

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Thirteenth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)**



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday April 21, 1989/ Vaisakha 1, 1911
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at

Eleven of the Clock

[MR.SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Procurement of Cashew In Kerala

*678. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether procurement of cashew in Kerala has been affected and cashew trade dislocated due to re-introduction of monopoly procurement scheme in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons advanced therefor by the Government of Kerala; and

(c) the target for export of cashew set for 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). As it is the Govt. of Kerala which is procuring all cashew under their new procurement scheme, the Govt. of India has not received any report regarding their procurement being affected. There was some dislocation in exports due to differ-

ences between the trade and the Govt. of Kerala on policy issues.

(c) The export target for 1988-89 was Rs. 285 crores.

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: The replies given by the hon. Minister on previous occasions on the floor of this house go to show that there is an obvious decline in the export of cashew during the last few years. The monopoly procurement policy pursued by the State Government is chiefly responsible for this state of affairs. My constituency, Cannanore, produces the largest quantity and the best quality of cashew in the country and thousands of farmers depend on the crop. The farmers are deeply agitated over the policy pursued by the State Government and even MLAs are on hunger strike. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether his Ministry has been consulted by the State Government before finalising the monopoly procurement policy, whether the State Government has sought any financial help from the Central Government and also whether the Central Government has extended any financial assistance to the State for the procurement of cashew this year.

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: In regard to the last part of the two questions, as to whether at the time of introducing the monopoly procurement scheme the Government of India especially the Ministry of Commerce was consulted, the answer is 'No'. We have not been consulted. In regard to the assistance sought by the Kerala Government in their financial matters for procuring cashew, yes, they sought our assistance and the difficulties experienced by the Kerala Government and the Government agencies in obtaining institutional finance for cashew operations were ascertained and at our instance the

Reserve Bank of India had issued an additional credit authorisation of Rs. 50.75 crores to the State Bank of Travancore for providing credit to the State Government agencies in August 1988 for procurement, processing and export, as requested by the Kerala Government in this regard. As regards the last part of his question, whether the cashew export has fallen, primarily we had no fixed export cashew target till before the procurement drive was on. It was a natural process which used to operate, sometimes more than Rs. 320 crores, sometimes more than that. But in view of the fact that the Kerala Government introduced the procurement scheme, we anticipated some problems in the beginning and that is why, we reduced the target upto Rs. 285 crores, of which about Rs. 281 crores had been achieved.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: We are all extremely happy to note that the Central Government has decided to set up a Cashew Board on the line of Rubber Board, Coffee Board, Pepper Board, Cardamom Board, Spices Board, like that. (*Interruptions*) On behalf of the cashew growers, I congratulate the hon. Minister for this decision. However, the Minister may be aware that the Kerala Government is opposing the move to set up a Cashew Board in the near future. As things stand, the cashew growers in Kerala are left to the mercy of the State Government. I would therefore like to know from the hon. Minister whether in the larger interest of the cashew growers, the Government will come forward to fix a floor price for the cashew until the Cashew Board is set up.

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: I would like to make it clear that the Cashew Board has not been set up, but the proposal is in our Ministry. Several interested quarters from Kerala including some leading MPs and our hon. Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Shri Krishna Kumar, submitted proposals. Those are being now examined in our Ministry. No final decision has yet been taken.

In so far as the other issues are con-

cerned, about the floor price fixation for the growers, we are happy indeed that the Kerala Congress-I leaders and the legislators have been defending the cause of the farmers and the growers here for the last so many years and recently also. But in the light of the recent situation about the floor price fixation, it is up to the State Government, not in our hands. The State Government has to fix the floor price. The report which we have received yesterday shows that there are various categories of cashew, raw cashewnuts and others, where the State Government fixes the minimum floor price, which varies between Rs. 11.50 and Rs. 13.00 per Kg.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, before criticising the Government of Kerala for its monopoly procurement of cashewnuts, one should understand the background of it....(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You can ask, does he know the background... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not teach.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: In 1976, when the Government declared minimum wages in the cashew industry and the factory owners of Kerala in order to evade this minimum wages.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not reply. Put your question.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, let me formulate my question.(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to allow you to defend anybody. You are not a Minister.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You can say, whether it is a fact. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURESH KURUP: I would like to know, whether it is a fact that the factory owners of Kerala in order to evade the mini-

imum wages declared by the Government of Kerala shifted their factories to the Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border. So, to face this reality, the Government of Kerala in late 1970s itself implemented this monopoly procurement.....(Interruptions)

Now, the Government has taken into consideration two factors, whether the workers in the cashew industry should get minimum wages, and at the same time the farmers should get....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a question. You are explaining and defending something.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: I would like to know from the Minister whether the Central Government has to suggest any other alternate policy other than the monopoly procurement so that the farmers get more remuneration than the Government of Kerala presently give.

The Minister of Industry in Kerala has called thrice on Shri Dinesh Singh. She says that he is ready to help the Government of Kerala apart from his politics.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): The premise of the hon. Member in asking this question itself is wrong. We have not criticised the Kerala Government for monopoly procurement.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Your Members are criticising on the floor of the House.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I am taking of the Government. We have not criticised. We have merely stated a fact that by their policy they have created a certain amount of disruption which has brought down the export. And we have suggested that in such a measure it would be much easier if there could be better cooperation between the Government of Kerala and the Central Government and if they would wish to consult us before they take such action which disrupts an arrangement that has been in existence for some time. So far as shifting of

cashew from one State to another is concerned, we are all in one country. I hope, the hon. Member will realise that if there is an advantage that they get in Kerala, they will remain in Kerala. If they get an advantage in a bordering State and they have disruption created by any policy of the Kerala Government, there is bound to be a movement. To try to check this movement will create greater complication. The thing to do is to have in Kerala the facilities which enable Kerala to build up this industry.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: The question of cashew is not only the question of export earnings for the country but it is also a question of employment to lakhs of workers in the cashew field. The fact remains that more than one lakh of workers in Kerala are suffering because of the availability of nuts in lesser quantity whether it is due to the wrong procurement policy or whether due to the fact that cashew has shifted to other States. The main trouble is that there is no uniform wage policy in these States. Now the Governments in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are from the opposition parties. I would like to know whether the Government of India will take up the matter of uniform wage policy in the cashew sector and in other sectors with the State Government of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka so that the disruption of industry due to lack of uniform wage policy does not affect the workers.

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: The matter of cashew processing is a part of industrial activity. This comes within the jurisdiction of the State Industry Ministry and certainly not within the jurisdiction of the Commerce Ministry.

PROF. P.J.. KURIEN: But you can write to the State Government.

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: In regard to writing to the State Government, I would like to inform the House that our Commerce Minister has written letters to the Kerala Government and the Minister of Industry.

Unfortunately, these have not yet been replied.

Irrigation Projects of Orissa Pending Clearance

*679. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY†
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irrigation project reports have been submitted by Government of Orissa for clearance and sanction of funds to Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any project report for strengthening and repair of saline embankment in Krishna Prasad Block of district Puri of Orissa has also been submitted to Union Government for clearance; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to clear the projects?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). Three major and 14 medium irrigation projects submitted by Orissa Government are under appraisal. Out of these, one major-Subarnarekha and 4 medium projects - Baghalati, Rukura, Deo and Sapua Badjore, have been included in the Seventh Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister the names of the major and medium irrigation projects now under negotiation for external finance. Is the drainage system of Delta

irrigation project one of them? If so, what are the steps taken to expedite the external financial assistance for the same.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Member has put three questions together. The first question is whether we are receiving financial assistance from abroad for this project. The Upper-Indravati and the Upper-Kolab projects in Orissa are receiving financial assistance from Japan. The Subarnarekha project has been submitted to the World bank. Besides this, the question regarding external financial assistance for minor irrigation projects, is under consideration of the Government.

[English]

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Sir, I put one question whether the drainage system in Delta Irrigation Project is under negotiation for external finance?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the moment this information is not available with me. If the hon. Member so desires, the information will be supplied to him.

[English]

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Sir, my second supplementary is about the latter part of my question relating to the saline embankment in Krishna Prasad Block of district Puri, which is also a flood protection measure. I would like to know whether the Union Government will take up with the State Government to place the project before them, in view of the fact that this is a flood protection measure.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Member is aware that

the planning, financing, implementation, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects is done by State Government and technical examinations of the reports of large and medium irrigation projects is done by the Central Water Commission and other concerned Ministries. Then these projects are placed before the Technical Advisory Committee. But this situation arises only when the State Government submits some such projects. As regards the project which the hon. Member mentioned in his question, I would like to say that in part (c) of my reply I have clearly stated that no such project was submitted to the Central Government and in part (d) that the question does not arise because when there is no proposal sent how can the Government take it up for consideration?

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that under the Orissa Irrigation Project, Phase-III, many medium and major irrigation projects are waiting for World Bank assistance for their modernisation. We have submitted the Subarnarekha and Rengali Irrigation Projects to the Union Government for Russian assistance. May I know what is the progress in this regard? Besides, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the State Government of Orissa has submitted proposals for river basin development of Subarnarekha and some other rivers of the State? If so, what is the progress in these cases?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: As I said before, the Subarnarekha Project has been submitted to the World Bank for financial assistance. As to the second question, the work to be done on the Subarnarekha Project in Orissa will be a continuation of the work being done on the Subarnarekha Project in Bihar. As I have already clarified, this project has not been finalised as yet although we have submitted a proposal in this regard. There are three works which are to

be undertaken under the Subarnarekha Project. These works are; construction of the canal, remodelling of the Haldia dam project and construction of two auxiliary reservoirs. This is what I have stated in my reply. There is no question of an assurance from the World Bank as the proposal has been sent to them. Neither do we have any suggestion now information regarding assistance to be received from the Russia.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, the Subarnarekha project also involves West Bengal about which the hon. Minister has just now mentioned. The project details have been submitted from West Bengal side as also, I believe, from Orissa side. Is it a fact that those details are still pending for clearance from the Department of Environment of the Government of India? That is the reason why it has not been taken up yet. If so, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will clear the project from the environmental side. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister the progress made in this matter.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: This question concerns the Department of Environment. But this matter will be raised in the meeting of the Co-ordination Committee. If the hon. Member want this information, it is not readily available with me.

[English]

Transfer of Bank Executives

*681. SHRI SHRIHARI RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the norms and guidelines for transferring bank executives; and

(b) whether the said norms and guidelines are being strictly followed and implemented in such transfer cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Norms and guidelines for transferring bank executives are laid down by each bank. However, banks have been advised by Government to ensure periodic rotation of officers. As per available information, Banks have been following their laid down policies

SHRI SRIHARI RAO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all banks come under the Reserve Bank directions only. So, how can the norms and guidelines differ from bank to bank? In some banks, the Executives are transferred within a radius of 50 miles and in some other banks the executives are transferred from one State to another State. How does it happen? I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will see that the guidelines are uniform for all the banks.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, all the guidelines which are in detail are not and in fact cannot be uniform for all the banks because the spread of the banks varies. There are smaller banks concentrated in such areas in North, for instance, like the Oriental Bank of Commerce or some such banks. There are other banks which are concentrated in the South like the I.O.B. Then, the Andhra Bank is there in the area of my friend. The State Bank is spread all over the country. So, the spread is different. The opportunities are different and the problems of the staff are different. However, within these diversities which cannot and should not be affected, there must be a degree of uniformity and I agree with the hon. Member that the degree of uniformity and broad guidelines uniformly followed must be there. I would like to say for the information of the hon. House and the Member that the Government has issued some broad guidelines and I would like to mention some of them. One will be the rotation of the officer and the clerical staff. In case of officers, the rotation should be every three years and for clerical staff, every five years. But I would also add this rider that the implementation is subject to administrative convenience and

when I say administrative convenience, we have also emphasised that under the administrative convenience cloak, fair and impartial implementation of the transfer policy should not be affected which means the transfer policy, whatever it is, must be firmly and impartially implemented on the merits of the individual request and independently of the pressure.

Now, we have guidelines on rural posting that we have given to the different banks which they must all implement. That means, two years rural experience for promotions from scale-1 to Scale-2 and three years rural experience for promotions from scale-2 to scale-3. Then, on the question of posting of husband and wife at the same station, if the spouse belongs to the same bank and even when the spouse belongs to a different bank but not when one of the spouses is in the bank and the other is in a public sector undertaking or somewhere else, that will not be possible—again it is subject to the administrative convenience, availability of vacancies—to the extent possible they must be posted together. These are some of the broad guidelines which will ensure uniformity in substance. So, an amount of diversity cannot and should not be avoided.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: The reason behind corruption in banks is that senior officers and clerks are not transferred for 10-15 years. This creates vested interests and it becomes a racket. Officers and clerks have not been transferred since the day the branch opened. If they are transferred, corruption will come to an end and rackets too will come to light. I can cite examples where guidelines have not been followed by them.

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, a general allegation of this nature does not deserve to be accepted. But surely it is my duty and the duty of the Government to look into specific cases and take action. I request

the hon. Member to bring such specific cases to our notice and we will take action.

SHRI HET RAM: Sir, the Indian Overseas bank has promoted some officers and is going to transfer them. Most of them are Scheduled Castes. But officers sitting in Madras, Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi from the date of their joining for 10 years or 15 years manage their transfers from one branch to another branch in the same metropolitan city. Secondly, those who join in the branches of the metropolitan cities retire at the same places. As I worked in the Indian Overseas Bank, I know that due to the long stay at the same place corruption is breeding because people manipulate their postings. This is a fact that they manage transfers from one branch to another in the same city and do not wish to go to rural or semi-urban areas. The policy of transfer is only for the Scheduled Castes whereas others are manipulating to stay at the places even after their promotion. Why the banks are not having a uniform policy to first transfer those who are staying for 10 years or more and then transfer the Scheduled Castes persons?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, the hon. Member mentioned the specific case of Indian Overseas bank and the specific case of the staff of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes origin in that bank. I would like to say, Sir, that I will sit with the hon. Member immediately after the Question Hour and look into this today itself.

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 682 - Shri Ram Bahadur Singh. (Ends)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, he is not here, but I pray that this question be taken up. It is a very important question. It is a matter of very high national interest.

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 683 - Shrimati Basavarajeswari.

Rise in Wholesale Price Index

*683. **SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI**
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a hike in the wholesale price index in the month of March;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent to which the wholesale price index has risen; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to check the rise in prices?

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

STATEMENT

The Wholesale Price Index has gone up by 1.2 per cent during the month of March 1989 on a point to point basis (25th February to 25th March, 1989). The rise in the index has been on account of increases in prices of specific items such as raw jute, tea, potatoes, gur and non-ferrous metals and alloys which have gone up due to shortfall in production or higher international prices.

The Government has adopted a package of measures to keep the prices under reasonable check. These include, supply of essential commodities through public distribution system, augmenting domestic supplies through imports as feasible, exercising strict fiscal and monetary discipline and action against hoarders and black marketeers.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Sir, I would like to know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the price index during these two years is rising very much especially during the months of March and April this year. Last year there was a severe drought. The seasons are very favourable this year. In spite of that the prices of various commodities, i.e., consumer goods like vegetables, fruits etc. etc. are

going up very high and it has caused a lot of inconvenience to the poor people and also the middlemen. What are the main reasons for such a price rise?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, it is not correct that there has been extraordinarily high price rise in the current year. I would like to say that as a matter of fact the wholesale price index has increased by nearly 6.3 per cent during the current year while in the previous year it increased in 1987-88 to the extent of 10.6 per cent. Now, specifically there has been actually not merely overall reduction in the increase of the rate of inflation. There has been an effective decrease in the prices of some items particularly in edible oils, oilseeds and so on. On yearly basis, I am taking this year over the previous year, the price of edible oil has decreased by 15.01 per cent, the groundnut oil price has decreased by 20.42 per cent, the mustard oil price has decreased by 20.03 per cent, the price of oilseeds has decreased by 23.03 per cent, the prices of oil cakes have decreased by 25.12 per cent, the price of raw cotton has decreased by 7.9 per cent and so on and so forth. So, there has been a decrease in the totality. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Order. Not like this. What can you make out of this hubbub?

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: My second Supplementary is this. The Government has adopted a package of measures to keep the prices under reasonable check. This is something temporary. I would like to know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the gap between the wholesale price and the price to the consumer is abnormal. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You put the question one by one.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: The difference between the wholesale price and the retail price is very much abnormal. The measures which you have contemplated

here are only temporary. What permanent measures would the Government take so as to see that the difference in prices between the growers and the consumers is very much reduced?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, as I have said, there has not been an abnormal increase of prices in the current year. In fact, the rate of increase has been less than the previous year. That does not mean that the Government is not deeply concerned about whatever increase is there in price. We are trying to control and in fact, have reduced prices. For this purpose, we have taken severe measures—if the hon. Members would like to know—and they include supply of essential commodities through public distribution system, augmenting domestic supply through imports whenever necessary and essential, exercising strict fiscal and monetary discipline and action against hoarders and black marketeers.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMBHAI PATEL: Sir, the Government has no control over inflation. The hon. Minister just said that shops are being opened to sell foodgrains at low rates. But stock in these shops is sold off to black marketeers by the Government officers themselves and this stock is sold in rural areas at very high rates and the Government is unable to exercise control. May I know if the Government intends to do anything about controlling the price and maintaining the standard of the commodities so that quality goods are available to the people at reasonable rates?

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: As I have said, the Government is very keen on controlling the prices and the results are visible. Prices have been controlled though there has been scope for doing more and that is what we are doing. As far as the specific suggestions of the hon. Member are concerned, we welcome them. But they would be more effective if they are put on to the

Minister for Civil Supplies.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: The question relates to the increase in the wholesale prices index in the last 4 weeks—not for the whole year. The comparison of the price rise this year with the last year that it was 10% is not relevant here. What we want to know is, on a point - to-point basis. This year, in the last 4 weeks from 25th of February, 1989 to 25th of March, 1989, there was an increase of 1.2% which is higher in such a short period. What is the reason for this? Is it not a fact that this is due to the impact of the budgetary policies, due to the impact of the inflation which has resulted due to deficit financing proposed in this Budget.

I would also like to know what are the measures because the Government have said that they are exercising strict fiscal and monetary discipline. I would like to know what are the proposals with regard to monetary discipline which are under contemplation of the Government?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: It is not all correct that the prices have gone up as a result of budget measures. As a matter of fact, the hon. Member knows that most of the items that go to form the basket on which the whole-sale price or for that matter, the consumer price index is constituted, are not the items which were affected by the Budget. They are the items which were mentioned in the Budget whose prices were touched by the Budget. I would like to say on primary articles which constitute the first portion of the basket in both consumer price index as well as the wholesale price index, taking just the primary articles, actually in February-March 1988-89 over 1987-85, prices have gone down by 0.99%—this is what is shown—on food articles by 2.15%. (*Interruptions*)

It is from the Statistical organisation on which everybody depends and it has always been so. However, there has been increase in certain prices and that was mainly due to rise in international prices. Rice in index has been on account of increase in prices of

specific items such as raw jute, tea, potato, *gurnor*-ferrous metal and alloys. Which has gone up due to shortfall in production and higher international prices. I would like to mention that the prices have gone up internationally very substantially.

As far as copper is concerned, for instance, during January-March, 1988, the price per metric tonne was 2450.9 dollars. By February, 1989, the percentage increase has been of 26.35% and so on and so forth.

I do not want to take the time of the House but if you want, I will go into it further but this has been the rate of increase in international prices which has been a major contribution to it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: What are the fiscal measures that you have taken?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: We have taken a series of measures.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE. People expect justice from you. You will appreciate that the hon. Minister has given some statistics here. But, the price rise has gone sky high. I request the hon. Minister to visit some markets personally. Then you will see that the statement is totally abnormal. Perhaps you know and every Member of Parliament knows about the price rise, and they feel about the price rise. But, I feel very much embarrassed if I purchase something from the market. The price of even a simple item like potato which everybody uses was Rs. 2 per kg last year and this year its price is Rs. 5.50/kg. So how do you take such statistics of price rise as correct?

Will the hon. Minister survey the market price in different parts of the country and take some concrete action against black marketeers and hoarders to check the price rise immediately?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Ladies know price rise better than we do. We should take her as authority.

MR SPEAKER: For one, you are very happy. Shri Jaipal Reddy is very happy today!

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: As you guide very well, you can guide on this also.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: You consult Mrs. Feleiro.

MR. SPEAKER: I can only guide. You can take Mamataji along with you.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Prices of potatoes had been depressed last year. The potato growers had suffered. The potato price is not abnormal today. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Be calm.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: The price of potatoes is depressed. We should not have any grudge against the farmer now. *(Interruptions)*

As far as allegations regarding hoarders and blackmarketeers are concerned, we will take the most deterrent action so that they become exemplary.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): There is no denying the fact that the price rise in certain areas has been substantial and we are trying our level best to see that the money circulated is being restricted to the extent possible. Deficit financing is also being curbed to the extent it is possible. We have also been requesting all the State Governments to complete the projects which, in fact, are in the advanced stage of completion so that whatever investment has been made, we get immediate benefit of the projects on the completion of the same. Efforts will have to be continued. It is not a one-time exercise. This has to be continued in order to see that it is not merely the rate of increase but the price as such has to be brought down. There is no denying that fact.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, I am happy today

that all the three senior Minister of Agriculture, Finance and Commerce are present here. I wish will the three of them to hear what I am going to say. They have already sensed the sentiments of the Members in regard to price rise. On the other side, they have been hearing on many an occasion about unremunerative prices that are being paid to the farmers. Obviously, there must be something wrong only in the marketing system and I am happy that the hon. Minister has suggested some measures of exercising strict fiscal and monetary control and discipline, the Public Distribution System etc. But I would only request that they should not resort to imports of these foodgrains which can be produced in abundance in this country by the progressive farmers of this country because by virtue of importing, they are importing unemployment. They are curbing the incentives to the farmers to produce more.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, what is meant by progressive farmers?

MR. SPEAKER: He is referring to you.

SHRI K.S. RAO: I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether he will think seriously about banning import of these commodities and giving proper price to the farmers and check blackmarketing. Will he enforce some financial measures in this regard? If the above measures are taken, both the consumers and the farmers will be happy.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Sir, so far as the policy is concerned, it is the policy of the Government to give total protection to the agriculturists. Certainly, no body will be opposed to give protection to the agriculturists. But at the same time, if any of the traders or intermediaries try to exploit the situation, then certainly in the overall interest of the country and the consumers also, ultimately the entire thing will have to be taken into account as to whether the imports are necessary in order to see that the common man is not being exploited by these middlemen, also.

Consignment Tax

*686. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at a recent conference at Delhi of Chief Ministers of States a consensus was arrived at to introduce the consignment tax system in respect of different commodities; and

(b) if so, the follow-up action being taken by Government in the matter?

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

(b) The States, Union Territories and concerned Ministries/Departments of the Central Government have been addressed to indicate suggestions/views to formulate guidelines in the matter of grant of exemptions from the levy of consignment tax which the Central Government would do in consultation with the States. For this purpose a Committee of some Chief Ministers is being constituted. Action is also on hand to draft necessary legislation on consignment tax.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Sir, I would like to know as to what is the rate of the consignment tax and when do we expect the Bill.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI: Sir, so far as the Bill is concerned, after we received the recommendations from the Committees of the Chief Ministers, it would be given a final shape. Tentatively, we presume that there should be 4 per cent of the Central Sales Tax and not more than that.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): Sir, I have given a commitment that the Bill would be brought forward in the Monsoon session of this year.

Issue of Demand Drafts by Banks

*691. SHRI KATURI NARAYANA SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the prescribed time to issue/cancel the demand drafts in the nationalised banks;

(b) whether his Ministry have given specific instructions regarding time taken for issue/cancellation of demand drafts;

(c) whether these instructions are being followed in the banks; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

This public sector banks have evolved certain time norms for disposal of common transactions at the branch level including issue of Demand Drafts. Banks have been advised to ensure issue of Demand Drafts within 30 minutes. No specific time norm has been fixed for cancellation of Demand Drafts. The feed back received from the banks indicates that the banks are endeavouring to issue Demand Drafts within the prescribed time.

[English]

SHRI KATURI NARAYANA SWAMY: I am satisfied with the statement.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance has issued guidelines on March 27, 1989 through the Reserve Bank about implementing the Credit Liberalisation Policy. This has created some hindrances in the functioning of the banks. Therein it has been said:

[English]

"The Cash Reserve Ratio would be made uniform with effect from July 1, 1989 at 15% on the entire net demand and time liabilities of all scheduled commercial banks". And the last is: "the package of measures an-

nounced in the credit policy for the first half of 1989-90 are mainly designed to moderate liquidity growth and ensure need based availability of credit, rationalise further Cash Reserve Ratio and to introduce new instruments for greater flexibility and efficiency in banking operations."

[Translation]

Consequently, the traders are not able to encash their cheques and drafts on the same day in Kishangarhvas branch of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur which is located in my constituency. The payment is not done for 2 - 3 days. They do not have a currency chest there. The Government has fixed 15 per cent cash Reserve Ratio in all the commercial banks. This directly affects the farmers as agricultural payments are not made in time. It adversely affects their financial position. Will the Government review this policy and ensure immediate encashment of cheques? Will the hon. Minister look into this matter so that hinderances are removed.

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: The CRR nothing at all to do with the complaint of the hon. Member. I would like to say that as far as issue of draft is concerned, we have said that within 30 minutes drafts must be issued. We have said that cheques must be cashed immediately. If there are outstation cheques, usually, what used to be done was that the Manager of the bank used to say that he would find out if there were funds in the chest and then let him know. We have said that if the man is a customer and if he presents an out station cheque up to Rs. 2,500 then that must be paid across the counter. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: This was not there last year. This has been introduced this year. (Interruptions)

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: I am just completing. If an outstation cheque is of more than Rs. 2,500 amount, then that must

be paid within fourteen days. If the bank takes more than fourteen days, the bank must pay interest to the customer to be credited to his savings account. It is not only this that we have done. We have asked all the banks to display prominently these rules so that the customers know these rules.

These are the instructions issued and the instructions are to be displayed in every branch. If there is any particular complaint, that can be enquired into. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

Loans Under Self-Employment Scheme in Uttar Pradesh

*692. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of youths granted loans of rupees 25 thousand each so far in Uttar Pradesh under self-employment scheme:

(b) the percentage of youths out of them who have secured employment through it;

(c) whether there are complaints of heavy deduction by the Bank officials in granting such loans; and

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

[English]

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

STATEMENT

(a) Under the Scheme for providing Self Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) introduced during the year 1983-84, initially a maximum amount of loan of Rs. 25,000/- could be sanctioned to an individual. The maximum amount of loan admissible under the Scheme was revised

from the year 1986-87 and was fixed at Rs. 3,000/- for industrial ventures, Rs. 25,000/- for service ventures and Rs. 15,000/- for business ventures. According to information available, during the period 1983-84 to 1987-88, loans amounting to Rs. 241.02 crores had been sanctioned under the scheme to 1.35 lac beneficiaries in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the information in the manner sought for is not available. However, a study conducted by Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow in five selected districts of Uttar Pradesh showed that the units set up under SEEUY Scheme on an average generated full-time employment to 1.75 persons per unit.

(c) and (d). Complaints of any alleged corruption on the part of bank officials in granting loans are looked in and action as appropriate is taken in each case.

[Translation]

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my specific question was how many educated unemployed have been granted loans of Rs. 25 thousand so far and the number of youths who have been deprived of this facility? It is reported that the actual beneficiaries are not getting the benefits. The hon. Minister has given a detailed reply. This is a very serious issue. The unemployed youths either commit suicide or become thieves and dacoits when they are taunted by their parents. My simple question related to the number of youths who have been granted Rs. 25 thousand as loan so far. What steps does the Government intend to take in this regard?

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, according to the information that I have, at the moment, during the period 1983-84 to 1987-88, loans amounting to Rs. 241.02 crores have been sanctioned under this particular Scheme and this has been given to 1.35 lakh

beneficiaries in Uttar Pradesh. I would like to mention that we want this particular benefit of loan to be taken by the young people for their advantage.

We have instructed the Banks to increase their awareness campaign so that everybody knows that there is no need to bring in intermediaries to take advantage of this particular scheme.

[Translation]

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has not given a specific reply. My main question was related to the number of youths who have been granted loan of Rs. 25 thousand. He has stated that the Self Employment Scheme for the Educated Unemployed youth was introduced in 1983-84 and initially a maximum amount of loan of Rs. 25,000/- could be sanctioned to an individual. But the maximum loan admissible under this scheme was revised in the year 1986-97 and was fixed at Rs. 35,000/- for industrial ventures, Rs. 25,000/- for service ventures and Rs. 15,000/- for business ventures.

MR. SPEAKER: He thinks that all these loans are after all meant for educated unemployed youth.

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN: The second part of my question was regarding the heavy deductions made by bank officials while granting the loans. They swindle the Government as well as the public. In this connection, the Government should set up some Committee and look into the alleged corruption. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to the number of corrupt officers against whom the Government has taken action or proposes to take action in the future. It is not possible to bring the deprived people here to prove as to who all have actually been benefited. Will the hon. Minister clarify whether the Government proposes to set up any enquiry committee which would not only help the youths in getting loans but also in checking the prevailing corruption.

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, the Government proposes to set up an Advisory Committee at the State level for all the Banks and the Advisory Committee will mainly look into the implementation of the socially oriented schemes like anti-poverty scheme, self-employment scheme and similar schemes, under private sector. The Members of Parliament will be involved in this Committee and when formed.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Self Employment Schemes have been prepared by the Hon. Prime Minister for the upliftment of the poor people and to make them stand on their own feet. But the hon. Minister of Finance and the hon. Minister of State for Finance have turned it into schemes meant only for the sons of the business class. It is only to enable them to earn interest that the loan of Rs. 35,000 is sanctioned. The bank officials take bribes from business class and provide loans of Rs. 35,000 under the Self-Employment Schemes to their sons. None of these people open any factories or take any other initiative. The loans are not available to the poor people and the entire amount is sanctioned to those people to enable them to earn interest on this amount. Will the Government conduct an enquiry into it and find out as to how much amount has actually been disbursed under Self-employment Schemes so far? How many people have opened factories and how many of them have not utilised this money at all? These people are only exploiting others with this money. The hon. Minister should also enlighten us about the per centage of the people belonging to the scheduled castes, Scheduled tribes and other backward classes who have got this benefit so far?

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Anybody who has been working at the grass-root level knows about the scheme which has been introduced by the late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi and now pursued by the present Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The Prime Minister is very dynamically and absolutely taking the interests of the weaker sections at heart. This scheme has benefited a lot of the weaker sections and we are making efforts in this direction. We also seek the cooperation of the hon. MPs in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Kindly let us know about the per centage of the people belonging to the weaker sections who have got these loans.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: No specific case has been referred to..

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we need your protection. The poor people are not getting the loan and the hon. Minister is not paying any attention in that direction. The rich people are being benefited. There is no provision for the poor ...(Interruptions)...

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: I want to have certain clarifications from the Minister. I am not satisfied with his ejaculatory and volatile answer. Because two-three years back, Members of Parliament had a role to

play in the District Committees of DRDA financing scheme. But now under what circumstances in the Department of Banking that role has been withdrawn?

Hon. Members are now aggrieved. They are feeling aguish and sorrow that a Member of Parliament is a nobody in the decision making process in the District level Committees to award loans to the genuine people. Because Members of Parliament cannot do even this much favour to a person. He will be tortured later on.

For that reason the Hon. Minister while replying to the Budget discussion said that now a Member of Parliament will take an active role in all decision making processes particularly in the banking sector. While it was possible three years back, why now and who has withdrawn this?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: There was no such scheme at any point of time that Members of Parliament will decide on who should get the loans and who should not get them...*(Interruptions)*.. There was no such Committee. The Government has never formed such Committee and the Government does not intend to form Committees wherein the Members of Parliament will decide for whom the loans should be given. This is the work of the Banks and they will do it. But the advice of Members of Parliament and their supervision will be welcomed and therefore we are forming these Committees now. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed. Sit down. You cannot speak without my permission.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We want a half-an-hour's discussion on this subject Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: You have discussed it so many times. Next question. Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao.

Settlement of Claims of Commercial Establishments Damaged During Riots in Andhra Pradesh

*695. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of insured commercial establishments damaged in riots/disturbances in some parts of Andhra Pradesh in the last week of December, 1988;

(b) the details of total damages assessed;

(c) the number of cases in which the claims have been settled;

(d) whether Government have issued instructions to the insurance companies to settle the claims without delay; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). The total number of riot claims reported to the four subsidiaries of General Insurance Corporation of India in Andhra Pradesh so far is 1382. These claims include

claims from Commercial establishments as well as from individuals including those in respect of shops and damaged vehicles. As per latest report received from GIC, 1137 claims involving an amount of Rs. 9.96 Crores have since been disposed of, by the four subsidiaries of GIC.

(d) and (e). Following instructions from the Government for quick settlement of the claims arising out of riots in Andhra Pradesh, the general insurance industry has given various realizations for handling these claims, such as acceptance of the certificate from the district officials in lieu of regular F.I.R./Police Report/Fire Brigade Report, acceptance of the extracts from the records of Regional Transport Authorities in case of loss of R.C. Book and resultant delay in obtaining duplicate R.C. Book, acceptance of evidence from sources like Commercial Tax Returns/Damage Certificate by district authorities in cases where accounts books are not available, enhancement of the financial authority of the Regional Managers by one step higher to expedite disposal of claims at that level etc. In addition to the above relaxations, the surveyors have been instructed to submit survey reports on claims within a definite time frame so as to facilitate quick processing of the claims.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Sir, through you I would like to know from the Hon. Minister regarding the settlement of the claims of the riot victims who have lost their properties during the disturbances that happened during the last week of December 1988. The damage was unprecedented. It far exceeded the total damages that have taken place during the Delhi riots. The total number of claims were 1382 and till now only 1137 claims are settled. Still more than 250 claims are to be settled and it is more than 3/1/2 or nearly 4 months.

I would like to know from the Hon. Min-

ister, through you, Sir, as to what specific instructions have been given to settle these claims without any further loss of time because unless the claims without any further loss of time because unless the claim is settled, one cannot restart one's economic activity. It has come to our notice that it so happened in respect of some commercial establishments that though the limit was Rs. 5 lakhs, their Field Officers insured for more amount and because of that and some technical snag they are taking a very long time. It is not the fault of the party; it is the fault of the Field Officers.

I would like to know from our Hon. Minister whether the Government will issue immediate instructions to settle all these claims without any further loss of time.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: We have already issued instructions to settle these claims very fast and for this purpose several exemptions and various relaxations have been made for handling all these claims such as acceptance of the certificate from the district officials in lieu of regular FIR/Police Report/Fire Brigade Report, acceptance of the extracts from the records of Regional Transport Authorities in case of loss of RC Books and resultant delay in obtaining duplicate RC books and so on and so on and so forth. So several relaxations have been made for big settlements. Our intention is to settle them quickly.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: He has not answered the other thing about settlement under insurance scheme.

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Impact of Rail Freight Increase on Exports

*543. SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the possibilities of any adverse effect on international prices of Indian commodities in export market consequent on the increase in freight rates in the financial year; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to offset any possible adverse effect on country's export trade?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). The increase in rail freights in the country does not bear any relationship to international prices of commodities. However, the increase in rail freights reduce the competitiveness of exports. This is normally absorbed by the manufacturer.

[English]

Fall In Water Table

*676. DR. DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the water table is going down;

(b) if so, in what percentage of the total agricultural area, State-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to bring forward a legislation on the number of wells and quantum of water withdrawal permissible in given areas; and

(d) what programmes have been implemented for re-charging wells?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Fall in ground water levels has been observed in very localised pockets. The area has not been quantified.

(c) A "Model Bill" for scientific regulation of ground water development has been circulated to the States for enactment of suitable legislation.

(d) Measures under implementation to augment ground water storage include land and water management, and artificial re-charge projects.

Liberalisation of Credit Policy

*677. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI G. BHOOPATHY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news items captioned "RBI liberalises credit policy" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated 28th March, 1989;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely effect of this policy on credit deposit ratio and the manner in which the policy will benefit the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The news item appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 28th March, 1989 refers to the credit policy announced by Reserve Bank of India

on March 27, 1989 for first six months period of the financial year 1989-90. The main features of this policy are as follows:

- i) The Cash Reserve Ratio would be made uniform w.e.f. July 1, 1989 at 15% on the entire net demand and time liabilities of all scheduled commercial banks.
- ii) The interest Rates on Term Deposits of 46 days to 90 days have been enhanced from 4% to 6% per annum.
- iii) The minimum margins in respect of the bank advances to processing units/mills in Punjab against stocks of wheat has been increased from 30% to 45% .
- iv) The Interest Rate on Refinance against 182 days treasury bills have been enhanced from 10.25% to 10.75% per annum.
- v) The limits of exposure to an individual concern or to a business group have been restricted to 25% or 50% respectively of bank's capital funds.
- vi) Interest rate ceiling on inter bank call money market would be removed w.e.f. May 1, 1989.
- vii) For portfolio management a minimum lock-in period of one year has been stipulated.
- viii) Certificates of Deposits and Commercial papers are proposed to be introduced.

- ix) With effect from July 29, 1989 the banks would be provided export refinance on the basis of monthly average of export credit during 1987.

The package of measures announced in the credit policy for the first half of 1989-90 are mainly designed to moderate liquidity growth and ensure need based availability of credit, rationalise further Cash Reserve Ratio and to introduce new instruments for greater flexibility and efficiency in banking operations.

Acquisition of Properties by Income Tax Department

*680. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the FINANCE Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the details of immovable properties acquired by Income-tax department in Madras and other cities during the last two years; and

(b) the number of them sold by auctions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA): (a) Under the provisions of Chapter XXC of the Income-tax Act, 1961 a total of 218 properties involving total apparent consideration of Rs.74.96 crores have been purchased during last two years i.e. 1.4.1987 to 31.3.1989. The details are given in the Statement below.

(b) During the same period i.e. 1.4. 1987 to 31.3.1989 94 properties have been sold in public auctions.

STATEMENT

The city-wise details of immovable properties purchased by the Income-tax Department under the provisions of pre-emptive purchase (i.e. under Chapter XXC of the Income-Tax Act, 1961) are given as under:-

<i>Place</i>	<i>No. of purchase order passed u/s 269 UD (i)</i>	<i>Apparent consideration involved.</i>
1	2	3
Madras	23	Rs. 6,33,52,578
Delhi	55	Rs. 17,31,96,023
Calcutta	18	Rs. 11,03,63,154
Bombay	82	Rs. 29,28,69,498
Bangalore	31	Rs. 8,83,30,105
Ahmedabad	9	Rs. 2,14,89,088
Total	218	Rs. 74,96,00,446

Purchase of Land by Non-Resident Indians

*682. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any permission is required for investment in purchasing land in India by non-Resident Indians;

(b) if so, whether any non-Resident Indians have sought permission to purchase land in India;

(c) whether any permission sought by non-Resident Indians to purchase land in Jammu & Kashmir was refused; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Investment by NRIs in real estate and land based activities is not permitted under the existing policy.

However, NRIs are permitted, with RBI's approval, to acquire residential property for bonafide personnel use and commercial property for carrying out approved activities which do not fall under the category mentioned in para-1 above, NRIs, who are Indian citizens, do not require approval for acquiring residential property for personal use.

(b) to (d). In view of para-1 above, such information is not readily available.

[Translation]

Ceiling on Wealth

*684. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to put a ceiling on wealth like a ceiling on land; and

(b) if so, when a decision will be taken in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Pay Scales of Catering Department Employees

*685. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received several representations about anomalies in pay scales of employees working in its departmental canteens and tiffin rooms;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to remove these anomalies;

(c) whether the salesmen working in departmental railway canteens and vendors at railway stations fall in the category of sellers; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not categorising vendors working at railway stations as sellers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) (a) No specific represen-

tations regarding anomalies in pay scales have been received from the regular employees of the Catering Department.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Railways have engaged Commission Vendors in their departmental Catering units at stations. They are paid commission on the basis of their sales. They are not railway employees.

Projects on Narmada River in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat

*687. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposed irrigation and hydel power projects on Narmada river in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat;

(b) the number of projects presently under construction; and

(c) the targets fixed by Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat for completion of Narmada Valley projects?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) Seven projects, six in Madhya Pradesh and one in Gujarat are contemplated on the Narmada River of which only one is a hydel project.

(b) Three multi-purpose projects, namely, Bargi and Narmada Sagar in Madhya Pradesh and Sardar Sarovar in Gujarat.

(c) Expected dates of completion are 1995, 2006 and 2005 in respect of Bargi, Narmada Sagar and Sardar Sarovar projects respectively.

[English]

Reservation Booking Offices In Orissa

*688. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the cities in Orissa where Railway reservation booking offices have been opened at the city areas other than the railway stations;

(b) the number of railway reservation booking counters opened in those cities;

(c) whether Government have closed down the City Railway Reservation Booking Counter, Choudhury Bazar, Cuttack;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government would consider the reopening of that railway reservation booking counter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). One City Booking Office with one counter each at Rourkela and Puri and one City Booking Agency with one counter at Cuttack.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Sale of tickets was meagre.

(e) A Contractor operated City Booking Agency has already been opened.

[Translation]

Demand to Withdraw Controls on Gold

*689. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently

received memoranda in which a demand has been made to withdraw all controls on gold;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) the estimated earnings consequent on withdrawal of all controls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA): (a) and (b). Government have been receiving memoranda demanding withdrawal of the Gold (Control) Act. To look onto this aspect Government had set up two Working Groups one under the chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan and the other under the chairmanship of Shri J. Datta. Reports of both the Groups have been received and examined. This is now entrusted to a Group of Ministers.

(c) The Gold (Control) Act is not a revenue earning Act. Therefore the question of earnings does not arise with or without the Act.

[English]

Conversion of Veraval-Rajkot Railway Line

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

(a) whether there is a proposal for conversion of Veraval-Rajkot railways line into broad-gauge;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the stage at which the matter stands at present; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The proposal for conversion of Rajkot-Veraval MG line (185 km) into BG at an estimated cost of Rs. 68.14 crores was sent to the Planning Commission for clearance. The Commission have recently advised its consideration in VIII Plan.

[Translation]

Frequency of Falzabad-Bombay V.T. Express

*693. SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum has been received for running the Faizabad-Bombay V.T. Express thrice a week instead of one a week; and

(b) if so, the action being taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

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

(b) Presently not found feasible.

[English]

Viability of Narmada Plan

*694. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the viability of the Narmada Valley Project has been challenged once again by reputed experts as reported in the Times of India dated 27 February, 1989 under the caption "Narmada Plan viability doubted",

(b) if so, Government reaction thereto;

and

(c) the steps being taken to make the project economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). The doubts as reported in the news paper are not based on facts. The project has already been cleared in October, 1988 after its techno-economic viability was established.

Demand of all India Carriage and Wagon Staff Council, Dhanbad

6401. SHRI R.P. DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum dated 20 February, 1989 has been received by the Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railways, Dhanbad from All India Carriage and Wagon Staff Council, Dhanbad Division;

(b) if so, the details of the demands contained in the said Memorandum;

(c) the steps taken by the Railway Administration to settle the demands; and

(d) if no, action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) A statement indicating the demands is given below:-

(c) All such grievances received are looked into by concerned authorities and appropriate action taken wherever necessary.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT*Demands*

- (i) Withdrawal of all sorts of actions taken during Carriage and Wagon Agitations.
- (2) Irregular supply of uniforms should be regularised and also asked to provide Tery-cotton uniforms.
- (3) Re-classification in respect of Carriage & Wagon Deptt. though completed, some of staff retired before late implementation of the same. They should be given benefits and a review of such cases may be made.
- (4) Staff are to be utilised according to their designations.
- (5) Surrendering of posts should be stopped.
- (6) Vacancies should be filled up immediately after retirement of staff.
- (7) Staff should not be utilised beyond roster hours of duty.
- (8) Allotment of Railway Quarters should be made strictly on priority basis keeping a register for such allotment.
- (9) Adequate safety measures are not being taken in the yards causing dissatisfaction among the staff. Necessary measures to be taken to provide all safety measures.
- (10) Accumulation of P.F. money is not maintained properly. Staff should be provided with P.F. Pass Book.
- (11) Temporary Transfer of staff should be stopped forthwith.

- (12) Since September/88 T.A., Over-time of staff are not being paid. Immediate arrangements for payment of T.A. & Over-time should be made.
- (13) Staff are suddenly transferred from Dhanbad to KDS. This should be stopped.
- (14) RPF Staff should not interfere in the working system of C & W department.
- (15) Channel of negotiations to be maintained with the representatives of Categorical Unions.

Railway Project In Allahabad

6402. DR. B.L.SHAILESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a rail coach factory project to be set up in the industrially backward Allahabad district was mooted some years ago;

(b) if so, whether the project is still alive;

(c) if not, whether Government are considering to set up any other railway project in Allahabad district;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Considering all aspects Government decided to set up the Rail Coach Factory at Kapurthala.

(c) to (e). Railway projects are set up keeping in view the financial and economic evaluation and assessment of other important factors. There is no proposal to set up

any Railway Project in Allahabad district at present.

Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme

6403. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme for poor families is being administered and the social security and relief provided to these families;

(b) the role, if any, assigned to the State Governments in the existing set-up of the scheme;

(c) the number of poor families benefitted under this scheme during 1988-89 and the amount disbursed to them, State-wise; and

(d) whether the poor people in Sunderbans are who are killed by the tigers in the Tiger Project area not getting any relief under this scheme; if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Scheme covers all people in the age group of

18 to 60 whose total family income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 7, 200/- per annum. A sum of Rs. 3,000/- is payable to the dependents of the deceased earning member of a poor family in the event of death by accident.

The Scheme is administered through the General Insurance Corporation of India and its four subsidiaries viz (i) National Insurance Company Ltd., (ii) New India Assurance Company Ltd., (iii) Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. and (iv) United India Insurance Company Ltd. with active collaboration of the State Governments/Union Territories. The State Governments have overall responsibility to scrutinize and settle the claims. The State Government appoints the Claims Enquiry-cum-Settlement officer in all districts to investigate into the claims and submit his report to the designated insurance company authorising payment of the claim subject to terms and conditions of the Scheme. To oversee the claims settlement operations, the State Government appoints State Level, District Level and Block Level Consultative Committee consisting of various Government official and the official of the designated insurance company and convenor of each of these Committees.

(c) The information relating to number of poor families benefitted under the Scheme during the period January, 1988 to December, 1988 and the amounts disbursed to them, is as under:-

<i>Name of the State/U. Ts.</i>	<i>Number of families benefitted</i>	<i>Amount paid (In lakhs of Rupees)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1. Andhra Pradesh	1477	43.87
2. Arunachal Pradesh	1	0.03
3. Assam	42	1.26
4. Bihar	444	13.32

	1	2	3
5. Goa		80	2.40
6. Gujarat		209	6.27
7. Haryana		59	1.77
8. Himachal Pradesh		38	1.14
9. Jammu & Kashmir		4	0.12
10. Karnataka		872	26.16
11. Kerala		1327	39.79
12. Madhya Pradesh		518	15.58
13. Maharashtra		302	9.06
14. Manipur		4	0.12
15. Meghalaya		16	0.48
16. Orissa		842	25.25
17. Punjab		21	0.63
18. Rajasthan		128	3.84
19. Sikkim		45	1.35
20. Tamil Nadu		75	2.24
21. Tripura		69	2.07
22. Uttar Pradesh		325	9.75
23. West Bengal		1043	31.23
24. Chandigarh		1	0.03
25. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		30	0.90
26. Delhi		15	0.45
27. Daman & Diu		4	0.12

1	2	3
28. Lakshadweep	2	0.06
29. Pondicherry	142	4.26
Total	8135	243.51

(d) In Sunderban area, relief under the Scheme is being paid to poor people killed by tigers except in cases where victims had entered into the project area without any valid entry permit.

Rehabilitation of Oustees of Subarnarekha Project in Orissa

6404. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families uprooted due to Subarnarekha multi-purpose project; and

(b) the steps taken for their rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b): Material for reply is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Opening of Branches of State of India at Gemur, Mansa and Sagnam

6406. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India had issued a licence to the State Bank of India for the opening of branch at Gemur Village in Lahaul Spiti District in April, 1987 and for opening two branches at Mansa and Sagnam on 4 June, 1988;

(b) whether the branches have since been opened by the State Bank of India; if so, the dates on which these branches were opened; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in the opening of these branches and the likely date by which they would be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that licence was issued to State Bank of India (SBI) for opening branch at Gemur on 6.4.1987 and for Hansa and Sagnam on 4.6.1988 in District Lahul & Spiti of Himachal Pradesh. SBI has not opened branches at these centres so far due to lack of basic infrastructural facilities.

Railway Link to Bhadrachalam

6407. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to link Bhadrachalam (Andhra Pradesh) with railway line;

(b) if so, the estimated cost thereof and the stage at which the matter stands at present; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI

MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Railway Lines In Backward Regions

6408. PROF MADHU DANAVATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capital structure committee of the Railways have recommended that the projects of the construction of new railway lines in the backward regions should be exempted from payment of dividends till the railway lines become viable; and

(b) if so, whether in this interest of development of backward regions, this recommendation is likely to be accepted by the Railways?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Shuttle Train Between Tundla and Delhi

6409. SHRI KAILASH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a shuttle train between Tundla Junction and Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Underground Water In Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh

6410. SHRI MANKURAM SODI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in which Central Ground Water Board has started work since December, 1988 to identify the underground water resources in Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the depth at which water is generally found in Bastar District;

(c) whether it is a fact that in most of the places, iron ore content is found in underground water resources; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Central Ground Water Board have carried out Hydrogeological surveys in southern part of Bastar District covering about 13,460 Sq. Kms. during 1988-89.

(b) The depth at which ground water is generally found in Bastar District varies from 1 to 13 metres below ground level.

(c) and (d). Iron concentration in ground water ranges from 0.2 to 1.1 mg/litre.

Department of Rural Development, under the National Drinking Water Mission has released Rs. 25 lakhs to the State of Madhya Pradesh for installation of Iron Removal Plants.

Maintenance of Guns Used in Nationalised Banks

6411. SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether nationalised banks are taking the help of private security experts for the proper maintenance of the guns being used for security of the banks:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of the nationalised banks which are availing this facility at present; and

(d) the manner in which these experts maintain the guards and the monthly amount paid by the banks for this job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). According to available information, in public sector banks, guns are maintained by the concerned Armed Guard. As and when any defect develops in any weapon, authorised arms dealers are approached for getting these defects rectified. In a few cases, bank branches have also entered into Annual Maintenance Service Contracts with local authorised arms dealers for this purpose.

No assistance of private security experts for maintenance of weapons is being taken by public sector banks.

[English]

FERA Trading Companies

6412. SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of FERA trading Compa-

nies operating in India at present; and

(b) the number of FERA Companies operating in India with holding of more than 75 per cent by foreign partners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Issue of 1st class card passes

6413. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of 1st Class card passes issued during the year 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 State-wise/Zone-wise and institution-wise with names of such pass holders;

(b) the criteria for issuing such passes; and

(c) whether there is any machinery to check the bogus claims of the pass holders, if so, has there been any inquiry and with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Presumably the reference relates to complimentary card passes granted to non-railwaymen/organisations. During the year 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 47, 43 and 48 1st Class Card Passes, respectively were issued. These Card Passes have been granted by the Railway Ministry to eminent persons, organisations devoted to social, cultural, scientific, literary, sports, and educational activities of 'All India' character etc. These passes have been issued based on the guidelines and on justification/merits of

each case. These Passes are generally valid over all Indian Railways. The issue of State-wise/Zone-wise and Institution-wise lists to cover all the passes granted, hence does not arise.

(c) Every card pass is granted after examining the merits of each case, so as to avoid bogus claims.

Raids Conducted by Income Tax Department In Delhi

6414. SHRI SHAMINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of raids conducted by the Income Tax department in the months of August, 1988 in Delhi,

(b) the details of foreign companies raided and the extent of evasion of Income tax detected in each case separately, during the above raids; and

(c) the follow up action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA): (a) In the month of August 1988, the Income Tax Department conducted 136 searches in Delhi.

(b) Nil.

(c) In all the cases where valuables were seized, the Assessing Officers have passed orders under section 132 (5) of the Income Tax Act, summarily estimating the undisclosed income, determining the tax liability and ordering retention/release of the valuables seized. Other appropriate action as called for under the Direct Taxes enact-

ments is taken in all the cases.

Zonal Railway Users Committees

6415. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to have separate Zonal Railway Users Committees for passengers and freight traffic; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Budgetary Deficit of Tamil Nadu

6416. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Tamil Nadu is faced with heavy Budgetary deficit in financial year 1988-89; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Union Government to provide financial assistance to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) Budgetary deficit of Tamil Nadu for 1988-89 is Rs. 175.40 crores as estimated by the State Government.

(b) It is for the State Government to reduce the Budgetary Deficit by re-ordering their priorities, mobilising additional resources and containing/reducing non-essential expenditure. However, the Union Govt. allocated to the State Govt. additional market borrowings of Rs. 21.49 crores for the year 1988-89.

Pagla-Bansloi River Basin Scheme of West Bengal

6417. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress achieved with regard to the installation of gates under Pagla-Bansloi river basin scheme in Murshidabad district, West Bengal.

(b) the reasons for non-completion of installation of gates within the schemed time;

(c) the steps being contemplated to complete the installation expeditiously with revised time schedule, if any; and

(d) following the completion of the Scheme to what extent the affected farmers will be benefited in terms of the percentage of inundated land to be recultivable and the intensity of cropping ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c). About 65% of parts of the gates of Pagla and Bansloi regulators have been received. Installation and commissioning of gates is scheduled to be completed by March, 1990.

(d) These regulators envisage the release of stagnating waters into the Bhagirathi in post-monsoon period enabling the continuance of the traditional agricultural practices.

Imports by STC

6418. SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the major items of import by State Trading Corporation (STC) of the value of

Rs. one crore and above for the last three years;

(b) the source or sources from which these are being imported and the prices there-of; and

(c) whether there is any foreign agent involved in these transactions?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRIDINESH SINGH): (a) The major items of import by the State Trading Corporation of India of the value of Rs. 1 crore and above during the last three years were edible oils, Fatty Acids, Rubber, Sugar, Newsprint, Pulses, Cement, Cloves, Cassia and various Chemicals & Drugs (e.g. Methanol, LDPE, DDT, LABenzene, Calcium Borate, Titanium Dioxide, MMA Monomer, Caustic Soda, Sodium Borate, Benzene, Vitamin A, Streptomycin Sulphate etc.)

(b) The main sources from which the above items were imported are Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, DPRK, Finland, FRG, France, Greece, GDR, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Madagascar, Mauritius, Malaysia, Newzealand, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, UK, USA, USSR and Yugoslavia. Imports are effected by the STC on the basis of tenders and/or through direct negotiations with the producers/suppliers. The prices at which imports are effected are based on the prevailing international prices or the lowest prices and other terms and conditions quoted by the suppliers in the tender, which are duly evaluated to secure the most advantageous terms.

(c) STC does not engage the services of any foreign agents in effecting these imports.

Reservation for SC/ST In Reserve Bank of India

6419. SHRI GANGA RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Bank Medical Officers, Staff Officers (Medical) /Dispensary Supervisors and Pharmacists in the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) the number of those belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe communities in each category;

(c) whether quota reserved for SC/ST persons is complete in all the above categories; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor, and the specific efforts made or being made by the Bank Management to complete the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a), (c) and (d). The information made available by RBI is as under;

(i)	Bank's Medical Officers	68
(ii)	Staff Officers (medical/Dispensary Supervisors	4
(iii)	Pharmacists	96

Reserve Bank of India has further reported that the posts of Medical Officers are on part time basis and the posts of Staff Officers (medical) and pharmacists, being small in number, have been grouped with other corresponding posts in the bank for the purpose of providing reservations for SCs and STs.

(b) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Regional Rural Banks

6420. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently reviewed the working of the Regional Rural Banks in the country;

(b) if so, the total amount of deposits mobilised by these banks since their inception upto 31 December, 1987;

(c) the total amount of rural loans given by these banks upto 31 December, 1987;

(d) the total amount recovered by these banks against those loans upto 31 December, 1987;

(e) the total working capital or credit support received by these banks from the banking sector upto 31 December, 1987;

(f) the total cumulative profit or loss by these banks upto 31 December, 1987; and

(g) the total number of branches, State-wise, and number of employees, category-wise, in these banks as on 31 December, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The working of Regional Rural Banks (RRBS) is reviewed on a regular basis by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

(b) and (c). The total deposits of RRBs were Rs. 2305.82 crores as at the end of

December, 1987 and their total outstanding advances as on this date were Rs. 2232.26 crores.

