
Precision Power Press CP 6	2.455

1	2
Single Colour Sheetfed Offset Printing Machine SOM 131	6.535
SPM Double Disc Grinder Model GDF 22.	Price based on specific job
Centreless Grinder Model GCL 140-I	8.17
High Speed Angular Wheel Head Grinder Model HG-18-I	7.499
Roll Camber Grinding Machine GRC 55	10.279
Slant Bed Turning Centre Model STC 25	18.04
Front Chucker Model FC 40	Price based on specific job
CNC Train Master Lathe T-70	0.99
Two Colour sheetfed Offset Printing Machine Model SOM 236	16.00

(c) The products compare well with equivalent machines both quality-wise and cost-wise.

Waiting List for Telephone Connections in Kerala

2359. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants for telephone connections on the waiting list under the various categories in each of the district of Kerala;

(b) whether any steps are being taken to expedite the expansion of various tele-

phone exchanges in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The number of applications for telephone connections on waiting list in various categories in each of the Districts of Kerala is given in the Statement-I below.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of some of the main exchanges to be commissioned/expanded are given in the statement - II below. An additional capacity of 28600 lines will be added by March 1990.

STATEMENT-I

S. No.	Name of District	Waiting list as on 30.6.1987			
		O.Y.T	Special	General	Total
1.	Alleppey	371	305	3170	3846

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Calicut	411	590	7960	8961
3.	Cannanore	247	294	7515	8056
4.	Ernakulam	1152	1174	13746	16072
5.	Idukki	113	99	2402	2614
6.	Kasaraged	2	140	3871	4013
7.	Kottayam	404	571	7908	8883
8.	Mallappuram	223	317	4810	5350
9.	Palghat	97	196	2908	3201
10.	Pathanamthitta	402	190	3636	4228
11.	Quilon	115	394	4224	4733
12.	Trichur	721	957	8025	9703
13.	Trivandrum	333	688	7097	8118
14.	Wynad	39	20	1070	1129
Total		4630	5535	78342	88907

STATEMENT-II

S. No	Name of Exchange 1987-88	Capacity to be added
1	Ernakulam-I PC X-bar	1000 (4000-5000) lines Expansion
2	Ernakulam-II PC X-bar	1000 (6000-7000) lines Expansion
3.	Trivandrum (Crossbar)	1000 (6000-7000) lines Expansion
4.	Tellicherry (ICP Crossbar)	3000 lines main new exchange (Replacing - 1800 lines)
5.	Calicut	900 (10.8-11-K) lines expansion
1988-89		
1.	Cannanore	1200 (4.5-5.7K) lines expansion
2.	Quilon II	1200 (3.9-5.1K) lines expansion
3.	Palghat	600 (3.9-4.5K) lines expansion

1	2	3
4.	Trichur (PC-X-bar)	2000 (8 to 10K) lines expansion
5.	Tellicherry (ICP)	1000 (3 to 4 K) lines expansion
6.	Calicut-III (I.C.P.)	5000 lines New Exchange
7.	Ernakulam (Wellington Island)	300 (1.2 to 1.5K) lines expansion
8.	Kallamassery	900 (2.4 to 3.3K) lines expansion
1989-90		
1.	Alwaye	900 (3 to 3.9 K) lines expansion
2.	Cannanore	1200 (5.7 to 6.9 K) lines expansion
3.	Palghat	1200 (4.5 to 5.7 K) lines expansion
4.	Kottayam-III (E-10 B)	5000 lines New Exchange
5.	Ernakulam-III (E-10B)	3000 lines New Exchange

Automatisation of Telephone Exchanges in Kerala

2360. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans to automatise all telephone exchanges; if so, the details of steps taken by Government towards fulfilment of these plans;

(b) the total number of manual exchanges in Kerala Circle; and

(c) how many of them are proposed to be converted into automatic exchanges during 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. The overall objectives of the Department is to automatise all manual exchanges. However, because of the resource constraints and shortage of equipment the following targets have been set up for the 7th Plan period in this regard.

(i) Automatisation of all manual exchanges at district headquarters.

(ii) Conversion of manual exchanges in the range of 400-500 lines into automatic exchanges of MAX II types.

(iii) Conversion of manual exchanges with capacity more than 800 lines as on 1.4.85 into automatic exchanges of MAX-I type.

Action is being taken for the achievement of these objectives by the end of the 7th Five Year Plan. However the fulfilment of these objectives will depend on the availability of land and buildings and automatic telephone exchange equipment in time.

(b) There are 12 manual exchanges in Kerala.

(c) It is proposed to convert three manual exchanges into automatic exchanges during the year 1987-88.

Policy for Opening of Rural Post Offices

2361. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state:

(a) the present policy in regard to opening of Rural Post Offices;

(b) whether the ban on opening of new rural post offices is still in force;

(c) whether Government are thinking of closing down some rural post offices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The policy continues to be to provide a comprehensive postal network in the rural areas and to sanction additional post offices with due regard to the prescribed norms as given below in the Statement and the availability of funds for the purpose.

(b) There is no ban on opening of new rural post offices but on creation of posts. The opening of new rural post offices in a developmental activity under the Five Year Plan and is regulated by the guidelines issued by the Government from time to time.

(c) No, Sir. There is no policy as such to that effect.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Norms for opening of post offices in rural areas introduced with effect from 28.1.1987.

Population

A group of villages will be identified for purpose of opening of new post offices. Within this group, a suitable village will be selected for locating the post office based on one or more of the following criteria:

(i) Headquarter of a gram panchayat

(ii) Village with the largest population;
(iii) Location on an existing mail line;
(iv) Central location with reference to the group of villages.

(v) Village which has a concentration of activity/other special facilities (weekly market, transport junction, railhead, primary health centre, educational institutions and others).

The aggregate population of the group of villages should be not less than 5,000 in normal rural areas and not less than 2,500 in hilly, backward and tribal areas, provided further that in normal rural areas no new post office may be opened unless the total population served by the parent post office is in excess of 10,000. As result of a new post office being opened, the parent post office should still have a total population of not less than 5,000 in normal rural areas and 2,500 hilly backward and tribal areas.

Distance

No new post office may be opened in rural areas the distance of 3 Kms from an existing post office. In all new proposals the distance should be got certified by the appropriate authorities of PWD/Highways/zilla parishads/district boards where the proposed post office is connected by a regular road and where it is not, by the revenue authorities. No relaxation of the distance condition is permissible under any circumstances.

Permissible limits of loss

The permissible limit of loss is now fixed at Rs. 2,400 per annum in normal rural areas and 4,800 per annum in hilly, backward and tribal areas. It is further provided that the anticipated income of a proposed post office should not be less than 50% of its anticipated cost in normal rural areas and 25% of its anticipated cost in hilly, backward and tribal areas. A branch office once opened will be retained on a year to year basis subject to these parameters being satisfied in each annual review.

It will be further ensured that as a result of the opening of a new post office, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor is

its income reduced below the minimum prescribed.

General

The term 'tribal areas' referred to in this letter will only refer to areas identified as 'tribal' for purposes of implementation of tribal sub-plans/integrated tribal development projects (ITDP). Like-wise, 'hilly' areas would only denote areas identified for hilly area and development programme (HADP). Authentic information in this regard should be ascertained from the concerned department of the State Government/Union Territory administration. Similarly, backward areas would mean areas declared as backward by the State Government/UT administration for purposes of accelerated development. (The States and Union Territories of the North Eastern Region, Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh are not covered under the Hill Area Development Programme. These are treated as 'special category States. However, for purpose of norms for opening of post offices in rural areas; these States/Union Territories will also be considered as 'hill areas'.)

In view of the continuing ban on creation of posts, new post offices under these norms can only be sanctioned with the approval of Ministry of Finance.

[*Translation*]

**Daily wage Labourers in Central
Telegraph Office, New Delhi**

2362. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rates of wages of daily wage labourers working Central Telegraph Office, New Delhi have been reduced;

(b) if so, the reasons for reducing the rates; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue orders to pay daily wages in his department at par with that of other

Government departments after conducting survey in this regard?

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

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

(c) Rates of Casual Labour are being revised from time to time taking into account various factors including the rates prevalent in other Government departments.

**Bonus to Employees of Departments of
Posts and Telecommunications**

2363. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether bonus has become due to the employees of departments of Post and Telecommunications on the basis of productivity this year, also like other previous years;

(b) if so, the number of days for which bonus will be given to these employees during 1986-87; and

(c) the time by which payment of bonus will be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The question of payment of Productivity Linked Bonus to the employees of the Departments of Posts and the Department of Telecommunications based on the productivity achieved during 1986-87 is under consideration of the Government.

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

**Construction of P&T Quarters During
1987-88**

2364. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Mini-

Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of P&T quarters proposed to be constructed in various parts of the country during 1987-88; and

(b) the category-wise waiting list for various States after the completion of construction of the aforesaid quarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) *Postal*: 200 Staff quarters are proposed to be constructed in various parts of the country during 87-88.

Telecom: 1800 Staff Quarters are proposed to be constructed in various parts of the country during 1987-88

(b) *Postal and Telecom*:

Waiting list for various categories of quarters are maintained station-wise and not State-wise.

Class III Posts lying vacant in various Telegraph Offices.

2365. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Class III posts lying vacant in various telegraph offices in the country as on 30.6.1987;

(b) the number of posts, out of them, reserve for the Class IV employees;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to fill up these posts; and

(d) the time by which these posts will be filled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d). The information is being collected from field offices all over India. The same will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Price of cement

2366. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister INDUSTRY be pleased to state what was the price of cement per ton in open market in June-July of 1986 and 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): The open market price of cement is with reference to a bag of 50 Kgs. However, since the Hon'ble Member wants to know the open market price of cement per tonne, the national open market price per tonne of cement during the relevant period has been worked out. A Statement giving details in respect of some of the important cities is given below.

STATEMENT
Price of non-levy cement per tonne, including all taxes in some important cities
 (Figures in Rupees)

Name of the City	1986		1987		per tonne)
	June	July	June	July	
<i>Northern Region</i>					
1. Delhi	1280 to 1300	1280 to 1320	1400 to 1440	1400 to 1440	1400 to 1440
2. Karnal	1280	1280 to 1300	1400 to 1420	1420 to 1440	1420 to 1440
3. Ludhiana	1280 to 1300	1280 to 1300	1360 to 1440	1380 to 1400	1380 to 1400
4. Chandigarh	1320	1280 to 1300	1380 to 1420	1380 to 1400	1380 to 1400
5. Jaipur	1240	1160 to 1240	1380 to 1400	1400 to 1420	1400 to 1420
6. Lucknow	1280 to 1380	1320 to 1360	1380 to 1400	1400 to 1420	1400 to 1420
7. Srinagar	1400 to 1420	1360 to 1420	1500 to 1600	1460 to 1700	1460 to 1700
8. Simla	1320 to 1340	1280 to 1380	1440	1440	1440
<i>Eastern Region</i>					
9. Calcutta	1400 to 1460	1460 to 1500	1480 to 1520	1600 to 1700	1600 to 1700
10. Patna	1300 to 1320	1300 to 1320	1360 to 1400	1560 to 1600	1560 to 1600
11. Bhubneshwar	1320 to 1360	1320 to 1360	1300 to 1360	1600 to 1640	1600 to 1640
12. Guwahati	1640 to 1680	1660 to 1700	1700 to 1740	1700 to 1800	1700 to 1800

<i>Western Region</i>						
13.	Bombay	1280 to 1360	1280 to 1360	1500 to 1600	1500	
14.	Bhopal	1160 to 1240	1160 to 1240	1140 to 1260	1140 to 1260	
15.	Goa	1400 to 1440	1400 to 1440	1480 to 1520	1480 to 1520	
16.	Ahmedabad	1200 to 1360	1200 to 1320	1420 to 1480	1380 to 1500	
17.	Rajkot	1200 to 1360	1200 to 1320	1420 to 1480	1380 to 1500	
18.	Baroda	1200 to 1360	1200 to 1320	1420 to 1480	1380 to 1500	
19.	Surat	1200 to 1360	1200 to 1320	1420 to 1480	1380 to 1500	
<i>Southern Region</i>						
20.	Madras	1400	1400	1440 to 1480	1440	
21.	Trivendrum	1540 to 1600	1540	1560 to 1600	1540 to 1600	
22.	Bangalore	1440	1440	1440 to 1500	1440 to 1480	
23.	Hyderabad	1400	1400	1460 to 1500	1400 to 1420	
24	Calicut	1600	1560	1560 to 1600	1540 to 1600	

Functioning of Telephones

2367. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which Government will be able to meet the telephone demand immediately without waiting in all the four metropolitan cities of the country;

(b) whether Government propose to improve the functioning of telephones; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) By
the year 2000 A.D. Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details are given in the Statement
below.

STATEMENT

*The following steps have been taken to
improve the Telephone services.*

1. Introduction of sophisticated electronic telephone exchanges to avoid problems inherent with electro-magnetic switching equipment used hitherto.
2. Replacement of life expired equipment.
3. Special testing of exchange equipment particularly inter-exchange junctions is being undertaken to improve inter-exchange working.
4. Working of air-conditioning plants in various exchanges is being regularly monitored to ensure proper working.
5. Laying of new junction, primary and secondary cables inducts to protect them from external damages.
6. Presurisation of primary, secondary and junction cables to minimise cable break down faults.
7. Use of jelly filled cables in the distribution network to prevent entry of water in the cables to avoid faults.
8. Cable trenches are being flooded before being closed so as to detect any damage during trenching or laying of the cables. The public is being asked to inform telephone Department before they take up digging on "dial before dig", service so as to keep liaison with other agencies who are engaged in digging.
9. Extensive patrolling of cable routes to detect any digging operation and to take precautionary measures to avoid damage to cables.
10. Provision of high grade junction circuits on Pulse Code Modulation (PCM). Coaxial and Microwave media to provide better quality and more dependable service.
11. Rehabilitation of subscribers fittings and the DP boxes to minimise faults on the line.
12. Replacement of over head wires by insulated drop wires to avoid fault due to kite strings, birdnests etc. which lead to contact or low insulation faults.
13. Use of improved telephone instruments.
14. Replacement of aluminium wires in the fittings at the subscribers premises by copper wires to avoid break faults.

15. Computerisation of cable records and fault repair service to bring down duration of faults.
16. Computerisation of Directory Assistance (197) service and records.
17. Computerisation of operator assisted (188) trunk services.
18. Monitoring of the automanual service and trunk service is being carried out so as to ensure prompt response on these services
19. Public grievance cells have been opened at GMs headquarters and AMs offices to provide single outlet attention to the subscribers
20. Formation of inter-utility co-ordination boards to avoid damage to cables.

Growth of Assets of large Industrial Houses

2368. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total assets of top ten large industrial houses in India,
- (b) the total assets of these houses during 1977; and
- (c) the percentage growth of assets during these years upto March, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The total assets of the top ten large industrial houses in 1985 ranked according to their assets were Rs 15,005.98 crores. The total assets of these houses in 1977 for undertakings registered under the MRTP Act as on 30.6.1978 were Rs. 3,460.14 crores. During 1977 to 1985 the assets grew by 333.68%.

The desired information upto March 1987 is not yet available.

Import of Gas for Industries

2369. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the requirement of gas for the silicon industry in the country;
- (b) whether this requirement of gas has been fully met by indigenous units;
- (c) if not, whether Government are importing gas for this purpose; and
- (d) if so, the amount of foreign exchange involved in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (d). No natural gas is being supplied to silicon industry in the country.

Letters of Intent for setting up Cement plants in Bihar

2370. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of letters of intent issued for the State of Bihar and other States during the period from 1 April 1977 to 31 December, 1979, and 1 February, 1980 to 15 July, 1986 for setting up small, mini and large cement plants with details;
- (b) how many cement plants for which letters of intent were issued during the above period, have been commissioned, under commissioned, outstanding till 15 July, 1986; and
- (c) the capacity of each plant?

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

(c). The information in regard to the letters of intent issued under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Improvement in Services of Postal Department

2371. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the 'Sach Ki Parchain' telecast on 15 June, 1987 over Doordarshan, a large number of points/complaints about the postal services were highlighted both by the public as well as by the postal staff union office bearers;

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

(c) what steps have been taken to remedy the public grievances and to make the postal department/service more effective and meaningful?

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

(b) The programme depicted, interviews with a few customers who complained broadly about the following:

- (i) Delay at counters;
- (ii) Non availability of forms, stamps and change;
- (iii) Delay in delivery/non delivery-/loss of contents from Registered letters and parcels and delay to local letters;
- (iv) Mis-sorting of letters in Post boxes.
- (v) One of the Union Office bearers complained about non-creation of justified posts.

(c) (i) In the recent past the Department has commissioned postal Franking Machines, Registers Machines, M.O. Booking Machines, and other mechanical devices of eliminate delay at counters.

(ii) There is no dearth of forms or postal stationery. Efforts are made to give change, subject to availability. Public cooperation is essential in this regard.

(iii) Regular monitoring of transmission and delivery of all mails including local letters is done at various levels and wherever delays are noticed, remedial steps are taken. This is an ongoing process. Non use of PIN code in the address is found to be one of the main causes of delay. The Department is popularising the use of PIN code. Public cooperation in this area is essential.

There have been cases of loss of contents from Registered letters and parcels. Whenever such instances are brought to the notice of the Department promptly, necessary investigation is made and in genuine cases, ex-gratia compensation not exceeding rs. 50/- is paid, as per the rules. Full compensation (upto the insured value) is payable only in respect of insured articles.

(iv) There is regular supervision over the sorting of letters into post box cabinets.

(v) It is a fact that due to ban on creation of Posts imposed by the Government, no new posts are created.

The additional work generated in newly development areas is being met by reorganising and rationalising delivery arrangements. Justified posts will be created as and when the ban is lifted.

General: Taking into consideration the enormous volume of mails handled (1200

crores a year), the number of complaints is only 8 lacs which works out to 0.007% of the total traffic.

Abolition of Court Fee

2372. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to abolish court fee; and

(b) if not, whether court fee is proposed to be made uniform throughout the country?

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

(b) A Committee of the Law Ministers of States examined the question of Rationalisation of Court Fees with a view to bringing about uniformity in the matter. Their Report has been referred to the Law Commission in the context of its study of reforms in Judicial Administration. However, since Court Fee is a State Subject (except in Supreme Court) *vide* Entry 3 under List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, it is for the State Governments to take appropriate decision in the matter on the recommendations of the Central Government

Financial Aid for Coir Corporation in Kerala

2373. PROF. K. V. THOMAS:
SHRI SURESH KURUP:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has requested Union Government for financial aid to Coir Corporation;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been accepted; and

(c) the quantum of aid so granted by Government?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Acquisition of Land by Coal Mining Corporation

2374. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages acquired so far by the Coal Mining Corporation in Bilaspur district in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number of persons displaced as a result thereof and whether the work of their rehabilitation, compensation and providing employment has since been completed; and

(c) the details of welfare measures taken for those displaced under the Government policy?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

International Organisation of Consumer Unions

2375. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Organisation of Consumer Unions (IOCU) Hague and Penang are recognised by Union Government and if not, whether necessary recognition is being accorded;

(b) whether Government are aware that IOCU has guidelines for recognition of national consumer organisations and if so, whether these would be applied for recognition of various consumer units in the country; and

(c) whether it is proposed to recognise only those consumer organisations in the country which are affiliated and recognised by IOCU for representation of various Boards, Commissions etc. likely to be set up under Consumer Protection Act, 1986 in future?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c). There is no proposal to recognise any consumer organisation under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Decline in Capacity Utilisations of HDPE Units

2376. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether decline in capacity utilisation has hit HDPE units in the country as has been reported in the Economic Times of 8.7.1987;

(b) if so, how this situation is being met; and

(c) whether combination of Jute with HDPE may not be more advantageous?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The situation is being met by restricting licensing of any new capacity and promoting adequate measures for better utilisation of installed capacity. According to All India Flat Tape Manufacturers Association combination of Jute with HDPE may not be feasible.

Indigenisation of Maruti

2377. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether indigenisation of Maruti is going on strictly as per Feasibility and Project Reports approved by Government; and

(b) whether Maruti will be made safer?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) While Maruti Udyog Limited have achieved projected indigenisation for in-house manufacture, there have been some shortfalls in ancillary development.

(b) Maruti vehicles are based on the latest technology and incorporate the safety standards followed by the international automobile manufacturers.

Technolgoy for New Drug Projects

2378. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Himachal Pradesh State Industrial Development Corporation is taking up new drug projects for Rifampicin, 6 APA and 7 ADCA enzymes with know-how from Czechoslovakia as reported in Economic Times of 12.6.1987;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether such technology is not already available and in use in the country necessitating import of know-how?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) M/s. Himachal Pradesh State Industrial Development Corporation has recently been issued a letter of Intent for the manufacture of 6 APA, 7 ADCA and enzymes in colloboration with M/s. Spefa, Prague.

(b) The project is proposed to be located in Tehsil and District Kulu in Himachal Pradesh with an investment of Rs. 600 lakhs.

(c) The import of know how is allowed after considering various factors within over all policy of the Government in this regard.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Network of Modern Electronic System

2379. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in the country where telephone network of modern electronic system is being set-up with the help of Norway of Government under National Digital Telecommunication Network;

(b) whether equipment and experts of the telecommunications network from Norway have reached the country;

(c) if so, the reasons for slow pace of work in this regard in Barmer district of Rajasthan; and

(d) the time by which work will be started and telecommunication net work will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The names of places desired are given in the Statement below.

(b) Yes, Sir. The equipment for exchanges has been received in the country; but the Radio portion is expected in April, 1988.

(c) The work in Barmer will be taken up after training the staff on the job at Mathura & Nainital where Norwegian experts are carrying on the work.

(d) The installation of MCR exchanges in Barmer is expected to start in September, 1987. The total work will be completed by December, 1988.

STATEMENT

Name of places where MCR exchanges are to be installed

Sl No	Name of Place	Name of the Secondary Area
1	Barmer	Barmer
2	Baytu	—do—
3	Panchpadra	—do—
4	Samdhari	—do—
5	Siwana	—do—
6	Sindhri	—do—
7	Mokokchung	Kohima
8	Tuensang	—do—
9	Khipre	—do—
10	Peren	—do—

Sl. No.	Name of Place	Name of the Secondary Area
11.	Chumukdima	Kohima
12.	Kosikalan (expansion of 128 lines)	Mathura
13.	Virandaban	—do—
14.	Goverdhan	—do—
15.	Sadabad	—do—
16.	Ram Nagar	Nainital
17.	Nainital (expansion of 128 lines)	—do—
18.	Kashipur	—do—
19.	Rudrapur	—do—
20.	Kitchha	—do—

Development of Industries in No Industry Districts of Rajasthan

2380. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rajasthan Government had submitted project reports regarding its no-industry districts to Union Government since long;

(b) whether it is a fact that union Government have not cleared the project reports so far, as a result of which there is hindrance in the development of these no-

industry districts; and

(c) the details of the progress made in respect of all these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Under the scheme of Central Assistance for development of infrastructural facilities in identified growth centres in No Industry Districts, the following growth centres identified by the State Government of Rajasthan have been approved and first and second instalment of Central assistance has been released:

District	Growth Centre	Amount Released	Date of approval of Project Report
SIROHI	Abu Road Pindwara	Rs 1 crore (two instalments)	I. 3.3.86 II. 27.3.86
		Rs. 20.75 lakhs (1st instalment)	24.3.87
JAISALMER	Pokran Sanu Ramgarh	Rs. 35.25 lakhs (1st instalment)	24.3.87
		Rs. 35.41 lakhs (1st instalment)	24.3.87
CHURU	Churu Ratangarh		
BARMER	Balotra Barmer		

[English]

Telephone Exchanges and Public Call Offices in Rajasthan

2381. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges
and public call offices in Barmer, Jaisalmer
and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan, tehsil-
wise;

(b) whether these are not working satis-

factorily; and

(c) if so, what measures are being taken
to improve the existing situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The
information is given in the Statement
below.

(b) No Sir. These are generally working
satisfactorily.

(c) Question does not arise in view of
reply to (b) above.

STATEMENT

Name of the District	Name of Tehsil	No. of Exchanges	No. of PCOs
Barmer	Barmer	3	40
	Chohtan	1	16
	Shiv	2	15
	Gudamalani	2	12
	Pachpatra	5	16
	Siwana	3	10
	Total		16
Jaisalmer	Jaisalmer	2	16
	Pokran	2	9
	Total	4	25
Jodhpur	Jodhpur	8	8
	Sergar	4	16
	Osina	5	22
	Bhopalgarh	3	11
	Bilara	5	8
	Phalodi	2	6
Total		27	71

**Pending Applications for LPG Agencies
for Palghat in Kerala**

2382. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for LPG
agencies pending from the district of
Palghat, Kerala;

(b) the names of places where these
agencies are going to be allotted; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MIN-
ISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL
GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b).
A total of 35 applications is pending for
allotment of two LPG distributorships at
the following locations in Palghat district
in Kerala:—

1. Palghat/Pudusseri
2. Kollangode

(c) As various steps precede the actual
selection/commissioning of LPG distribu-
torships, no specific time limit can be
indicated.

**Increase in Oil and Gas Production in
Seventh Plan**

2383. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC is well set to
achieve increase in output of oil and oil
equivalent of gas during the Seventh Plan;

(b) if so, the percentage increase vis-a-
vis the Sixth Plan;

(c) whether the production from the
eastern sector is proposed to be stepped
up; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MIN-
ISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL
GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b).
Yes, Sir. The Seventh Plan targets envis-
age an increase of about 82% in the pro-
duction of oil and oil equivalent of gas by
ONGC vis-a-vis the production during the
Sixth Plan period.

(c) and (d) The Seventh plan targets also
envisage stepping up of production of oil
and oil equivalent of gas by ONGC in the
Eastern Region to 19.08 million tonnes
from 10.30 million tonnes during the Sixth
Plan period.

