

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Fifth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, November 30, 1992 *Agrahayana*
9, 1914 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha meets at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

WELCOME TO THE BRITISH PARLIAMEN- TARY DELEGATION

MR SPEAKER Hon Members at the outset I have to make an announcement

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon Members of the House I have great pleasure in welcoming hon Jim Lester M P and the hon Members of the British Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests

The other hon Members of the Delegation are

- 1 Mr Jack Straw M P
- 2 Mr Robin Corbett M P
- 3 Mr John Cummings M P

4 Baroness Flather

5 Mr Toby Jessel, M P

6 Mr Peter Temple-Morris, M P

The Delegation arrived Delhi on 28th November, 1992 morning They are now seated in the special box We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to Her Majesty the Queen, Prime Minister Parliament Government and the friendly people of Britain

11.02 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Demand of Doordarshan Employees

*81 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE
SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Doordarshan employees have resorted to work-to-rule on all India basis

(b) if so, the details of their demands,

(c) the extent to which Doordarshan programmes have been affected, and

14 1192, on the basis of bifurcation of Doordarshan and All India Radio

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

2 Vertical bifurcation of Doordarshan and All India Radio immediately

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJAVYAS):
(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

3 Regularisation of all Artistes, Staff Artistes including TV News Correspondent, TV Assistant News Correspondent, Assistant News Editor, Reporters, Production Assistants, News Film Librarian and Camera-man Presentation Announcer

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) A small number of Doordarshan Programme Production Staff, mainly in Delhi and Calcutta, had resorted to "work-to-rule" agitation with effect from 12.10.1992 to press for their demands as in the Annexure

4 Special Duty Allowance for all Doordarshan employees in the North East Region Disturbed Area Allowance to all Doordarshan employees working in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern States

(c) While there was no major impact on Doordarshan Programmes, the "work-to-rule" agitation by a section of Doordarshan programme production employees affected some services of social and public importance e.g. the Weather Reports could not be telecast in the original format for some time, Doordarshan's National newscasts went without the visual coverage of some important national events and captions, titles etc. The telecast of information relating to missing persons, an important social service rendered by Doordarshan, was also seriously affected, but the same was restored

5 Time scale/Time bound promotion for all category of staff

6 Proper job oriented staffing pattern for programme production staff

7 Filling up of all vacant posts

8 Staff working in shifts should be declared shifts duty personnel

9 Rational and impartial transfer policy and its fair implementation for Programme Production Staff

(d) Pursuant to negotiations between the Government and the representatives of the employees an agreement has been reached whereby the employees have *inter alia* agreed to suspend the agitation and restore normalcy

10 Abolished and dying posts to be converted into suitable regular posts

11 No victimisation during and after agitation

ANNEXURE

Demands made by the Doordarshan Programme Production Staff

12 Grant of adequate compensation for the staff/family in case of accidental death or injury on duty

Autonomy before privatisation Prasar Bharati to be implemented before

13 All India panel as per seniority for higher training and foreign tours

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Mr Speaker, Sir, Doordarshan was started in 1959 and now 33 years are over. The Doordarshan Kendra in my constituency Bombay has been functioning for the last 20 years. Late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had issued a notification for the bifurcation of Doordarshan and All India Radio in 1976. 16 years have elapsed since then. How many persons in how many categories out of 33 categories have been promoted in the Production Department of Doordarshan and in how many categories promotions have been given more than once? And promotions are given every year to the employees of engineering department after an interval of three years. Then why is the staffing pattern prevalent here not being implemented there?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA) Sir, how many persons have been given promotion, for that I require a notice. It is true that at the time when Indiraji was looking after this Department, bifurcation was agreed upon. Thereafter while examining the bifurcation several difficulties came. The Radio was being developed and the coverage with the infrastructure—both hardware and software as the hon. Member knows—is about 90 per cent all over the country. In the meantime, Television came in and when Television is also being developed there are fifty per cent still remaining to be developed in Television. The position that we are now facing is this that those who are already in Radio and some other organisations are opposing bifurcation by saying that if we do bifurcation then their promotion will be affected for ever because they have developed up to such an extent. In Doordarshan