(d) The percentage of recovery to demand for all the RRBs stood at 50% for the year ending June, 1987;

(e) The total outstanding refinance assistance provided to RRBs by NABARD, Sponsor Banks and IDBI was Rs. 1165.88

crores as at the end of December, 1987.

(f) NABARD has reported that cumulative profit and loss of RRBs from the year 1981 to 1987 were Rs. 30.17 crores and Rs. 138.79 crores respectively.

(g) The information regarding total number of branches, state-wise and the number of employees, category-wise Regional Rural Banks as at the end of December, 1987 is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Number of Branches and Employees of RRBs as to December, 1987

Sr.No.	State	No. of Branches	Regional Rural Banks' Staff (State-wise)				Total
			Officers	Field Supervisors	Clerks	Others	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Haryana	260	291	155	564	147	1157
2.	Himachal Pradesh	123	81	111	233	81	506
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	256	275	186	477	36	974
4.	Punjab	146	195	11	200	12	418
5.	Rajasthan	1007	1186	353	1546	212	3297
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	15	19	—	6	4	29
7.	Assam	337	361	316	595	103	1375
8.	Manipur	23	21	19	24	2	66
9.	Meghalaya	42	48	7	54	4	113
10.	Mizoram	33	40	—	56	4	100
11.	Nagaland	8	11	—	11	1	23

Sr.No.	State	No. of Branches	Regional Rural Banks' Staff (State-wise)					Total
			Officers	Field Supervisors	Clerks	Others		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
12.	Tripura	77	117	123	285	57	582	
13.	Bihar	1777	1829	1114	2275	359	5577	
14.	Orissa	788	898	642	1647	256	3443	
15.	West Bengal	737	870	741	1444	178	3233	
16.	Madhya Pradesh	1512	1765	789	1874	184	4612	
17.	Uttar Pradesh	2905	3573	2115	4572	793	11053	
18.	Gujarat	313	353	98	386	39	876	
19.	Maharashtra	486	609	126	733	47	1515	
20.	Andhra Pradesh	1052	1182	1055	1803	182	4222	
21.	Karnataka	1034	1216	832	2215	375	4638	

Sr.No.	State	No. of Branches	Regional Rural Banks' Staff (State-wise)				Total
			Officers	Field Supervisors	Clerks	Others	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Kerala	262	402	230	1265	271	2168
23.	Tamil Nadu	160	228	106	319	63	716
	All India	13353	15570	9129	22584	3410	50693

Train Service Between Bangalore and Bhubaneswar

6421. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to introduce a direct train between Bangalore and Bhubaneswar is pending since long;

(b) if so, the reasons for not implementing the same so far;

(c) whether it is proposed to be implemented during the financial year 1989-90; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Derailment of Kerala Express on 2nd April, 1989 near Salem

6422. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry has been con-

ducted by Government on the causes of derailment of the Kerala Express near Salem on 2nd April, 1989; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). An inter-departmental Inquiry Committee on Senior Railway Officers inquired into the cause of this accident. According to its findings, the accident occurred due to failure of railway staff.

Confiscation of Gold In Kerala

6423. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of smuggled gold confiscated in the Kerala coast in 1988;

(b) whether gold smuggling is on the increase in Kerala coast, if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether any new office of the Customs departments is proposed to be opened in Kerala to counter smuggling activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The value and quantity of gold seized on the Kerala coast during the calendar year 1988 are given in the table below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity of gold Seized (In Kgs)</i>	<i>Value of gold seized (Rs. in crores)</i>
1988	349.566	11.28

(b) and (c). Since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not possible to estimate whether there has been an increase in smuggling of gold in the area along the Kerala coast. However, the quantity and

value of gold seized in 1988 given above is higher than the quantity and value of gold seized on the Kerala coast during 1987 when 167.954 Kgs of gold worth Rs. 4.85 crores approximately had been seized.

No new office is proposed to be opened for the present. However, the anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery throughout the country including that on Kerala coast has been geared up. Close co-ordination is being maintained with all the agencies concerned in detection and prevention of smuggling including that of gold.

Subsidy on Cardamom Plantation

6424. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to enhance the replanting subsidy on cardamom; and

(b) whether the irrigation subsidy being given by the Spices Board is also proposed to be extended further?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The irrigation subsidy schemes being implemented by the board during 88-89 are proposed to be extended to 89-90 also.

Cancellation of Trains for Shortage of Coal

6425 SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual requirement of steam coal for Railways;

(b) the total amount of steam coal made available to the Railways during the last three years and expected during the current year; and

(c) the names of trains which have been

cancelled and the periods of cancellation since last three years on account of shortage of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The requirement of steam coal for the year 1989-90 for traction is estimated at 5.5 million tonnes.

(b) The steam coal consumed for traction on the Railway during the last three years and expected during the current year is as follows:-

1986-87	7.27	million tones
1987-88	6.72	million tonnes
1988-89	5.88	million tonnes (Provisional)
1989-90	5.5	million tonnes (Expected)

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha

Proposal for STC International

6426. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation STC has set up a new Company called (STC) International;

(b) if so, the main function of this new Company;

(c) whether higher target has been set up for export for 1989-90 ;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) STC's export target for 1989-90 has been set at Rs. 700 crores as against actual exports of Rs. 530 crores in 1988-89.

(e) State Trading Corporation has taken several steps to achieve the higher export target for 1989-90. These steps include:-

- Provision of financial/marketing and technical assistance to associate exporters.
- Setting up of an Export Trade Development Group to develop new items and new markets.
- Opening of a Customers Service Centre to provide better services to Indian exporters.
- Formulation of scheme for import of raw material on OGL for providing raw material assistance to exporters.
- Developing and off-shore trading to increase foreign exchange earnings.
- Supply of Benzene to exporters against their advance licences.
- Making available ex-bond Methanol to exporters at international prices.
- Formulation of a price support scheme for bulk drugs for small manufacturers.

Exchange Risk Protection Scheme

6427. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India financial institutions i.e. IDBI ICICI and IFCI have evolved a new plan called Exchange Risk Protection Scheme to protect borrowers of foreign currency loans against exchange risk by distributing the cost of such protection equitably among the borrowers, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) A scheme is known as "Exchange Risk Administration Scheme" came into operation from 1st April 1989.

(b) The Exchange Risk Administration Scheme will be initially for a period of 2 years. The Scheme is intended to protect the borrowers of loans, in foreign currency against exchange fluctuations. The eligible borrowers will have an option to join the Scheme in respect of each new loan. An Exchange Risk Administration Fund will be set up in IDBI with initial contributions from these financial institutions for operating the scheme. The loan will be crystallised in Rupees as on the date of disbursement and the repayment liability will be in Rupees. Interest will be variable depending inter alia on the overall cost of borrowing of the institutions.

Cancellation charges

6428. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have collected

huge amounts from cancellation charges of tickets;

(b) the break up of collection of cancellation charges from different railway zones in the financial year 1988-89;

(c) whether the existing rate structure of cancellation charges is exorbitant;

(d) whether Government propose to reduce cancellation charges; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Statistics of amount collected on account of charges levied for cancellation tickets are not maintained.

(c) No, sir.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration.

(e) The rural on the subject have been made after detailed examination.

Execution of Irrigation Project Without Clearance by Government

6429. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission granted techno-economic viability permission for all major and medium projects being implemented and in various stages in different States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated to set right the situation if being implemented without

the prior approval of the Central Water Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c). At present, some expenditure is being incurred by the States on un-approved projects also. In order to expedite clearance of the schemes at the Centre, a revised procedure for appraisal has been finalised in consultation with the States. This procedure is expected to come into operation in the VII Plan, after which the State will be expected to follow the prescribed procedure for processing and approval of the schemes before incurring expenditure.

Special Trains and Additional Coaches for Political Parties

6430. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of special trains and additional coaches provided for carrying persons to the Congress (I) rally in Delhi on the 31 October, 1988;

(b) the number of persons so carried, journey charges in total, payments made and the remaining dues if any;

(c) Government's policy regarding advance/after payments when additional coaches/trains are so booked by political and other parties;

(d) how many days in advance such requests are entertained, and in the case of the aforesaid rally when the last request was received;

(e) the detention charges in the case of each of the above trains; and

(f) previous arrears, if any, towards the various Congress (I) Units, giving the

amounts and their dates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) and (d) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Requisitions are required to deposit amounts stipulated under the rules against reservation of carriages or trains.

**Central Excise Collectorate in Bolpur,
West Bengal**

6431. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position in respect of construction and completion of office building, residential complex and a Central School at Bolpur for the Collectorate of Central Excise, Bolpur.

(b) whether the land requirement for this project has been made available by the Government of West Bengal;

(c) whether funds necessary for the construction of this project work have also been sanctioned and released, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

(d) the jurisdiction of this Collectorate and its performance; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that the Collectorate won the Finance Minister's award for achieving revenue target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The work of construction on office building and residential complex for the Central Excise Collectorate at Bolpur, has been entrusted to C.P. W.D. They are to work out cost estimates and prepare building plans. The matter is being actively pursued with them by the Collector of Central Excise, Bolpur for early preparation of estimates and building plans.

There is no proposal to open Central School at Bolpur.

(b) Two sites measures 1.00 acre and 4.9 acres have been transferred by the West Bengal Government to the Central Excise Department.

(c) Government has granted administrative approval and expenditure sanction for construction of office and residential buildings for Central Excise Collectorate at Bolpur at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.63 crores and Rs. 1.10 crores respectively.

(d) The jurisdiction of the Collectorate covers the State of Sikkim and the following 11 districts of West Bengal :-

Burdwan, Birbhum, Bankura, Purulia, Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia, West Dinajpore, Darjeeling Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar.

The performance of the Collectorate in terms of revenue collections is as under:-

1984-85	Rs. 126 crores.
1985-86	Rs. 184 crores.
1986-87	Rs. 200 crores.
1987-88	Rs. 193 crores.
1988-89	Rs 212 crores (Prov.)

(e) Yes, Sir, for 1985-86.

Protection of Left Bank of Ganga at Farakka Barrage

6432. DR . SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Farakka Barrage Authority has disowned responsibility to look after the protection of the Left Bank of the Ganga in the upstream of Farakka Barrage;

(b) whether during 1988 floods, about 1900 metres of left bank had been breached and nearly 35 square miles area of P.S. Kaliachak inundated; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not keeping their earlier commitments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c). Maintenance of flood management works comes under the purview of the activities of the State Government. The Farakka Barrage Project Authority is charged with the responsibility of operation and maintenance of the Barrage and related works.

[Translation]

Special Allowance to Officials Working in Desert and Hilly Areas

6433. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several posts in Central and State Government in inaccessible and difficult parts of desert and hilly areas are lying vacant as government officials do not take up the posting there on deputation and even on promotion;

(b) if so, whether this has deprived people of those areas of benefit of education and development schemes;

(c) whether Government propose to give special allowance to employees working in these areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) and (b). Appointments to various posts in Central Government including appointments on deputation and promotion, are made at different levels and the information relating to such appointments is not centrally maintained. Appointment to posts in State Governments fall under the jurisdiction of the respective State Governments.

(c) and (d). Central Government employees working in remote/hilly areas are already being given a number of allowances like Special Compensatory (Remote Locality) Allowance, Bad Climate Allowance, Tribal Area Allowance, Border Allowance, Composite Hill Compensatory Allowance, Special Duty Allowance and Hardship Allowance keeping in view the conditions laid down for the grant of these allowances. The Special Duty Allowance now admissible in the Andaman Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep is being replaced by Island Special Allowance.

[English]

Ex-Gratia Payment

6434. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fourth Pay Commission had recommended an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 300/- per month w.e.f January 1, 1986 to

retired employees of Railways who had erroneously opted for Central Contributory Provident Fund (CPF) in lieu of pension and whose pay was less than Rs. 500/- per month at the time of retirement;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to accept the recommendation in view of inequality of benefits under CPF Scheme viz-a-vis liberalised pension scheme; and

(c) if not, the reactions therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The Fourth Pay Commission had recommended (i) an ex-gratia payment of Rs 300/- per month to all employees who retired under the P.F. Scheme with a salary of Rs. 500/- or less, (ii) an option be given to all employees who retired under the P.F Scheme with a salary of over Rs. 500/- to come over to the Pension Scheme and (iii) an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 150/- to the widows /family members of all employees who had retired under the P.F. Scheme.

(b) and (c). After careful consideration, Government decided to accept only the recommendation at (iii) above. The Ministry of Railways have implemented the decision of the Government.

Construction of Field Channels to Carry Irrigation water From Daman Ganga

6435. SHRI GOPAL K. TANDEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the action so far taken to construct field channels to carry irrigation water from Daman Ganga Reservoir Project to the fields in Daman;

(b) the likely date by which the field channel works (on farm development works)

are expected to be completed in Daman;

(c) whether effective monitoring to ensure that the on farm development in Daman District is carried out timely and in a planned manner by the Union Territory Administration; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The construction of field channel in the Daman area of Damanganga Reservoir Project is to be carried out by Area Development Commissioner, Surat as deposit work after receiving the necessary fund from the Union Territory of Daman & Diu. The plans and estimates of Rs. 86.12 lakhs for construction of field channels and field drains in Daman areas of 3410 ha. have been submitted to Administrator, Union Territory of Daman & Diu for administrative approval, it is still awaited. However funds of Rs. 22.60 lakhs have been deposited by Daman Administration on 22.2.1989 and field channel work in 84 ha. area of Daman has been completed up to March, 1989 at the cost of Rs. 38,000.

(b) June 1991.

(c) Yes, Sir,

(d) Does not arise.

Cheating by Chit Fund Company

6436. SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints of large scale cheating and fraud being done by Chit Fund Companies in Delhi with the connivance of the staff of the Registrar of Chit Fund, Delhi.

(b) if so, the action taken by Govern-

ment in this regard; and

(c) whether any company has also been prosecuted, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Delhi Administration has reported that it has not received complaints of large scale cheating and fraud by chit fund companies in Delhi with the connivance of the staff of the Registrar of Chit Funds, Delhi.

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

Export Orders for Bulk Drugs

6437. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian delegation, under Indo-EEC Trade Promotion Programme visited Europe in February, 1989;

(b) whether any agreement for export of bulk drugs has been reached during the visit; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the orders for export will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A ten member delegation from India bulk drug industry, sponsored by Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council, Bombay, under the Indo-EEC Trade Promotion Programme visited London, Brussels and Hamburg between 20th and 28th February, 1989: According to information furnished by

the Export Promotion Council, members of the delegation were able to book orders for exports for export of bulk drugs valued at Rs. 7 crores against which shipments valued at Rs. 2.3. crores have already been effected. Shipments of the balance quantity are expected to be completed by the end of July, 1989.

Export of Engineering Goods to U.S.

6438. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and US Government have reached a agreement for export of more engineering goods from India to US; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). While efforts are on to boost exports of Engineering goods amongst other items, from India to U.S., there has been no specific agreement between Government of India and that of U.S in this regard.

Introduction of Electronic Voting Machines

6439. SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
SHRI PRATAPRAO B.
BHOSALE:
SHRI HARIHAR SOREN:

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

(a) whether electronic voting machines will be introduced in ensuring general electronics;

(b) if so, in how many parliamentary

constituencies and at what cost;

(c) whether those parliamentary constituencies have been identified; and if so, which are the parliamentary constituencies;

(d) whether Government have placed orders with manufacturers; and

(e) if so, the details of the manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (e). Approval has been conveyed to the Election Commission for purchase of 1,50,000 electronic voting machines for the public sector undertakings, viz., Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore and Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., Hyderabad at an estimated cost of about Rs. 75 crore. These machines are intended to be pressed into service in the general elections due this year in those constituencies which would be identified as sensitive by the Election Commission.

S.S.I Products Purchased by D.G.S.&D.

6440. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of products of Small Scale Industries (SSI) purchased by the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposal (DGS&D) during 1988-89;

(b) the amount of such products, manufactured in Karnataka, purchased by DGS&D during this period;

(c) the number of Small Scale Industries in Karnataka and the items manufactured by them which can be purchased by Governments; and

(d) whether DGS&D propose to pur-

chase more products from the Small Scale Industrial units of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The total value of products purchased by the DGS&D from SSI Units during the period 1-4-1988 to 31.1.1989 is Rs. 241.27 crores.

(b) The value of products purchased by the DGS&D from the Small Scale Units in Karnataka during the above period is Rs. 1.20 crores.

(c) and (d). As per available information, the number of small scale units registered in Karnataka upto 31-3-89 is stated to be 73,518. It is difficult to describe or categorise the items manufactured by these units as those which can be purchased by Government DGS&D. DGS&D as the Central Purchases Organisation, makes purchases against specific demands raised by indenting Departments with required specifications, and at competitive prices through open tenders on All India basis. No purchase preference is available State wise region-wise in DGS&D purchases, nor can any quota of purchases be allocated to any State.

Industries Revived Through BIFR

6441. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state the number of industries which have been revived through the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has reported that as on 28.2.89 the Board accorded sanction for revival of 23 sick industrial companies under Section 18 of the Sick

Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. In addition, in 59 cases the Board decided that it is practicable for the sick industrial company concerned to make its

own networth positive within a reasonable time and accorded approval under Section 17 (2) of the said Act. State-wise details are set out in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Number of units where BIFR passed order under Section 17(2) Scheme sanctioned under section 18(4) of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 -Position as on 28.02.1989

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of Units u/s. 17(2)	No. of Units u/s 18 (4)
1	2	3	4
1.	Maharashtra	13	8
2.	West Bengal	7	2
3.	Andhra Pradesh	8	2
4.	Tamil Nadu	6	2
5.	Karnataka	6	—
6.	Gujarat	5	1
7.	Kerala	4	—
8.	Haryana	3	—
9.	Bihar	3	2
10.	Uttar Pradesh	2	1
11.	Rajasthan	1	—
12.	Orissa	1	—
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1	—
14.	Punjab	1	2
Total		61*	23

* Note: Two companies have factories in more than one state.

**Eighth Finance Commission Award For
Development Works in Kerala**

6442. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eighth Finance Commission had recommended the award for development works in eight sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds sanctioned for the scheme;

(d) whether construction of the projects has been completed, and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the State Government has

sought extension of the award period by one year; and

(f) if so, whether the extension has been granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) to (f) Presumably, the information sought is on the grants-in-aid recommended by the Eighth Finance Commission for upgradation of standards of Administration in Kerala.

Based on the recommendations of the Eighth Finance Commission, an amount of grant of Rs. 1550.02 lakhs was approved for upgradation of standards of administration in Kerala for the period 1985-89 as detailed below:-

		(Rs. in lakhs)
(1)	Police admn.	668.98
(2)	Jails admn.	89.86
(3)	Tribal admn.	53.16
(4)	Health	217.13
(5)	Judicial admn.	308.90
(6)	District and Revenue admn	50.95
(7)	Training	122.04
(8)	Treasury and Accounts admn.	39.00
		1550.02

The above amount included Rs. 1355.83 lakhs for capital works. These works were to be completed by 31.3.1989. According to the reports received from the State Government, all these works could not

be completed by that date, mainly because of initial difficulties relating to location of sites, land acquisition, etc.

The State Government have requested

for extension of time at least upto 30th September, 1989 for completing the schemes. The same is under consideration.

NABARD Assistance to Kerala

6443. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any shift in the policy of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in giving loan for agricultural purposes from the year 1988;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount given by the NABARD as loan and other financial assistance for Kerala during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has advised the State Cooperative Banks and State Land Development Banks vide its circular dated 29th November, 1988 that refinance from NABARD will henceforth be subject to their compliance with various instructions laid down by RBI / NABARD relating to issue and repayment of loans, interest rates, rescheduling deferment of loans etc.

Following the reduction in interest rates with effect from 1.3. 88 there have been some changes in disciplines governing the operations of credit limits sanctioned by NABARD. These are briefly as under:-

1. The rate of interest on refinance is now related to the percentage of average borrowings from NABARD to the average outstandings at CCB-level against PACS.

2. Cooperative Banks are now free to keep funds in call and short term deposit with commercial banks provided they comply with the minimum involvement stipulation (MIS) and there is no deficit in non-over due cover.

3. Once the banks have complied with MIS they are free to deploy their remaining sources in non-agricultural lending so as to cross subsidise the losses arising out of reduction in interest rates.

(c) As reported by NABARD, the details of refinance assistance provided to Kerala for schematic lending for 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 are as under

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. in lakhs</i>
1986-87	5335
1987-88	5803
1988-89 (9 months only)	7126

Setting up of Permanent Fund to meet Expenditure on Natural Calamities

6444. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a permanent and special fund to meet expenditure on recurring natural calamities such as drought and floods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) No, Sir.

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

Entrance Examination for LLB

6445. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an Entrance Examination for MBBS, Engineering Courses etc. in the country ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not having entrance examination for LLB Course?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Entrance Examination for MBBS, Engineering Courses etc. is not invariably held in all parts of the country.

(b) It is for the concerned State Governments/ Universities/Educational Institutions to consider whether there should be an Entrance Examination for LLB Course.

Working Group on Mining And Engineering Goods

6446. SHRI H. A. DORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Working Group on Mining and Engineering goods has been set up under Indo-Australia Joint Business Council; and

(b) if so, the purpose thereof and details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). At the joint meeting of the Indo-Australian Working Party on engineering/mining it was decided to set up a small working group consisting of three members from each side to facilitate trade, increase mutual awareness and monitor progress. It was decided inter-alia;

1. to exchange delegations for enhancing trade prospects and examine the feasibility of cooperation;
2. increased export of engineering goods to Australia;
3. Supply of Indian equipment to Australian contractors in India; and
4. Indian sub-contracting for third country projects with Australian parties as prime- contractors.

Various measures to achieve the above objectives were also identified.

[Translation]

Refinery Status to Naptha Based Industries Under Central Excise Rules

6447. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have awarded refinery status to Naptha based industries under Central Excise Rules;

(b) if so, the number of industries which have submitted applications to Government to avail this facility and the number of industries out of those granted this facility; and

(c) the reasons for delay in granting the refinery status to the remaining industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA): (a) to (c). In the past, 10 Naptha based factories had submitted applications for declaration of their premises as refinery. Out of above, premises of 9 factories had been declared as refineries till 28.2.89. W.E.f. 1.3.89 concessional rate of duty on raw naptha is available to all facto-

ries manufacturing specified goods without any condition regarding declaration of a factory as refinery. The aforesaid declarations have therefore, also been cancelled as there is no need for such declaration after 1.3. 89.

Casual Workers in Samastipur Division

6448. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of casual workers enrolled in Samastipur railway division and the number out of them employed and the number awaiting employment;

(b) the percentage of Harijans and Adiwasis among those employed and those awaiting employment;

(c) whether Government have directed the Eastern Railway to appoint Harijans and Adiwasis for Class III and IV posts under crash programme; and

(d) if so, the number of persons appointed under this programme and the number of Harijans among them under Samastipur division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

MOU with Switzerland

6449. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMMOOWALIA:
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:
SHRI C. JANGA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Switzerland have

recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) to provide mutual assistance in the investigation of criminal offences;

(b) if so, whether the above document facilitates Government to ascertain the amount deposited by Indians in Swiss Banks;

(c) if so, whether Government have obtained any information with regard to the amount deposited by Indians by the end of the 1988;

(d) if so, the details of the total amount deposited;

(e) the amount out of the said deposits which has been considered illegal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). By exchange of letters on the 20th February, 1989, an agreement has been reached with the Government of Switzerland to provide for mutual assistance in investigation of criminal offences on the basis of the principles of reciprocity and dual criminality. In terms of this agreement, assistance and cooperation of Swiss authorities can be enlisted by law enforcement agencies for collecting information/evidence in respect of specific cases under investigation.

(c) to (e). In view of the reply to parts (a) & (b), general information about deposits of Indians in Swiss banks cannot be obtained under this agreement.

[English]

India's share in Export Market for Jewellery

6450. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's share of the world export market in jewellery is less than one per cent; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to capture a significant portion of the world market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have recently taken several measures to increase jewellery export. These include relaxation of procedures under the Gold Control Act (1968), streamlining of the appraisal arrangements, improvement in availability of credit for export manufacture, arrangements for stock and supply of gold by the MMTC, streamlining of operational procedures etc. These measures are expected to facilitate jewellery exports on a long term basis.

CBI Raids on Branches of State Bank of Indore

6451. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incriminating documents were seized/sealed by the officials of CBI during the last three years and on 18 February, 1989 during raids on branches of the State Bank of Indore in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against the guilty officers of the Bank; and

(d) the present position of the cases?

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

House.

[Translation]

Compensation for losses due to fire in Tobacco Business

6452. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI D.P. JADEJA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the insured person has to bear some part of the loss in tobacco business along with the insurance company in the event of fire;

(b) if so, whether it is in accordance with the concept of insurance;

(c) if so, in what way; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken to stop this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIR): (a) Yes, Sir; The Standard Fire Policy 'C' covering Industrial Risks and Warehouses has a provision of compulsory 'Excess' of Rs. 2,500/- per loss which is to be borne by the insured.

(b) to (d). In case of risks consistently producing adverse loss results, the insurance companies have to introduce certain underwriting norms and one of such norms is to increase the compulsory excess to make the insured conscious of the loss prevention measure to contain such losses. This practice is in accordance with the concept of insurance to minimise the losses. Otherwise the insurance companies would have to resort to loading of the premium rates suitably so as to take care of adverse loss experience.

[English]

Rehabilitation of fishing units by shipping credit and Investment Company of India Limited

6453. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of all fishing units who have applied for relief and rehabilitation from the Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India;

(b) the steps being taken to process these applications expeditiously, in view of the prevalent depression in Industry; and

(c) whether and additional finance will also be given to the fishing units to use as working capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Limited has report that 24 fishing companies have requested for reschedulement of loans/deferment of interest. Since in many cases the proposals do not contain the details required for carrying out appraisal, SCICI has called for relevant information relating to current financial position of the company, profitability projection, debt servicing capacity, specific plan for clearing of overdues, etc. Rehabilitation packages have been finalised in respect of two compa-

nies which have furnished the required information. SCICI has been pursuing with the companies for the requisite information.

(c) Working capital finance is normally provided by commercial banks and, therefore, the question of providing additional finance by Government/SCICI for this purpose does not arise.

[Translation]

Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in LIC

6454. SHRI R.P. SUMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of posts in various categories dereserved in the LIC of India during the last three years;

(b) whether the LIC propose to fill all the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes as per the Govt. Policy and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the LIC propose to make special recruitment to fill the percentage of these reserved posts; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The number of posts dereserved in various categories during the last three years is as under:

Class	1985-86 SC/ST	1986-87 SC/ST	1987-88 SC/ST
I	—	—	—
II	143	103	57
III	99	133	103
IV	14	9	15

(b) Yes, Sir. The unfilled posts will now be kept as backlog vacancies till suitable SC/ST candidates become available.

(c) Yes, Sir. Special Recruitment exclusively for SC/ST candidates is undertaken by every recruiting office of the LIC if the general recruitment does not yield adequate number of SC/ST candidates.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Satellite Stations Around Delhi

6455. PROF. RAMKRISHNA
MORE:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PURO-
HIT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop satellite stations around Delhi in view of recent stampede at the New Delhi railway station;

(b) if so, the full details thereof;

(c) whether the congestion at the existing main stations in Delhi is increasing rapidly; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to decongest the stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Long before the recent unfortunate incident of stampede at New Delhi station, proposals had been initiated, in consultation with the Delhi Development Authority, for developing satellite stations at Holambi Kalan, Bijwasan and Anand Vihar. Sanction has already

been accorded for acquisition of the requisite land at all 3 locations. The former 2 will be developed, in phases, as passenger-cum-freight terminals and the third as a passenger terminal.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) By developing the aforesaid directional terminals, the pressure of traffic at New Delhi and Delhi Junction is expected to be relieved. In addition, it is also proposed to augment the platform facilities at New Delhi by shifting the existing goods shed to Holambi Kalan and part of the coach maintenance facilities to Hazrat Nizamuddin.

[Translation]

Upper Sakri Project of Bihar

6456. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Upper Sakri Project of Bihar has been cleared by Union Government;

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

(c) the funds proposed to be given to Government of Bihar during 1989-90; and

(d) the amount proposed to be spent on this project during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KARISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). The project is not included in the Seventh Plan while the Eighth Plan proposals of Bihar have not been finalised.

[English]

Railway Line between Gooty and Dronachalam and Conversion of Railway Line between Dronachalam and Hyderabad

6457. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to conduct a survey for laying a new broad gauge direct line between Gooty and Dronachalam in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) whether the survey for conversion of Dronachalam-Kurnool-Hyderabad railway line has been completed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and further action taken in the matter?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Rajkot Railway Station

6458. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are plans for electrification, T.V. computerisation and connecting of sleeper lines etc. on a new and modern pattern at Rajkot station so as to provide more facilities to passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the above work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVARAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The Station is already electrified and provided with electrical amenity fittings. There are no plans at present for CCTV and computerisation at Rajkot station.

Improvement to station including remodelling of station building, is a continuous process and the same is done on a need-based programme, in phases, subject to availability of funds. Rajkot station has been selected for being developed as a Model Station. The facilities being provided comprise drinking water, toilets, remodelling of station building, improvements to circulating area etc. at an anticipated cost of Rs. 30.60 lakhs. The work is in progress and is expected to be completed in stages, by the middle of Eighth Plan.

Recharging of Ground Water in Madhya Pradesh

6459. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are contemplating to extend financial assistance to States for carrying investigation for artificially recharging ground water; and

(b) if so, the assistance therefor being provided to Madhya Pradesh during 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Overdrafts by States

6460. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) names of States/Union Territories which were in overdrafts with the Reserve Bank of India as on 31st March, 1989;

(b) the amount outstanding in respect of each of them; and

(c) the action taken against the States which have exceeded the allotted overdraft

facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) and (b). The names of the State Governments which were in overdraft as on March 31, 1989 and the amounts of overdraft are indicated below:

S.No.	States	Amount of Overdraft (Rs. in Crs.)	Number of consecutive working day.
1	2	3	4
1.	Madhya Pradesh	14.96	5
2.	Mizoram	2.56	3
3.	Rajasthan	57.98	1

(c) The overdrafts were wiped out by the State Governments within the period of seven consecutive working days as stipulated under the Overdraft Regulation Scheme and hence the RBI was not required to take action.

Recruitment Rules in MPEDA

6461. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are no recruitment rules in the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA); and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). Out of 473 posts in 87 categories in the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Recruitment Rules exist for 459 posts.

Collection of Premium by LIC and GIC from Policy-Holders

6462. SHRI YOGESHWAR PARSAD YOGESH:
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the prevailing procedure in offices of the Life Insurance Corporation and the General Insurance Corporation for communicating and collecting premium from policy-holders;

(b) whether it is obligatory for the Offices of these corporations to ensure issue of notices to the policy-holders; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The information in regard to Life Insurance Corporation is as under:—

LIC: The premium notices are being sent by LIC to its policy holders well in advance. The premiums are to be paid at the Branch Office of the LIC or in the specified banks in Rural Areas with whom LIC has made arrangements for premium collection.

GIC: Unlike in the case of LIC, General Insurance contracts are annual contracts and the insured may or may not renew the contract with the same insurer. On receipt of a complete proposal form or details of insurance required, the concerned Divisional/Branch Office works out the premium rate and premium is asked for orally or by a letter, to be deposited with the Company.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) There is no legal or contractual obligation to send reminder notices to policyholders. Yet as an act of courtesy, all efforts are made to send the reminder notices to the policyholders.

Streamlining of Rail Traffic In Delhi

6463. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have prepared a Master Plan for Delhi with a view to streamline the rail and freight traffic in the capital city;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the targets fixed, if any, for its

implementation and the estimated total cost?

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

(b) Additional facilities at New Delhi and Nizamuddin Station and development of new terminals.

(c) Work at Nizamuddin is scheduled for completion by June 1990 at an estimated cost of about Rs. 27 crores. No targets fixed for completion of works at New Delhi and other terminals. It is too premature to estimate total cost.

Excise Duty Pending Realisation against M/s ITC Ltd.

6465. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI VJAY N. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated Excise duty to be collected and the actual Excise duty collected from Cigarette manufacturers during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total Excise duty pending realisation against M/s Indian Tobacco Company Ltd. as on 31 March, 1989; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to recover the Excise duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The details are as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Excise duty (Rs. in Crores)</i>	<i>Actual Excise duty collected (Rs. in Crores)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1986-87	1410	1363
1987-88	1575	1470
1988-89	1560 (RBE)	1493 (upto Feb., 1989)

(b) About Rs. 122 Crores.

(c) Legal, administrative and other measures as are considered necessary from time to time are taken to recover the outstanding amounts.

Export of Footwears

6466. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is likely shrinkage of export of shoe uppers in view of the rapidly closing down of footwear manufacturing facilities in the developed countries; and

(b) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to ensure that export of leather goods not only remain at the existing level but grows steadily to earn the much needed foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRIDINESH SINGH): (a) Export of Indian leather shoe uppers have been recording considerable increases over the past few years. According to available information, no steep fall in demand for shoe uppers in world market is foreseen in near future.

(b) Market promotion measures abroad and product development efforts in India for

Indian leather goods to be competitive in world market in terms of price and quality have helped in increasing exports and these measures are proposed to be continued and intensified, wherever, required.

Complaints regarding Violation of Model code of Conduct during Elections

6467. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

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

(a) whether the Election Commission has asked Government to amend the law to punish those who make frivolous allegations against candidates during elections for publicity;

(b) if so, whether complaints regarding violation of the model code of conduct are made; and

(c) the reaction of Union Government thereto and by when the said amendments will be made in the law?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI R.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Recruitment In MITCO

6468. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mica Trading Corporation of India (MITCO) has been incurring losses, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are aware of alleged corruption in MITCO particularly in matters of recruitment; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to investigate the matter at a high level?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) MITCO has incurred a net loss of Rs. 146.96 lakhs in 1987-88 and Rs. 130.66 lakhs (provisional) in 1988-89.

(b) Recruitment in MITCO is made on the basis of merit according to the prescribed recruitment rules.

(c) Does not arise.

Trains Service/Superfast Trains on New Delhi Nagpur-Bombay and New Delhi-Nagpur-Hyderabad Sections

6469. SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes approved to improve the railway traffic and run superfast

trains on the New Delhi-Nagpur-Bombay and New Delhi-Nagpur-Hyderabad Sections; and

(b) the time by which these trains are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). There is presently no proposal for additional trains between New Delhi-Hyderabad/Bombay via Nagpur.

Opening of Branches of State Bank of Indore

6470. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches in urban/rural areas for opening of which the Reserve Bank of India has given licences to the State Bank of Indore during the current year;

(b) whether the Bank has opened all the branches in accordance with the licences given in the year 1988; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90 licences for 46 rural and semi-urban centres and for 3 urban centres were issued to State Bank of Indore. As per the information available with RBI, bank has opened branches at 14 centres including one urban centre so far. RBI has advised the bank to open branches at the remaining centres expeditiously except in rare cases where minimum infrastructural facilities are not available.

[English]

**System of collection of Excise Duty on
Art Silk Processing Industry**

6471. SHRI SAMBHAJIRAO KAKADE:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been collecting excise duty from filament fabrics and also from spun fabrics separately;

(b) if so, whether this separate collection has resulted in loss of revenue;

(c) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Maharashtra Pradesh Fabric Processing Association has made a plea for a fresh appraisal of the excise duty levy system; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). No distinction is made in the rates of excise duty on synthetic fabrics on the ground that such fabrics are made of filament yarn or spun yarn.

(d) and (e). The Maharashtra Pradesh Fabric Processing Association have, in their representation, suggested that the duty leviable on synthetic fabrics may be shifted to the yarn stage. These suggestions have been examined and have not been found acceptable.

[Translation]

Agreement with Poland

6472. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached between India and Poland for avoidance of double taxation.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this agreement will help Indian industrialists in setting up of industries with the assistance of Poland; and

(d) if so, the names of the industries likely to be set up in near future with the assistance of Poland?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The comprehensive agreement between India and Poland for the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income has not yet been concluded at the Government level.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The agreement when in force will encourage the setting up of Joint Ventures and other industrial collaborations both in India and Poland. It is not possible to indicate, at this juncture, the names of the industries likely to be set up as this is done by the individual private sector organizations. Some of the proposals being discussed cover the area of agricultural commodities including tea, hotels and other civil construction projects etc.

Coach Repair Factory at Bhopal

6473. SHRI K.N. PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up some subsidiary industrial units for rail coach repairing factory, Bhopal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far in the regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The onus of setting up of ancillary/subsidiary units lies basically with the Industries Department of the State Governments. Railways have, however, extended the concept of developing ancillary units in and around five new railway workshops/production units, including Rail Coach Repair Shop at Bhopal, by providing assistance in the form of dissemination of information, range of products, annual requirements, R & D assistance, inspection and testing facilities on mutually agreed basis, etc.

[English]

Conversion of Yelahanka-Bangarapet Railway Line

6474. SHRI V. KRISHNARAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long pending demand for the conversion of narrow gauge railway line between Yelahanka and Bangarapet via Chikkaballapur into metre gauge;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to convert this line;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. The demand has been for its conversion to Broad Gauge.

(b) to (d). The survey for its conversion to Broad Gauge revealed that the project was unremunerative. Besides, due to acute constraint of resources and heavy commitments on hand it is difficult to take up this conversion.

Opening of Bank Branches in Idukki District of Kerala

6475. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are unbanked areas in Idukki district of Kerala

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open branches of nationalised banks in those areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (d). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the State Government of Kerala had identified 12 centres for opening branches in District Idukki and out of these, RBI has allotted 10 eligible centres to banks for opening branches as per the norms laid down in the Policy. Banks have already opened branches at 8 centres out of 10 centres. In addition to 10 centres mentioned above, RBI has allotted 4 centres to banks for imple-

menting Service Area Approach to rural lending. RBI has advised the banks to open branches at the remaining centres expeditiously.

[Translation]

Gold Prices

6476. SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold prices have been increasing continuously in the country due to big gap in its stocks and supply in the country;

(b) if so, the extent of gap in its stocks and supply during the last three years; and

(c) the percentage of price rise during this period and the steps taken by Government to stabilise its prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). Since gold is not an essential commodity Government have not estimated the demand of gold in the country. However the year-wise domestic production of gold in the country has been as follows:

Year	Domestic production of gold (kgs.)
1	2
1985	1852.7
1986	1931.1
1987	1864.2
1988	1942.7

Average price of 10 gms. of Standard gold in

1986 was Rs. 2210/-. In 1988 the average price of 10 gms. of Standard gold was Rs. 3202/-. Gold price has risen by 45% during this period. However, gold not being an essential commodity Government does not regulate its price.

[English]

Bank Branches in Pauri District of Uttar Pradesh

6477. SHRI SAREFARAZ AHMAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the lead bank for the Pauri district of Uttar Pradesh and the banks working as a network of the lead bank in the district;

(b) the average distance of the bank branches from one to another and whether these branches compare to branches of the lead bank in the plains in terms of distance;

(c) whether the large territory of Kherakhal region (having an inter college, Post and Telegraph Office and an allopathic hospital) in Khirshu block has any bank branch; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken to open a bank branch/extension counter in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that State Bank of India (SBI) has the lead responsibility for District Pauri Garhwal; it has 37 branches at present in this district and has to open branches at another 18 centres allotted under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90. There are 75 bank offices functioning in District Pauri Garhwal with an average population per bank office

(APPBO) of 8000 which compares favourably with the APPBO of other districts in the plains. After opening of branches at allotted centres a bank branch will normally be available within a distance of 10 km from every village. RBI has reported that the unbanked centre Kherakhal in Khirsu Block which was identified under the current plan, has been allotted to Alaknanda Gramin Bank for opening a branch. The Block Khirsu with population of 36580 is having 10 branches of banks including two branches allotted under the current Policy which are adequate to meet the banking requirements of the area.

Punishment on Dishonour of Cheques

6478. SHRI PRATAPARO B. RHOSALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to award some punishment to the person issuing a cheque if the same is dishonoured;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) in what context this move has been initiated;

(d) whether Government also propose to ask the banks to reduce the clearance period of cheques other than dishonoured ones;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). In terms of the provision contained in Section 4 of the Banking, Public Financial Institutions and Negotiable Instruments Laws (Amendment) Act, 1988 which has come into force with effect from 1.4.1989, where any cheque

drawn by a person on an account maintained by him with a banker for payment of money fro out of that account for discharge in whole or in part of any debt or liability is returned by the bank unpaid because of insufficiency of the amount of money standing to the credit of the account or it exceeds the amount arranged to be paid from that account, such person shall be deemed to have committed an offence and shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to twice the amount of the cheque or with both. The above statutory provisions have been enacted mainly with a view to enhancing the acceptability of cheques in settlement of liabilities.

(d) to (f). Public Sector Banks have taken several measures to effect speedy clearance of outstation cheques. Some of the measures taken include introduction of MICR technology, computerisation of Clearing Houses, establishment of National Clearing and increased use of Courier Service. The banks have also been advised to extend the facility of immediate credit for outstation cheques upto Rs. 2,500/- to individuals and to pay interest at savings bank rate for collection of cheques delayed beyond a specified period.

Production of Tea

6479. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target of production of tea during 1988-89; and

(b) whether the target was achieved?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). Estimated production fo tea during 1988 recorded an all time high level of 700.28 M. Kgs.

Recovery of Loans in Rural Areas

6480. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Cooperative Agricultural and Rural Development Banks Federation has represented to Government that the viability of the Agricultural and Rural Development Banks is in jeopardy due to unsatisfactory loan recovery and other factors;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether the loan recovery has further deteriorated during the current financial year; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for by Government for recovery of loans from the people of rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that National Cooperative Agricultural and Rural Development Banks' Federation had represented that the viability of agricultural and rural development banks is at jeopardy due to unsatisfactory loan recovery, negative margin under ordinary debenture programme and legal inhibitions in diversification of loan portfolios.

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has been advising the cooperative land development banks to remove the deficiencies in their lending procedures and also to improve supervision over the end use of credit. The percentage of recovery to demand of land development banks for the cooperative year 1986-87 was 58.12% as compared to 61.16% for the

previous year. NABARD has been advising these banks to take effective steps for improving their recovery by launching timely recovery drives, creating tie up arrangements with marketing agencies, soliciting necessary help from the State authorities and by effective borrower contacts and education programme.

Renovation of Rail Routes to Achieve Maximum Speed of Electric Trains

6481. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) which of the routes are ready for handling electric trains in the country;

(b) whether electric trains will run faster than existing trains run on diesel and steam engines;

(c) whether on existing rail routes, the speed of electric trains cannot be increased to its maximum capacity; and

(d) if so, whether the Railways are contemplating to renovate railway lines to make them fit for running fast electric trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Trunk routes and their parts ready for handling electric trains in the country are:—

(i) Delhi-Howrah Via Grand Chord.

(ii) Delhi-Bombay (Western Railway).

(iii) Delhi-Bhopal and Bhusaval-Bombay of Delhi-Bombay (Central Railway).

(iv) Howrah-Durg of Howrah-Nagpur.

(v) Madras-Vijayawada-Belampalli.

(vi) Madras-Jolarpettai.

(b) Generally, Yes Sir.

(c) and (d). Increase of speed of electric trains to maximum capacity is related to type of track, coaches, signalling and other parameters. Within these limitations trains are being run faster under electric traction.

**Card Passes to Freedom Fighters
(validity on Shatabdi Express)**

6482. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the complimentary card passes issued to the Freedom Fighters are not valid on Shatabdi Express; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). All complimentary passes including those issued to the Freedom Fighters are not valid in Shatabdi Express due to its special fare structure which includes the cost of catering also.

Restoration of 17/18 Link Express

6483. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need and growing demand to reintroduce 17/18 Link Express in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to implement the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). 17/18 Link Express, which was running combined with 47/48 Hirakhand Express between Titlagarh-Vizianagram, is proposed to be run as an independent train with effect from May, 1989.

**Opening of Bank Branch at Sagar Pur,
New Delhi**

6484. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 11 December, 1987 to the Unstarred Question No. 5319 regarding opening of Central Bank of India Branch at Sagar Pur, New Delhi and state:

(a) whether the Central Bank of India has taken final decision and submitted its proposal to the Reserve Bank of India for opening of its branch at Sagar Pur, New Delhi-110046;

(b) if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken by the Central Bank of India in this regard;

(c) whether any other public sector bank have submitted any proposal to the Reserve Bank of India for opening a branch at Sagar Pur; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and latest development/fate of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Central Bank of India (CBI) has reported that a proposal for opening a branch at Sagar Pur, Delhi was submitted to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in the month of December, 1987. RBI, however, advised the bank to submit the proposal for metropolitan centres during

the next policy period i.e. after 31.3.1990.

(c) RBI has reported that it has not received any proposal from other public sector banks for opening branch at Sagar Pur, Delhi.

(d) Does not arise.

Additional Train Services for Kerala

6485. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total accommodation which was available in the trains going to Kerala from Delhi before the conversion of the Kerala Express into a daily train;

(b) the total accommodation available at present;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the accommodation to cope with the growing need on this route; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Prior to conversion of Kerala Express into a daily train, 132 Up Mangala Express was running on 5

days and 126 Up Kerala Express on 2 days a week. The daily average number of berths available in these trains was 59 in AC 2-tier, 28 in First Class and 833 in Second Class.

(b) At present, 92 berths in AC 2-Tier, 44 berths in First Class and 936 berths in Second Class per day are available in 126 Up Kerala Express.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Summer Specials to Kerala

6486. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the summer specials have been announced;

(b) the number of trains being run to Kerala to cope with summer rush; and

(c) the other details in this regard?

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

(b) and (c). The following summer specials have been planned during April to June, 1989, in Kerala:

i) Trivandrum-Madras	Weekly	from 22nd April to 14th June
ii) Madras-Calicut	Weekly	from 27th April to 16th June
iii) Trivandrum-Bangalore	Weekly	from 23rd April to 12th June
iv) Bombay V.T.-Trivandrum	Weekly	from 8th April to 13th June

Cases pending in Bombay High Court

6487. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of accident deaths pending in the Bombay High Court;

(b) the arrears of other cases also;

(c) whether it is possible to have them resolved through the machinery of Lok Adalats, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). As on 1.3.1989, 750 accident death cases and 1,44,520 other cases were pending in the Bombay High Court.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes and the State Boards are taking steps to motivate each High Court, including Bombay High Court, to organise Lok Adalats for this purpose.

Irrigation Projects pending for Approval of Karnataka

6488. SHRI H.G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) steps taken for speedy clearance of irrigation projects in Karnataka pending with Government; and

(b) the names of such projects and the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). Techno-economic appraisal of Hippargi and Karanja irrigation projects has been completed. Comments of Central Water Commission in respect of Bennithora irrigation project have been sent to the State Government.

The State is also required to obtain clearance from environmental angle on

these projects.

Outstanding Income/Wealth Tax against Film Artistes, Distributors and Producers

6489. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of film line artistes/distributors/producers who still owe more than Rupees one lakh as demand of Income tax and Wealth-tax and the total amount outstanding against each of them as on date;

(b) whether proceedings U/S 26(3) of the I.T. Act have been initiated against them and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) There were 144 cases of film line artistes/distributors/producers who owed more than Rupees one lakh as demand of income-tax and wealth-tax as on 31.12.1988. The names of such persons alongwith the amount outstanding against each of them is given in the statement below.

(b) Proceedings under section 226(3) of the Income-tax Act requiring debtors of the assesseees to pay directly to the Income-tax Department, have been initiated in eight cases.

(c) Normally, in the first instance, simple modes of recovery like levy of penalty are resorted to. Action under section 226(3) is a coercive measure of recovery and is resorted to when such simple modes do not yield results. Besides this, in many cases the recovery of demands has been stayed by courts/other authorities or the demands have been disputed in appeals. Where recovery is stayed by courts/other authorities,

action under section 226(3) cannot be taken.
Even where demands have been disputed in

appeals, action under section 226(3) is
generally not resorted to.

STATEMENT

List of Film-line artists/producers/distributors who owed Income-tax/Wealth-tax demand of over Rs. 1 lakh as on 31.12.1988.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the assessee tax demand</i>	<i>Amount of Income-tax/Wealth- tax demand (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1	2	3
1.	Amjad Khan	84.92
2.	A.V. Mohan	16.80
3.	Aruna International (P) Ltd	129.82
4.	A. Sreedevi	28.87
5.	A. Nageswara Rao	3.54
6.	Anjuham Pictures	1.59
7.	Asha Bhosale	3.68
8.	Asha B. Parekh	3.08
9.	Barkha Roy	10.42
10.	Biswjit Chatterjee	1.89
11.	Balaji Films & Finance Dist. Co. (Pvt) Ltd.	3.01
12.	Bhappi Lahiri	2.51
13.	B.D. Sakseria	1.06
14.	Chhayaloke (P) Ltd	4.53
15.	Chandivali Outdoor Location	3.03
16.	Darshanlal Diwan	15.55
17.	Deluxe International	23.19
18.	D. Venkatesh	3.05

1	2	3
19.	Dada Kondke	1.24
20.	Dimple Khanna	7.09
21.	Farooq Ahmed Farrpuri (Decd)	13.88
22.	Gulab M. Gulabani	35.43
23.	G. Madhavi	12.00
24.	G. Venkateswaran	11.37
25.	G. Radhakrishna	2.97
26.	G.S.R. Krishnamurthy	8.06
27.	G. Nagarathamma	3.51
28.	G.V. Raghaviah (Decd)	2.72
29.	Golden Cine Studios Ltd.	1.78
30.	G. Savithri (Late)	6.84
31.	G. Vijaya Nirmala	5.92
32.	Gurudutt Films (P) Ltd.	8.43
33.	Hira Chand Vestaram	6.90
34.	Helen Ann Richardson	1.70
35.	Hema Malini	7.91
36.	Indira Devi	3.62
37.	Jeetendra Kapoor	11.25
38.	J. Jamuna	1.11
39.	K.R. Films (P) Ltd	66.61
40.	Ketan M. Desai	34.38
41.	Kamalvijay Productions	43.64

1	2	3
42.	Krishna Film Enterprises	14.15
43.	K. Kalpana (Decd.)	18.73
44.	K. Subramaniam	37.22
45.	K. Bhagyaraj	9.82
46.	K.J. Roy	1.90
47.	K. Chiranjeevi	5.92
48.	Kalpana Movies (P) Ltd	1.46
49.	Kadar Khan	6.01
50.	Kalpeswar Films (P) Ltd	1.74
51.	K.A. Narayan	8.67
52.	L.R. Mirchandani	12.38
53.	Lohit Enterprises (Pvt. Trust)	8.28
54.	Motion Picture	108.85
55.	Mandre Theatre	1.63
56.	M.L. Meyyappa Chettiar	2.30
57.	M.L.M. Movies	2.59
58.	M. Umayal	1.61
59.	Mahesh Babu	2.85
60.	M.R. Radhika	1.76
61.	M.R.R. Vasu	1.39
62.	Minaco Gem Movies (P)	7.45
63.	Mohan Kumar Sharma	7.44
64.	Moushmi Chatterjee	2.16

1	2	3
65.	N.N. Sippy	34.02
66.	Neera P. Mehra	13.77
67.	Navrang Cine Centre (P) Ltd.	390.73
68.	N. Veeraswamy & Others	11.03
69.	N.T. Rama Rao	9.42
70.	N. Veeraswamy	5.60
71.	N.T. Rama Rao Family Trust	4.73
72.	O.P. Raihan	37.46
73.	Prakash Mehra	182.51
74.	Prakash Mehra Combine	24.97
75.	Prem Nazir	10.71
76.	Padmalaya Studios (P) Ltd	30.25
77.	Padmalaya Films	15.51
78.	Padmalaya	2.66
79.	Padmalaya Movies	2.74
80.	Praveena Film Circuit	6.26
81.	Pushpavalli	1.84
82.	Padmini Kolhapure	2.77
83.	Parveen Babi	3.80
84.	Pramod Chakravorty	6.95
85.	Ranbir Raj Kapoor	50.55
86.	Ranjit Singh Virk	10.42
87.	Rajesh Khanna	28.73

.1	2	3
88.	Ramnord Research Lab.	14.18
89.	Rati Agnihotri	16.68
90.	Ravindra K. Vankudra	14.42
91.	R. Rajinikanth	31.53
92.	Ramakrishna Cine Studios	2.03
93.	R.N. Mandre	2.07
94.	R.K. Colour Film Lab. (P) Ltd.	1.67
95.	Ranjeet Bedi	4.74
96.	Randhir Raj Kapoor	4.42
97.	Satyendra Pal Choudhary	49.39
98.	Sangam Art International	18.82
99.	Shaila Sethi	18.30
100.	Shashi Raj Kapoor	22.50
101.	Sippy Films	15.86
102.	Sumeet Films	15.67
103.	Suresh Desai & Associates	96.55
104.	Satram Rohra	42.99
105.	Sujatha Films (P) Ltd.	193.60
106.	S. Kamal Hassan	21.04
107.	Sangam Enterprises	1.56
108.	Sripriya	2.31
109.	Sujatha Venkateswaran	1.78
110.	S.N. Maran	5.75

1	2	3
111.	S.P. Venkanna Babu	1.79
112.	S. Selvam	1.69
113.	Screen Finance (P) Ltd.	3.46
114.	Suresh Production	1.11
115.	S.S. Rajendran	1.60
116.	Shivani Films (P) Ltd	6.84
117.	Sachin Bhowmick	1.42
118.	Sanjay alias Abbas Khan	1.36
119.	Sardar Malik	5.17
120.	Sarika Thakur	1.44
121.	Shakti Kapoor	5.84
122.	Shatrughan Sinha	7.06
123.	Salyendra Kumar Sharma	5.13
124.	Sawan Kumar Tak.	7.65
125.	Shah & Shah Films	1.04
126.	Shabana Azami	2.08
127.	Sujit Kumar	1.71
128.	Subhash Gai	4.23
129.	S.M. Sagar	1.55
130.	20th Century Fox Films Corpn.	18.17
131.	T.R. Ramachandran	9.18
132.	V. Nenka Rao	46.76
133.	Vijay Enterprises	4.38

1	2	3
134.	Vijaya Picture	1.86
135.	Vanishree	5.50
136.	V.C. Ganesan	4.14
137.	V.C. Shanmugam	5.65
138.	V.C.R. Samy	2.03
139.	Vidya Sinha	7.41
140.	Vikram Alias M.N. Makandar	3.38
141.	Vinod Mehra	1.85
142.	Vijay Anand	6.40
143.	Yash Raj Chopra (WT)	15.51
144.	Yash Raj Chopra	3.46

Bank Roberies in Assam

and

6490. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(d) the steps taken to safeguard the public money as well as the life of the banking staff?

(a) whether Government are aware of increase in bank robberies in North Eastern Region particularly in Assam;

(b) if so, the number of bank robberies which took place in Assam during 1987-88 and 1988-89;

(c) the total amount involved and the number of bank employees killed therein;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). During the years 1987, 1988 and 1989 (31.3.89), 12 bank robberies were reported from the North Eastern Region. During this period, public sector banks in Assam reported 7 cases of bank robberies, as per details given below:-

Year	No. of bank robberies/dacoities	Amount involved (Rs. in lacs)
1987	3	4.72
1988	2	1.22
1989 (upto 31.3.89)	2	1.09

No bank employee has been killed in the incidents reported from Assam

(d) Bank robberies/dacoities, to a considerable extent, depend on the general security environment in the locality. Banks, however, have been taking steps to improve their security arrangements to deter miscreants. As this is a continuous process, security measures implemented by public sector banks are being reviewed from time to time and whenever further improvements are considered necessary, requisite guidelines/instructions are given to the banks. Depending on the risk factor involved, steps have been taken to appoint security guards, instal appropriate alarm systems, etc. in branches. Further, in order to motivate bank employees, the general public and the police to resist robberies/dacoities a scheme for giving rewards is in operation.

Banks Branches and Deposits

6491. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of the State Bank of India, Group, nationalised banks, other Indian scheduled commercial banks and foreign banks, Statewise in 1986, 1987 and 1988, in (i) Rural (ii) Semi-Urban, (iii) Urban, and (iv) Metropolitan Centres; and

(b) the total deposits, advances, earnings, expenditure and profits of these bank groups during the corresponding period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Statewise and population group-wise number of branches of all scheduled commercial banks as on December, 1986, December 1987 and September, 1988 (latest available) are indicated in the statements I, II & III respectively below.