Increase in use of Rigs by ONGC

2384. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC has decided to
use more rigs;

(b) if so, whether with the increase in
rigs, the ONGC is aiming at to increase its
crude output; and

(c) if so, the fact thereof?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Increase in the number of operating
rigs is aimed at stepping up the pace of
exploratory and development drilling, to
discover additional reserves of crude oil
and natural gas and increase the number
of producing wells.

The targetted increase in the deploy-
ment of rigs and the output during 7th Five
Year Plan, over the previous plan period is
as follows:

	VI Plan	VII Plan	%age increase
Rigs Years	256.0	568.35	122
Metreage (000M)	2188.4	4854.60	121.8
Wells	926	1942	

Proposal to Reduce Administered Price of Oil and Steel Sector

2385. SHRI E. AYYAPPU REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the top ten profit making undertakings for the year 1985-86;

(b) the total amount of profit made by the above top ten enterprises;

(c) whether on account of the sound financial position of ONGC, IOC, NTPC, SAIL, there are proposal to reduce the administered prices of oil and steel; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). The details are available in the Public Enterprises survey 1985-86, volume-I placed on the Table of the House on 27th February, 1987.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise.

Assistance for Training of Judicial Officers

2386. SHRI E. AYYAPPU REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the amount allocated by Union Government for improving and upgrading the subordinate judiciary and for starting regional judicial academic for giving training to judicial officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): The Union Government has allocated an amount of Rs. 4,050 lakhs on the basis of the recommendations of Eighth Finance Commission for the period 1985-89 for improvement and upgradation of judicial administration in respect of subordinate judiciary.

Investment in Projects in Jammu and Kashmir

2387. SHRI E. AYYAPPU REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation has invested in seven major projects in Jammu and Kashmir for adding 3000 MW capacity to the National Grid at an estimated cost of rupees 5000 crores; and

(b) the projects investigated in Jammu and Kashmir which are intended to be taken up in the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). Salal Hydro-electric Project Stage-1 (345 MW) and Dulhasti HE Project (390 MW) in Jammu & Kashmir are under implementation by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC). The Corporation also propose to take up four other hydroelectric projects, namely, Salal Stage-II (345 MW) Baglihar (450 MW), Sawalkot (600 MW) and Uri (480 MW) for implementation in the Seventh Plan. The investigation of Kishenganga Hydroelectric Project (390 MW) is also pro-

posed to be taken up by the NHPC during Seventh Plan. The estimated cost of these schemes is Rs. 3439 crores. The Government of Jammu & Kashmir is likely to take up Chanani HÉ Project (6 MW) for implementation in the Seventh Plan, in addition to projects already under implementation.

Modernisation of KVIC

2388. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to widen the scope of the activities of the Khadi and Village industries Commission as well as production of each item of this industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereby;

(c) the names and details of new items introduced and covered in this industry during the last three years;

(d) what incentives have been provided to the village industries by Union and State Governments through the Commission and other agencies; and

(e) the total production of this industry made in Gujarat during the last three years (year-wise) and how much facilities and amount have given to Gujarat for this industry?

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

(b) A Statement is given below.

(c) Manufacture of Rubber Goods (Dipped Latex Products) Industry has been added to the schedule of Village Industries under the purview of Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

(d) For the development of village industries, the Government of India provides financial assistance for working capital and capital expenditure at concessional rate of interest. Loans for the village industries carry an interest of 4%. Further, interest subsidy is also provided on bank finance to cover the difference between the rate of interest charged on the loans to khadi industries by the KVIC and the banks. A more liberalised pattern of assistance is adopted for identified hill, border and tribal areas and for SC & ST where grant element in capital expenditure is as high as 75%. Some State Governments have also extended sales tax exemption to the village industries products.

(e) During the last three years production of village industries in Gujarat under the purview of Khadi and Village Industries Commission and funds disbursed to them are as follows:—

Year	Production Value (Rs.) in crores)	Funds disbursed (Rs. in crores)		
		Grant	Loan	Total
1983-84	33.94	0.19	1.40	1.59
1984-85	27.82	0.01	0.77	0.78
1985-86	36.38	0.08	0.64	0.72

STATEMENT

The Khadi & Village Industries Commission Act, 1956 has been amended recently. According to the amended Act, the village

industry is now redefined to mean any industry located in a rural area the population of which does not exceed ten thousand or such other figure as the Central Government may specify from time to time, which produce any

goods or renders any services with or without the use of power and in which the fixed capital investment per head of an artisan or a worker does not exceed fifteen thousand rupees and such other sum, as may, by notification in the official gazette, be specified from time to time by the Central Government. The reconstituted Commission as per the amended Act, as against five members earlier, will have ten members including six members representing the six geographical zones, two experts in science and technology, economics, rural industries or technical education and training and two ex-officio members i.e. The Chief Executive Officer and the Financial Adviser of the Commission who will not have the right to vote. The new Commission will have a term of five years as against three years earlier.

Production of Electricity by Tapping Small Streams and Canals

2389. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether small hydro-electric projects in the country have a potential of generating about 5,000 megawatts of electricity;

(b) whether out of this potential, only 10 per cent is being utilised for production of electricity; and

(c) whether there is any plan to increase the production of electricity by tapping small streams and canals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) The small hydroelectric potential in the country, on a rough estimate, is of the order of 5000 MW

(b) At present, 95 such schemes with an installed capacity of 176.67 MW are under operation.

(c) 92 such schemes with an installed capacity of 216.92 MW are under construction and another 17 schemes with an

installed capacity of 38.92 MW have been cleared by the Planning Commission.

R & D Work in Krishna-Godavari Basin

2390. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) is spending crores of rupees on Research and Development (R&D) to explore hydrocarbons in continental slopes in Krishna - Godavari offshore basin; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Target Fixed by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited

2391. DR. CHINTA MOHAN: SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. has fixed a target for the metropolitan cities of Delhi and Bombay for 1987-88;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the difficulties likely to be faced by the Nigam in achieving the target; and

(d) the steps taken to remove these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes,
Sir.

upon timely supply of equipment both
from indigenous sources as well as
through import.

(b) Details are given in the Statement
below.

(d) The matter has been taken up with
the concerned suppliers to ensure timely
supply of equipments.

(c) Achieving of the targets depends

STATEMENT

<i>DELHI</i>	<u>1987-88</u> (in thousands)
Lines to be commissioned	44
Lines to be replaced	30.7
Net	13.3
<i>BOMBAY</i>	
Lines to be commissioned	46.6
Lines to be replaced	—
Net	46.6

[English]

Crisis in Glass Manufacturing Industry

2392. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has
been drawn to the comments made by the
President, All India Glass Manufacturers
Federation regarding recent crisis in glass
manufacturing industry;

(b) if so, whether Government have
made any attempt to know the facts in this
regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government in
this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP-
MENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUS-
TRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The
Government is aware of the representa-
tions made by the All India Glass Manufac-
turers Federation and the press statement
made by President of the Association of
Small Industries of Indian (FASII) regard-
ing withdrawal of excise duty concessions
to semi-automatic glass industry.

(b) to (d). The concessional rate of duty
on the semi-automatic sector was with-
drawn to remove the disparity in the opera-
tion of MODVAT scheme. With the result,
the manufacturers using glassware are
now availing uniform input credit of 40%
ad valorem irrespective of the fact
whether such goods are purchased from
the automatic sector or the semi-
automatic sector. So far as the small scale
units in the semi-automatic sector are con-
cerned, they continue to enjoy full duty
exemption upto Rs. 15 lakhs, provided

their clearances do not exceed Rs. 1.50 crores in the previous financial year subject to other relevant conditions.

Filling Up of SC/ST posts in Madras Refinery Ltd.

2393. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reservation rules in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not being followed by Madras Refinery Limited, particularly in Class I and II posts;

(b) if so, the present strength of employees in the Corporation vis-a-vis the strength of SC and ST employees amongst them, category-wise;

(c) whether Special Cell has been created and Liaison Officer appointed in the refinery to safeguard the interests of these SC and ST employees as laid down in rules and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the backlog of reserved posts as on 1 June, 1987, category-wise, and by what time this backlog is likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The number of posts de-reserved during the last three years is as under—

1984	—	49
1985	—	25
1986	—	19

As per rules the vacancies in 'C' and 'D' categories of sanctioned posts are intimated to the appropriate employment exchanges and a copy sent to the various

SC/ST Associations/Organisations etc. Vacancies in categories 'A' and 'B' are advertised in national newspapers. Special recruitment drives has also been initiated.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Category	SCs	STs
A	10	4
B	9	1
C	—	14
D	—	—

The backlog is likely to be filled up in 2-3 years

Supply of gas to Maharashtra

2394. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Petroleum has been supplying gas (LPG) to Maharashtra State,

(b) which is the zone allotted to the Maharashtra State;

(c) whether Government of Maharashtra or Union Government authorities in Maharashtra have made any arrangements for its distribution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d). No zone as such has been allotted to any of the Oil Marketing Companies for supplying LPG in the country, including Maharashtra. LPG is marketed through a network of distributorships which function under the superintendence

and control of the Oil Marketing Companies.

Voting Right for Non-Resident Indians

2395. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been made by organisations of non-resident Indians for voting right;

(b) if so, whether Government have given any consideration to this; and

(c) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have taken a decision that voting rights need not be extended to Indians residing abroad.

Assistance to Small Scale Units in Kerala

2396. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed a target of 4,000 new small scale units in 1987-88 for Kerala;

(b) the total amount of margin money required for this purpose;

(c) the amount of assistance being made available by Centre for this purpose;

(d) whether Government of Kerala has requested Union Government to enhance the Central assistance; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUS-

TRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The Central Government does not fix any target for new small scale units in States.

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

Function of CMPDI under Coal India Limited

2397. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are branches of Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited under the control of Coal India Limited and Department of Coal;

(b) if so, the location of those branches;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open a branch in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited, a subsidiary of Coal India Limited, has seven Regional Institutes located at Asansol (West Bengal), Dhanbad (Bihar), Ranchi (Bihar), Nagpur (Maharashtra), Bilaspur (Madhya Pradesh), Singrauli (Madhya Pradesh) and Bhubaneswar (Orissa)

(c) and (d). As indicated above, a Regional Institute is already functioning in Orissa.

Introduction of Speed Post Service in Orissa

2398. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any place in Orissa has been included in the Speed Post Service scheme; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

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

(b) Because of the ban on the creation of posts, the Speed Post Service is now restricted to some cities utilising the existing staff and transport infrastructure.

Rural electrification in Madhya Pradesh

2399. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given to the State of Madhya Pradesh for rural electrification during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount spent during the same period, year-wise alongwith the number of villages electrified:

(c) the targets fixed for rural electrification for the Sixth Plan and Seventh Plan periods; and

(d) whether the target for rural electrification for Sixth Plan period has been fully achieved; if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) The details of the plan outlay recommended by the Planning Com-

mission for Madhya Pradesh during the last three years are as under:—

Year	Rs. in crores
1984-85	28.90
1985-86	37.90
1986-87	39.99

(b) The amount disbursed by Rural Electrification Corporation during the last three years and the number of villages electrified (both under State Plan and Rural Electrification Schemes financed by Rural Electrification Corporation) in M.P. are as under:—

Year	Amount disbursed (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of villages electrified
1984-85	3458	3698
1985-86	4823	3371
1986-87	6288	3756

(c) and (d). Targets of Rural Electrification during the Sixth Plan and targets for the Seventh Plan period in Madhya Pradesh are as under:—

Targets and achievements during the Sixth Plan.

Village electrification		Pumpsets energisation	
Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.
16389	18425	195570	188388

Rural Electrification for Seventh Plan

Targets	
Village electrification	Pumpsets energisation.
17010	200000

The main reasons for the shortfall in achieving the targets of pumpset energisation are short supply of certain construction materials, lack of Co-ordination etc.

Production of sugar in Rajasthan

2400. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar produced in Rajasthan during the last three years, quality-wise;

(b) whether the sugar produced in Rajasthan is superior to that produced in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to improve the quantity of sugar produced in Rajasthan?

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

(a) to (c). Sugar factories are required to produce sugar conforming to ISS specification which apply uniformly throughout the country.

The quality-wise sugar production of the factories located in Rajasthan during the last 3 sugar years is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Grade-wise total production of Sugar bagged in Rajasthan during 1984-85 to 1986-87 sugar years (Figures in Tonnes)

Sugar	L-30	M-30	S-30	L-29	M-29	S-29	Ungraded	Total
(Oct -Sept)								
1984-85	262.4	7800.4	7807.0	185.5	1540.8	375.1	141.4	18112.6
1985-86	—	3339.6	7541.3	—	491.8	190.9	96.8	11660.4
1986-87	—	5750.5	14965.1	18.5	1214.9	599.5	234.6	22783.1

Note: Figures of 1984-85 and 1985-86 sugar year do not include the production of Beet Sugar.

Power production in Rajasthan

2401. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Union Government to connect power units in Rajasthan with the national grid;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the work is expected to be initiated and completed; and

(d) the extent to which power production will be improved to meet the requirements of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). The power units in Rajasthan have been connected to the Rajasthan State Power Grid which in turn is integrated with the Northern Regional Grid. Further strengthening of the Northern Regional Grid along with other Regional Grids and their interconnections would gradually lead to the formation of a National Power Grid.

(d) Suratgarh (2x2 MW), Anoopgarh Phase I and II (3x1.5 MW each), and Nangal RMC (3x2 MW) Hydro Power Projects of Rajasthan, yielding a total capacity addition of 19 MW, are scheduled for commissioning during the year 1987-88.

Pending applications for LPG connections in Rajasthan

2402. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for LPG connections pending in Rajasthan as on 30-6-1987;

(b) the number of applications pending for additional LPG connections during the same period;

(c) the number of such applications pending in Kota; and

(d) the time by which all such applications are expected to be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (c). As on 30 June, 1987, a total number of about 95,900 applications for LPG connections were pending in Rajasthan, out of which 7,200 applications were pending in Kota;

(b) Except for 160 applications pending at Udaipur, the second cylinder is being released across the counter in Rajasthan;

(d) Release of LPG connections is made subject to factors such as product availability, availability of bottling facilities, etc. The Oil Industry has also taken steps to commission several new distributorships wherever necessary, with a view to expediting release of LPG connections.

Shifting of R.M.S. Offices in Andhra Pradesh

2403. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of R.M.S. offices shifted in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the extent to which the mail bags were delayed for a number of days due to closure and/or shifting of these offices; and

(c) the steps taken to set the working on proper footing and avoid harassment to the common public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Only the office has been shifted in Andhra Pradesh in the last three years. The name of the office is Nirmal Sorting in Adilabad District, which was shifted to Mancherial in the same District on 15.6.1987.

(b) Apart from the shifting of the office in para (a), 18 other sorting offices were closed during the period. No case of delay to mails has come to the notice as a result of shifting/closure of Mail offices, except in the case of one office viz., Chirala Sorting office was subsequently reopened

(c) Transit of mail is constantly reviewed and monitored at different levels in the department. Wherever delay is noticed, corrective measures are taken.

Connecting of Mahboobnagar with Telex Services

2404. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an application for connecting Mahboobnagar district of Andhra Pradesh with Telex Service has been received by the Hyderabad Telecom, District; and

(b) if so, when it will be connected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). An application has been received for a long distance telex connection from Hyderabad District of Mahboobnagar. The

connection can be provided after the payment formalities are completed.

FCI godowns in Andhra Pradesh

2405. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godowns of the Food Corporation of India in Andhra Pradesh as on 30 June, 1987;

(b) the number of new godowns proposed to be constructed in that State by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the total storage capacity of each of the old godowns and expected storage capacity of new godowns; and

(d) the time when the work is expected to start for construction of new godowns in that State?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND- MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) As on 30.6.1987, the number of owned and hired storage depots with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) was 125 in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The number of centres in Andhra Pradesh where FCI has constructed/is constructing godowns during the Seventh Five Year Plan is 23, of which 20 centres have already been completed and the balance 3 are under construction.

(c) A Statement showing the location wise storage capacity and the expected storage capacity of new godowns in Andhra Pradesh is given below.

(d) The construction of storage capacity at 3 new centres has already commenced.

STATEMENT

Location-wise capacity of owned and hired storage depots of FCI and the capacity under construction by FCI as on 30.6.1987 in Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Location	Capacity (in tonnes)
1	2	3
1.	Sanathnagar	53,760
2.	Hyderabad	32,500
3.	Cherlapalli	1,00,000
4.	Jadcherla	3,340
5.	Kazipet	33,340
6.	Warangal	60,000
7.	Mahbubabad	2,500
8.	Jangaon	1,500
9.	Peddapalli	13,340
10.	Jammikunta	30,000
11.	Jagtial	2,000
12.	Karimnagar	1,000

1	2	3
13.	Khammam	60,840
14.	Kothagudem	600
15.	Miryalaguda	63,000
16.	Nalgonda	30,000
17.	Nidamnur	5,000
18.	Huzurnagar	4,100
19.	Kodad	5,200
20.	Mandanapalli	5,000
21.	Bongir	1,000
22.	Kamareddy	2,500
23.	Nizamabad	10,000
24.	Mancherial	25,500
25.	Nirmal	1,000
26.	Kurnool	6,340
27.	Timmancherla	26,480
28.	Guntakal	8,400
29.	Jangalapalli	60,000
30.	Hindupur	413
31.	Cuddapah	2,500
32.	Proddatur	403
33.	Nellore	5,840
34.	Rajapalem	5,000
35.	Kakatur	10,000
36.	Kavali	8,300
37.	Chittoor	15,500
38.	Renigunta	20,000
39.	Vadamalpet	2,500
40.	Taduku	2,500

1	2	3
41.	Sathanpalli	17,580
42.	Pedakakani	66,300
43.	Nambur	22,980
44.	Nallapadu	8,420
45.	Dogiparthi	10,000
46.	Narsaraopet	5,000
47.	Ganapavaram	4,200
48.	Ongole	27,500
49.	Vetapalem	3,000
50.	Krishna Canal	12,310
51.	Kanuru	2,800
52.	Hanuman Junction	30,000
53.	Rayanapadu	60,820
54.	Tadepalligudem	9,200
55.	Bhimadolu	15,000
56.	Eluru	26,760
57.	Nidadavolu	14,590
58.	Bhimavaram	19,800
59.	Pennada	45,000
60.	Palakolu	10,640
61.	Akiveodu	14,620
62.	Kakinada	44,110
63.	Samalkota	30,000
64.	Divili	5,000
65.	Tuni	10,000
66.	Diccavolu	20,000
67.	Gopalapuram	7,580
68.	Rajahmundry	51,667

1	2	3
69.	Visakhapatnam	82,350
70.	Vijayanagaram	8,910
71.	Bobbili	3,000
72.	Amadalavalasa	24,870
73.	Rajam	4,500
74.	Sompeta	2,500
75.	Jangaon	3,000
76.	Guntur	2,000
77.	Nizamabad	3,700
78.	Adoni	5,984
79.	Duggirala	3,500
80.	Sarangpur	28,255
81.	Bodhan	15,000
82.	Masulipatnam	29,750
83.	Renigunta	12,500
84.	Nidamanur	28,000
85.	Rajamundry	29,450
86.	Nandyal	20,200
87.	Gudivada	30,405
88.	Suryapet	14,625
89.	Nellore	48,000
90.	Tadepalligudem	30,305
91.	Siddipet	8,950
92.	Vadlamudi	25,000
93.	Karimnagar	15,000
94.	Mahboobnagar	21,000
95.	Medak	7,500
96.	Cuddapah	11,250

1	2	3
97.	Ongole	1,500
98.	Vishakhapatnam	13,000
99.	Kaikalur	15,000
100.	Settnapalli	3,600
<i>Capacity under construction</i>		
1.	Gudivada	60,000
2.	Kazipet	30,000
3.	Vijayawada	20,000

Note: 1. At certain locations, there are more than one storage depots.

2. The storage capacity at S.No. 75 to 100 has been hired by FCI from Central Warehousing Corporation.

Appointment of Chief Justice of High Courts outside the State

2406. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have implemented the decision of appointing Chief Justice of High Courts from outside their respective States;

(b) the reasons for not implementing the above decision by the remaining States; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to have a uniform policy in the appointment of Chief Justice of High Courts outside their home State throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). After the announcement of the policy of having Chief Justices from outside on 28.1.83, the transfers/appointments of 22 Chief Justices from outside have so far been made in 17 out of 18 High Courts.

Due to retirement etc. as on 7.8.87, only

11 High Courts are having Chief Justices from outside. These are the High Courts of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Orissa, Punjab and Haryana, Rajasthan and Sikkim. The matter of appointing/transferring Chief Justices from outside in the remaining 7 High Courts of Allahabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Guwahati, Jammu and Kashmir and Patna is engaging the attention of the Government. Government adheres to its policy of having Chief Justices in the High Courts from outside.

Opening of new post office at Jeevan Bhima Nagar, Bangalore

2407. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Post Office located at Jeevan Bhima Nagar, Bangalore, was shifted to BEML premises;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it was also serving the people of Government quarters, HAL Housing

Colony, Vimanapura, Anandapura and other areas; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to open a new Post Office at Jeevan Bhima Nagar, Bangalore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). No, Sir. A new post office has been opened in the premises of Defence Research Development Organisation with effect from 15.6.1987 under the name 'C.V. Raman Nagar' Jeevan Bhima Nagar Post Office was simultaneously converted as a no-delivery post office and moved to a smaller building in the same area.

(c) and (d). The delivery functions have been reorganised between HAL II State and C.V. Raman Nagar Post Offices to achieve optimum efficiency. There is no

change in the postal facilities available to the different localities.

Central Investment in Kerala

2408. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of Central investment in Kerala was very low as compared to other Southern States; and

(b) if so, what is the annual central investment during the last decade in Kerala and how does it compare with that in other Southern States?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member is referring to investment of Central public enterprises in Kerala vis-a-vis other Southern States. The position as on 31.3.1977 and as on 31.3.1986 is as follows:—

(Amount Rs. in crores)

	Investment of Central Government public enterprises in terms of Gross Block as on 31st March	
	1977	1986
Kerala	274	920
Andhra Pradesh	391	5271
Karnataka	268	1542
Tamil Nadu	467	2943

The year-wise investment position is available in the Public Enterprises Surveys of the respective years placed on the Table of the House.

Request for take over of Chembur Unit of Union Carbide India Ltd.

2409. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of Chembur (Bombay) unit of Union Carbide India Ltd. has urged upon Government to take over the unit;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to take over the unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir; in order to prevent the closure of the Chembur unit declared by the Management on 16th April 1987 under Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

(c) The various implications of the proposal are under study.

Postal loss on account of Urban Services

2410. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major portion of the annual postal loss is on account of urban services like more than one dak delivery a day and also because of lack of any norms of distance etc. for the opening of post offices in the cities;

(b) if so, the total annual loss and its break-up for urban and rural services, including the expenditure on account of establishment in these sectors during the last three years; and

(c) if so, whether any economy in expenditure so as to reduce the losses can be effected only in the urban areas and not in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) No, Sir. This is not necessarily so. The main causes of postal deficits are (i) as a matter of policy, the tariffs charged on most items of postal services are substantially lower than the cost of rendering the service; and (ii) again as a matter of policy, in rural and backward areas post offices are opened without following revenue criteria

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[*Translation*]

Enhancement in royalty on Oil and Natural Gas

2411. SHRI C.D. GAMIT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat Government has requested the Union Government to reconsider its request to enhance the royalty on oil and natural gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government to enhance the royalty on oil and natural gas; and

(d) the new rate of payment of royalty complete details in this regard?-

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

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

[*English*]

Setting up of second telephone switching factory in Bangalore

2412. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been reported delay in the setting up of the second telephone switching factory in Bangalore;

(b) whether this delay would seriously affect the telecommunication component of Rs. 10,000 crores electronics plan; and

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

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

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

Damage to post offices and telephone exchanges in Darjeeling

2413. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the activities of Gorkha National Liberation Front have burnt and damaged a number of Post Offices, Telephone Exchanges and such other Government properties in Darjeeling in the wake of their thirteen-day Bandh in three hill sub-divisions of the district of Darjeeling;

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

(c) whether Government have any proposal to replace them?

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

(b) and (c) POSTAL: 2 Post Offices were damaged and 7 Post Offices were burnt. The loss is assessed in Rs. 14,106.87. Alternate arrangements have been made for the functioning of the Post Offices and replacement of lost articles.

TELECOM: Two Exchanges, one in Darjeeling Sub-Division in Nargispur of 50 lines capacity automatic Exchange and the other in Kalimpong Sub-Division in Pedong of 25 lines capacity automatic (Nargispur) Exchange were burnt. Nargispur Exchange has already been restored on 14.7.87. Pedong Exchange is likely to be restored during August, 1987. The loss to the Department at Nargispur is about Rs. 2 lakhs including departmental building and that for Pedong Exchange is about Rs. 45,000/-

[*Translation*]

Position of Pulses Market

2414. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

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

(a) whether Government are considering to change the present position of pulses market in the country;

(b) if so, the fact in this regard;

(c) the detailed outline of the scheme of Government in this regard; and

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

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

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

[*English*]

Task force for revival of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited

2415. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been demand for setting up a task force for the revival of Bharat Udyog Nigam Limited as reported in the Economic Times, Calcutta edition of 12 June, 1987; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to revive the units under Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited?

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

(b) A task force comprising of selected officers from various constituents has

been set up under the CMD, Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd. to work out project reports for modernisation of manufacturing facilities and introduction of new products.

Complaints against units of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited

2416. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been complaints of unremunerative orders being accepted by some units of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) Federation of the Officers' Associations of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd. in their memorandum dated 4th July, 1987 has mentioned about acceptance of orders at unremunerative prices specifically in respect of wagons, Cranes and Bogies for Milk Van.