some of them—not all—are saying that if you do not do bifurcation our posts are being eaten up by Radio people. These are the two things. This is the difficulty we faced. When this was brought to my notice, in September, immediately I formed a committee. A larger group is opposing and a smaller group is supporting. Shri Varadan took charge and started the sittings. At this moment I am not making any comment. The talks with the employees are going on. We are getting help from them as to the manner in which we can settle this issue. I can assure this House that we are looking into the matter in detail and certainly we will sort out, as far as possible, to the satisfaction of this House.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Mr Speaker, Sir, it is unfortunate that promotions have not been given to the employees for years together. I have its record with me. Out of 33 categories 6 categories got promotions only once and one category got promotions twice. Remaining categories did not get any promotion. It is very unfortunate. Mr Speaker, Sir, this bifurcation was done during the period of Indiraji and she said that the employees of All India Radio would be sent back. At least the statement made by Shrimati Indira Gandhi should have been implemented. Why were those employees not sent back to All India Radio? That is why the agitation is going on there.

Similarly, long term casual staff have been working in the Bombay Doordarshan Kendra for the past 15-16 years. They have not been regularised so far. The court has ordered the regularisation of their services but it has not been done so far. By what time Government is likely to regularise their services and whether it will be done with retrospective effect? I request the hon. Minister to reply to this question.

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA Sir, so far as the casual staffs are concerned, various courts have passed judgements, including CAT. All those are being taken into the view of the Government. Wherever it is possible, we are agreeing to the court verdict about various types of casual staff. But where the Department of Personnel or others feel that they will have to prefer an appeal, and did so then the matters are *sub judice*. But it is true that it is one of the demands and the Committee is going into this.

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH Sir, one section of the employees of Doordarshan or the other goes on strike causing a lot of inconvenience to the public. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any effective mechanism to attend to the legitimate demands raised by the employees. I would like to know what are the arrangements existing to keep the transmission of important programmes going on in the event of a strike. I would like to know whether some employees have been suspended and if so what are the charges against them. I would like to know what are the conditions between the Government and the employees for the withdrawal of the strike.

SHRI AJIT PANJA Sir, there is no set mechanism as such to dispose of the disputes which have been raised or the demands which have been raised. As I have already stated, a Committee has been formed under the Chairmanship of Shri Varadan so that the disputes could be disposed of quickly.

There is no permanent mechanism to be set up as such unless it becomes an industrial dispute or otherwise when there is a permanent mechanism under the ID Act. So far as the suspension and charges are concerned, I will request the hon. Member not to press for this because we have withdrawn the suspension order and a good

sense is prevailing between the Government and the employees and are settling amicably the issues. I will request the hon. Member - and I need your support also - that this may not be pressed at this stage.

MR. SPEAKER: If you have replied to one point, you need not reply to the other point.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: So far as the steps being taken, I submit that we are taking some steps so that this essential service is maintained properly. As soon as these steps are completed, I will certainly inform the hon. Members about them.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY One of the demands of the employees' organisation is for implementation of the Prasar Bharati Act. I want to know one thing. Long ago this law has been made by Parliament unanimously. What are the impediments that stand in the way of implementation of Prasar Bharati Act? Otherwise, it will again recur and it seems to me that we will have trouble.

SHRI AJIT PANJA Sir, this is one of the demands, of course. When the Prasar Bharati Act was looked into by this Government, it was found that the Government who got it passed in this House and also in Rajya Sabha unanimously, did not implement it for some reason or other, it was necessary only to issue Notification. Then, Sir, the next Government which came in, categorically stated in a meeting as high as of a Prime Minister that at this stage unless something more is discussed, this should not be given effect to. Then, Sir, when this Government came, we examined it, and it appears the first thing we examined is regarding these employees in All India Radio and Doordarshan. We found that there is a question of giving them option, but after the option is exercised, if a large portion of employees does not want to go to Prasar Bharati, we cannot force them because they cannot be

forced under the latest decision of the Supreme Court to go out of Government employment in view of Article 311. But if they do not go and remain, then they are to go in a surplus cell. But this is such a subject, i.e., radio and TV, that a permanent singer or announcer or some engineer or cameraman, what do we do with them? Sir, these are the details which are being locked into so that for the benefit of these employees they are given facts clearly saying that they are remaining here for this purpose.