(b) The total deposits and advances of all scheduled commercial banks as on last Friday of December, 1986, 1987 and 1988 was as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Deposits	Advances
December, 1986	102401	61608
December, 1987	118608	68950
December, 1988	139440*	80123*

* (Data are provisional)

As per the information available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the total net profit of State Bank of India and its associates, nationalised banks, Indian Private

Sector Banks and foreign Banks during the year 1986 and 1987 (Latest available) was Rs. 272 crores and Rs. 341 crores respectively.

STATEMENT-I

State-wise and population group-wise number of branches of all scheduled commercial banks as on 31.12.1986

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban	Metro- politan/ Port Town	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2415	808	445	473	4141
2.	Assam	662	218	101	—	981
3.	Bihar	3184	610	438	—	4232
4.	Gujarat	1511	672	511	395	3089
5.	Haryana	625	232	236	—	1113
6.	Himachal Pradesh	482	79	—	—	561
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	525	65	137	—	727
8.	Karnataka	2150	752	434	601	3937
9.	Kerala	619	1672	282	152	2725
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2556	652	546	—	3754

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban	Metro- politan/ Port Town	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Maharashtra	2082	758	666	1427	4933
12.	Manipur	41	9	17	—	67
13.	Meghalaya	94	13	25	—	132
14.	Nagaland	42	24	—	—	66
15.	Orissa	1286	249	192	10	1737
16.	Punjab	1082	471	455	—	2008
17.	Rajasthan	1724	521	438	—	2683
18.	Sikkim	15	4	—	—	19
19.	Tamil Nadu	1671	984	667	612	3934
20.	Tripura	92	21	23	—	136
21.	Uttar Pradesh	4825	1132	1167	240	7364
22.	West Bengal	1689	553	329	867	3438

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban	Metro- politan/ Port Town	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9	1	—	4	14
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	55	1	—	—	56
25.	Chandigarh	13	5	89	—	107
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6	—	—	—	6
27.	Delhi	73	5	—	981	1059
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	163	78	—	19	260
29.	Lakshadweep	5	—	—	—	5
30.	Mizoram	42	8	—	—	50
31.	Pondicherry	28	10	—	25	63
	Total	29766	10607	7218	5806	53397

STATEMENT-II

State-wise and population group-wise number of branches of all scheduled commercial banks as on 31.12.1987

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban	Metropoli- tan/Port town	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2433	912	447	471	4263
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	55	1	—	—	56
3.	Assam	695	217	101	—	1013
4.	Bihar	3153	681	437	—	4271
5.	Goa	156	77	—	19	252
6.	Gujarat	1501	703	520	394	3118
7.	Haryana	699	242	256	—	1197
8.	Himachal Pradesh	539	78	—	—	617
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	525	66	137	—	728
10.	Karnataka	2174	778	434	609	3995
11.	Kerala	614	1705	283	150	2752

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban	Metro- politan/ Port Town	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2661	658	550	—	3869
13.	Maharashtra	2118	828	668	1431	5045
14.	Manipur	39	9	17	—	65
15.	Meghalaya	95	13	25	—	133
16.	Mizoram	42	8	—	—	50
17.	Nagaland	43	24	—	—	67
18.	Orissa	1343	248	190	10	1791
19.	Punjab	1119	474	454	—	2047
20.	Rajasthan	1785	547	437	—	2769
21.	Sikkim	15	4	—	—	19
22.	Tamil Nadu	1679	1036	669	606	3990
23.	Tripura	87	28	24	—	139

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban	Metro- political/ Port Town	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5067	1172	1183	242	7664
25.	West Bengal	1774	590	331	870	3565
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9	1	—	5	15
27.	Chandigarh	13	5	89	—	107
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6	—	—	—	6
29.	Delhi	73	6	—	976	1055
30.	Daman & Diu	1	9	—	—	10
31.	Lakshadweep	5	—	—	—	5
32.	Pondicherry	27	10	—	26	63
	Total	30545	11130	7252	5809	54736

STATEMENT-III

State-wise and population group-wise number of branches of all scheduled commercial banks as on 30.9.1988 (latest available)

Sr. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban	Metropolitan/ Port town	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2495	914	455	478	4342
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	56	1	—	—	57
3.	Assam	720	217	103	—	1040
4.	Bihar	3227	681	454	—	4362
5.	Goa	154	80	—	19	253
6.	Gujarat	1553	693	540	397	3183
7.	Haryana	728	243	259	—	1230
8.	Himachal Pradesh	553	77	—	—	630
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	528	64	139	—	731
10.	Karnataka	2216	775	445	624	4060
11.	Kerala	612	1729	290	151	2782

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban	Metro- politan/ Port Town	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2711	648	574	—	3933
13.	Maharashtra	2211	810	671	1447	5139
14.	Manipur	40	9	18	—	67
15.	Meghalaya	98	12	27	—	137
16.	Mizoram	42	8	—	—	50
17.	Nagaland	44	24	—	—	68
18.	Orissa	1386	239	193	'13	1831
19.	Punjab	1128	476	457	—	2061
20.	Rajasthan	1813	546	440	—	2799
21.	Sikkim	21	4	—	—	25
22.	Tamil Nadu	1758	1036	671	618	4083
23.	Tripura	99	23	25	—	147

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Rural	Semi- Urban	Urban	Metro- politan/ Port Town	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5190	1169	1201	248	7808
25.	West Bengal	1912	595	320	873	3700
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9	1	—	6	16
27.	Chandigarh	13	5	89	—	107
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6	—	—	—	6
29.	Daman & Diu	1	9	—	—	10
30.	Delhi	72	6	—	991	1069
31.	Lakshadweep	5	—	—	—	5
32.	Pondicherry	28	10	—	28	66
	All India	31429	11104	7371	5893	55797

**Opening of Office of Banking Service
Recruitment Board at Gangtok**

6492. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employment potential of local candidates for the State Bank of India and other nationalised banks is considerable in Sikkim as well as in Darjeeling;

(b) whether Government propose to set up an office of the Banking Services Recruitment Board at Gangtok to make use of employment potential of Sikkim and Darjeeling;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). Banking Service Recruitment Boards have two types of jurisdiction:

- (i) geographical comprising a State or group of smaller States/Union Territories for recruitment of persons for clerical cadre and
- (ii) all India recruitment of officers for a bank or group of banks designated as its participating banks. Recruitment of personnel in the clerical cadre for the 28 public sector banks in West Bengal, Sikkim and Andaman-Nicobar Islands as also officers cadre in UCO Bank come under the jurisdiction of BSRB, Calcutta. Since candidates residing in any part of the country can apply against the posts advertised by BSRBs and BSRB, Cal-

cutta is meeting the staff requirement of bank branches in Darjeeling & Sikkim, there is proposal to set up an office of BSRB at Gangtok.

**Computerised Reservation at Borivili
(Bombay)**

6493. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Western Railway has taken decision to start computerised system of reservation at Borivili (Bombay);

(b) by when it would start functioning; and

(c) the number of trains to be covered by this system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) It has been decided by the Ministry of Railways to extend the computerised reservation facility in Bombay to Borivili.

(b) The work is expected to be completed in mid 1991, depending upon availability of funds.

(c) All the trains handled in Bombay area, on which reservations are made, both on the Western and Central Railways, would be covered by the computerised system.

Utilisation of World Bank Loans

6494. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank loans given by Union Government to different authorities/companies/sectors have been properly

utilised and the targeted schedules have been achieved;

(b) If not, the details thereof;

(c) the World Bank loans given to different towns development authorities, oil sectors and housing projects throughout the country during the last three years;

(d) what kind of monitoring process is adopted; and

(e) what efforts are being made to ensure proper utilisation of all loans routed through Government?

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

EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The World Bank loans are provided for specific projects. The details of loans/credits provided for projects in Urban Development, Housing and Oil Sectors during the last three years are given in the statement below.

(d) and (e). An extensive monitoring system through intensive reviews involving the Department of Economic Affairs, the administrative Ministry and State Government concerned, has been set up to facilitate the timely implementation of projects. In addition State governments have been requested to institute high level quarterly reviews of externally aided projects with similar objectives.

STATEMENT

List of World Bank projects in Urban Development, Housing and oil sectors

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Amount of loan/credit in US \$ Million		Date of agreement
		IBRD	IDA	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Gujarat Urban Development project.	—	62.0	15.4.1986
2.	Uttar Pradesh Urban Development Project.	20.0	130.0	21.12.1987
3.	Tamil Nadu Urban Development project.	—	300.0	16.9.1988
4.	Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) project.	250.0	—	21.4.1988
5.	Oil India Petroleum project.	140.0	—	29.6.1987
6.	Western Gas Development project.	295.0	—	21.4.1988

**Public demonstration before DRM,
Asansol**

6495. SHRI R.P. DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demonstration of the villagers before the Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway Asansol was held on 25 January, 1989, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the demands of the demonstrators;

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Office Bearers of Marxist Co-ordination Committee and Passenger Association of Kumarduby-Barakar Section met Additional Divisional Railway Manager, Asansol on 25.1.89 and handed over to him two separate representations, one for a halt station at Elakend village between Kalubathan and Chhota-Ambana stations on the Grand Chord Section of Eastern Railway and another for introduction of an additional train between Asansol and Dhanbad.

(c) It has been decided to run an additional train on Asansol-Dhanbad Section with effect from 1.5.89. Opening of a halt station at Elakend village between Kalubathan and Chhota-Ambana stations is not considered justified.

Decision of CAT, Hyderabad

6496. SHRI R.P. DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received identical telegrams from various branches of Switchmen Committee of South Central Railway demanding implementation of Central Administrative Tribunal,

Hyderabad's decision of 30th April, 1988;

(b) the details of Central Administrative Tribunal, Hyderabad's decision;

(c) whether Government are taking steps to implement the Central Administrative Tribunal's decision; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The Switchmen Committee of South Central Railway has filed a petition in High Court of Andhra Pradesh in 1982 which was subsequently transferred to CAT/Hyderabad in 1986. The Tribunal gave two decisions, one on 1.2.88 and the other on 27.4.88. In its decision of 1.2.88 the Tribunal has directed the applicants to make representation to the Railway Administration for seeking reliefs, while on 27.4.88 they have directed the Railway Administration for expeditious disposal of the representations. Referring to the Tribunal's decision of 1.2.88, the Switchmen of Vijayawada Division of South Central Railway had sent their representation to the Railway Administration for consideration.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Proposal to encourage Investment by
Foreign Trading Houses**

6497. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are considering the possibility of allowing foreign trading houses to hold 51 per cent equity with a view to encouraging investment, employment and exports in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Dangers from Hirakud and Mahanadi Dams

6498. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hirakud Dam in Orissa poses danger to the people in the neighbourhood;

(b) if so, the nature of dangers anticipated;

(c) whether any study has been made to determine the frequency of floods occurring in Mahanadi River before and after the construction of the Dam; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The findings of the study indicate that the frequency of occurrence of floods has decreased in the river portion on the downstream of the dam.

Rehabilitation of Oustees of Sardar Sarovar Project

6499. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of oustees of Sardar Sarovar Project rehabilitated so far, State-wise;

(b) the area of land allocated to them so far and the land yet to be allocated indicating the allocation plan in this regard; and

(c) the time by which all oustees will be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) 757 families of Gujarat and 81 families of Maharashtra.

(b) While 371 hectares of land has been allocated, the overall requirement of land for resettlement of oustees of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh is 7000 hectares, 3364 hectares and 15083 hectares respectively.

(c) The resettlement is to be completed prior to filling of reservoir.

Slow Moving World Bank Projects

6500. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the World Bank Vice President has expressed disappointment over 16 slow moving World Bank Projects in India as reported in Indian Express dated 26th February, 1989;

(b) what are these projects and the reasons for their lagging behind; and

(c) the corrective steps taken/proposed to rejuvenate these projects on a priority basis?

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

The Statement referred to is based on the outcome of a review conducted to identify projects which are relatively slower discharging in relation to other projects in the respective sectors. The list of the sixteen identified projects is as follows:

1. Central Power Transmission
2. Indira Sarovar
3. Farakka Thermal Power-II
4. Kerala Power
5. Upper Indrawati Power
6. West Bengal Minor Irrigation
7. Upper Ganga Irrigation
8. Maharashtra Irrigation
9. Rainfed watershed
10. Himalayan Watershed
11. National Agriculture Extension-I
12. Tamil Nadu Water Supply
13. M.P. Urban
14. Calcutta Urban-III
15. Railway Electrification
16. Jharia Coking Coal

Among the major factors which have contributed to relatively slower disbursement performance are delays in land acquisition and in securing mandatory clearances, including environment and forest clearances, technical problems, unexpected cost savings, and inadequate counterpart funding in State sector projects.

An extensive monitoring system through intensive reviews involving the Department of Economic Affairs, the administrative Ministry and State Government concerned, has been set up to facilitate the timely implementation of projects. In addition, State Governments have been requested to institute high level quarterly reviews of externally aided projects, with similar objectives.

Gaya Railway Station

6501. SHRIR.P. DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether passenger facilities are not well developed at Gaya railway station;

(b) if so, whether Government have chalked out any scheme for the development of this station; and

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

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

(b) and (c). Gaya station has been selected for being developed as a model station. The facilities being provided comprise drinking water, toilets, better lighting, additions and improvements to platforms and shelters over platforms retiring rooms, improved booking and reservation facilities, improvement to circulating area etc. The works at the station are in progress and are expected to be completed in stages, by the middle of the Eighth Plan.

Palghat Railway Hospital

6502. SHRIR.P. DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government

has been drawn to the press report appearing in Malayalam Daily "Express" dated 23 February, 1989 about alleged negligence, unhelpful and irresponsible attitude of the doctors and staff of Palghat Railway Hospital in the background of reported death of 6 patients admitted there; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken to rectify the situation in the said Hospital?

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

(b) On receipt of an anonymous telex message dt. 18.2.89, prior to appearance of the subject news item, the matter had been checked in detail both at the level of the Divisional Office Palghat and the Headquarters Office of Southern Railway. Due care was taken of, proper and adequate treatment was given to all the six deceased patients at the Palghat Railway Hospital and that there was no negligence.

Foreign Exchange Earnings from foreign Tourists

6503. DR. DIGNIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign exchange payments made by travel agents on behalf of foreign nationals/tourists staying in Indian hotels is considered to be foreign exchange earnings, of the travel agent and not of the hotel;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the salient features of the scheme, if any, in this regard;

(d) whether the hotels where foreign nationals stay also get some credit/commis-

sion for foreign exchange earnings for their services;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being planned to set right this anomaly?

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

Bench of Supreme Court in South

6504. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand for setting up of a bench of Supreme Court in South;

(b) if so, the decision of Union government in this regard;

(c) the details of the report of the Law Commission in this matter;

(d) whether any similar demands have also been made by people of other parts of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICED AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government can take a decision in this regard only on a reference from the Chief Justice of India in terms of Article 130 of the Constitution. No such proposal has been received from the Chief Justice of India.

(c) The Law Commission in its 125th Report has suggested that if the Supreme Court is split into Constitutional Court and Court of Appeal or a Federal Court of Appeal as recommended by it, no serious exception could be taken to the Federal Court of Appeal sitting in Benches in North, South, East, West and Central India.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Such demands have been received from a few Bar association and other organisation.

Central Excise Duty Pending Realisation

6505. SHRISANATKUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Industrial Houses/ companies against whom Central Excise Duty amounting to rupees one crore and above is outstanding as on 31 March, 1989; and

(b) the effective steps being taken to recover the same?

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

(b) Administrative, legal and other measures as are considered necessary from time to time continue to be taken to recover the amounts.

STATEMENT

Tentative list showing details of Industrial Houses/Companies against whom Central Excise Duty in confirmed demands amounting to Rs. 1 Crore & above outstanding as on 31 March, 1989.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Company</i>	<i>Industrial House</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	J.K. Cigarettes Ltd.	
2.	Chandra Industries	
3.	Bhakra Beas Management Board	
4.	Manufacturing Technologies India Ltd.	
5.	Punstar Electronics Ltd.	
6.	Punjab National Fertiliser Corporation Ltd.	
7.	Bralco Metal Industries	
8.	Bombay Tyres International Ltd	Modi
9.	Hindustan Lever Ltd.	Hindustan Lever
10.	Metal Forgings Pvt. Ltd.	

1	2	3
11.	Metal Box (I) Ltd.	Metal Box
12.	Good Year (I) Ltd.	
13.	Amarpali Strantared (P) Ltd.	
14.	Frick India Ltd.	
15.	Sunder Singh & Co. (P) Ltd.	
16.	Somany Pilkington Ltd.	
17.	Garware Plastics & Polyester Pvt. Ltd	Garware
18.	Surat Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills Pvt. Ltd	Mafatlal
19.	Ralli Machines Ltd.	Rallis
20.	Wood Paper Mills Ltd.	
21.	Gujarat State Fertiliser Corpn.	
22.	Lakhanpal National Ltd.	
23.	I.P.C.I.	
24.	Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.	
25.	New Swadesh, Mills	
26.	Aryodaya spinning & Weaving Co.	
27.	Arvind Mills	Kasturbhai Lalbhai
28.	Ashoka Mills	Kasturbhai Lalbhai
29.	Aruna Mills	Kasturbhai Lalbhai
30.	M.H. Mills	
31.	Arbuda Mills	Shri Ambica
32.	Soma Textiles	
33.	Mihir Textiles	Mafatlal

1	2	3
34.	Ambica Mills	Shri Ambica
35.	Calico Mills	
36.	New Shorrock Mills	
37.	Commercial Mills	
38.	Rustom Mills	
39.	Mahindra Mills	
40.	Gujarat Machinery Manufacturers	
41.	Elecon Engineering Co.	
42.	Shri Vallabh Glass Works	
43.	S.S. Synthetics	Lohia Machines
44.	J.K. Cotton Mills	
45.	Hindustan Fertiliser Corpn.	
46.	Kirloskar Oil Engine Ltd.	Kirloskar
47.	I.C.I.M. Ltd.	
48.	Kasat Chemicals	
49.	Madhavnagar Cotton Mills	
50.	Bajaj Auto Ltd.	Bajaj
51.	Thermax Pvt. Ltd	
52.	TELCO	Tata
53.	Dr. Beck & Co.	Mahindra & Mahindra
54.	Mahindra Sintered Products	Mahindra & Mahindra
55.	Peico Elec. & Elect.	Philips
56.	SAIL	

1	2	3
57.	Sewa Paper Ltd.	
58.	F.C.I. Ltd.,	
59.	J.K. Synthetics Ltd.	J.K. Singhania
60.	Madras Refineries Ltd.	
61.	Ashok Leyland	Ashok Leyland
62.	Madras Sneet Glass	
63.	National Carbon Company	
64.	Madras Fertilisers Ltd.	
65.	Madras Rubber Factory	
66.	M.M. Rubber Co.	
67.	R.C.F. Ltd.	
68.	Vijay Synthetics	
69.	May & Baker	
70.	Mahindra & Mahindra	Mahindra & Mahindra
71.	Modi Xerox Ltd.	Modi
72.	I.T.C. Ltd.	I.T.C.
73.	Vijay Tractor	
74.	Shriram Pistons & Rings Ltd.	Shri Ram
75.	Modi Cloth Mills	
76.	Modi Spg. & Wvg. Mills	Modi
77.	Modi Pon Ltd.	Modi
78.	BEML	
79.	Vikrant Tyres Ltd.	

1	2	3
80.	Window Glass Ltd.	
81.	Jessop & Co. Ltd.	
82.	Titagarh Paper Mills	
83.	Burn Standard Co. Ltd.	
84.	Sirpur Paper Mills	Birla
85.	Voltas Ltd	Tata
86.	Garware Paints	Garware
87.	I.E.L. (Fibre Division)	I.C.I.
88.	New Reshma Dyeing	
89.	NOCIL	Mafatlal
90.	Sharda Synthetics	
91.	CEAT Tyres	Ceat Tyres
92.	Rallifan	
93.	Ralliwolf	
94.	Johnson & Johnson	
95.	Kores (I) Ltd.	Birla
96.	Radha Dyeing	
97.	O.N.G.C.	
98.	Universal Hydrocarbon	
99.	Electricity Board, Patna	
100.	Rohtas Industries	
101.	TISCO	Tata
102.	INCAB Industries Ltd.	

1**2****3**

103.	Bharat Wagon & Engg. Co. Ltd	
104.	Ashok Steel	
105.	Madura Coats	Madura Coats
106.	D.C.W. Sahapuram	S.P. Jain
107.	Fenner (I) Ltd.	
108.	Orient Paper Mills	Birla
109.	Jeypore Sugar Mills	V. Ramakrishna
110.	Hindustan Pilkington Glass Works	Somany
111.	Punalur Paper Mills	
112.	Premier Tyres	
113.	Teeson Rubber Products	
114.	Uptron India Co., Ltd. (Digital Systems Division)	
115.	Mazagaon Dock Ltd.	
116.	Cantreads (P) Ltd.	
117.	Bengal Paper Mills	Baugur
118.	L.M.L. Fibres Ltd.	Lohia Machines
119.	Verma Mukherjee Pvt. Ltd	
120.	Godrej Soaps Ltd.	Godrej
121.	Lajya Dyeing	
122.	Sharp Prints Pvt. Ltd.	
123.	Special Steel Ltd.	
124.	Ram Gopal Textiles Pvt. Ltd.	
125.	Ampro food Products.	

1	2	3
126.	Hindustan Steel Work Construction Ltd.	
127.	O.R.G. System (Division of M/s Ambalal Sarabhai Enterprises)	
128.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	
129.	Sunil Plastics	
130.	Panama Labs Pvt. Ltd.	
131.	Hindon River Mills	
132.	Willard India Ltd.	
133.	Swadeshi Polytex Ltd.	
134.	Aryodaya Ginning & Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	
135.	Ahmedabad Cotton Manufacturing Co.	
136.	Pioma Industries	
137.	Ramakrishna Mills Ltd.	
138.	Maniklal & Hiralal Mills Ltd.	
139.	Spare Equipments Pvt. Ltd.	
140.	Indo Asahi Glass Co. Ltd.	
141.	F.C.I.	
142.	R.I. Ltd.	
143.	H.E.C.	
144.	Dilkush Dyeing & Printing Works.	

Additional Repayment Burden due to fall in Rupee value vis-a-vis Dollar

6506. SHRISANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether over the years Rupee value has declined vis-a-vis Dollar;

(b) if so, the estimated additional burden on corporate borrowers of foreign loans; and

(c) the steps being taken to check the falling value of Rupee against Dollar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The exchange rate of Rupee is fixed with reference to the value of a basket of currencies, mainly of countries which are India's major trading partners. In a regime of floating exchange rates, upward or downward movements of the value of Rupee, which depend on the fluctuations in the value of these currencies, is a normal phenomenon. It is however correct that the value of Rupee in relation to US \$ has declined over the past few years.

As the external commercial borrowings are in different currencies and are repayable over different periods of time, it is not possible to quantify the impact of exchange rate variation on debt servicing.

Plan for Export Cartel by Polyester Fibre Units

6507. SHRISANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Polyester fibre units are formulating a plan to form an export cartel to bag orders;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the State Trading Corporation proposes to handle this trade; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government have no information on the formulation of a

plan by polyester fibre units to form an export cartel.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). State Trading Corporation has no proposal to handle exports of polyester staple fibre as export of this item is handled by the trade.

Setting up of Subsidiary of American Express Bank

6508. SHRISANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the American Express Bank has submitted a proposal to set up a subsidiary with a nationalised bank to undertake merchant banking and other capital market related services;

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal and the rationale in permitting such merchant banking outfit in India;

(c) the Indian banks suggested for collaboration;

(d) the amount of profit this company shall be allowed to repatriate; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto and the stage at which the proposal stands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has not received any proposal from American Express Bank for setting up of a subsidiary with a nationalised bank for undertaking merchant banking etc. activities.

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

Kazipet Railway Station

6509 SHRI S. PALAKONDRAYUDU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that maintenance and cleanliness at Kazipet railway station is deteriorating;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether there is any proposal to release funds for the development of this railway station;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). Improvement to stations including station buildings, is a continuous process and the same is done on a need-based programme, in phases, subject to availability of funds. The amenities provided at Kazipet Railway station are considered adequate for the present level of traffic dealt with.

Tundla Station Building

6510. SHRI KAILASH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a new building of Tundla railway station with extra platform in near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

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

(b) Does not arise.

Railway line between Kapadvanj and Modasa and Conversion of Railway Line between Nadiad-Kapadvanj

6511. SHRIMOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which survey work was conducted for construction of new railway line from Kapadvanj to Modasa; and conversion of metre gauge into broad gauge from Nadiad to Kapadvanj in Gujarat;

(b) the findings of the survey and the approximate cost involved;

(c) whether any resurvey has also been conducted for the above mentioned projects, if so, when and the details thereof; and

(d) when the work on these projects is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Survey was completed in 1981. Gauge Conversion of Nadiad-Kapadvanj (45 km) along with construction of a new BG line from Kapadvanj to Modasa (60 km), was then estimated to cost Rs. 15.26 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The work on this project is in progress.

Enrollment of New Members of Delhi Stock Exchange

6512. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Delhi Stock Exchange has enrolled new members having professional experience and completed and necessary formalities as per directions of his Ministry;

(d) if so, the number of members so enrolled and if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) by what time the new members are proposed to be enrolled on Delhi Stock Exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Admission of new members to Delhi Stock Exchange has not been possible in view of an on-going litigation on the subject and a stay given by the Hon'ble High Court, Delhi.

India's Policy on GATT

6513. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: With the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India earlier took the leadership to oppose the inclusion of services for negotiation under the General Agreement of Tariff and Trade (GATT) framework;

(b) the attitude of the United States and other industrialised countries thereon at the last round of Uruguay negotiations held earlier this month and the stage at which this crucial issue stands at present;

(c) whether the question of non-tariff barriers hitting liberal trade and the in-escapable need for the establishment of effective institutional procedures for dealing with these barriers also came up at the Uruguay multi-lateral trade negotiations under the GATT auspices; and

(d) if so, the decision, if any, arrived thereat?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) As a result of the stand taken by India and many other developing countries, it was agreed at the Punta-del-Este Ministerial Meeting held in September 1986 which launched the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations that the negotiations on Services would be held on a separate track outside the framework of GATT.

(b) A mid-term review of the Uruguay Round Negotiations at Ministerial level was held at Montreal from 5-9 December, 1988. At this meeting, in the area of Services, all participants, including the United States and other industrialised countries agreed to a framework for further negotiations which takes into account the development dimension and the interests of developing countries. It was agreed, inter-alia, that the negotiations should lead to increased participation of developing countries in world trade in Services and help to expand their Services exports and domestic services capacity. It was also agreed that appropriate flexibility would be provided for individual developing countries for progressively enlarging market access for imports of Services in keeping with their development situation. Although agreement had been reached at Montreal in the area of Services, the results achieved at Montreal were put 'on account of lack of agreement in four other areas of negotiations, namely, Agriculture, Safeguards, Textiles & Clothing and trade-related aspects of International Property Rights. A further meeting of the Negotiations Committee was held at Geneva from 5-8 April, 1989, at which agreement was ultimately reached in these four areas as well. As a result, the further process of negotiations, including in the area of Services, is now being resumed.

(c) Yes Sir, the discussion on non-tariff

barriers has been taken up at the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations under the GATT auspices. The discussions so far have dealt with the negotiating approaches and modalities to deal with the wide-ranging non-tariff barriers.

(d) At the Montreal meeting, the Ministers recognized that reduction or elimination of non-tariff measures is a central element of a successful outcome of the Uruguay Round. It has been further decided to establish a framework for future negotiations including procedures, taking into account the principles and guidelines agreed upon, so as to commence negotiations expeditiously.

Value Addition condition under IPRS

6514. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to impose a minimum value addition condition under the International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) to ensure increased foreign exchange realisation;

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal; and

(c) when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) No. Sir.

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

Expenditure on Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction

6515. SHRI D.P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total administrative expenditure on the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) since its establish-

ment, giving annual figures;

(b) the number of companies which have been cleared thus far; and

(c) the steps being taken to further streamline the BIFR so that sick industries are rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has reported that the total annual expenditures on the Board (BIFR) since its establishment is as follows:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
1986-87	Rs. 69.03 lakhs
1987-88	Rs. 92.53 lakhs
1988-89	Rs. 110.43 lakhs

(b) and (c). As on 28th February, 1989 the Board has accorded sanction for revival of 23 sick industrial companies. In addition, in 59 cases the Board decided that it is practicable for the sick industrial company concerned to make its own net worth positive within a reasonable time and accorded approval under Section 17(2) of the Sick Industrial (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

The steps taken to stream-line include revision of the application form for reference to BIFR, holding hearings of the Board in different state capitals and increase in the number of Operating Agencies.

Pay Scales of Employees of Regional Rural Banks

6516. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have constituted a National Industrial tribunal to decide the question relating to pay, allowances and other benefits payable to the employees of the Regional Rural Banks;

(b) whether the Tribunal has made any recommendation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which the Tribunal will send its recommendations?

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

(b) to (d). The Tribunal has not made any recommendations so far. Its Award is expected to be received soon.

Export of Condiments from Tamil Nadu

6517. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether condiments are exported from Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE

(SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). State-wise export statistics are not maintained. However, the spices exported through major ports in Tamil Nadu in 1987-88 were as under:

Name of Port	Quantity M. T.	Value (Rs./crores)
Madras	2216	3.73
Tuticorin	5022	8.03

Price of Coffee Seeds

6518. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of coffee seeds sold to public has been hiked in recent months; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Consequent upon the revision of Minimum Release Price and levy of Purchase Tax by the Karnataka Government, the coffee Board has revised the prices of the coffee seeds. the prices for different grades, previously and presently, are as under:-

(In Rs. per Kg.)

Grade	Price in April, 1988	Price in March, 1989
Plantation 'PB'	23.00	29.10
Plantation 'A'	22.20	28.00
Robusta Cherry 'AB'	19.20	22.10
Robusta Cherry 'PB'	19.40	22.30
Arabica Cherry 'AB'/PB'	20.50	25.80

Limit of Fixed Deposits

6519. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the steps taken by his Ministry and the Reserve Bank of India to check the acceptance of fixed deposits from the public by the industrial and financial institutions beyond the approved limit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): In so far as Non-banking non-financial companies are concerned, the acceptance of deposits by such companies are regulated under the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rules, 1975. The deposit acceptance activities of non-banking financial companies are regulated under the directions issued by the Reserve Bank of India to such companies. These rules/directions inter-alia provide for the limit upto which deposits could be accepted by such companies, the period upto which the deposits can be accepted, the rate of interest payable on such deposits etc. The rules/directions also provide for penal action against those companies who violate the provisions of the rules/directions relating to ceilings on the quantum of deposits.

Railway Hospital at Madras

6520. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether members of the public are allowed to take treatment at the Railway Hospital at Madras; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Beds upto a maximum of 25%

specially in Cardio-Vascular Unit and upto a maximum of 10% in other departments of Perambur Hospital and the other Railway Hospital at Madras can be allowed for treatment of outsiders on payment of charges laid down for the purpose from time to time and subject to accommodation being available after meeting the needs of railway beneficiaries.

Export of CTC Tea

6521. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortfall in the export of CTC tea to the Soviet Union and other European countries;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that CTC tea is being smuggled to some countries; if so the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to check it?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). Soviet Union and other European countries are essentially purchasers of orthodox teas.

(c) and (d). Available reports and seizures made, do not indicate smuggling of Indian tea out of the country on any significant scale.

IDCOL Proposal for Ferro Chrome Plant at Jajpur road

6522. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa Ltd. (IDCOL) have furnished a proposal for modernisation/diversification/renovation of Ferro Chrome

Plant at Jajpur Road in Orissa for Japanese assistance;

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

(c) the reaction of Union government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The State Government of Orissa had recommended the proposal for modernisation and diversification of the Ferro Chrome plant, a unit of the Industrial Development Corporation or Orissa Ltd. (IDCOL) for assistance from Japan. The proposal involved import of machinery and equipment at a total cost of Rs. 55.80 crores involving a foreign exchange component of Rs. 11.20 crores.

(c) Since substantive decision on the application of M/s IDCOL for modernisation of their Ferro Chrome Plant has not been taken, the proposal could not be processed for seeking assistance from Japan.

[Translation]

Sale and Purchase of Shares by Financial Institutions

6523. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether now a days share market of the country fluctuates mainly on the sale and purchase of shares by financial institutions of the country;

(b) if so, the price at which shares were sold and purchased by these financial institutions during the year 1988-89 vis-a-vis during the year 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 and the number of shares of each company held by these institutions at present;

(c) the time by which these financial companies propose to sell these shares; and

(d) how these financial institutions propose to help in the economic development of the country during the year 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The movement of share prices depends on a large number of factors and it would not be correct to say that the share market of the country fluctuates mainly on account of sale and purchase of shares by the financial Institutions.

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

(d) The financial institutions help in the economic development of the country by inter-alia, providing finance for industrial projects and by encouraging the growth of the capital market.

[English]

Recruitment for Kapurthala Coach Factory

6524. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether complaints of inadequate recruitment from Himachal Pradesh to Rail Coach Factory at Kapurthala (Punjab) have been received by Government;

(b) if so, the number of persons belonging to Himachal Pradesh who have been recruited to various categories of posts through open advertisements and other modes of recruitments as compared to the total intake during the three previous years;

(c) the exact procedure followed in the recruitment alongwith the number of officers/officials who have managed to join this factory through deputation and other modes; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure a fair share of recruitment of all neighbouring States in case of this Coach Factory and other projects run by the Railways?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Recruitment to the Rail Coach Factory is done both by direct recruitment and by drafting staff from other railway administrations. As far as direct recruitment is concerned, recruitment to Group C posts is done through Railway Recruitment

Boards, who advertise the vacancies. Recruitment to posts of artisans is done by Rail Coach Factory itself through open advertisement, a written test, practical test and interview. Candidates are selected on the basis of merit. No quota is prescribed for any State or Region in recruitment in established units/organisations. However, in new Railway projects like the Rail Coach Factory at Kapurthala, instructions were issued in 1984 that in the initial recruitment efforts should be made by the Railway Administration to employ local people to a certain extent subject to educational and technical qualifications, age etc.

Approximate number persons recruited by the Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala and those belonging to the State of Himachal Pradesh as per address given in application forms are indicated below:-

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Himachal Pradesh</i>
Through Railway Recruitment Boards, Chandigarh & Jammu	764	16
Rail Coach Factory by open advertisement	2147	76
Drafting from Railways	721	-
Casual labours including those whose land was acquired for Rail Coach Factory	943	16

Two officers joined on deputation from DGS&D and two non-gazetted staff joined on deputation from Horticulture Department of Punjab Government.

Installation of Weigh Bridges

6525. DR. DIGVIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal is weighed at the time of loading and delivery by the Railways on all zones;

(b) who is responsible for the coal

losses suffered, if any, at the time of loading and in transit; and

(c) to fix proper accountability, why have weigh bridges not been installed at all important coal handling railway stations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Wherever weigh-

ment facilities are available, coal wagons are generally weighed before booking. Where wagons are not weighed sender's weight is accepted. Normally, coal wagons are not weighed at destinations by the Railways.

(b) Since coal is loaded by the collieries, they are responsible for any loss at the time of loading. Coal is booked at owner's risk and liability for shortage in transit is determined in accordance with the provisions of Indian Railways Act.

(c) Most of the important coal loading points or yards serving the coal loading points have been provided with weigh bridges. To encourage collieries to instal weigh bridges Railways also grant rebate for coal weighed at such weigh bridges.

Visit of High Level Team of World Bank

6526. SHRI S.M. GURADDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level team from World Bank visited India during the month of March to study the progress of World Bank funded projects in the country; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the visit?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Seizure of Gold in Kerala

6527. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-

CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of gold confiscated in Kerala since 1 January, 1989;

(b) which are the highest hauls made, the details of places and quantity of gold confiscated;

(c) whether the highest hauls were made by the Customs department or the police;

(d) whether Government have received intimation of claim for rewards for the confiscations/apprehensions made; and

(e) if so, the details thereof with decision of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The total quantity and value of gold seized for alleged contravention of the Customs Act, 1962, during the year 1989 (upto 28th February, 1989) are given below:

<i>Quantity of gold seized (in Kgs.)</i>	<i>Value of gold seized (Rs. in crores)</i>
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669.560	21.67
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(b) The quantity and value of the highest hauls of gold and the places at and dates on which they were made and the agencies by which the recoveries were effected in the State of Kerala in 1989 (upto 28.2.83) are given in the table below:-

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in crores)(approx)</i>	<i>Places of seizure</i>	<i>Recovering Agency</i>
1.	13.2.89	186.56	6.08	Telapady check post	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence
2.	24.2.89	104.895	3.50	Vongeri-Calicut	Police
3.	25.2.89	186.14	6.14	Puttannur-Tellichery	Directorate of Revenue Intelligence

(c) The highest hauls were made by the customs Department

(d) and (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

World Bank Report on Development of Electronics and Industry in India

6528. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has prepared any report on the development of the electronics and Industry in India for the period covering the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the main findings of the report in respect of this sub-sector with reference to its structure, expansion and competitiveness alongwith development constraints and the impact of recent policy resume; and

(c) the Government's reaction to this report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The World Bank staff has prepared a draft report entitled 'India-Development of the Electronics Industry—a Sector Report' as part of their

sectoral studies. It is an internal document of the World Bank. No recommendations have been made by the World Bank to the Govt. of India in this regard. Any decisions on these matters would be taken strictly according to India's own priorities and policies.

USAID Loan to National Housing Bank

6529. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Housing Bank will be assisted by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

(b) if so, the programme which will be assisted by the US Agency;

(c) whether any plan for utilisation of the loan has been prepared by the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The National Housing Bank (NHB) has reported that it proposes to borrow 50 million US

dollars in the US Capital market under a programme of assistance to the Indian housing sector initiated by USAID. The funds will primarily be utilised for providing refinance to low income housing and for promoting housing finance institutions.

(c) and (d). NHB will issue guidelines to the Housing Finance Companies for availing assistance under this programme which *inter alia* would provide for strengthening the financial soundness of housing finance institutions.

Rehabilitation of Oustees of Sardar Sarovar Project

6530. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have approved of the move of Gujarat government to proceed with the Sardar Sarovar Project assuming responsibility of rehabilitating all those affected by the project in the two other States involved i.e. Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed rehabilitation programme;

(c) the institutional mechanism provided in the programme to ensure scrutiny and accountability of the programme;

(d) whether the programme has been publicised to elicit reaction and views of the people; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). According to Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal award, in the first instance, Gujarat is required to offer to rehabilitate oustees in its

own territory, acquire and make available irrigable lands and house sites in advance of the submergence. In the event of Gujarat being unable to resettle the oustees or the oustees being unwilling to occupy area offered by Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have to make such provision at the cost of Gujarat.

(c) To watch the progress of rehabilitation and resettlement independent monitoring and evaluation Agencies are engaged by the States and at Central level by the Narmada Control Authority.

(d) and (e). Steps have been taken to ascertain the willingness of the project affected persons while finalising the details of resettlement and about 925 families have been resettled accordingly.

Loans advanced by NABARD to Kerala State Agricultural Development Cooperative Bank

6532. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has been providing financial assistance to the Kerala State Agricultural Development Bank by way of loans; etc.;

(b) if so, the amount so given during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the total amount allocated for the year 1989-90 both as ordinary loan and loan for different projects to be undertaken in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

(NABARD) has reported that it has provided to the Keraia State Cooperative Agriculture Development Bank Ltd. (KSCADB) the following refinance assistance:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. in lakhs</i>
1986-87	1986.00
1987-88	1850.22
1988-89	2910.97

(c) NABARD has further reported that the proposed refinance support towards the special Development Debentures Programme for the quarter (April-June 1989) for Kerala SLDB is Rs. 163 lakhs.

Smuggling of Diamonds

6533. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:-

(a) whether a large quantity of diamonds and sometimes of very rare quality are being smuggled out of the country;

(b) whether Government have received any information in this respect, if so, the details thereof during the last one year; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Available reports do not indicate that diamonds in large quantities or of rare quality are being smuggled out of the country. However, cut and polished diamonds/precious stones worth Rs. 1.28 crores and Rs. 11.65 lakhs were seized during the years 1988 and 1989 (upto March) respectively, by the anti-smuggling agencies for being attempted to be smuggled out of the country.

(c) The anti-smuggling agencies remain alert to check smuggling of all contraband goods including diamonds.

Export of Iron Ore to Japan to South Korea

6534. SHRI H.A. DORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of iron ore to Japan and south Korea is likely to increase both in volume and value during 1989-90; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exports of Iron Ore and Iron Ore Concentrates during 1989-90 to Japan and South Korea are projected at 24.23 million tonnes valued at Rs. 591 crores.

Mineral Exploration In Senegal by MMTC

6535. SHRI H.A. DORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) has recently received a contract for mineral exploration in Senegal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Railway Bridge at Ashok Vihar, Delhi

6536. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated cost of construction of the proposed underground railway bridge at Ashok Vihar in the Capital;

(b) whether any study was made to determine the feasibility and necessity of such a bridge;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the reasons for giving this project priority over several other essential projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The estimated cost of the work has not yet been worked out, as the estimate for approaches is still awaited from the Municipal Corporation, Delhi.

(b) and (c). The joint site inspection by the Railway and Municipal Corporation, Delhi has revealed that construction of the bridge is technically feasible and also justifiable as per the traffic density norms.

(d) While considering such works for sanction in Railways' Works Programme, the Railways go by the inter-se priority fixed by the concerned State Government/Local Authority.

Proposal for 100 per cent Export Oriented Naphtha Cracker Complex

6537. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have given permission to a West German company to set up a 100 per cent export-oriented naphtha cracker complex;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely

to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). M/s Linda Ag. Munich was granted a Letter of Intent dated 16.3.69 for the setting up of a Naphtha Cracker Plant in the State of Tamil Nadu with an annual capacity of 450,000 tonnes of Ethylene, and 225,000 tonnes of Propylene under the 100% Export Oriented Unit Scheme.

(c) The Letter of Intent is valid for one year within which period the Company is required to submit a feasibility report and establish the viability of the project. The gestation period for the project has been specified as one year.

Changes in Laws to Prevent Liquor Tragedies

6538. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

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

(a) whether in the light of recent liquor deaths in various States, Government are considering to ask the Law Commission to prepare a report suggesting modification in excise laws as also in other socio-economic laws; and

(b) by what time the final decision will be taken?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Inter-State Irrigation Projects under Construction in Madhya Pradesh

6539. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of inter-State irrigation projects in Madhya Pradesh where construction work is in progress;

(b) the total expenditure incurred on them so far and the time by which these are likely to be completed; and

(c) the total area which would be irrigated after the completion of these projects and the names of the districts which will be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Eight projects.

(b) About Rs. 365 crores upto March, 1989. The projects are scheduled to be completed during 8th Five Year Plan.

(c) About 4 lakh hectares, benefiting among others, Sidhi, Shahdol, Rewa, Satna, Guna Shivpuri, Datia, Tikamgarh, Gwalior, Bhind, Chhatrapur and Balaghat districts.

Trade Relations with Pakistan

6540. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has asked Government of India to make large scale changes in the terms and conditions of its export trade of finished goods to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the names of the items already

being exported to Pakistan;

(c) whether the prices of these items are much less than that of their actual prices;

(d) if so, the decision taken by Government on Pakistan's request and whether the Government of Pakistan have been apprised of it; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Items exported to Pakistan inter-alia include tea, spices, basic chemicals, engineering goods etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

Train Services in Rajasthan

6541. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is acute shortage of trains at many places in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the concrete steps taken by Government to provide sufficient number of trains for commuters of Kota, Ajmer, Jaipur and Jodhpur divisions; and

(c) if no steps have been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c). By and large the present services meet the traffic requirements. However, introduction of new trains

is an ongoing process depending upon availability of resources.

**Dining Car In Faizabad-Bombay V.T.
Express**

6542. SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have received any proposal regarding connecting a dining car in Faizabad-Bombay V.T. Express; and

(b) if so, the action being taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has not been accepted.

**AC Coach In Faizabad-Bombay VT
Express**

6543. SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have received any request to add an air-conditioned sleeping coach to the Faizabad-Bombay V.T. Express; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently not feasible due to limited availability of such coaches.

[English]

**Union Government Dues towards
Andhra Pradesh**

6544. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the dues from Union Government towards Government of Andhra Pradesh for the years 1987-88 and 1988-89; and

(b) when these are expected to be paid to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) and (b). Statement showing the amounts due and released to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh during 1987-88 and 1988-89.

(Rs. in Crores)

	1987-88		1988-89	
	Amounts due	Amounts released	Amounts due	Amounts released
i) Central assistance for State Plan	305.45	305.45	342.14	341.66*
ii) Externally aided projects	**	13.67	**	35.78
iii) Shares in Central Taxes	732.08	732.08	812.29	812.29
iv) Grant in lieu of Tax on Railway passenger fare.	7.29	7.29	7.29	7.29
v) Upgradation Grant	@	23.31	@	32.19
vi) Small savings loans	136.60	136.60	172.89	172.89

In addition to above, amounts as indicated below were also released to the State Government as Central assistance for relief of natural calamities during 1987-88 and 1988-89.

(a) 1987-88: Advance plan assistance of Rs. 54.40 crores was given to the State on account of drought in 1987-88 after adjusting the excess release of Rs. 11.55 crores because of 1986-87 floods in addition to Rs. 12.25 crores as Central share of margin money for 1987-88 floods on the basis of expenditure reported by the State Government.

(b) 1988-89: Rs. 12.25 crores as Central share of margin money was released to the State on account of 1988-89 floods in addition to advance plan assistance of Rs. 17.82 crores on account of arrears of 1987-88 drought on the basis of expenditure reported by the State Government.

* Cut in Central assistance of Rs., 0.48 crore was made due to short-fall in expenditure in State Plan for 1986-87 and 1987-88.

** Amount released on the basis of the progress of expenditure incurred by the State Government and reimbursement received from the external donor agencies.

@ Release of grant is made on the basis of the progress of expenditure/schemes and fulfilment of the prescribed conditions.

Foot-Over Bridges on Bhadrakh-Kharagpur Section

6545. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are no foot-over bridges on the platforms on several railway stations on Bhadrakh-Kharagpur Section in S.E. Railway, where the doubling of railway tracks has been completed since long;

(b) whether Government are aware that a large number of accidents occurred on these railway lines due to the absence of foot-over bridges;

(c) what is the Government's policy in regard to construction of a footover bridge on a railway line; and

(d) the reasons for not constructing foot-over bridges on these railway stations, where double track is in use, to help passengers to cross over to the other side of the platform?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) There are 23 regular/flag stations and 4 halt stations on Kharagpur Bhadrakh Section. 19 regular/flag stations have been provided with foot-over bridges. Provision of foot-over bridges at remaining stations will be taken in phases, depending upon the volume of traffic dealt with at these stations, subject to availability of funds.

(b) No case of accident at any station of Kharagpur-Bhadrakh section on account of non-provision of foot-over bridges has come to notice in the recent past.

(c) and (d). Foot-over bridges are provided at stations keeping in view the volume of traffic dealt with at each station. At the stations, on Kharagpur-Bhadrakh section, which are not provided with foot-over bridges, the volume of traffic dealt with at the stations is low and does not justify provision of foot-over bridges for the present.

Export of Flowers to Holland

6546. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is good scope for increasing export of Indian flowers to Europe;

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

(c) whether some Indian Companies have secured orders for export of flowers to Holland; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). There is scope for increasing export of Indian flowers to Europe. The New Seed Policy on Seed development which came into effect on 1.10.1988 is *inter-alia* aims at providing the Indian farmers the best available seeds of flowers and ornamental plants for developing production of flowers of international standards for export.

(c) and (d). The All India Scheduled Caste Development Cooperative Society Limited have reported that they have received an order for export of about Rs. 20 crores worth of flowers to Holland, which is to be executed between October, 1989 and May, 1990.

Imports and Value of Rupee

6547. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been invited to the news report appearing in the Economic times of March 28, 1989 regarding more imports from those countries whose currencies have appreciated consid-

erably compared to the rupee;

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

(c) whether Government would seek to improve its import sourcing to prevent precipitate fall in the value of the rupee?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The exchange value of rupee is determined by movements in the currencies in the basket, mainly of countries which are India's trading partners. Since major international currencies are floating, there are frequent changes in the exchange rates of currencies in the basket, requiring similar adjustments in the external value of rupee. It is not desirable to change the source pattern of import only on considerations of variations in exchange rate of rupee as imports and its sources are decided keeping in view our requirements of items essential for domestic consumption, investment, production and technological up-gradation. However, efforts are being made to source the maximum proportion of imports feasible from the rupee trade areas, since such imports are automatically balanced by additional exports.

IDA Commitments

6548. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Development Association (IDA) has made 900 million dollar commitment to India;

(b) if so, whether this amount will be enough to cover repayment liabilities of the country to the IDA;

(c) whether India has insisted that the

net flow of resources from IDA should grow larger each year; and

(d) if so, whether IDA has accepted this position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) For the World Bank fiscal year 1988 ending 30th June 1988, the International Development Association has committed credits of US\$ 717.2 million to India.

(b) Yes, Sir. the repayment liabilities for the current year 1989-90 are, inclusive of interest and other charges, estimated to the Rs. 307.95 crores.

(c) and (d). India has stressed the need for an early agreement on the Ninth Replenishment of IDA's resources, and for a significant enhancement of the resources available to IDA, to facilitate an increased flow of concessional resources to developing countries. Deliberations on the Ninth Replenishment are as yet at a preliminary stage.

Export Target for 1988-89

6549. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export target set for 1987-88 and 1988-89;

(b) whether the target is likely to be achieved in 1988-89;

(c) if so, the latest position in this regard; and

(d) the details of imports made during

the same period and the percentage increase there in as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The export targets for financial years 1987-88 and 1988-89 were fixed at Rs. 13,800 crores and Rs. 18,795 crores respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) According to the provisional trade statistics available, India's exports amounted to Rs. 17875.91 crores during the period April-February, 1988-89 as compared to Rs. 13939.04 crores during April-February 1987-88, thereby registering an increase of 28.2 per cent.

(d) According to the provisional trade statistics, India's imports amounted to Rs. 25365.69 crores during April-February, 1988-89 as compared to Rs. 19879.86 crores during April-February, 1987-88, thereby registering an increase of 27.6 per cent.

OECD Report on India's Borrowing

6550. SHRI H.A. DORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the report of Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), India's borrowings in international market totalled a record level of more than \$ 2.47 billion in 1988;

(b) whether India is the fourth largest borrower among the developing countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) As per the "Statistics On External Indebtedness", published by OECD in January, 89, external bank claims on India increased by \$ 844 million during the period December' 87 to June' 88.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Employment of Dependents of Class IV
Employment on E.R.**

6551. SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of class III and class IV employees in Eastern Railway who died after 1980 but whose dependents have not so far been given employment;

(b) the number of cases out of these wherein payment of pension and gratuity is yet to be made;

(c) the reasons for delay;

(d) whether Government would pay interest also on that amount till date; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (e). The information regarding cases which occurred between 1.1.1981 and 31.12.1988 is being collected from the Eastern Railway and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

**Irregularities in Branches of State Bank
of Indore in Jaipur and Kota Districts in
Rajasthan**

6552. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which irregularities/bungling have been detected in the matter of giving loans by the branches of the State Bank of Indore in Jaipur and Kota districts of Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) the amount involved in these cases; and

(c) the action taken against the guilty employees/officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). 23 cases of irregularities relating to the years 1986 and 1987 involving an amount of Rs. 40.27 lakhs in the matter of loans/advances granted at 3 branches of the Bank in Jaipur and Kota districts of Rajasthan have come to light. The Bank has further reported that no cases of irregularities at its branches in Jaipur and Kota districts of Rajasthan have been reported during 1988.

(c) State Bank of Indore has reported that in connection with the above cases of irregularities, it has inflicted the penalty of withholding of increments on two erring officials and action has been initiated against three other officials.

**Irregularities in Branches of State Bank
of Indore at Indore**

6553. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of the State Bank of Indore operating at Indore in Madhya Pradesh and the number of cases regarding bungling/irregularities in these branches brought to light during the last two years; and

(b) the details of the amount involved in these cases and the number of officers/employees found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of branches in which frauds were perpetrated</i>	<i>No. of frauds</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)</i>	<i>No. of officers/employees found involved</i>
1987	10	24	55.82	46
1988	7	8	13.72	12

(Data provisional)

Opening of Bank Branches in Residential Areas of Loni (U.P.) Border

6554. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the banks to which the Reserve Bank of India has given licences to open their branches in the residential areas on Loni Border (Uttar Pradesh) during the current year; and

(b) the time by which banking facility is expected to be made available to the residents of this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the centre Loni is being served by a branch of State Bank of India and no bank has been allotted a licence for opening a branch in the residential area of Loni during the current

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). State Bank of Indore has reported that it has 23 branches (including one Service Branch) in Indore city. The Bank has further reported that details of number of cases of fraud which have come to light during the last 2 years in its branches in Indore city, the amount involved therein and the number of persons found involved in connection with these cases, are as given below:

Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90.

Loans for Construction of Power Transmission Lines in Uttar Pradesh

6555. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government or the State Electricity Board have requested some nationalised banks to provide loans for the construction of power transmission lines;

(b) if so, when this request was made and the amount of loan applied for along with the names of banks;

(c) whether this request has been accepted; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which this request would be accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). RBI has reported that UCO Bank and Punjab National Bank in July & September, 1987 respectively had been approached by Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB) for financial assistance to support them for power distribution infrastructure. The proposals were not found acceptable.

Loan from International Financial Institutions

6556. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start some more River Valley Reservoir Projects in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether State Government has also sent proposals to obtain loans from some international financial institutions including the World Bank for some River Valley Reservoir Projects:

(c) If so, the details thereof;

(d) whether these proposals have been forwarded to the international financial institutions along with the recommendations of Union Government;

(e) if so, the names of such projects; and

(f) the names of the projects which have not been sent and the stage at which these are pending and the time by which these would be forwarded to these financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Irrigation

projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Governments. Central assistance as in the form of block grants and is not tied to any particular project.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The following proposals have been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for external assistance:-

(i) Saryu Canal Project Phase—1.

(ii) Sarda Sahayak Pariyojana (Lining of feeder and branches)

(iii) Kanhar Irrigation Project

(iv) Lakhwar-Vyasi Project (Vyasi Project only)

(d) to (f). The proposals are under examination and identification reports for these projects are yet to be prepared by the State Government. Possibilities of obtaining external financial assistance for these projects are being explored.

[English]

Bank loans to Farmers in Andhra Pradesh

6557. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some nationalised banks are over-charging farmers for loans in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the efforts being made by the nationalised banks for recovery of loans from farmers in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) whether any guidelines have been/ are being issued to banks to go for compromises with farmers rather than file costly cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The public sector banks are expected to charge interest on loans advanced by them as per interest rate schedule laid down by Reserve Bank of India; which provides for comparatively softer rates of interest on farm loans.

(b) The banks, in addition to their normal recovery efforts also launch recovery drives.

(c) The banks provide reschedulement facilities to farmer borrowers in accordance with instructions issued to RBI/NABARD. The banks resort to legal action against the defaulters, when all other recovery efforts do not yield desired results.

Export of Gems and Jewellery

6558. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have urged the diamond exporting community to gear up for facing international competition and ensure not to lose hold on this prestigious market;

(b) if so, the details of exports of gems and jewellery made during the last three years;

(c) whether any target has been fixed for 1989-90;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). In order to facilitate exports on sustained basis the Government has notified certain measures for promoting export of cut and polished diamonds which inter alia include revised

rates of replenishments, improvement in bank credit facility, exemption under Section 80 HHC of Income Tax Act etc. Exports of gems and jewellery during the last three years have been as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Exports (Value Rs. Crores)</i>
1986-87	2132
1987-88	2653
1988-89	4554* (Provisional)

* Source Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council.

(c) and (d). The target for export to during 1989 90 has not been fixed.

Additional Train Services between Rajkot and Bombay

6559. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is heavy traffic rush in all the trains running between Rajkot and Bombay on Western Railway;

(b) if so, whether Railways have decided to run additional trains on this route;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Some passengers do remain on the waiting list.

(b) and (d). 9 special on this route are planned to clear extra rush of passengers during this summer season. Introduction of

additional trains is not operationally feasible.

Super Fast Train between Delhi and Rajkot

6560. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is demand to run direct superfast train between Delhi and Rajkot;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). A demand has been received from Jhalawar Chamber of Commerce & Industries for introduction of a train between Delhi and Rajkot.

(c) A weekly superfast train between Hapa and Jammu Tawi (via Rajkot-New Delhi) is being introduced from May, 1989.