(b) As regards wagon orders, the prices are fixed by the Railway Board and are applicable to all Wagon Builders including those in the private sector. The bogie for Milk Van is a new diversified item and the current price at which orders are placed on Burn Standard Company Ltd. is Rs. 3.40 lakhs per bogie, which is considered satisfactory. The cranes are a highly competitive product and the orders are procured at the best possible competitive prices.

Proposal for Import of Tyres

2417. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are considering to allow import of tyres to check the rising trend of prices of tyres by the tyre manufacturers;

(b) the names of the tyre manufacturing units in the country;

(c) whether the tyre manufacturers have approached Union Government not to import tyres as it is likely to hit indigenous industry; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a), (c) and (d). The Government have received complaints regarding the increase in prices of bus, truck tyres. The Automotive Tyre Manufacturers, Association has sent a communication to Government indicating that import of tyres may not be in the interest of the tyre industry as well as tyre consumers. The Government are keeping a close watch on the situation and may consider import of tyres if the need arises.

(b) A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

The following are the units in the organised sector engaged in the manufacture of automotive tyres & tubes.

1. M/s. Dunlop India Ltd., Sahaganj
2. M/s. Dunlop India Ltd., Ambathur
3. M/s. Bombay Tyres International Ltd., Bombay
4. M/s. Ceat Tyres of India Ltd., Bombay
5. M/s. Ceat Tyres of India Ltd., Nasik.
6. M/s. Goodyear India Ltd., Ballabgarh
7. M/s. MRF, Madras
8. M/s. MRF, Goa.
9. M/s. MRF, Arkonam.

10. M/s. Premier Tyres Ltd.
11. M/s. Tyre Corporation of India, Calcutta
12. M/s. Modi Rubber Ltd., Modipuram
13. M/s. J.K. Industries Ltd., Kankooli
14. M/s. Apollo Tyres Ltd., Challakudy
15. M/s. Vikrant Tyres Ltd., Mysore.
16. M/s. U.P. Tyres Ltd., Madurai
17. M/s. Srichakra Tyres Ltd., Madurai
18. M/s. Stallion Tyres Ltd., Hyderabad
19. M/s. Falcon Tyres Ltd., Mysore
20. M/s. Tanfort Tyres Ltd., Bangalore
21. M/s. Wearwell Tyres Ltd., Betul
22. M/s. Metro Tyres Ltd., Ludhiana
23. M/s. Hindustan Cycles Ltd.

Apart from the above units, there are number of units in small scale and medium sector producing tyres/tubes for bicycle/rickshaw and 2/3 wheeler.

Losses suffered by EPI

2418. SHRI ANIL BASU:
SHRI R.P. DAS:
SHRI ANANDA PATHAK:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Engineering project India (EPI) had to suffer huge losses as pointed out by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) in its report for 1985-86; and

(b) if so, the reasons identified for such losses, and the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). Engineering Projects (India) Limited suffered a loss of Rs. 34.4269 crores 1985-86 which *inter-alia*

included interest burden of Rs. 24.13 crores and an amount of Rs. 14.23 crores on account of settlement of previous period claims. Losses were mainly on account of execution of two overseas projects in Kuwait and Iraq because of heavy escalation in prices, rigid attitude of the clients and Iran-Iraq war.

EPI have been asked to wind-up their operations in foreign countries and not to undertake any fresh overseas projects. EPI are also making efforts to increase its turnover by taking up more home projects and are taking measures for economy in administrative expenditure. Operations of EPI in Home Projects have been found viable.

Producers of Synthetic Fibre and Yarn Industry

2419. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many producers are in the country in the synthetic fibre and yarn industry;

(b) what is their licensed capacity and actual production in 1984 and 1986; and

(c) the details of excess production in 1984, 1985 and 1986 in relation to denier-age granted in their licenced capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) About 18 units are at present engaged in the manufacture of major synthetic fibre and yarn

(b) The total licensed capacity and production of Synthetic Fibre and Yarn during 1984 and 1986 are given below:—

Year	Tonnes/Approx	
	Licenced Capacity	Production
1984	2,21,500	1,61,400
1986	4,06,600	2,17,500

(c) Some units of Polyester Filament Yarn have produced more than the licensed capacity mainly as they have reportedly produced coarser denier.

Synthetic bags for export to West Europe

2420. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that nearly 60 per cent installed capacity in HDP woven sack industry is idle due to recent directions of the Union Government regarding the use of jute bags in different sectors;

(b) whether Government propose to give cash compensatory support to synthetic bags for export to West Europe and other markets to overcome the present crisis; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) There is at present surplus installed capacity in HDP woven sack industry and capacity utilisation is adversely affected due to recent directions regarding mandatory use of jute bags in different sectors.

(b) and (c). The All India Flat Tape Manufacturers Association has requested for cash compensatory support

for export of synthetic bag which would be decided on merits.

12.04 hrs.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad): You were kind enough to agree to a number of issues to be raised under rule 193. A very important issue namely atrocities on Harijans has been left out.

MR. SPEAKER: You give notice.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: We have given notice.

MR. SPEAKER: We will discuss it in the Business Advisory Committee and then we will do it. There is no problem.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have assured you that whatever subject you decide, we will discuss that. There is no problem.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda): Recently the Prime Minister went to Andhra Pradesh and...

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing forms part of the record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: I have already told that nothing forms part of the record....

(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is always surprising

for me to see what is happening after all. Whenever you inform me or give a notice about your intention to raise discussion on any subject, I look into it.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM (Nagarkurnool): I have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me. No notice has been received on any subject whatsoever. If you give any notice and there is something in it requiring discussion, it would definitely be discussed. But doing so would not serve any purpose. I would like to say that it is a daily feature that whenever important subjects are discussed in the House, the Members are not present in good strength. For example, when discussion on drought was going on in the House, not even 25 Members were present in the House and whenever any dispute is to be raised, all Members remain in their seats.

[English]

I feel ashamed of this thing.

[Translation]

And I have been telling you time and again that I do not want to bar any discussion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, Order. I have already told you that I do not want to bar any discussion. Now, see 50 Members are on their legs. You kindly tell me the subject which should be got discussed? I have just told Madhavji also that if any notice has been received, it would be referred to the Business Advisory Committee. We do not want to bar any discussion. We will get the subject discussed. But by doing so, you are letting me as also the House down. I do not like it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not take the

responsibility for anything which is done outside. But I will do certainly whatever is possible.

[English]

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Sir, atrocities on Harijans are taking place....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever is possible would be done. I am not pleading for anybody. If you have given any notice, it would be considered by the Business Advisory Committee. I do not have any objection in having a discussion on that. Whatever you want to say, you must say, but indulging in such things does not mean anything. It is not only for you but for all of you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you make a noise? What is this habit? Kindly stop it now.

[English]

It is all right. I will do everything which you say. No problem with me.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Sir, when the Prime Minister visited Andhra Pradesh...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever you have, you give it to me. It would not serve any purpose, if you do like that. First of all let me see whatever you have given. I will bring it before the House. You may have a discussion on it, I have no objection. But this is not the way.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is a matter of great shame. I have listened to you.

[English]

It is all right.

[Translation]

I have listened. I do not know anybody.....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have listened to you. I do not know anybody. I will allow whatever is admissible under the rules without any discrimination.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Professor Saheb, you may raise this matter under Rule 377.

[English]

There is not a question for Adjournment Motion.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): It is all right, Sir. You can quietly tell me that, I will quietly listen.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Soz Saheb, I have admitted your notice.

[English]

I have already admitted them.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Calling Attention is not sufficient.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Why are they making noise?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you unnecessarily shouting ...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: You have allowed discussion under Calling Attention, but it will be limited. It should be under Rule 193.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not have time.

[English]

This is my job. I am not bound by your advice. I am bound by the advice given in this book.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right now.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): There is acute shortage of milk and bread in the capital.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can give another notice.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: I have given notice.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right. You sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapur): Milk and bread are not available. Bhagatji, please speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Ask him to make a statement.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the university teachers are on strike for the last eight or nine days....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Discussion on teachers' strike would be taken up day after tomorrow. You kindly resume your seat. You please listen to me. How many times will I have to tell you? It will be taken up on 13th.

[English]

You cannot dictate anything to me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: There should be a detailed discussion on this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed it for day after tomorrow. You please sit down.

[English]

I will ask you to.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Regarding 9th August, three States—West Bengal, Tripura and Kerala, have not celebrated the Quit India Movement on 9th August. You should make a statement. It is a national issue. You have to make a statement. You should yourself make a statement and take cognisance of it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: No name should be

recorded.

(Interruptions)

[English]

No name is to be recorded.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, what are they doing?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There should be a sense of proportion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can give in writing.

(Interruptions)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

12.12 hrs.

[English]

Notifications under Bureau of Indian Standard Act and Annual Report etc. of and Review of Development Council for Sugar Industry for 1986-87

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): I beg to lay on he Table—

- (1) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 464(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1987 constituting an Executive Committee of the Bureau of Indian Standards issued under subsection (1) of section 4 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4584/87]

- (2) A copy of the Multipurpose Dry Batteries (Quality Control) Order, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 516(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1987 issued under section 14 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4585/87]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986:—

(i) The Bureau of Indian Standards (Powers and Duties of Director General) Regulations, 1987 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 536(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st June 1987.

(ii) The Bureau of Indian Standards (Appointment, Terms and Conditions of service of Director General) Rules, 1987 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 639(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 1987. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4586/87]

(i) A Copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 1986-87 along with Accounts under sub-section (4) of Section 7 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

(ii) A Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the

Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 1986-87. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4587/87]

Notification making certain amendments to Notification under Customs Act

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 563(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 122-Customs dated the 11th May, 1963 so as to provide that the liquid helium gas kept in containers shall become eligible for remission of duty on such deficiency as may occur on account of natural causes and storage, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4588/87]

Shipping Corporation of India Ltd and the Mogul Line. Ltd., (Amalgamation) Order, 1986 and Pallavan Transport Corporation Ltd. (Amalgamation) Order, 1986.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of Section 396 of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(1) The Shipping Corporation of India Limited and the Mogul Line Limited, (Amalgamation) Order, 1986, published in Notification No. S.O. 377(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 1986.

(2) The Pallavan Engineering Corporation Limited, and Pallavan Transport Corporation Limited (Amalgamation) Order, 1986

published in Notification No. S.O. 415(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1986.[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4589/87]

the attention of the Minister of Textiles to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

12.13 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

[English]

Statements showing action taken by Government on Recommendations

SHRIMATI CHANDRA TRIPATHI (Chandauli): I beg to lay on the Table statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of Chapter V of:—

- (i) Thirty-Fourth Report of Estimates Committee (Eighth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Eighth Report (Eighth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Commerce— Tobacco Board.
- (ii) Thirty-Fifth Report of Estimates Committee (Eighth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Seventeenth Report (Eighth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)— Reclassification of Transactions relating to Defence Pensions.

12.14 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[English]

Closure and lockout in large number of Jute Mills in West Bengal

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): I call

“The situation arising out of closure and lock out in large number of jute mills in West Bengal and the measures taken by the Government to resolve the crisis facing the industry.”

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Sir, The Motion seeks to draw attention to the situation arising out of closure and lock out in large number of jute mills in West Bengal and the measures taken by the Government to resolve the crisis facing the industry.

At present, 19 jute mills affecting about 74,400 workers are lying closed in West Bengal. This is besides the 3 permanently closed jute mills involving about 6,900 workers. The details of jute mills lying closed at present are given in the list which is given below.

The main reason put forward by jute mills for closure generally is labour trouble. However, liquidity problems arising out of adverse trading conditions due to imbalance between cost of production and sale price realisation are also reported to be contributory factors for such closure.

Of late, prices of jute goods have remained depressed due to seasonal slump in demand (reduced volume of purchases of jute bags through DGS&D for packing foodgrains), increasing competition from synthetic substitutes for cement and fertiliser packing, distress sales by weaker mills and suspension of shipment of jute goods from Calcutta Port due to lock-out declared by Bargeowners from 14th June, 1987 in response to work-to-rule agitation by Bargemen which started a month earlier. All these factors have led to increase in unsold stocks of jute goods with mills despite reduced volume of production in recent months.

The Central Government has been taking various steps from time to time to improve the working of jute industry. The important steps taken by the Government for improving the working of jute industry include:—

- (i) Creation of Jute Modernisation Fund of Rs. 150 crores with effect from 1st November, 1986 for modernisation of jute mills;
- (ii) Creation of a Special Development Fund of Rs. 100 crores for restructuring/re-opening/rehabilitation of jute industry as well as for development of jute agriculture;
- (iii) Enactment of a legislation i.e. Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 for mandatory usage of jute packaging material for certain sectors of the economy;
- (iv) Waiver of Customs Duty on import of certain specified items of jute machinery and accessories with a view to encourage modernisation programme of jute mills;
- (v) Providing cash compensatory support for export of jute goods;

- (vi) A buffer stock scheme of raw jute is also in operation so as to bring stability in raw jute prices;
- (vii) Vigorous efforts are being made to participate in international tenders for jute goods by offering competitive prices;
- (viii) Efforts are being made to find out alternative uses of jute in packing tea, applies, production of carpets, blankets etc.;

The Central Government is aware of the problems of jute industry and no effort will be spared to solve the present crisis. The Central Government feel concerned at the plight of jute mill workers who have been rendered unemployed due to closure of several jute mills. Under the Industrial Disputes Act, the State Government is the appropriate authority for matters dealing with industrial disputes. The Labour Minister, Government of West Bengal held a tripartite meeting on 18th June, 1987 but no agreement about the measures to deal with the present crisis could be arrived at in the said meeting. The Central Government expresses its keenness to extend necessary assistance to the State Government in this regard.

List of closed Jute Mills in West Bengal

(Position as on 4.8.1987)

S. No.	Name of the closed jute Mill.	Date of closure	Approximate No. of workers affected
1	2	3	4
1.	North Brook	27.1.82	3,500
2.	Empire	17.3.85	3,300
3.	Megna	15.4.85	6,200
4.	Shri Ambica	25.8.86	3,500

1	2	3 -	4
5.	Calcutta	3.10.86	1,200
6.	Barnagore	3.11.86	5,500
7.	Titaghur	17.11.86	4,500
8.	Nafarchandra	24.3.87	2,500
9.	Fort William	27.3.87	4,000
10.	Delta	2.5.87	5,100
11.	Agarpara	2.5.85	3,600
12.	Gourepore	2.5.87	4,500
13.	Prabartak	12.5.87	2,200
14.	Howrah	21.5.87	4,400
15.	Fort Gloster (New Mill)	26.5.87	3,500
16.	Shree Hanuman	7.6.87	3,800
17.	Budge Budge	7.6.87	3,400
18.	India Jute	20.6.87	4,500
19.	Reliance	29.7.87	5,500
			74,400

List of permanently closed jute mills which are not likely to re-open

1.	Prem Chand	6.4.77	3,100
2.	Naskarpara	17.4.81	2,300
3.	Shri Ram	6.8.81	1,500
			6,900

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the seriousness of the situation is very well reflected in the reply of the hon. Minister. He has stated in his reply that 19 mills are lying closed affecting about 75,000 workers. This is besides the three mills permanently closed involving about 7,000 workers. The hon. Minister

might be aware that whenever a discussion about the crisis in Jute industry had taken place in the House on earlier occasions, the Minister had spoken about measures to be taken in his reply. HE has also spoken about some measures and similar steps and there is no significant difference in his reply and the replies of the former Ministers. There has not been any change in the situation after the replies which were given

earlier. If there has been any change, it has been for the worse. The crisis has now become more serious. There is some shortcoming due to which jute industry has become sick. We should admit that we have not been able to strike at the root cause. Therefore, keeping in view the dissatisfaction over the prevalent situation and failure of the measures taken to face the serious situation, the people have been raising this demand time and again that jute industry should be nationalised. We would not go into the points which are in its favour and which are against it.

12.20 hrs.

[MR DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that the Government should examine whether the measures taken by it are having some effect or not. If the steps taken by the Government are not proving to be fruitful and if no notable improvement is brought about in the situation under a time-bound programme, the Government should think about nationalisation of Jute industry.

Our many friends and M.Ps. from West Bengal, which include congress M.Ps. also, have met you time and again and put forward their suggestions to you. Many congress leaders from West Bengal are also among them. Many suggestions were also sent to your Ministry, but I am very much pained to say that no action has been taken on their suggestions and the Government has not paid any attention to those suggestions. This is my first charge

The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that labour unrest has been the main reason for the closure of the mills, but I am not ready to accept the labour unrest as the main reason for the closure of the mills. There are many other reasons for the closure of the mills on which attention should be paid by the hon. Minister. In our country Jute industry is the major industry in which almost one crore of persons are employed in the process of its production and export.

If we say that this crisis has been created (due to labour unrest, then it would be a simplification of the situation. The hon. Minister has stated that in addition to the labour unrest, the other reason has been the purchase of lesser quantity of jute bags by the DGS&D. But he should also go into the reason as to why DGS&D went for lesser purchase of the jute bags. So far as I remember you have presented a Bill here in which it is provided that jute products must be purchased by all the industries compulsorily. Then why the Government's orders are not being implemented strictly and jute bags are not being purchased? The Government should think seriously as to why those industries that are required to protect the jute industries and products, do not come forward and why are they opting for synthetic bags? The FCI, CCI or Fertiliser Corporation of India who used to purchase jute bags are not purchasing them now. This is merely an excuse that their prices are high or the quality is not good. What we are to keep in mind is that in a vast country like India unemployment is the biggest problem. If the Government institutions also keep this thing in mind as to what is the quality of the bags and what are the prices, then our purpose is not going to be served. You should ascertain those industries which are not complying with your orders or are showing callous attitude in the matter of purchase of jute bags. Kindly make it clear as to what steps you are going to take against defaulting industries under the provisions of the Bill passed in the House?

You have just stated that synthetic bags are replacing the jute bags. The main reason for this is that this is being encouraged by the Government. You should, after consulting the Finance Ministry, make such arrangements that heavy duty is imposed on the import of the synthetic granules so that the jute industry is able to compete with it. If you do not increase the import duty then it will be available in the country on cheaper rates and all your efforts to promote jute products will go waste. If you keep on encouraging these private people, the jute industry is not going to be bene-

[Shri Harish Rawat]

fited. Therefore, I would urge that the prices of the synthetic bags should be increased. Simultaneously, synthetic industry should be asked to find out foreign markets for its products. Instead of competing with the jute industry in the country they should strive for foreign markets. The concessions you are giving them should be utilised in finding out foreign markets.

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH (Padrauna): To help the West Bengal Government.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Not to help the West Bengal Government but to help the country as a whole.

[Translation]

Secondly, the hon. Minister has stated that the jute industry is going to be modernised. But the industry is not coming forward to take full benefit of the concessions and loans etc. you have announced for its modernisation. What is the reason for it? Why is it so that Rs 250 crore package offered at the initiative of the hon. Prime Minister to revive jute industry in West Bengal is not being utilised by the jute industry?

I was surprised to read in the newspapers that even those mills which are under the control of the West Bengal Government, are not coming forward to take advantage of the loan facility meant for modernisation. Private mills are not grabbing this offer but at the same time the Government owned mills too are shying away from taking this advantage. Therefore, I request the Government to look into the matter and find out as to why they are not utilising the facilities offered by the Government?

Unless the mills are modernised, they are not going to give you such quality pro-

ducts which may stand in the international market and compete with others. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that we have been earning more than Rs. 300 crores worth of foreign exchanges from jute and jute products but now we are losing that market gradually. we can retain that market only when quality of our products is good and the rates are lower and this can be achieved only when the mills are modernised. Therefore, I would like to ask as to why the mill-owners are not coming forward to avail of the loan facilities offered to them for modernisation of the mills? Are you taking some steps to ensure that they come forward to take loans etc. and that if they do not avail of these facilities, what steps can be or are being taken against them?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your permission I want to ask the last question. One of my colleagues has told me that the one of the reasons for high prices of the jute products of the mills situated in West Bengal is that the West Bengal Government has imposed heavy levy on the raw jute and jute goods. They have imposed levy on the raw material as well as on the products which has resulted in hike in prices. Is it a fact, and if so, whether the West Bengal Government is going to be persuaded that the levy imposed on raw material as well as on the products should be removed?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Indrajit Gupta.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Sir, as was expected, the reply given by the hon. Minister repeats the mixture that we have been treated to practically every year when this matter is raised because the question of closures and lockouts in the jute industry is nothing new. It is a recurring phenomenon, a chronic phenomenon in this industry and the same excuses, either it has depressed market, or the prices of raw jute have gone very high or there is scarcity of raw jute or there is labour

trouble or something like that, or competition from synthetics, it is the same old story that we have been told year after year.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): The Millowners are like this,

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: No, no.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South): Thank God Shri Datta Samant is not going to Calcutta.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: This time. It is not necessary. The Millowners are doing what he does here.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: I am glad that you agree that he does that.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: No, no. You need not to blame him always for that. There the millowners are doing it. You need not bother. There is no incentive for him to go there. Now, Sir, the Minister has been pleased to tell us that as far as the employers are concerned, they are putting forward always the main reason, the reason being that of labour trouble. I dismiss this contention with the contempt it deserves because everybody knows that the Government of India's own study into this matter has shown that labour trouble or industrial relation is a factor accounting for only two per cent of all closures and lock-outs. They are due to other factors and not due to the labour factor. This is your own finding.

(Interruptions)

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Please tell this to the hon. Minister.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: My Labour Minister is not here. What can I do? I think, these Ministries don't have any coordination with each other. Please read the Ministry's report.... *(Interruptions)* Anyway, now I come to some of the other factors which Mr. Mirdha has mentioned in his note though he does not explain why those should justify this kind of massive closure of 22 mills—three mills were already

completely closed—and 75000 workers being out of employment. You also know it very well. I hope you know that the jute mill labours employed in West Bengal come from a number of States. In fact, the people belonging to West Bengal are in a minority. In that labour force, the majority are coming from outside—from Bihar, from U.P., from Orissa. People who have no other means of employment except to come to Bengal and somehow they get a job in the jute mills and all of them are being affected now. 75000 people are out of work. Of course, he has expressed concern. He has expressed concern last year or the Minister has expressed concern two years ago or three years ago...

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): This is an Annual Plan!

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: This is an Annual Plan of expressing concern.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: We can have supplementaries.. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: During that period, I want to ask him whether it is a fact or not that the Government has gone out of its way - the Central Government, I am referring to—to provide new incentives, new facilities and new concessions to these jute-millowners. Is it a fact or not that on the 18th December last year, there has been a 100 per cent exemption of customs duties on a number of machines, new machinery and accessories which are to be imported from abroad? These machines are being made here also. In West Bengal, they have been made by a Company called the Jute Machinery Company and Texmaco, belonging to Bir-las, making these machineries. But customs duty on imported machinery has been completely withdrawn by the Government in order to encourage these people to bring in foreign imported machineries. This is your Import and Export Policy. You should state it clearly. In the meantime, Texmaco, not getting

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

orders for its machines, are retrenching 400 men from their Company and Lagal Jute Machinery Company is also saying: "We are not getting any orders for these machines". So, the Government of India prefers, in the name of import liberalisation, that expensive imported foreign machineries should be brought and installed here; and the fall out from that which is going to add to the volume of unemployment in this country apparently, is not their concern. I have the original notification—Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue and perhaps he does not know about it—where these 10 items of machinery of jute mills and five items of accessories have been exempted totally from all customs duties.

After that, the Birlas, the House of Birlas, which is a big force in the jute-mill world have stated that they are not prepared to rationalise i.e. they are not prepared to install up-to-date machinery because he has talked about the Modernisation Fund that they have created. I would like to know from him, how many mills, how many jute mill Companies have availed themselves of this Jute Modernisation Fund and how much they have taken from it; whether it is a fact or not that the House of Birlas, I mean Shri J.R. Birla, Managing Director of Birla Jute and Industries Ltd., has stated that they are not going to modernise or rationalise unless they are given a firm commitment from the Central Government that reduction of workers i.e. retrenchment of labour, will be allowed. It is here in the *Economic Times*, in black and white. It has been quoted from the Speech, which he has made in the Company's Annual General Meeting, that they are not going to go in for modernisation unless they are given a guarantee first of all by both the Central and the State Governments that the labour force will be rationalised, which means retrenchment. On the other hand, there are two mills which have declared that they are going in for the installation of what are called "high tech looms". I do not know if the jute industry is a fit ground to

experiment with high technology. Some sort of medium technology or lower technology would, I think, be preferable in such an antiquated type of old industry. Anyway, high tech looms, according to two mills, are to be brought in two mills where the looms are going to do the work which is now done by power looms. Obviously, it is going to lead, again, to massive unemployment and retrenchment. I want to know whether the government has got any technology policy, under what conditions, under what parameters, certain technologies are to be imported and applied in our industries as they exist in our country. We are not bothered about the USA, West Germany, Japan and all that, which are always paraded before us. We do not live in those countries. We live in a country called India. Our industries, our workers and our production have got concrete characteristics which have to be taken into account before you decide what type of technology is to be allowed, to be applied here. Is there such a policy. I do not know. They have only given a fund of so many crores, Rs. 100 crores of Rs. 150 crores, and said, "You use it to bring whatever machinery you want". Is it totally unregulated? Has the Government no power of regulation or direction?

The best part of it is that, according to some economic experts, the closure of these mills has actually saved the industry from a crisis of glut; if the mills had not been closed, they would have had the crisis of glut. And it is partly admitted in the Minister's statement also—there would have been an imbalance of demand and supply. Why? Because the Government of India has, since the month of May, been refusing to purchase any B-twill; they have stopped their purchases of B-twill from the month of May. The biggest item which is sold by the jute mills in the domestic market is the B-twill packing bag, and the biggest purchaser of it is the Government of India, the Director-General of Supplies and Disposals, but since the month of May, this purchase has been completely stopped. That is number one.