SHRI ANIL BASU: Is there any time schedule?

SHRI AJIT PANJA: There is no time schedule given therein, but we have done, so Sir, all the members of my consultative Committee decided that it should be discussed. The Government decided (a) with all political parties it must be discussed because it was a consensus decision of both the Houses and (b) with the employees.

MR. SPEAKER: What did you discuss in the Consultative Committee?

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I am sorry, not the Consultative Committee. This is a decision of the Government, not the Consultative Committee.

And (b) is to discuss with the employees' Association. Sir, I do not want to say what we have discussed, but as the Consultative Committee is very much concerned, I have written a letter to all members of committee including in it the proposed amendment and it is coming up for discussion in this Session period. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM KAPSE: The Doordarshan employees started work-to-rule from 12th October and ultimately they had to go on

strike. I would like to know what steps were taken by the Government in the meantime from 12th October to the day of strike. How good sense prevailed after the strike only on the part of Government? I would like to know that.

I would also like to know how much loss was incurred because the advertisements could not be shown during these days.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Sir, so far as the last portion of his question is concerned, I need a notice because for the question of how much advertisement loss was there, I have to get a notice to answer.

Sir, so far as the demands are concerned, each one was gone into by Mr. Vardan and except those which are not within our control, that means, within the control of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, we have referred it to the Department of Personnel like shift duty allowance. We found that for some category of staff shift duty allowance is required. But it requires money. So, it has to be referred to the Finance as well as to the Department of Personnel because such kind of shift duties are also given to other Departments of the Government.

Sir, so far as the filling up of various posts are concerned, there was no victimisation during or after agitation. We have already issued letters to the authorities concerned saying, Don't take any steps, withdraw the memos because we are having discussion. Therefore, from 12th up till the time even when they ceased work, Government was seized of the matter, but hon. Members will appreciate from their own experience that it is not in our hands alone, other agencies of the Government are also involved, but we are taking it up expeditiously.

En. Tehsil Headquarters with S.T.D.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

*82. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA:
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:

(c) the number of tehsil headquarters proposed to be linked with STD State-wise?

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(a) whether any decision was taken to link all tehsil headquarters with STD by March, 1992;

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

(c) Details are given in the attached statement.

State-wise list of the number of Tehsil Headquarters proposed to be linked with S. T. D.

<i>Name of State</i>	<i>Number of Tehsil Headquarters proposed to be linked with STD</i>
Andhra Pradesh	169
Assam	80
Bihar	No Tehsil
Gujarat	108
Haryana	25
Himachal Pradesh	50
Jammu & Kashmir	37
Karnataka	73
Kerala	02
Madhya Pradesh	245
Maharashtra	193
Goa	05
<i>North East</i>	
Arunachal	No Tehsil

Name of State	Number of Tehsil Headquarters proposed to be linked with STD
Manipur	36
Meghalaya	No Tehsil
Mizoram	No Tehsil
Nagaland	No Tehsil
Tripura	27
Orissa	47
Punjab	No Tehsil
Rajasthan	163
Tamil Nadu	All completed
Uttar Pradesh	154
West Bengal & Sikkim	No Tehsil
Total	1414

[Translation]

KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Sir, how many instruments have been manufactured in the country and how many are being imported to link the 1414 tehsil headquarters mentioned in reply with S.T.D.? How much foreign exchange has been spent on them. What steps the Government is taking to ensure that these instruments are manufactured in the country itself? What time limit has been fixed for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the

decision of the Government to link tehsil, talluka or divisional headquarters according to existing system in different states with S.T.D. by March, 1993. This year we have made S.T.D. arrangement in all the district headquarters of the country up to March, 1992. The Government wish that this facility should be extended to all the tehsil headquarters so that villages may be linked with tehsils and tehsils with the country and the entire world. We will do all this according to the communication policy of the Government. So far as the hon. Member has asked about the instruments, the Government have its own arrangements but sometimes we have to import some parts. Most of the instruments are manufactured in the country. There is no difficulty in it.