Change in name of Jammu Tawi-Hapa Express

6561. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation demanding to name the weekly train being introduced from 2 April, 1989 between Hapa (Jamnagar) and Jammu Tawi as Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati Express; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, as per the existing policy Railways

do not name trains after personalities.

Restoration of Morbi-Ghantila Railway Line

6562. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Morbi—Ghantila narrow gauge railway line in Saurashtra region of Gujarat State on Western Railway is not under operation for last about one year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the people of that area are demanding to restore this line; and

(d) the steps taken to restart trains on this route?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There were extensive damages to this line during monsoon last year, which were found uneconomic to repair and, hence, this section was closed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Since this line is uneconomic and alternative road services are available, it is not proposed to restore this line and restart trains on this section.

Training of SC/ST Employees by Syndicate Bank

6563. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: DR. V. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Syndicate Bank imparts

any training to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees for qualifying CAIIB examination;

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Different Centres/Sub-Centres of Indian Institute of Bankers conduct coaching classes for CAIIB examination for all bank employees, including Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

Buying Plans of Wagon Building Industry

6565. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have decided to give the wagon building industry their buying plans three years in advance;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) whether Railways have also assured supply of materials to the industry without any delay; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the advance plans enable them to plan their overall production activity.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. The responsibility

for providing materials required for wagon manufacture is primarily that of the wagon builders, barring steel and a few free supply components like wheelsets, bearings, etc. In regard to steel and free supply components, the orders are placed by the Railways. The responsibility for purchasing and follow-up with the respective suppliers is that of the wagon builders.

Tea Board Head Office

6566. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift the Head Office of the Tea Board from Calcutta to Assam in conformity with their policy of setting up headquarters of such boards in the producing areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

Rehabilitation of oustees of Rajghat Dam Project

6567. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land and the number of villages likely to be submerged on completion of the Rajghat Dam project State-wise;

(b) the arrangements made for payment of compensation and resettlement of the oustees;

(c) whether required funds are available with the concerned authorities; and

(d) whether the required funds have been made available to Madhya Pradesh by the Betwa River Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) 11,779 hectares (31 villages) in Madhya Pradesh and 12,752 hectares (38 villages) in Uttar Pradesh are likely to come under submergence.

(b) The payment of compensation for land and property is done as per existing rules of the State Government concerned, while payment of resettlement grant is done as per norms prescribed by the Betwa River Board through the respective State Government.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir.

Rajghat Inter-State Project of Madhya Pradesh

6568. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost of the Rajghat inter-State project and how its cost and benefits are to be shared by Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the completion schedule of the project and whether it is likely to be completed within the scheduled time; and

(c) if not, the bottlenecks therein and the revised schedule for completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) the revised estimated cost of the Rajghat Dam Project is Rs. 214 crores. The cost and benefits are to be equally shared by the Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c). The project is scheduled to be completed by June, 1992.

[Translation]

Platform arrangements and availability of seats at New Delhi Railway Station

6569. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to improve platform arrangements at New Delhi railway station, Government propose to transfer goods shed from there to Bijawasan and Tuglaquabad;

(b) If so, by what time;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps being taken to provide facilities to the passengers in view of heavy density of passenger traffic at New Delhi railway station; and

(e) the steps being taken to prevent the hooliganism prevalent in the unreserved compartments in the matter of taking seats by the passengers at New Delhi railway station?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Goods shed from New Delhi will be shifted to the proposed directional terminal at Holambi Kalan.

(d) It is proposed to augment the platform facilities at New Delhi by shifting the existing goods shed to Holambi Kalan and part of coach maintenance facilities to Hazrat Nizamuddin.

(e) Surprise checks are being conducted by the Ticket Checking staff with the help of RPF and GRP personnel to curb cornering of seats in unreserved compartments.

[English]

Bank Branches

6570. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the location of head-offices of the various nationalised banks in terms of States/Union Territories;

(b) the State-wise percentage of their branches as on 31 December, 1988;

(c) the bank-wise percentage of bank branches in each State;

(d) the names of districts, State-wise, where the lead bank controls at least 50 percent of the total number of bank branches operating therein, with the percentage in each case; and

(e) the names of districts, State-wise, where the lead bank and the State Bank of India between them control at least 50 per cent of the total number of branches operating therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The location of Head Offices of nationalised banks in different States/Union Territories, is as under:-

<i>Name of State/Union Territory</i>	<i>Name of the Bank whose Head Office is located there</i>
1	2
Maharashtra	Bank of India, Central Bank of India, Union Bank of India, Dena Bank, Bank of Maharashtra.
Gujarat	Bank of Baroda (The Central Office of the Bank is, however, located in Maharashtra).
Karnataka	Canara Bank, Vijaya Bank, Syndicate Bank, Corporation Bank.
West Bengal	Allahabad Bank, United Bank of India, UCO Bank.
Tamilnadu	Indian Bank, Indian Overseas Bank.
Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Bank
Union Territory of Delhi	Punjab National Bank, New Bank of India, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Punjab and Sind Bank.

(b) and (c). The information relating to the State-wise percentage of branches of nationalised banks and bank-wise percentage of branches of nationalised banks in

each State/Union Territory as on 31.12.1988, as furnished by Reserve Bank of India, is given in Statement I (a and b).

(d) The names of districts, State-wise where the lead bank has at least 50 per cent of the total number of bank branches operating therein, with the percentage in each case, as furnished by Reserve Bank of India, is given in Statement II below.

(e) The names of districts, State-wise, where the lead bank and the State Bank of India together control at least 50 per cent of the total number of bank branches operating therein, as furnished by Reserve Bank of India, is indicated below:-

<i>Name of State</i>	<i>Name of Districts</i>
Andhra Pradesh	East Godavari, West Godavari, Prakasam.
Bihar	Begusarai, Dhanbad, Hazaribag, Madhepura, Patna.
Gujarat	Banaskantha, Sabarkantha.
Himachal Pradesh	Hamirpur, Simla, Bilaspur, Una.
Jammu and Kashmir	Poonch
Madhya Pradesh	Betul
Maharashtra	Amravati, Buldhana, Dhule, Raigad, Wardha.
Manipur	Manipur North and Tengenoupal.
Rajasthan	Dungarpur.
Uttar Pradesh	Mathura.
West Bengal	South 24 Parganas.

STATEMENT-I (a)

State-wise percentage of branches of nationalised banks as on 31.12.1988

Name of State/ Union Territory	Name of the Bank									
	Allahabad Bank	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1. Andhra Pradesh	1.23	78.60	2.32	2.48	2.04	6.66	3.25	13.20		
2. Assam	3.50	—	0.53	0.29	—	0.57	2.00	—		
3. Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
4. Bihar	13.06	0.33	3.49	14.71	0.09	4.26	11.19	0.23		
5. Goa	0.06	—	1.26	1.34	0.68	1.04	0.83	5.42		
6. Gujarat	0.89	0.45	29.27	10.39	3.11	1.66	7.75	3.56		
7. Haryana	1.03	—	0.77	0.89	0.48	2.29	2.75	—		
8. Himachal Pradesh	0.13	—	0.24	0.15	—	0.36	0.9	—		
9. Jammu & Kashmir	0.2	—	0.19	0.29	0.09	0.31	0.37	—		
10. Karnataka	0.48	2.13	1.45	2.23	3.41	23.00	1.85	41.98		

Name of State/ Union Territory	Name of the Bank								
	Allahabad Bank	Andhra Bank	Bank of Baroda	Bank of India	Bank of Mahara- shtra	Canara Bank	Central Bank of India	Corporation Bank	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
11. Kerala	0.27	0.67	1.35	0.64	0.29	10.64	2.41	8.96	
12. Madhya Pradesh	9.97	0.67	3.15	11.18	10.03	1.14	14.21	1.17	
13. Maharashtra	4.88	2.70	12.16	24.01	74.26	7.23	16.03	6.83	
14. Manipur	0.13	—	0.04	—	—	—	0.03	—	
15. Meghalaya	0.06	—	0.09	0.04	—	0.05	0.07	—	
16. Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
17. Nagaland	0.27	—	0.19	—	—	—	0.03	—	
18. Orissa	2.31	7.31	0.58	4.17	—	1.56	1.36	0.47	
19. Punjab	1.85	0.11	2.03	2.83	0.48	3.64	3.25	0.47	
20. Rajasthan	1.23	0.11	12.16	1.49	0.58	0.72	2.91	0.23	
21. Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.34	—	

Name of State/ Union Territory	Name of the Bank								
	Allahabad Bank	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	1	1.03	3.04	3.78	4.32	1.07	20.97	5.40	12.73
22. Tamilnadu		1.03	3.04	3.78	4.32	1.07	20.97	5.40	12.73
23. Tripura		0.06	—	0.04	—	—	—	0.03	—
24. Uttar Pradesh		35.90	1.01	18.51	8.00	0.87	8.38	13.08	1.41
25. West Bengal		18.22	1.46	3.58	8.15	0.97	2.75	7.22	1.41
26. Andaman & Nicobar		—	—	—	—	—	0.05	—	—
27. Chandigarh		0.13	0.11	0.14	0.14	0.09	0.15	0.22	0.23
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29. Daman & Diu		—	—	—	0.04	—	—	0.03	—
30. Delhi		4.07	1.12	2.52	2.03	1.26	2.91	2.34	1.65
31. Lakshadweep		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Pondicherry		0.06	0.11	0.04	0.04	0.09	0.15	0.03	—

Name of State/ Union Territory	Dena Bank	Indian Bank	Indian Overse- as Bank	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					New Bank of India	Oriental Bank of Comm- cerce	Punjab & Sind Bank	Punjab National Bank	Syndi- cate Bank	UCO Bank	Union Bank of India	United Bank of India	Vijaya Bank
1. Andhra Pradesh	1.59	15.24	8.70	0.70	0.60	0.61	1.00	18.25	2.40	6.18	0.95	9.94	
2. Assam	0.19	1.39	0.60	0.70	0.20	0.61	1.30	0.34	6.18	1.70	12.89	1.00	
3. Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.11	—	0.08	0.14	
4. Bihar	0.69	2.00	1.04	1.76	0.40	1.53	13.03	1.43	11.63	4.00	9.58	1.00	
5. Goa	1.49	0.26	0.95	0.17	0.20	—	0.11	1.15	0.28	0.58	0.08	0.28	
6. Gujarat	50.69	3.04	4.26	2.99	2.43	1.07	2.34	2.92	4.41	9.48	1.04	3.02	
7. Haryana	0.39	1.13	0.69	13.58	12.37	5.35	8.30	2.79	1.48	1.47	0.17	0.28	
8. Himachal Pradesh	—	0.17	0.26	2.46	1.01	1.53	5.38	0.06	6.70	0.53	—	—	
9. Jammu & Kashmir	0.19	0.08	0.08	1.94	1.01	0.91	1.80	0.13	0.68	0.29	0.17	0.28	
10. Karnataka	1.79	4.61	4.78	0.70	0.20	0.76	0.84	28.47	1.48	4.41	0.52	50.86	

Name of State/ Union Territory	Dena Bank	Indian Bank	Indian Overse- as Bank	New Bank of India	Oriental Bank of Comm- cerce	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	13
11. Kerala	0.89	5.92	7.65	0.70	0.40	0.45	0.26	6.47	1.03	6.36	0.17	9.07	
12. Madhya Pradesh	7.37	0.95	0.60	3.17	4.25	4.28	5.84	1.49	6.93	8.42	0.52	0.86	
13. Maharashtra	22.90	5.40	4.78	2.99	4.86	3.06	3.88	8.51	6.18	15.96	2.09	6.19	
14. Manipur	—	—	0.08	—	—	0.15	0.03	—	0.17	—	1.39	0.28	
15. Meghalaya	—	0.08	0.08	—	—	—	0.15	0.06	0.22	0.11	0.78	0.28	
16. Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.05	—	—	0.14	
17. Nagaland	—	0.08	—	—	—	0.15	—	—	0.11	—	0.17	0.43	
18. Orissa	0.19	2.78	5.30	1.58	0.20	0.30	0.61	1.43	8.42	1.82	7.31	0.72	
19. Punjab	0.79	1.74	3.04	23.10	21.5	47.01	12.5	0.68	4.87	3.00	0.34	0.86	
20. Rajasthan	0.99	0.60	0.78	11.11	7.09	2.75	5.76	0.54	7.62	2.23	0.43	1.00	
21. Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.11	—	—	—	

Name of State/ Union Territory	Dena Bank	Indian Bank	Indian Overse- as Bank	New Bank of India	Oriental Bank of Comm- cerce	Punjab & Sind Bank	Punjab National Bank	Syndi- cate Bank	UCO Bank	Union Bank of India	United Bank of India	Vijaya Bank
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
22. Tamilnadu	1.89	44.33	43.60	1.58	0.40	0.91	2.03	5.05	3.38	6.06	0.78	4.75
23. Tripura	—	0.08	0.08	—	—	0.15	—	—	0.22	0.05	2.70	0.14
24. Uttar Pradesh	2.98	2.69	5.22	15.87	29.61	16.99	24.50	12.46	6.76	20.91	2.96	3.74
25. West Bengal	2.29	4.00	4.43	5.11	4.86	2.14	5.50	2.65	15.70	3.71	52.70	2.16
26. Andaman & Nicobar	—	0.08	—	—	—	—	0.03	0.27	0.05	—	—	—
27. Chandigarh	0.09	0.17	0.08	1.41	0.60	1.68	0.50	0.06	0.17	0.11	0.05	0.14
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.49	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29. Daman & Diu	0.09	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.05	—	—	—
30. Delhi	1.89	1.65	2.17	8.28	7.70	7.50	4.15	3.33	2.12	2.41	2.00	2.30
31. Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.40	—	—	—	—
32. Pondicherry	—	1.39	0.60	—	—	—	0.03	0.13	0.34	0.05	—	—

STATEMENT- I (b)

Bank-wise percentage of branches of nationalised banks in each State/Union Territory as on 31.12.1988

Name of State/ Union Territory	Name of the Bank									
	Allahabad Bank	Andhra Bank	Bank of Baroda	Bank of India	Bank of Mahara- shtra	Canara Bank	Central Bank of India	Coroora- tion Bank	Dena Bank	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1. Andhra Pradesh	0.41	15.91	1.09	1.14	0.47	2.91	1.96	1.27	0.36	
2. Assam	4.80	—	1.03	0.56	—	1.03	4.99	—	0.18	
3. Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
4. Bihar	4.32	0.06	1.63	6.73	0.02	1.86	6.73	0.02	0.15	
5. Goa	0.39	—	10.23	10.62	2.75	7.87	8.66	9.05	5.90	
6. Gujarat	0.40	0.12	18.74	6.48	0.99	0.99	6.36	0.46	15.79	
7. Haryana	1.21	—	1.29	1.45	0.40	3.55	5.90	—	0.32	
8. Himachal Pradesh	0.31	—	0.78	0.47	—	1.09	3.76	—	—	
9. Jammu & Kashmir	0.40	—	0.54	0.81	0.13	0.81	1.36	—	0.27	
10. Karnataka	0.17	0.46	0.73	1.09	0.85	10.80	1.19	4.34	0.43	

Name of State/ Union Territory	Name of the Bank									
	Alahabad Bank	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11. Kerala	0.14	0.21	1.00	0.46	0.10	6.92	2.29	1.36	0.32	
12. Madhya Pradesh	3.64	0.15	1.63	5.64	2.58	0.55	9.44	0.12	1.85	
13. Maharashtra	1.36	0.46	4.82	9.28	14.64	2.67	8.15	0.55	4.42	
14. Manipur	2.98	—	1.49	—	—	—	1.49	—	—	
15. Meghalaya	0.71	—	1.43	0.71	—	0.71	1.43	—	—	
16. Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
17. Nagaland	5.88	—	5.88	—	—	—	1.47	—	—	
18. Orissa	2.22	3.52	0.65	4.55	—	1.62	1.95	0.10	0.10	
19. Punjab	1.30	0.04	2.03	2.76	0.24	3.39	4.16	0.09	0.38	
20. Rajasthan	0.63	0.03	8.85	1.05	0.21	0.49	2.71	0.03	0.35	
21. Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	34.61	—	—	
22. Tamilnadu	0.36	0.65	1.88	2.10	0.26	9.75	3.46	1.30	0.46	

Name of State/ Union Territory	Name of the Bank									
	Allahabad Bank	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
23. Tripura	0.65	—	0.65	—	—	—	—	0.65	—	—
24. Uttar Pradesh	6.62	0.11	4.85	2.04	0.11	2.04	0.07	4.39	0.07	0.38
25. West Bengal	7.11	0.34	1.98	4.40	0.26	1.42	0.16	5.13	0.16	0.61
26. Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	—	—	—	5.88	—	—	—	—
27. Chandigarh	1.86	0.93	2.80	2.80	0.93	2.80	0.93	5.60	0.93	0.93
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	83.33
29. Daman & Diu	—	—	—	10.00	—	—	—	10.00	—	10.00
30. Delhi	3.24	0.92	4.82	3.80	1.20	5.19	0.64	5.75	0.64	1.76
31. Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Pondicherry	1.51	1.51	1.51	1.51	1.51	4.54	—	1.51	—	—

Name of State/ Union Territory	Indian Bank	Indian Over- seas Bank	New Bank of India	Oriental Bank of Comm- erce	Punjab & Sind Bank	Punjab National Bank	Syndi- cate Bank	UCO Bank	Union Bank of India	United Bank of India	Vijaya Bank
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1. Andhra Pradesh	3.99	2.28	0.09	0.06	0.09	0.59	6.11	0.95	2.39	0.25	1.57
2. Assam	1.50	0.65	0.37	0.09	0.37	3.20	0.47	10.16	2.73	13.93	0.65
3. Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.5	—	1.75	1.75
4. Bihar	0.52	0.27	0.22	0.04	0.22	7.70	0.47	4.61	1.54	2.50	0.15
5. Goa	1.18	4.83	0.39	0.39	—	1.18	6.69	1.96	3.93	0.39	0.78
6. Gujarat	1.08	1.52	0.52	0.37	0.21	1.89	1.33	2.38	4.99	0.37	0.65
7. Haryana	1.05	0.64	6.22	4.93	2.82	17.46	3.31	2.10	2.02	0.16	0.16
8. Himachal Pradesh	0.31	0.47	2.19	0.78	1.56	21.94	0.15	18.33	1.41	—	—
9. Jammu & Kashmir	0.13	0.13	1.49	0.68	0.81	6.40	0.27	1.63	0.68	0.27	0.27
10. Karnataka	1.29	1.34	0.09	0.02	0.12	0.53	10.21	0.83	1.85	0.14	8.62
11. Kerala	2.44	3.15	0.14	0.07	0.10	0.25	3.40	0.64	3.87	0.07	2.26
12. Madhya Pradesh	0.27	0.17	0.45	0.52	0.70	3.81	0.55	3.03	3.59	0.15	0.15

Name of State/ Union Territory	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Indian Bank	Indian Over- seas Bank	New Bank of India	Oriental Bank of Comm- erces	Punjab & Sind Bank	Punjab National Bank	Syndi- cate Bank	UCO Bank	Union Bank of India	United Bank of India	Vijaya Bank
13. Maharashtra		1.19	1.05	0.32	0.46	0.38	1.94	2.40	2.07	5.20	0.46	0.82
14. Manipur		—	1.49	—	—	1.49	1.49	—	4.47	—	23.88	2.98
15. Meghalaya		0.71	0.71	—	—	—	2.87	0.71	2.87	1.43	6.47	1.43
16. Mizoram		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	—	—	7.00
17. Nagaland		1.47	—	—	—	1.47	—	—	2.94	—	2.94	4.40
18. Orissa		1.73	3.30	0.48	0.05	0.10	0.86	1.13	7.96	1.68	4.55	0.27
19. Punjab		0.96	1.69	6.34	5.13	14.88	15.75	0.48	4.12	2.47	0.19	0.29
20. Rajasthan		0.24	0.31	2.22	1.23	0.63	5.29	0.28	4.69	1.34	0.17	0.24
21. Sikkim		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.69	—	—	—
22. Tamilnadu		12.32	12.13	0.21	0.04	0.14	1.28	2.08	1.42	2.49	0.21	0.79
23. Tripura		0.65	0.65	—	—	0.65	—	—	2.61	0.65	20.26	0.65

Name of State/ Union Territory	Indian Bank	Indian Over- seas Bank	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Indian Bank	Over- seas Bank	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1												
24. Uttar Pradesh	0.39	0.70	1.14	1.85	1.40	8.08	2.32	1.49	4.50	0.43	0.33	
25. West Bengal	1.23	1.36	0.77	0.64	0.37	3.84	1.04	7.35	1.69	16.25	0.40	
26. Andaman & Nicobar	6.88	—	—	—	—	5.88	23.52	5.88	—	—	—	
27. Chandigarh	1.86	0.93	7.47	2.80	10.28	12.14	0.93	2.80	1.86	0.93	0.93	
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
29. Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.00	—	—	—	
30. Delhi	1.76	2.32	4.36	3.52	7.50	10.02	7.50	3.43	3.80	2.13	1.48	
31. Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.00	—	—	—	—	
32. Pondicherry	24.24	10.60	—	—	—	1.51	3.03	9.09	1.51	—	—	

STATEMENT - II

Names of districts state-wise where the lead bank has at least 50% of the total number of bank branches operating therein with the percentage of branches in each case:

State/Union Territory	District	Name of Lead Bank	Percentage of total no. of branches
1	2	3	4
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Andaman Nicobar	State Bank of India	50.00
Arunachal Pradesh	Dibang Valley	"	100.00
	East Kameng	"	100.00
	Lohit	"	80.00
	Tawang	"	100.00
	Tirap	"	100.00
	West Kameng	"	100.00
West Siang	"	75.00	
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Dadra Nagar Haveli	Dena Bank	83.33
Daman and Diu	Daman	State Bank of India	60.00
	Diu	State Bank of Saurashtra	60.00
Himachal Pradesh	Lahul Spiti	State Bank of India	83.33
Lakshadweep	Lakshadweep	Syndicate Bank	100.00

State/Union Territory	District	Name of Lead Bank	Percentage of total no. of branches
1	2	3	4
Manipur	Manipur South	United Bank of India	80.00
Meghalaya	East Garo Hills	State Bank of India	90.90
	West Garo Hills	"	91.30
Mizoram	Chimthipuri	"	50.00
	Lunglei	"	50.00
Nagaland	Mokochung	"	66.66
	Mon	"	50.00
	Phek	"	83.33
	Tuensang	"	100.00
	Zunheboto	"	66.66
Orissa	Phulbani	"	54.71
Pondicherry	Yanam	Indian Bank	50.00
	East Sikkim	State Bank of India	50.00
Sikkim	North Sikkim	"	100.00
	South Sikkim	"	100.00

Election Commission Secretariat

6571. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Election Commission had recommended as part of its proposals for electoral reforms the same privileges and safeguards in the matter of its Secretariat and staff, as are provided in the Constitution to Parliament etc., in order to ensure its complete insulation against the Executive and strengthening of the Commission's Constitutional status;

(b) what have been the views of various political parties on this proposal in and outside the Parliament and also Government's response thereto; and

(c) whether the promotion, punishment, transfer etc. of the staff of the Commission are at present under Ministry of Law and the final decision does not lie with the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Such a proposal had been made by the Election Commission as a part of several other proposals for electoral reforms in 1982. The Election Commission has not reiterated this proposal subsequently.

In the course of the recent debate on the Constitution (62nd Amendment) Bill, 1988 and the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1988, some Hon'ble Members had observed that the staff members of the Election Commission should enjoy the same privileges as available to the staff of Parliament, Comptroller and Auditor General etc. The framers of the Constitution had not included such a provision. Moreover, in regard to all administrative and serv-

ice matters in respect of persons occupying posts upto and inclusive of Group 'B' gazetted level, the final authority vests only in the Election Commission. In respect of persons in Group 'A' posts, President being the Appointing Authority, Ministry of Law and Justice remains in the picture. However, in actual practice, and invariably, the recommendations made by the Election Commission are processed for acceptance. Incidentally, excepting those cases for which provision exists in the recruitment rules for appointments to be made on transfer, the staff of the Election Commission are not transferred outside the Commission.

Law Commission Reports regarding All India Judicial Service

6572. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 29 July, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 418 regarding National Judicial Service Commission and state:

(a) whether Government have since received the comments of various State Governments, High Courts etc., relating to 116th and 118th reports of the Law Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). As replies from all the States/Union Territories have not been received on the recommendations contained in the 116th and 118th Reports of the Law Commission, Government have not taken a decision on these Reports.

Procedure for Dishonouring Cheque

6573. SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing procedure being adopted by the nationalised banks in dishonouring a cheque;

(b) whether the banks debit some amount for such incidence without informing the account holder; and

(c) if so, the arrangements being made for improving the efficiency of banks in communicating effectively with the account holders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that for various causes like (i) post-dated cheque, and (ii) non-availability of funds in the account cheques are dishonoured stating reasons such as 'not arranged for', 'refer to drawer,' 'full cover not received', and 'exceeds arrangement'.

(b) The public sector banks debit Rs. 10/- per cheque if dishonoured for funds reason. The banks have to return the cheques on the spot and hence they are unable to inform the account holder before returning the cheques. However, as far as possible, banks contact the account holder before returning the cheques. The charges debited are shown in the periodical statement of account for the information of the account holder.

(c) According to the Reserve Bank of India the existing procedure is working satisfactorily.

[Translation]

Excise Duty Pending Realisation Against Bidi Industrialists

6574. SHRI VJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) State-wise and year-wise details of Excise duty paid by the Bidi manufacturers during the last three years;

(b) whether these industrialists deposit full Excise duty on the production of Bidis by them, if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken against them;

(c) whether cases for violating Excise duty rules are pending against them incurring post manufacture expenditures and bungling in excise duty and other reasons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action being taken for the recovery of outstanding amount therefor?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Since Central Excise duty is leviable on Bidis on specific rates, the question of post manufacturing expenses and bungling of excise duty does not arise. However, there have been cases of violation of excise duty, otherwise.

(d) There are about 100 cases involving Central Excise duty of Rs. 1.03 crores approximately. These cases are in the process of adjudication under the Central Excise Law. After the demands are confirmed, administrative, legal and other measures as are considered necessary will be taken for recovery of the amounts.

STATEMENT

S.No.	State	1986-87	1987-88 (Rupees in lakhs)	1988-89
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Maharashtra	1254.00	1362.00	1421.95
2.	Gujarat	35.00	37.00	31.88
3.	Tamil Nadu	2073.00	2404.00	2517.10
4.	Karnataka	1948.00	2335.00	2285.48
5.	Andhra Pradesh	2307.00	2614.00	3058.75
6.	Kerala	540.00	590.00	581.00 (up to
7.	West Bengal	320.00	1468.00	1391.03
8.	Orissa	157.00	178.00	180.78
9.	Bihar	752.00	809.00	836.57
10.	Uttar Pradesh	965.00	1120.00	1089.48
11.	Madhya Pradesh	3162.00	3220.00	3563.56
12.	Rajasthan	157.00	156.00	162.11

S.No.	State	1986-87	1987-88 (Rupees in lakhs)	1988-89
1	2	3	4	5
13.	Haryana	—	—	—
14.	Assam	13.40	13.19	10.16
15.	Punjab	—	—	—
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—
17.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—
18.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
19.	Nagaland	—	—	—
20.	Meghalaya	—	—	—
21.	Manipur	—	—	—
22.	Sikkim	—	—	—
23.	Goa	—	—	—
24.	Tripura	2.18	3.64	3.61
25.	Mizoram	—	—	—

[English]

**Acquiring of Plots by Finance Ministry
In Trivandrum**

6575. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has acquired any plot in Trivandrum to locate its offices there;

(b) if so, the size of the plot and where it is located; and

(c) what will be the proposed size of building and by when it will be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Land measuring 1.50 acres at kaudiar, Trivandrum, has been purchased for Income-tax Department and 54 Cents of land and building "Sthanuvilas" constructed thereon at Oottukuzhy, Trivandrum, behind the State Secretariat, has been acquired for Central Excise Department for the construction of office accommodation.

(c) The construction of office building at Kaudiar has already been completed and the Income-tax Department is occupying the building since 15-6-1987. The proposal to construct a multi-storeyed building for Central Excise Department is under consideration.

On-going Irrigation Projects of Kerala

6576. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major and medium irrigation projects under construction in the

State of Kerala;

(b) the amount of Central assistance asked for by the Kerala Government for these schemes last year; and

(c) the amount sanctioned by Union Government for this purpose last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) 17 major and medium irrigation projects with ultimate irrigation potential of 650.85 thousand hectares are under construction in the State.

(b) No such request was received from the State Government.

(c) Does not arise.

**Allocation of Funds to KERALA for
Containing Sea-Erosion**

6577. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds proposed to be given by Union Government to Government of Kerala for containing sea-erosion along its coastal area during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) how much amount has been provided to the State till-date; and

(c) how much amount has been spent by State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) An outlay of Rs. 12.5 crores has been provided as Central loan assistance during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(b) From the Fourth Five Year Plan upto

March, 1989, Rs. 44.62 crores have been released.

(c) Upto March, 1988, inclusive of Central loan assistance, about Rs. 83.14 crores have been spent by the Kerala State Government.

Trade with Finland

6578. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether trade between India and Finland is being stepped up;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which trade between the two countries will be improved?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (d). Indo-Finnish Trade has shown a growing trend. According to figures available with DGCI&S, the volume of trade in 1987-88 was Rs. 114.69 crores as compared to Rs. 84.20 crores in 1986-87. The growing trend continued in April-December, 1988 when the volume of trade was Rs. 110.24 crores as compared to Rs. 72.04 crores in the corresponding period of the previous year.

A trade agreement between India and Finland was signed on June 29, 1967 providing to each other, consistent with their obligations under the GATT, most-favoured nation treatment in respect of customs duties, etc.

It is difficult to forecast to what extent the trade between the two countries will increase in future.

Problems of Exporters

6579. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether lack of coordination between the International Airports Authority of India and the Customs, fall in the value of rupee in the world markets and paucity of aircrafts space to lift cargo are the major factors responsible for loss of revenue to exporters;

(b) if so, whether Government have since contemplated any efforts to solve these problems of exporters; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c). No, Sir. There is pressure on the air cargo infrastructure and on airline capacity during the busy season from January to June in connection with the movement of export cargo particularly in the wake of the expansion in exports. Problems are overcome through coordination with various agencies including the International Airports Authority of India, the Customs, Airlines, Air Cargo Agents and the Exporters. The exchange rate has a bearing on the export realisation in rupees the realisation being greater when there is a related down ward movement of the rupee as against the currency of the country to which exports are made.

Export of Engineering Goods to Australia

6580. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a working group under the aegis of Indo-Aus-

tralian Joint Business Council to augment export of engineering goods to Australia;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed working group; and

(c) the extent to which the export of engineering goods to Australia will be boosted?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government have not set up a Working Group to augment export of Engineering Goods to Australia. However, at the joint meeting of the Indo-Australian Working Party on engineering/mining, it was decided to set up a small working group consisting of three members from each side to facilitate trade, increase mutual awareness and monitor progress.

Export of Snails

6581. **SHRI SOMNATH RATH:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is promoting export of snails and snail meat; and

(b) if so, the kind of snails and snail meat exported, country-wise and the foreign earned there from?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). India has not yet exported snail or snail-meat. However, Marine Products Export Development Authority arranged display of frozen snail meat at the Anuga Fair, Cologne (GRG) (October 1987).

Equipment for Fishing Vessels of Small Entrepreneurs

6582. **SHRI SOMNATH RATH:** Will the

Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 2nd December, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 3199 regarding purchase of fishing trawlers by small entrepreneurs and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that small entrepreneurs are forced to accept untested and undesired engines and equipment on their fishing vessels; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by SCICI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Construction of fishing vessels, including fitting of engines is undertaken in accordance with building contracts executed between buyers and shipbuilders. The question of forcing entrepreneurs to accept untested engines and equipment on their vessel does not arise.

Expenditure on Litigation by Banks

6583. **SHRI SOMNATH RATH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual legal expenses of each nationalised bank for 1987 and 1988, separately;

(b) whether litigation has become the rule for banks;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to reduce litigation initiated by the nationalised banks; and

(d) the reasons for not encouraging banks to restrict litigation?

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

EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The accounting system of the banks provides information regarding consolidated expenditure under the head "Law Charges." According to the published Annual Accounts of public sector banks, the expenditure under this head during 1987 was Rs. 13.43 crores as per details given in the statement below. The relative figures for 1988 are not yet available as the banks have switched over to the closing of their Annual Accounts as on 31st March, 1989 for the year 1988.

(b) to (d). The banks take recourse to litigation after exhausting all other possible methods of recovery of their dues. The litigation is a last resort for banks to protect their interest.

The Reserve Bank of India has advised banks to exercise close supervision and control over advances and monitor the sticky advances so as to eventually reduce the incidence of litigation.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>Expenditure under Law Charges of Public Sector Banks (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1	2	3
1.	Indian Overseas Bank	9.66
2.	Bank of Maharashtra	5.14
3.	Dena Bank	12.17
4.	Union Bank of India	195.30
5.	Bank of Baroda	113.45
6.	Bank of India	68.10
7.	Central Bank of India	87.88
8.	Syndicate Bank	12.10
9.	UCO Bank	16.25
10.	Punjab National Bank	268.60
11.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	60.69
12.	Punjab & Sind Bank	13.83
13.	Vijaya Bank	3.99
14.	New Bank of India	65.69
15.	Corporation Bank	5.98

1	2	3
16.	Andhra Bank	37.56
17.	Indian Bank	5.52
18.	Allahabad Bank	35.58
19.	Canara Bank	23.01
20.	United Bank of India	11.62
21.	State Bank of India	239.42
22.	State Bank of Hyderabad	8.25
23.	State Bank of Patiala	12.43
24.	State Bank of Saurashtra	6.95
25.	State Bank of Travancore	3.05
26.	State Bank of Indore	7.30
27.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	13.08
28.	State Bank of Mysore	0.72

Parcel Office at Bangalore City Railway Station

6584. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Old Parcel Office near Bangalore City Railway Station is proposed to be rebuilt;

(b) if so, the estimated cost thereof;

(c) the amount earmarked during 1989-90 for the above work; and

(d) when the proposed building is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The work is proposed to be taken up at an anticipated cost of Rs. 8.00 lakhs, as a part of the Bangalore City Junction-Mysore Gauge Conversion Project and no specific allotment has been made for this item of work separately. The work is likely to be completed by March, 1991.

Use of Computers in Karnataka High Court

6585. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether computers are being used in Karnataka High Court in its library and in computerising cases, subject-wise; and

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal before Union Government to introduce computers in High Court of Karnataka in its library and for providing all information on each subject of law?

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

Chain Pulling Incidents

6586. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI SODE RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people arrested/fined on account of chain pulling during the last 12 months and how this figure compares with the preceding last three years;

(b) the number of cases of chain pulling in the country during the last 3 months and its effects on the running of trains; and

(c) the steps taken to deal with the menace?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) 1,786 persons were arrested/fined during April, 1988 to March, 1989 as compared to 1,017, 1,342 and 1,950 persons arrested/fined during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 respectively.

(b) Alarm chain was pulled 58,208 times during January, 1989 to March, 1989 resulting in detention and late running of trains.

(c) Surprise checks and special drives are conducted by the commercial staff in association with the RPF/GRP Personnel. Alarm Chain apparatus has been blanked off on 83 pairs of trains on which chain pulling was rampant.

Joint Ventures with Thailand

6587. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bilateral trade between India and Thailand is likely to increase manifold with the commissioning of Joint Ventures in Thailand;

(b) if so, the fields in which joint ventures have been commissioned/likely to be commissioned in Thailand;

(c) whether any Indian team visited Thailand during the recent past to find out the feasibility of joint ventures in Thailand; and

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made by them?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Joint Ventures will help to increase bilateral trade.

(b) Joint Ventures which have already commenced operation in Thailand are in the field of manufacture of synthetic and cotton yarn, chemicals, viscose staple fibres, cutting tools, carbon black, pulp, steel and steel products, dyestuffs etc. Two joint ventures under implementation are in the field of hotel industry and pharmaceuticals and drugs.

(c) and (d). A high level delegation from the C.E.I. visited Thailand in August, 1988 and recommended that considerable scope exists for joint ventures in the fields such as machine tools, auto-ancillaries, agricultural machinery, textile and leather machinery, pumps and compressors etc.

[*Translation*]

Interests of Small Mica Traders

6588. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mica export orders received from USSR, Romania, GDR during 1986-87 and 1987-88 have been executed through big exporters of Jhumritalya on bank to bank basis disregarding the interests of Mica Trading Corporation of India (MITCO) and other small Mica Traders;

(b) whether 85 per cent of small Mica Traders have closed down their business; and

(c) if so, the measures being contemplated by Government to safeguard the interests of MITCO and other small traders?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Bank Loans to Farmers

6589. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the loans sanc-

tioned by the nationalised banks for the farmers, during 1987-88 and 1988-89; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take for increasing the percentage of the loans for the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The share of direct agricultural advances in the total outstanding credit of all public sector banks as at the end of December, 1987 and December, 1988 was 16.8% and 16.6% respectively.

(b) The public sector banks have been advised to increase the share of direct agricultural advances in total outstanding credit to 18% by the end of March, 1990.

Extension of Local Trains from Bombay upto Pune

6590. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend all the local trains from Bombay to Karjat upto Pune Junction so as to connect the local trains from Pune Junction to Lonawala and Bombay V.T. to Karjat;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when Government propose to implement the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Bombay V.T.Pune section is not fit

for through running of EMU services.

**Direct Local Trains between Bombay
V.T. and Panvel and Vasai**

6591. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce direct local trains between Bombay V.T. and Panvel as well as Bombay V.T. and Vasai via Diva Junction; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Frequency of Rajdhani and Deluxe
Express**

6592. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the frequency of New Delhi-Bombay Rajdhani Express and Deluxe Express so that they could run daily; and

(b) if so, when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). There is no proposal for the present to increase the frequency of these trains between Bombay Central-New Delhi.

Subsidy on Coffee Cultivation

6593. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coffee Board has decided to give subsidy for cultivation of coffee;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the amount of subsidy proposed to be given in 1989-90; and

(d) the number of coffee cultivators expected to be benefited by it?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (d). The Government has approved continuance of the operation of the various on-going subsidy schemes viz. the expansion subsidy, interest subsidy and the replanting subsidy at the already existing norms during 1989-90.

A provision of Rs. 80 lakhs for this purpose has been made in B.E. 1989-90. The number of beneficiaries, however, cannot be anticipated as the physical targets are set only in terms of areas.

SBI's "Own Your Own Home" Scheme

6594. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has introduced a scheme for housing called "Own Your Own Home";

(b) if so, the main features of the Scheme with the terms and conditions laid down for eligibility for the Scheme;

(c) the number of persons benefited under the Scheme during the year 1988-89; and

(d) the target set for the Scheme for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that it has introduced a Scheme for Deposit Linked Loans for housing on 15th September, 1988 named "Own Home Scheme" for construction/purchase of a house and for making additions/extension to a house. Under the scheme, resident individuals making monthly deposits of a minimum of Rs. 100/- and a maximum of Rs. 2,400/- per month regularly for 36 months, can avail a loan upto 2 times the maturity value of the recurring deposit or 65% of the cost of the house etc., whichever is less. The amount of loan would range between Rs. 8,000/- and Rs. 2 lakhs. The interest rate on such loans would range between 12.5% p.a. to 15% p.a. depending on the loan amount. The repayment of loan would be in suitable monthly instalments over 10 years. The security of loans is provided by mortgage of house property. The scheme is to be implemented through all the branches of the Bank.

(c) and (d). SBI had reported that the data on number of persons benefited under the scheme is not readily available and no specific target as such has been set under the scheme.

[Translation]

Train on New Delhi-Lucknow-Barauni Section

6595. SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes including introduction of new trains, order consideration and under implementation for providing more facilities to passengers and to improve to and fro traffic on New Delhi-Lucknow-Barauni route; and

(b) the time by which these schemes

will be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). No new train is proposed to be introduced between New Delhi-Barauni via Lucknow. However, 983/984 Express between Delhi-Katihar via Allahabad-Mughalsarai-Patna-Barauni is being introduced from May, 1989. Improvement to stations, including provision of facilities to passengers, is a continuous process and the same is done on a "need-based programme", in phase, subject to availability of funds.

[English]

Ecological Damage from Sardar Sarovar Project

6596. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of damage to the ecological balance and environment in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra as a result of the Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) how much amount will be needed for rehabilitation of the persons uprooted due to the project; and

(c) how much provision has already been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) An area of 20,822 hectares in Madhya Pradesh and 9,599 hectares in Maharashtra is coming under submergence of which forest area is 2,731 hectares and 6,489 hectares respectively.

(b) About Rs. 317 crores as per approved project estimate.

(c) While provision for rehabilitation is generally included in the overall provision made for the project, the expenditure incurred upto March, 1989, is Rs. 14.52 crores.

State Share in Increase of Administered Prices

6597. PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether after making an increase in the administered prices of commodities, share of the amount accruing from such increase is made available to the States; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to change its policy and allow the States to have a share in the revenues available from the increase in administered prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Revision of administered prices is not a device to raise revenues for the Government. These are intended to allow specific public sector units to cover the rise in their cost of production. As such, the question of sharing the revenues with the State Governments does not arise.

Newsitem "Mysterious Cheque for V.P. Singh"

6598. PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news report in the 'Statesman' (Delhi edition) of 24 February, 1989 under the caption 'Mysterious cheque for V.P. Singh';

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made in this case;

(c) if so, the findings of the inquiry; and

(d) what action has been taken in this regard?

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

(b) The Unit Trust of India has lodged a complaint with the Inspector General of Police, Crimes Madras. The investigations by the police are continuing.

(b) and (d) . On the basis of interim communication from the police and in consultation with them, Unit Trust of India, has as per rules placed 3 employees under suspension and written explanation has been called for from officers concerned.

[Translation]

Loans Advanced by State Bank of Indore in Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh

6599. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans advanced to urban and rural poor people of Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh by the State Bank of Indore during the last three years;

(b) the total percentage of loan amount recovered so far;

(c) whether these loans are proposed to be converted into long term loans; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The present data reporting system of banks does not yield information in the manner asked for. However, outstanding advances of all scheduled commercial banks in respect of their rural branches in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh were Rs. 723 crores and Rs. 1347 crores respectively, as at the end of September, 1988 (Latest available). Whereas for the same period, the outstanding advances in respect of Urban/Metro Politan branches in the states of Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh were Rs. 1662 crores and Rs. 3087 crores respectively. The percentage of recovery to demand in respect of direct agricultural advances of all Scheduled Commercial Banks in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh was 46.0% and 60.9% respectively for the year ending June, 1987.

[English]

Vasai-Diva Railway Line

6600. SHRI SAMBAJIRAO KAKADE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations on Vasai-Diva railway line;

(b) the amount spent on the construction of this line;

(c) whether any facilities have been provided for running passenger trains on this line; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) One.

(b) Rs. 30 crores.

(c) Facilities for running passenger trains are being developed as they are inadequate at present.

(d) Does not arise.

Rural and Urban Branches of Banks

6601. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India and Government have ensured the sanction and opening of a large number of rural branches of the nationalised banks since nationalisation;

(b) if so, the exact number of rural and urban/semi-urban branches as on 31 March, 1989 for each State/Union Territory, bank-wise separately and the names thereof in Himachal Pradesh, district-wise;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India follow the same connotation of the words rural and urban areas as is accepted by the Census authorities;

(d) if not, the exact definition for urban and rural areas followed by the Reserve Bank of India; and

(e) whether in some cases even the branches at the district headquarters, Municipal and Notified Areas are also regarded as rural branches and the reasons therefor and whether reclassification would be ensured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the number of rural, semi-urban and urban branches have increased from 5154 to 49904 between June '69 and September

'88. Statewise and bankwise number of rural, semi-urban and urban branches of scheduled commercial banks as on 30.9.1988 are indicated in statement-I and II respectively. The number of rural, semi-

urban and urban branches of commercial banks in various districts of Himachal Pradesh as on 30.6.1988 are indicated below:-

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Semi-Urban</i>	<i>Urban</i>
Bilaspur	34	—	—
Chamba	46	5	—
Hamirpur	42	—	—
Kangra	119	9	—
Kinnaur	14	—	—
Kulu	30	8	—
Lahul and Spiti	6	—	—
Mandi	58	20	—
Shimla	79	23	—
Sirmur	30	5	—
Solan	53	8	—
Una	35	—	—
Total:	546	78	—

(c) to (e). The classification of a centre for the purpose of bank branch statistics is based on its population as per 1981 census. The centres having population of less than 10,000 are classified as rural, those having population between 10,000 and 1,00,000 as semi-urban, centres having population between 1 lakh and 10 lakh as urban and those

having more than 10 lakh population as metropolitan. While for the purpose of census operations, the places notified as municipality, Corporation, or Town Area Committee are regarded as urban centres and all such areas which are not urban are regarded as rural.

STATEMENT-I

State-wise number of branches of scheduled commercial banks in the rural, semi-urban and urban areas as on 30.9.1988

Sl. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	Rural	Semi-Urban	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2495	914	455
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	56	1	—
3.	Assam	720	217	103
4.	Bihar	3227	681	454
5.	Goa	154	80	—
6.	Gujarat	1553	693	540
7.	Haryana	728	243	259
8.	Himachal Pradesh	553	77	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	528	64	139
10.	Karnataka	2216	775	445
11.	Kerala	612	1729	290
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2711	648	574

Sl. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	Rural	Semi-Urban	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
13.	Maharashtra	2211	810	671
14.	Manipur	40	9	18
15.	Meghalaya	98	12	27
16.	Mizoram	42	8	—
17.	Nagaland	44	24	—
18.	Orissa	1386	239	193
19.	Punjab	1128	476	457
20.	Rajasthan	1813	546	440
21.	Sikkim	21	4	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	1758	1036	671
23.	Tripura	99	23	25
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5190	1169	1201
25.	West Bengal	1912	595	320

Sl. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	Rural	Semi-Urban	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9	1	—
27.	Chandigarh	13	5	89
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	1	9	—
30.	Delhi	72	6	—
31.	Lakshadweep	5	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	28	10	—
	All India	31429	11104	7371

STATEMENT II

Bank-wise number of branches of scheduled commercial banks in the rural, semi-urban and urban areas as on 30.9.1988

Sl. No.	Name of Bank	Rural	Semi-Urban	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
1.	State Bank of India	3688	2156	1094
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	280	173	124
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	282	188	67
4.	State Bank of Indore	115	82	67
5.	State Bank of Mysore	195	115	73
6.	State Bank of Patiala	256	122	118
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	123	97	53
8.	State Bank of Travancore	81	394	69
9.	Allahabad Bank	806	242	238
10.	Andhra Bank	376	237	144
11.	Bank of Baroda	995	386	363
12.	Bank of India	1014	354	328

Sl. No.	Name of Bank	Rural	Semi-Urban	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	495	171	162
14.	Canara Bank	713	495	337
15.	Central Bank of India	1198	637	458
16.	Corporation Bank	167	87	87
17.	Dena Bank	425	197	186
18.	Indian Bank	464	273	212
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	473	271	192
20.	New Bank of India	249	106	125
21.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	222	89	106
22.	Punjab & Sind Bank	296	102	161
23.	Punjab National Bank	1332	484	462
24.	Syndicate Bank	645	333	234

Sl. No.	Name of Bank	Rural	Semi-Urban	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
25.	UCO Bank	896	309	302
26.	Union Bank of India	814	339	298
27.	United Bank of India	560	200	183
28.	Vijaya Bank	257	150	147
29.	Regional Rural Banks	12611	911	140
30.	Other Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks	1383	1388	825
31.	Foreign Banks	—	2	9
32.	Non-Scheduled Banks	18	14	7
Grand Total:		31429	11104	7371

States Assistance for Railway Projects

6602. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Governments had offered to provide land free of cost for construction of any one of the on-going projects, new railway lines as are being executed at present;

(b) if so, the names of the States Governments and the new line projects concerned, alongwith dates on which such commitments were made and the actual area of land provided for each one of these projects alongwith estimated cost at the time of giving the land;

(c) whether some of the State Governments later withdrew the offer and the Railways had to bear the entire cost; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Ring Railway Delhi

6603. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to streamline the traffic in Delhi, Government propose to make Ring Railway more effective;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up an autonomous body for this purpose;

(c) if so, when it would be done and the

complete details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps Government propose to take to streamline the traffic in Delhi?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Ring Railway, Delhi is already being effectively utilised.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) It is for Delhi Administration/local bodies concerned to take the requisite steps in this regard.

Opening of Wagha Border

6604. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the request of some industrialists for opening of Wagha-Atari border;

(b) if so, whether any decision have been taken in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government have received requests from industrialists for opening of the Wahga-Atari border for movement of cargo by road.

(b) and (c). The Wagha-Atari border is already open for movement of cargo by rail.

Exemption to Instalments of House Building Advance from Income-tax

6605. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether income tax rebate is given to Government employees on repayment of instalments of house building advance, who have completed their construction work after March, 1987;

(b) if so, whether repayment of instalments of advance by those employees is not exempted from income tax who have completed their construction work earlier than March, 1987;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to exempt all instalments of house building advance from income-tax so as to ensure equal benefits to all such Government employees; and

(e) if so, by what time it is expected to be done and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Clause (h) of sub-section (2) of section 80C of the Income-tax Act, as substituted by the Finance Act, 1987, provides for the deduction in the computation of the total income of, *inter alia*, sums paid by a person towards repayment of the amount borrowed by him from specified sources (including Government) for purchase or construction of a residential house, if the construction of the house is completed after 31st March, 1987.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The aforesaid tax concession is intended to provide an incentive for construction of residential houses. Such an incentive was not considered necessary in cases where the construction of a house had been completed on or before 31st March, 1987.

(d) The Government is not considering

any such proposal at present.

(e) In view of answer to Part (d), does not arise.

[English]

Additional Bogies for Karnataka Express

6606. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is public demand for additional bogies in Karnataka Express running between New Delhi and Bangalore; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). Karnataka Express will run daily with 21 coaches from May, 1989.

Insurance for Marine Products Exports

6607. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced the scheme of insurance of marine products exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the advantages expected to be derived from this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir. General Insurance Corporation of India have introduced with effect from 1.4.1989 an insurance cover for Marine Products Exports

on selective basis.

(b) Marine Insurance Cover including Rejection Insurance Cover is available to selective exporters of marine products who are listed in Category 'A' by U.S. Food and Drugs Administration and whose products are free to enter U.S.A. The Cover has been made available with effect from 1.4.1989. The premium rates chargeable for this insurance is 4% for exports to U.S.A., Canada, Japan and Australia and 3.5% for exports to other countries.

(c) Insurance is an invisible foreign exchange earner and as such there is definite advantage in introducing this business in India as the exporters can now made their shipments on C.I.F. basis and realise the increased value of goods including insurance premium from the overseas buyers.

Assistance to Power and Engineering Industries

6608. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that power industry and engineering industries are starved of finances on easy terms;

(b) whether Government have any programme to help them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the requirements of power generating projects in the State Sector are to be generally met by the Power Finance Corporation (PFC). PFC supplements the efforts of the State Electricity Boards in this behalf. If there are gaps in financing, the

institutions may consider meeting the short-fall. Institutions are extending financial assistance to the engineering industry under their various schemes subject to the projects being found to be satisfying the viability and other norms of the institutions. The terms of assistance are the same as those applicable to any other industry financed by the institutions.

Replacement of Steam Locomotives and Electrification of Tracks

6609. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the zonal railways where steam engines have been replaced by diesel engines during 1987-88; and

(b) the length of railway tracks electrified in the country during the last two years; zone-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Some steam locomotives have been replaced with diesel locomotives on all the zonal Railways during 1987-88.

(b) The information is given below:--

<i>Railways</i>	<i>Route Kilometres electrified during 1987-88 and 1988-89</i>
Central	641
Eastern	15
Northern	19
Southern	2
South Central	383
South Eastern	98
Western	266
Total:	1424

Funds Released to Orissa for Development of C.A.D. Programme

6610. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the amount released by Government to the State of Orissa during last three years for implementing Command Areas Development Programme and the utilisation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): The Central assistance released to Orissa Government for Command Area Development Programme during the year 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 is Rs. 275.74, 290.15 and 512.48 lakhs respectively.

The releases for the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 have been reported to be almost fully utilised by the State.

[Translation]

Generation of Black Money

6611. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of black money being generated every year in Delhi by way of illegal constructions;

(b) the number of property dealers in Delhi, especially in urban areas, against whom Government have conducted inquiry during the years, 1988 and 1989;

(c) the number of raids conducted by Income-tax Department, Vigilance Department and Central Board of Direct Taxes against the builders engaged in illegal commercial constructions and the number of complaints received against them; and

(d) the number of markets in urban areas wherefrom Government have collected wealth tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) No accurate estimate of the generation of black money from the construction activity in Delhi, whether legal or illegal, can be made.

(b) and (c). The Investigation Wing of the Income-tax Department, functioning under the overall supervision of Central Board of Direct Taxes, has conducted searches in the cases of property dealers and builders in Delhi as per the following details:

Year	No. of searches conducted	
	Property dealers	Builders
1988	2	3
1989	11	10

The Directorate of Vigilance of the Income-tax Department is not entrusted with the task of conducting enquiries or searches in the cases of tax evaders.

(d) Wealth-tax is levied in the cases of individuals, Hindu undivided families and private limited companies on net wealth, if it exceeds the maximum amount not chargeable to tax, under the Wealth-tax Act. Wealth-tax is not levied on markets as such.

[English]

Loans Outstanding Against Farmers

6612. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated, State-wise, amount of loan due on farmers from financial institu-

tions; and

(b) the estimated, State-wise average amount of interest on these loans which become due on the farmers in a year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The State-wise

outstanding agricultural advances of all scheduled commercial banks as at the end of June, 1987 (latest available) are given in the statement below.

(b) The present data reporting system of Reserve Bank of India does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, the interest rates for agricultural activities are as follows:-

Production Credit:

<i>Amount of Loan</i>	<i>Rate of Interest % per annum</i>
Upto Rs. 7500	10
Over Rs. 7500 and upto Rs. 15000	11.5
Over Rs. 15000 and upto Rs. 25000	12
Over Rs. 25000	14 to 15.5

Investment credit:

For minor irrigation and Land Development	10
Other purposes—	
Small farmers	10
Other farmers	12.5

STATEMENT

(Amount in Thousands of Rupees)

State/Union Territory	Agriculture		Total Agriculture BAL O/S
	Direct BAL O/S	Indirect BAL O/S	
1	2	3	4
Northern Region	18933695	2864132	21797827
Haryana	3978378	373393	4351771
Himachal Pradesh	500553	48191	548744
Jammu & Kashmir	377627	42631	420258
Punjab	748229	699023	8181302
Rajasthan	4352528	736703	5089231
Chandigarh	1779124	259830	2038954
Delhi	463206	704361	1167567
North-Eastern Region	1058776	236652	1295428
Assam	685707	139024	874731

Agriculture State/Union Territory	Total		Agriculture BAL. O/S
	Direct BAL. O/S	Indirect BAL. O/S	
1	2	3	4
Manipur	35447	9514	44961
Meghalaya	71045	5292	76337
Nagaland	96333	5800	102133
Tripura	123792	23122	146914
Arunachal Pradesh	14480	—	14480
Mizoram	9624	3400	13024
Sikkim	22348	500	22843
Eastern Region	10204526	1936247	12140773
Bihar	3955695	985712	4941407
Orissa	2373443	312700	2686143
West Bengal	3857138	637398	4494536
Andaman & Nicobar	18250	437	18687

Agriculture State/Union Territory	Total		Agriculture BAL. O/S
	Direct BAL. O/S	Indirect BAL. O/S	
1	2	3	4
Central Region	14749189	2256267	17005456
Madhya Pradesh	5190437	707797	5898284
Uttar Pradesh	9558702	1548470	11107172
Western Region	14509693	2206420	16716113
Gujarat	5155834	719233	5875067
Maharashtra	9156451	1469222	10625673
Goa, Daman & Diu	192359	17840	210199
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5049	125	5174
Southern Region	35941185	4742306	40683491
Andhra Pradesh	11759679	1808663	13568342
Karnataka	8925861	1234179	10160040
Kerala	4491041	286782	4777823

Agriculture State/Union Territory	Total		Agriculture BAL. O/S
	Direct BAL. O/S	Indirect BAL. O/S	
1	2	3	4
Tamil Nadu	10527502	1409285	11936787
Pondicherry	233706	3397	237103
Lakshadweep	3396	—	3396
All India	95397064	14242024	109639083

**Deduction In Expenses on Telephones
etc.**

6613. SRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Income-tax Officers in Delhi have been discriminating assesses in the matter of allowing deduction in expenses on telephones, travelling, cash credit etc;

(b) if so, the formula adopted by ITOs in this regard;

(c) whether the entire expenditure on transport charges i.e. fuel consumption is allowed deduction in the return;

(d) if so, whether in some cases this concession has not been allowed, and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to check the discriminatory use of authority by ITOs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) No, Sir. Expenses on telephones, travelling, etc. are allowed only to the extent they are incurred wholly and exclusively for the purposes of business or profession. Any disallowance in this respect depends on the facts and circumstances of each case.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Expenditure on transport charges i.e. fuel consumption is allowed as deduction in the computation of taxable income of the assessee to the extent it is incurred wholly and exclusively for the purposes of business or profession. Any allowance or disallowance of the expenditure would depend on the facts and circumstances of each case.