Number two is this I admit that there has been difficulty in export because of the

strike by bargemen - it is a very recent phenomenon - as a result of which the goods are not moving. That is, after all, a temporary factor. As far as Hessian is concerned, which is considered to be the king of exports, the price of Hessian is now remunerative - at Rs. 57 per 100 yards. No jute mill-owner can complain that the price of Hessian is not remunerative. In fact, all Hessian orders upto October have been booked; Hessian is sold out till October. And there is shortage of Hessian both in Bangladesh and in India. There is nothing to prevent these mills from manufacturing more Hessian which is the main quality product for exports. So, I am afraid, if the closure is allowed to continue, they will again lead to a situation in which the demand for sacking will outstrip the supply, because Government is not buying. And if the demand outstrips the supply, the prices of sacking will also rise in the market and they will quote considerably higher prices. The whole business of lock-out and closure is a means, a method, by which they can manoeuvre the market in such a way that they regulate their production either upwards or downwards so that they can get the maximum benefit at any given time. This game, they have been playing for many years; it is nothing new. Apart from this, the raw jute prices are, at the moment, very much down. The raw jute prices are just approximating to the minimum support price which was announced for 1987-88, that is, in Calcutta. If you go to the upcountry markets, the price at which jute is selling is considerably lower than the minimum price which you have stipulated. That also is a big benefit for the mill-owners. Therefore, what I am trying to say, Sir, I don't wish to labour this point very much more, is the fact that this whole thing is a contrived closure. It has nothing to do with labour trouble. From the dates given in the Minister's own statement the majority of these mills have closed down from March to July 1987. The dates are given. Within these three or four months, the majority of the mills have closed down together. And the reason is that they want to adjust all their production to the demand or to the market in such a way that this will

bring them the maximum profit. Who has paid for this? These 75000 workers who have lost their job, who are totally unemployed today and for whom there is no kind of relief, no kind of benefit. That is why, it is always get over by the Minister by saying, "this is a question of labour relation. If it is a West Bengal Government's look out. We have nothing to do with that."

So, Sir, the fact of the matter is that no steps are actually being taken by the Government to resolve this crisis, as they describe it. The legislation which was enacted in the last session in this House, is Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory use) Act 1987. At that time, taking part in the discussion, I had said this Bill which was brought forward primarily under the pressure of the jute mill-owners. There is no doubt about it. And now at least, it has provided them with a cushion against the threat of synthetic material.

As far as cement is concerned, fertilizer is concerned and all other commodities are concerned, already because of this Act there is a big shift in proportion of packaging material in favour of jute. There is no doubt about it. The jute industry's share in cement packaging was 52% and in synthetic industries 48%. And now, after the Act was passed and implemented, the jute industry's share has risen to 70% and the synthetic industry's share has come down to 30% only. So, they cannot go on complaining about the competition from synthetic being a decisive factor.

MR. DEPUTY- SPEAKER: Wind up, Sir

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: They have wound up the factory already.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I am just appealing to you whether every year we have to try and bring forward this issue of large scale closure and unemployment. This is the only reply we get.

The last thing I want to say is this. I know they are going to do nothing except providing more concessions and benefits to these mill-owners. And if they are going to spend this moeny of Rs. 150 crores for modernisation and another Rs.100 crores for restructuring and rehabilitation of the jute industries, they should involve the countries where they have got clear cut policy. Have they got a policy regarding technology? Technology is not the same for all industries. It cannot be. There is High-tech. Medium-tech, Low-tech. There are industries in which introduction of new technology will create havoc. The outcome will be the addition to the army of unemployed people in this country. So, when you give them this money do you bother to find out what type of machinery and plant they propose to buy at the cost of even our own machinery buliding plants? Jute machinery is being manufactured here in this country. Nobody ever complained against it. So, why are you ditching this machine building plants in our own country and also ditching workers who are facing this mass scale retrenchment? You are only trying to pamper these jute mill-owners. Why don't they take over. Of course we have argued many times. They don't take over small factories. Mr. Vengala Rao is sitting here. He is very much against taking over and nationalising these industries.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He is for over-taking.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: These industries are being ruined step by step because the mill-owners are taking money out of it to invest in other plants making cement, chemicals, paper in other places, in other parts of the country. Everybody knows it. Now this industry can only be saved if that group of six mills which they have got in their hands, the National Jute Manufacturers Corporation, which is a public sector unit—a small island in this whole ocean of private jute mills—that should be properly

run. That should be efficiently run. We have offered our cooperation. Workers have offered their cooperation. Let the public sector mills be run efficiently so that the contrast with the private mills can be shown and gradually this Jute Manufacturer Corporation group can be expanded. You need not take over all the jute mills at one go. You can take them over gradually so that public sector expands within the jute industry. If you take the cooperation of the workers you can run your mills very efficiently. Therefore, I would like to know apart from this modernisation fund and giving other concessions of duties and customs whether you have got any other concrete plan in your mind by which his recurring phenomenon of closure can be averted and avoided? It is something which is unique for this industry.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, excepting one sentence of verbal concern for the workers this statement is an open apologia for the jute barons of West Bengal who are attaching our workers and reducing our peasantry to paupers and thus ruining our economy. I am sorry to say in third para.—as has already been mentioned by my colleague, Shri Indrajit Gupta - the main reason put forward by jute mills for closure is generally labour trouble. So you are here to represent the jute mill-owners. You have not said even one word about the workers' views. Shri Indrajit Gupta has also said that only 2 per cent of the manday's lost all over India are due to labour trouble but let me inform the House that in jute 99.8 per cent of the man days lost are due to lock out. So this is the difficulty which is facing us. Who are responsible? You do not have anything to say about them.

Sir, these lock-outs are planned and every year they do it at a particular time when the raw-jute comes to the market. My colleague has already referred to this fact but I would like to say that this year the main raw jute is yet to come to the market. Only the North Bengal jute has started coming in the market. South Bengal jute

has not come in the market. Despite that recently Calcutta delivery of raw jute was sold at about Rs. 70 less than the declared support price. This is a serious situation which is facing raw jute peasantry. I do not know what your JCI will be doing this time. I cannot go into that for the moment but I will say it is going to be a very big problem for the peasantry.

In the last para you have tried to say that this is a West Bengal Government concern. They had a tripartite meeting and it failed. The obvious implication is that let West Bengal Government stew in their own juice. You have not said why this tripartite meeting had failed. Who is responsible? May I know whether it is a fact that West Bengal Government tried to declare lock-out illegal in some factories of jute and those fellows rushed to the High Court and obtained stay order? Is it also not a fact that West Bengal Government when Mr. K Ghosh was the Labour Minister in the last cabinet in his budget speech made a fervent appeal to the Central Government for enacting a fool-proof law which will declare lock-outs illegal? May I know what have you done for that? Are these lock-outs ever justified? What is the real thing behind these lockouts? There are many other factors as well but the principal factor is that the jute mills, as my honourable colleague has pointed out, try to drive out the workers, increase the workload, get as much concession as they can from you and then deprive the country as well as the workers and peasantry of the region.

Now what is their real demand? One-third of the labour strength of this industry has to be hounded out. They said this clearly. What are they trying? In this measure, they want to pressurise the workers by these lockouts. Even wage payments are being deferred. If they protest against the wage payment, then, immediately there is a lockout. Whether this has been the practice or not? In this drive for getting one-third out, they want the workers to agree; they want the West Bengal Government to agree. And with your help, they have taken it for granted as an apologia for

them. This is the situation. That's why they try to get the small-nationalised sector to which Shri Indrajit Gupta has already referred, NJMC to get affiliated into IJMA. I would like to know whether you are going to prevent this effort on their part to get even the NJMC admitted into the IJMA. The West Bengal Government naturally cannot agree to one-third reduction of work force in Jute. Now what have the jute manufacturers done? You are probably quite aware of the fact that there was a tripartite agreement which expired sometime in April. Normally, the tripartite agreement, is not terminated until another tripartite agreement comes into force. I would like to know whether it is a fact that your pampered jute barons terminated the tripartite agreement unilaterally without hearing from the West Bengal Government or the workers. They did not care. Why did they terminate the tripartite agreement?

You see, I have no time. Otherwise I would have given you figures. 75,000 workers are being kept out. They have given more production. This is a fact. Then, they are depriving the exchequer from much greater production which could have been there. Their really cancelling the tripartite agreement is an indication of their way of thinking. I would like to know whether you are aware about the cancellation of the tripartite agreement.

I agree that there are other constraints as well. But this is also a fact that many of those are being played on and on and on ad nauseam to hide other things. You will not catch hold other basic things which I and my hon'ble colleague also referred to.

Now about your Jute Modernisation Fund of Rs. 150 crores. Is it a fact or not that these very barons used more than Rs. 150 crore soft loan granted at the time of Shri Pranab Mukherjee and they got it down the drain? What are the effects of the earlier Rs. 150 crore soft loan: More closures. I would like to know whether it is a fact that the Central Government came to an agreement with the jute industry that

[Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee]

since they have eaten up Rs. 63 crores of provident fund and Rs. 16 crores of ESI workers' share, you will make a deduction of some 6 per cent, so far as I remember correctly, from the money that is due from the Government, owing to the purchase of their products by the Government and deposit this money straightaway in the P.F. I would like to know, how far this scheme has been implemented. Of all the purchases from the Jute mill owners, in how many cases Government has directly taken 6 per cent of their due and deposited it in their P.F., I would like to know? With practically supporting this declared attitude of pushing out 1/3rd of the workers, supporting this declared attitude in terminating this Tripartite Agreement, supporting this attitude of indulging in these machinations, you are putting both the jute workers and the peasantry in great trouble. How do you think that these measures are going to improve the situation? So, may I know whether instead of passing the buck on the West Bengal Government, he would come out with a foolproof Act to declare lockouts illegal, particularly in the Jute industry to help our Government to tackle this situation.

Lastly, I would like to know as to how long will you remain blind to the absolutely perfect demand for nationalisation of this jute industry, without which this industry cannot be saved?

Sir, a few days back, Shri Krishna Kumar went to Calcutta and instead of staying in Raj Bhavan he stayed in a double room suite in Grand Hotel, I believe, for a sweet secluded *tete-a-tete*. May I know what inspired him to do that?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Why are you keeping a watch on the Minister?

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati): Sir, this jute industry is mostly located in West Bengal.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about Andhra Pradesh?

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Not much in Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. Out of 70 jute industries 56 are in West Bengal. Due to lack of coordination between the Ministry of Textile and the Ministry of Commerce and also the Ministry of Labour to some extent, the problem of jute industry and that of labour is continuing in our country with the result that 70,000 families are helpless. The policy of the Government to reduce imports and increase export has completely failed. Recently, the Government of India had taken a measure to stop the imports. Today we have a lot of trade deficit. We are encouraging the high density polythene bags in our country but now the fight is between the manufacturers of synthetic bag and jute bag manufacturers. The jute industry is not a very modern industry with the result it is not able to face the competition in the market. In addition the high moisture absorbing and dust adhering qualities also add to its disapproval. So, the jute industry is slowly slacking down.

The Minister in his Statement said, "Central Government is taking all possible measures to control the problem of jute industry and no effort will be spared to solve the present problem." Had the Minister come out with a frank statement that they are encouraging the import of high density polythene bags into the country, I should have gladly accepted it. The jute industry is suffering as a result of these imports only.

13.00 hrs.

The Minister has also stated that in November a fund of Rs. 150 crores has been created for the purpose of modernising the jute industry. I would like to know as to how much money has been spent for this modernisation.

The Minister has also stated that Rs. 100 crores are earmarked for research and development efforts. I would like to know how much money is really spent for research and development.

You have also enacted the Jute Packaging Material Act for mandatory usage of jute packaging material for certain sectors. Important public sector undertakings such as the Cement Corporation of India, Fertilizers Corporation of India, etc. are under the control of the Ministry of Industry. Even though this legislation has been enacted, the Cement Corporation and the Fertilizers Corporation are floating tenders to get the high density polythene bags. How can there be such double standards? On the one hand, you say that you want to control the import of synthetic bags into the country. And on the other, public sector undertakings under your control float tenders to get these synthetic bags. Due to lack of coordination between the Ministry of Textiles and the Ministry of Industry, this problem is continuing.

Now I come to exports. Recently Russia has given an order for about 22,000 tonnes of jute bags. Instead of channelising it through the State Trading Corporation, the order has been given to a private person. Where did this private exporter place his orders to procure the jute packing material? Did he place his orders with any of the sick mills? Did he try to solve the problems of the Ministry of Textiles even to some extent?

Now, coming to the international market, Bangla Desh is able to export jute at the rate of Rs. 225 per 100 metres. Unfortunately, we are not able to compete in the inter-national market because our price is Rs. 253. We are failing in the international market, particularly in the USA, because of this high price. You are giving certain cash compensatory support to increase exports of jute. I want to know how much cash compensation is given to the exporters of jute.

There is also a temporary problem of payment of gratuity, salary etc. to the workers in the jute industry. I request that the Minister should sit with the Minister of Labour, Government of West Bengal to solve this problem. Both the Ministers

should sit together and find out a solution. Rather than giving a false picture and saying that you are trying to solve the problem of jute industrial workers, you may please give specific answers to the queries raised.

13.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at three minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE
—Contd.

[English]

Closure and lock-out in large number of Jute mills in West Bengal—Contd.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who, had taken part in this discussion because it has brought out some of the basic and important issues concerning jute which is a very important industry in our country.

The jute industry is one of the oldest industries, and occupies a significant position in the national economy—particularly in the eastern and north-eastern regions of the country. This was traditionally an export-oriented industry, but the predominance that we had in the export-world is considerably diminished now, and I will presently go into the causes as to why it has happened.

It has been mentioned by hon. Members that whenever the subject is discussed, the response from the Government is on the same lines. Maybe it is so because the

[Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha]

problems are the same, and the remedies that the Government has been trying to find for them cannot be very new and novel. But in the last year, Government has taken some very positive measures to improve the long term health of the industry. We have taken a very general and comprehensive view of the situation, and have come out with positive schemes to implement those.

Much has been mentioned about Rs. 150 crores Modernization Fund and the Rs. 100 crores Special Development Fund. The Modernisation Fund is nothing new, because we had a soft loan scheme before also, and the purpose of it is to modernise the industry. Not much progress has been made in this, because the nodal agency which has been entrusted with the task of scrutinizing the loan applications is rather strict, as it should be; and only those propositions which will add permanently to the improvement in production and productivity, get through

Up till now, 18 companies have applied for loans under this Modernisation Scheme, and only three have been sanctioned up till now.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: How much amount have you spent on it?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The total sanction for the three companies is Rs. 8.28 crores. *(Interruptions)* I have given the reasons why. We do not want to squander this money, so that the mills can take this money, modernise in a half-hearted way, and after a couple of years they are not able to pay it, they come and tell us: 'We are sick.' So, every proposition in this respect is very seriously scrutinized, and only those schemes which are found viable really, are taken up; and this is why this has been going at this slow pace.

It has been asked as to what is our policy regarding technology, and it has also been mentioned as to why we have allowed customs-free imports—hon. Member Shri Indrajit Gupta has mentioned it—to the detriment of our local industries: TEXMACO and LAGAN.

Our policy regarding modernisation is that we should get whatever latest looms that are available. We do not believe in what they call appropriate or intermediate technology, because if we go in for that, we are again left behind in the international trade, which is very important, so far as jute industry is concerned. The list that has been drawn up, and the notification which the hon. Member had in mind was prepared after proper consultation with all the interests concerned, interests involved, and it has been ensured that these are essential and are not indigenously manufactured here. But here also, the policy is not to go very far, because unless modernisation funds are sanctioned, they cannot be imported. This import facility is valid for two years only and is subject to be revised thereafter. The Members should therefore not fear, firstly, that the imports would be at the cost of the local industries making textile machinery, and secondly that indiscriminate imports would be allowed, which would be detrimental to our national interests. Both the things are not correct.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Both the things are happening.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: They are not happening because, as I said, only Rs. 8.28 crores have been sanctioned. I do not know which of them will be... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU: You are importing huge quantity of cotton.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I said, we have drawn up the list after looking into various aspects and interests. Not only this, the modernisation fund is being used to modernise Lagan also. We have asked them to draw up a scheme by which this special fund, maybe modernisation fund, or the

other fund, is used to strengthen Lagan manufacturing capacity. For that, they can explore some foreign collaboration and things of that nature. We want the local manufacturing industry to manufacture jute machinery items to be strong and viable; and particularly Lagan is a nationalised company; we would like to be strong so that it can help in our modernisation in a very indigenous way. I think, the new scheme that we have, with Rs. 100 crores special development fund, I regret to say, has not been really understood in proper perspective. Our approach has been that jute as such, right from the agricultural side, etc., has been neglected uptill now. We had a break through—a green revolution on cereals, on cotton, on rice and on wheat. Cotton is really another successful story for our agriculture and agriculturists. Some eight years back we were importing cotton worth Rs. 200-300 crores, but, during the last few years, because we have also evolved some new seeds and some new practices in the National Extension Services and the Kisans responded, there was marketing support and the minimum price support; and the result today is that this year we are exporting cotton worth Rs. 200 crores. (*Interruptions*). But nothing of this kind has happened in jute.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Having we achieved self-sufficiency in it?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Self-sufficiency is not necessary. Our quality of jute is very poor; it was mentioned. I really bemean the fact that even at the fag end of the season, we are selling raw jute below the minumum support price. But the good quality jute has all along commanded premium and it is out of stock. (*Interruptions*). No, friends. We want good rain and a high yielding variety so that the income of the agriculturist could improve; we want good quality fibre so that it can be used for diversification without which the industry has no future.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa): What has been done by the government for that? It is important.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let him finish it.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The important point is that agriculture...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You go on putting supplementary questions, but he is not answering them; you are putting them in the middle; that is why he is not able to answer them; that is not the way to put them. Clarification, if at all is necessary I will allow, not in the middle. If you go on interrupting like this, I cannot allow you.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Clarification should not come on every sentence. This is a State subject and due to lack of interest on the part of the State Governments over the years, if you see allocations of the State Governments for research, extension, agricultural production, seeds, improved seeds, you will find that even seeds, improved seeds are coming from Maharashtra for West Bengal. Whose fault is this? It is the fault of the West Bengal Government. (*Interruptions*) That is why we have started right from there and we will, out of the fund, give money to the State Governments for discharging some functions which are specially theirs under our constitutional set up, but we are not trusted. (*Interruptions*) We have formulated a scheme of agricultural development. Even this year a few crores of rupees have been given to the West Bengal Government and we want them to strengthen their extension machinery; we want them to strengthen their cooperative societies for marketing; we want to strengthen other marketing set up of theirs. Normally, these functions should be done by the State Governments under their own plan allocations, but, because it has not been done for various reasons, we have started right from that point onwards.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Balpur): What has been the function of the Jute Corporation?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The Jute Corporation does not produce jute; it buys jute at the minimum support price. Here also we have not been able to play the role we want to because of the weaknesses of the cooperative societies in the States. If as many cooperative societies as are possible are prepared to come and become buying centres, we are prepared to give it to them. (Interruptions)

This is not the type of question to be asked. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You finish your speech, and say whatever you want to say. Do not answer the other questions put in the middle.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: In short, what I say is that the present scheme is one that we have given, for the first time, we have taken a comprehensive view of the whole industry right from the agriculture stage, and even now we are giving them for getting buyers, because we think that it is important. We want to see that the whole industry is modernised, particularly the quality of jute that comes is important, so that diversification is undertaken, realisation for the jute cloth is much more than what it is with poor quality jute, and for this, as I said in my reply various schemes have been formulated and I have given the other details already.

Another unique thing that we have done is this reservation law. (Interruptions) There was no law like this earlier. I am really sorry that hon. Member Shri Indrajit Gupta says that we have done it due to pressure from the mill owners. Does he mean to suggest that this is not a good law? Does he mean that we should withdraw this because it helps the mill owners? (Interruptions) Is it not a great help to the jute economy?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Before the law came it was you who had permitted so

much imports for setting up of this synthetic plant. Why did you allow that?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The short point is, is this law good or not?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: It is a corrective law.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Whatever it is, we have taken corrective steps. You have to compliment us.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You want compliments!

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: But you say that it has been done under pressure from mill-owners. It is a travesty of facts.

[Translation]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): You made the people suffer in the past and now again you want to make them suffer.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Should we do away with this law? A good thing will be called a good thing.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: You made the people suffer in the past and now again you want them to suffer.

[English]

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: This law, again for the first time we have enacted and we have taken legal steps to help the industry in spite of great resistance from other sectors of industry. Even now they are protesting, and even Ministries are protesting. This has been done consciously because the jute growers' interests have to be protected.

That is what we are going to do.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: What about the other problems?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: These are some of the steps that we have taken. One panacea that is always suggested is nationalisation.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
Panacea

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Nationalisation can be done by the State Government also.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: If it is such a good medicine why do you not make some special treatment?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Then why do you have Minister for Textiles here? If everything is to be done by the State Government what for is the Minister here? Wonderful!

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I am stating the constitutional position. You may deny. The State Government has the right to undertake nationalisation.
(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: If it is so, why do you not yourself do it?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: On a point of information, how is there a Minister for Textiles in the Centre if it is so
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: This is the factual position.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You cannot put the blame on the State Government.
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: If taxes are imposed, the Central Government comes in. For constitutional obligations....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Without the President's assent, can it be done?
(Interruptions)

We will recommend that.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Let us pass a unanimous resolution in this House for the nationalisation of jute industry and request the State Governments to take over. Will you support?
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: We do not believe in nationalisation for the sake of nationalisation.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: That is the thing. You do not do it.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: You never made any serious attempt to nationalise it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Do not blame the State Governments.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Who has passed the nationalisation law?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Take your seats. Sit down.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about NJMC?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: In NJMC the accumulated losses have almost reached Rs. 700 crores. (Interruptions) We did not want to increase the costs, the working costs of the NJMC to the extent possible. We want to modernise NJMC. We want to make it more viable. We just do not think that nationalisation is a panacea for all this. Even after nationalisation sick units have been revived. That is exactly what we are doing under various schemes.

So, Sir, in short what I mean to say is that the Government of India has made this scheme and we are taking a very comprehensive view of the whole thing. I would request that this should be appreciated in a proper way. Something was mentioned about the purchases made by the Government—D.G.S.&D. and an impression was created that the reservation order is not being followed by the Food Corporation of India, etc. This is not true. An

[Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha]

impression was created from the speeches of certain Members that the reservation law is being contravened by the Food Corporation and the Government Corporation. This is not true. What has happened is that because of the poor monsoon and poor crop this year, the procurement programme of the Food Corporation and other State Corporations has slowed down. We are in constant touch with them and we are meeting them almost every week or ten days to see what the requirements for this season and the ensuing season would be. They have told us that they cannot just give more than an X quantity. Hence, as the situation improves, I think, we will place more and more orders so that D.G.S.&D. could make the purchases. Even in the D.G.S.&D. purchases, the pricing formula that we have arrived at is cost plus, which is not being done in any other Government purchases. There are other ways. They go for open tenders. If we go for open tenders, prices will get depressed and land us in problem. So, what we call, Palekar formula has been evolved for Government purchases, which is a very favourable formula so far as the industry are concerned, so that the prices do not get depressed and the jute crop gets its due share.

As regards diversification, it is another plan in our new programme. The Hessian position as the hon. Member has said is not correct. The world prices are such that we cannot compete. Bangladesh is always there. We are in touch with the Bangladesh Government. They have after so many years responded slightly and they want to have a dialogue with us as to why we should avoid competing with each other in the international market and only the foreign buyers should benefit by this. Over the years, they are not willing to talk to us because they say that their jute exports are very vital for them and they would not like to have any sort of discussion with us. But now we have received encouraging reports. I have invited the Bangladesh Minister for Jute also for discussion. He has

agreed to come. I think that this dialogue in the jute area would be in the interests of both the countries.

Then, I come to diversification. As I said earlier, diversification is very necessary. One of the reasons we have given customs freeze is mainly for diversification. For example, jute carpets. Bangladesh make jute carpets. But we do not make jute carpets. This is one area which we want to explore. There are other things. A good quality jute can be made into a blanket also and research for this will also be funded out of the special development fund. So, we are funding research first to see what alternative uses of jute could be developed. Secondly, how diversification will take place through modernisation with assistance from the Government so that modern needs like curtains, soft luggage and things like that could be explored. One serious attempt we are making is to develop chests for tea and apple packing. We find that this would help in saving a lot of wood. We are going to invest quite a substantial fund in making proto types of these things. We are having continuous dialogue with the big tea companies also through tea Boards. I would like to say that they are also responding. So, we want that at present the tea chest which are made of plywood and other wood would improve our environmental situation.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Whether any progress has been made.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Progress has been made. For example some of the Companies have shown positive interest and for others we have given some samples to try and test, what sort of thing they want—collapsible, size and things like this. Then, we had sent a team to Himachal. We want to undertake packing of apples in jute chests. We are studying their requirements and trying to evolve certain packages which could be useful here also. So, if we wove the traditional usage zone step by step it would be more profitable for the producers and secondly it would save a lot

of wood, which is very scarce in our country and more and more expensive. One of the basic approaches of our Department is to have diversified uses of this like curtains, furnishings, blankets. Anything could be done. And we are having massive research effort in that respect. We are making prototype and supplying it free to them for testing. A very serious effort is being made. This has also been provided for in our new scheme. This is the way how we are tackling the whole thing. I would like to tell the hon. Members that we are very much conscious of the importance of this industry because it involves the interest of millions of people. We are particularly concerned about the interest of jute growers and the organised labour which is getting unemployed as a result of these things.

Another good item in it is this. Firstly, we do not believe that there should be any rationalisation or retrenchment without consent or consultation with the labour. This is very clear. We are not supporting any unilateral action by anybody and we would never support that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: But you are not consulting them.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: But if somehow it happens either by agreement or otherwise, and the labour is displaced, we have a very elaborate scheme to look after their interests. Again this has never been before. This is of a unique nature ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: You are not coming to the point...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let him finish first. Then you can raise your points.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What steps are you taking to re-open those closed mills?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The supplementary to that is that the calling attention

was mainly on the question of closure. Am I to take it that after all that you have said, you still hold that these closures are mainly due to labour trouble? Is that your contention?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I never said that.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Then how do you solve that problem? Are you justifying these closures? With all the difficulties which you say the industry has got, are you justifying these closures where 75,000 people are locked out?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I went further and said that we were not only not justifying closures but we wanted that any retrenchment or rationalisation that took place should only be done with the agreement and consent of the labour.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: We are talking about re-opening of mills.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The West Bengal Government is carrying on a dialogue. And if there is anything that needs to be done from our side, we will certainly do it. It is basically the West Bengal Government which should bring the two parties together and have some sort of an agreement.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: West Bengal Government has declared the lock-out as illegal. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If all of you speak, he will not be able to answer anything. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Apart from this question of lock-out, I wanted to know whether they never asked about this tripartite agreement unilaterally terminated by IJMA. In that case, what is their attitude? Are they prepared to bring a foolproof Bill against lock-out or to make lock-out illegal? What is the answer?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The Minis-

ter of Labour is concerned with that and he is not here.

SHRI BASUDEB AOHARIA: Why is he not here? Here 75,000 workers are involved. Why is he not present?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Let me finish.

There was a three-year tripartite agreement which, under the Industrial Disputes Act, ended at a certain time. The information that we have got is that the Jute Mills Association gave them two months notice as required by law and they have terminated the agreement. Firstly NJMA is not part of the Jute Mills Association. I can very clearly say that. Secondly, we are also a part of the tripartite agreement. We have no separate agreement. We are still bound by it and we will continue to be bound by that for the time being till another agreement comes. So the NJMC's position is very clear. They are not part of the Association at all. We are not siding with the jute mills in this respect. We are not a part of the Association at all.

As for the larger issue that there could be another law that could do something, well, that is not immediately the concern of this discussion. Law Ministry is certainly considering a new industrial relations law and when it comes before you, you can discuss it.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, I said that the Textiles Ministry does not have any inter-Ministerial coordination. Indeed I asked four questions and not even one has been answered. I said there is no coordination between the Ministry of Textiles and the Ministry of Commerce. They are importing so much of high density polythene granules in the country that synthetic manufacturers are manufacturing synthetic bags, with the result that jute manufacturers are not able to get any market. This is the basic problem. They are importing lot of granules and that is causing lot of con-

cern. Secondly, there is no coordination between the Ministry of Textiles and the Ministry of Industry. The Ministry of Industry has ... *(Interruptions)*. Let me finish my question. I am on my legs... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, I cannot allow. Nothing will go on record. I cannot allow.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, if Calling Attention questions are not replied to.... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has not completed his reply? How can you say that he has not answered? Let him finish first.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, he is very unusual Ram Niwas Mirdha today. Today he is avoiding.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I am not avoiding anything. There is no question of lack of coordination. The other Ministry can have different views from us. They have a right to do so... *(Interruptions)*. Please wait. Or you say and I listen first. So, Sir, there is no lack of coordination between us. The Industrial Development Ministry and others feel that synthetic packaging is also necessary for certain type of packaging. It is a new industry that is coming up, a new technology that is coming up, and we cannot completely shut ourselves from that. But we in our Ministry... *(Interruptions)* Please wait. So, there is no lack of coordination. We know each other and we are in constant touch with each other. The Industry Minister had a big meeting when my colleague was there and we discussed it again. So, there is perfect coordination... *(Interruptions)*.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE: Lack of coordination is by agreement it seems.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: And we have brought this law, which again is an unprecedented measure I tell you, to prescribe seriously and in specific terms

how much amount of a particular packaging would be of jute....(Interruptions).

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Has this measure helped in reducing the use of synthetic bags?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Of course.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: How?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Because we have reserved many areas which are at present being used by synthetics, etc. and those industries want synthetics to continue. That is why our law has sought to tackle synthetics aspect. It will increase the consumption of jute goods and is going to help the jute growers and the jute industry. So, I will end by saying...(Interruptions)

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Your policy is not clear.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: My policy is very clear.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: If your policy is that, your own Minister is not accepting it.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: He is accepting it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is this? This is not the way. You finish your reply. I cannot allow a dialogue like this to go on. Whatever you want to say you finish it because there are so many other things which I have to take up, not only this. Have you finished?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: No, Sir. All that I say is I have spelt out the measures that we want to take in the long-term interest of the industry and we will see that the industry becomes strong, jute growers' interests are protected, the JCI plays its due role, and the whole industry works in such a way that it helps the jute growers as well as the organised sector of the industry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we go to

the next item—Matters under Rule 377.

14.35 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(I) **Over invoicing of Rifampicin drug used for treatment of leprosy and T.B.**

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi): I am making a statement under Rule 377. RIFAMPICIN is being used for the treatment of Leprosy and T.B. According to Import Trade Control policy, before the import of this drug, the companies have to register the indent with department of Chemicals, Ministry of Industry. The department has not allowed any import since last year. The import price is \$ 160 per kg. The indigenous price has been fixed at Rs. 3,000/- per kg. The indigenous production is based on penultimate i.e. first stage. The foreign exchange involved per kg. is \$ 209 i.e. around \$ 50 per kg. more, hence there is an element of over-invoicing of the order of \$ 50 per kg. On the total production from penultimate, the amount of over-invoicing comes to \$ 35 million approximately. I, therefore, request the Government to look into the whole matter and fix up the responsibility.

[Translation]

(II) **Demand for laying railway line between Kashipur and Ram Nagar and Rampur and New Haldwani in U.P.**

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): MR. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in order to connect the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh with the remaining parts of the country and also for their development, it is very essential that railway line between (i) Kashipur and Ram Nagar and (ii) Rampur and New Haldwani should be laid. Last year no allocation was made for the construction of Kashipur-

[Shri Harish Rawat]

Ram Nagar broad gauge line and only Rs 2 crores were allocated for Rampur-New Haldwani line. As a result of this, there is great resentment among the people against the decision of the Railway Ministry

I, therefore, request that the Ministry of Railways should provide funds for construction of these two broad gauge lines by according the highest priority to these lines.

(iii) Demand for restoring rights to land to the Tribals and Harijans of tehsil Dudhi in Mirzapur district of U.P. where the Forest Department seeks to acquire their land

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Roberts-ganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of great concern that the Forest Department by publishing a notification under Section-20 has decided without undertaking any survey on the spot to displace Adivasis and Harijans of tehsil Dudhi in Mirzapur district of U.P. on large scale from their land on which they have been living for years together and on which they have their wells, houses, fruit trees and other properties. Surprisingly that land has also been included in the notification under Section-20 which had been given on lease to Harijans. As a result, the land allocation has proved to be a curse rather than a blessing to the Harijans and landless persons of this tehsil. So far so that the land allotted to the families displaced and resettled due to construction of Rihand dam has also been included in the said notification whereas the Forest Department itself had allotted that land to the Revenue Department for the purpose of housing and farming. For example, in village Darankhan and Khairahi the land given to the displaced persons on lease was never mutated in their names. That land remained under Section-20 or remained with the Gram Samaj.

I, therefore, through this Notice draw the

attention of the Forest Minister towards this matter and demand that the above matter may be enquired into by a high level committee set up by the Government and should restore the rights to land to those who have been in actual possession and on which they have their houses, wells, trees etc. Otherwise, the great resentment among the people will take the shape of an agitation and unsocial elements will take undue advantage of the pent up feelings of the people.

[English]

(iv) Delay on the part of DDA in allotting plots to displaced persons in Chittaranjan Park area, Delhi

DR PHULRENU GUHA (Contai): Under Rule 377, I am making a statement

In 1976 Government invited applications from the displaced persons for allotment of plots in New Delhi. A large number of applications were received. After scrutiny 794 applications were found eligible for allotment of plots. Only 82 plots were available in the Chittaranjan Park Area. The remaining 712 eligible persons could not be allotted plots. In 1985, the Ministry of Works and Housing, took a decision to rehabilitate many of them in the Chittaranjan Park Area by reducing the area of plots. D.D.A. was asked to develop the land. D.D.A. in turn asked the displaced persons to deposit development cost. They paid an amount of Rs. 58 lakhs as advance in September to D.D.A. to develop the land. The D.D.A. also gave an assurance in writing some time in December, 1985 that the development work would be completed and allotment of plots made to these people middle of 1986 but after some time, the development work was stopped without assigning any reason. I urge upon Government to look into the matter without delay.

(v) Demand for implementation of provisions of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 by the Food Corporation of India, Madhya Pradesh region

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): The contract labour in Food Corporation of India, Madhya Pradesh is on strike for the last so many days. After great struggle the contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 was enacted so that the contract labour could get justice and be saved from exploitation

But, unfortunately, the F.C.I. Madhya Pradesh Region is neither abolishing the contract labour system in the depots where it can be abolished, nor it is providing the benefits available under the Act, thus it is violating provisions of the Act.

According to the said Act and Rules made thereunder the Workers employed by F.C.I through their appointed contractors in the food storage depots having been performing same or similar kind of work as the workers directly employed by the establishment are entitled for the same wage, rates, holidays, hours of work and other conditions of service as applicable to workers employed directly by the F.C.I. But they have been denied the said benefits since the day they were employed. The contractors are working without being registered in violation of the Act.

I request the Government to look into the matter so that to ensure that there is no violation of the Act.

[Translation]

(vi) Demand for preventing eviction of Harijan families settled on either side of the railway line between Raxaul and Birganj

SHRI RAMBAHADUR SINGH (Chapra) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, under rule 377, I want to raise this important matter in the House.

In 1929, the then Government of India had given about 30 acres of land to Government of Nepal with a view to introducing rail service from Raxaul in India to Amlekhganj in Nepal. But the rail service from Birganj to Amlekhganj was discontinued in 1965 and the rail service between Raxaul and Birganj has almost been discontinued because a diesel engine train comprising two boggies is being run from Raxaul to Birganj once or twice in a month.

The only aim behind running this type of rail service in that area is that the Government of Nepal wants to keep this land in its possession.

The most painful aspect of the matter is that the concerned officers have now issued eviction orders to those Harijan families who are Indian citizens and Indian voters and who were settled along with the railway line many years ago under a Government order.

Therefore, I forcefully demand that the Government should take immediate steps to prevent eviction of Harijan families from that land.

[English]

(vii) Need to bring the nationalised banks under the purview of the Committee on Public Undertakings

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): The National Banks together have a huge turnover amounting to Rs. 40,000 crores. Banks are vehicles of economic development and the Banking system is one of the most important indicators of a country's level of development. India has an organised Banking system and its Nationalised Sector has yielded tremendous advantages to the economy. Our Banks created enormous supply of credit and helped to sharpen the people's propensity to save and invest, offered tremendous employment potential to the society and contributed in a big way to

[Prof. Saifuddin Soz]

increase the country's national income. This is the bright side of the picture. There is a dark side too which has escaped notice of the Government and the people at large.

The Nationalised Banks do not seem to be accountable to anybody. If there is corruption in this sector, it goes unchecked as the Government does not exercise direct control over it. There have been complaints against banks way of advancing loans, but the system has not been remedied. The Chairmen of the Banks are not accessible to common people.

I would therefore strongly plead for bringing the nationalised banking sector within the purview of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Undertakings, in addition to other controls that the Government may consider necessary.

[*Translation*]

(viii) Demand for a train between Gwalior and Mathura Junction

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV (Morena): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, a shuttle train, should be introduced between Gwalior and Mathura. Mathura, Brindaban, Dauji Govardhan, etc. are the places of pilgrimage. Gwalior is the old capital of Madhya Pradesh. Passengers going from Gwalior to Mathura experience so many difficulties because express trains are running on this section and they do not stop at these places. The poor people remain deprived of the facility to visit these places. Therefore, I request the hon. Railway Minister to introduce shuttle trains between Gwalior and Mathura twice a day to enable the poor people to visit these places of pilgrimage.

14.46 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE: DROUGHT SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY—Contd.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we will go to next item, i.e. further discussion on the statement made by the Minister of Agriculture in the House on the 30th July, 1987 regarding drought situation in the country.

I request all the Members to cooperate with me because already we have exhausted the time of 2 hours which is allotted. But still I am having a list of 50 Members who are yet to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please listen to me. Then you can speak. Listen to me.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): What is the next important item before Parliament?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are so many items

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: This is the most important item.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you feel, you can discuss this item only throughout the session!

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is why, I am telling, listen to me. All Members are feeling that they want to participate in the discussion.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Yadav, please take your seat. I can understand your feeling. All the Members are interested to participate in the discussion.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: The House is to decide about it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is why, I want to discuss it with you.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): This is a great calamity. All should be accommodated. On Bofors, we wasted one week. Drought discussion is the most important one. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: We should get ample opportunity to participate.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are wasting the time of the House. Please take your seat.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: This is a calamity.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): We will go on discussing it till it does not rain. Every Member should get an opportunity to express his views.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: This is the most important subject.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: We are ready to sit till mid-night.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER. I have never told that this is not important. I am always telling it is important. I am expressing that thing. But at the same time...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is this? Listen to me. In order to accommodate all the Members, I am requesting each Member only to take 10 minutes to express his points. That is the request, I am making

So, don't take more than 10 minutes. If you take more than 10 minutes, whatever you will speak after the 10th minute would not go on record. That is all I wanted to say.

Mr. Ramachandra Reddy, only 5 minutes for you.

Already you have taken 23 minutes. Try to wind up.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: (Rajapur): Drought is a greater calamity than the Government even!

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Why are you giving half-an-hour for him?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: His Party time, he is taking. He is taking his Party time. Afterwards, I cannot allow other Members because he is taking his Party time.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, yesterday I was arguing about the importance of minor irrigation projects. (*Interruptions*).

I would like to submit that funds that have been allotted for the various tanks annually are very very meagre. Minor irrigation is very very important for those States where the rainfall is very very meagre. When the rainfall is very very meagre, every drop of water has to be saved. Only by saving every drop of water, those areas can be saved. In order to save every drop of water, it is very incumbent upon the Central Government to allot sufficient funds for completion of check-dams, and percolation tanks and breached tanks should be repaired. All these things should be taken up on a large scale so that every drop of water that falls does not run away and is preserved and stored underground. In order to improve the effect of percolation, the Government has to take all the steps. In many States, a number of tanks are there. Some of them are breached and some silted. As far as the breached tank is concerned, every tank must be repaired by closing the breach. As far as the silted

[Shri K. Ramachandra Reddy]

tanks are concerned, the silt has to be removed and the tank has to be deepened 2 to 3 feet below sluice level so that there is dead-storage of water in times of drought. It will be useful as drinking water for cattle and animals and when drought is not there, that is also useful for cultivation. That is as far as the effects of drought are concerned.

In Andhra Pradesh this year out of the 23 districts, 18 are reeling under the weight of severe drought. This is not only happening during this year. Even in 1982, 1983 and in 1984 about 20 districts were affected and every year about 10 to 20 districts are being affected by drought. This Year because of the severe drought the prospects of kharif crop are very bleak. You cannot expect to get kharif crop.

Last year (1986-87), 83.4 lakh tonnes of foodgrains were expected but the yield was 59.4 lakh tonnes.

This year the target is 88.5 lakh tonnes but this may not reach even 40 lakh tonnes.

This means the situation in the State of Andhra Pradesh is very very bad because the State is actually experiencing continuous drought for the last five years.

In Rayalaseema which is supposed to be the groundnut bowl of Andhra Pradesh for oilseeds, agriculturists have not been able to sow groundnut crop so far.

Last year, it was 14 lakh tonnes of groundnut production expected. But ultimate turn out was 9.7 lakh tonnes.

This year, the expected production is 14.5 lakh tonnes of groundnut and I do not know how much groundnut we will get. This is likely to be reduced by 60%

The State of Andhra Pradesh is suffering like this. The Central Government should come forward and help the State Government of Andhra Pradesh in a big way.

I request the Agriculture Minister to tour the drought-affected areas in Rayalaseema, specially in Anantapur district. The hon Minister will be able to see the situation for himself. A drive down in the Rayalaseema district will show dried up irrigation wells, denuded forests, despondent people, parched lands, barren hillocks, famished people and thirsty cattle which will portray a dismal picture of the landscape. This is a very very common phenomenon. People are not even in a position to shout and agitate that "This is our fate. Please come and help. We are suffering so much." So, when you go to these areas the very first preference to be given is to drinking water not only for people but for cattle also. At least human beings are able to get water from 2 or 3 miles. What about the fate of the cattle? Drinking water has to be supplied not only to human beings but also to cattle.

The Centre must come in a big way to help the States where the drought has been continuous phenomenon. I request the Central Government to devise ways and means of improving irrigation.

A number of on-going projects are there. Some projects are not able to be completed because of lack of funds, some projects are held up because of some objections raised by the Central Water Commission or the Central Environmental Commission. As far as this problem is concerned, the Centre must come forward and clear all such projects and see that they are completed within the shortest possible time.

The next thing that I would like to suggest is establishment of industries. In case of drought when agriculture is not able to provide any sustenance to the drought-affected people, it is only the industries that could take away some of the burdens of the agriculturists. So, if industries are located in such drought-affected areas, then, in times of drought, people will have some means of livelihood. Therefore establishment of industrial area is very very important.

Another point I would like to make is regarding improvement of underground water. Here, I would like to suggest that in areas where irrigation is very very meagre—in some places it is 10 per cent or even below—every effort must be taken to see that every drop of water is made use of.

Sir, vegetation is very very important. But, there is one peculiar thing. Forests are being denuded. In some places where hills are there, vegetation is very meagre. In this connection, I would like to suggest that in such areas, a special drive has to be made and a special fund has to be allotted for afforestation. Unless you are able to improve the green-cover in these areas, the rainfall will go on reducing. That is why, I request the Government to allot sufficient funds for this purpose. Further, where irrigation facilities are meagre, people mainly depend upon irrigation-wells. To draw out water from irrigation wells, oil-pumpsets are necessary, where electricity is not available and now oil has become very costly. So, I would suggest that every well has to be provided with electric pumpsets. I would request the Department of Agriculture to impress upon the Energy Ministers also to see that electricity connection is provided to each and every well.

Regarding marketing of agricultural produce, I would like to say that if the agriculturists have to bring their produce to the market, some special facilities like transport and good roads have to be increased. Further, education facility should also be increased in such areas.

Sir, I am happy to learn that a Cabinet Sub-Committee has been formed to look into the matter of drought. I would request the Cabinet Sub-Committee—through the Minister of Agriculture and through you, Sir,—that this Committee must provide special funds for these areas which have been chronically suffering from drought for the past five or 10 years and chalk out plans for the development of these areas. **Please do not merely say that we are giving so much funds for NREP, IRDP and DPAP**

programmes. These funds are being given in the normal circumstances. Where there is severe drought, I would request the Govt. to allot special funds and to take special steps to see that the people are saved from the vagaries of famine, drought etc. Also, some kind of livelihood has to be provided to such people. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to take special steps and see that famine is eradicated from this country.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today most of the parts of our country are facing drought and among them Rajasthan is a worst affected area. Apart from Rajasthan, the area of Saurashtra in Gujarat, Western Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Punjab are also affected by drought. Out of 416 districts, 280 districts are affected by this natural calamity. Out of 35 meteorological zones, 23 zones are suffering from drought. From this you can very well imagine the acuteness of this calamity. There has been very meagre rainfall this year in all these areas. Our country is facing unprecedented crisis and we need to meet this national calamity on war-footing. We passed through the horror of war in 1965 and in 1971 and faced them very bravely but now we will have to fight the present natural calamity more vigorously, only then we shall be able to tackle the situation of this severe drought.

15.00 hrs.

MR. N. VENKATA RATNAM *in the Chair*]

The kharif crop in Rajasthan has been completely destroyed and Rajasthan has been experiencing drought for the 4th successive year as a result of which all the ponds and wells have gone dry and water level has gone down. It is a challenge before us and we have to fight this situation more vigorously.

[Shri Virdhi Chander Jain]

Our Meteorological Department has miserably failed in its forecasts and now the moot point is whether the Meteorological Department should be continued to function or not. Had our Meteorological Department given advance intimation to our farmers about their hard work would not have gone waste. Our Meteorological department has miserably failed which we did not expect in this present science age. Whereas the Meteorological departments of Canada and U.S.A. get advance information. Therefore, if we want to continue this department, we will have to make it very active so that we can get information in advance.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is an unprecedented drought of this century. The area of Rajasthan from where I come, is experiencing severe drought. The cattle like cows, sheep etc. are dying. There the cattle have migrated to other states like U.P. etc. Every effort is being made to save the cattle. Such is the situation prevailing there.

The steps taken by the Government to fight such a severe drought in Rajasthan are not effective or commendable. Before 30th June, 14 lakh labourers were employed there but after that the strength has been reduced to four lakhs whereas under such severe drought condition, more employment opportunities should have been provided to the people. Our Government has been demanding 3½ lakh metric tonnes of wheat but our Central Government depends on the bureaucracy and so long as bureaucracy does not give its consent, Government cannot clear this matter. That may be our Finance Minister or any other Minister, they cannot do anything without first obtaining the consent of the bureaucrats. Lakhs of people are facing starvation, cattle are dying and our economy is being destroyed because our economy is based on cattle. Under such circumstances, we need to provide more employment opportunities to the

people. Though we have launched Integrated Rural Development Programme to eradicate poverty but the way we are implementing it that will increase poverty. What I mean to say is that some concrete steps are required to be taken in this direction.

There is acute shortage of drinking water in the rural areas. Besides, about 146 cities including Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kishan-garh, Byawar, Madras, etc. are also facing shortage of drinking water. For this we have formulated an emergent plan under which Rs. 112.27 crores will be spent. The Central Government can allocate a huge amount to us under the Rural Water Supply Scheme and the Rajasthan Government will also make every effort to provide drinking water to the people under the minimum need programme. Therefore we will have to fight unitedly to solve the problem of drinking water in both rural and urban areas.

The second thing before us is growing of fodder. I want to submit that fodder should be grown in the Suratgarh farm in Rajasthan and in all other farms of the Central Government. There is a need of growing fodder alongwith the left bank of the Indira Gandhi Canal. We should give cent per cent subsidy for growing fodder so that we are able to save our cattle.

We should double the NREP and RLEGP Programmes. Food for work programme is required to be promoted. It is a good source of employment generation. Irrigation work should be given priority under this programme.

In our desert area, we are unable to start afforestation due to acute shortage of water and even drinking water is not available there. Then how can we make arrangements for irrigation?

I have been to my area where there are no means of transport. The Central Government does not give priority to road construction. The existing roads have become eroded in the absence of means

of transport, our Public Distribution system cannot function and no progress can be achieved. Under the National Rural Employment Programme, priority should therefore be accorded to road construction work.

It has been seen that we give adequate assistance in case of floods but we have not enough money for famine relief. We have not provided enough margin money for famine. You will say that previously it was rupees 7.74 crore which has been increased to rupees 16.75 crores. It is not adequate in view of the persistent famine for the last four to five years. It should, at least be Rs. 50 crores. It is spent as a plan advance. We have been spending this money for the last four years and now the position there is not much money left to be spent under the plan. In view of the economic conditions in Rajasthan and continuous famine for the last four years, we have been demanding more and more famine relief. Even the Seventh and Eighth Finance Commissions have also recommended cent per cent subsidy in these circumstances. Famine should be treated like flood. There are starvation deaths due to famine. In the beginnings floods create havoc but subsequently it is helpful in increasing the crops, the level of water in wells increase and enhances the scope of irrigation. It is therefore necessary to take steps in this regard.

I request that Rajasthan should be given 3½ lacs tonnes of wheat free of cost. Besides an ad-hoc grant of Rs. 50 crores should be given to it. An amount of Rs 25 crores should also be given to Rajasthan for conservation of cattle and food and for contingency plan an amount of Rs. 112.37 crores should be provided to the State. We have to provide this by resorting to a plan-cut. We should try to provide employment to the people. We should provide 200 machines required for 200 tanks and hand pumps.

I will finish it in five minutes. Keeping in view the grim situation in our area, at least one hour should be given to me. According to our information, the centres of Khadi

Commission at Barmer, Jaisalmer and Bikaner have stopped functioning. More assistance should be provided to the Khadi Commission to increase the production of Khadi.

The formula adopted in connection with the drinking water on the basis of fifty per cent population should be changed to make it need based. Special arrangement of drinking water should be made in the desert areas. Special assistance should be provided for the Indira Gandhi Canal. Though the Union Government is paying special attention to it but we want that this should be completed in ten years. For this purpose, we will have to increase the already allocated 100 crore assistance so that the canal may be completed in time. The construction of Indira Gandhi Canal will solve the crisis of drinking water and enable us to fight the famine condition. Therefore, the Indira Gandhi Canal should be given special importance.

All the schemes for supply of drinking water should be completed within a year. Farmers should be provided electricity for at least 10 hours a day. The Public Distribution System should be strengthened and the on-going projects should be given top priority. Prices of essential commodities should be brought down. Stress should be laid on production of milk rather than on production of ghee.

Regarding the motion moved by the hon. Minister, I have to say that he should play an important role by providing more and more assistance for providing famine relief to the poor people facing this crisis.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been told that this is the worst-ever famine in the last 100 years. Nobody knows that what happened 100 years before. However, it is clear that we will have to make all efforts to face this severe drought and to save the affected population.

The hon. Minister has also given a statement in this regard. He is our friend and a

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

well wisher of the farmers also. But in the statement of the hon. Minister there is no reference to the seriousness of the severe drought being faced by the country. He has not given any figures about the number of people and districts, which are drought affected, the extent of deficient rain-fall and the damage caused to the Kharif crop as a result thereof.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): Figures have been given.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: The figures which have not been given in the statement may be given later on to make them complete. I am, however, not satisfied with those presented now. Otherwise, I would not have said so.