(e) In view of the replies to parts (a) to (d) of the Question, the question of taking steps to check the discriminatory use of authority by the Income-tax Officers do not arise. However, inspections are periodically made by the supervisory authority to check the incorrectness in the assessment order made by the Income-tax Officer. Besides, if the assessee is aggrieved by any assessment order of the Income-tax Officer he can take up the matter in appeal/revision.

**Speed of Rajdhani Express (Delhi-
Bombay)**

6614. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire route of Bombay-Delhi Rajdhani Express has the facility of running electrical trains;

(b) if so, whether on account of the above facility available the time schedule of Bombay-Delhi Rajdhani Express would be considerably reduced;

(c) if so, what would be the time required for Rajdhani Express under the new set up;

(d) when this time benefit schedule will be put into operation;

(e) whether there are any other impediments in implementing this new time schedule; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f). It is intended to raise the maximum permissible speed of the train to 130 kmph upto Ratlam during 1989-90.

Reduction in journey time depends upon several factors like permanent speed restrictions enroute, maximum permissible speed, for track, coaches, type of signalling etc. and the details will be worked out only when the revision of schedule is undertaken.

Staff of Catering Department

6615. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway canteen staff on long route trains is engaged on casual labour-basis;

(b) if not, the conditions on which such canteen staff is appointed;

(c) whether canteen staff are made permanent after their probation period; and

(d) the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). Some vendors and bearers are engaged on commission basis in departmentally managed pantry cars.

(c) and (d). Commission bearers are absorbed as regular employees as and when vacancies arise. Commission vendors are to be absorbed after absorption of commission bearers.

Composition of MPEDA Committees

6616. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 31st March, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 4267 regarding Export of Shrimp to Japan and state:

(a) whether any officer of the companies involved in export of contaminated

shrimp to Japan is serving in any capacity in committees of the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA);

(b) whether owners or officers associated with such companies are on the MPEDA; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c). As already mentioned in the reply given on 31st March, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 4267, reports of cholera contamination was received by the Government in five cases of exports of marine products exported by five firms to Japan in 1986. None of the owners or officers, of these five companies is serving in any capacity in committees of the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA). However, 2 tons of frozen shrimp exported to Japan in 1984 by M/s. George Maijo Company, Madras and 0.46 tonnes of frozen shrimp exported to Japan in 1985 by M/s. Triveni Food Products, were found to contain cholera contamination. Shri T.M. Joseph, who is associated with M/s. George Maijo Company and Shri R. Bhattacharya, who is associated with M/s. Triveni Food Products are members of the MPEDA.

Trade with Malaysia

6617. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the items presently being exported to and imported from Malaysia;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to expand Indo-Maleysian trade; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRIDINESH SINGH): (a) India's principal

items of export to Malaysia include spices, fruits and vegetables, meat and preparations, marine products, gems and jewellery, engineering goods, cotton yarn etc. and principal items of import from Malaysia include crude rubber, edible oils, organic chemicals, primary steel, pig iron based items, non-ferrous items, etc.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. An Office of the Trade Development Authority has been established in Malaysia and an Indo-Malaysian Joint Business Cooperation Committee has been set up for greater interaction of business-community of both the sides for expansion of trade. Further, Malaysia has agreed to award certain projects to Indian companies on a negotiated basis.

Export of Cotton Yarn by EOUs

6618. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Ministers of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any applications are pending from 100 per cent. export oriented units manufacturing cotton yarn for export through merchant exporters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reason for delay in clearing these applications;

(d) the time by which they will be cleared; and

(e) the estimated amount of foreign exchange involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRIDINESH SINGH): (a) to (e). M/s. Nav Maharashtra Sahakari Soot Girani Ltd., a 100% Export Oriented Unit approved for manufacture of cotton yarn had made enquiries whether exports can be made to Rupee Currency Area through merchant exporters. In terms of para 173 of the current Import and Export Policy, units coming

within the purview of the 100% EOU scheme have been specifically excluded from availing of the facility of making third party exports.

Accident of Kerala Express

6619. SHRI V.S. VJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the Kerala Express was involved in accidents after it was converted into a daily train;

(b) whether it met with an accident recently in the Tamil Nadu sector;

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

(d) the steps taken to prevent accidents involving this train?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) 3 (Three).

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Engines and five coaches of 126 Kerala Mangla Express got derailed while passing through Magnesite Jn. The accident has been attributed to failure of railway staff.

(d) Intensive counselling of drivers as well as all other categories of staff connected with train passing duties is being done. Multi-disciplinary teams of Senior Administrative Grade Officers have been formed to inspect and monitor safety measures being undertaken in all the Divisions.

Super Fast Train between Tanjore and Madras

6620. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce a super fast train between Tanjore and Madras; and

(b) if so, the time by which the train is likely to be introduced?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Imports by MMTC

6621. SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the major items of import by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) of the value of Rs. one crore and above for the last three years;

(b) the source or sources from which these are being imported and the prices thereof; and

(c) whether there is any foreign agent involved in these transactions?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The major items of import by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited of the value of Rs. one crore and above during the last three years were non-ferrous metals (e.g., copper, zinc, lead, tin, nickel, aluminium industrial raw materials (e.g., Asbestos Raw, Acid Grad Fluorspar, Mercury), Fertilizers (e.g., Urea, DAP, MOP, SOP, NP/NPK Rock Phosphate and Sulphur) and iron and steel items.

(b) The main sources from which the above items are being imported are Australia, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bahrain, Belgium, Canada, China, Czechoslo-

vakia, France, GDR, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, North Korea, Norway, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Singapore, Switzerland, USSR, UK, USA, Venezuela, West Germany, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zaire, Zimbabwe, etc.

Imports are effected by the MMTC on the basis of tenders and/or through direct negotiations with the producers/suppliers. The prices at which imports are effected are based on LME prices in the case of major non-ferrous metals, or the lowest price and other terms and conditions quoted by the suppliers in the tender which are duly evaluated to secure the most advantageous terms.

(c) MMTC does not engage the service of any foreign agents in effecting these imports.

Vacancies in Offices of Chairmen, Managing Directors and Members of Board of Directors of Banks

6622. SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the public sector banks which have vacancies in the offices of their Chairmen, Managing Directors and Members of the Board of Directors; and

(b) the names of Chairmen, Managing Directors and Members of Board of Directors of all public sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Of the 28 public sector banks, the position of Chairman and Managing Director is vacant only in Union Bank of India and Bank of Maharashtra. While there are no non official Directors on

the Boards of 20 nationalised banks, some vacancies of non official directors exist on the Central Board of SBI and on the Boards of some of the Associate Banks of SBI. In regard to Employee Directors, vacancies of Workmen Employee Directors exist in 7

banks and non workmen employee directors in 27 banks.

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

STATEMENT

Names of Chairmen and Managing Directors and Members of Boards of Directors of public sector banks

1. *State Bank of India*

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| (a) | Shri D.N. Ghosh | Chairman |
| (b) | Shri V. Atal | Managing Director |
| (c) | Prof. M. S. Khan | |
| (d) | Shri Parmpal Singh Mann | |
| (e) | Shri Yawar Rashid | |
| (f) | Dr. Rajat Kumar Chakrabarti | |
| (g) | Shri K. Purnachandra Rao | |
| (h) | Shri C.L. Anand | |
| (i) | Dr. Chakradhar Sinha | |
| (j) | Smt. Anil R. Dholakia | |
| (k) | Dr. Kissen Kanungo | |
| (l) | Shri Shrikant G. Ruparel | |
| (m) | Shri Arun Jaswantlal | |
| (n) | Shri Mast Ram Awasthi | |
| (o) | Shri R.N. Godbole | |
| (p) | Shri L.R. Naik | |
| (q) | Dr. Y.B. Abba Sayulu | |
| (r) | Dr. Deepak Nayyar | |

(s) Shri V.P. Sawhney

(t) Dr. C. Rangarajan

2. *Subsidiary Banks of State Bank of India*

State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur

(a) Shri T.K. Sinha

Managing Director

(b) Shri J.P. Kundra

(c) Shri S.C. Marwaha

(d) Shri S. Gurumurthy

(e) Shri Pradeep Kumar

(f) Shri Tej Bahadur Rai

(g) Shri Shiv Prasad Verma

(h) Dr. (Smt.) Pratibha Jain

(i) Shri Durga Prasad Saboo

(j) Shri Vimal Chand Surana

State Bank of Hyderabad

(a) Dr. A.K. Bhattacharya

Managing Director

(b) Shri J.P. Kundra

(c) Shri S.C. Marwaha

(d) Shri P.R. Anantharaman

(e) Kumari Ranjana Ray

(f) Shri Shyam S. Kulkarni

(g) Shri B. Ch. V. Subbarao

(h) Dr. P.B. Parthasarathy

(i) Dr. Pronab Kumar Mondal

(j) Dr. K.S. Ramesh

(k) Dr. K.S. Upadhyay

State Bank of Indore

- (a) Dr. M.K. Sinha Managing Director
- (b) Shri J.P. Kundra
- (c) Shri S.C. Marwaha
- (d) Shri A.L. Bhatia
- (e) Shri H. Santosh Kumar
- (f) Shri Prakash Hardas
- (g) Shri Yijay Singh
- (h) Dr. J.P. Srivastava
- (i) Shri S.K. Khandelwal
- (j) Smt. Kusum Wig
- (k) Dr. R.D. Agrawal

State Bank of Mysore

- (a) Shri M.V. Subramaniam Managing Director
- (b) Shri J.P. Kundra
- (c) Shri S.C. Marwaha
- (d) Shri B. Kamath
- (e) Shri Y.P. Sethi
- (f) Shri M. Anjani
- (g) Dr. B.V. Krishna Murthi
- (h) Shri Naresh C. Gupta
- (i) Shri M. Arya Mitra
- (j) Shri R. Umachander

State Bank of Patiala

- (a) Shri B.K. Kapoor
- (b) Shri J.P. Kundra
- (c) Shri S.C. Marwaha
- (d) Shri R. Venkatesan
- (e) Shri H. Santosh Kumar
- (f) Shri A.N. Sharma
- (g) Shri Rajendra K. Saboo
- (h) Smt. Neena Malhotra
- (i) Shri Norbu Barangpa
- (j) Shri Karan bir Singh Sandhu
- (k) Shri. Ravi Pal Singh

Managing Director**State Bank of Saurashtra**

- (a) Shri H. Mukherjee
- (b) Shri J.P. Kundra
- (c) Shri S.C. Marwaha
- (d) Shri J.R. Prabhu
- (e) Shri K.P. Pandian
- (f) Shri R.V. Bhatt
- (g) Shri Chinthan N. Parikh
- (h) Shri Dahyalal A. Anandpura
- (i) Prof. N.K. Chudasama
- (j) Dr. B.M. Desai
- (k) Ms. Hasuben R. Gujar

Managing Director

State Bank of Travancore

- (a) Shri J.C. Soares Managing Director
- (b) Shri J.P. Kundra
- (c) Shri S.C. Marwaha
- (d) Shri B.N. Lakshimpathy
- (e) Kum. Ranjana Ray
- (f) Shri S.A. Pillai
- (g) Smt. Gowri Lakshmi Bayi
- (h) Shri T.P. Chellappan
- (i) Shri N.S. Srinivasan
- (j) Dr. V.K. Sasidhar

3. ***Nationalised Banks******Central Bank of India***

- (a) Shri M.N. Goiporia CMD*
- (b) Shri N.M. Mistry ED**
- (c) Shri O.P. Sodhani
- (d) Shri M.N. Buch
- (e) Shri C.H. Venkatachalam

Bank of India

- (a) Shri R. Srinivasan CMD
- (b) Kum. I.T. Vaz
- (c) Shri M.C. Satyawadi
- (d) Shri G.G. Krishnamurthy

Punjab National Bank

- (a) Shri J.S. Varshneya CMD

- (b) Shri Rashid Jilani
- (c) Shri K.P. Kulkarni
- (d) Shri V.P. Sawhney
- (e) Shri T.P. Ghorai

ED

Bank of Baroda

- (a) Shri Premjit Singh
- (b) Dr. A.C. Shah
- (c) Kum. V. Visvanathan
- (d) Shri A.K. Agarwal
- (e) Shri K.I. Talreja

CMD

ED

UCO Bank

- (a) Shri K.M. Shenoi
- (b) Shri Harbhajan Singh
- (c) Shri A.K. Bose
- (d) Shri A.K. Agarwal

CMD

ED

Canara Bank

- (a) Shri N.D. Prabhu
- (b) Shri P.K. Parthasarathy
- (c) Shri M.C. Satyawadi
- (d) Shri U.S. Rao

CMD

United Bank of India

- (a) Shri J.V. Shetty
- (b) Shri S.A. Hussain
- (c) Shri M.N. Buch
- (d) Shri P. Dey

CMD

Dena Bank

- (a) Shri G.S. Dahotre CMD
(b) Shri S. Doreswamy ED
(c) Shri A.P. Kurias
(d) Shri Mantreshwar Jha
(e) Shri C.A. Pathak

Syndicate Bank

- (a) Shri P.S.V. Mallya CMD
(b) Shri K. Lakshminarayanan ED
(c) Shri R.K. Chaudhury
(d) Shri M.N. Buch
(e) Shri B.M. Karkera

Union Bank of India

- (a) Shri Yuvraj Karan ED
(b) Shri K.N. Bhargava
(c) Shri Mantreshwar Jha
(d) Shri M.K. Mundal

Allahabad Bank

- (a) Shri R.L. Wadhwa CMD
(b) Shri S.M. Chitnis ED
(c) Shri B.K. Basu
(d) Shri S.K. Purkayastha

Indian Bank

- (a) Shri M. Gopalakrishnan CMD
(b) Shri B.B. Shetty ED

- (c) Shri V. Subramanyam
- (d) Shri A.K. Agarwal

Bank of Maharashtra

- (a) Shri N.D. Parmeshwaran
- (b) Shri Pradeep Kumar
- (c) Shri S.B. Nangare

Indian Overseas Bank

- (a) Shri P.S. Gopalakrishnan CMD
- (b) Shri A. Namasivayam ED
- (c) Shri D.S. Ramachandra Raju
- (d) Shri Mantreshwar Jha

Andhra Bank

- (a) Shri K.R. Nayak CMD
- (b) Shri A.T. Akolkar ED
- (c) Shri R. Ramanujam
- (d) Shri S.K. Purkayastha
- (e) Shri V.K. Rao

Corporation Bank

- (a) Shri Y.S. Hegde CMD
- (b) Shri K.R. Ramamoorthy ED
- (c) Shri T.R. Vankataraman
- (d) Shri Y.P. Sethi

New Bank of India

- (a) Shri R.C. Suneja CMD

- (b) Shri J. Sethi
- (c) Shri S.S. Ranade
- (d) Shri C.W. Mirchandani

Oriental Bank of Commerce

- (a) Shri S.P. Talwar CMD
- (b) Shri S.K. Soni ED
- (c) Shri R.K. Jalan
- (d) Shri Mantreshwar Jha

Punjab and Sind Bank

- (a) Shri M.S. Chahal CMD
- (b) Shri M.L.T. Fernandez
- (c) Shri M.N. Buch
- (d) Shri R.S. Khera

Vijaya Bank

- (a) Shri K. Sadananda Shetty CMD
- (b) Shri K. Shivram Shetty ED
- (c) Shri S.J. Thaker
- (d) Shri C.W. Mirchandani
- (e) Shri R. Damodaran

* Chairman and Managing Director

** Executive Director

Freight Charges for Salt

6623. DR. DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of it being an-

nounced not to increase freight rates on salt in the Railway Budget for 1989-90, 10 per cent increase is being realised for destinations beyond 500 Kms.

(b) whether Government are aware that

most of the salt is being despatched destinations beyond 500 Kms.

(c) if so, the reasons for such increase in freight; and

(d) the steps being contemplated to harmonise the freight increase and Government announcement not to do so?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Although Salt for human consumption was exempted from the general increase of 11% in the rates of goods traffic, its classification was revised in keeping with the proposals contained in the Railway Budget 1989-90 with consequent increase in freight rates.

(d) Does not arise.

Strategy to Solve the Balance of Payment Position

6624. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a strategy to solve the balance of payments problems without taking fresh loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is being considered;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decisions arrived at during the meeting of the World Bank and the IMF in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). There is no proposal under Government's consideration for seeking a fresh loan from I.M.F. The Action Plan drawn up by Government for strengthening the Balance of Payments position, aims at measures to step up ex-

ports, contain imports and augment foreign exchange earnings through investments and remittances including tourism receipts.

Market Development Assistance to ILPA

6625. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the market development assistance to the Indian Leather Products Association (ILPA) is being sanctioned in time, and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and impact thereof on its promotional activities in US market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The Indian Leather Products Association (ILPA) is not an approved organisation and is thus not eligible for grant under Market Development Assistance.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Thefts in Rajdhani Express

6626. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some suitcases were stolen from Rajdhani Express from Bombay to Delhi in January 1989;

(b) if so, when and how;

(c) whether the articles of passengers are handed over to them by the railway staff on production of slips only and responsibility for this luggage is that of the Railways;

(d) if so, the name of the investigating authority in this case and the time by which the investigation will be completed; and

(e) whether Railways have paid any compensation to the passengers and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The luggage van of Rajdhani Express, which left Bombay on 16.1.1989, was found without seal and pad lock on its arrival at Ratlam on 17.1.1989 at 1.15 hrs. It was released. Before reaching Ratlam the train had stopped outside Thandla Road Station as the Home Signal for its passage was not clear. On the arrival of train at New Delhi on 17.1.1989, some suitcases, hand bags and steel trunk were found stolen from the luggage van.

(c) The articles are handed over to the passengers on production of weighing slip-cum-luggage Ticket. For non-delivery, the Railways are liable as per provisions of Indian Railways Act.

(d) GRP/Mahanagar, Madhya Pradesh is investigating the case. It is not possible to indicate the exact time by which the investigation will be completed.

(e) In respect of the 13 claims received, the claimants have been asked to revise their claims as some luggage, which was lost, was recovered and delivered to them. Four revised claims have been received and are being processed for settlement.

[English]

Malpractices in Reservations at Delhi

6627. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that bonafide applicants who queue up well in time before the reservation counter in Delhi seeking reservation in the Kerala Express do not get reservation; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken to stop any malpractice in respect of reservations of this train?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). After computerisation of reservations in Delhi area, reservations can be obtained at any of the counters provided at the main reservation office as well as several out locations strictly on first-come-first served basis. No malpractice has come to notice.

Allocation of Fund for Water Resources Development to States

6628. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have recently released Central assistance to State Governments for various water resources development schemes;

(b) if so, the break up of the amount allocated to each State;

(c) the details of water resources projects on which the assistance will be utilised and

(d) whether Union Government have also considered the suggestions of Orissa Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) to (c). Under the Special Foodgrains Production Programme for attainment of foodgrain pro-

duction target envisaged in the VII Plan, additional Central assistance was sanctioned/released during 1988-89 to 14 states for accelerating the irrigation development as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>For Major Medium</i>	<i>For Tank Irrigation</i>	<i>For CAD Component</i>
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	932	134.50	73.50
Assam	234	—	25.70
Bihar	1004.50	—	50.00
Gujarat	243	40.00	120.78
Haryana	400	—	135.00
Karnataka	244	—	88.00
Madhya Pradesh	160	640.00	24.50
Maharashtra	513	—	48.60
Orissa	937	920.00	21.00
Punjab	240	—	—
Rajasthan	216	140.00	—
Tamil Nadu	426	320.00	—
Uttar Pradesh	2055.50	—	222.00
West Bengal	200	—	49.08
Total States	7805	2194.50	858.16

In addition, a sum of Rs. 21 crores was allocated to the State of Rajasthan during 1988-89 as additional Central assistance for Indira Gandhi Nahar Project.

(d) The proposals of the State Governments, including Orissa, were considered while deciding the allocations.

[Translation]

Editorial Staff of Bhagirath Group of Journals

6629. SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the qualifications and experience of the editors of the journal 'Bhagirath' (Hindi and English);

(b) the method of their recruitment and how the present incumbents were recruited;

(c) the promotional avenues and promotion methods for the staff working in the journal; and

(d) the steps being taken for streamlining the publication of the journal and to remove irregularities, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) The post of Editor, Bhagirath (Hindi) is vacant. The qualifications and experiences of present Editor, Bhagirath (English) is given in the statement below:-

(b) The Recruitment Rules for the post of Editor, Bhagirath (Hindi) provide for assessment of the suitability of the holder of the post of Assistance Editor, Bhagirath (Hindi) for the post of Editor (Hindi), failing which, by transfer on deputation failing which by direct recruitment through the Union Public Service Commission. The Union Public Service Commission recommended one candidate for appointment through direct recruitment who has not yet joined.

The post of Editor, Bhagirath (English) is filled through direct recruitment through Union Public Service Commission and the present incumbent was appointed accordingly.

(c) These aspects are governed by the Statutory provisions of the relevant recruitment rules.

(d) There are no irregularities in the printing and publication of the Bhagirath journals.

STATEMENT

Qualifications and experience of present Editor, Bhagirath (English)

A. Qualifications:-

- (i) B. Sc. 'BG'
- (ii) B. Ed.
- (iii) M.A. (Sociology)
- (iv) M.Ed.
- (v) Post-Graduate Diploma in Journalism
- (vi) Post-Graduate Diploma in Book Publishing Specialization (Editing).
- (viii) Certificate Course in Forensic Science.
- (viii) Certificate in Proficiency in Russian.
- (ix) Availed World Health Organisation Fellowship under INDHEDOOS Programme on recommendations of Government of India to observe and study Health Education Programmes and Services in South East India.

B. Experience:

- (i) 5 years experience in Journalism work as Health Education Technician (Instructional Material)
- (ii) 3 years experience as Sub-Editor in Editorial field, in the Ministry of Industry, Government of India.
- (iii) 2 year experience as Sr. Professional Assistance (Publicity) in journalistic field.

[English]

Tours of Deputy Railway Minister

6630. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Deputy Minister for Railways has been visiting the several Railway-zones' headquarters;

(b) if so, the number of trips he has made to visit the headquarters during 1988;

(c) whether he has been visiting several important stations on Northern Railways;

(d) if so the number of visits he made to Gorakhpur during the year 1989; and

(e) the amount spent on Ministers' visits to Gorakhpur in 1988.

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

(b) 26

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) Nine-during 1989

(e) The Deputy Minister for Railways has not claimed any TA & DA for the tours undertaken by him.

[Translation]

International Trade by Food Processing Industries

6631. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA.
SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the value of international trade done by the food processing industries in 1988-89 and estimated value thereof in 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The exports of processed food products during April-December, 1988 are provisionally placed at Rs. 184.72 crores. Exports of these items

during 1988-89 have been projected by the Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority at Rs. 272 crores. It is not possible to estimate exports for the year 1989-90 as the same would depend upon various factors such as international trading environment.

[English]

Loan for Purchase of Fishing Vessels From S.C.I.C.I.

6632. SHRI T. BALA GOUD:
SHRI D.P. JADEJA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Limited, is the disbursing agency of funds for purchase of fishing vessels;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry sets the terms of interest and period of loan for purchase of fishing vessels;

(c) whether any direction have been given by his Ministry to SCICI in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof,

(e) steps taken to ensure that the directions and policies of Government are faithfully implemented by SCICI; and

(f) whether any directors from the Ministry are on SCICI Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) For disbursement of payments to shipyards at the end of each stage of construction in respect of trawlers financed by erstwhile Shipping Development Fund Committee (SDFC), Government had notified the Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India (SCICI) as the 'designated authority' under Section 16 of the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act., 1986 and have placed requisite funds at its disposal for meeting such stage payments. Apart from the above, SCICI, as a part of its normal commercial activity, has also undertaken financing acquisition of deep sea fishing

trawlers.

(b) to (d). The terms and conditions for acquisition of fishing trawlers financed by erstwhile SDFC, including the rate of interest and repayment schedule, etc., have been laid down in an agreements and tripartite agreements, entered into between erstwhile, SDFC, ship-builders and the loanee fishing companies. Stage payments to shipyards are being released by through SCICI in accordance with these agreements, and the fishing companies are required to repay their loan instalments and interest instalments in accordance with such agreements. The terms and conditions of the loans granted by erstwhile SDFC conform to the guidelines as applicable at the time of signing of the agreements between the parties concerned.

(e) and (f). There is regular interaction between SCICI and Government. The Board of SCICI also has representatives from the Ministries of Finance, Surface Transport and Food Industries.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE. (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I want to point out to you that yesterday you made very significant remarks that as far as the situation in Karnataka and Central intervention is concerned the Constitution will take care and the Constitutional machinery will have to be followed. It has been brought to our notice that those persons who were supposed to have given letters withdrawing their support, thirteen out of nineteen of them have said that they are withdrawing the letters of withdrawal of support to Bommai Government. Without giving an opportunity to Shri Bommai, Chief Minister to demonstrate his majority on the Floor of the House this Government is sending a report. I have given a Motion under Rule 184 demanding the removal of the Governor of Karnataka. I should be allowed to move that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Why don't you let me answer? Professor, it is a hypothetical ques-

tion still. It might be or might not be. I do not know what is happening. It is only when I have something in my hand that I can do it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Once they clamp the President's rule what is the remedy that I have got? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: When it comes we will see. Before that I cannot do anything.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you making noise?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Show me what I can do? I cannot take up a hypothetical question.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Allow my motion under Rule 184.

MR. SPEAKER: For what?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: For removal of the Governor.

MR. SPEAKER: Until and unless something takes place I cannot take up a hypothetical question.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): What is the remedy once they impose President's rule?

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know. It is for the House. It has to be placed on the Floor of the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am helpless.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): We have the right to discuss it here. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no pre-emptive strike here. If something takes place I can consider. I cannot take up hypothetical questions here.

12.02 hrs.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 7760/89]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Annual Report and Review on the Working of National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi for 1987-88

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : On behalf of Shri A.K. Panja, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi for the year 1987-88. [Placed in Library See No. LT 7759/89]

Amendment to the formats of balance sheet and revenue account of deposit insurance and credit guarantee corporation general regulations, 1961

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Amendment (Hindi and English versions) to the formats of 18 of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation General Regulations, 1961

Notification under Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 and Annual Report, Annual Accounts and Review on the Working of Tea Board, Calcutta for 1987-88

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSHI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947:-

- (i) The Imports (Control) Second Amendment Order, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 217 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 1989.
 - (ii) S.O.218 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 1989 making certain amendments in the Open General Licence No. 16/88 dated the 30th March, 1988.
 - (iii) S.O.219 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 1989 making certain amendments in the Open General Licence No. 1/88 dated the 30th March, 1988.
 - (iv) S.O. 252(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1989 making certain amendments in the Open General Licence No. 2/88 dated the 30th March, 1988 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7761/89]
2. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tea Board, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Tea Board, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88 together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Tea Board, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88.

3. A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library See No LT. 7762/89]

[*Translation*]

Correcting Statement to USQ No. 1357 dt. 3.3.89 Re. Chhitauni Bagha Bridge and Statement re. Delay in laying these papers

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): I beg to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) (i) correcting the reply given on March, 3, 1989 to Unstarred Q. No. 1357 by Shri Madan Pandey re Chhitauni Bagha Bridge and (ii) showing the reasons for delay in correcting the reply [Placed in Library See No. LT 7763/89]

[*English*]

Detailed Demands for Grants of Ministry of the Surface Transport for 1989-90

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI P. NAMGYAL): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Surface Transport for 1989-90. [Placed in Library See N. LT. No. 7764.89]

12.03 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

[*English*]

(i) *Action Taken Statements*

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum): I beg to lay on the Table statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I of Fifty-third Report of the Estimates Committee (Eighth Lok Sabha) on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-ninth Report (Eighth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Defence Canteen Stores.

(ii) *Seventy-fifth and Seventy-second Reports and Minutes*

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW: I Beg to present the following Reports:-

1. **Seventy-Fifth Report** (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Customs-Accounting, Storage, Pricing and Disposal of Confiscated Goods and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.
- (2) **Seventh-second Report** (Hindi and English versions) of Estimates Committee on action taken by

[Sh. Asutosh Law]

Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixty-fifth Report of the Committee (Eighth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) - Sports Authority of India.

12.04 1/2 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

[English]

Hundred and Fifty-Seventh Report

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): I beg to present the Hundred and Fifty-seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of Public Accounts Committee on Calcutta Port Trust.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): You direct the Home Minister to make a statement. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have got no hesitation if the Home Minister wants to part with any information.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Direct the Home Minister...

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot do it. If he wants to give some information I am not withholding him.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not bearing him. He is welcome if he wants to say something but I cannot direct him.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You ask him.

MR. SPEAKER: How can I ask him ? Why should I ask him? He is welcome. I am not barring him.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): What about my censure motion against the Governor under Rule 184.?

MR. SPEAKER: For what ? If something happens then I will see. If you have got any motion like that I can consider it. I can admit it. You can discuss it. No problem.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Do you approve of the Governor's behaviour?

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know if anything has happened.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What about my censure motion against the Governor?

MR. SPEAKER: I can admit that, no problem with me.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Look here I As far as your motion under Rule 184 is concerned, I have got no hesitation in admitting it. The question is ...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): Take it up right now Sir.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Don't overtake me that

way. Shri Jaipalji, I get overwed when you do like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me. I am talking to you like a friends and you are trying to overawe me. That is not the way.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): Once it is dismissed, what is the purpose of discussing it? It will become infratous then.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no use of your making noise. When I am talking to you quite peacefully, why are you trying to bully me. Do you think that, I will be builded?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now the question is that there are two ways. One is to admit the motion and that is my responsibility.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: When I am refusing? But you are trying to overawe me . When am I not listening to you? Professor Sahib, there, are two ways, as you also know. One is to admit the motion under Rule 184 and that is under my jurisdiction. So far as the question of allocation of time is concerned.....

[English]

The House can do it or the Business Advisory Committee does it. How can I do it?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Still it is a hypothetical question. Whether the Governor has given something or not, I do not know.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Only one difficulty is there. You are prepared to admit. You say that the House and the Business Advisory Committee will decide whether my censure motion can be taken up or not. But a time may come when they will dismiss that Government and my motion will become infrustuous.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I don't know what the Governor has written.

[English]

If he does something, I will give you that motion. If he does something unconstitutional, I will see. But it is still a hypothetical question.

(Interruptions)

12.07 hrs.

At this stage, Prof. Madhu Dandavate and some other hon. Members left the House.

12.07 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN-
FORMATION AND BROADCASTING
(SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): With your permis-

[Sh. H.K.L. Bhagat]

sion, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 24th April, 1989, will consist of :-

- (1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order paper.
- (2) Discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of :
 - (a) Labour
 - (b) Commerce.
- (3) At 6.00 PM on Wednesday, the 26th April, 1989, submission to the vote of the House of outstanding Demands for Grants (General) for 1989-90.
- (4) Introduction, consideration and passing of the Appropriate (No. 2) Bill, 1989.
- (5) Consideration and passing of the Finance Bill, 1989.

[Translation]

SHRI R. P. SUMAN (Akarpur): Mr Speaker, Sir. The following may please be included in the next week's agenda.

Today the condition of farmers in our country is not good. Water fertilizers and seeds are not being made available to them in time. Besides, they are also not being given the remunerative prices for their agricultural produce. I strongly urge upon the Government of India to ensure the timely supply of seeds, fertilizers and water to the farmers and also to ensure the that remu-

nerative prices are given to them for their produce.

Today the condition of the 70% of the agricultural labourers in the country is a matter of great concern. 70 per cent out of the total agricultural labourers in the country belong to the SCs/STs and they do not get the minimum wages fixed by the Government. I therefore urge upon the Government to ensure that the agricultural labourers get at least the minimum wages fixed by the government in this regard. (*Interruptions*).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Except Mr. Mankuram Sodi, nobody will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

[Translation]

SHRI MANKURAM SODI: (Bastar): Mr. Speaker, Sir. The following may please be included in the next week's agenda :-

The Central Government provides extra funds to the state, besides the Budget all ocations for the special development under the tribal sub plan of the country, in which social economic and political upliftment have the main trust. Public health Services also occupy a significant place under this scheme. The scheme covers the primary health centres of 32 development blocks of Bastar district. In certain centres X-ray machines have been installed and technical staff have been appointed. But at many other centres, no staff has been appointed since long, and machines worth lakhs of rupees are lying idle. I would therefore urge upon the Central Government to ensure that funds provided by the Centre are spent for the purpose for which they were meant and also to instruct the State Government to appoint the technical staff to operate the X-ray machines at the earliest.

*Not recorded.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore):
The following may please be included in the next week's agenda:-

Our Pig Iron, after improving its quality, would have good export potential. The West German consultants have made valuable recommendations for improvement of their quality, adoption of latest control methods in production, effective use of laboratories, training of staff, good surface finish of casting and environment pollution control. These can be implemented without much investment.

State owned Orissa Lift Irrigation Corporation is facing acute Financial crisis for the operation and maintenance of the existing L.I. projects and to provide distribution system for these projects.

State Government had requested the Union Government to provide adequate funds out of RLEGP, NREP, etc., else, Rabi programme can not be implemented and farmers would sustain heavy losses as crops would be totally destroyed.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMMODI LAL JATAV (Morena)
Mr. Speaker, Sir. The following may please be included in the next week's agenda:-

Generally it is seen that besides other states, even in M.P. the present condition of educated unemployed youth is quite deplorable. For 400 vacancies advertised in the paper, thousands of applications come in but only 100 of the applicants are selected. Time and money of the rest of them goes waste. They have no other work at home or also they do not have any land to earn their livelihood. Consequently in every State, these educated unemployed youth have to

go from door to door in search of employment. I therefore urge upon the Central Government to find out ways to give employment to these educated unemployed youths at the earliest.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : (Ponnani):
The following may please be included in the next week's agenda:-

There is an unfortunate deterioration in communal situation with violence at several places like Hazari Bagh in Bihar, Mathura in Uttar Pradesh, Makrana, and Bigod in Rajasthan, Burhanpur in Madhya Pradesh, Dhulia in Maharashtra. There were failures in timely solution of disputed points and wide spread complaints against police role. There is need to send a Central team to these place to investigate into the situation. Effective measures have also to be taken to promote communal harmony.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji):
The following may please be included in the next week's agenda:-

The Union Public Service Commission have been submitting their annual reports to the Parliament from time to time.

The candidates are selected by UPSC from the core of our administrative machinery. A post appointment analysis of the performance of the personnel goes a long way to appreciate or otherwise the efficacy of our advisory machinery in the matter.

The reports of the UPSC should be discussed in the House.

2. One beach resort basically meant for foreigners is coming up at Xendrum, Canacona, Goa within 75 KM of the Naval Base,

[Sh. Santaram Naik]

"Sea Bird" at Karwar in Karnataka. The owners of the proposed project have reported to several illegalities to make the project going. Since the project is coming up within the vicinity of one of our important Naval Bases, a serious thought should be given whether such projects should be allowed at the risk of national security.

SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA (Bolangir): The following may please be included in the next week's agenda:-

Bolangir district is situated in the rain-shadow zone of Orissa due to which inadequate rainfall and drought conditions occur causing great hardship and suffering to the people and disrupting the economy of this region. Drought relief provided to affected people hardly compensates the loss sustained by farmers. Resources spent for relief confers a purely temporary benefit. A permanent solution to this problem is the crying need of the hour. The Central Government should devise ways and means to tackle this perennial problem and should adopt drought-proof measures on a scale large enough to be effective and enduring, improve irrigation substantially and offer adequate financial assistance to combat drought in this district.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : (Bangalore South) The following may please be included in the next week's agenda:-

The technicians and supervisors of the Bharatiya Telecommunication Technicians Union have been agitating for higher pay scales. Government appointed a number of Committees to consider their demands which recommended higher pay scales for them. The Central Fourth Pay Commission has left it to the Government to take a suitable decision. Many agreements recommending higher pay scales to these techni-

cians and assurances of successive communication Ministers remain unfulfilled. Government should implement their assurances immediately.

2. Many States like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu which supply rice at subsidised rates to weaker sections are facing grave crisis due to cut in supply of essential food articles such as rice, wheat, sugar, etc. In Karnataka, the quota of rice which was 70,000 tonnes per month previously has been slashed to 40,000 tonnes. Since there was a bumper crop last year, it is not known why the Government has reduced the quota of rice or wheat.

I urge the Government to restore the original quota. Now I am walking out Sir.

(Shri V.S. Krishna Iyer then left the House)

12.18 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: What! A double walk out!

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Is he walking out against his own statement?

MR. SPEAKER: Sometimes in anger, man can do anything !

[Translation]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is of the view that there will be improvement in the present condition of Punjab after the Panchayat elections. But if you think over the present situation in Punjab quite seriously, then there is no reason to rely on the Government's point of view. Due to the increasing incidents of killings, kidnappings, robberies, looting and the increasing number of terrorists, people belonging to all sections of the Society are continuously

migrating from villages to the cities and from cities to the other States. With this law and order situation, it is impossible to hold fair and effective panchayats elections. Moreover, the intelligence department has also advised not to hold panchayats elections in the villages. I therefore urge upon the Government not to hold panchayat elections in view of the present circumstances. In case the Government intends to make an experiment in Punjab by delegating some powers to the representatives of the people, it should hold the elections of the Municipal boards as these have not been held since last 20 years.

A discussion may kindly be held in the House next week on all the aspects of this important issue.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L.BHAGAT): I shall bring these Submissions made by the hon. Members to the notice of the Business Advisory Committee.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now Calling Attention. Shri Bhadreswar Tanti. No.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Sir, I just want to make one submission before hon. Home Minister makes a Statement.

Sir, the Governor of Karnataka has reportedly sent a Report. Now, at least we should know what is the situation. What is the hesitation in dismissing this Government, Sir? Where is the hesitation? My appeal to the Home Minister through you is, why this constitutional deadlock is allowed to be persisted? Why expeditious steps are not being taken? Will you ask him to make a statement?

MR. SPEAKER: You are welcome to do it. I will not ask him but I will not bar him from giving you the information.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Why he is hesitating, I don't understand.

MR. SPEAKER: You can just ask him.

(Interruptions)

12.22 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Situation arising out of Killings of Innocent persons and Injuries to several others in Rajapokhri villages of Assam bordering Nagaland

[English]

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (Jorhat): Sir, I thank you for accepting the Calling Attention Notice on the situation created by the recent massacre at the border of Assam. As I happened to be one of the representatives of the district...

MR. SPEAKER: You first call his attention, then he will make a statement. You can then put your question.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Yes, Sir. I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:-

"The situation arising out of killings of large number of innocent persons and injuries to several others in the Rajapokhri village of Assam bordering Nagaland by armed miscreants coming across Nagaland and the steps taken by the Government in the matter."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): Sir, According to reports received from the Government of Assam, in the early hours of morning of 7.4.89 at about 3.30 hrs, about 100 miscreants armed with guns, rifles, daos etc., from Nagaland attacked the village Rajapokhri of

[Sh. Sontosh Mohan Dev]

Assam on its border with Nagaland and indulged in indiscriminate shooting and burning of houses. As a result 25 persons including 7 women and 5 children were killed and 64 persons received bullet injuries. 178 houses were burnt and 1889 persons were rendered homeless who took shelter in the relief camp set up by the Assam Government. Further, about 6500 persons, according to Government of Assam belonging to neighbouring villages also took shelter in different places out of panic. The State Government have ordered an inquiry into the incident by the Additional Chief Secretary of the State.

12.23. hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The Government of Nagaland have confirmed the incident but stated that the arson and killing was done by unknown miscreants. They have reported that the Muslim settlers burnt down 62 houses and the church at Hokhai village settled by the Nagas and one old woman was beaten up and severely injured. They also reported that some pamphlets were found in Rajapokhari village after the incident purportedly signed by the NSCN, and ULFA. They also reported that the Assam Government had sent police reinforcements to various posts and that students and miscreants were reportedly assembling on the border and collecting arms for attacking Naga villagers. They, however, informed that the Government of Nagaland are enquiring into the incident and action shall be taken against the culprits after their identity had been established.

On receipt of the information of the incident the neutral forces on the Assam Nagaland border were alerted to prevent recurrence of such incident. The Chief Ministers of both Assam and Nagaland have been requested to the effect that these two State Governments may take immediate steps to restore confidence in the minds of people inhabiting the area, exercise moderation and restraint, investigate the matter with mutual cooperation, to arrest and bring

to book the culprits immediately. They were also advised to meet and sort out the issue.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (Jorhat): Sir, I note that the Home Ministry has come up with a statement which is only revealing the portion of the facts that we know. It is not a solitary instance or incident where such torturous activities or torturous deeds have been systematically going on at the Assam Nagaland border. Nowhere else in India has a border dispute attempted to be tackled with the use of force as has been done on the border between Assam-Nagaland.

Nagaland was only a District of Assam; and it was contiguous to the district which I represent, Sibsagar and Jorhat. During the Ahom rule, there was so much of affinity, so much of cordial relations between the two Governments that even now we have certain *bazar* where Nagas regularly come. The Home Minister himself must be knowing about it. We have *bazar* known as Naga Hat. All along the border of Nagaland and my District Sibsagar, there are passages known as Naga Bats through which small traders from the hills of Nagaland come for their merchandise and small trade. The relation has been so cordial that one of the high dignitaries of the Ahom Monarch was named as Borpatra Gohain; Borpatra Gohain has a linear a descendancy because his mother happened to be from Nagaland. Therefore, we have been maintaining very cordial relationship, but for certain forces even now who wanted to completely give an Isolatory outlook for Nagaland demanding an independent Nagaland; and these forces have all along been continuing to wage almost war-like postures between Assam and Nagaland, so much so that the present incident is only one of the three very major incidents in the course of last few years. We have a common border of 434 kms. Constitutionally and legally, there cannot be any dispute because the border of Nagaland has been fully demarcated by the Assam-Nagaland Act 1962 passed by this Parliament when the State came in. Everything has been defined. Whatever incidents have been going on since then are only the result of the encroachment or the result of greed or

the result of maintaining a posture of total confrontation by the Government of Nagaland and for that matter with the India of India. Therefore, this is not to be again a case treated in isolation; it has far-reaching effects. Are we to solve our border problems like this? We have a border problem between Karnataka and Maharashtra; we have also a border problem with other States. Nowhere is this going to support anything on that score. But, nobody has so far taken any portion of anybody's territory by using force to settle such issues except from the Nagaland side. More than 100 people have been so far killed. In one incident at Mera-pani on 4.6.85, quite a few unofficially speaking hundreds of people from Assam including para military police personnel were killed so much so that even the weapons of Assam police were taken away by large forces of Nagaland; even the weapons have not been returned. On 5.1.1979, at Chungia, there was a clash in which quite a few men in Assam were killed. In a recent incident, as per the Home Minister's statement itself, 25 persons were killed, butchered, including seven women and five children. Were are we living? Are we living in a democratic country? Are these two sister States not part of the great Indian country? Has this problem to be solved by bullets, by spears? This is something strange. The saddest part is that para-military forces stationed in the area appear to be not only passive but reportedly they do not hear certain very pathetic cries from an affected Nepalese woman who went for the Commander to help but was denied any help. I request the hon. Home Minister to give us the name of the CRPF Company or the name of the Commandant who simply sat there, when all this massacre occurred and he simply did not take any action. And who were the people killed? We are so concerned about the minorities. Some of those killed happened to be Muslims. The other day, Mr. Bhadreswar Tanti showed a leaf of the Qoran that was burnt out. There were Bodo people who were butchered. Hundreds of houses of tea garden labourers have been totally gutted. All these people were downtrodden people. And the Nagaland Police went there. A Police medal was also found there. I think all this has been

incited by certain quarters from across the border. Not only that. Unofficial reports say—I am subject to correction by the Home Minister—that there was a meeting by the Chief Minister of Nagaland just two or three days prior to this incident. What does it mean? It means that, because the Government of Assam has been accepting the provisions of the Constitution, this has been taken as a means of weakness and Nagaland people by means of most sophisticated forces, are wanting to encroach and grab the land for all days to come with the use of force. Even now as many as 27,000 acres of Assam land is encroached by the Naga People. Why? How is it so? Why should the Central Government be only a passive spectator?

There was a report, called the Sundaram Report, where everything was stated in detail. The Central Government headed by the then Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai, requested the Nagaland Government to accept it. The Assam Government accepted the report *in toto*. But nothing followed. There have been intermediate meetings between the Chief Ministers of Nagaland and Assam. The Assam Chief Ministers—all the Chief Ministers including the Congress (I) Chief Ministers—have been accepting everything, whatever the Centre said or what the Sundaram Report had said, but not the Nagaland Government. Why? Why is this so?

Again in the elections of 1980, in the elections of 1982 and more particularly in the elections of 1987 the Nagaland Government have been using Assam land for setting up booths. In 1987 it went to such an extent that an all party memorandum was sent to the President. That all party memorandum was signed by the Congress (I) people, the APCC President, the BJP, the CPM, SUCI and also the Plains Tribal Council people—Shri Samar Brahma Choudhury of that Council is here. All of them corroborated the stand taken by the Assam Government. But unfortunately it is only because the Nagaland Government happened to be a Congress (I) Government, perhaps, they have found it rather difficult to say the correct

[Sh. Parag Chaliha]

thing to Nagaland . They have been all along, hesitant to compel the Nagaland Government to accede to the different agreements arrived at from time to time. Any impartial observer and I shall include even Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev who comes from Assam in this, will have to admit that at least in this case there has not been even the slightest deviation by the Government of Assam. All these things have ben going on from the other side.

Another serious factor is that most of these encroachments and killings occurred immediately before any elections come. The first was in 1979, the second was on 4-6-1985 and now with the Parliamentary elections knocking at the door these killings occurred. Why? Earlier in 1964 also there were killings. Therefore, there was something systematic.

But now one thing is there. The Home Minister agrees with me that the boundary disputes, if any, should be resolved not through bullets, not by encroachment, not by grabbing things. Nowhere else has it been done and I am very happy to say this.

On the other day I met the Chief Minister of Nagaland. He told me that a meeting between the Chief ministers of Assam and Nagaland is to be held on the 25 th of April 1989 to find out a solution. From our side, we have done nothing to aggravate the situation. We all still hope that the cordial atmosphere will prevail. From the side of Assam, nothing will be done to worsen the situation. While in 1979 the killings were going on, on the other side I organised a cultural conference at Sibsagar, in which various cultural parties from Nagaland and other neighbouring States participated. Therefore, we have been trying for maintaining a happy affinity and a happy relationship with the neighbouring States. But th → N. galand Government

has taken an arrogant and obstinate attitude. I am not here to add any fuel to the fire. The fire has been raging in Assam. but not in Nagaland, because parts of Assam are coming under Nagaland occupation. Therefore, we should not do anything to precipitate any breakdown in the talks. I would humbly request the Home Minister, with all the emphasis that I have in my command, to take sincere initiative to see that some tangible result comes out of the coming talks. Unless the Centre takes sincere initiative in resolving the boundary disputes between the two States, nothing tangible or permanent solution will come out. So, my appeal to the Union Home Minister is to see that the boundary disputes between Assam and Nagaland are resolved amicably. I repeat the constitutional providing under the Act has been fully established denoting the boundaries of Nagaland. Therefore, without amending the constitutional provisions, f the boundaries cannot be changed. From our side, we simply want to adhere to that. But from the other side, it has not been so. Therefore, I very sincerely urge upon the Government of India and the Home Minister to take an objective view of things, not to view it from political angle, much less the partisan angle, because Assam has already been victimised in respect of its territories.

I only pray that the coming talks between the Chief Ministers of Assam and Nagaland on the 25th April will be fruitful. I will again say with reservation that we are not interested in any patch up solutions, but we want a permanent solution to the boundary disputes. But at the same time, the objective of maintaining full cordial relationship, which has been a historical fact, between the people of Assam and Nagaland should be ensured. This historical relationship shall have to prevail irrespective of party affiliations and anything. I as a representative of Sibsagar district, would like to say that we are all one. Even in these days, you will find people from Nagaland coming to the

Assam areas for trade and other purposes. We want a cordial atmosphere to prevail for all time to come.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if there is border dispute between two States it is not good either for the State Government or the people to solve the problem by using force. This not only strains the relation between the two States, but also strains the relation between the people of those States.

While speaking here, Shri Parag Chaliha was saying that Nagaland has been formed by merging some parts of Assam. This is an historical fact. But by this, the people of Assam should not think themselves big. They should be sympathetic towards the small States and respect their feelings and views. He also spoke about the attitude of Nagaland Government and said that the Central Government is hesitating in giving any suggestions to them, as the Congress is in power there. But the situation is totally different. The Central Government provided all possible assistance to the Assam Government and also to the Nagaland Government.

I think that the Centre has always been neutral in this matter. This dispute of Nagaland and Assam is neither new nor is it taking place for the first time. Such unfaithful incidents have taken place there many a times. Both the parties should be farsighted and use their discretion in this matter. I hope that leaders of both the parties will settle the matter after negotiation with each other.

Sir, today both the parties are accusing each other. The Government of Nagaland admits that some anti-social elements, possible, Naga rebels and terrorists also, killed the people in villages in Assam. But the Assam Government blames, the Nagaland

Government for patronizing and harbouring them. The Government of Nagaland blames the Assam Government for such activities.

The Central Government must have sent a senior officer to investigate the matter, as both parties were making allegations and counter allegations on each other. I would like the hon. Minister to inform the House about those findings. It was stated in the statement that both the Governments have set up enquiries. The Assam Government has set up an enquiry under the Chairmanship for the Additional Chief Secretary and the Nagaland Government has also set up an enquiry. Where the attitude is so terse on both the sides and feelings have flared up to such an extent that it is on the verge of ill-will, I don't think the enquiry will serve any purpose even if it is undertaken at a higher level. Possibly, it will help in collecting counter arguments against each other. In that case, the responsibility of the centre increases.

I would like to urge the hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs that when both the Governments are taking different stands and want to set up separate enquiries the situation may become worse. Can the Central Government intervene and hold an impartial enquiry in this regard, so that the situation does not deteriorate further. (*Interruptions*)

I would like to know from the Minister of State for Finance whether an independent enquiry would be held in this matter. Much is said about para-military forces. Whenever the Government of Assam asked for the para-military forces, it was provided by the Centre. It is not proper to criticize the forces. It affects the spirit and morale of para-military forces, who are working there against heavy odds. So I would like to request the AGP friends through you, that they should ask their Government and people not to criticise the para-military forces unneces-

[Sh. Harish Rawat]

sarily. Otherwise, it will be difficult for them to work in North-Eastern area in the present circumstances.

In the end, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has any information regarding the hand of terrorists or elements like N.S.C.N. behind this incident?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): May I put only one question, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, you cannot.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The situation becomes explosive at the time of elections....

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Goswami, please take your seat...

(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): Sir, there is no denial of the fact that the incident which has happened is highly condemnable, whoever might be responsible for this. This is a fact, as told by Mr. Parag Chaliha, that the people of Nagaland and Assam are living in good relationship and there is no tension whatsoever between the people of one State and the other State. But it is also a fact that in this five thousand square miles area, which, according to both the governments, is a disputed area, there were incidents in the past. The incident which took place on the 7th of this month is a very heinous incident.

The number of people killed, injured and affected, as I said in my statement, is quite heavy. Twenty-five persons have died, many have been injured and out of fear, many people including children, have gone to the camps. Immediately after getting the information of the incident, I myself contacted the Nagaland Chief Minister, spoke to him and asked him to visit the site. We got information that the Home Minister of Assam has visited the site. Both the governments have taken care of the immediate situation from their respective sides.

During the course of his speech, Mr. Parag Chaliha said that there should be a permanent solution. Nobody disputes about this. This issue has been agitating both the States for quite a long time. In the past, during the time of Janata rule, initiative was taken and during the time of Congress rule also initiative has been taken. The Sundaram Commission went into this question and then a Special Officer was deputed to see that the problem is solved. Unfortunately, it has never been solved. On the other hand, as has been very rightly said, in the past, during the election times, including the last election which was held, there was tension. But it will be wrong to make the allegation—of course, nobody has raised it, but in the national Press I have seen it—that this has been done by the Congress (I) government against a non-Congress (I) government to destabilise them. On going through the records, I see that in 1979, when the incident was there, the Chief Minister of Assam was Mr. Gulab Borbora and the Chief Minister of Nagaland was Mr. Vizol...(Interruptions)

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: We have not said that.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: No, you have not said that. It came in the national Press. I want to make it clear. In 1985, the Chief Ministers were Mr. Saikia and Mr. Zamir. So, this particular incident which has

happened, according to the information we got, was about sharing of crop by certain people. The immigrant Muslims used to cultivate there. They used to share the crop with the Nagaland people and some dispute arose there and this is the culmination of this situation which ultimately entered into this unhappy incident. Now, we want that permanent solution should be made. The Home Minister had also said this on several occasions. Sir, now in the last election when the issue came for setting up of the booth, the Assam Government went to the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court gave direction to the Election Commission that after discussion with both the State Governments, their observers were sent and they had set up some polling booths there and it is also desired that there should be a permanent solution there that for every five years the elections will be held. But since the matter is before the Supreme Court, I am not a legal man, I do not know whether at this stage we can render our good offices. But I am happy that the Chief Ministers of Nagaland and Assam are meeting, as told by Mr. Parag Chaliha, on 25th and if they can come to a certain working solution, definitely the matter can be brought out of the court and it can be decided. Now, we have to wait and see as to how that can be solved.

Now, there are allegations that the CRPF are not active, they did not react at the right time and if they had reacted, the situation could have been avoided. This is the allegation. Now, we came to know about the incident and about the allegations. Now, we had sent a senior officer and he has submitted a report and we are having a thorough examination of the report. We have decided, as Mr. Harish Rawat has also suggested, that a scenario officer of the Government of India should inquire into the whole matter, to look into the case as to whether there were lapses and if so what action can be taken and also to see that in future such incidents

should not occur. Now, the fact remains that the para military forces there are under the D.I.G (Border) of the Assam Government and it is the duty of the Assam Government to give feed back or to intervene and to give guidelines. No intelligence report was available about that incident and I do not want to blame anybody. This is what the CRPF had said. Some people said that the distance was 1 1/2 Kms. But there are also reports to us that there is a distance of half a kilometre in the first phase of occurrence. The CRPF said that they had reached the spot within 15 minutes. Some people said that they had reached the spot after three hours six hours. But we are not happy about this contradictory statement. But we have decided to instal a high level inquiry by the Government of India high officials and after we get the report we shall take appropriate action. If there is any lapse on the part of anybody. But in the meanwhile we appeal to all not to throw any allegations against each other because we have to see that the tension is diffused and further instigation must not be allowed. I am told the D. I. G of Nagaland and the D.I.G. of Assam had a meeting and they have taken certain steps how to diffuse the situation, how the crop which has been harvested can be reaped by the people, how the people can go back to their respective places, etc. and the motion has been set to diffuse the situation. So, the meeting of the Chief Ministers will also help further diffuse the situation. So, I am sure the the action taken by the Government of India is in the correct direction. But we are not very happy to have an independent inquiry by the State Government. It will again lead to certain tensions and other things. So we have requested the State Government not to proceed with their independent inquiry. Let there be the Government of India officials to look into this where both the State Governments can project their view-points, their grievances and after getting the report, appropriate action will be taken.

SHRIDINESH GOSWAMI: (Guwahati): We have accepted the report of the Sundaram Committee.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I do not want to go into this. This is a long long study. I am also from Assam and I do not know the stand of the Assam Government. I know the stand here. But here I am in the Government of India a Minister. From that point of view I have to say that both the Government are disputing, the matter has gone to the court, but in the last election the Government of Assam have shown their magnanimity, they have allowed the polling booths to be set up and we are happy about it. With the spirit of give and take it should be solved and as Mr. Parag Chaliha has very rightly said, Nagaland has come out of Assam and traditionally and culturally Nagaland and Assam are very close. Nagas' language is more or less Assamese language. So, I think personally, Sir, that the situation which has cropped up there is very grave and it should not happen, but about what has happened, all of us condemn it, whosoever, is guilty should be punished, both the Governments will cooperate with the Inquiry Committee that will be set up by the Government of India and if there is any lapse on the part of any one, appropriate action will be taken as per the rule and we shall also strengthen the Para-military forces after getting the report because there are also certain suggestions that the present deployment of the para-military force is also not sufficient. That we shall take care of.