The hon. Prime Minister has also constituted a Cabinet Committee keeping in view its importance. Today, in the morning, the hon. Speaker had stated that when the discussion on drought was going on in the house, only 25 members were present. It is very shameful. I think, he should have asked the members of the Cabinet Committee to remain in the House so that they could have known the feelings of the public. Otherwise, the Government will not be able to fight drought only depending on the advice of Officers.

Today, fortunately we have stock of foodgrains with the result that probably, nobody will die of hunger. But this drought has revealed some facts requiring Government's special attention. The hon. Member who spoke before me, has referred to the food for work programme. I think this is an essential way to meet this situation. So far as distribution of money among the people is concerned, I do not think it would serve any purpose. They should do some work for which payment should be made either in cash or kind. This is the right way but we should not make them baggers. During this drought situation we should give them work, the existing tanks, rivers and chan-

nels should be got desilted and deepened, embankments should be got repaired and above all it is very essential that we should adopt a balanced policy in regard to water. Perhaps, the hon. Minister might be remembering that a specialist from the Food and Agriculture Organisation who visited this country, had stated that there was so much water in the valley of the Ganga that it could feed the whole world but it is not being put to any scientific use. The canals are constructed but there are no channels to irrigate the fields along the banks of canals with the result that the land adjoining the canals becomes barren. Whatever water sources are made available to the farmers, they are given in such a way that they are not able to utilise them more usefully. I find in my area that a big canal has been drawn from the Sharda Distributary but the farmer's land along both sides of the canal, where good crop was being harvested earlier, has become barren. Therefore, if we do not utilise our sources properly, then we will have to face famine situation due to our own irresponsible deeds being done to meet this drought which is due to the scarcity of water

There is another aspect of the drought too. Due to scarcity of water and hot weather, diseases will break out. We should take care of this aspect also. Besides, prices will rise. What action Government will take? The Government should think over it with great responsibility because from this year we are going to start repaying the loan to the World Bank. Moreover, the deficit budgeting this year and also during the last two years, will affect the price rise. Therefore, we should look into this matter in a wider perspective. As I stated earlier, it is regretted that the whole burden of this crisis has been put on the shoulders of my friend the hon. Minister. His other colleagues should also share the burden to some extent.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: They are with him.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: They should know the public feelings.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was telling that a very big economic pressure will fall upon us and therefore we should make a strong policy forthwith. I suggest that fifteen per cent deduction should be made in the Government's expenditure. When the people are facing difficulties, we should be ready to meet this situation and we are preparing for it.

I hail from Pratapgarh district of Uttar Pradesh which is drought affected area. This year, there has been no rainfall there with the result that there is severe drought there. There were, however, a few showers and the people expecting more showers sowed the seeds which dried up for want of rainfall. As the previous speakers have stated, it is very sad that our Meteorological Department does not give correct information about the rainfall so that the farmers may make all preparations. I want to tell the hon. Minister that if there would be acute shortage of power, then it would be said that it was due to shortage of water in spite of the fact that there are so many big coal mines in this country, and we have made so much progress in the field of atomic power. We should also look into it. Why don't we increase the number of thermal power stations, why don't we utilize the atomic power, why should we depend on only one source.

I hope that the hon. Minister who is a very experienced Minister and has already solved many big problems, will solve it also in a better way so that the people can get relief and have the feeling that this Government has provided them complete assistance in their difficulty.

[English]

SHRI B.N. REDDY (Miryalguda): Sir, an alarming situation arises out of an extensive drought the country is facing this year—the worst drought in the last 100 years. Out of 417 districts in the country, 273 districts with a population of 166 million and 81.5 million cattle-head have been affected. The States of Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh,

Orissa, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra are badly affected.

Some of the States like Rajasthan, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh are facing the drought for the last 3 to 7 years successively. Only 10 out of 35 meteorological sub-divisions in the country have so far received normal or excess rainfall this year leaving, remaining 25 sub-divisions parched under the sun. According to official report rainfall have been deficient in 110 districts and only scanty or nil in 152 districts. Water level in major reservoirs in the country has gone down. In some reservoirs the storage capacity has been reduced to 25 per cent of the last year's level. Underground water level is steadily going down day by day. In some cases underground water level has gone down by 100 feet. Almost all the tanks in the drought affected areas have dried up. Even lakes are drying up speedily. Not only that, it is reported, that the size of the ice-cap over the Himalayas has been reduced considerably. Such is the horror of drought due to failure of South Western monsoon.

In Rajasthan this year 31,000 out of 35,000 villages are affected for the fourth successive year. The entire State has received less than 65 per cent of its normal rainfall and in several districts the deficiency is as high as 99 per cent. Only 33 per cent of the targetted 125 lakh hectares of land has been brought under kharif crop.

Now, I would like to mention the conditions of my own State of Andhra Pradesh, where the situation is worse. Last year, almost 18 out of 23 districts were severely affected by drought. This year also the situation continues to be the same. As it is reported, the kharif prospects in Andhra Pradesh, the largest producer of paddy in the country, are distinctly bleak with deficient rainfall in 17 out of 18 districts. 60 per cent of the sown area in the State is under dry cultivation. Because of the shortfall in rainfall as much as 70 per cent of the dry crop has not been sown at all. 14 out of State's 23 districts are affected by drought for the third successive year—8 of Tele-

[Shri B.N. Reddy]

ngana region and 4 of Rayalseema region. Groundnut crop in Rayalseema is the worst hit.

Now, the crucial point is how to deal with such a grim situation. In the official report our Hon. Minister repeatedly stressed that the monsoon has failed. Of course the monsoon has failed, but he confined to the failure of monsoon only. In the age of technology it is man-failure also. That has also to be mentioned. Man-failure in the sense that the Government of India, which is ruling over 70 crores people for the 40 years, is responsible for all this. In the event of grim picture of the country, the performance of the Government of India is rather shabby and hopeless. To tackle the grave situation, the Hon. Minister of Agriculture has come out with a Statement that there is going to be a high-level panel, headed by Prime Minister, for assessing the situation, for regular monitoring and for directing the State Governments, to take necessary steps in this regard. But there are no concrete proposals either for short-term or for long-term relief. Even after 40 years of Independence, only 20 per cent cultivable land in our country is irrigated. The rest of the cultivable land has to depend on monsoon alone. There is a wide gap between the irrigation potentiality and actual utilisation. According to the report on water resources, we are now in a position to use only 24 per cent of our ground water resources. We are not able to tap the rest of the ground water resources. There are many plans to link Ganga and Godavari, Godavari and Cauvery and so on. But in our State almost all projects, numbering about 20, are pending for the last 25 years. Out of these, nearly 15 projects are located in dry areas. Even when the situation is so serious, Government of India are not taking any decision in this regard.

When such grave calamities occur, these cannot be tackled by the State Governments alone because the resources of the States are very meagre. Knowing fully well that the Central Government is

getting more and more tight-fisted, State Governments are not willing to rise to the occasion even with whatever meagre resources they have under their control. Therefore, the Central Government should come to their rescue.

Government of India are bragging that they are maintaining a huge buffer stock of foodgrains, nearly to the tune of 20 million tonnes. When such huge buffer stocks are in store, how is it that crores of people all over the country are starving? Even starvation deaths are taking place. I should mention here that in the State of Orissa in two districts, viz. Kalahandi and Koraput, starvation deaths did take place. I visited Mahabubnagar district in our State and I met some families where starvation deaths are taking place in our country. Have the Government of India any plans to distribute food to starving people so as to prevent deaths due to starvation? As far as I can see, no plan is suggested in the official report of our hon. Minister.

Sir, shame to the precept and practice of Government of India that even after 40 years of Independence, about one-third of our villages have no permanent source of drinking water and 70 per cent of cultivable land has no source of permanent irrigation. During the time of floods, the rivers wash away our villages. But we are not able to utilise the same river water to our advantage. How is it so?

Sir, to meet this widespread and grave calamity, we demand immediate release of central assistance as asked for by the State Government. We also want immediate release of foodgrains from buffer stock to feed the people in drought affected areas. There should be uninterrupted supply of power for at least 16 hours a day to the fields. Derelict tubewells should be repaired and deepened soon. Pending irrigation projects should be given clearance immediately without any further delay. All essential commodities should be supplied in adequate quantities to drought affected people through extensive network of public distribution system. Food for work pro-

grammes should be started for agricultural workers and poor peasants who have no work. Immediate supply of all needed inputs free or at subsidised rates should be assured to peasants whose crops have suffered extensive damages. This measure will greatly facilitate them to sow their next crop.

Will the Government of India rise to the occasion and deal with this grim situation on a war-footing?

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR (Kutch):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am deeply shocked that we are discussing the drought situation which is continuing for the last three years. Today, a major part of the country is drought affected. In Gujarat, drought is being experienced for the last three years i.e. 1985, 1986 and 1987. The Government of India is aware of it but I request the Government to make arrangements for water and fodder on warfooting. I request for assistance for the Government of Gujarat. In drought situation, the relief measures include the desilting of tanks but now the tanks of villages have become deep. For the last two years, the work has been going on there, the remaining work has now been abandoned. Therefore, the construction of schools, roads, hospitals, houses and works under the twenty point programme should be included in the relief work. The work relating to construction of medium dams, major dams and other works of public utility should be included in the relief operations. The people are required to go very far to bring earth for dams, where what to speak of women even men cannot go. Therefore, the use of bullock-carts should be allowed to carry the earth. The arrangements for livelihood should be made for this year also as have been made during the last two years. The Government of Gujarat is also extending sufficient help but if the Union Government does not help, all the operations will stop and the people will not be able to earn their livelihood. Such jobs should be undertaken which are beneficial for the

public and they are able to get work. Similarly, the Government should also ensure maximum utilisation of the funds. The Gujarat Government has demanded Rs. 1.88 crores. I request for the early release of the amount upto the month of September to carry on relief works there.

I hail from the Kutch area and now I want to say something about that area which has been facing drought for the last four years. I like to thank those people who have been helping in saving the cattle wealth there for the last two years. The Government of Gujarat has made arrangements to make available means of livelihood to the people in small villages under the 'Antyodaya Schemes' and relief operations. In my constituency, 8.50 lakhs people live in villages and the remaining 2.50 lakhs people in towns. The towns are also very small and they too depend on agriculture. The border area is also very vast comprising 1/4th part of Gujarat. Here the population is 11 lakhs and the cattle wealth is 20 lakhs. Due to the efforts of the Government of Gujarat and others, 5 to 7 lakhs cattle have been saved.

Sir, I request the hon. Minister, through you, that the Government of India should make a separate allocation to the Government of Gujarat for Kutch. You may say, why a separate allocation should be made for it? When the Prime Minister visited that place, he sanctioned Rs. 10 crores for the technology mission for that region after seeing the condition there. During the last forty years of Independence, there has been drought for thirty-two years. Today, when the whole country is drought affected, our difficulties have further increased. I request that a separate allocation should be made for Kutch and the request for a separate allocation is due to this reason that the problem is very serious there. When the Prime Minister visited that place, he told me that keeping in view the circumstances, he would certainly do something. For example, Bita Valadaya dam had been proposed twenty years ago by the hon. Minister of the Government of Gujarat, but the work on it has not been

[Shrimati Usha Thakkar]

started so far....(*Interruptions*).....I request you to start the construction work of the dam to enable the people to get employment there. This useful work has not been started for the last many years. If the work is started, the farmers will think that the Government of India is doing some special work for them. Therefore, the work on this dam should be started early for the benefit of the farmers. There are also other works but due to lack of time I cannot mention them. I also request to make some arrangements to save the cattle wealth. The Government of Gujarat has given an assurance that it will bring fodder from Maharashtra and other places. But when we get the assistance from the Government of India, only then it would be possible to start work immediately there and to supply fodder for the cattle. The representatives from Rajasthan have also stated that the cattle wealth is our capital. Our economy will come to its end if it is not there. You should make early arrangements to save this wealth. There is scarcity of drinking water in the Kutch region. The work to make the sea water free from salt should be started early. There is sea-shore on all the four sides of Kutch. The progress of Kandla Major Port has stopped for want of water. There has been a shortage of water in the Kandla complex for the last three years. I cannot say what will happen this year. This is my fervent appeal that arrangements should be made to convert sea water into potable drinking water. That has been done in Jamnagar also. When the Hon. Prime Minister first time visited Kutch, he undertook to give assistance for technology mission. Some Members of Parliament have also sent an application for bringing Narmada water to Kutch and Saurashtra in collapsible containers. But Kutch is seven hundred kilometer from there. You will have to see how it can be done. Only rupees two crore have been received out of the amount sanctioned by the Prime Minister, a sum of three or four crores is yet to be received. Shri Ramnand Yadav also came there. According to my information there is shortage of funds.

Hon. Dinesh Singh has also mentioned about the shortage of power. I want to suggest one thing. Gujarat has a vast coastline. Survey of Kandla Tidal Project has since been completed. If work on this project is started soon it will help to meet the shortage of power. Many people were of the opinion that there would be no accord with Sri Lanka but that too has been reached, the credit for which goes to the Prime Minister. Similarly there should be an accord with Pakistan also. Like Indo-Sri Lanka accord of which we are proud, an agreement about the Indus river water should be reached with Pakistan so that Kutch may also get water and the old saying about Kutch proved to be true. We have been facing this drought situation for the last four years. There is an old saying in the Kutch region that :

"Shiyale Sorath Bhalo,
Unale Gujarat,
Chowmase Ma Bagad Bhalo,
Katchhado Bare Mas"

because there used to be no rainfall in Kutch and the water used to come from the Indus river and there was greenary round the year. The Government of India should help Gujarat Government and assure the people of Gujarat who have been facing drought situation for the last three years. The people in Kutch are facing drought and there is need to save both people and the cattle by providing water there

SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR (Bijnor) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been waiting for the monsoon for the last two months but it has not turned up.

Out of 407 districts in the country, 262 districts are in the grip of drought today. Five states have been facing drought for the last three years and eight States for the last two years. This year Haryana, Punjab and Western Uttar Pradesh which are known as the granary of the country, are also in the grip of drought. Almost the entire Kharif crop has been damaged. Besides paddy crop, more than 64 per cent groundnut crop has also been destroyed

along with the fodder crop and now there is no hope for even grass being grown.

Water level has gone down and there is no water in the ponds and tanks in the villages. In our 47 main water reservoirs, the water level has declined by 70 per cent as compared to its level last year. Last year also there was not much water. There is no hope for rabi crop also.

On the one hand, we are facing seven drought and on the other, Assam, West Bengal and Bihar are facing the fury of floods. The Manjuli river, the Kamal Balam river and the Avdhara river are causing devastation. Army has been called out to assist the people there. The people have been rendered shelterless and there is hardly any area in the country which has normal rain fall and where the crops are in good position.

This is not limited to drought only. Today famine conditions have developed in the country and it is apprehended that this most severe famine will cause a huge loss of lives and properties and the country will have to face starvation, epidemics and unemployment. Besides, this will have adverse effect on our economy. Therefore, it is a very serious crisis. It is feared that we will have to face acute shortages. Hoarding and black marketing will also increase and there will be tremendous rise in the prices as a result of which the down trodden and those living below the poverty line, particularly Harijans and Girijans would be worst hit. Therefore, we will have to think about these people. I request you to immediately declare all those areas affected by drought and flood as famine affected areas and relief measures should be initiated there on war-footing.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR: I have just spoken for five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is agreed that eve-

rybody should take only ten minutes.

SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI (Fatehpur): It is an important matter. Let her speak.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): This is only the first bell. Do not worry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You go on.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR: We are glad to know that the Prime Minister is well aware of this situation and he has constituted a powerful committee under his chairmanship. This shows that he is prepared to meet this calamity. I am confident that this drought situation will soon be met under his direction.

As has been stated here, we are today in a better position to tackle the drought situation as compared to the situation prevailing in 1965. At that time we had not even a negligible stock of foodgrains but today the situation is different and we have a buffer stock of 2 crore and 30 lakh tonnes of foodgrains and also adequate irrigation facilities for 625 million hectares of land. I am, therefore, confident that we will be able to meet this crisis. Even then we will have to take some steps.

First of all, we will have to make arrangements to ensure proper distribution of buffer stock of 2 crore 30 lakh tonnes of foodgrains so that the people at the lowest strata of society should get foodgrains. I am talking about Harijans and Girijans. They should get it on priority basis. We should also see that it is eatable also as a good quantity of foodgrains have been spoiled due to heat. We have to ensure the quality of foodgrains supplied to the poor people.

The purchasing power of the down trodden and people living below the poverty line is decreasing. We should immediately, initiate relief measures and increase the

[Shrimati Meira Kumar]

purchasing power of this class so that they are able to purchase essential commodities. 'Food for Work' programme should be started immediately in order to prevent starvation deaths.

Though the realisation of agricultural loans has been postponed for three months, yet I want that these should be completely written off.

Besides, there is acute shortage of drinking water. Particularly this crisis is being faced by those people who normally draw water from wells. There is no water in wells as a result of which they are facing a lot of difficulties. I request that special attention should be paid towards this matter and arrangements should be made to provide drinking water because there is less water in wells and that too has become dirty. Therefore, attention should also be paid to its cleanliness. The position in regard to power supply should also be taken care of. I want that we people, who live in cities and easily get power and water, should think over it and should save every drop of water. We should not misuse the electricity and I would like to say that we people, who are getting full meal, should resolve to skip meal once a day. Here in big hotels the food is wasted even today and this should be banned immediately. Today, I find that big feasts are being arranged. These should be banned immediately. We should fight this famine on war-footing.

When the famine comes, the epidemics also come along with it. There is also a need to pay special attentions to health services. The Minister of Health is not present here, but I would like to say that she should be included in this committee and she should tell us about the programme she is going to undertake to prevent epidemics.

The pregnant women and children should be provided nutritious food because if they do not get sufficient food,

it will make adverse effect on their health and on the health of our future generation.

We have a stock of foodgrains but we have no stock of fodder as a result of which the cattle may die in big numbers. Therefore, we should open fodder depots at short distances and it should be kept in mind that where there is a depot, the facility of water should also be there.

My constituency is Bijnor. The condition there is very alarming and if the steps are not taken immediately, the situation may go out of control. 62 per cent crops in the fields have dried up. There is no arrangement of water. That area has not been declared as drought affected so far. No preparations have been made to fight drought there. There are no arrangements to supply electricity to operate tube-wells. The electricity is to be supplied for 8 to 9 hours but it is neither supplied fully nor during fixed hours. Consequently, the tube-wells cannot operate as a result of which we are not able to save even that crop which could have otherwise been saved

There is scarcity of drinking water. There are two hundred such villages where there is no source of drinking water due to drought. The Hand-pumps should be installed there immediately and for this purpose rupees twenty lakhs should be made available immediately. I think it is not a big amount. Therefore, it should be provided immediately for installation of hand-pumps there

I would like to say one thing more. Fifty tube-wells have been installed in my constituency with the help of the World Bank. I requested many times that out of these 50 tubewells, 25 should be installed at Afzalgarh, a tehsil in my constituency where there is acute crisis of water. But those tube-wells were not installed there because deep boring rigs were needed to instal them and I was told that there are only four deep boring rigs and these are being operated in the constituency of some Minister. As a result, instead of instal-

ling these 25 tube-wells there, these were installed at other places where the crisis of water was not so grave. There is very severe crisis of water in Afzalgarh. Therefore, I want that water should be provided there immediately.

Relief operations should be started immediately in Bijnor. The food for work programme should be implemented there. Immediate arrangements should be made for health care and for the supply of fodder for the cattle.

In the end, I express thanks to all of you. Mr. Chairman, I am also thankful to you for allowing me to speak for a little more time than what was allotted.

16.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Madam, Chairman, every year and in almost every session, we discuss about the drought situation. It is merely being touched over. But this year, this cannot be allowed to be merely touched over. The Government must come out with a plan of action.

We are really sorry that the hon. Minister, who is a very experienced person, is not giving a true picture of the seriousness of the drought situation in the country. This drought has been unprecedented. Millions of people have been affected by this drought. Out of 25 States, nearly 13 States and 2 Union territories are affected by this drought. I am very sorry to say that the Government of India—ever since I have become a Member I have been observing—is not kind and does not realise the seriousness of the situation of the drought-affected States. You see the way in which they give the financial assistance. Do you know that the assistance given by the Central Government to the States has been only token? I will give two or three instances. For example, Andhra Pradesh had sought an assistance of Rs. 953 crores in 1985-86 and the actual assistance given

was only Rs. 63.09 crores. Karnataka had asked for an assistance of Rs. 587.93 crores and the actual assistance given was Rs. 62.46 crores only. Maharashtra sought an assistance of Rs. 664.37 crores and the actual assistance given was Rs. 65.66 crores.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please continue next time.

16.02 hrs.

DISCUSSION ON PRIME MINISTER'S
STATEMENT ON 30.7.1987 RE. INDO-
SRI LANKA AGREEMENT TO ESTAB-
LISH PEACE AND NORMALCY IN SRI
LANKA

[English]

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara): For the last few days the Government controlled media, the Doordarshan and the All India Radio, has been trying to whip up a climate of euphoria over the recently concluded Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement or Rajiv-Jayawardene Agreement as it is called.

16.03 hrs

[SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN *in*
the Chair]

The Prime Minister himself has not been found wanting. He has himself been leading the cheer—boys brigade—a refreshing change for a statesman or an astounding performance by a Prime Minister giving the impression or rather his own verdict, which ought to have come much later from our experience or from historians, that it is an agreement of the century, a great landmark, a great triumph of his conduct of our foreign policy and in defence of our national interests! I deeply regret that I cannot agree with him in his verdict on himself or his historic achievement. He was angry with the opposition that we did not join the chorus of approval when he entered the House the other day soon after the assault on him—unfortunate as it was—

[Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan]

and made the statement in this House, if I remember correctly, on 31st of July. He even refused to meet the opposition leaders who wanted to congratulate him on his miraculous escape—an assault which we considered as a slap on the face of India. But I regret to say that he could not appreciate our gesture or possibly it even offended him, so I find from his letter to me today. Since it has offended him I would on my own—I do not know whether others would share it with me—withdraw this gesture with retrospective effect. He wants us to join the cheerboys over this agreement. Doesn't he? That is what it means. May I tell him that it is just not possible.

Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement or Rajiv Jayawardene Agreement cannot be approached either in a casual or a cavalier manner in which he has approached this question for the past several months or the way he approaches other problems as well. It is as though he has produced a treaty out of a conjurer's bag. Yet another accord from this Messiah of Accords. For a change, this one is international in context. For weeks and months we had called Jayewardene, may I remind my friends....

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki): Are you opposing the Accord?

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: He has the right to say. You must not join the orchestra every time.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: My dear Prof. Kurien, you have some patience.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, he is doing it all alone. It is not orchestra.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: I don't yield. For weeks, or even months, we had called Jayewardene—I do not want to name any of these; they are all on the

record—**on the Tamil ethnic minority of Sri Lanka, our own blood brethren just across. We reacted sharply to the situation naturally, not because it was a new problem which had suddenly dawned on us, but the struggle of Tamils which struck a chord deep within our hearts—it entered a decisive and crucial phase and the crisis in Sri Lanka itself is almost a point of catharsis, as in a Greek tragedy. Therefore, I thought that was the basis of mission of mercy, as we called it—didn't we?—which undoubtedly violated certain well-laid acknowledged norms of international law. But in spite of it, we supported it because of the compelling logic of events—Sri Lanka, where an ethnic minority were being fleeced and bled white, almost out of extinction. Who perpetrated this crime? Jayewardene, of course. Here was a leader of Sinhala chauvinism, proponent of a military solution—I can quote any number of statements and I quote even a statement of 6th August, after the Accord, in a minute or two—which in effect meant genocide of this Tamil ethnic minority in Sri Lanka, and continuing assault on human rights, one who violated U.N. Convention on Human Rights, of which India is a signatory, so is Sri Lanka. This was the picture of Jayewardene that we had. I **

Now this ** has overnight been converted into a prophet of brotherhood, a great statesman, or at least a vegetarian tiger. That is what our Prime Minister would like us to believe. What has happened to effect this metamorphosis? A change of heart? Not a trace of it. On sixth August, while broadcasting from Sri Lanka, he made two or three important points—in Sinhala broadcast for which English translations are available I presume; it must be with the Ministry of External Affairs—when he called it a 'temporary arrangement'. He said, "If Indian army comes and helps us, why are you bothered?" This is what he says in his broadcast on sixth. He says, "And as for referendum in the Eastern Provinces, we will win it. I will convass for it." That is the

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair

worth of that treaty, not even worth the paper on which it was signed on 31st. Was it signed on good faith by the Prime Minister of India? I presume it was signed on good faith. Was that the intention of the Prime Minister of India, one of the signatories, that another signatory says, 'Don't worry about these provisions. They are only on paper. I am not referring to how Northern provinces and Eastern provinces would be linked in the Constitutional package. When referendum comes, we shall win it, we shall fake it. After all, Government of India had also agreed in their great wisdom to include not only Batticaloa but also Amparai deliberately to fake the referendum.

Even on December 19 package.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): Referendum can be postponed.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Yes. I will come to that. Where was Amparai? There was no Amparai on December 19th. Who brought Amparai? Sinhale majority who live in Batticaloa and Trincomale—it is configuration of eastern province. Who brought it? Didn't you know?

Therefore, Shri Jayewardene is full of faith. He says why are you bothered of Indian presence or presence of Indian Army. He says soon after the job is done i.e. after ease and put out of pale of trouble they will be sent back and we should not get divided. Sinhale people should not get divided. What is significant is that he continues to speak in the same language a week after the Accord has been signed. Now we should have presumed because we have taken certain positions, I shall come to that later.

For the last forty years position was taken by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Smt. Indira Gandhi, Shri Morarji Desai. Government of India had taken certain positions. It is my charge to-day that the Prime Minister under his regime, those position have been violated, promises have been violated. That is my

charge to-day and not merely that—we have accepted for ourselves certain precedents like referendum which we have rejected outright as a means for self determination in Jammu and Kashmir. We said—Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of this country and you do not use referendum as a device, the device to seek even a political solution. That has been our case in the United Nations and throughout the world—no question of referendum. We refused to accept referendum in a sovereign State within a nation. There is no question of accepting the principle or making it applicable elsewhere. What is this conduct of foreign policy? I am amazed. There is no precedent for such conduct anywhere. In a way, may be the Prime Minister was right that there is no parallel to this treaty or accord or agreement, whatever you call it. Not even .

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: I do not yield. Better listen.

MR CHAIRMAN: Prof. Kurien, he is not yielding.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, order. You address the Chair.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: I should have thought that we would have consulted the principal party to this Agreement, the leaders of the Tamil ethnic minority and particularly Shri Prabhakaran who was confined to a hotel suite in Ashoka Hotel. People were denied entry to meet him. He was kept as a prisoner. That is my charge. I am speaking from personal experience. I wanted to see him. I telephoned. The security did not allow anyone to see him. Here is what he says—not very edifying—the *Hindu* I presume, you can accept its bonafides. That is from the speech made in Jaffna by Shri Prabhakaran whom you accept as undisputed leader of the Eelam movement. I quote

[Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan]

from his speech made on 8th August in Jaffna.

"You are aware that this agreement concluded suddenly and with great haste and speed between India and Sri Lanka without consulting our people and without consulting us and our peoples representatives, is being implemented with expedition and urgency. Until I went to Delhi, I did not know anything about this Agreement. Saying that the Prime Minister decided to see me, they invited me and took me to Delhi. The Agreement was shown after I went there.

"There were several complications and several question marks in it and I pointed it out. Accordingly, it was made emphatically clear to the Indian Government that we were unable to accept this agreement."

This agreement is, he says, primarily concerned with the India-Sri Lanka relations and again I am not quoting the whole thing. He says:

"it is an attempt to bring Sri Lanka into Indian sphere of influence and nothing more."

I shall come to the other part later. Thus it is an agreement which was imposed, an imposed agreement between the vital parties and an agreement which gives a decisive advantage and leverage to Sinhala chauvinists or at least to the group led by President Jayawardene. Now, what was the dispute, Sir? How did we view it for the last 40 years? It is worthwhile having a look at it briefly. Indian independence gave impetus to the entire region towards freedom and nationhood. We knew and we were aware of complexity of our nationhood as well as that of our neighbourhood. The ethnic diversities had threatened to divide the new born nation in a general sense, the whole of South Asia, but it was more acute in Sri Lanka in a sense because it was a smaller country. But we wished

them well because apart from being our neighbour, we had a share of common heritage with the Tamils of Sri Lanka. They were our brethren with a shared heritage, values, of culture, of food, or at least of the people of Tamil Nadu. In effect, they were our blood brothers. The Sinhala people were also the torch bearers of the Buddhist stream of Indian thought which has brought them close to us. But here was a new nation, a new political nation and our small island neighbour. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru understood the problem, its sensitive parameters, also possibly its explosive possibilities. The Indian Ocean at that time was yet to emerge as a zone of contention or a possible theatre of war. So, patiently we built up our link with Sri Lanka. We told them about this problem of Tamils—and mind you there are two problems, parallel problems, one of those of Sri Lanka Tamils who they claim Sri Lanka belongs to or those who have been the original inhabitants of Sri Lanka—the Tamil speaking Sri Lankan citizens, and the others are those who had migrated from India during the last 150 years or so when the tea plantations were opened up in Sri Lanka—Tamils of Indian regions. There was another dimension to the problem. I shall come to that. And that is why we said that this is essentially your problem as far as we are concerned, we are aware and we have our ties with the Tamils; we shall lend our good offices and we shall not allow them to be ill-treated. It has wider problem of security which concerns. But, nothing more and nothing less. That did not mean at any point of time I would contend today that till two weeks ago we would enter their sphere ourselves and enter into this kind of wonderful Accord for which a lot is being claimed today, not excluding the Nobel prize sought by obliging US Congressmen! This is exactly the problem. Therefore, we said, we said even when the ethnic violence escalated a few years ago, more precisely in 1981 and 1983 and earlier at the time of Sirimao Shastri Pact, later right through we said that we should not interfere.

We wanted political solution. It is not

that we are running away. We were interested—not merely interested but actively interested—in a political solution and in promoting it. We could also be actively involved in the process of healing, if healing was possible, in the process of getting them together. But nothing more and nothing less. Therefore, the context of the sensitive problem which confronted us has to be understood.

In the Srimavo Agreement, about which there were great misgivings—as Mr. Kolandaivelu would bear me out today—in 1964, we promised to take about 5,75,000 Stateless Tamils as our citizens. And we did our best. We took them. But Sri Lanka did not keep up their promise of granted citizenship to Tamils of Indian origin as agreed to in the past and their percentage and proportion. I do not remember, perhaps it was 1981 when Mr. MGR led a delegation an all-Party delegation from Tamil Nadu when this question came up again. Soon after that, I had the privilege of discussing this with Shrimati Indira Gandhi and she said, “There is no question of taking one more”. I remember her words, “Not are more”. Now, I am told, you have agreed to take 200 thousand people. Do you know what is the language used in this Treaty? It is wonderful. It is 200 thousands of Indian citizens. I quote Clause 2.16 (d) of the Agreement.

“The Government of India will expedite repatriation from Sri Lanka of Indian citizens to India who are resident there...”

Who are these Indian citizens? Answering question in this very House last year, they said, there were no Indian citizens in Sri Lanka of this magnitude. From where did Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and Mr. Jayawardene—out of a hat—produce 200 thousand Indian citizens in Sri Lanka? Who were these Indian citizens? Clause 2.16 (d) is wonderful.

“The Government of India will expedite repatriation from Sri Lanka of Indian citizens to India who are

resident there, concurrently with the repatriation of Sri Lankan refugees from Tamil Nadu.”

They are put on a par. People who have been driven out, the citizens of Sri Lanka who have been driven out in an attempted genocide and who have been forced to migrate to Tamil Nadu, India, have been put on a par with people who have been there for 150 years, their families and successors. In the Assam Accord you say all those who cross beyond the date—in 1971—must be given citizenship. They should be treated as Indian citizens. But these are people who have been there for 150 years or so and we have signed this international treaty. Sri Lanka was duty-bound to give citizenship to these people, that is, as far as the Stateless people are concerned, which is the most crucial of these problems. That is how the Treaty approaches.

And the general statement is in Clause 2.14:

“The Government of India will under-write and guarantee the resolutions, and cooperate in the implementation of these proposals.

“2.15 These proposals are conditional to an acceptance of proposals negotiated from 4.5.1986 to 19.12.1986.”

The onus is put on the Government of India, not on the Government of Sri Lanka. Clause 2.15 further says:

“These proposals are also conditional to the Government of India cooperating directly with the Government of Sri Lanka in their implementation.”

Again in Clause 2.16 it is said:

“These proposals are also conditional to the Government of India taking the following actions...:

[Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan]

(a) India will take all necessary steps to ensure that Indian territory is not used for activities prejudicial...."

That is, the militants, those who have taken refuge and sanctuary and those who share the common perspective, common background and common culture would be driven out. In response to what? How much is made out of the security parameters of this treaty and the great achievements. Achievement is nowhere in this accord, it is in the letter exchanged. Accord, it is in the letters exchanged. comalee's port facilities. The agreement as in the Bofors continues with Americans; a valid agreement between Sri Lankan Government and American companies continue to operate and Mr. Jayawardene has been clever, his Government has been clever, it is put nowhere in this treaty. That is in a letter of President Jayawardene to the Prime Minister of India.

I do not want to take much of your time. But I want to say something on the constitutional package which is the most important thing. As I referred to earlier about the Eastern province, where are the guarantees built in this agreement? I do not know. Now you have compelled the Tamil Eelam militant movement to lay down arms and as Mr. Prabhakaran has said, I do not want to quote again. To repeat this is what he said: "we accept your word. You are responsible now. It is not our responsibility. It is your responsibility at least for the time being. We shall lay down arms." But what do you get in return. Can anybody tell me that there has been a political solution to this problem, in this agreement? First referendum to which * Jayawardene referred, which I quoted a little while ago, that is the main thing, the referendum.

Nobody knows what provincial councils will be, their size or ambit their powers and so on and Mr. Jayawardene now talks in an interview to some foreign news papers "they have Union Territories in India." Don't

they? Not States. They have Union Territories. He has found out an analogy with the provisions of Indian Constitution. He says "By Province what do I mean? Province means a territory demarcated. Nothing else."

These are the ominous references which have come across. Where is the talk of autonomy? Leave alone autonomy, what are the constituent powers? Out of the proposed constitutional arrangements, where is it in this agreement? What is its value then?

Therefore, I would say that I do not know what kind of security it is what are the guarantees on constitutional set up and whether it will be honoured and who will honour it, in the Indian counter or in the Sri Lanka counter and the most mischievous part of it is, as I have pointed out, while bringing Amparai into the situation it is nowhere there in December 19 proposals, by bringing in Sinhala majority into the Eastern province for the purposed of a fake referendum which is already accepted. It is also a question of who would vote in this referendum after accepting the composition of the province after the Sinhala colonisation. There has been the demand of the Tamil Movement that these should not be regarded as residents of this province allowed, those who have colonised subsequently should not be and they do not belong to that place. There should be a residential qualification. Now not only they would vote, Amparai would also vote, to keep Batticaloa and Trincomalee also off the Tamil territory. This is the achievement of this Accord.

Therefore, this constitutional package envisaged in this treaty is not merely weak but it is non-existent. There is hardly anything of gain that the Tamil Movement, the Eelam movement which has been struggling for the last so many years, paying with their blood sweat and tears paying with their life and facing the genocide bravely, to get. They have today been let down by India. That is my deep regret and

shame. Therefore, Sir, I am sorry, I cannot join, as I said earlier, in the accolades and in the great cheer that accompanies this 'great accord', 'accord of the century' if you like and all that I would like to say is to warn you of its implications—its implications on our security, its implications for conduct of our foreign policy and acceptance of certain basic norms as enshrined in this treaty which would be dangerous for our national interest not only in relation to Sri Lanka, but, as I said, in relation to Pakistan and in relation to our vital national interests.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have great regard for my friend Mr. Unnikrishnan...*(Interruptions)* But I do not know in what spirit he was speaking this afternoon and what really possessed him...

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: He is under obsession.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: He did accuse the Prime Minister of wanting to be a cheer Leader...*(Interruptions)* He can be a good cheer Leader. But, that was not our intention. He even made light of the attack on the Prime Minister in which we could have had very serious consequences. It was providence that saved him and we are glad that he is unharmed and he is with us. If he (Mr. Unnikrishnan) thinks that it was some kind of an acting....

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: No, I have never said that. On the contrary, I said "we rushed" He did not want to see us Here is the reply For your benefit, I can read it

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. Not now, please. You could have done it earlier.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: I did not want to...It is worthwhile, I will have it published.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: There is nothing defamatory.

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: Don't publish anything else.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I think it is your neighbourhood that probably changed your attitude this afternoon.

Sir, let us look at the objective of this Agreement. Mr. Unnikrishnan spoke in a manner in which we were some kind of an occupying power which had to decide the fate of the people in Sri Lanka and there it was incumbent on us to create certain conditions, force certain conditions on the Government of Sri Lanka to conform to certain ways of thinking that we may have thought to be the best. We, in this region, in South Asia, are all beset with problems of minorities, of linguistic, ethnic groups and we have to find our own solutions. We cannot impose solutions. These are not transferable. What we can do in India, we cannot do in Sri Lanka. What they can do in Sri Lanka perhaps we cannot do it in some other country. That is their domestic affair. They have to decide. Our objective in this Agreement was to help preserve the unity and integrity of Sri Lanka. We did not wish to see a kind of civil war building up in Sri Lanka which might destroy its unity and integrity. It was our objective to see that the violence and the ensuing genocide came to an end. We wanted peace to be restored in which the different parties in Sri Lanka could decide their future by themselves, not by Indian dominance. It was our objective to enable the Tamil ethnic minority in Sri Lanka to live in peace, preserving their cultural and linguistic identity. What we have to see is whether these have been fulfilled, and I make bold to say that these have been fulfilled, that peace has been restored, that the rights of the ethnic minority, the Tamils in Sri Lanka, have been guaranteed in the Agreement, that the unity and the integrity of Sri Lanka has

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

been preserved. In addition, South Asia has been recognised as a region in which the regional affairs will be decided by the countries of this region and not by outside powers.

Look at the course of events in Sri Lanka. I would not wish to go in any detail and take up the time of the House because it is well known to the House. There was a move in Sri Lanka to find a solution between the majority Sinhalese community and the minority Tamil community. This could not be settled peacefully and violence was resorted to. Sri Lanka saw four years of bitter violence and then Sri Lanka asked India to assist in finding a solution. It is not a small matter that a country seeks the cooperation of another country to solve a domestic affair. It can be done only when there is confidence in the impartiality and the judgment of that country that one approaches. If you wish some dispute to be settled, if you wish to find a mediator or even if you wish to find somebody to lend his good offices, then you must have confidence in him. Both sides must have confidence. I think, it is a matter of great honour to India, to Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, that the Government of Sri Lanka and President Jayewardene reposed faith in him just as much as the Tamil leaders who were under attack.

In these four years, the Government of Sri Lanka tried every possible way to find a solution, a military solution. They sought assistance from outside, they brought in people to train their commandos, they brought in military equipment, they brought in intelligence groups and they got military trainers from one of the countries of this region. And yet, it was not possible to find the military solution. They had to come to India, and President Jayewardene has made it quite clear that he not only sought the assistance of these people but also of the major powers in Europe and in North America and then he was told that he had to go to India. It was India that could find a solution. It is not a small mat-

ter. I think, it is a matter to be proud of. That is why we call it, 'the Agreement of the Century'. (*Interruptions*) I ask my friend, Mr. Unnikrishnan, to give me an example of another Agreement brought by a country in which a peaceful solution has emerged in this manner. Mr. Unnikrishnan, as others in the media, has tried to find loopholes in the Agreement. And I could add many more loopholes to their list of loopholes. It reminds me of a story, Mr. Chairman. In the 1957 election, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru used to tell a story. He said, "you take a glass. Half fill it with water and show it to your friend, ask him how much water there is". Those that would say it is half full, they take a positive line. Those that will say half empty is what we have from Unnikrishnan.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: But the fact is both are right.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar): There are two sides of every coin.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: We have never claimed that this Agreement like any other agreement is perfect. This is more difficult because it is an Agreement between two sovereign nations dealing with the internal affairs of one of them. Therefore, lot of caution had to be exercised so that people in Sri Lanka did not feel that a solution had been imposed on them. It had to be an Agreement in which the people of Sri Lanka would have felt that they would have arrived at an agreement by themselves if it had been possible. And it was India that made this possible.

Mr. Unnikrishnan referred to certain harsh words said about President Jayewardene in the media and elsewhere in this country. In the heat of the moment, Sir, when one feels that certain violence is taking place, large numbers of refugees are coming away from there, then certain harsh words are at times used. But they are not for permanent application. We have record of countries in Europe having war for many years and then they sat down together and found peace. There,

fore, I do not see any contradiction in it. When an action is wrong, we say it is wrong, when it is right we say it is right. If a person has taken one wrong action should we for ever say that he takes wrong action and should we for ever condemn him? I don't think that. That is not part of human nature.

Mr. Unnikrishnan has expressed great doubts about ascertaining of the wishes of the people in the Eastern provinces. As he would see from the Agreement, we have tried to ensure that the referendum will be fair and impartial. That the Indian Election Commission would be associated with theirs.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: As observers.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: But Mr. Unnikrishnan will appreciate that we cannot conduct the elections there.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: You can do everything.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: It is a sovereign country, we can only observe.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let us conduct our own elections

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I do not think Mr Madhu Dandavate could have any objection to our election system. Otherwise he would not have been here. Sir

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Thank you for small mercies

SHRI DINESH SINGH: You are welcome.

Mr. Unnikrishnan also took some objection to why certain things were mentioned in the exchange of letters. As I said earlier, he might have been influenced by his

neighbour; but otherwise he would have realised that it is quite customary in international agreements to have some portions as part of the agreement and some portions in exchange of letters which is an essential part of the agreement because it says that 'I agree to this'. This is what an agreement means.

Beyond this I would like the House to bear in mind that this is the first time when there has been a universal recognition of India's pre-eminent situation on the sub-continent and a recognition that India would discharge its obligations honestly and in cooperation with others.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

(Interruptions)

Choubeyji has some worry about this agreement. Now he is in a fix as to which side he should extend his support. First, he visited Sri Lanka and thereafter Tamil Nadu. Now, he is in a fix as to whom he should give his support.

SHRI RANA VIR SINGH (Kaisarganj): This is the main reason behind Choubeyji's worry.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DINESH SINGH: He is in an embarrassing position, whether he should support the people of Bengal or should support Tamilians.

[*English*]

Anyhow Sir, Mr. Unnikrishnan took objection to certain references made by the parliamentarians in the United States and the United Kingdom in which they had recommended the names of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Shri Jayawardene for the Nobel peace prize. I should have thought that as an Indian he would have been proud that people in other countries had thought it right that this was an occasion when a peace prize should be given to

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

these leaders...(*interruptions*)...It is my hope that Mr. Unnikrishnan and friends sitting next to him would lend their voice to the same suggestion which has been made in other countries. Thank you.

SHRI G.G. SWELL (Shillong): Mr. Chairman.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: All the big guns are fielded Siri Bofors guns are being fielded!

SHRI G.G. SWELL: I am not a Bofors gun.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He is not a Bofors gun; so he does not know the secret!

SHRI G.G. SWELL. Mr. Unnikrishnan knows, the leaders of the opposition know very well that I maintain a good line of communication with them and that I hold them in very great respect for the hard work, for the knowledge. I don't doubt their patriotism and to a certain extent for their articulation. I have only felt that a good opposition, good leaders in the opposition are a spice for the deliberations in this House.

But today I must say that Mr. Unnikrishnan's anger, prejudice or frustration, whatever it be, has run away with him. I tried my level best to detect anything positive in what he was trying to say. I must say that I have not been able to discover anything positive. I am also at a loss to understand whether he was in favour of the bloodshed, civil war and the killings that had been going on in Sri Lanka to go on for ever!

I think, Sir, that ever since the days when Jawahar Lal Nehru adumbrated the concept of Panchsheel to the world, which has stood its ground till today, and ever since the hey days when the diplomacy of this nation, the sincerity, the wisdom of this nation and to some extent the armed for-

ces of this nation had mid-wifed the oppressed people of Bangladesh into freedom and sovereignty in the world this is one of the greatest foreign policy achievements that this country has ever made.

Now we have to look at the facts. What has happened? Sri Lanka has been bathing in blood. Innocent people were being massacred. Some kind of a genocide was taking place there. Destruction was taking place there. All that has come to an end. All that has stopped until today as a result of this Accord

I will agree with what Mr. Dinesh Singh said, the way of looking at things. If your way of looking at things is that the glass is always half empty that is different. Nothing in this world is perfect. But until today the fighting, the blood-shed, the killings of innocent people in Sri Lanka has stopped. There is peace in Sri Lanka as a result of this Accord

We have to say with all sincerity whether this has been a good thing or a bad thing I cannot quite understand what Mr. Unnikrishnan was trying to say—whether the stopping of the killings and bloodshed in Sri Lanka has been a good thing or a bad thing.

SOME HON MEMBERS: He was confused.

SHRI G.G. SWELL: I wish and I know that he has had a little look at the world press. Almost the press of every country in the world, cutting across ideological lines—whether East or West—have welcomed this agreement as a positive achievement. It is a sad thing that whatever critical thing, whatever pessimistic forecast has been made about this agreement has been sounded here inside this country than outside. We have to take note of these things

Sr, I think it has been in keeping with the great tradition, in keeping with Panchsheel and in keeping with the foreign policy deci-

sions of this country that we want our neighbours to live in peace and freedom

We want them to enjoy their sovereignty and territorial integrity. Wherever we can help to do that we shall do that.

Sir, any person will admit it that Sri Lanka was on the verge of a split, that the Sri Lankan Army was not able to control the situation that a military solution of the problem of the Tamils in northern Sri Lanka and eastern Sri Lanka was not possible. There could be only one solution and that would have been the division of Sri Lanka. It is the intervention of the Prime Minister of the Government of India that has stopped that. Therefore we can claim this credit that India has secured the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Sri Lanka. This is the message which has to be conveyed and which has to be understood and which has to be received.

Sir, the fact is that we live in this regional part of the world and our neighbours should feel safe and assured that India is a great nation that they have nothing to fear from India that they can receive the utmost of goodwill, the utmost of cooperation from India to safeguard their sovereignty, their territorial integrity and their freedom.

What has happened in Sri Lanka today is a message to the rest of the nations around us. I hope the message has reached Bhutan. The Bhutan press has been very positive. The message has reached Bangladesh. The Bangladesh press has been very positive and very receptive. The message has reached other countries in the neighbourhood. I wish that the message also to some extent has reached Pakistan. Of course Pakistan has its own pre-occupations at the moment. But I hope that some day Pakistan also will understand that the best bet for them is to trust India and to cooperate with India. We do hope that the accord will stick.

Arms are being surrendered. We expect that in a few days all the arms with the

militants would have been surrendered. The Sri Lankan army has been sent back to the barracks or they have been sent to the other parts of Sri Lanka. There is no more confrontation. Things are moving in a positive direction.

We would like from this House to congratulate President Jayewardene for his courage for his wisdom and far-sightedness. We know the personal risk that he has taken. We know the opposition he is facing within his country and I do not think it right to make much of what he might have said on the spur of the moment. We all say many things on the spur of the moment. This is not a part of conscious action. We have to judge the person by what he has done at a crucial time. I would like if it were possible that we send a unanimous congratulation and goodwill to President Jayewardene that he would succeed in what he is trying to do.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, I know my time is limited but I would like also Mr. Unnikrishnan and my friends in the Opposition to consider the national interest of India. If my neighbour's house is on fire it is a danger to my own house. I cannot afford to have my neighbour's house on fire and therefore to ensure my own safety it is my duty to go and to help in all possible ways I can to put out the fire in my neighbour's house.

Things happening in Sri Lanka in the last 3, 4 or 5 years have definitely posed a danger to India. Foreign forces we know very well that in their desperation the Government of Sri Lanka had to call on the assistance of foreign organisations of certain elements of the special air services of Great Britain and the services of intelligence organisations like MOSSAD and Shinbet which by no stretch of imagination are friendly towards India. We know the struggle, the great power struggle for strategic advantage in this part of the world. We know the existence of the central command. We know the meaning of Diego Garcia and everything else.

[Shri G.G. Swell]

We know that the United States in America had acquired 1600 acres of land for the broadcast service for the Voice of America. For a broadcasting station you do not require more than 2,3 or 10 acres of land. Why do you need 1600 acres of land. And all the intelligence indicate that these are not just broadcasting services, they are there to set up other stations, listening posts, monitoring posts. to guide the movement of the submarine in the Indian ocean and this part of the world. That is why they need so much of space

Mr. Unnikrishnan has been talking about some kind of an agreement between the Governments of Sri Lanka and United States of America over the Bay or Trincomalee. So, we have to understand what this Trincomalee base is. I think this is one of the best natural harbours in the whole world. It is naturally protected harbour. Even today it can receive ships of about 30,000 tonnes. With the little deepening, it can receive ships of double size. In addition to all that there is a legacy which the British Government has left in the form of 99 fuel storage tanks with a capacity of 12,000 tonnes per tank. It means even today easily 120,000 tonnes of fuel can be stored in Trincomalee at any given time.

Now, Sir, what is this agreement? Mr. Unnikrishnan made a point of the fact that these things have not been mentioned in the agreement itself. Well, as my friend Mr Dinesh Singh has said, it is part of the exchange of letters between our Prime Minister and President Jayawardene. And if you look at the dates of the letter, the date of the letter of our Prime Minister seeking clarifications and confirmation from President Jayawardene it was July 29. The reply from President Jayawardene was also on the same date

It was only after the clarification of these things that the agreement was signed on that particular day. It is not an after-thought. It is not an addition. It is very

much a part of the agreement. And what does it say? It says:

"Trincomalee or any other ports in Sri Lanka will not be made available for military use by any country in a manner prejudicial to India's interest."

So, it is done by one stroke of the pen.

It would be a very great prize for the United States of America or for any other superpower to have a base in Trincomalee. We know what the Subic Bay Base in the Philippines means to the United States of America. We know what the Clark Air Base in Philippines means to America. We can very well imagine that Trincomalee Bay has greater value as a base for America, in this part of the world, at this time, when the gravity of the world situation is shifting more to the East and the Far East. So, the importance of Trincomalee Bay could easily be understood. And Trincomalee in the hands of the United States of America will be a dagger right into the heart of India. Well, by this agreement now, nothing can be done in Trincomalee without the knowledge of India.

More than that, the work of restoring and operating the Trincomalee Oil Tank Firm—of those 99 tanks...

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: 100 tanks.

SHRI G.G. SWELL: Thank you very much. If you add one more, you reinforce by argument all the more.

The work of restoring and operating the Trincomalee Oil Tank Firm will be undertaken by a joint venture between India and Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka cannot do it alone.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Prof. Swell, would you yield for a minute? Now, there is an agreement between Sri Lanka and a Coastal Corporation called the Ore-lieum, which is still valid. It has not been cancelled and they have no intention of cancelling it. You please get from the

External Affairs Minister, the post-treaty broadcast and various interviews: he has given to the European newspapers.