With these words, I thank the Members who have participated in this debate and I am sure that peace will come back in the area very soon. At present the negotiations have started on how to solve the problem and I wish them all the best and again I convey my deep sympathy for those who have been killed and I am glad that the Government of Assam has taken up the proposal about rehabilitation schemes by

giving money to those families whose members have been killed, to those who have been injured and the camps have been opened and soon they will be able to go to their respective places. But the issue is not the boundary dispute, the issue is crop sharing and as the place of occurrence is the boundary dispute area, so I think that this should be looked into from that angle and it is an isolated issue in a particular place. Grievances are there that some houses of the Naga People have been burnt and it is a fact that the first incident came from the other side.

As regards the allegation of the Nagaland police involvement, this inquiry will reveal. As regards Shri Harish Rawat's contention regarding NSCN and ULFA, we have got some report that their leaflets are available, but there are all pieces of information, it has to be examined on the spot as to what is correct and what is not correct. So, I will not come to a decision right now until we get the final report from the proposed Inquiry Committee and once the report comes, I am sure that Members of the House will be able to know about it.

AN HON. MEMBER : Is there no lunch break, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If all of you feel that there should be Lunch break, I have no objection.

SHRIDINESH GOSWAMI: Let us begin after Lunch. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): If all you want to have lunch break. I have no objection.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : After lunch, other Members will also come to listen to you.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Yes, it is alright.
We will do it at 2 P.M.

Shri Bhajan Lal:

[Translation]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If all of you feel that we should adjourn for Lunch now because many Members would come to listen to the reply to the debate on the Demands of the Agriculture Ministry, I have no objection.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Mr. Goswami will bring Opposition members to listen to the Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If all of you agree, we will adjourn for Lunch and re-assemble at 2 P.M.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We now adjourn for Lunch and re-assemble at 2 P.M.

12.58 Hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till
Fourteen of the Clock*

*The Lok Sabha Re-Assembled after Lunch
at Six Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

DEMAND FOR GRANTS 1989-90

[English]

(I) Ministry of Agriculture—Contd.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, further discussion and voting on the demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIBHAJAN LAL): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been discussing the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture for the last four days. Many hon. Members participated in it and gave valuable suggestions. I would like to thank all of them, who have participated in this discussion.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our country is an agricultural country and 70 per cent of the population lives in villages. Mahatma Gandhi once said that the soul of India lives in the villages and the condition of the country cannot be improved until the condition of villagers is improved, because the economy of our country depends on agriculture. In fact agriculture is the backbone of our economy. The first Prime Minister of India, Pt. Jawahar Lai Nehru realised the dream of Mahatma Gandhi by paying foremost attention to agriculture and improved the condition in a systematic way. He said that in this world, other things can wait but agriculture cannot wait. The work carried out in the field of agriculture for the last 42 years is really commendable. You may be aware that when the country progresses and marches ahead there can be some shortcomings also. Many hon Members of this House pointed out these shortcomings as well as the remarkable achievements. I congratulate them. They have gone to the root of the matter.

You know about our scientists. Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru gave a sound foundation to the country, which helped in achieving greater heights. He paid utmost attention towards strengthening the agriculture and improving the lot of farmers of the country. Efforts were made to provide irrigation facilities to the farmers, wherever possible, by constructing dams.

[Sh. Bhajan Lal]

Wherever it was possible, Tubewells were installed and arrangements were also made to supply water by other possible means. Apart from this, fertilizer plants were set up, several big universities were opened and a lot of information was made available to the farmers. Scientists and experts of the country have accomplished an uphill task in this field by producing 1600 new varieties of seeds. These scientists and the farmers have contributed a lot earn respect for our country through their dedicated efforts.

Mr. Chairman Sir, our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi who was a seer, had said that our country will heighten its self prestige if we become self-sufficient in the agricultural sector. Without that, country cannot make a progress which in term lowers the prestige of the country. She had concentrated her efforts towards development of agriculture. Following in her footsteps, our hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi is striving to provide maximum facilities for the farmers, like regular supply of electricity, water, quality seeds, fertilizer and remunerative prices for their produce. In all these things he has taken a keen interest which cannot be described in words. Today, we are not only self-sufficient in matters of foodgrain but are also in a position to export the same. All this has been possible because the very base on which this country and its policies and programmes stand is very strong. You know that there was only a negligible decline in the foodgrain production despite the constant drought conditions prevailing in the country for the last four years in succession. And the main reason of this marginal decline in the production was the dedication of our farmers who applied the scientific knowledge given to them and worked hard with dedication and sincerity to maintain the prestige of their country.

As is well known, in the country's pre-independence period, lakhs of people had died of starvation in Bengal. But there has not been a single starvation death in this four year period of drought. This is a great

achievement of our country. It has added to the prestige of this country.

As regards the decline in the production, there has been an overall decline of only 3.5% in the country's production. As you know, 152 million tonnes of foodgrain was produced in the year 1983-84 whereas in 1987-88, the average production was 144.5 million tonnes that amounts to a decline of 3.5%. The U.S.A. is a highly developed country which has made tremendous progress in all the spheres, particularly in science and technology but even that country when it was once hit by drought for a period of only one year, its overall production had registered a decline of 30%. This had repercussions throughout the world. As compared to it, production level in India fell only by 3.5% through a four year period of drought. This is a great achievement on the part of India which shows that she is a strong country. We all know what were the conditions in our country at the time of Independence. At that time the country's total foodgrain production was more 50 million tonnes, whereas our present target is 166 million tonnes. To achieve this target we are going to have the production of 170 million tonnes of foodgrain this year. This would be a record. Such a high level of production is the result of facilities provided to the farmers be it in the form of loans, quality seeds or fertilizers over and above the hard work of the farmers.

I would like to give the names of all those hon. Members who participated in the debate. I shall also give the details of the subjects on which hon. Members spoke. I shall give the remaining part of my reply afterwards.

Need for remunerative prices for farmers and increase in support price-improvement in the support price fixation procedure of the Agriculture Costs and Prices Commission-encouragement to Non Official representation, support price for onion. Hon. Members who spoke on the above subject are:

Shri Madan Pandey

Shri Ram Narain Singh

Shri Akhtar Hasan

Shri V.S. Vijayaraghavan

Shri Tapeshwar Singh

Shri D.G. Singh

Shri Janak Raj Gupta

Shri Nityananda Misra

Shri K.D. Sultanpuri

Shri Zainal Abedin

Shri Bhisma Deo Dube

Shri Uttam Rathod

Shri N. Tombi Singh

Prof. P.J. Kurien

Need to increase agricultural productivity so as to match the level attained by the developed countries.

Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav

Prof. N.G. Ranga

Hon. Members who spoke on this subject are:

Shri Murlidhar Dharmani

Shri M.R. Saikia

Shri D.G. Singh

Dr. Phulrenu Guha

Shri M. Raghuma Reddy

Shri Mohd. Ayub Khan

Shri K. Pradhani

Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia

Prof. P.J. Kurien

Shri D.B. Patil

Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav

Shri K.D. Sultanpuri

Dr. Phulrenu Guha

Dr. G.S. Rajhans

Shri Ram Bahadur Singh

Shri Harish Rawat

Need to promote horticulture-Development of plantation crops like coconut, black pepper etc.

Shri I. Rama Rai

Shri V. Krishna Rao

Shri D.G. Singh

Need to increase irrigation facilities-Development of uses of Ground-water.

Shri Nityananda Misra

Hon. Members who spoke on this subject are:

Prof. P.J. Kurien

Shri Ram Narain Singh

Shri M.R. Saikia

Shri M. Raghuma Reddy

Shri Harish Rawat

Shri Nityananda Misra

Shri K.S. Rao

Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav

Need for production and supply of quality seeds—Wider, use of 'Mini-kit'-Seed quality Control

Shri Madan Pandey

Shri Uttam Rathod

Shri Ram Narain Singh

Shri Murlidhar Dharmani

Shri Ram Singh Yadav

Shri M.R. Saikai

Shri K. Pradhani

Shri Tapeshwar Singh

Shri Nityananda Misra

Shri Janak Raj Gupta

Shrimati Basavarajeswari

Shri Virdhi Chander Jain

Shri D.P. Yadava

Shri Ram Bahadur Singh

Shri Janak Raj Gupta

Need for co-ordination between the Ministry of Agriculture and other Ministries such as the Ministry of Energy and Ministry of Water Resources—Need for co-ordination at the district and the Block levels—

Shri Ram Bahadur Singh

Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh

Shri I. Rama Rai

Shri M. Raghuma Reddy

Shri G. S. Basavaraju

Prof. N.G. Ranga

Supply of fertilizers-control on quality of fertilizers-promotion of organic fertilizers-proper arrangement and co-ordination of fertilizers and other inputs.

Shri Murlidhar Dharmani

Shri D.P. Yadava

Shri Ram Narain Singh

Land Reforms—

Shri Jagdish Awasthi

Shri Madan Pandey

Shri Nityananda Misra

Shri Zainal Abedin

Prof. P.J. Kurien

Shri D.G. Singh

Shri Janak Raj Gupta

Shri Balwant Singh Ramowalia

Shri K.D. Sultanpur

Shri Shantaram Naik

Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh

Shri Shankarlal

Shri Harish Rawat.

Shri Jujhar Singh

Need to introduce the Crop Insurance Scheme—

All these hon. Members participated in the debate. I would like to give the details along with statistics. I shall make a separate mention of what cannot be included here.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Hon. Minister Sir, I too spoke on Land Reforms but my name does not appear in the list.

Shri V.S. Vijayaraghavan

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Your name should have appeared as you were one of the speakers. I did not count the names. Mr. Chairman Sir, when I had presented the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture last year, the country was in the grip of a severe drought. A special foodgrain production programme was started at the behest of the hon. Prime Minister. Under this programme, steps were taken to increase the production of the five major crops i.e. rice, wheat, maize, arhar and gram in 169 districts in States. Under this programme, emphasis was laid on giving subsidies to small and marginal farmers for new wells and tubewells, increase in the use of fertilizers, production and use of newer variety of seeds and use of pesticides and weedicides on a larger scale. Besides this, a programme was introduced under the auspices of the I.I.R.E.P. and the R.L.E.G.P. to provide 10 lakh wells free of cost for the small and marginal farmers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and for those living below the poverty line.

The hon. Prime Minister had held a meeting with the Chief Ministers of these 14 States to discuss this programme. I too had separate meetings with the Chief Ministers of each of these States. All efforts were made at the official level for implementation of this programme.

I take pride in saying it that the joint effort of our farmers, State Governments, scientists and senior officials helped Indian agriculture combat the grim drought situation of 1987-88 and resultantly the progress in the field of agriculture did not register a noticeable decline. The year 1988-89 can well be called a new chapter a agricultural development in India.

In the recent years the Indian agriculture has attained considerable capability in raising the production and productivity. It is worth mentioning that despite drought conditions during the first three years of Seventh Five Year Plan the average production of foodgrain from 1985-86 to 1987-88 has been 144.5 million tonnes. It is far more than

the average foodgrains production of 138.20 million tonnes during the Sixth Five Year Plan. In the year 1987-88 there was a severe drought. Even then the foodgrains production has touched the mark of 138.4 million tonnes which is only 3.5 per cent less than the production of foodgrains in 1986-87.

According to the latest estimates it is expected that the foodgrains production during the year 1988-89 will exceed 170 million tonnes. It is a record in itself. This year can be called the year of record production as this year's production will be considerably higher than the record productions of earlier years. It is expected that there will be record achievement in the production of rice, wheat, oil seeds, groundnut, rapeseed, mustard, Soyabean and sugar cane.

In 1985-86 the production of rice and wheat was 63.83 million tonnes and 47.05 million tonnes respectively and it has been the highest ever production. Whereas rice and wheat production during the current year is likely to be 70.14 million tonnes and 51 million tonnes respectively. Similarly the sugarcane production will be 200 million tonnes as against the last year's production of 196.72 million tonnes.

As the august House is aware, the Government had set up a technology mission in 1986-87 in order to raise their oilseed production and achieve self sufficiency in it. It gives me pleasure to announce that with the coordinated policy and concerted efforts of this mission the country has achieved unexpected breakthrough in oilseeds production. The target of oilseeds production for 1988-89 was 155 lakh tonnes. According to the latest estimates it is expected that the oil seeds production will exceed 160 lakh tonnes.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a noticeable achievement. With the rise in oilseeds production, there will be a heavy reduction in the import of edible oil and thereby valuable foreign exchange could be saved.

Pulses is the only source of protein in

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the food of common man of this country. There has been a record production of 13.36 tonnes of Pulses in 1985-86 and this year's production is expected to be 15.38 million tonnes. There can be no exaggeration if I say that after the independence our development in the field of agriculture has been a unique example for the entire world. It is the result of concrete and co-ordinated efforts of our agriculture scientists, extension workers, policy makers and administrators and above all it is the result of interest shown and courage displayed by our farmers in adopting this new technology and increasing thereby production and the productivity.

After independence agriculture has always been accorded top priority in the planning process. It has been our constant efforts to see that regular experiments are made in the field of research and new technologies to solve our agricultural problems. Our farmers have exhibited a great deal of patience and efficiency in using new technology and raising the production and productivity. This is the reason that after independence there has been three times increase in our foodgrains production. Similarly, there has also been a remarkable increase in the production of other crops.

Attaining self-sufficiency in agriculture is a matter self-respect for the country. It is the result of the determination of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi that India has been able to attain self-sufficiency in respect of foodgrains. Today we can proudly hold our heads high and say that in the matter of foodgrains, India is not only self-sufficient but also it can, if at all required, help others.

Our Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi gave a new thrust and dimension to the continuance of this policy. The Hon. Prime Minister says in the foreword to the Seventh Five Year Plan that our policy on agriculture has attained unprecedented strides during the last decade and we should boost it further with added zeal during

the Seventh Five Year Plan period. Today under the leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, country is determined to achieve the new targets laid down in respect of agriculture development.

During the post independence period there has been a considerable improvement in the rate of agriculture development. The annual growth rate which was 2.65 per cent immediately after the independence is now 3 per cent. We have a target of 4 per cent growth rate to be achieved during the Eighth Five Year Plan. We have also laid down a long term target that by the turn of this century, our foodgrain production will reach the mark of 235 to 240 million tonnes.

The foodgrains production was 50.02 million tonnes a little after independence in 1950-51. Now there is every likelihood that the foodgrains production will attain the new heights of 170 million tonnes in 1988-89.

Similarly, the productivity of foodgrains per hectare has gone up to 1116 kilograms in 1987-88 from 522 kilograms in 1950-51. During this period the wheat production has increased from 65 lakh tonnes to an estimated quantity of 510 lakh tonnes in 1988-89. The rice production has also gone up from 206 lakh tonnes to unestimated 701 lakh tonnes in 1988-89. The per capita availability of foodgrains which was 144.1 kilograms in 1951 has now gone upto 169.9 kilograms per annum.

The sugar cane production which was 57 million tonnes has now come up to 198-200 million tonnes (estimated for the year 1988-89). This increase is three times more.

During this period the cotton production has gone up from 30 lakh bales in 1950-51 to an estimated 100 lakh bales in 1988-89. The production of jute has also gone upto 70-72 lakh bales from 33 lakh bales. The production of pulses has been about 84 lakh tonnes this year. This year there has been a record increase in the production of pulses. It is expected that this year's production will be more than 153 lakh tonnes.

The production of oil seeds was about 52 lakh tonnes. It is expected that this year's production of oilseeds will exceed 160 lakh tonnes. It is in itself a significant achievement. Production of potato used to be 15 lakh tonnes at that time. Now it has reached the level of about 27 lakh tonnes. The milk production was about 170 lakh tonnes in 1951. Now it has gone upto 487 lakh tonnes. (Interruptions) Eggs production was 1.8 billion in 1951. Today it is about 18 billions.

In the year 1950-51 the total cultivable area, i.e. gross crop area was 13 crore hectares whereas now it is about 14.5 crore hectares. Similarly the total irrigated area was 2.25 crore hectares whereas now it is 5.5 crores hectares. Increase in the irrigated area could be possible mainly due to development of canals and installation of tubewells.

India ranks second after China which produces the largest quantity of rice. In wheat production India occupies 4th place after the USSR, China and the U.S.A. In respect of millet it occupies first position. In Jowar it ranks second after the U.S.A. It occupies second position after China in groundnut production. In sugarcane it is the second country after Brazil, in vegetables it is next to China, in fruits it is second after Brazil, in cotton it is the forty after U.S.S.R., U.S.A. and China, in eggs it occupies the Sixth position after U.S.S.R., China, America, Japan and France.

We have full trust in the hard work of our farmers' community and intelligence of our scientists and we will see that our country occupies a higher a position in this list.

Power is being supplies to the farmers at a very low rate with a view to raising the agriculture production. The share of power of the agriculture sector was 3.9 per cent in all in 1950 whereas now it has increased upto 22 per cent in 1986. The Government accords a higher priority to the job of supplying power for the pump sets. As against the estimated capacity of running 120 lakh pump sets, 74 lakh pump sets have already

been put into operation. The farmers are being given subsidy and incentives through various development programmes and schemes drawn for crops. Special attention is being paid to small and marginal farmers under these programmes. Some of the important programmes launched for crops are as under:-

Special Foodgrains Production Programme, Special Rice Production Programme in Eastern States, National Pulses Development Programme, National Oilseeds Development Programme, Oil Seeds Production Thrust Project, National Water shade Development Programme for rain fed agriculture, Intensive Cotton Development Programme, Intensive Jute Development Programme.

Under these Programmes, farmers are provided assistance in the form of various inputs like development of farm resources and seeds, plant preservation, chemicals equipments, Fertiliser and Farm equipments including minor irrigation facilities. Quality seeds play a significant role in Crop Production Programme. Fourteen Lakh quintals of certified seeds was distributed in 1979-80. In 1988-89 a total of 57 lakh quintals of seeds were distributed among the farmers. The farmers are being supplied high yield variety of seeds of wheat, paddy, cotton, oilseeds and pulses at concessional rates. Besides they are being give subsidy ranging from Rs. 150 to Rs. 250 per quintal. Distribution of seeds minikits is a very important means for using the advanced technology and popularising the same in the field of production. A total of 18,65,000 minikits of paddy, wheat and coarse grains were distributed in 1988-89. The Central Government has announced a new policy on seeds development under which high yield variety of seeds of coarse grains, pulses, oilseeds vegetables, fruit and flowers could be imported whenever they are available so as to raise agriculture production. Taking into account the importance of chemical fertilisers in increasing the agriculture production, the Government has paid special attention to it. There has been unprecedented in-

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crease in it after independence especially during the last 7 to 8 years. The production capacity of nitrogen fertiliser was 17,000 tonnes in 1950-51 and it has now gone upto 81,08,000 tonnes by 31 March 1989. Its production has gone upto 67.12 lakh tonnes in 1988-89 as against 10,000 tonnes in 1950-51. Similarly the production capacity of phosphatic fertiliser has gone upto 26,50,000 tonnes in 1988-89 from 20,000 tonnes in 1950-51. During this period the production of phosphatic fertiliser has increased from 8,000 tonnes to 22,51,000 tonnes. The Government has introduced administered price system so as to provide reasonable prices to fertiliser industry for production of fertiliser and to make the fertiliser available to the farmers at subsidised rates. Though production cost of fertilisers is quite high, yet the farmers are being supplied fertilisers at the same rates since last 7 to 8 years even though the prices have further gone up. The Government itself bears the difference of loss of production cost and sales price by giving subsidy. During Janata rule in 1977-78 our total amount of subsidy on fertilizers was to the tune of Rs. 25 crores which was raised to Rs. 32.50 crore in 1988-89. During the next year i.e. in 1989-90 a provision of Rs. 3,651 crores have been made for this purpose in the Budget which is in itself a record. There has been an unprecedented increase in the indigenous production of chemical fertilizers. Even the capacity utilization of fertilizer plants has touched the mark of 85.6 per cent by 1988-89 as compared to the mark of 53 per cent during the year 1951-52. In certain factories existing capacity utilization is more than 100 per cent. Similarly country has also achieved greater self-sufficiency in respect of fertilizers. Fifty per cent demand of the fertilizers was met by import during the first two five years plans. By the Sixth five year plan, dependence on import was brought down to 30 per cent and since 1987, hundred per cent demand of nitrogen i.e. Urea is being met from indigenous sources. There has been a substantial increase in the consumption of chemical fertilizers. Consumption of

fertilizers has increased 167 times during the period 1951-52 to 1988-89. As compared to its consumption of 90.11 lakh tonnes in 1987-88, in 1988-89 it has touched the mark of 110 lakh tonnes which is 22 per cent more, than the previous one whereas the target for the year 1988-89 was 101.75 lakh tonnes only. To make the use of fertilizers more popular, a scheme of opening 50,600 additional retail centres at the total cost of about Rs. 6 crores during 1988-89 in all the 446 districts of the country was sanctioned. Each of such retail centres is given Rs. 1200 as subsidy under the scheme.

Besides this, fertilizers are being supplied in small packages of 25, 15 and 10 kg. so that farmers living in remote areas can also use fertilizers and they do not have to face any difficulty in transporting it.

Government is making their all out efforts to ensure that farmers get the supply of fertilizers in time and at reasonable prices near their houses. For this purpose, Government have fixed the maximum retail prices of fertilizers under the Essential Commodities Act. Fertilizers are being made available to the farmers at uniform rates at every place in the country.

Availability of loans to farmers has been substantially increased through Governmental efforts. There has been a significant increase in the disbursement of loans through the Regional Rural Banks which include commercial Banks and the Cooperative societies. This amount touched the mark of Rs. 8214 crores in 1987-88 as compared to Rs. 7,354 crores during 1985-86. A target of 11,751 crores have been fixed for the year 1988-89.

11.41 hrs.

At this stage some slogans from the visitors' gallery were heard

On short term loans for agriculture upto Rs. 15,000, rate of interest has been reduced by 1.5 to 2.5 per cent w.e.f. 1.3.88 Besides this, even for advances ranging

between Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 25,000, interest rate has been reduced from 14 per cent to 12 per cent with effect from 1.3.89.

In India Cooperative Movement has constantly developed. The Number of Cooperative Societies as on 30.6.88 was 3.50 lakh with a total membership of 15 crores. The cooperatives societies play a very important role in the disbursement of loans for agriculture, production and distribution of fertilizers and also in various other fields.

For the Eighth five year plan period 15 teams have been constituted on the basis of agro-climatic conditions which are widely varied throughout the country. Because of these varied condition each and every area has got its own distinct features and capacities. It is essential for the full utilisation of these capacities that due attention is paid to these special features and plans for crop production and other agricultural activities are prepared accordingly. These plan teams are headed by the Vice-Chancellors of the agriculture universities. Representatives of the Agriculture and Cooperative Department have also been included in these teams. These teams will initiate the decentrealisation of the system of planning and crop production will be reorganised on a scientific basis. Local interests can also be fully watched through them. It is an important step in respect of the planning procedure. Beside this, Mr. Chairman, Sir, the whole country has been divided into 15 climatic zones based on their different climatic conditions so that farmers can be provided with full information in respect of the suitability of crops to be had in the respective climatic conditions. The Prime Minister has dedicated a super computer to the people of the country about 15 days ago which will supply farmers the information regarding the possibilities of rains during the next 3 to 7 days so that they can plan accordingly.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT (Arrah): Will the super computer start functioning this month?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Yes, it will start

very soon. Its special feature is that it can give the farmers information about the possibilities of rains from 3 to 7 days in advance. In addition to these agro-climatic zones, we have also established 126 sub-zones through out the country so that they can also forecast about the weather to the farmers.

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN (Barpeta): That is right that it will provide information about the rains. Will this computer provide information even about floods.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Now you yourself can realise it.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Has it been verified that the information supplied by it will be correct. Will it not delude the farmers.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: We have purchased the best quality of the super computer available at present in the world market. It is only after the successful test trial that it has been dedicated to the people of the country. You will also know about its capabilities. But you have expressed a doubt about its capability of full information about floods and the places likely to have rains. You also know it very well that hundred per cent correct information may not be available even with the God himself. However, I say that it will of great benefit to the farmers. There are some crops which are sown before rains. Some others can be sown with scanty water. Suppose paddy is to be sown. It requires a small quantity of water in the beginning and if the farmers have the information regarding the rains they will not have to operate their pumps and thus add to their savings because water of rains itself will overflow their fields. Thus it will of inosense benefit for the farmers. It will furnish full information 3 to 7 days in advance so that farmers can make use of it.

Sir, there have been significant achievements in the field of cattle-breeding. Operation flood has been the main source for dairy development in the country. During the 7th five year plan period, 23315 Rural

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dairy development cooperative societies have been established covering 38 lakh 98 thousand milk producing farmers. All of these farmers belong to the category of small and marginal farmers.

Main purpose of the development of fisheries is to increase fish production and to improve the social and economic condition of the fishermen. During 1984-85, fish production was to the tune of 28.01 lakh tonnes which has increased to 31.35 lakh tonnes during the year 1988-89. In 1973-74 minimum support price were declared only in respect of 10 items. Whereas in 1988-89 Government have declared support prices for 21 items. Government of India declares the prices well in advance before the sowing season so that the farmers may know about the prices they will get for their produce and accordingly select the crop of their choice to be sown by them. It is worth mentioning that minimum support price has been increased during 1988-89 by 68.4 per cent for rice, 526 per cent for coarse grains, 105 to 118 per cent for pulses, 125 per cent for groundnut and 157 per cent for sunflower as compared to those during 1979-80. In order to safeguard the interests of the farmers, expansion of the Agricultural Costs and Prices Commission has been effected to include three non official members who keep a watch on the farmers' interests. These representatives are:-

- (1) Shri Nageshwar Rao, district Guntur (Andhra Pradesh)
- (2) Ch. Randhir Singh, Sonapat (Haryana) and
- (3) Shri R.T. Rambai, Shilong (Meghalaya)

Hon. Members had a complaint that there was no representatives of the farmers, Hence we have now included, these three additional representatives of the farmers. Agricultural Costs and Prices Commission drafts its recommendations on the basis of

the actual wages paid by the farmers to the agricultural labour. We have selected these representatives from three corners of the land so that they can represent the entire country and decisions can be taken in the presence of the farmers' representatives.

SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE (Nasik): Hon. Minister, Sir, as the Hon. Prime Minister had stated that representatives will be taken from the irrigated as well as the non-irrigated areas, is it so?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I will submit that some senior officers of these states have been kept in it.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Is there no representatives from the desert area?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Shri Vyas is aware that desert areas have to be reclaimed. Agricultural production is minimum in desert areas and prices are fixed where there is substantial production. Foodgrain production is very limited in desert areas and therefore, the question of their representation does not arise. Chowdhary Randhir Singh representing Northern India, belongs to Haryana. He was born in a yeoman family. Being a farmer himself, he understands this point.

The Government of India has set up different bodies in order to provide fair and remunerative prices to the farmers. Accordingly, the Food Corporation of India has been set up for the purchase of rice and wheat, the Jute Corporation of India for the purchase of jute and the Cotton Corporation of India for the purchase of cotton. The responsibility of ensuring that the prices of coarse grains, pulses, and oilseeds do not fall below the support price level has been entrusted with NAFED. In regard to the perishable commodities such as potatoes, onions, ginger etc., NAFED, in cooperation with the State Federations, intervene in the market and ensure that remunerative prices are provided to the farmers.

Some complaints were received from

Maharashtra recently mentioning that the price of onion has fallen considerably and onions are being sold at very cheap rates. A meeting in this connection was held 4 days ago in which it was decided that the in two areas of Maharashtra where the production is produced in excess, NAFED and the State Government will jointly purchase the entire produce at the rate of Rs. 60 to Rs. 100 per quintal and half of the losses incurred on that account will be borne by the Central Government. We took this decision in order to safeguard the interests of the farmers.

There is no support price specified for vegetables as these are perishable items. That is why NAFED has to intervene in it. It has been set up by the Government for this purpose.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: The price of cuminseeds has come down.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Whenever we receive such complaints whether relating to cuminseeds or to vegetables. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: The same is the case with potatoes also. Potatoes are getting rotten.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: In case of potatoes, onion and ginger, NAFED with the cooperation of the State Federations, gets the remunerative prices paid to the growers for these articles we will ask NAFED to undertake it. We have already informed NAFED about it. It is NAFED'S responsibility to intervene. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation provides timely assistance in case of natural calamities such as drought, floods, hailstorms and earthquakes. The hon. Members are aware of the unprecedented drought conditions which prevailed in the country in 1987-88. This year maximum amount of Rs. 1445 crores have been sanctioned for drought relief measures. In the months of August and September of the year 1988, Assam, West Bengal and certain other North-Eastern States were ravaged by floods. 18 such states had requested for Central assistance

to provide relief measures during the course of the year and maximum assistance of Rs. 527 crores was sanctioned for this purpose.

In the year 1989-90 a number of decisions were announced for the benefit of the farmers. I would like to make a special mention of these decisions. It has been decided that more loans will be given to the farmers by the Public Sector Banks. Last year the amount of bank loans sanctioned for agricultural purposes, was 17 per cent of their total loan disbursement. It has now been increased to 18 per cent this year. As a result, an additional amount of Rs. 4000 crores will have to be given as loans in 1989-90.

Chicken provides highly nutritious human diet which digests at the earliest. Also Poultry farming provides opportunities of earning additional income and trade facilities for a large cross-section of people specially the weaker sections of the society. In the new year's Budget, the people engaged in poultry farming have been given 33.3 per cent income-tax exemption which will boost this business activity. Under the new Budget, the excise duty on skimmed milk powder has been reduced from 15 per cent to 10 per cent. Apart from this it is worth mentioning that there has been no increase in the rates of duties on fertilisers, pesticides and agricultural implements. Therefore, it is clear that in the current Budget, full attention has been paid to protect the interests of the farmers.

I am very happy to announce that a Rashtriya Krishi Mela was successfully organised at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 25th March to 10th April by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Trade Fair Authority of India jointly, as per the directions of the Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The main objective of the fair was to exhibit the nation's self-reliance in the field of agriculture. In this Mela special emphasis was laid on the display of our achievements in the manufacture of agricultural tools and implements, research and development, development of food processing, rural development

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and animal husbandry. Besides, a grand cattle fair was also organised. In this Mela, cash prizes worth about Rs. 2 lakhs were also distributed.

Almost all the State Governments, Ministries and Departments connected with agriculture, public sector units, public organisation nationalised banks and private sector companies participated in the Mela. A large number of farmers from different parts of the country visited this Mela. Kisan conferences were also organised daily in which the agricultural scientists gave information regarding the advanced techniques of farming. The Ministry of Agriculture made arrangements for the boarding lodging and local transportation of the farmers who had come from outside the capital. The Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi inaugurated this Mela on 25th March, 1989. He has directed us to organise an international Krishi Mela next year. We shall follow his directions.

About 10 years ago, the Government had launched various schemes to make a direct assault on poverty. Programmes such as IRDP, NREP, RLEGP, DDP, DPAP etc. are under operation. The Government is making efforts to implement these schemes as rapidly as possible. With a view to ensure social justice with progress, certain targets have been fixed in order to bring down the level of poverty. It has been estimated that by the end of the Seventh Plan, poverty level will be brought down to 28 per cent and by the end of 1995, it will be brought down to 10 per cent.

During the Seventh Five Year Plan, Rs. 2995 crores had been allocated for both these programmes. In the first 4 years of the Seventh Plan, Rs. 4833 crores have already been spent up which is 162 per cent of the entire plan provision. Under the two programmes, a target of creating about 250 crores mandays has been fixed. According to the information received so far from the States, employment opportunities to the extent of over 255 crores mandays have

been provided. In this way, more than 100 per cent target has already been achieved in the first 4 years of this plan. These programmes have been given a new direction this year and a target of providing employment to the extent of 80 crores mandays has been fixed. This is one-third of the achievements made during the course of the last 4 years.

While presenting the Budget for the year 1980-90, the hon. Minister of Finance had announced to introduce a new scheme. It was announced that Rs. 500 crores have been earmarked for this scheme which was to be implemented in those specially backward districts where the situation of unemployment is grim. As this scheme is meant for the benefit of the rural people, the Government decided to formulate a new scheme by merging the two employment programmes, that is, N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. to increase its popularity with the increased participation of people and to check the misuse of resources and other local deficiencies.

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This new scheme has been named. Jawahar Rozgar Yojna. The Hon. Prime Minister will shortly apprise the House and the whole country about the details in this regard... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will this announcement be made in this session itself?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: It will be our efforts to do so during the current session itself... (*Interruptions*)

IRDP has been under operation since last 8 years and there has been a commendable progress under this programme. So far 2.98 crores of families have been given benefits. In the year 1988-89, about 35 lakh families have been provided bank loans worth Rs. 1200 crores. In addition to it, about Rs. 750 crores have been extended by the Centre and the States which have been utilised mainly for providing assistance in the

shape of subsidies to the above mentioned families. The beneficiaries of the scheme consisted 33 per cent of the scheduled castes, 14 per cent of scheduled tribes families and 23 per cent of the women fold. Since the inception of this scheme, more than Rs. 10 thousand crores have been provided in the shape of assets to the beneficiaries. Rs. 6,983 crores have been provided in the shape of bank loans and Rs. 3,100 crores as grants.

With a view to improve the implementation of the programme, the Government is making efforts to incur atleast 25 per cent of the expenditure on the basis of the projects. As a result of it, it will be possible to make suitable arrangements for the supply of raw materials and for providing marketing facilities to the beneficiaries. This measure will definitely benefit them more than that. In order to streamline the implementation machinery, it is essential to adopt a professional approach. We have selected some young professionals from management institutions on experimental basis and posted them in DRDA. The State Government have also been instructed to employ such officials in DRDA who have management experience.

Mahatma Gandhi and Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru were of the view that the power and rights should remain in the hands of the people. We set up panchayati raj institutions. In the last few years, we have realised from our experience that the base of panchayat system has not been strengthened much, even though, it has done good work in some fields.

At the initiative and inspiration of hon. Prime Minister, discussions have been held at different levels for quite some time to strengthen these institutions more. Many meetings have been held with the elected representatives of different levels and the last conference is proposed to be held in Bangalore in the last week of April for the southern States. After that, we will take strong steps to strengthen the base of panchayati institution to ensure that their elec-

tions are held in time, they are equipped with administrative powers and financial resources are made available to them. They will be given an important role in the development activities. We will ensure that weaker sections like scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and women candidates get due representation in these institutions and they also get power to take a decision.

Hon. Members are aware that a National Drinking Water Technological Mission was set up in 1986 by the Government of India. This Mission is implementing the World's biggest rural water supply programme. A provision of Rs. 1282.32 crores was made in the Seventh Five Year Plan for this programme, but an amount of Rs. 1866.48 crores have already been allocated till the end of this plan period. I am happy to State that out of 1.62 lakh problem villages there are only 18,000 villages left, which have to be covered in the year 1989-90. By the end of 1990, there will be only four

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[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

thousand villages left, which are mostly in the remote areas or hilly areas. Except these 4 thousand villages, there will be no village in the country, where pure water for drinking will not be available. Pure drinking water will be made available to every village.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli):
Whether the water will be supplied twice.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Water will be provided.

We have decentralised the work of maintenance and operation of hand-pumps and has advised State Governments to form water committees in the villages, in which there should be adequate representation of village women. The village panchayat will carry out the work of maintenance and operation of water supply schemes and they will get adequate financial and technical

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assistance from the Public Health Engineering Departments.

We will set up 85 laboratories in this year to monitor quality of water supplied and 15 mobile laboratories will be provided to the States also. An extensive programme is proposed to be started shortly for training technical personnel. Our effort would be to provide such laboratories in all the districts by the end of eighth plan so that pure drinking water is made available to the people.

Besides supply of drinking water, another Central programme of rural sanitation has also been formulated along with other programmes. By the end of seventh Five Year Plan 10 lakh families will be provided with the facility of hygienic latrines

The Department of Agricultural Research and Education is playing an important role in developing a new technology for agriculture and educating the farmers about the same. It will go a long way in enhancing the agricultural production and bringing green revolution in the country. The intelligent scientists of our country should be congratulated for their unique contributions in this field. But we have to face many new challenges in this field, even though there is remarkable increase in agricultural production. Keeping in view the increasing demand of foodgrains in future, we have to increase the production more, as there is very limited availability of cultivable land. Green revolution should be spread in all parts of the country, particularly in Eastern States, where water for irrigation is available in abundance, but the productivity is far less.

Our scientists should discover such technology, which should reduce the production cost and increase the production and the farmer can easily adopt it. Besides, we should not damage our natural resources and should protect our environments while using the new technology. Alternative means of employment like dairy, poultry, fisheries and cottage industries should be

made available to them in order to improve the economic condition of farmers. Such variety of seeds should be developed which are least affected by diseases and inclement weather and can give more production in lesser time.

In order to meet these challenges modern implements and techniques like bio-technology should be fully utilised. I am happy to state that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has set up Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Centre for higher research in plant protection and bio-technology, the foundation stone of which was laid by our hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi on October 1, 1988. We have achieved success in development of different varieties in mustard. These varieties can withstand brackish and drought situations through bio-technology. This is a commendable work. It will increase the production of mustard and will go a long way in making the country self-reliant in edible oils.

Some time ago, Dr. G.V.K. Rao Committee was constituted by the Government, which has submitted its report after reviewing the I.C.A.R. system. It has broadly been accepted by the Government. We hope that the entire infrastructure of agricultural research and its relation with the agricultural universities will be reorganised in favour of the farmer by implementing the recommendation of the committee. An announcement has been made to provide the status of deemed university to the C.I.F.E., Bombay and N.D.R.I., Karnal, the two main institutions of Agricultural Research Council, with the approval of U.G.C. from this year. U.G.C. pay-scales have been approved for the young scientists and agricultural scientists according to their demands. I hope that our scientists and research fellows will work with more zeal and devotion.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the details of main achievements of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education has been given in its Annual Report. So I do not want to repeat them. Specially, good varieties of paddy, wheat, pulses, Jawar, bajra

and barely have been developed and it has been recommended to issue them. There is satisfactory development in production of high yielding seeds also. At present the work is going on many subjects such as to know about the diseases before they spread, controlling of rats, to invent ways for production of disease free seeds and controlling of weeds and pests which destroy the crops. A lot of work has been done in the field of fisheries, animal husbandry, soil testing and gardening. We have to increase our production to the tune of 235-240 million tonnes by 2000 A.D. Besides foodgrains, we have to increase the production of agricultural commodities also. In order to achieve this, our scientists have to face all the challenges, which I have mentioned just now. We have to utilise our limited means to the maximum and most efficiently. Our scientists have started research work in the field of water harnessing and dry land farming. To get the full benefit of this technology we have to educate the farmers, so that we may fully utilise even a single drop of water or a single grain of foodgrains.

I have replied to all of the criticism done by some hon. Members regarding the demands of my Ministry. But as you will yourself realise, the demands of this Ministry are totally justified. However we welcome the good suggestions made by many hon. Members.

Some points made by some hon. Members have not been discussed in detail and I have, therefore, to read the data to tell about them. Now, for 5-7 minutes, I will deal with those points, which have not been discussed so far. There is some mention about land. Some hon. Members and Shri N.G. Ranga also mentioned about land development, surplus land and land record. They said that land has not been distributed properly. The total surplus land in the country was 73 lakhs and 62 thousand acres. The land which was taken in possession was 60 lakhs and 55 thousand acres. The land distributed among the people is 45 lakhs and 23 thousand acres. 14 lakh acres of land is such which cannot be distributed, because the

matter is subjudice. Besides, there is 4 lakh acres of land which is not cultivable. So, that much land has been left.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, last year, our total Budget for the year 1988-89 for agriculture was Rs. 7 thousand and 6 hundred crores and the total expenditure including non-plan expenditure was rupees eight thousand and forty crores. This year, the total Budget for 1989-90 is Rs. 8382 crores.

We will make a review in September and if necessary the Government will increase the amount so that all the development works are undertaken properly.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopargaon): A token provision of only Rs. 1 lakh has been made for crop insurance. It will not serve the purpose.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I am coming to that. I have not yet covered all the points which have been raised here by the hon. Members who spoke on this subject. A reference has been made to irrigation facilities with the demand to increase it. The Central Government is making all out efforts to fully meet the water requirements of farmers from all the available sources of water, wherever they are whether by boring deep tube wells or by constructing the dams on canals. Every effort is being made by the Government to supply power to the tubewells. This will increase production. Necessary provision for this purpose has been made in the Budget.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Water from canals and dams is being supplied to industries and water is not being supplied for agriculture as per the requirements of it. Will you please tell us what is the policy of the Government in this regard?

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Water from canals and dams is being supplied to industries and water is not being supplied for agriculture as per the requirements of it. Will you please tell us what is the policy of the Government in this regard?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: You have raised this point. You were not present here, when I mentioned your name. I have replied to all the points raised by the hon. Members who participated in the discussion with reference to subjects taken up by them. As you say, it is not correct that 80 percent of water is being supplied to industries. There may be one or two such cases where some water might have been supplied. You can say only this much.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: There is a dam on river Godavari.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: But it is not possible that 80 per cent of the water is being supplied to industries.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: I shall furnish the information with complete statistics. Please let us know whether in the order of priority drinking water is first, agriculture second and industry is on the third position. Please let us know the Government's Policy in this regard. We can charge the States for the lapses on their part, but first your policy in this regard must be clear.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Let me tell you that priority is being accorded to water for irrigation purposes and as regards industry, you are fully aware that it is a part of India's economy. Of course, in the case of an urgency and if water is not available anywhere else some water is being supplied to them. But it is not correct to say that water meant for agriculture is being diverted to industries.

Similarly, you have said that all the crops be covered by insurance. The hon. Members who discussed it are S/Shri Jagdish Awasthi, Vijay Raghavan, Uttam Rathod, Murlidhar Mane, Tapeshwar Singh, Janak Raj Gupta, Virdhi Chander Jain, Ram Bahadur Singh etc. In this connection, I would like to make it clear that the crop insurance scheme is still continuing and the speculations that the scheme has been withdrawn, are not correct. You have demanded that all the crops be given insurance cover

and all the farmers should also be covered by it. The Hon. Prime Minister has constituted a sub-committee which consists of myself, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and the hon. Minister of Finance. Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao is the Chairman of this committee. Secretaries of Agriculture and Finance are also there in this committee. The committee is looking all the aspects as to how to cover all the farmers under this scheme.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): The scheme is not in operation in Rajasthan State.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: The scheme will be continued in the States, where it is already in operation. Even earlier, it was not in operation in Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Earlier it was in operation in Rajasthan but now it has been withdrawn.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I tell you very humbly that it was not in operation earlier. You may please verify it again. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: You were quite vague in your reply. But we wanted to know it in specific terms whether the crops insurance scheme will be applicable to horticulture and whether it will also cover grapes.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: As I mentioned just now, several hon. Members mentioned that all the crops should be covered under insurance, all the farmers should be covered by it, the area under the jurisdiction of a patwari should be treated as a unit instead of tehsil or Block. The patwari keeps the records of all the villages coming under his jurisdiction in a revenue State. As such patwari should be treated as a unit for this purpose. It was not in operation in Rajasthan earlier. When I used to be the Chief Minister of Haryana...

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Earlier this scheme was in operation there.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I am not aware if the earlier Government had implemented it in some parts of that State. The Governments of Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab had not agreed to this system in the N.D.C. meeting. They said that the district should be treated as a unit. We said that it is wrong. It is wrong for the reason that insurance money will be given only when 80 percent part of the district suffers loss and that too will be paid to those who have taken loans. Eighty percent of the entire district cannot suffer losses. You have also taken birth in a farmer's family and I am also a small farmer. When it is hailstorm, only one part is affected and the other part is not affected. That is why we did not agree to this point. Then Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan pleased to treat the tehsil a unit. We are trying to make the village a unit. The loans will be no consideration. All the farmers should be covered under it. Now it is to be seen how far we are successful in it and it is also being considered as to how much amount of premium the farmer shall have to pay for it.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: By what time a decision to this effect will be taken.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: It is being considered in the meetings. We are making efforts to see that it is decided before the next kharif season.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: What you are going to do about the old disputes which are subjudice.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: A decision in this regard is being taken. There was some problem with Gujarat and Maharashtra. There are reports that people tried to take money by unfair means. We have paid some money and payment in the remaining cases is yet to be made. Only those people whose cases are found to be in order after enquiry, will get the money and in the other cases, it will be difficult to make the payment. Shri

N.G. Ranga, Shri Raghuma Reddy, Shri D.P. Yadav and Shri Murlidhar Mane pointed out that there should be co-ordination between the Ministry of Agriculture and the other Ministries like the Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Water Resources. There is also a need to have co-ordination between the district and the blocks. We will definitely ensure co-ordination on our part. As you are aware, if there will be co-ordination between agriculture and water, it will not be possible to increase production. We will try to effect co-ordination in this regard. Shri Madan Pandey, Shri Zainal Abedin, Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia, Shri Shantaram Naik, Shri Shankarlal, Shri Jujhar Singh and some other hon. Members had discussed the land reforms.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: What would you like to say about the payment of bonus on wheat price and about linking the procurement of mustard with the price of mustard oil.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: We have not specifically considered the point of bonus on wheat. Price is fixed after taking all the aspect into account. Every effort is being made to pay remunerative prices. At present no such scheme is under the consideration of the Central Government and there is no such proposal either.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Please let us know about the steps being taken by the Government against famine.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: So far as the question of famine is concerned, I have already said that last year a total of Rs. 1445 crores had been distributed in the entire country for famine relief measures.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: What is being done during the current year?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: So far as the question of this year is concerned, we will pray to God to save us from famine and drought. We also pray with folded hands to the Rain God. However if these calamities

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come our way, we will give full assistance. A memorandum from Rajasthan was received here only a few days back. We will try to send a team to Rajasthan at the earliest. Earlier also we had given assistance to Rajasthan

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN: Please think about floods in Assam.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: We helped Assam in a big way. Thereafter there has been no floods.

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN: The floods are just approaching.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: We have given sufficient funds for the preventive measures. That money should be utilised properly. I am grateful to all the hon. Members for their valuable suggestions. I have tried my best to give a proper reply to the points raised by all the hon. Members. Suggestions made by several hon. Members could not be covered. However, we will consider these points in detail and the Government will try to do whatever is possible so that the farmers may

get the full benefit and the country may prosper.

With these words I would like to request the hon. Members to extend their support to the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants to the vote of the House.

The question is:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1990, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 1 to 5 relating to the Ministry of Agriculture.”

The motion was adopted.

STATEMENT

Demands for Grants in respect of Ministry of Agriculture for 1989-90 voted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on Account voted by the House on (17-3-1989)	Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House
1	2	3	4
Ministry of Agriculture		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1.	Agriculture	70,79,00,000	3,34,00,000
2.	Other Services of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	56,77,00,000	25,88,00,000
3.	Department of Agricultural Research and Education	38,50,00,000	...
4.	Department of Rural Development	1072,97,00,000	5,00,000
5.	Department of Fertilizers	1015,94,00,000	41,75,00,000
		1147,77,00,000	25,00,000
		3400,94,00,000	208,75,00,000

[English]

(II) Ministry of External Affairs

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand No. 24 relating to the Ministry of External Affairs for which eight hours have been allotted.

Hon. members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions moved will be put up on the Notice

Board shortly. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1990, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 24 relating to the Ministry of External Affairs."

STATEMENT

Demand for Grant in respect of Ministry of External Affairs for 1989-90 submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on Account voted by the House on 17-3-1989	Amount of Demand for Grant Submitted to the vote of the House
1	2.	3	4
<i>Ministry of External Affairs</i>			
24.	Ministry of External Affairs	82,89,00,000	53,67,00,000
		10,73,00,000	367,69,00,000

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced to Re. 1."

/Failure to reconsider policy towards Afghanistan./(1)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to withdraw IPKF from Sri Lanka./(2)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to reach an agreement on trade and transit with Nepal./(3)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to stop the influx of refugees from Bangladesh./(4)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to facilitate the return of Tibetan refugees to China./(5)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to make any progress on negotiations for the demarcation of Indo-Chinese border./(6)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to resolve outstanding issues with Pakistan and to facilitate free movement in the field of information and culture./(7)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to rebuild bridges of understanding with the people of Afghanistan./(8)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to have the UN Resolution on Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace implemented./(9)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to achieve a breakthrough on the rescheduling of foreign debts of the developing countries./(10)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to reach an agreement with the UN on extradition./(11)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to achieve any settlement with Burma on claims of Indian nationalities./(12)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to make any significant contribution to South-South-Cooperation./(13)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to play a meaningful role in the promotion of human rights the world over./(14)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Failure to achieve international norms for the transfer of technology and development capital to developing countries./(15)

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT (Arrah): I should be permitted to continue my speech later.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, yes.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): Will we continue after 6 o'Clock?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No. We will continue on Monday.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would have very much liked the debate, as the practice goes, to be initiated by the Opposition. But I think they are not taking their work seriously.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: They are serious somewhere.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): We are all very serious.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: Outside the House, not in the House.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: You have got the chance. You can start.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: My chance will come inevitably. But I wanted to reply also.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): In any case, the debate begins from cut motions which are from the Opposition, like us.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: Let me begin by saying that the last year was a year of great success for Indian foreign policy, because the entire world accepted the basic principles of Indian foreign policy, the policy for peace, policy for settling of all disputes on the basis of negotiations. The entire ethos of the non-aligned movement was that we are not aligned with any bloc. We have independence of action and the entire non-aligned movement in which India played a great role moved towards bringing a detente and good relations among the major powers.

And this was a year, which was a year of success. So far as the detente between the United States and Soviet Union is concerned, not only the leaders of both the countries met, talked, made progress, but signed agreements and the important agreement on the elimination of a particular class of nuclear weapon, known as the Intermediate Nuclear Forces was signed. We made progress almost on all aspects of the regional conflicts. The famous agreement, Geneva agreement on Afghanistan was signed, in which the two super powers became the guarantor. The Iran-Iraq war—after great efforts, ceasefire was achieved. Kampuchea—my friend Mr. Natwar Singh played a very good role. The Kampuchean issue at one time was thought to be impracticable and could not be solved. Now we are in a process which may lead towards some solution. And in Central America.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can continue on Monday. The House will now take up the Private Members' Business.

15.31 hrs.

INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

[English]

(Amendment of Section 376, etc.)

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code."

The motion was adopted

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: I introduce the Bill.

15.32 hrs.

ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT
BILL*

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for abolition of capital punishment in India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for abolition of capital punishment in India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: I introduce the Bill.

15.33 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

(Amendment of article 101, etc.)

SHRISHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: I introduce the Bill.

15.34 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

(Insertion of new article 350A)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: I introduce the Bill.

15.35 hrs.

UNORGANISED LABOUR WELFARE
FUND BILL—*CONTD.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we take up further consideration of the Unorganised Labour Welfare Fund Bill moved by Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil on 25 November, 1988.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): I am on a point of order. The discussion on this

Bill which was moved by Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil has spread over three sessions. I want your ruling. It is a mockery. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am not allowing. How can you say mockery?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Whatever ruling you give I will accept. But I am telling you that this is the third session of Parliament...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is immaterial.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: There are other Bills. There should be some time limit. We cannot waste the time of Parliament on this. I want you to see the record. More than 100 Members have already spoken on this and you have extended it for the third session of Parliament. Is there any time limit for any Bill or not? That way, other Bills will never come. I want your ruling. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: First you take your seat. The time fixed for each Bill is two hours. That is there. But it is left to the House to extend it. When the House had extended the time, you did not say anything. Now you are coming with the criticism and saying that it is a mockery. That means, you are making a mockery of the whole House. How can you say that it is a mockery? That cannot be allowed. I have over-ruled your point of order. You people are deciding and then you are telling that this is a mockery. What does this mean? The House decides; I do not decide. And you are part of the House. You should have objected to it at that time.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV (Madhēpura): Once again, I thank Mr. Patil for bringing forward this Bill before the House. It shows his kind-heartedness and good gesture for the unorganised labour class. It is a fact that in India unorganised labour class is not being given the due that they should get. We are living at the dawn of

a new era of universal humanity. There is a thrill of hope, a flatter of expectation as when the first dreamer of dawn awakened the earth. We live in one world and require to be educated to summon some section of human purpose and destiny. If one section is happy and another section is not happy, then the society in totality cannot be said to be happy. In the words of our philosopher President, Shri Radhakrishnan: "whatever happiness is in the world, it arises from your wish for the welfare of others; whatever misery is in the world, it arise from your wish for your own welfare." In that way, the Bill brought forward by Mr. Patil deserves appreciation and it should be taken into consideration by the House in right earnest. But I want to say one thing. There is scope of pragmatism. How far will this Fund be executed in the interest of the unorganised labour? There are so many welfare funds as for example Mica Welfare Fund. In Bihar that fund is being operated. There are so many things in that, so many loopholes that the desirable ones are not getting what they should get. I will appeal to Mr. Patil to first let us know how far this Bill will be in the interest of the persons for whom he has brought this Bill. Mica Welfare Fund is not duly being brought into execution for their welfare.

Another thing that I want to say is this. Will the fund be available? The Government is just telling that every Department of the Government is under constraint of funds. So, for this unorganised class of labourers, will the Fund be available? Will the Government be in a position to provide Funds for this class? I think there is a doubt that the Government can be in a position to provide any source for this great Bill that has been brought here.

Another thing that I want to bring to the notice of this hon. House is that the Indian population is going up day and night. There is no country on earth which has so big a population, so huge a population and, side by side, so many limitations. External danger, internal problems, population hike, all these things create so much problems for the unorganised labour that they should be

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helped. I hold the view that the Government should come forward with the Fund for which this Bill has been brought.

Indian population is rising in geometrical progression whereas the economic growth is in arithmetical progression. The story of Malthus is very much applicable in this country. Taking that into consideration, I have the reservation that this Bill which has been brought before the House, will have so many practical difficulties in being applied.

Another fact that I want to mention is that social environment presupposes interaction between organism and environment. Let us take it for granted that everything is moving. Social evolution is taking place but in India, organism and environment are having their interaction. The country is one but the environment so far created is so much diversified that India as a whole cannot have that kind of development as it is expected to have. Let us take one example. In Bihar, there was the Rohtas Industries. That could not be run successfully because of the role played by the Opposition parties. Now, what is the intention of the Government? The Government wants that every class, every section, every sector should be given a say, but the hon. Opposition Members do not allow the Government to work. I can quote so many examples. In Bihar if you go, you will see what kind of problems they want to create. Take, for example, the unorganised labour. There are so many youths in our country who are loitering from street to street, from pillar to post for having a small quantity of money as a source of their livelihood, but they are not getting it. So, I hold the view that not only the unorganised labour but also the other class, the young people, are not getting the source of their livelihood which they should get. But why are they not getting it? I am giving one example though it does not concern this matter. In Bihar, 72-day strike of the teachers is going on and there is no hope of having an amicable settlement.

The whole student community is suffering and I know who are behind this strike. I do not want to name that particular Opposition Party which is taking the lead in this. Because of the Teachers' Strike, the whole student community is suffering. Sir, I do not want to take the time of the House. But one thing I would like to say is that Shri Patil has brought forward this Bill in this House which is well-drafted in the eyes of the people. The Members on the Opposite should play a constructive role, national role, not a chauvinistic role, not partisan role, not any kind of role that goes against the interests of the nation.

Sir, the nation is great, the individual is a part. The nation is whole, the party is a part. Therefore, national interest should be taken in the right-earnest and if the funds are available, I support this Bill.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Member Shri Bala Saheb Vikhe Patil has moved Private Members' Bill called Unorganised Labour Welfare Fund Bill 1989 to set up a Fund for the welfare of unorganised labour.

I feel that the purpose of this Bill moved by the hon. Member Shri Bala Saheb Vikhe Patil, even if it is adopted, will not be served. There are many draw-backs in this Bill. Funds required for social security measures in connection with labourers which are in force at present in our country are created through the contribution of labourers and owners of different sectors. Shri Bala Saheb Vikhe Patil has totally exonerated the owners of unorganised labourers under this Bill as if it is none of their responsibility. There is no provision in the Bill for compulsory contribution for social security by the persons who take maximum direct advantage of the labour put in by the workers although the society is also benefited. Therefore, I feel that it will not be correct to exonerate the owners of unorganised labourers and agree that they do not have any responsibility.