SHRI G.G. SWELL: I suppose this agreement between sovereign Sri Lanka and sovereign India will have an effect, if not an overruling effect, on it.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): It should have. If it does not, we should strive for it. We should not jibe at the agreement.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Shri Tiwari has assured that it would be superceded.

SHRI G.G. SWELL: It will be. In any case, America cannot do a thing in Trincomalee without the knowledge or consent of India and Sri Lanka. Is this not safeguarding the national interest? Do we have a point of quarrel over this? I am really pained. I do not understand this because I respect Shri Unnikrishnan for his intelligence and knowledge. One day I happened to go to his house and I did not know whether it was a book shop or his house, because his house was littered with books.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: That is because he is not properly organised at home.

SHRI G.G. SWELL: I thought, if the man could read all those books, he is not a man, he is a superman.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Thank you.

SHRI G.G. SWELL: Therefore, I do not understand his saying all these things. The same thing is about the broadcasting stations. The agreements with Sri Lanka will see to it that all foreign agencies in Sri Lanka will be withdrawn. I say it is a great thing. Yes, of course, it is an unusual agreement in a way because the quarrel was between the two factions in Sri Lanka. But it is also a fact that the people in Sri Lanka were not able to decide things for them-

selves. They were going down hill. Therefore it is to the everlasting credit of India that it has helped to save Sri Lanka and to bring about understanding and to set the process for healing. Let us look into the future. We have to look into the future with optimism. If I decide that I am defeated—I may be defeated from the beginning—I will be doing no good. I will never be able to any good. Why should we run down everything? We may have differences internally. It is only natural. But, I think the nation requires that we must rise above our party differences or our personal differences and acclaim something that is good.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today, apart from my senior colleague Mr. Unnikrishnan, I had the opportunity of listening to two of the most articulate spokesmen of the ruling party. They sounded like ardent advocate of the Accord. But I must say in fairness to them that even they felt that glass of Accord is only half full. If that is so, they will not be able to reconcile this proposition of half glass with the praise they heaped on the Accord.

As we all know, this tiny and beautiful island of Ceylon-Sri Lanka has been bleeding for the last thirtyone years, resulting in the death of about 16,000 people. Since 1983, this civil strife has been on the increase resulting in the death of more than 6,000 people. Any effort made to bring such hostilities to a halt is always welcome. One is not deploring the effort that has been made. One is only trying to analyse the results of the efforts. My friend Mr. Unnikrishnan drew the attention of the House to the various loopholes in the Accord from the viewpoint of Tamil brethren who fought for three decades and from the viewpoint of our nation as a whole.

It is also significant to note that this Accord has met with enormous and violent resistance from the Sinhalese themselves.

I do not know how can one wish away or conjure away the violent opposition of an extremist organization known as JVP, and

[Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

the Sri Lanka Freedom Party led by Shri-mati Bandaranaike herself I do not know how we can ignore or disregard the open dissent by none other than the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR (Siwan): He has changed his attitude; he has fallen in line.

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY: But he boycotted the visit of our Prime Minister (*Interruptions*) In fact, I am in line: I am only giving expression to my misgivings.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE Their boycott is different from our boycott

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY: We cannot also turn a blind eye to the vehement opposition of the Buddhist monks who are just now on the warpath.

The whole nation condemned the dastardly attack on our Prime Minister. Condemnable as it was, it has its own message I want Parliament and our friends in the ruling party to note this. We have been, of course in the last two years, very good at concluding Accords. We have set up a new record of Accords.

AN. HON. MEMBER. This is an agreement.

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY. But we also know how each Accord has turned out to be an apple of discord. (*Interruptions*)

They were referring to the praise heaped on our Prime Minister and President Jayewardene from such unlikely quarters as the U.S. Congress. Just now, if I heard him aright, Prof. Swell was waxing eloquent about the terrible losses inflicted on the strategic interests of the United States by this Accord. If that were so, why did the U.S. Congress run into such raptures, as to recommend the Nobel Prize for Peace to our Prime Minister? How is it?

(*Interruptions*)

I would like someone to throw light. I am relatively a new Member. (*Interruptions*) I would certainly welcome somebody's effort to illumine the dark patches in my mind. (*Interruptions*) When these people talk of Nobel Peace Prize...(*Interruptions*)

PROF K.K. TEWARY (Buxar): It is an impenetrable darkness.

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY. I know that the mind of Mr Tewary is opaque I cannot penetrate it.

When our friends have so ecstatically referred to the suggestion of Nobel Peace Prize, I have been reminded of a very unpleasant award of Nobel Peace Prize In the Middle East, Henry Kissinger arranged for a similar peace prize for the President of Egypt, the late lamented Mr Sadat and the former Prime Minister of Israel, Mr Begin—I do not know who. Therefore, I might tell them, in the words of Shakespeare "Comparisons are odious."

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR Have you asked Tewary Ji?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE They will ask Who was Shakespeare?

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE Even Shakespeare had consulted him

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY I consulted Bradley who is more referred to than Shakespeare.

Let me come to the agreement

Mr Unnikrishnan made the Point that the Amperai District was not included under December 19 proposal I would like the government to enlighten us as to how the inclusion of this District, which is dominated by Sinhalese majority would help our Tamil friends? Our Prime Minister has a lot of fascination for time-bound targets. Similar targets were fixed in connection with Punjab problem. Now time fixed for

referendum in Sri Lanka is 31st December, 1988, but the President Jayawardene can Postpone it unilaterally on his own discretion; this date of referendum is almost indefinite. At the moment this Accord has certainly brought peace to the island; to that extent, I welcome the Accord. But that should not blind us to the many unpredictable difficulties the Accord bristles with.

Our Indian forces are there now in Sri Lanka. They have conducted themselves with great restraint, effectiveness and distinction. But then we must see how they are perceived and how their role is perceived by the Sinhalese. It is a very important aspect. Shrimati Bandarenaike, who has been a great friend of our country, referred to Indian army as an occupation army. I do not know whether our friends saw the news item in the teiegraph. (*Interruptions*) All of us cannot manage to be in the ruling party all the time

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE How can both sides be in the ruling party? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY I am referring to the perception of the People belonging to a particular section in Sri Lanka (*Interruptions*) I am told that on the 7th of August our army was stoned in Trincomalee. May I know from the Minister of External Affairs whether it is a fact that our Indian peace keeping force was stoned by Sinhalese mob on 7th August? If it is true, it is true, it is a very disturbing indication

I heard Shri Dinesh Singhji and Prof Swell dwell at length on the implicit achievements of this Accord in the area of foreign policy. Well, they have no doubt referred to certain understanding We reached with President Jayawardene in regard to strategic Sri Lanka Port of Trincomale, in regard to use or non-use of foreign military personnel in Sri Lanka and in regard to non-use of Sri Lanka broadcasting services by outside powers for military purposes. But as has been pointed out, this understanding was reached more in the

form of a letter, nay only in the form of letters.

A question was put both to our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and President Jayawardene at Colombo as to whether these letters had the same status as the Accord itself. Both of them maintained studied but significant silence. So, I would like the External Affairs Minister to enlighten us as to the status and the effectiveness of these letters.

Mr. K.K. Tewary has just now propounded a new doctrine.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: I have not spoken at all

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Tewary has blair for novelty.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER Do not bring his name. Then afterwards you will have to reply and a controversy may be there. Do not unnecessarily do so.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN. He is appreciating today.

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY: I am not naming him (*Interruptions*) He said that these letters exchanged between President Jayawardene and our Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi automatically supersede all other accords concluded between the Government of Sri Lanka and other Governments in the world!

AN HON MEMBER How?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY. Well, I am not among those who under-estimate the expertise or the super-specialisation achieved by Shri K.K. Tewary in the area of foreign policy.

AN HON MEMBER He is an international lawyer

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY I have not been able to understand this point at all

[Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

As for our Tamil friends, I am really thankful to them because of the magnificent manner in which they responded to the Accord in spite of deep reservations.

Mr. Prabhakaran, who helped us a great deal in the last two weeks had this to say at a public meeting at Jaffna:

" We have no way other than cooperation with this Indian endeavour. Let us offer them this opportunity. However, I do not think that as a result of this Agreement there will be a permanent solution to the problem of the Tamils. Time is not very far off when the monstrous Sinhalese racism will devour this agreement. I have unrelenting faith in the proposition that only a separate State of Tamil Eelam can offer a permanent solution of the problem of Tamil Eelam. Let me make it clear to you here beyond the shadow of a doubt, that I will continue to fight for the objective of attaining Tamil Eelam; the form of struggle may change, but the objective or the goal of our struggle is not going to change. If our cause is to triumph it is vitally necessary that the whole-hearted totally unified support of you, our people, should always be with us.

Circumstances may arise for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam to take part in the interim administration or to contest elections, keeping in view the interests of the people of Tamil Eelam. But I shall firmly declare here that under no circumstances" please note here-

"at no point of time will I contest elections or accept the office of Chief Minister."

This shows with what serious reservations our Tamil friends have accepted this Accord. I am sure that we will face prob-

lems in course of time. Now our Indian forces are there. I do not know how long they will have to be there. I do not see how our Indian Peace keeping force can quit Sri Lanka atleast before eighteen months if the referendum is held on time. If the referendum is not held, our forces will never be able to quit the place. So, it is not as though we are proposed to the Accord. But some of the misgivings that have been provoked by the accord need to be allayed and I therefore look forward to the reply of the Minister.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT (Arrah): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I think the House will agree atleast on this day that this India Sri Lanka accord brings to an end a tragic chapter in Sri Lanka's recent history and marks the beginning of a new chapter in India Sri Lanka relations. The House has been seized of this matter since July '83 and I remember on all occasions, the House has displayed a unique sense of urgency, solidarity, and unanimity on this question.

The Government right from the beginning emphasised two or three basic principles in this question that this is a political problem and has to be solved politically. Whenever the Sri Lanka Government took recourse to the military solution, resulting in violence, conflict and loss of life, the House expressed great concern and anger every time and chided the Government for not being effective in dealing with the situation. Many Members on the other side and on this side also were unanimous on this aspect that the situation as it is unfolding in Sri Lanka is becoming a security problem to India. In the north, in the west and others. we are faced with deteriorating security environment. A Member said that even from the sea in the south, the security environment is deteriorating because we have all kinds of people coming over. We have the Mossad, we have SAS, we have Pakistanis, we have all kinds of intelligence people, military people and all these were trying to meddle into Sri Lanka's internal affairs taking advantage of a very difficult internal conflict which is taking place. The

House expressed a desire that we must secure our security. This agreement is one of the boldest agreement and the two leaders—Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and President Jayawardene have shown exemplary courage in implementing. Only the other day, the House and the whole country heaved a sigh of relief at the providential escape of the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. We know the fact that how much terrific pressure and danger President Jayawardene is facing after signing this agreement. Does it not show the courage of conviction?

So far as we are concerned, it is an hour of triumph for basic principles. Satyameva Jayathe. President Jayawardene says that this is the triumph of non violence and truth of mahatma Gandhi's teachings. Should we not take it as a guide at this hour when our objective is being realised? Now what has happened is that we wanted the ethnic Tamil problem to be solved; their legitimate aspirations to be realised. Today justice has been done as a result of this agreement to the ethnic Sri Lankan Tamils. There is a proposal for devolution. You know the enormous time that was spent on various proposals and the last one was December 19 proposal which our Minister carried to Sri Lanka. There was the question of linkage. Now the northern province and the eastern province will be one administrative unit. They will have the Chief Minister, the Governor. More than that, Tamil has been recognised as one of the national languages. And all the aspirations which you can catalogue, all the demands of the Tamil have been realised. That has created a major problem for Mr. Jayawardene. There were differences in his own party, in his own Government. The leading opposition party. The Sri Lankan Freedom Party led by Shrimati Bhandaranaike, the JVP and other terrorist groups are up in arms. These difficulties are there before Mr. Jayawardene. I think, the first thing we should do is that this House must express its great support to President Jayawardene in his courageous step in bringing about this accord. We have already given our support to our Prime Minister. The whole

House has given it. The two leaders have achieved a momentous agreement.

Its impact is far and wide. I was rather disappointed at the reaction of my very experienced colleague, Shri Unnikrishnan. But for his benefit I would like to say that he may be aware of the reaction in our own press, but I would like to hurriedly go through the reaction in the world press. Except one country in our neighbourhood, the entire world press has praised him, firstly for his bringing peace to Sri Lanka, secondly for the basic principles underlying in it, the principles on non-alignment, the principles of reasonableness in arriving at an agreement. Also some countries' presses have admired the very principled relationship by a big country like India for the restraint it has shown the concern it has shown for the unity of Sri Lanka.

India has been made under the agreement the guarantor for the implementation of the agreement. So we are involved. The Parliament, The Government and the people of this country are involved in guaranteeing the implementation of this agreement.

Coming to the reaction of various presses in the world, the "New Nation" of Bangladesh has termed the agreement as a measure of statesmanship of the two leaders. The "Sangbad" described it as a strong attack against imperialist conspiracy to create instability in the region. "Dainik Desh" says that every right thinking person would welcome the solution of the strife. "Dainik Patrika" says that the agreement had been welcomed worldwide and that it had enhanced the image of both President Jayawardene and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

It is no wonder that the demand has come from the Members of the US Congress and the British Members of Parliament for a joint conferment of the Nobel Peace Prize on both the leaders. Nepal says that the Agreement was designed to end violence and the Nepalese Government sincerely hopes that the objectives of

[Shri B.R. Bhagat]

the Agreement will be achieved. Bhutan says, "The end of four-year ethnic conflict would be success."

Then come to the Arab world. Saudi Arabia has described the Sinhalese outcry against the accord as "illogical", that is, they have criticised the outcry against this in Sri Lanka itself among the Sinhalese section. *The Egyptian Gazette* has said that it will set an example for settling ethnic disputes elsewhere. The Accord will set an example. *Al Ahrām*, the well-known paper says, that the Agreement has taken a practical step towards ending the blood bath in Sri Lanka and establishing peace there. Similarly, in Kuwait, the *Kuwait Times* has said that in human endeavour what should be seen on the positive side is the faith.

Then come to the Western Europe. In U.K., the *Financial Times* has welcomed it. The *Guardian* says, "Those of goodwill everywhere will show and hope that the agreement—between Mr. Gandhi and President Jayawardene—can be made to stick." The *Scotsman* says, "The accord does offer a real chance of peace in Sri Lanka." Similarly, the *Glasgow Herald* says, "The main factor suggesting that the Indian-Sri Lankan Agreement respecting the Tamils is roughly right."

In Soviet Union, the *Pravda* says, "The Agreement will finally bring peace to Sri Lanka and specially to its Tamil populated regions."

In America, as you know, President Reagan has welcomed it. The *Washington Post* in its editorial has said that the Accord will bring Sri Lanka the respite it deserved. Similarly, in Latin America, in Peru, the *La Republica* in its editorial says, "This would be the first time in which a conflict of a religious nature is solved so easily." In Santiago, the paper says that it will bring to an end the violent conflict between Tamils and Sinhalese.

So, Sir, I took the liberty of quoting all

this to show to the hon. Members who have expressed their doubts or criticisms about this Agreement, that the whole world has welcomed it. It has been said that it is the triumph of the basic principles of Indian revolution. It is not only that. It is also the Indian civilisation. If you go back, our relations between Sri Lanka and India are not only a relationship between two neighbours - a good neighbourly relation - but it is a relation of heart and mind. After all, the people who are there, some of them had gone some 2,500 years ago, led by king Vijaya from Bihar. Now they are these Sinhalese, the Buddhists, and a few hundred years ago the Tamils went. But they are all stock of the same Indian people....
(Interruptions).

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Sir, this is the whole trouble of gross misunderstanding of Sri Lankan history. The Tamils are the original inhabitants and the people under king Vijaya came much later, and he is confusing them with the Tamils who went 150 years ago after the plantations were opened up. These are two separate categories of Tamils. That is the crux of the problem.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: He has missed the point I think. What he is saying is correct...
(Interruptions). Will you hear me? The point I am making is that the people of Sri Lanka are the same stock of the people of India. They have different languages. They are multilinguals. They have a different language, different religion, and the Accord registers the triumph of the basic Indian approach. This is a point I am making.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Did you mean to say that the Indians extended their forum to Sri Lanka?

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: I mean to say what I have said. So, in this agreement we have a structure, a frame work for a durable solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic problem. The agreement meets the basic aspirations which emanated from the Tamil struggle and which reverberated in the various meetings and the debates here in this House namely-

1. the desire to be recognised as a distinct ethnic entity;
2. political autonomy for managing their political future;
3. an appropriate devolution of governmental power to meet this objective, the recognition of the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka as areas of historical habitation of the Tamils.

These two provinces constitute 1/3rd area of Sri Lanka.

4. the acknowledgement and designation of Tamil as an official language of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

These were the demands that were coming up in the House. Now they have been realised, instead of accepting, acclaiming it, welcoming it. Now the doubting Thomases are raising all kinds of doubts whereas the doubts do not exist.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): They are called by different names - S/Shri Jaipal and Unnikrishnan, etc.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I am sorry to say, he says referendum is not in our interest to take recourse to. I think he is a very keen student of political science. How does he get this idea that referendum is not very desirable? It is a democratic norm.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Would you accept it as a device for all disputed areas?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I will not in the case of all disputed areas. That is why I am saying.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Let us not talk about it loudly.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Do not mislead the House. I am sorry. Do not try to create a deception. In Kashmir it is not. In Kashmir

you know about the right of self determination—it is an imperialist ploy to use referendum to break away Kashmir from India. Our position is - Kashmir has been an integral part of India. The people of Kashmir have expressed not once but several times their right of self determination through free and fair election. So, that is the question..

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: They are not integral part of Sri Lanka.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We have taken resort to referendum. What happened in Goa? Now Goa is a State. But earlier when it was decided whether it should be a Union Territory or a part of Maharashtra, how was it decided? It was decided through a referendum.

PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE: That was an opinion poll.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: You call it opinion poll.

Similarly President Jayewardene has said it is not only this, he goes further. He is confident enough to say that even other provinces - the Central Province, the South Province or other provinces, if they want to joint, they can join. If they want to later on separate, they can separate. So, there is nothing basically wrong about it. The question of bringing in reference to Kashmir is very very wrong, I may say so. If you permit me to use this the analogy is wrong and it should not have been brought to this.

Finally, it has been said why the Agreement or the Accord regarding the security aspects has been put through a letter. Shri Unnikrishnan describes it as a private letter. I do not know what a private letter is between the two heads of the Governments. Shri Jaipal Reddy challenges it. I think Minister would answer it properly. But I can say you should not go by letter but by the spirit, substance.

(Interruptions)

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Do not be in a hurry. What I say about regularly accorded agreements, agreements have been broken. Have they not been broken in the past?

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: There is no difference..... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: If the two leaders, if the two countries, if the two Parliaments, if the two States, if it is an act of faith - whether they can express it through a formal agreement or through an exchange of letters as it has been done - on the question of implementing it, there is no difference. The agreements had been broken in the past and the letters of exchange have been broken in the past, but they have also been implemented and the point is that in this....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Don't weaken the Government of India's position.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I was saying about one point. I wanted to make the point regarding the security aspect of it. It has been said that this Agreement registers as a triumph on the basic principles of non-alignment. Recently, there was a conflict about which you have expressed concern and because of the conflict, various forces were operating in Sri Lanka and they were trying to weak it away from non-alignment. This Accord registers the triumph of non-alignment and the non-alignment cause has been strengthened and the forces of non-alignment have been very much strengthened as a result of this Accord. It is a vital interest to the country and India's vital security interest has been safeguarded.

Some doubts have been expressed as to what will happen afterwards. There are some agreements you have quoted, some agreements Shri Jaipal Reddy quoted. But I think that if you see the first para of the letter which says.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You can lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: You have said: what happen to the agreement and the reference to the exchange of letters? I would like to quote here the para -

"Your Excellency and myself will reach an early understanding about the relevance and employment of foreign military and intelligence personnel with a view to ensuring that such presence will not prejudice India-Sri Lanka interests."

So, it has been amply taken care of and India's security is very well taken care of and I think like on all other occasions we must at least express our solidarity towards this Accord. Thank you.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as far as this Accord is concerned, we wholeheartedly welcome and appreciate for having resolved the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka which was prevailing for more than 20 years. Sir, by the swift initiative and action taken by our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, M.G.R., this Accord has been reached. Sir, after the Indo-Soviet Treaty, I find that this accord is the best one of this year and the best of the century and it is an historical Accord. Sir, so many Prime Minister tried to solve the problem, but they failed. But here is the young Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi who won the hearts of the people of Sri Lanka, found a solution and brought a settlement to the ethnic problem.

Sir, first of all, I went to remind the hon. Members in this House about one important point. Why this ethnic problem was prevailing from 1956 onwards in Jaffna Peninsula, in the small island?

Sir, actually after getting independence in Sri Lanka, i.e. in 1948, right in the first year of independence, the then Ceylon Government enacted the Citizenship Act of 1948 which made one million plantation Tamils stateless. No. 2, the next year, in

1949, the Ceylon Parliamentary Election (Amendment) Act made these plantation Tamils voteless as well. No. 3, the Ceylon Parliament enacted the Official Language Act or the Sinhala Act in 1956 making Sinhala the only official language of the island.

The Tamil violence rocked the island not only in 1977 or 1981 but also in 1956, 1958, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1981, 1983 and up to this date. No. 4, Mrs. Bandaranaike passed this Standardisation Act in 1970, a system of educational reformation or segregation which demanded the Tamil students to score more marks than that of their counterparts for admission into universities and colleges.

The Tamil movement of the 1970s has become a historical product of this unjust measure. And the hero of this movement, of this L.T.T.E. is Mr. Prabhakaran who rose to the status of hero now. Actually, he obliged and obeyed the terms of the agreement and he has laid down the arms. Mr. Unnikrishnan was stating that Mr. Prabhakaran was under pressure and he was treated just like a political prisoner; he was kept in a private room and that is why, he has gone to the extent of laying down arms. Sir, I know, Mr. Prabhakaran personally well. More than Mr. Unnikrishnan, I know him well. I met Mr. Prabhakaran here in Delhi. Mr. Prabhakaran did not make anything of the statement that he was kept as a prisoner in any of the rooms either in Delhi or in Tamil Nadu. When such is the case, how our hon. Member Mr. Unnikrishnan has gone to the extent of saying that he was kept in a private room, he was not given a telephonic connection and he was altogether treated as a prisoner?

Actually, Mr. Unnikrishnan wants to say that this Accord is not an Accord but a "discord". Do you mean to say like this? When you say this, I want to know from Prof. Madhu Dandavate because he was also a Minister here for Railways. When Mr. Morarji Desai was the Prime Minister here, the very same problem was prevailing in Jaffna Peninsula. Did he try to solve the

problem? No. Mr. Morarji Desai did not try to solve the problem because he was not at all interested in solving the problems. Altogether they were saying, at that time, actually it was a Tamils' problem and it was not an Indian problem. They were saying like that. But here is the Prime Minister who came forward for the Tamils in order to solve the problem and brought the Accord. It has to be welcomed by one and all.

Even with regard to the Nobel prize, our hon. friends Mr. Jaipal Reddy and Mr. Unnikrishnan were criticising, why should we give Nobel prize to our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and President Jayewardene? Sir, all along we were saying...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I want Mr. MGR to be included in the list.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Yes, why don't we include Mr. MGR also for the award? (*Interruptions*)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order please.

SHRI P KOLANDAIVELU: All along in this House, from 1985 upto this stage, for more than 9 times, we had discussion with regard to Sri Lanka problem. We were accusing Jayewardene. Why? When genocide was going on in the small island, when Tamils have been massacred and so many ladies have been raped and killed, we were accusing Jayewardene. But even in the hard-heart of Mr. Jayewardene, a soft corner is there and we have to welcome it and we have to appreciate Mr. Jayewardene for having brought an amicable and historical Accord.

Let me continue tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You speak.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I think he can finish it today

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Let me continue tomorrow

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Let him finish today

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: No, no. I cannot. I want two or three minutes more.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He wants to speak in the presence of the Prime Minister!

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Carry on.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: At considerable personal risk, this Accord has been brought about. Here one cannot forget the attempt made by one sailor when actually the guard of honour was taking place and, at personal risk actually, this Accord has been brought about. Only a young Prime Minister can do it but not the old Prime Minister like Mr. Morarji Desai.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr Morarji fell down from that aircraft. Even then he just walked away.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: I know.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS (Tejpur): Mr. Morarji Desai did not fall down. It was the aircraft that crashed.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Had the Accord not been signed, the magnitude of the disaster will be still worse and it opened actually a new opportunity for increased self-reliance, cooperation and security in our neighbourhood. This is very important. By this Accord, the Northern and Eastern portions of Sri Lanka where actually the Tamils are living have been merged now. Is it not an important event that has taken place by means of this agreement? It is very important. Even Tamils have been recognised by this agreement itself. So far, even the Ceylon Government have not recognised the Tamils but they have recognised Tamils under this agreement. That has to be appreciated.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: Tamil Language also.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: I will speak tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finish. We are having 193 also. There are other speakers tomorrow. Let him finish. You take even 15-20 minutes and finish today.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Tomorrow there is an advantage.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: I will continue tomorrow.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): You continue tomorrow.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He has a strong desire to continue tomorrow.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Yes. I will continue tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You continue now.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: There are no important subjects for discussion tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please order.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Actually the independent and forthright role of India is the only factor which determined in compelling Sri Lanka for a settlement.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Let us adjourn now. You can adjourn the House.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Now we are tired.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He strongly desires to continue tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are many other things for discussion tomorrow.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Adjourn today.

SHRI VASANT SATHI: Kindly adjourn. Adjourn it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY
AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT):
Hon. Members prefer to continue tomor-
row. Yes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House is
adjourned to reassemble tomorrow at
11.00 AM.

18.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday,
August 12, 1987/Sravana 21, 1909
(Saka).*