I respect the feelings of Bala Saheb Vikhe Patil in moving this Bill. He has good intention behind it and this has provided an opportunity to several hon. Members to discuss the deplorable condition of unorganised labourers and he has drawn the attention of the Government towards difficulties and hardships of these people. I feel that the main achievement of this Bill is that Shri Bala Saheb Vikhe Patil has received full support for his good intention behind moving the Bill. In fact, Government is also much worried about unorganised labourers. The Hon. Prime Minister of our country has also expressed his concern about the welfare of unorganised labourers. It is also clear from the fact that this question was raised forcefully for the first time by our popular leader and the Prime Minister of our country in the conference of International Labour Organisation held in 1985. International Labour Organisation has been considering the case of only organised labourers till now and has taken decisions to protect their rights and to provide security to them through different measures. The time has now come when International Labour Organisation should also pay its attention to unorganised labour specially in developing countries where the number of unorganised labourers is very high. Developing countries should also think about their welfare. International Labour Organisation should not only pay attention to it but monitor the situation constantly with follow up actions. It clearly indicates that the Prime Minister of our country is worried about unorganised labourers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many laws have been formulated about the unorganised labourer and all of them aim at social security and non-exploitation of labourers who get employment on daily wages. The basic question is that the definition given by Shri Vikhe Saheb Patil includes the unorganised labourers working in villages also. The greatest problem of all the unorganised workers whether they are engaged in rural areas, agriculture or cattle breeding professions, is their employment throughout the year. Labourers employed in agriculture at such places where modern methods of agri-

culture have not been developed and where the farmers get one or two crops in a year where they depend on rain only get employment hardly for 4-5 months in a year. Keeping this thing in view, Government formulated many schemes to provide employment to the labourers employed in agriculture when they are free from their seasonal work. In fact, the greatest need is to provide employment around the year to the workers employed in agriculture in rural areas and as you are aware, the Government is doing her best in this regard. Agriculture labour or labour employed in the rural areas has such a deep relationship with agriculture that they cannot be separated from it. You are aware that the Minimum Wages Act is in force in respect of the labour employed in organised sector but it will be observed that the labourers get more than the minimum wages in the areas where agriculture has properly developed but at the places where the agriculture has not been developed, the minimum wages are proportionately less, of course, against our wishes. Even though decision was taken in 1980 and again in 1987 that the question of minimum wages should be reviewed after every two years and when there is increase in price index by 50 points, then minimum wages should also be revised but it could not be done. A decision was taken in the Labour Minister's conference held in 1987 that wages of Rs. 11 should be given to every labourer employed in agriculture and it was again stated that the situation should be reviewed after every two years and when the consumer price index rises by 50 points, even if it happens in less than two years, the wages should be revised but this could not be done. Again, I called a conference of Labour Ministers in 1988 where this matter was reviewed and studied in depth. Only now minimum wages have been fixed at Rs. 11 and now no one will get less than Rs. 11 anywhere. This has happened because a decision was taken in Labour Ministers' conference in 1987 and complete two years have passed in April, 1989. Therefore, with the consent of all the Labour Ministers, it was decided to increase the minimum wages by according full neutralisation. I also made a suggestion that whatever the minimum

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wages are fixed, they should be protected keeping in view the rise in prices. There should be some provision of dearness allowance or some other mechanism by which the minimum wages are not decreased in any way. There was no consensus on this point but it was stated that it would be considered because there are some States like Punjab and Haryana where the wages are more than the minimum wages of Rs. 11.

A study group of the consultative committee of the Ministry of Labour toured the entire country and talked to the labourers employed in agriculture in many States, who complained that even minimum wages of Rs. 11 are not being paid to many people. Obviously, in practice, minimum wages are being paid proportionate to the development of agriculture.

16.00 hrs.

You may fix anything but the labour engaged in agriculture get their wages proportionate to the development of agriculture. Therefore, real necessity is that the agriculture should be developed fast. There is a necessity to provide employment to the rural labour around the year. After this situation, the question of their social security will arise. By the way, the Government have formulated law in 1987-88 for social security also. But the aim of the Bill will be achieved only when they will start getting work for the whole year.

About funding Shri Vikhe has said that one percent of the total wages received by the organised labour should be collected. The total emoluments include basic salary and D.A, etc. The payments made by him and his other deductions come to 20 percent approximately. The number of unskilled labourers is maximum among the people employed in the organised sector. They have come above the poverty line with great difficulty, how one percent can be charged if their total wages come to Rs. 1000. They have not the capacity to pay more than what

they have already been contributing for their own and at the same time they will also not like to pay. They cannot be compelled also.

There are many schemes under which we take money from the owners only just as Bidi Welfare Fund. We do not take anything from the labourers for that fund. We take 20 paise per thousand bidies. All our welfare schemes are run through this fund for which we take more from the owners and nominal from the labourers.

What I mean to say is that no purpose is served by simply passing a legislation. We get so many complaints about the laws already formulated to the effect that they are not being implemented.

The maximum importance of the Minimum Wages Act is in the agricultural sector. Complaints are received that labour does not get minimum wages even where work is available. I had called a meeting of Labour Ministers where we discussed the need to increase the mobility of inspectors, organise publicity campaigns and keep the people informed. The machinery for recovery should be made effective in order to ensure that at least minimum wages are paid to the labour. Thereafter the Centre has formulated a Centrally sponsored scheme. Under this scheme, the Central Government sends Inspectors to many states to assist the State Governments in implementing the Minimum Wages Act.

As it has been provided in the Bill that there should be an agency of the Centre which should make arrangements for social security of un-organised labour. I have, however, calculated that if implemented, the figure comes to hardly Rs. 25/- per annum per person. This would not suffice if we are to run a sound social scheme. And in a large country like India with a federal system, to what extent will it be feasible to run a social scheme through an agency? Presently medical cover is being provided through the E.S.I. scheme. Every State has been given the responsibility. Even though employers and employees contribute 5% and 2.25%

respectively with no contributions from the Centre, we have not been able to run it through a Central agency although there is Central rule. We take cess for which 7/8th of the expenditure is paid by the Corporation and 1/8th by the State Government. But the entire responsibility of its administration financial administration has been handed over to the State Government. Still we receive complaints from the people that they are insured persons and medical facilities, dispensaries and hospitals are inadequate. So making a Social Security Fund is not enough. The objective cannot be achieved without a substantial fund. I mentioned that arrangement for their employment would be made. According to the State Government document "Standard Man-Year", it is estimated that if employment is provided for 273 days at the rate of 8 hours a day during a year' although unemployment in urban areas has slightly increased, then for the first time during the seventh Five Year Plan, the creation of employment opportunities will be more than the people available for getting employment, especially, in rural areas. It is estimated that if the rate of economic development is maintained at 5%, then employment opportunities would be available for 40.28 million people and 39.2 million persons would be available for employment. In this way a backlog of nearly one million would be cleared out of a total of 9.28 million. The strategy being formulated in the Eighth Five Year Plan lays emphasis on provision of productive employment to the maximum people which will ultimately strengthen the economic structure. As Shri Bhajan Lal said, benefits intended for rural labour should reach them direct and middlemen should be eliminated from the scene. The N.R.E.P. and the R.L.E.G.P. were combined to make the Integrated Rural Development Programme. An additional sum of Rs. 500 crores have been put in and the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana has thus been formulated. It was proposed that in the entire Seventh Five Year Plan Rs. 4900 crores would be spent on providing employment in rural areas but now the Government is planning to spend nearly Rs. 6900 crores. So, it is clear that Government wants to solve the problem of

unemployment in future and every effort is being made to do so. Many laws have been framed for unorganised labour like the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. In the course of the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 Workmen Compensation Act, Equal Remuneration Act and the Bonded Labour System Abolition Act it has been found that the identification process cannot be completed through the Government. Some hon. Members had complained about this. Then the Government decided to seek the involvement of voluntary organisations. Seven voluntary organisations are being involved to identify bonded labour. If more than 20 bonded labourers are identified, Rs. 100/- would be paid for every identification over 20. This will be in addition to the Rs. 6250/- that are paid. Under the Conditions of Service Act, 1979 efforts are made to check exploitation of labour who are taken from one State to another by contractors. We get complaints of exploitation despite the existence of a law. A have discussed this point with Labour Ministers of various States in the Labour Ministers Conference. A decision has been taken that an official from the State be posted in the State to which the labour has migrated. If any rules are violated, Minimum Wages Act or any other Act, that official should take up the matter with his counterpart in that State. Apart from this, a standing Committee has been set up at Chandigarh and Bombay. Regional Labour Commissioners of both places and Labour Commissioners of States from where labour migrates are members of that committee. All complaints are dealt with by the Members. Unorganised labour is covered by Contract Labour Regulation and Abolition Act it provides that if in an organisation the nature of work done by contract labour is similar to that of the directly employed labour the salary of the former should be the same as that of the latter, I am discussing the main points. They should get first-aid, medicine and drinking water facility, along with creches for women working there. Minimum Wages should be paid failing which there is a system that officer of the principal employer should certify that payment be made in his presence. If payment is still not make the responsibility

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shifts to the principal employer so that he should deduct their amount and make payment to the labour of the contractor. In that same manner, many welfare measures have been taken for unorganised labour. For beedi workers, there is the Beedi Welfare Cess Act and the Beedi Welfare Act. 0.30 paise is charged as cess per thousand bidis. That 0.30 paise goes towards welfare of beedi workers. An 'Own-Your-House' scheme has been introduced for them. If the State Government constructs houses for weaker sections it earmarks houses for beedi workers. Rs. 6000 is given as subsidy by the centre for as many houses as built for beedi workers. Similarly, if those people want to construct their own house we give them Rs. 5000 as loan and Rs. 1000 as development charges. This loan is recovered in easy instalments and no interest is charged. Medical facilities like dispensaries and treatment for occupational diseases like T.B. are available. Arrangements exist for bearing all medical expenses and paying subsistence allowance to the family during the course of treatment. Educational facilities for beedi workers include scholarships ranging from Rs. 25/- to Rs. 125/- to dependents of workers. Under the Beedi and Cigar Act, their working hours have been fixed. A provision has been made for leave and holidays and rate of over time has also been fixed. A machinery has been set up to go into violations of these rules. The State Government declares the authority. Although we are making slow progress in the unorganised sector, it is hard to say whether this sector will remain unorganised in future also. Unorganised labour is gradually becoming organised. Certain Sectors which were unorganised a year ago are becoming organised. As they become aware of their rights they organised making it easier to implement laws related to them I would like to discuss laws related to the unorganised labour. As mentioned in connection with the Minimum Wages Act, a pilot project has been launched under the Central sponsored scheme for Enforcement of Minimum Wages.

About two hundred labour inspectors have been appointed by the Central Government in those areas of Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Manipur where 70 percent of the total population constitutes scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. This strength is being further increased so that the Minimum Wages Act may be enforced effectively. Similarly we have started another scheme is, x Central Sponsored Scheme for Organizing Rural Workers under which an honorary organiser from rural area is appointed for each block and he is paid Rs. 200/- as honorarium, Rs. 50/- as conveyance allowance for extending his help to the workers and making them aware of their rights and duties. He has to motivate them to bring unity among them so that they may fight for their rights through this organisation. This scheme has been introduced in 14 states and in 9 union territories and about 1500 honorary rural organisers have been appointed. Similarly a Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agriculture Labourers has been formulated by Insurance Division, Ministry of the Finance under which LIC in consultation with the State Government operates the group insurance scheme. It has been introduced on August 15, 1987. Under this scheme Rs. 1000/- are paid by the LIC to the families of those landless labourers who die between the age group of 18 to 60 years and no premium is charged for that. The Central Government bears the total expenditure of programme at the initial stage. Similarly there is a Group Life Insurance Scheme for IRDP beneficiaries. Beneficiaries of IRDP from Rural Development Development Department are covered under DRDA. A scheme has been formulated in cooperation with of LIC under which an amount of Rs. 3000/- is instantly paid in the event of the death of a person who dies in the age group between 18 to 60 years. An amount upto Rs. 6000/- can be paid in the event of death of person who dies due to some accident. In these schemes labourers are not required to pay any premium, the State Government has to bear the entire expenditure at the initial coverage. Initially the scheme has been introduced for three years and 3-4 million IRDP beneficiaries are

being covered under it every year.

Besides, LIC has formulated another scheme known as social Security Fund. As a reference to the problems of Handloom workers rickshaw pullers, auto rickshaw pullers etc. has been made in this discussion, I would like to inform the House in this regard that we have formulated a scheme known as social security Fund scheme in the cooperation of LIC under which beneficiary contributes 50 per cent and the rest 50 per cent is contributed by LIC. LIC immediately pays Rs. 3000/- to the family members of the person who dies before the age of 60 years and more compensation can be paid if he dies in an accident.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time allowed for this Bill is already over. By how much time do we extend?

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: I will take only 15 minutes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Afterwards the hon. Member has to reply. Then, shall we extend the time by another half an hour?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the House agrees. The time is extended by another half an hour.

[Translation]

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, similarly we have implemented a Hut Insurance Scheme from May 1, 1988. It has been introduced initially for two years. Under this scheme the entire expenditure towards full compensation to a person whose hut has been gutted in fire has to be borne by the Centre. An amount of Rs. 1000/- for the hut and Rs. 500 more his belongings which have also been destroyed in fire is paid immediately.

So far as old age pension is concerned,

different states have introduced different schemes under which Rs. 30/- to Rs. 100/- are paid as old age pension to the labourers above 60 years of age. Similarly there is another scheme known as Personal Accident Scheme under which about 3000/- are paid to the bereaved family whose annual income is below Rs. 72,000 and whose earning member dies.

In short, the Central Government is making every possible effort in this regard. We feel concerned about the interests of unorganised labour and taking effective measures for their welfare. The first priority is to be given to provide employment to them. After that comes their protection or social protection. We have limited resources and we are to make best use of them. It is not so that we do not have the will. We have recently made an additional allocation of Rs. 500 crores under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and as you know, for that we were bound to levy 5 per cent tax on those whose income exceed Rs. 50,000/- . Funds have to be raised by various means in order to implement the schemes. but, it is not the appropriate time for that. Keeping all the factors in new, Government is taking all the possible measures in the interest of the unorganised labour. As regards the question that the labourers engaged in building construction work in the country are being exploited, I would like to submit that the Government propose to introduce a Bill in the House to safeguard the interests of the construction workers, for their safety and good health and to provide other facilities to them. The Members will have the opportunity to express their views when the Bill is introduced in the House.

A question has been raised under Immigration Act. It has been said that certain provisions are creating difficulties. As regards exploitation of the labourers through man power contractors, I would like to submit that the Government has strictly enforced the law in the absence of which labourers were subjected to exploitation.

So far as the employers in foreign coun-

[Sh. Bindeshwari Dubey]

tries are concerned, they will have to fill a form to give full details in order to employ labourers from India. I would like to make it clear that we want to send our labourers with full dignity and on settled terms and conditions so that they may not be exploited there. We would not like to send them as slaves even if we get some more money for it. We would like to send our citizens with full dignity. It is because of this fact that these provisions have been made, laws are there in foreign countries also. If an employer is interested in employing laborers from India, he is supposed to sign an agreement paper in the Indian mission there and provide the information about the number of labourers required, the total duration of work and the terms and conditions of employment etc. They are supposed to pay at least that much of the minimum wage which the Government of India has paid in its missions in different countries abroad. Besides they will have to provide accommodation and medical facilities. Most of the facilities have been specified. Moreover the provision to send pre-paid ticket for the journey from India to the concerned country or deposit money in foreign exchange towards the fare charges of both the sides. Most of the contractors do not send pre-paid tickets. The documents sent by the foreign embassy contain an undertaking to send pre-paid ticket. But the contractors pocket the money given by the employer for the tickets. Besides, they force the poor labourers to sell their land and houses and devour that money also. As a rule they are supposed to get only Rs. 2000/- as commission while in reality they grab not less than Rs. 10,000/- to 20,000. We have directed the employers to complete the required papers and follow the rules in letter and spirit. Otherwise we would not give clearance for the immigration. In this way we have taken measures to check such exploitation. But they are making publicity that it would decrease the export of manpower to foreign countries. But I know that this would not happen. Various laws have been amended to provide safety to the labourers whether it is a factory law or minimum wages

act or act relating to the Bidi workers or maternity act. We propose to bring further modifications in the laws. The provisions of the penalty code have been made more stern so that law is obeyed fully and those who violate, they can be penalised with stern punishment and may not repeat the same mistake.

With these words, I would like to submit that the hon. Members should understand the feelings of the Government in this regard. I would like to submit one more thing. Hon. Prime Minister has constituted a National Commission on Rural workers with very broad terms of reference. It is minutely studying the matter. The Prime Minister has assured full implementation of its recommendations and said that future strategy would be prepared accordingly. On the basis of recommendations, laws will be amended and if necessary, new laws will be enacted.

We hope that if completed report is not submitted, the commission would submit its interim report to enable the Government to go ahead. The recommendations of the National commission on Rural worker. Will be very beneficial to the rural workers. It will definitely recommend the steps to be taken for providing social security to the rural workers.

Prof. range has pointed out that there was a tripartite Standing Committee to look into the problems of unorganised labourers. The Government had made all efforts to implement the recommendation of this committee. But for quite some time now the committee is not holding its meeting and it has become inactive and defunct. In this regard, I would like to assure that the earlier standing committee will be revived so that the problem of workers of unorganised sector can be discussed from time to time.

While appreciating the spirit of the Bill, I request the hon. Member Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil to withdraw his bill keeping in view on the difficulties faced by the Government and not press this Bill.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopargaon): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, just now the hon. Minister has said a few things and I do agree that Government is concerned about the unorganised labourers. The hon. Minister has told that a National Commission on Rural workers has been set up and after going through the problems of workers, it will submit its report. In this regard I would say only this much that the commission should immediately submit its interim report so that some improvements can be brought about in the law relating to the unorganised labourers.

The organised labourers do not think about the unorganised labourers. If the employers and the employees contribute something a welfare fund can be set up which will enhance the bargaining capacity of the workers. The hon. Minister also told that a Bill relating to construction workers had been introduced in the Rajya Sabha. I also know about this Bill there is a provision of welfare fund in Bidi industry and if such facility is also provided to construction workers, they can also be benefited. At present different laws are there for the workers of different sectors. So long as any concrete suggestion or report of the commission does not come before us, the law should be suitably amended to provide more security to the unorganised worker. These should be a provision to check the exploitation. The Commission will take time to submit its final report, therefore, it should be asked to submit its interim report immediately.

I also want that a group insurance scheme for them should be introduced and it can be publicised through the media. If a worker makes any demand, he is thrown out of the job to face starvation. You have admitted that there is a sharp fall in the wages of unorganised labourers. The Government is introducing modern technology in the industries in urban and rural areas. Industries are no more labour intensive. They are becoming capital intensive. Consequently, there is more unemployment among the unorganised labour. Therefore, I would request the Government to look into it.

At certain places free legal aid is given to the unorganised workers and the Government has agreed to the recommendations of the Standing Committee to make some improvement in it. In the ocean of papers, no attention is paid to the application. Neither anybody wants to go through them nor any reply is given. Therefore, if free legal aid is given to them, they will get justice. We do not have any objection if the employers are asked to contribute to the fund, but the organised labourers should also think something about the unorganised labourers. What I mean to say is that one who is getting something should contribute something to help others. There are a handful of people who own the capital and have become the privileged class and the rest are being exploited. We want that they should not be exploited. Both the employers and the employees should contribute for the exploited class. The hon. Minister has assured that a comprehensive Bill would be brought about by the Government on the basis of the recommendations Commission. I also want that a comprehensive Bill should be brought about but till then there is need to make some improvements in the welfare fund for Bidi workers, for which some suggestions have already been given and I am also sending some suggestions to you through a special memorandum. I do not want to go into details of these suggestion here and will talk to you later in this regard. The Government should set up a welfare fund for agricultural workers and other workers on the pattern of Employment Guarantee Scheme started in Maharashtra. Maternity benefits are given there to the workers but in other States they do not have such benefits. The Agricultural labourers are not getting maternity benefits. You are saying that they are organising themselves, but due to large scale unemployment they do not have sustaining power and bargaining capacity. The Government should make efforts to increase their sustaining power and bargaining power so that they are not exploited and are liberated from the clutches of the greedy people.

My suggestion is that the Commission should be asked to submit the interim report

[Sh. Balasaheb Vikhe Patil]

as early as possible and a Bill should be brought before the House, which may organise the unorganised labourers. Though the Government is taking keen interest in it, yet it needs to step up its efforts.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, with these words, I request you to allow me to withdraw the Bill.

[English]

I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill to provide for setting up a fund for the welfare of unorganised labour.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to provide for setting up a fund for the welfare of unorganised labour."

The Motion was adopted

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: I withdraw the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up the next Bill. Shri G.S. Basavaraju.

16.37 hrs.

FAIR PRICE SHOPS (REGULATION)
BILL

[Translation]

*SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I am glad to move that the Bill to regulate the functioning of fair price shop and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration. While speaking on the Bill, let me first of all deal with the functioning of the Fair Price shops in the country.

Our country's population is more than 80 crores and majority of them depend upon the Fair Price Shops for their essential commodities. But our main objective should be to cater to the needs of those 50 crores of people, majority of whom are below the poverty line. At present more than four lakhs of Fair Price Shops are functioning in the country which are spread from cities like Delhi upto the remote villages. Fair price shop facility is available in the nook and corner of the country. But unfortunately the functioning of these Fair Price Shops is not at all satisfactory. Misbehaviour of officials and the manipulations of vested interests have made working of these shops a failure and the automatic sufferers are the common people of the country. Hence I say that the Government has failed in making Fair Price Shops to work satisfactorily.

The concept of Public Distribution System is not new in our country. First it was introduced in the year 1939 by the British Regime. There was a severe famine in Bombay and Public Distribution System started functioning there to provide ration to the people. There was a more serious famine in Calcutta and other parts of West Bengal in the year 1943. Since then Public Distribution System began to function in West Bengal.

The Centre has provided 2000 crores of rupees in the form of subsidy to the Public Distribution System. The share of this subsidy is not reaching the common man. The intervention of politicians has vitiated the working of the system. The middle men and other vested interest are taking the undue advantage of this subsidy. The aim of our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi is to see that the poorest people get the essential commodities at cheaper rates. The main intention is to help the people belonging to remote villages, hilly areas and the poorest section of the society. But our Government has not succeeded so far to see that the essential commodities reach poor people of this country directly.

*Translation of the speech Originally delivered in Kannada.

Food Corporation of India has taken up some responsibility to procure and distribute the main essential commodities. About 60% of the commodity procured by Food Corporation of India is being distributed by the Public Distribution System.

The essential commodities that are distributed through Fair Price Shops are sugar, wheat, rice, palmoleine oil, cement, cloth, coal, kerosene oil. In the year 1961 there were 47,000 Fair Price Shops in the country. This number of Fair Price Shops increased to 1,22,000 in the year 1971 and it went up to 2,08,000 in the year 1981. Today we have more than four lakhs of Fair Price Shops spread all over the country. During the Seventh Plan an amount of 2000 crore rupees has been given as subsidy for the Public Distribution System. The quantity of commodities distributed through Fair Price Shops has also increased tremendously. In the year 1971 about 7.8 lakh tonnes of commodities were distributed and the figure was 18.4 lakh tonnes during the year 1987.

The objective of the Government is to supply commodities at protective prices to the weaker sections of the society. But what is really happening in the Fair Price Shops? In villages the functioning of these shops is miserable. I have good experience in observing the functioning of these shops, especially, in villages. I too hail from a village and I know the working conditions of these shops very well. The centre supplies the foodgrains, sugar etc. to the States. About 60 to 70% of the rural population do not know this system. We cannot blame the Minister at the Centre because there are lacunae in the system itself. About 13 to 15% of cereals like Jowar, Ragi, etc. are distributed through Fair Price Shops and about 9 to 15% of oil and other items are also distributed through this system. Foodgrain distribution per person was about 9 Kg. during 1961 and in 1987-88 it went up to 26 Kg. per year.

The subsidy to each customer of Fair Price Shops was 69.7 rupees in 1961 and in 1987-88 it is about 73 to 76 rupees, for Ragi, rice and other cereals the subsidy per per-

son was Rs. 9 to 11 during 1977-78.

Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Kerala, Karnataka are the States where rice is produced abundantly. Even then, the poor people are not getting the same directly. The merchants stock the commodities and when there is shortage they sell them at exorbitant rates. The Government has not succeeded in checking black-marketing. Public Distribution System has thoroughly failed in its effective functioning. This is the reason why I have brought this Bill before this august House.

The important objective of my Bill is to set up a Board and it may be called as Central Board for fair price shops. The Board should be there at State level and at the Union Territory level. This Board can look after functioning of the fair price shops. Then only we can ascertain that the subsidy given by the Centre reaches the Common man. The flow of commodities also becomes easy. The wheat produced in Punjab can go to Kerala and the coconut grown in Kerala can come to Delhi.

I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister whether the palmolein oil that the centre gives reaches the common man. This oil is priced at Rs. 11/- in the Fair Price Shops but the same is sold at Rs. 30/- in the black market. These commodities released by the Centre go to the States. From there they go to the district Collectors, Tehsildars, Revenue Inspectors, and village accountants. At all these levels manipulations are going on and the common man is exploited. Hence monitoring of public distribution system by the centre is very essential.

In my district a senior I.A.S. Officer who is the Chief Secretary has amassed wealth of about 75 lakhs of rupees by selling palm oil alone in the black-market. He has sold it in the cities at the rate of the Rs. 27 per kg. Myself and some other persons have caught this culprit and further action has been taken.

You are providing wheat to the poor people under the Scheme 'food for works'. It

[Sh. G.S. Basavaraju]

is also being distributed through public distribution system. It goes to the District Collector. Village farmer is not able to get 2 1/2 Kg. of wheat. Agents and contractors sell the wheat available in fair price shops to a mill owner. Each bag of wheat will fetch them about 20 to 50 rupees. They manipulate the accounts. This malpractice has not been stopped so far.

There are two prices for the sale of sugar. One ranges from 450 to 500 rupees per quintal while the other is from 700 to 800 rupees. The poor farmer who works hard from morning till evening not in a position to buy one Kg. of sugar. In the name of farmers and poor people the middle men are making money in towns and cities. Sugar does not reach the villages. It is true that we have essential commodities Act, but this does not serve the purpose to help the poor people.

Agencies are needed for the distribution of commodities like cloth, sugar, rice and others. Is this distribution work carried on satisfactorily?

In my Districts the persons belonging to Fair Price Department carry their pads, seals, bags, books etc. with them always. They obtain the Demand Draft and contact the collectors, tahsildars and major chunk of the commodities is disposed of then and there itself. Only 25% of the commodities reach the Fair Price Shop for the actual distribution. This system is going on through out the country and hence the subsidy amount of 2000 crores of rupees has reached the middle men. It is not reaching the coolies, labourers, poor people and the middle class people. Therefore setting up of a Central Board is very essential. At Taluk level we have Taluk agricultural produce marketing societies. But the State officials and other vested interests are misusing the subsidy.

Kerosene distribution is done mainly through hawkers. These hawkers will give

only 3/4 quantity of oil and 1/4 of it will not be supplied to the consumer. Therefore, distribution of kerosene oil should be rectified. Palmolein oil is adulterated.

Food Corporation of India procures rice. The market rate of that rice may be 400/- per quintal. There are some officers in Food Corporation of India who would give half of the actual rate. They also send the rotten rice for the purpose of distribution. Stern action has to be taken against such officers.

The setting up of a Central Board will help the public distribution system in many ways. The food grains, sugar etc. will be in sealed bags and the board will supervise this. This will stop adulteration. 10 lakh tonnes of wheat arrived from outside at Mangalore Port sometime ago. From this Grival Central Government gave wheat to Karnataka also. This wheat was not fit for human consumption. There were worms in the wheat and it was rotten.

Food Corporation of India procures the food grains but its distribution system is not satisfactory. Monitoring of the distribution system is essential for the proper functioning. Hence there should be Corporation to look into all these matters. Monitoring system should be there at National/State, Union Territory, District, Taluk and block levels. Then only your help would reach the poor masses of this country. With this intention I am introducing this Bill. At the outset you may not appreciate the Bill but it has laudable objectives and I am sure that it would bring desirable changes in the functioning of the fair price shops.

Fair price shops are meant for all sections of society. A labourer, a member of Parliament, an I.A.S. Officer all can go to the fair price shops. Why should I go to the fair price shop to buy the essential commodities? Why should an officer drawing a salary of 6000 rupees or 8000 rupees go to fair price shop to buy the commodities? These shops should cater to the needs of poor people. People below the poverty-line should get the benefit of subsidy.

Keeping all the above facts in mind I have brought this Bill before this House to streamline the functioning of the fair price shops. I do not want to take more time of the House as many of my hon'ble colleagues are eagerly waiting to take part in this discussion. I hope the hon'ble Minister will accept the Bill and it will be passed by the House

Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on my Bill and with these words I conclude my speech

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to regulate the functioning of fair price shops and for matters connected there is to be taken into consideration"

Dr. Phurlenu Guha.

[Translation]

*DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, at the very outset I would like to thank our colleague Dr. Basavaraju for bringing forth this Bill in this House and thereby providing us with an opportunity to discuss this important subject. This discussion will be very helpful and I hope that the Central Government and the State Governments will together evolve some effective system through which the rural people will get full benefit from the fair price shops.

Sir, the fair price shops first started functioning in 1969 in Bombay. After that such shops were opened in Calcutta in 1944. Sir, shudder to think of the circumstances under which fair price shops were first opened in Calcutta. Tears come to my eyes to recall the atrocities committed by the British Government at that time in West Bengal which was then known as 'Bengladesh'. People were destroyed and killed like animals by them. Bengal used to produce rice in abundance in those days.

The British Government destroyed all the rice stock for fear of the Japanese. I remember those dreadful days when we went round the villages, went to the farmers' houses and urged upon them not to give their rice stock to the Police. The police destroyed their rice, threw them in the rivers and in the Bay of Bengal. Sir, these may sound like fairy tales to many who have not witnessed those days. But we belong to that age and have seen such inhuman things with our own eyes. Even after such a long interval of time, I shudder to recall those days when the people of Calcutta died on the streets like rats. I have seen small children sucking milk from the breast of their dead mothers. If I start narrating these things, so many dreadful memories come alive. So many things are to be said. I will not therefore go into them further. I will only say that immediately after that the reasoning system was first introduced in Calcutta. After that gradually the rationing system spread to other places also. Everybody knows about it and I will not take more time in narrating the same.

Sir, in our country the majority of the people are poor and millions of people live below the poverty line. For them fair price shops are very necessary everywhere, all over the country. The Government of India has taken various measures to lift them above the poverty line so that they may also live with dignity. I will request the Government to see that fair price shops are opened for them all over India. In this context I will say one thing, which I know will displease many of my friends and colleagues. Sir, we know that the Government gives subsidy for the commodities sold through fair price shops. Now my point is, why should the rich people, the upper middle class those who are well to do, get benefit of this Government subsidy? Why should there be fair price shops for them? I will request the Government to ponder over this. Why should there be subsidy from the State Exchequer for the affluent classes? I will point out to the Hon. Minister that only programmes and schemes of economic upliftment for those living below the poverty line is not enough. We shall have to make arrangements to supply their daily

*Translation of the speech Originally delivered in Kannada.

[Dr. Phulrenu Guha]

requirements of wheat, rice and other essential commodities at cheaps and subsidised rates. More and more fair price shops should be opened for these poor people who really need them. It is not enough if only rice, wheat and oil is supplied through fair price shops. I am living in Calcutta for a long time and make my purchases from Fair Price shops. I find that the supplies to the Fair Price Shops are erratic and irregular. Recently I want to Calcutta during the recess of parliament. The person who draws my ration on my behalf told me that in the ration shop sugar-cubes were not available for the last four weeks. What to do? I told him 'what is to be done' Get sugar if available or else we have to do without it. Therefore I say that all other essential commodities of daily use like pulses, salt, soap, match boxes, kerosene etc. should be supplied through Fair Price Shops regularly. Regular supply must be ensured. Specially kerosene must be supplied, because for want of kerosene many poor children cannot study. Sir, we, the residents of Calcutta face load-shedding and power failure off and on. We have to carry on with kerosene lanterns as I used to do as a small girl in my village. But since kerosene is not always available, I have to use wax-candles. Now, candles are costly. The poor people cannot afford candles. Therefore kerosene supply must be ensured for the poor people through the Fair Price Shops.

I reiterate what I said earlier that it is very necessary to open Fair Price Shops in every village. It is a matter of great sorrow and shame that those people who produce food for us, themselves starve. We have not been able to make available the essential commodities of daily use at a cheap rate to all those who produce for us and feed the whole nation. We must provide items like wheat, rice, pulses, edible oils, salt, kerosene, match-boxes etc. to them at a cheap price. We have failed to do that, till now. Only opening of Fair Price Shops in every village is not enough. Every State Government must undertake the responsibility of ensur-

ing that these shops are able to supply the essential items to the villagers regularly. Otherwise the purpose will be defeated.

Here I will suggest that those items that are not produced in a particular State, should be supplied by the Central Government. But the responsibility of supplying those items to the Fair Price Shops which are produced in that State, should rest with the concerned State Government. This matter must be discussed thoroughly and a decision taken thereon. I know that as soon as the Central Government starts talking about opening more Fair Price Shops, the State Governments will start demanding that the Central Government should take the responsibility of supplying all the items to them. Whenever there will be any deficiency in supplying the items, the State Governments will start blaming the Central Government for that. Therefore, I say that before embarking on the project of opening of more Fair Price Shops, these points must be discussed thoroughly with all the State Governments. The various State Governments must be responsible for supplying those items to the Fair Price Shops which are produced in the State.

Sir, I have a long experience about the functioning of Fair Price Shops, which started in Calcutta. Here I will say one thing. When Fair Price Shops were first started in Calcutta and food offices were opened in 1946, it was started that some women workers would have to be recruited therein. In those days it was very difficult to get women workers to work in the offices. I distinctly remember that at 8.30 in the morning one gentleman from the Food office came to me and said " Madam decision has been taken to recruit women workers in the office. Where can we get women workers within two days; You kindly help us. I very well remember that I went round the city of Calcutta and somehow was able to send 4 or 5 women workers to their office. Now ofcourse there is no difficulty in getting women workers. I will like to request the State Governments and the Central Government to keep an eye on the various malpractices and

black marketing etc. which takes place in the Fair Price Shop. You may have noticed that small eating establishments or "Dhabas" spring up near the ration shops. We know why it is so. They get supplies of foodgrains from the ration shops. This has to be checked. I know that this is a Private Members' Bill and the Government will request the mover to withdraw it in the end. Our friend will ultimately withdraw it on the request of the Government. But the matters should not end there. The Government should discuss the matter with various State Governments and pursue it. The Government must take the responsibility of supplying the essential commodities at a cheap price to all those who produce food for us. The framing of schemes for the upliftment of those living below the poverty line is not enough, we must provide wheat, rice etc. to them at a cheap rate. With that Sir, I once again thank our friend, Dr. Basavaraju for bringing forth this Bill and I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to participate in this debate on the Fair Price Shops (Regulation) Bill moved by Shri G.S. Basavaraju. Sir, I am not in support of the entire Bill but some of the provisions are very good and brilliant and these are for consideration which are in the hands of the Government. This Bill, in any case, has given us a very good chance to discuss some of the very important points. As my predecessor, Dr. Phulrenu Guha, has just now mentioned, the story of fair price shops in this country has got a very long chequered history. Even now we have yet to drive home a point its effectiveness and the consumers' consciousness this yet to be awakened. I am in full agreement with the Statement of the Objects and Reasons although the object of the Bill is not to be accepted in toto. I do not support some of the provisions of the Bill which I have already mentioned.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister, Sir, Sukh Ram, to the fact that last year, in January, under his signature

from the Ministry of Programme Implementation, he had issued 20-Point Programme 1986—its Perspective and Strategy and there the 18th item is of great concern to the consumers. This, I think, is much more than the present Bill as suggested now. If the Government is keen to drive home this matter, the document itself has suggested very good points. Brilliant strategies have been formulated. Objectives have been spelt out and the programme is very nice. The monitoring of the strategies also has been spelt out.

Sir, we have no reason to suspect that the Government is half-hearted about the implementation of the programme. The Prime Minister means all business. Since the inception of the 20-Point from the time of late Shrimati Indiraji, our late Prime Minister, and now the new 20-Point Programme is being implemented under the present leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the concern for consumers has been mentioned very clearly in the 18th item of the 20-Point Programme which requires review. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has taken steps on the basis of this item. Sir, with due respect to Shri Basavaraju, I would like to say once again that this document that you have circulated is much more than what has been said in this Bill. Now, if you are serious on the implementation of this programme, I would like to draw your attention to certain suggestions which I would like to make. Sir, a mention has been made of the consumer protection movement and making its presence felt among the masses particular in the rural areas. Sir, I represent a very backward area. There are very small villages in the hill areas. The distance between one village to another is some miles and sometimes the village is so small that its needs are for 10 families. So, the people in such small villages are finding it very difficult to get essential commodities as and when they require them.

Same is the position in the villages of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Mizoram because hill areas are more or less like this. Similar might be the position in

[Sh. N. Tombi Singh]

your own State. I have not much of direct experience in Himachal State. But then we have to think of the remote hill areas and the people in the interior areas who have no access to any shop, maybe a fair price shop or even the Government shop because they have to depend on a certain system of shopping, a certain system of weekly or monthly type of shopping. For these areas we have to provide the mobile shops. You have said in your document 'static or mobile fair price shops.' Sir, static shops will be impracticable for the small and remote villages. What is practicable will be mobile shops. These mobile shops can be introduced. If I am allowed to speak from my experience I would say that experiments have been conducted and trials have been made here and there. So far there has been not much of success and this has been due to the lack of consciousness firstly among the consumers and secondly among those who handle this consumer protection movement because they themselves are not very expert commercial people or business people. Naturally after a run of a few months or after a run of a few years somehow the business has crashed down. So, on the basis of the experience, you have also emphasised in your document on consumer education on the basis of the consumers themselves and for the benefit of the consumers as well as those who will run this consumer service trade. We have to see how best we can make an improvement on this. Sir, we have cooperative societies. Everywhere in the country cooperative societies, particularly consumer cooperative societies, have not had the amount of success that we had expected. Where is the success that you have made on this front? As Madam Guhaji has just now mentioned that unless we reach food to those who have produced food—this is a very important point that has been made, I would like to emphasise that unless we reach food to those who produce food in the villages, the purpose will not be served. The only way to provide food to them is through mobile shops. Wherever the static shops are not a practicable solution, then we have to

depend on these mobile shops and for these mobile shops either the Government runs them just like the super bazar system—in Delhi and other metropolitan cities people are educated, intellectuals are in abundance and people have a certain tolerable and understandable behavior whereas in the rural areas for everything, when you ask them to prepare certain things, one has to train them from the beginning. So, this way we like that this problem has to be tackled in the interest of the villagers. Opening of super bazaars in the towns is necessary. We find super bazaars everywhere more or less in the towns in various States. But then the solution is not in super bazaars in the cities or small towns, but the solution lies in opening its branches, its mobile units, to reach the villages. Towards that end, Sir, I would like to suggest rather on the same line that has been suggested—some Central control. In this connection I would like to observe that it should not be centralised in every respect although Shri Basavaraju's Bill says that there should be a Central Board. The distribution system through fair price shops is more or less handy with the State and if the State says, 'yes', you have to see how that can be improved with certain Central assistance wherever it is possible. As I have suggested, Sir, in order to reach the interior villages and the rural backward areas, the only means is to open mobile super bazaars for backward areas and villages. It may be costlier in the beginning, but it will be a vast and comprehensive programme. But to the best of our information this has not been taken up. This programme has not been taken up and we have Super Bazars in the cities and towns. We should see Super Bazars in the rural areas and villages; whatever name we may give it, it should be working. Now, in this context, when the Minister replies, the House should be benefited by getting the action taken so far on their own programme, on the Prime Minister's programme because the programme have been spelt out and the implementation has been given to a Ministry lead by the Hon. Minister. Where is the achievement? A study should be made as to where you have failed, where are the loopholes, where you have

made certain improvement and modifications wherever necessary. We would like to have detailed information from the Government as to what is the Government statistics of achievements and failures in this field. Then perhaps we will certainly have reason to believe in the 20-Point Programme which is so sincerely projected by the Prime Minister and which all of us have taken as our *Gita*, as our Bible. We have said many times in different forums that it should not remain a theoretical or academic exercise or jugglery of literary words, beautiful expressions, essay writings and all that. It should go a little beyond to reach the common people through these Cooperative Societies, Super Bazars and similar organisations .

Now, in this regard, the Food Processing Ministry, I think, has a role to play because the Food Processing Ministry help in utilisation of fruits and other commodities that are available in different areas; when they are distributed, they are controlled in respect of prices, in respect of qualities and in respect of their weight and quantity. So, while distributing their products they should distribute with a policy to divert these products to the organisation that will be coming up, if it is not already there, to reach the common people—not necessarily as my predecessor has suggested, to the affluent people who can afford to purchase costly things, costly commodities, but to those who cannot afford to purchase and who should be given this facility. All the products of the Government agencies, Government undertakings, the cooperative industries and other industries under the control of the Government should be processed, so far as the priorities of the general commodities, the essential commodities are concerned, only through these organisations.

Sir, although such a Bill is likely to be withdrawn, we should not take it so lightly because the spirit that is contained in this Bill has to be taken and the Government has to give certain assurances, effective and practical assurances, to the House: "yes, this Bill may not be acceptable to the Government, but the spirit that has been incorporated in

this Bill is well taken and the Government implementation agencies will take care of certain basic things in this Bill". Then, Sir, we shall be satisfied. We are grateful also to my Hon. friend, Shri Basavaraju, for raising this discussion and for bringing forward this Bill.

With these few words, I would like to conclude my observations on this Bill.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I appreciate the feelings behind the Fair Price Shop Regulation Bill 1989 introduced by Shri Basvaraju. But there are certain shortcomings in the Bill. The Government, therefore, should introduce a comprehensive Bill in order to make arrangements for the Fair Price Shops and to put a proper control over them. This needs to be considered. In clause 4 he says that State Boards should be set up. But, the items to be supplied and the quantity thereof should also be decided. Presently wheat, rice, cloth, sugar and some other items are being supplied through fair price shops. These items are made available by the Government especially for the urban areas. However, for rural areas very few items are made available by the Government. The hon. Minister pays more attention to the people living in urban areas because they make a lot of hue and cry. But, the voice of the people living in rural areas is not so actively heard of, I would, therefore, like to submit that special arrangements should be made for proper distribution of these items in the villages. The Government supplies only 5-6 items whereas there are certain other items also which are very essential. These items are supplied by the Government to the people living in urban areas through the Super Bazars. If the Government makes these items available at fair price to the wholesale markets and the super bazars in other places too, then the people living in rural areas may also get all these facilities. The Government should invariably make these arrangements. Hon. Member from the South has stated that 14 items have been decided for supply and the state of

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Kerala regularly supplies these items to the people. Similarly all those items should be made available in the other states also so that people may get this facility. At present the Government does supply pulses and cloth but the essential items, like kerosene oil, are not made available to the people in the villages. Very high prices are charged for these items. The Government should make such arrangements so that the items may be available at a reasonable price. Now the question arises as to how much of the population should be covered under a fair price shop. A fair price shop has been set up in my village. Some times the Government sets up a fair price shop to cover two panchayats with a population of 8 to 10 thousand while some times a fair price shop is set up to cover a population of four to five thousand only. In cities the Government has set up a fair price shop for a ward with a population of 2 thousand only. My suggestion is that population should be adopted a basis to set up a fair price shop. Unless such arrangements are made, this programme is not going to be successful. Similarly there is some bungling in the goods which are made available to the Fair Price Shops. If the owners of the Fair Price Shops themselves will lift the supply of goods, they will certainly not be able to carry them, properly and will have to face difficulties. The Government, therefore, should set up state wise authorities for the supply of essential items. Authorities should be set up at district level, subdivision level and tehsil level. The society should be the authority for marketing at tehsil level. Further if the whole sale stockists at the district level and the cooperative organisation at state level are made responsible for the regular supply, then this programme will surely benefit the people living in rural areas and we will be able to make these items available in time. Apart from these arrangements, the quality as well as the quantity of sugar, wheat, oil, cloth, kerosene oil and other items should also be ensured to all the people. If the population is more and the supply is short then distribution will be disturbed and it will depend on the organiser as to whom to give

and to whom not to give. In a way it will be a preferential treatment. The Government should take into consideration this aspect also.

I would like to draw your attention to another point. The States where the co-operative sector is functioning will should be encouraged and such states where the co-operatives have not been developed, steps should be taken to develop cooperatives. The Government should make arrangements for the supply of the essential items to the people in villages and towns by establishing Fair Price Shops in cooperative sector. If these shops are given to private dealers then there is a possibility of bungling, adulteration and black marketing. Therefore, the private dealers should be removed and Fair Price Shops should be given to the co-operative sector which will ensure regular supply of the goods to the people. These arrangements are very essential.

Besides, I would like to draw your attention, particularly to my own state. Rajasthan is a very backward State and there the production of foodgrains is not adequate to meet the demand. Therefore, the Central Government has to make good the deficit. Rajasthan has been affected by drought during the last 4-5 years and the people there did not get even essential items from the Fair Price Shops during the famine period. Thanks to Shri Rajiv Gandhi that village labourers could get foodgrains with the help of N.R.E.P. and other programmes. Due to this there was Fair Price Shops would not have been adequate. Therefore, an arrangement should be made that adequate supply of wheat and rice could be made to the wheat and rice consuming areas, where there is a shortage of these commodities. If such an arrangement is made, then neither the prices will increase nor there will be any difficulty in the distribution of these items.

I want to submit something particularly regarding oil. Its distribution is improper and when the oil reaches at district level, district supply officers and other dealers indulge in its black marketing. I want to submit, particu-

larly about my own district. When complaints regarding black marketing of oil were made, the dealers were apprehended and action was taken against them because these people used to sell oil in black marketing by adulterating it with substandard oil. Thus the low priced oil which the Government wants to supply them through Fair Price Shops never used to reach them. This needs to be ensured that these items are made available through Fair Price Shops at a price at which Government wants it to be supplied to the people. This way the Government will be successful in policy of raising the people below poverty line and for which the Government is paying crores of rupees as subsidy. Therefore, such arrangements are needed to be effectively implemented.

Again the cloth manufactured by National Textiles and Government owned mills is not made available to the people properly. Gents' *dhotis*, ladies sarees and other such items should also be made available to people at a low price.

However, the items that reach the district level do not reach the block and the panchayat level. therefore, These items are not distributed properly there. It should be ensured that the items which are made available at district level will also be made available in the entire district with the help of the District Civil Supply Officers. If such an arrangement is made, then these items will be available to all the shops in the districts. The low priced cloth besides other items will also be available to the poor people there. It is, therefore, necessary to make such arrangement, otherwise the poor people in rural areas will face a great problem.

My submission is that the Fair Price Shops' system should be strengthened. You have said about setting up of Boards and other such things. The Government is to decide as to what should be the nature of these Boards. It has also to be decided whether the present system is to continue or some such Board is to be set up in the States as well.

If Boards are set up, the people from different fields should be included as the members. Public representatives, producers, consumers, officials should be included to enable people from all shades to be represented therein. This will help in making the items required in the Fair Price Shops available there.

Another point is that the work undertaken by the Government involves comparatively more expenditure in its completion. The F.C.I. procures foodgrains at a price of Rs. 183 and an expenditure of Rs. 50 per quintal is made on selling it. If a trader does undertakes this job he can do it at an expenditure of only Rs. 10-15 and at the same time can earn profit as well. The Governments therefore, should make such arrangements, which are economic and not expensive .

The Government pays thousand crores to the F.C.I. as subsidy but the farmers do not get even the remunerative prices for their produce. It is definitely our weakness if the distribution system is so much expensive . Our arrangement should be smooth after incurring so much on it. If this has proved successful and commonman people are benefitted by it, then it may be called praise worthy. But, it is really a matter of regret that our arrangement is not good even after incurring so much on it.

During my tenure as a member of the Public Accounts Committee, I had conducted a study. The Work charge employees get less pay than those working in the F.C.I. The expenditure is less where work charge employees have been engaged.

Where the work is entrusted to contractors, a lot of theft takes place. They take resort for unfair means and adulteration is done on a large scale. You should think of this system seriously. Are you going to undertake the work through Government officials and F.C.I. or get the work done by contractors? Where contractors are engaged, there is much scope of suspicion and bungling. You should, therefore, evolve a system which could be relied upon and

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where everything may run smoothly. I feel that in order to run the system properly, more fair price shops should be opened on cooperative basis. A system should be evolved all over the country so that essential commodities could be made available to all at reasonable rates. It will be a service to the nation. You are rendering your good service to the nation and I hope that you will continue to do so by ensuring further improvements in the system. This will help crores of people in the country benefit from this system and strengthen their economic conditions. I hope that you will definitely evolve a system like this.

With these words I conclude.

[English]

17.46 hrs.

CONTEMPT OF THE HOUSE

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As the House is aware, at about 14.40 hours today, a visitor calling himself Deve Singh Rawat, son of Shri Vijay Singh Rawat, shouted slogan from the Visitor's Gallery. The Director, Security, took him into custody immediately and interrogated him. The visitor has made a statement but has not expressed regret for his action.

I bring it to the notice of the House for such action as the House may deem fit.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): I beg to move:

"This House resolves that the person calling himself Dev Singh Rawat, son of Shri Vijay Singh Rawat, who shouted

slogan from the Visitors' Gallery at about 14.40 hours today and whom the Director, Security, took into custody immediately has committed a grave offence and is guilty of the contempt of this House.

This House further resolves that he be kept in the custody of the Director, Security, till the rising of the House today and thereafter released with a stern warning."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"This House resolves that the person calling himself Dev Singh Rawat, son of Shri Vijay Singh Rawat, who shouted slogan from the Visitors' Gallery at about 14.40 hours today and whom the Director, Security, took into custody immediately has committed a grave offence and is guilty of the contempt of this House.

This House further resolves that he be kept in the custody of the director, Security, till the rising of the House today and thereafter released with a stern warning."

The motion was adopted

17.48 hrs.

EXTENSION OF TIME OF THE SITTING

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What about extending the time of the House?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): We may extend the time of the House beyond 6.00 P.M

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Before taking up this Private Members Bill, I informed

the House that we would adjourn at 6 O' Clock. Now the Minister proposes that the House be extended beyond 6 O' Clock in order to resume the discussion on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of External Affairs. If the House agrees, we may extend the time up to 07 O' Clock.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right. After 6 O' Clock, we shall take up Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of External Affairs.

17.49 hrs.

FAIR PRICE SHOPS (REGULATION)
BILL *Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. P.J. Kurien to speak.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki): Sir, I rise to support the Bill put forward by Shri Basavaraju. I congratulate him for bringing such an important Bill.

As you are aware, the Central Government is supplying foodgrains to the State Governments and it is the full responsibility of the State Government to distribute it through the public distribution system.

In our country there are thousands of retail shops where essential commodities are sold to the poor and ordinary people. They are supposed to stick to certain norms. They are supposed to sell these articles at fair price as the name itself indicates. They are supposed to display on board the price of the commodity that they are selling. But unfortunately the price of whatever they are selling are not displayed in the ration shops.

Therefore on the question of prices, the retailer or the shop owner can easily cheat

the poor illiterate people in the villages. Secondly, the poor people are cheated in terms of the quantity that they purchase also. In most of the shops what has been sold as a particular quantity mentioned will actually be less than what is mentioned by the shop owner. The poor villagers will not be able to recheck it. Therefore, in terms of quantity, quality and the price, in all these three ways the customer, the buyer is cheated.

I don't say, this cheating is being done with the collusion of the State Governments. I don't say that. But the complacency of the State Government is there. The officials of the State Government are colluding with the shop owners—not only retail shop owners, but wholesale shop owners also.

I here is a kind of vicious circle by which these atrocities are perpetrated on the poor people, on the poor villagers and the illiterate people who are buying from these fair price shops. The fact is that the State Government does not take serious note of this kind of malpractice going on under their nose. Some people say that those in authority or some of the State Governments are in collusion with the whole-sale distributors of essential commodities.

I have heard such complaints in the State of Kerala. When whole-sale shops are distributed by the State Government, especially by the present State Government in Kerala, they give the whole-sale shops to certain persons on a consideration. Because of that consideration, the Government officials are not able to touch that wholesaler. That wholesaler will be in collusion with the retailers and it works as a network and nobody touches anybody and from the retailer to the wholesaler both can resort to these malpractices and the political leadership will be supporting those who are perpetrating them. This is happening at least in Kerala and I am sure in some other States also.

AN HON. MEMBER: Throughout the country.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: It is happening there. Now where does the defect lie? The main defect lies in the fact that although the Central Government is supplying the essential commodities rice is supplied by the Central Government—the Central Government has no responsibility over the distribution system. The Central Government has no power to monitor whether the rice or wheat given to the States is being distributed properly, whether they reach the really needy for whom these articles are meant. There is no mechanism now. According to me, that is the real problem that we are facing. And the tendency of the State Governments—especially in my State, I have seen—it that, for their inefficiency, they will be trying to blame the Central Government. I have seen a number of statements in the Press where State Ministers would blame the Central Government for their lack of efficiency in the distribution system.

I would strongly support the Bill and request that the hon. Minister should bring forward a new comprehensive Bill by which the Central Government will be able to control and monitor the public distribution system in our country. The Public Distribution System is not merely for supplying the materials for certain people. Above all, it has got a certain important role to play. In some areas of our country the food production is in excess and in some other areas there is no food production. In my State of Kerala, we do not produce even one-third of the rice that we need. We do not produce even a single kilo of wheat at all, whereas in Punjab rice and wheat are produced in excess. So the Public Distribution System enables, on the one side, to give reasonable prices to the farmers—where they produce, say in Punjab or in Andhra Pradesh or in Madhya Pradesh—and on the other side it helps to take the rice or wheat or other commodities to the areas where they are needed. So on the one side, it is helping the growers, helping the farmers, to get reasonable prices and on the other side, it is helping the poor and the needy to get the food materials at subsidised rates. Here I want to emphasis one point. We are spending at least more than

two crores of rupees as subsidy for the rice distributed through the fair price shops. But the benefit of the subsidy, which is given through the fair price shops is not reaching the poor. Here you should consider whether the subsidy component should go to all the people. I would suggest that the subsidy component should go only to those people who are below the poverty line. This subsidy component need not go to the people who are above the poverty line. So this aspect I would request you to consider.

In my State of Kerala, there is a Statutory Rationing System, by which the Central Government has agreed that according to the requirement of the State will be supplied without any break. This was an assurance given by the Government when the Statutory Public Distribution System was adopted.

18.00 hrs.

This had been accepted many years ago but over the years what has happened is that—may be due to lack of availability of rice or other reasons—Government forgot this assurance and there have been complaints that enough rice is not being supplied to the State of Kerala.

Sir, Keralites have special habits. They do not take wheat. They prefer to take rice. It is not only Keralites but also Bengalis and others. The point is that even a poor Keralite is not interested in buying wheat and using it because of the habit that he has developed over centuries. They want only rice. Now when you allot food to the State of Kerala you compute both rice and wheat and say so much quantity is allotted to the State of Kerala. What happens is that there cannot be any intake of wheat. Now you allot 1.40 lakh tonnes of wheat and rice together but the wheat component will not be taken by the shop-keepers because people do not buy wheat but you will say that so much quota had been allotted to Kerala but there is no intake. But the reality will be that at the ration shops people go for rice and they do not get rice and they refuse to buy wheat. So on the

one side they do not get enough food material whereas on the other side your officers. Supply an account that so much quantity of food has not been taken. This is kind of a strange situation where you supply and we do not get. So I request you to consider this problem. Please reduce the supply of wheat and give enough rice to Kerala. I have no doubt that you can do this because in many of the Northern States people like to eat more wheat. Therefore, supply of rice to Northern States may be reduced or more rice may be procured from there and this more rice should be supplied to a State like Kerala where there are only rice eaters.

Secondly there is a special type of rice which we call in Malayalam 'iron rice'. It is also called Punjab boiled rice. This variety of rice is rejected by Keralites. They do not take it at all. If you supply Punjab boiled rice then your account will indicate that Kerala has been given so much rice but there is no intake and, as such, the allotment may be cut. So I request you not to supply this Punjab boiled rice to Kerala.

Thirdly I would like to say a word about the functioning of FCI. I have only compliments for FCI. FCI has a large network throughout the country but there are certain areas where FCI is not having depots and godowns. So, this is sometimes creating problems in the public distribution system. In my district, the supply of ration rice to the people is sometimes delayed simply because of the fact that there is no FCI depot there. That is not a remote area. That is very much a central area. But simply because there is no FCI godown in my district, the supply of ration is delayed. I would request the Minister to consider this suggestion that there should be FCI godowns in every district, in every remote district and far-flung areas. Government should have a master plan in this regard. At least in the next Plan, the Government should consider to set up FCI godowns in all districts. When I talk about the public distribution system, the most serious problem is adulteration. That again is coming under the State Government. Actually, what is the item which you

are getting without being adulterated? Especially in Kerala, after the coming of the Marxist Government, adulteration has increased and they are supporting adulteration.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA
(Jaipur): Even politics is adulterated in Kerala.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I would only request you to take stringent steps against those people who indulge in this malpractice of adulteration. This should not be left to the mercy of the State Government? The Central Government should have some monitoring machinery in this field, should have some power to book the adulterators who are actually the social enemies of the society. The Central Government should bring forth a Bill whereby they may acquire power to deal with the adulterators. With these words, I support the Bill brought forward by my friend, Mr. Basavaraju.

If this Bill brought forward by the Member is withdrawn, the Government should bring another Bill by which they can get more control over the public distribution system as well as the power to book the adulterators. With these words, I conclude.

18.07 hrs

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1989-90

[English]

(ii) Ministry of External Affairs-Contd.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we will take up the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of External Affairs. Mr. Jaipal Reddy, are you willing to speak?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY
(Mahbubnagar): No. Mr. H.M. Patel will speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: OK . Mr. Mohanty may speak now.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) Sir, while initiating the debate on the external affairs, I would invite the attention of the House to the new phenomenon relating to the phenomenon of Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi in international diplomacy. The Delhi declaration is to establish a nuclear free world and a non-violent world which have historic significance. The cult of non violence was born in India and from that very land, the call was given to the mankind of the world for establishing a non-violent international diplomacy. I do not say 'non-violence of the world' I do not say non-violence of the world but I say non-violent international diplomacy and an era of friendly relationship was borne on the day itself.

Sir, that call has been followed by the INF Treaty which has helped to reduce the 4 per cent nuclear weaponry. It is being followed to reduce the 50 per cent of the nuclear weaponry and strategic weaponry. Besides that, Mr. Gorbachev has given a call for the reduction of 5 lakhs of armed forces, thousands of tanks and thousands of artillery. This will be completed within two years' time. This is a unilateral declaration and not a conditional one and it does not depend upon the reaction of other countries. So, these are the significant developments of the year. This is a very dynamic step, a positive step, towards creating a non-violent and nuclear free world.

Not only that, Sir, to reduce the regional tension, Mr Gorbachev has taken certain dynamic steps like the Soviet arms withdrawal from Afghanistan. In Iran and Iraq, there is a cease-fire and a process of reconciliation has started. He has also taken the initiative that so far as South Africa is concerned, he does not support the ANC to the extent that it will be a military rival to the establishment. He has decided not to help the Cuba Government in their operation in Angola . Not only that, Mr. Gorbachev also had discussion with the leaders of Israel and

that too not at Gajni but at Cairo and the whole purpose of it is that the regional tension is reduced. He has also given a call not to have any experimental nuclear explosion. So, these are the significant developments and the foreign policy of our country has to be adjusted according to these developments

Sir, this is the one side of the picture. The other side of the picture is very disquieting. I would like to invite your attention to what is happening in Japan. Again, there is the revival of the military regime in Japan. This year alone they are spending around Rs. 47,000 crores on defence. They are supposed to spend to the extent of one per cent but this year they are exceeding the limit. Not only that they have joined the stalwarts like the United States of America in their operation of militarisation of space. The United States and Japan have agreed to police 1000 nautical miles in their ocean. These are very significant developments and I would submit before the House that NATO type of alliance is built up in this part of the world. That is why almost all the countries in this region are thinking of evolving some security system which will be an answer to this preparation. That is why we must also think of the security of Asia and the security of the pacific world. My submission is that the Hon. Minister may please enlighten the House as to what is the thinking of the Government in this regard.

The Prime Minister's visits to China and Pakistan are the two very significant steps on behalf of the Government India and he deserves congratulations for having taken the bold initiative to establish the friendly relations with our immediate neighbours.

Nobody should forget the difficulties that the Pakistan Government is now facing. We wish all success to Mrs. Benazir Bhutto who has been elected to power. Let democracy flourish in Pakistan. But I would like to submit that that the lady has conceded too much to the Army. This is not my comment. Her own brother has commented that Mrs. Benazir has compromised too much with the

army. We must think over this aspect. What are the areas in which she has compromised? Perhaps Afghan and Nuclear Policies are the two areas which have been conceded. When the Afghan issue was discussed, the Prime Minister of Pakistan said in the presence of the Soviet Foreign Minister that they were committed to Geneva Agreement. They were committed not only to the Geneva Agreement but to another agreement between Pakistan and Afghanistan also about non-interference and non-intervention. But, Sir, when she says that she is committed to the Geneva Agreement, the foreign Minister of Pakistan has said, Madam, this is not the Government policy. This may be your Party, the PPP's policy. " So, we must be very alert and conscious about these implications. Who is the Government in Pakistan? Is Mrs. Benazir the real Government there or is it the President? Being the constitutional head, the President can override the decisions of the Prime Minister. If that is the limitation of the Government in Pakistan, how can we have any meaningful negotiations with the Government when Mrs. Benazir is not the absolute authority in Pakistan? It will be very difficult for us. That is why perhaps without her knowledge, the President of Pakistan proposed that there should be a confederation between Afghanistan and Pakistan. That idea will absolutely fall through. Even China could not accept it. Here I would like to point out one thing. China has asserted that they want an independent and non-aligned Afghanistan and not any form of confederation. Nor does China want it to be a vassal of any other country. So, this idea of a confederation would not sell.

I would like to mention another point with regard to non-interference. The Prime Minister of Pakistan has committed not to intervene in our affairs and not to help the terrorists of Punjab. But our experience in this regard is quite different. The Pakistani rangers are aiding the intruders from Pakistan to enter India. This is the information that we received in the press. Earlier, the Government have said they have no information. Later on, they admitted that they

received some information. So, we must take note of this feature too. Though we wish Mrs. Benazir all success, we must be very careful about all these aspects. We have to see how far she can lead the country and how far who will be able to implement her policies. This is an issue which must be taken into consideration.

Now, about China also I would like to mention one point. After the visit of Rajivji to China, Mrs. Benazir also visited that country.

Mrs. Benazir told the Chinese Leaders,

We have traditional support from you on Kashmir issue but it was not applied meticulously. "The Chinese Leaders said that they wanted cordial relationship in South-West and there should be no tension. We should not also forget that the environment of militarism in Japan had created a scare in China, North-Korea and other countries. That is why my submission would be that it is an appropriate time when we have to go ahead with our negotiations and dialogues for settling our border problems. The present problem in Kashmir is also being commented by the Pakistani Army, if not by the Government. So, it is a paradoxical situation which is prevailing there.

Now, I shall come to our another neighbour Nepal. I am not going to speak on that issue very elaborately at this stage because negotiations are going on. I am not going into the economic issues, why the duties charged on Chinese goods are so less compared to the Indian goods and so on. That is not the point. The point which the Government has not affirmatively accepted is that when Pandit Nehru's Centenary was observed there, there was a Photo Exhibition and the Prime Minister of Nepal was invited to that Exhibition but he refused. He not only refused to come there but he also issued circular to other Ministers not to participate in that Exhibition. I do not understand why anti-India feeling is being created there. These are not the good gestures which would promote friendship and cordial relationship. I am sure Nepal is trying to play the

[Sh. Brajamohan Mohanty]

China card which is hovering between China and India. So, some positive steps must be taken there so that relationship between India and Nepal is developed further. There should be a solid friendship and not this type of friendship. We know everything about them—how they have imported weaponry from China which is a clear violation of Treaty that they have signed with India. But still we want a very stable relationship with Nepal. If that is not possible, then we are helpless.

My suggestion to the Government is that we should not concede everything simply because we have to evolve a cordial relationship with them. It must be rationally worked out. An agreement must be rationally worked out which would solve the interests of both Nepal and India. Our security interests must be taken note of. We cannot allow or show our weakness in this respect here. Everybody knows that in our border area, the Chinese contractors were allowed to operate. It does not help our security system.

Then, Sir, I would come to Asian countries. They are very much interested to develop some security system both in Asia and in the Pacific. All of them are nervous because of the revival of militarism in that part of the area. My submission would be that we must cultivate them and establish positive relationship with those countries and should have close contacts with them. The international relationship cannot be divorced from the realities of the situation, i.e. poverty, debt problem of the Third world countries.

The poverty of the third world countries should also be taken care of. In 1986 alone, the world had spent Rs. 35,000 crores on military, on weaponry and on defence preparedness; but that is not a correct figure because many countries do not disclose their correct figures; that is not a very accurate figure; that is an approximate figure.

If we establish peace, if we do away with

mutual apprehension, mutual fear, if we remove the regional tension, then we can substantially divert a very substantial amount on our defence expenditure for eradicating poverty. We are spending so much of money on defence preparedness, whereas the children in African countries are dying due to hunger; they are so poor that it is not possible for them to feed all the people. This is the world we have to face boldly. In spite of our reducing Rs. 200 crores in defence expenditure, Pakistan has increased it. They are importing the same delicate weaponry, F 16 s from USA and China also. These things are going against the establishment of cordial and friendly relationship with the neighbouring countries. So, we must take care of it.

So far as China and India are concerned, where do we stand? One Minister has recently enumerated the position of the countries. Our position is 5th or 6th. Pakistan is ahead of us; other countries are also ahead of us; we are below them in ranking. I think, they should not have done it because India is also a very big country. We desire to switch over our friendship with China to 1950 level. So, in that context, it does not indicate a very positive sign of our friendship; that must be taken care of.

About NAM, I would like to submit that we want a very active, dynamic and vibrant NAM. Where there is a regional tension or anything happens, NAM should take an initiative to resolve it. Supposing the dispute between Afghanistan and the rebels supported by Pakistan is going on. NAM should have a positive role to play. But I am sorry to mention that NAM is not being evolved as a movement which is dynamic, which is active and all that; not only that, it should play a very positive role in the world. The hon. Minister must take note of it.

We are committed to a new economic order; NAM is also committed to it. But we must effectively and positively make our efforts to establish a new economic order which would eliminate exploitation, which would eliminate unequal economic situation

in the world and particularly the injustice done to the developing and under-developed countries for centuries.

And who does not know about the debt burden and how to eradicate it we should take positive steps. Now the entire political structure of the world has changed. What prevents India from being a Member of the Security Council? We are a big State having 800 million people whereas smaller States are there. Even countries smaller than India are members of the Security Council, while India is not. Does it mean that we have no role to play? China is a permanent member, U.K. France, U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. are permanent members. Why not India? Does not India occupy a position to be included as a permanent member of the Security Council? So, my submission is that this aspect of the matter should be taken note of.

With these words, I once again convey my gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister who has taken a very active initiative to establish peace and to fight against all types of colonial upsurge in the world. I wish him all success.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol): Last year was a year of great achievements as far as the affairs of the Ministry of External Affairs go. Of course, right from 1985 till today, in our neighbouring countries we saw many movements, and we had to, at some point of time intervene for the good of that country and for peace in our region. The continued efforts towards bringing the big powers to a negotiating table for disarmament by our Prime Minister, by the Non-aligned Movement, and the realisation by the big powers about the need for disarmament has brought in the INF agreement. The USA and USSR have signed the agreement for restricting nuclear weapons and this has also helped in solving the conflicts in some parts of the world.

The Geneva Accords on Afghanistan, the Agreement on Angola-Namibia and the prospects of a solution in Kampuchea are some of the achievements of last year in the

world arena and our support to the Namibia's movement, Kampuchean movement has also increased.

What the countries in the world in general expect, what we as a democracy expect is, peace, freedom and prosperity for all the nations, and protecting their political and economic independence. Keeping this point in view our Delhi Declaration has become important and the adoption of the principle that a nuclear weapons-free and non-violent existence is the right of every State for political and economic independence has gained importance.

We think of disarmament in terms of curtailing or stopping the production of nuclear weapons. But now-a-days a trend has emerged that some countries are producing other lethal type of weapons, which are chemical weapons. That also needs the attention of the world and the Paris Conference would bring in some breakthrough in this direction.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Has Mr. P.V. Narashima Rao come for the debate on External Affairs or for an announcement on internal affairs?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Both! (Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I said, you came for announcement on internal affairs.. (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): You wait.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: The SAARC Conference in Islamabad has brought out a very good perspective plan entitled "SAARC 2000", And let us hope that this plan, when implemented properly by all the neighbouring countries of this region, will help them in

[Sh. Vijay N. Patil]

their own economic and social prosperity.

The emergence of democracy in Pakistan has also created a good atmosphere as far as our country's relationship with Pakistan is concerned. Not only this, but even the activities of the extremist, we can hope, would be reduced. We have seen reports in some papers that the extremists have threatened that if they are not given proper assistance as they were given earlier, they may start violence in Pakistan also. That itself shows that active support was given to the extremists from Pakistan side.

It is a well known fact that Indo-Sri Lanka Pact has yielded very good results. About four months back, we could see the peaceful elections—North Eastern Provincial Council elections—in Sri Lanka. Although our country is not rich, although we are having poor people, whom we have to help., but at times we have to help our neighbours also when they are in real trouble. Last year, Bangladesh witnessed devastating floods. India has come to its rescue to the extent whatever it was possible and helped the Government of Bangladesh and the people of Bangladesh by providing whatever assistance we could give to them.

Our Prime Minister's visit to China was appreciated by all. We are expecting not immediate results, but a little bit of relief on the Himalayan borders, in the Defence expenditure, in economic and social relations, in improvement between China and India. These are two great countries as far as the population is concerned and they are neighbours. For so many years, we were not in talking terms with China. The visit of our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has shown us some light towards the improvement of economic and social relations between these two great countries.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, last year itself, about four or five months back, we have seen the independence of Palestine. The cause of Palestines was always upheld by

the Government of India and the masses in India. Now that the independence has come there, I hope subsequently our relations with Israel will also improve. There are black dots in our world as far as the Indians who are staying in some countries are concerned. We know that in 1987, one year ago, in Fiji there was a change. People who have migrated from India a hundred years ago and settled there are in trouble. The Government of India has started trade ban with that country. I think, that is not sufficient. On the contrary, trade ban may affect the Indians themselves directly. But we should assert ourselves at different international forums and see that relief is given to the Indians staying in Fiji.

Another very good feature of our foreign policy is that other countries have started looking towards India and their change of views about India is seen from the Official Development Assistance extended by Japan. It has emerged as the largest bilateral donor to India and 87.97 billion yen assistance is given. We see so many joint sector collaborations being entered into. Japanese experts are coming to India and starting industries here. We are not the country which receives technical knowhow economic assistance from other countries. But we are also helping our brothers especially the developing countries. For that purpose, we have the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation. Through ITEC we are giving project assistance. We are sending experts on deputation and arranging training of the people from outside the country, especially the countries of Africa.

We have given material goods through relief supplies to Ethiopia, Kenya and expert assistance to other countries like Mauritius, Kampuchea and so on. To Afghanistan also, we have given an assistance of Rs. 10 crores.

I would like to suggest one thing. As my friend, Mr. Mohanty has suggested, in Security Council we must get a permanent membership. India is the largest democracy. It has got vast manpower. It is being looked

with suspicion by big countries. In this background, we must have our own place in the Security Council. When we decided to launch 'Agni', there was a lot of hue and cry in the big powers, who have themselves created arsenal of nuclear weapons. They are looking with doubt at the launching of 'Agni' missile. It is not a good thing. We are proud that our scientists can do this.

We are the sixth nation as far as the space research or satellite sector is concerned. We are also proud of our scientists who could lead the mission to Antarctica supported by our Government and our Prime Minister. Antarctica is also a new focus for the countries of the world because it has got lot of no man's land. I would like the External Affairs Minister to have this thing also in mind because in future, there is a talk, if the population of the world increases, some may think of going to Moon, some may think of living under the sea and some may think of occupying territory of Antarctica. So, with this background in mind, we should work on that. The External Affairs Minister should also think about this and we should exert our position in the international forums. With these words, I congratulate the External Affairs Ministry for their achievements and support the Demands.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): Sir, I rise to support the Demands presented to this House by the Minister of External Affairs.

This year the most important event in the field of external affairs has been the dawn of understanding and goodwill between the two greatest countries of Asia—India and China. Our Prime Minister's visit to Beijing has been hailed as one of the landmarks in the external affairs policy-making during the year under review and we have been able to revive, if not remind the spirit of those earlier days when Bandung Conference and Panchsheel dominated the headlines of the world Press. Even earlier, savants like Rabindra Nath Tagore through of Sino-Indian friendship and brought Dr Tan Yun Shan from China for starting a China

Bhavan or Cheena Bhawan, as it was called in those days, at Shantiniketan. An atmosphere for the development of Sino-Indian friendship started growing with the keen interest by the late Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru and though there were set-backs in between, especially after the Chinese aggression, yet the revival of the spirit of friendship is an event of historic dimension, and it is in this context that the meeting of our Prime Minister with the Chinese leaders, especially with Mr. Deng Xiaoping, has been hailed everywhere.

The world has turned full circle and now we are waiting for the Sino-Soviet summit in the month of May, which is a further step in defusing the situation and the tension. In this regard, the remarks made by the Chinese leader and also by our Prime Minister are noteworthy. When Mr. Deng Xiaoping held the hand of Our prime Minister for three minutes, the world took due notice of it. He said *Wo shih ni the pheng you, ni shih wo the pheng yu* "We are your friends and you are our friends. Then he paused and asked: "Do you agree?" These words are the historic words that brought a new era into being and with this we hope that the dawn of friendship will further go on and it will blossom into a bright morning in the days to come and India and China, with mutual understanding, would be able to cross the barriers, clear the misunderstandings and dispel all confusion that is spreading from time to time. We cannot be very hasty in the settlement of our border dispute. But it is important to have agreed to talk and this noble task is one achievement of our Ministry of External Affairs.

The increase in Sino-Indian understanding would also help in the reduction of world tension and also in providing more security to Asian nations. A feeling of understanding, a feeling of confidence will develop and in the days to come, our national will grow better, stronger and friendlier. Our hope is that when the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and his counterpart Chou En Lai laid the foundation of a project in Nalanda, called Houn Tsang Memorial, in those early days as a symbol of Indo-Chi-

[Prof. Narin Chand Parshar]

nese friendship. That memorial would also be inaugurated very soon. It is already completed and it will be the symbol of friendship and it will become a light-house from the ancient past to the distant future. Sir, from the wisdom of Nalanda, let us move on to the goodwill between of New Delhi and Beijing and that will be a step in the right direction. Sir, our relations with the neighboring countries have also been cordial. The return of democracy to Pakistan is a step showing many good possibilities and we hope that the Prime Minister, Shrimati Benazir Bhutto, would be able to eliminate the apprehensions that still continue to lurk in the Indian minds regarding the role of terrorists who got training in the camps across the border. Sir, it is in the interest of Pakistan that there is a stronger India and the interest of India is that there is a democracy in Pakistan. Therefore, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Benazir Bhutto, will do well and take a lesson from the past that whereas India has been a democracy all along, since the dawn of independence on the mid-night of 15th August, 1947, Pakistan has had a very limited experience in its democratic functioning and therefore if she was to strengthen the basis of democratic functioning in Pakistan, she would do well to have a policy of friendship and cordiality with India and that can be done only if these apprehensions regarding the threat to our security and the instigation of internal subversions in our country from across the border are eliminated once for all. She has to take a firm stand. Her own position may not be that strong. But girding up of lines on her part will dispel the gloom and bring an era of confidence and hope for the entire continent.

Sir, in Burma, there have been tensions, but true to our spirit of hospitality, we have allowed the persons coming out of Burma as a result of tensions there to stay in the camps of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram. That is the spirit of India trying to help out our friends in the neighbourhood. Sir, about 40,000 Bangladeshi Chakmas still continue to live in the camps of Tripura,

which is of course, a drain on our economy. But at the same time, we cannot throw out these persons against their will to the cross-current of tension in Bangladesh. Whereas the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, had been very sympathetic at the time of floods and cyclone in Bangladesh. We expect that the problem of Chakmas would be solved to the satisfaction of the people who have had to leave their hearths and home as result of harassment in the Chittagong hills and other areas.

Sir, we have had a very good relations with Nepal and we would like that these relations continue to improve. But the sudden insistence of the Government of Nepal is trying to force the work-permit on our own people there, is beyond our understanding when Nepalis in India and Indians in Nepal have been living like brethren and there have been no distinctions whatsoever. This new insistence is the basic thing which has injected an element of tension into our relationship. There is no need to doubt the India's intentions because India has always been helpful to Nepal and so has Nepal been friendly to India. In the days of those troubled times, our late Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, rejected the move to have any kind of exercises which would involve the sovereignty of Nepal and make Nepal a part of India. That shows how broad was our vision and how helpful were we to Nepal. In the same spirit we have been able to help them as much as we could and this is a sign of our goodwill that the Sahitya Academy financed by the Government of India has recognised Nepali as one of the modern languages in which literature is being produced.

Every year prizes are being awarded to excellence in Nepali literature and also Nepali is being taught as a subject of study. So, we regard Nepal as one of our own brothers and there just cause for apprehension in the minds of the Nepalese or on account of any kind of distant or remote confusion that might have been created by elements hostile to both the countries. We are aware that there are elements within Nepal who would not like India to be friendly with them. We are also aware that there are

certain forces there who would also like to create some trouble. But by and large the people of India, the Government of India and the Ruling Party at the Centre are determined to keep the relations on a friendly note and therefore we would expect that the Government of Nepal and the people of Nepal act in the larger interests of the sub-continent and do not give room for any suspicion or create any cause of tension because tension between India and Nepal would be detrimental to the cause not only of India and Nepal, but to the cause of world peace and to the cause of Asian peace and therefore, it is paramount for us to understand this and the Nepalese Government should take steps when there is still time. India has a worm heart, India has an open mind and therefore, we do not want to dampen that spirit we do not want to close that mind on our brethren in Nepal. We hope that the atmosphere would improve in the days to come, as there are reports that Kathmandu is willing to talk to us.

Sir, the most laudable achievement on our part in the realm of our relations with our neighbouring countries has been with respect to Sri Lanka. The IPKF has belied all prophets of doom. Earlier it was said 'Well, Sri Lanka won't have elections to Parliament Sri Lanka won't have elections to the provincial councils and there will be bloodshed.' And the forces which are opposed to any kind of democratic functioning would thwart the entire process of election. Sir, it goes to the credit of our own IPKF, our forces who have had sometimes to sacrifice their own lives. We have lost many sons in their blooming youth, but they have preserved the spirit and the atmosphere and they have been able to perform the task for which they were sent. Elections were held, it was a coincidence, but it was a fortunate coincidence that the elections were held on 19th November which happened to be the birthday of our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. So, democracy was restored in the face of threat, in the face of bullets, the ballot received a victory and this was mainly due to our role, the role of IPKF in Sri Lanka. I know that in Sri Lanka also there were people who

were spreading all sorts of hatred and confusion regarding the role and intention of India. But ultimately the withdrawal of IPKF has started and also the return of Tamils, over 40,000 from India to Sri Lanka, has proved the one point that India is one country in the world that does not want to interfere in the internal function of any other nation, but is willing to stand by a friend. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's clasping the hand of friendship in the case of president Jayewardene is a symbol of Asian unity and fellow feeling that has strengthened the Asian spirit and prevented the people who were having a greedy eye on Sri Lankan soil and wanted to establish their bases on that sacred soil. Again, the words of Lord Buddha have proved beneficial both for India and Sri Lanka as they have provided a bridge in the case of India and China.

Sir, our operation in Maldives has brought glory to our country and all countries of the world have appreciated the role of the Indian Forces in de-escalating tension there and in restoring normalcy. Sir, on this occasion we would pay a tribute to our soldiers for their role in Sri Lanka as well as in Maldives.

Sir, I would congratulate the Government of India and the Prime Minister for the election of Justice Pathak to the august office of the Judge of the International Court of Justice, Hague.

Much against confusion being spread, we have been able to record this victory which was due to us, because the term of our own person, Justice Narendra Singh, was to expire three year later.

19.00 hrs.

EXTENSION OF TIME OF THE SITTING
OF THE HOUSE — *Contd.*

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY
(Mahbubnagar): Are you extending the House?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not yet 7 O'clock. He is speaking now.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN-
FORMATION AND BROADCASTING
(SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Sir, I propose that
the sitting of the House be extended till 7.30
p.m.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: What for?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: For discussion
on the Demands for Grants on the Ministry of
External Affairs.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We oppose it.
You cannot extend the House to announce a
diabolical decision.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: About the
extension, it is the wish of the whole House.
It is for all of you to decide.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I oppose it.

Then I will put to the vote of the House.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: I beg to move:

"That the sitting of the house be ex-
tended till 7.30 p.m."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The ques-
tion is:

"That the sitting of the House be ex-
tended till 7.30 p.m."

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: They want to
announce a diabolical
decision...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister
has moved the motion. It is left to the House
to accept it or reject it. If you are opposing,
you have the right to oppose it. But ultimately
it is the wish of the House that would prevail.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I oppose the
extension.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do you
press for a division?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Yes,
Sir.(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let the Lob-
bies be cleared- The Lobbies have been
cleared.

"That the sitting of the House be ex-
tended till 7.30 P.M."

The Lok Sabha divided

19.08 hrs.

Division No. 3

AYES

Akhtar Hasan, Shri

Ansari, Shri Z.R.

Arunachalam, Shri M.

Baitha, Shri D.L.

Bajpai, Dr. Rajendra Kumari

Basavarajeswari, Shrimati

Basavaraju, Shri G.S.

Bhagat Shri B.R.

Bhagat, Shri H.K.L

Brahma Dutt, Shri

Buta Singh, S.

Charles, Shri A.

Chidambaram, Shri P.

Choudhari, Shrimati usha

Dalbir Singh, Shri

Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan

Dikshit, Shrimati Sheila

Jaffar Sharief, Shri

Jain, Shri Nihal Singh

Jeevarathinam, Shri R.

Jena Shri Chintamani

Jitendra prasada, Shri

Khan, Shri Mohd. Ayub (Jhunjhunir)

Khattari, Shri Nirmal

Kujur, Shri Maurice

Kunjambu, shri

Kurien, Prof. P.J.

Mahabir Prasad, Shri

Mahajan, Shri Y.S.

Malik, Shri Dharampal Singh

Malviya, Shri Bapulal

Mohanty, Shri Brajamohan

Naik, Shri G. Devaraya

Namgyal, Shri P.

Narayanan, shri K.R.

Natwar Singh, Shri K.

Odeyar, Shri Channaiah

Oraon, Shrimati Sumati

Parashar, prof. Narain Chand

Paswan, Shri Ram Bhagat

Patil, Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

Patil, Shri shivraj V.

Patil, Shri Veerendra

Patil, Shri Vijay N.

Pilot, Shri Rajesh

Poojary, Shri Janardhana

Rai, Shri I. Rama

Rao, Shri P. V. Narasimha

Rawat, Shri Harish

Sahi, Shrimati Krishna

Sait, Shri Azeez

Sakargaym, Shri Kalicharan

Scindia, Shri Madhavrao

Sethi, Shri Ananta prasad

Sharma, Shri Nawal Kishore

Sidnal, Shri S. B.

Singh, Shri K. N.

Sukh Ram, Shri

Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati

Sultanpuri, Shri K.D.

Tomar, Shrimati Usha Rani

Tombi Singh, Shri N.

Vyas, Shri Girdhari Lal

Yadav, Shri Mahabir Prasad

NOES

Kurup, Shri Suresh

Panika, Shri Ram Pyare

Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal

Shahabuddin, Shri Syed

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: *Subject to correction, the result of the division is:

Ayes = 64

Noes = 04

The motion was adopted

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1989-90

[English]

(ii) Ministry of External affairs— Contd.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can continue, Prof. Narain Chand Parashar.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): I was referring to the notable achievement of the election of Justice Patlak in the International Court of Justice.

In the various other UN organisations, India has had a very remarkable achievement this year. 1988 was declared as the Year of the United Nations. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When the Member is speaking, don't disturb him.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: It is, therefore, in keeping with that spirit that the Nobel prize for peace for 1988 was awarded to the UN Peace keeping Forces and also the Jawaharlal Nehru prize for International Understanding was given to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Perez de Cuellar.

All these are the steps that point out towards the rich contribution made by India

for the internationalisation and maintenance of world peace and also for the betterment of international understanding.

Look at the contribution of India towards the Africa Fund. Look at the dawn of freedom in Namibia and similar other situations like the cessation of war between Iran and Iraq and the withdrawal of Russian troops from the territory of Afghanistan.

These are some of the hallmarks which highlight our initiatives in the field of foreign policy.

Not only this. Even about Kampuchea, we are having signs of hope and the day is not far off when a solution to the Kampuchean problem would be available and would be found out. It would be with this extended arm of Indian diplomacy that we will be able to solve this knotty problem also. We have been getting cooperation and goodwill from all parts of the world for this. We are sure that this onward march to peace would continue. In other spheres also, we have been making tremendous progress. We have not thought of any aggression on our neighbours but we have thought of extending our technical know-how, expertise to all parts of the world

Sir, look at our rich contributions made towards the development of Bhutan. In the year under review—this year—the flight between PARO and Delhi of the Bhutanese Druk Airlines has started. So, there is an air-communication between Bhutan and India. There have been contributions made by Indian experts in the field of Telecommunications, Hydrel Survey, Forestry, Education and also in various other fields. Similarly, the holding of SAARC Summit has also been a step which has been appreciated all over the world and strengthened the non-aligned movement. The Prime Minister has been moving around the world scattering the fragrance of goodwill from one capital of the world to another. He visited Spain. He visited Italy. Our efforts in scattering the fragrance of friendship with the USSR have

*The following members also recorded their votes for AYES.

Shri Chintamani Panigrahi, Ch. Lachhi Ram, Dr. Phulrenu Guha, Shri Ram Singh Yadav, Shrimati Manemma Anjiah, Shri Mohd. Ayub Khan (Vdhampur).

continued to blossom. This has been done without any kind of reservation. We have an open heart about Moscow. We have an open heart towards Beijing and to all those countries who want friendship and peace in the world. It is with this end in view that the globe has witnessed the success of the policy initiatives taken by the Indian Foreign Minister and his Ministry. Our Foreign Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao, addressed the United Nations General Assembly i.e. the 43rd Session, in Hindi and that is also a very important achievement for us that he was able to outline the various policy initiatives of the Government of India for world peace and for the UN organisations and the other agencies sponsored by the U.N.

Sir, with these words, I commend the rich and commendable contributions made by the Ministry of External Affairs by the initiatives of the Prime Minister, by the initiatives of Shri Narasimha Rao, Shri Natwar Singh and other friends who have been able to project the image of India well across the globe as a peace-loving country well set to launch a new era of hope for mankind.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants of the Ministry of External Affairs. The External Affairs is a very important aspect of our Government. The experts who have got information have spoken on the different aspects of this problem. I would like to highlight one very important aspect of our relations with our smaller neighbors like Bangladesh, Burma and just in population-wise China and Bhutan and such other smaller neighbours like Pakistan. I belong to the North-Eastern region where the insurgency and underground activities have been going on since Independence. The root of insurgency, training and then arms supply is through the small neighbours of these areas. Therefore, it is very important that we maintain a good and effective relation with our neighbors like Bangladesh. Before the 1971 war, Bangladesh was known as East Pakistan. We remember today the role played by Pakistan in the 1950s and 1960s till it became a sovereign

State of Bangladesh in the year 1971 after the war. During those years, the entire North-Eastern area, the backward and tribal belt of the entire North-Eastern area was under the grip of insurgency. Even now they are not free from that. We are using police force. We are deploying the army. We are just using our army in order to control our insurgency. But this area is being surrounded by these small neighbouring countries. They supply arms and also give necessary training. If we can stop this, if we can close these borders on the Bangla Desh sector, on Burma side, on Bhutan side and on China side, we can control our insurgents who are still to be controlled to some suggestions. Both would like to offer a few on the side of Burma. There are some areas and some very important villages between Manipur and Burma where the border is yet to be settled. The ownership of these villages is still unsettled. These are being claimed—by both sides by the Indian side as well as the Burmese side. The practical implication of it as on date is that the Burmese have more advantage. And if Burmese have more advantage on these borders, our Border Security Force and the local police forces get demoralised. This is an indicator that in certain disputed border areas, the insurgents—those who like to escape the notice of our army, those who like to escape the notice of our BSF and local police forces particularly the drug traffickers and the anti-social elements—are building up their heavens. I do not know why such a long time has been taken. We have raised this issue time and again. From the State Government level as well as from the public level demands have been made that the border between Burma and India and particularly in this Manipur sector should be settled so that this will solve the law and order problem and also solve the problem of drug trafficking.

About the Golden Triangle story, I have nothing much to exaggerate on. It cannot be exaggerated. This is affecting Mizoram, Manipur and the neighbouring States. If we can control the borders effectively, perhaps, the entire problem that is associated with drug trafficking will be controlled.

[Sh. Tombi Singh]

We are minimising the danger of drug trafficking specially from the Golden Triangle. So far we have not taken major steps; we have not been able to take steps. The men are big fish in this regard. Unless we settle the border issue where the police forces of both the countries are just trying from time to time to over-rule each other, this will continue. In this regard, I would like to suggest that we can ensure better relations with Bangla Desh. Even now our apprehension is that Bangla Desh is still having certain areas. They will deny it officially. I think, the Government of India or the Home Ministry or the External Affairs Ministry would like to disclose the information on this subject to this House. That is something very important. In the public interest, whatever they would like to say, it is up to them. But I would like to suggest that Bangla Desh is still having some areas, some pockets where our insurgents are being trained and money is being supplied because still some remnant or some hang-over of the old Pakistani tradition is there. This has to be removed. This should be taken care of by just clubbing Meghalaya border, Assam border and Tripura border and connecting it with Bangla Desh with a common border line. Similar should be our approach in relation to the Tibet and Chinese sectors. Earlier some insurgent boys were trained in Tibet and in the border areas of China. They were trained and sent with money, arms and with all the assistance. Now, the locking of the border on these sides has reduced this to some extent. Even now we don't know how many are still there on the Burmese jungles and on the Chinese side. Unless we stop these movements and exchange of training and the flow of arms from these border areas, perhaps it will be difficult to stop insurgency in the north eastern States, particularly in Mizoram, Manipur, and Nagaland.

According to our latest information, some underground organisations to a great extent have become passive and they are just lying low. They were thinking at one time that they were fighting for a lost cause.

During the last few years, a new trend has come and we have heard of the increase of the underground activities in the Manipur valley where one IPS lady officer was killed. These boys who had been in their hide-outs on the international borders have come out. In this regard we would like to appeal to the State Government and also to the agencies under the External Affairs Ministry to use proper intelligence. We don't know the latest activities and the latest trend of thinking among these boys.

Now, elections are coming. Generally during the election time the underground activities somehow get increased. Everytime this has been our experience. This being our election year, proper caution has to be taken and our intelligence on the army front, BSF front and the CRPF and the local police have to be utilised to the maximum extent in order to minimise the insurgency in Manipur and other States. I don't like to spell out about these insurgents; it is for the Government to see. But it is an indication that our intelligence about the movements of the insurgents and about the underground boys have somehow somewhere broken down. This should not repeat and we should take proper care to see that this stops. To this end we have to take care of the borders with our smaller neighbouring friendly countries like Burma and Bangla Desh.

With these few words, I would like to support the demands for grants.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs.

It is not only our country, but also all the Asian Countries, particularly the developing ones, which has been largely benefited by the foreign policy of India that was evolved by our freedom fighters before the freedom movement. While formulating its foreign policy India based the policy on the basic

principles of world peace, international friendship, non-alignment and co-existence. These principles have been accepted not only in India but also by all the countries of the world. For the sake of human existence and at the same time in order to establish it in the country as well as in the whole world, it is necessary that we should accept those basic principles which were laid down by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in Bandung Conference in Indonesia in 1955. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it gives me pleasure to learn that the two super powers of the world in their meeting at Helisinki on 6-12-1987 have accepted these principles, the principle of peaceful co-existence and disarmament. Mr. Gorbachev at one side and Mr. Reagan on the other the fact that we donot accepted the principle of 'live and let live', the principle of peaceful co-existence and simultaneously the principle of disarmament with a humanitarian outlook, it will pose a great threat to humanity. We find today that by accepting these principles the world has been relieved of great tension. While the credit of relieving tension goes to Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru who propounded this principle and included in our foreign policy, at the same time its credit goes to Shrimati Indira Gandhi who gave this message to the people of the world. She made it a campaign and gave this message to all the countries of the world wherever she went that we should make relentless efforts for the world peace. Our present Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi deserves our thanks for his efforts in this regard with which a new environment has been created in the world and which has given new dimension to world peace. The first initiative he took for this new dimension was to establish peace in Asia and to improve our relations with neighbouring countries. It is a concrete step taken by him in this direction. Several diplomats and people in other fields were apprehensive as to what will be the effect of this step on our politics that has been taken by Shri Rajiv Gandhi in his peace initiatives by visiting China and at the same what would be its repercussions in Asia. People were making a big assessment of this more. But we find that it has a continuous effect and with this our relations with China have become cordial. Today the Chi-

nese delegation is on a tour to India and there have been significant improvements in our commercial, cultural and political relations with China. It is a new turn in history and all these credits go to our present Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, not only that, had not we exercised restraints in our relations with our neighbouring country, Pakistan and had we behaved in the same way that was there a few years ago and had we re-acted, the peaceful environment we are noticing today in Asia would not have been there. Our Prime Minister dealt with the situation with maximum restraints. With Shrimati Benajir Bhutto becoming the Prime Minister of Pakistan and that with the installation of a popular Government in that country, our relations with Pakistan have become more cordial. We expect that with the fresh initiative we are taking to improve our relation with Pakistan, both the countries can effect heavy reductions in there expenses on acquiring arms and ammunition and divert those funds proves the fact that our Hon. Prime Minister is confident that it is the result of the peace and disarmament policy that he has adopted. It is definite that it will put its positive effect on our neighbouring countries. We find that our friendly country, U.S.S.R. and its leader Mr. Gorbachev have effected reduction in their defence Budget. At the same time they have effected reduction in their army strength. The people of the world realise today that the policy of peace, disarmament and coexistence being implemented in the world these days has been presented in a concrete shape by India, by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, through the non-align movement.

19.30 hrs.

[English]

EXTENSION OF TIME OF THE SITTING—*CONTD*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN-
FORMATION AND BROADCASTING
(SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the sitting of the House be further extended till 8.30 p.m."

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): We oppose. Why this unholy extension? Government owes an explanation to the nation..(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will put it to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the sitting of the House be further extended till 8.30 P.M."

The Lok Sabha divided

19.37 hrs.

Division No. 4

AYES

Akhtar Hassan, Shri	Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
Ansari, Shri Z.R.	Dikshit, Shrimati Sheila
Arunachalam, Shri M	Jaffar Sharief, Shri
Baitha, Shri D.L.	Jain, Shri Nihal Singh
Bajpai, Dr. Rajendra Kumari	Jeevarthinam Shri R.
Basavarajewari, Shrimati	Jena Shri Chintamani
Bhagat, Shri B.R	Khan, Shri Mohd. Ayub (Jhunjunun)
Bhagat Shri H.K.L.	Kujur, Shri Maurice
Bhoi, Dr. Krupasindu	Kunjambu, Shri
Brahma Dutta, Shri	Kurien, Prof. P.J.
Buta Singh, S.	Lachhi Ram Shri
Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal	Mahavir prasad, Shri
Charles, Shri A	Mahajan, Shri Y.S.
Chidambaram, Shri P.	Malik, shri Dharampal Singh
Choudhari, shrimati Usha	Malviya, Shri Bapulal
Dalbir Singh Shri	Mohanty, Shri Brajamohan
	Naik, Shri G. Devaraya
	Naikar, Shri D.K.
	Namgyal, Shri P.
	Naik, Shri G. Devaraya
	Natwar Singh, Shri K.
	Odeyar, Shri Channaiah
	Orson, Shrimati Sumati
	Parashar, Prof. Narain Chand
	Paswan, Shri Ram Bhagat
	Patil, Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

Patil, Shri Veerendra

Ayes — 61

Patil, Shri Vijay N.

Noes — 3

Poojary Shri Janardhana

The motion was adopted.

Rai Shri I Rama

Rao Shri P.V. Narasimha

19.35 hrs.

Rawat Shri Harish

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1989-90

Sahi Shrimati Krishna

[*English.*]

Sait, Shri Azeez

(ii) Ministry of External Affairs -
Contd.

Sakargaym, Shri Kalicharan

Scindia, Shri Madhavrao

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Ram
Singh Yadav may continue now.

Sethi, Shri Ananta Prasad

[*Translation*]

Sharma, Shri Nawal Kishore

Sidnal, Shri S.B.

Singh Shri K.N.

Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati

Sultanpuri, Shri K.D.

Tomar, Shrimati Usha Rani

Tombi Singh, Shri N.

Vyas, Shri Girdhari Lal

Yadav, Shri Mahabir Prasad

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, where there have been improvements in our relations with China and other neighbouring countries, there has also been some improvement in our relations with the U.S.A. I am particularly thankful to the U.S.A. which has given its assent to supply super computer to us. The talks are on to acquire another computer. It will be a significant contribution by the U.S.A. in the development of our country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, at the same time there have been qualitative improvements in our relations with other neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. The way Nepal has raised a new issue on Indian nationality and the activities taking place there, are in themselves very significant. The relation between the two countries should be discussed across the table. Our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has said that India is agreeable and prepared to hold talks with the King of Nepal on this issue. We also want that in order to

NOES

Kurup, Shri Suresh *Pattnaik Shri Jagannath Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: *Subject to correction, the result of the division is:

* Wrongly voted for NCES

* The following members also recorded their votes for AYES:

Shri Chintamani Panigrahi, Shri Jaganath Pattnaik, Shri Mahendra Singh, Dr. Phulrenu Guha, Shri Ram Singh Yadav, Shrimati Manemma Anjiah, Shri Nirmal Khattri, Shri Mohd. Ayub Khan (Udhampur).

[Sh. Ram Singh Yadav]

boost our commercial and cultural relations with Nepal, we should make efforts to maintain the cordiality in our relation as we used to have with them in the past and there should be no decline in such relations. At the same time we have to see as to how the influence of China and other countries is increasing on Nepal. The way they are acquiring arms and ammunition from China in the pretext of their internal security is a challenge for India. India should always keep a close watch on such moves. The hon. Minister of External Affairs should see as to whether the arms and ammunitions acquired by Nepal from China were actually necessary for their internal security or their acquiring this weaponry is more than the limit of their requirement which might pose a threat to the peace and tranquility of these region. This is a fresh move by Nepal which has created a feeling of great suspicion in India on bi-lateral relations between the two countries. At the same time the Government of the Himalayan Kingdom created an intricate problem about the rights of a large number of people of India origin living in Nepal, their properties and citizenship. All these issues can take a serious turn in future. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of External Affairs that it is essential to hold talks with Nepal on all these issues. I would like to add that our army and our politicians have played an extremely significant role this year. The Commanders and high Officials of I.P.K.F. have done important and glorious work.

19.41 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI *in the Chair*]

The expectation from the army to maintain peace has been fulfilled by the I.P.K.F. In spite of being in a foreign nation unknown to them, the way they fulfilled their duty is worth appreciation. Our politicians have also worked with great patience. We are happy that our relations with Sri Lanka have improved. Sri Lanka too has appreciated the

work done by the I.P.K.F. personnel. They have further strengthened the friendship between the two countries. Therefore, I thank the I.P.K.F. Commanders and officials through this House, for the appreciable work done by them. Besides, our army has done commendable work in protecting democracy in Maldives, which is our neighbouring country. It is very essential to appreciate that as well. We all express our gratitude to the army for making such ideal achievements. Our army controlled the situation in our neighbouring country in a very short time on the basis of information received from there and did not let any casualty take place. This is a big achievement. The Indian Government and our foreign policy has received accolades for this. The Member who spoke prior to me submitted that the main cause of insurgency in our country in that even today the terrorists are imparted training in our neighbouring countries and many kinds of slogans are raised to threaten the unity and integrity of our country. Similarly, people are being trained from Pakistan and sent to the North Eastern States also. The Prime Minister of Pakistan Shrimati Benazir Bhutto wants that our relations should improve. But as the newspaper agencies report, they too have certain compulsions. Apart from compulsions, there are some such powers also which are creating differences. In order to check all these, the hon. Minister of External Affairs needs to be even more alert and vigilant. I would like to appreciate the commendable work done both the Ministers Shri Narsimha Rao and Kunwar Natwar Singh. Within an year the two Ministers have given a new dimension and a new direction to our foreign policy under the leadership of the hon. Prime Minister. Our country's foreign policy is now held in high esteem due to those achievements.

Today, Shri Rajiv Gandhi is considered to be a powerful world leader responsible for a very powerful foreign policy. The policy of 1955 accepted by him has proved to be sound and is in fact the right path for the entire world to follow. With these words, I once again appreciate Shri Narsimha Rao and his junior Colleague Shri Natwar Singh.

The Minister of External Affairs Besides, I appreciate the hon. Prime Minister's able leadership under which our country's foreign policy has got a new direction. I hope that under the hon. Prime Minister's leadership our country's foreign policy will be further encouraged and its new achievements will reach the apex.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): India and Nepal are not only neighbours but have a historical past. The two countries have had brotherly relations with each other. Today, the sudden strain in relations between the two countries is neither in favour of India nor Nepal in any way. Probably, a third country does not want India and Nepal to live like brothers. Therefore, it might be taking some such steps or else trying to incite such elements in Nepal which may flare up the anti-Indian sentiments. I feel that our country needs to remain alert in these circumstances. My constituency shares its border with Nepal. The Nepalese population is dependent on India and the people on the Indian side also are to some extent dependent on Nepal. We also have mutual relationships. But today, it is very surprising to see the way in which the Nepalese Government has tried to twist the issue of renewal of trade and transit treaty and made it a prestige issue. Due to this Nepal and its people are facing a great problem. I have been told that the anti-Indian elements are active in Kathmandu also. These people are constantly indulging in some thing or the other so that India may be provoked to retaliate. Today those very elements are impressing upon the Nepalese population that they should not bow before India at any cost. There is no question of bowing here. We want that India and Nepal should continue to have brotherly relations and talks should be held in this direction and for the renewal of trade and transit treaty. I would like to request you that it would not be in the long term interests of the Indo-Nepalese relations to ignore the recent trends prevalent in Nepal and the way anti-India elements are active there. The Indian Government will have to remain alert in this regard so that those people may not be successful in inciting the people of our

friendly country Nepal. The hon. Prime Minister and the Minister have very clearly said that India is not at all interested in stopping the supply of essential commodities to Nepal. We want that it should continue so that the Nepalese people do not have to face any hardship. But this is not being conveyed in Nepal. The Radio Nepal is making anti-India propaganda and anti-India resolutions are being passed in all the panchayats asking the Nepalese population to rise against India. They are thus spreading ill-will against India. Therefore, it's needs to be closely monitored.

We also need to counter this effectively in the same manner. If we do not counter that propaganda and if the innocent Nepalese start believing it, then it will be neither in Nepal's nor in our own interest. We know it fairly well that some people who actively participate in politics in Nepal and are closely associated with those in power, have relations with China. They even smuggled some arms from China, which is totally against the spirit of our treaty with Nepal. Those very people are involved in smuggling, across the Indian border, the smuggled Chinese goods. They have common interests with the mafia which is active there. I would request you to make efforts to expose all these elements and restore the confidence of the Nepalese people. There is need to apprise some responsible persons, of the real situation in the border areas of India and they should be informed about the intentions of those elements. As such your Ministry does not have any direct connection with the Excise and Custom Department. My submission is that you convey my feelings to the hon. Finance Minister. There is free movement of traffic on the borders of India and Nepal. If somebody falls ill in Nepal, it is not easy to get medicine there and therefore, they have to come to the Indian market. Even if they are taking medicine worth Rs. 20 from India, our Custom Department people stop them. Such incidents are very rare but there is no need to exaggerate them. This encourages the anti-Indian elements active in Nepal.

Please tell the hon. Finance Minister

[Sh. Harish Rawat]

that the officials of excise and customs department posted at the border of Nepal should be courteous and considerate. They should always reflect Indian Government's attitude towards Nepal. There is no need to treat them as policemen.

19.52 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Our Hon. Prime Minister has taken a lot of initiative to create cordial relations among the SAARC countries and as a result of it, we find the atmosphere of friendship everywhere. We hope that this bond of friendship will strengthen in future and our relation in the field of trade and culture will develop more. The people of one country will come closer to the people of another country and there will be peace and progress in all the seven countries of the Indian sub-continent. For this, I would like to congratulate the Government of India, particularly, the Ministry of External Affairs and the Hon. Prime Minister. The long war between Iran and Iraq has ended, but the situation in Afghanistan has taken such a turn which is a matter of grave concern. Fighting is continuing between the Mujahideens and the Afghan Government. Unless this comes to an end, we can not hope for peace in Punjab and parts of Jammu-Kashmir. If this fighting continues there and lethal weapons continue to be passed to the Mujahideens through Pakistan and they continue to be trained in the training camps, we cannot hope for a better future for Punjab because the weapons provided to Mujahideens are being openly sold in Peshawar. In no time, these weapons will reach Jammu-Kashmir and Punjab and will be used against us. The Government of India's stand is very clear in this matter. It wants the Geneva Agreement to be implemented and peace and normalcy restored to Afghanistan. Russia has withdrawn its forces from Afghanistan, but even then the Mujahideens and Afghan Government are using lethal weapons against each other. The people of Afghanistan are fighting

among themselves and they are thirsty for each other's blood. The situation has worsened in Afghanistan, with whom we had traditional friendly ties. This will jeopardise the peace in Pakistan also and the democratic Government will always be dominated by army. The Indo-Pak relations can not become normal the way Shrimati Benazir Bhutto and Shri Rajiv Gandhi want till this hold of army on the democratic Government of Pakistan continues. It is in the interest of India to take initiative in solving the problem of Afghanistan.

In spite of the independence of Iran and Iraq, we can not say that gulf countries are free, unless the Palestinians get their fundamental rights and their mother land back. The whole world has praised the efforts of India for helping the brave Palestinians. All those who want peace and progress in this world are with the brave soldiers of P.L.O. and their leader Yassar Arafat. India has been praised throughout the world for its support to the P.L.O. I would like to congratulate the Central Government and the Ministry of External Affairs for the help provided to P.L.O. India has been instrumental in getting recognition to Palestine in U.N.O. Undoubtedly, the efforts have been commendable. I would like to urge that the Government of India should continue its help to the people of Palestine and to Mr. Yassar Arafat until they get back their home land.

Sir, the soldiers of South Africa are killing the brave SWAPO people in Namibia. It is going to achieve independence very soon. The countries, who love peace and independence and are against the imperialist powers, support the cause of Namibia. The way SWAPO people are being killed is a matter of grave concern. Although our Indian peace keeping force is there with the peace keeping force of U.N.O. but their number is very small. There is need to tackle the problem on a political level also. We have traditional relations with Britain but in a matter of SWAPO, it appears that Britain and West European countries are not very clear. They did the same thing when India and other new born countries were about to

achieve independence. They are repeating the same old story of divide and rule even today. The want to wipe out the soldiers of SWAPO. It would have been good if we could help SWAPO. Till the racist regime is power in South Africa and continues to victimise humanity, no one who loves independence, world fraternity and believes in equal rights can rest in peace. Indian's concern in this matter is know throughout the world. We have made efforts to help them, but most of it is political level. We have not been able to provide material help to them whether it is in South Africa or anywhere else. We are not able to directly help the people fighting of for their independence.

20.00 hrs.

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of External Affairs that India is not merely a country, it is an ideology. All the developing and poor countries and suffering humanity of third world are looking towards our leadership. The Government of Shri Rajiv Gandhi is strongly following the path shown by Mahatma Gandhi, Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru and Shrimati Gandhi. It is necessary to take steps and work according to the rapidly changing environment of the world.

We should provide whatever assistance we can to the freedom loving people Polyzorio and South Africa front. It will have favourable effect on the future generations. The tension in the world is gradually decreasing. We would like to congratulate President Gorbachev of Russia for taking initiative in this matter. We hope that the new Government in America will adopt the same positive approach which has been adopted by the Russian Government under the leadership of Mr. Gorbachev. The developing countries like India will benefit from the decrease in tension in the world. When there is tension in the world, it gives more power to the countries which manufacture weapons and which indulge in politicing.

In this regard, the initiative taken by the Hon. Prime Minister of India is commendable. He deserves congratulations for not

only making personal relations with the leader of different countries but also actively working for world peace. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of External Affairs and the Ministry of External Affairs also for this. I would like to emphasize that the process started by India in normalising the relations should be continued.

Our opposition friends have tried to create doubts in the minds of the people that we have taken the initiative to have friendship with China, whereas it is a known fact that there is a mutual understanding between the two nations. China wants to have normal relations with India and we cannot ignore it, as it is in our interest also. If we ignore it, it will not be in India's interest in the long run.

Mansarovar, in China is a pilgrimage centre for Indians and thousands of people want to go there. Efforts should be made during the talks at the official level to allow maximum people to visit the Kailash Mansarovar pilgrimage.

Negotiations have been held with the Chinese Government to strengthen trade links between the two countries. This should be accelerated. You have given an assurance that the negotiations are progress. We hear the same thing every time. Legal sanction should be given to the trade transaction between India and China.

With these words, I fully support these demands for grants.

20.03 hrs

STATEMENT RE: PRESIDENT'S RULE
IN KARNATAKA AND DISSOLUTION OF
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Shri Buta Singh will make a *suo motu* statement and lay a copy of the Proclamation issued by

the President under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Karnataka.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): Sir, the Governor of Karnataka, in his report dated 19-4-1989 and a subsequent Message to the President, has informed that 18 members of the ruling Janata Dal in the Assembly and one member of the B.J.P. have withdrawn their support to the Janata Dal Government headed by Shri S.R. Bommai. In the House with an effective strength of 222 Members apart from the Speaker, the Janata Dal had a total strength of 111 Members. In addition, 7 Independent Members had also pledged their support to the Janata Dal. This withdrawal of support has reduced the strength of Janata Dal from 118 (Including 7 Independent MLAs) to a minority. According to the Governor, the Ministry headed by Shri S.R. Bommai, therefore does not command an majority in the House. The Governor has also stated that in his opinion there is no other party which can form a Government in the State. The Governor is of the opinion that in the circumstances now prevailing in the States, a situation has arisen in which the Government of the State of Karnataka cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. He has, therefore, recommended action and issue of Proclamation under article 356 of the Constitution and also dissolution of the State Legislative Assembly.

In view of the recommendations of the Governor and the prevailing situation in Karnataka, the President has been pleased to issue a Proclamation under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Karnataka today. The Legislative Assembly has also been dissolved.

At this stage I consider it to be my duty to inform the House of the decision. I lay on the Table of the House a copy of the Procla-

mation. I shall again be coming before this august House for seeking its approval to the issue of the Proclamation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mehboobnagar): On a point of order. First, they did not circulate the agenda. Secondly under Article 356 (3) the gazette notification must be placed on the Table of the House and gazette number must be given. I would like to know what is the gazette number...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: First of all, it is a *suo motu* statement. For this, agenda need not necessarily be given.

S. BUTA SINGH: I beg to lay on the Table.

(1) A copy of the Proclamation (English and Hindi versions) dated the 21st April, 1989 issued by the President under Article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State Karnataka.

(2) A copy of the Order (English and Hindi versions) dated the 21st April, 1989 made by the President in pursuance of sub-clause (i) of clause (c) of the above Proclamation [Placed in Library See No. LT 7765/89]

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: It is a murder of democracy...

(Interruptions)

S. BUTA SINGH :Democracy is being traded on the streets of Bangalore where the people are being bought with the hot money. Democracy is on the open sale in Bangalore *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is a *Suo motu* Statement. For this there need not be

any agenda. And also for this gazette number this not necessary.

20.08 hrs.

The House stands adjourned to re-assemble on Monday at 11.00 A.M

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
of the Clock on Monday, April 24, 1989/
Vaisakha 4, 1911 (Saka)*