KUMARI VIMLA VERMA Has the Government fixed any target to link block headquarters and big villages with S T D and if so by when?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT Mr Speaker Sir as I said earlier that there is no tehsil in some states but only division is there as there are in Andhra Pradesh. Our aim is to link district, tehsil or block headquarters, whatever system is existing in states, with S T D and then extend this facility to villages. But wherever we are providing this facility villages are also linked with it. In this way many villages are linked with it. The villages that come in the periphery of 20 kms are being linked with group dialing facility, but no target has been fixed that this village will be linked earlier and that village later. The Government is thinking to extend S T D facility to every nook and corner and to every village of the country. Wherever this facility is extended we will continue to link more and more places.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI Sir in his reply the hon. Minister said that the Government proposed to link 154 tehsils with S T D facilities in Uttar Pradesh. Jaunpur, Ghazipur and Ballia are major cities of north eastern region of Uttar Pradesh. Old instruments are functioning in these cities. 3-4 years ago in this very House it had been assured that the telephone exchange of Jaunpur would be equipped immediately with new instruments and later on the hon. Minister had said that electronic exchange would be set up soon in Jaunpur but so far nothing has been done in this regard. I would like to know from the hon. Minister by what time electronic exchanges will start functioning in these cities of north eastern region particularly Jaunpur and Ghazipur and by what time S T D facility will be extended in these 154 tehsils?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT Mr Speaker Sir at present I have no information about a

particular district as to at which places in Jaunpur district electronic exchanges are there and at which places they are, not there but the Government is following a single policy for the entire country and that is to set up electronic exchanges only. And now a state has arrived when nobody is ready to set up conventional exchanges.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI I am asking by when old exchanges will be replaced by electronic exchanges?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT Ten years ago people were attached towards cross bar system but now nobody is ready to get it installed. At present nearly 55 to 60 percent electronic exchanges are functioning in the country. We hope that our production will increase this year. The new policy of the Government will hopefully help increase production. It is very difficult to foretell the time by when the system will go 100 percent electronic. Calculations are being made in this regard.

We are fast replacing the old exchanges. So far as the case of Uttar Pradesh is concerned 45 percent exchanges are electronic. We hope that its percentage will go up during the current year. So far as the districts of the Eastern region (U P) are concerned the Government is giving priority to them. Preference is being given to expand the Communication system in backward and remote areas. We are giving second priority to developed areas. This is the policy of the Government.

[English]

SHRI MRUTYUN JAYA NAYAK I congratulate the hon. Minister for such a grand performance by providing STD facilities to Tehsil and district headquarters. Baburia is a panchayat in my district which has been provided with STD and electronic exchange facility.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister, keeping in view the workload working system, the mechanism and the existing demand of the STD whether the hon. Minister will ensure that the system and the working conditions will improve? Is he aware of the financial implications involved and what steps he has proposed to take?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have forgotten to answer one supplementary of Mr. Sonkar Shastri about 154 Tehsils in U.P. to be connected by March, 1993.

[Translation]

I could not answer to one supplementary question of the hon. Member. There are 154 tehsils. The Government has set a target to connect them with STD by March, 1993. 154 tehsils of U.P. will be provided S.T.D. by March 1993.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will it be completed by March 1993?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Yes, it will be completed by March, 1993.

[English]

The hon. Member has asked what are the financial implications and other things. We had taken all these things into consideration. The Government feels that communication is the infrastructure for any other infrastructure; even for industrial growth, you have to have communication. The Government is giving very high priority on communication sector. That is why, this year we have a very big plan for financial investment in the sector. We are aware of it. Let me assure the hon. Member wherever we are giving STD facility in a tehsil, district or block headquarters, if villages also can be connected the same day, we are also following that. So, there are a number of villages which

have got STD facility today in Punjab, Kerala, Orissa, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh. Wherever STD facility could be also given to the villages in addition to tehsil headquarters, it is being followed. I am sure, by March, 1993 major chunk of this problem should be over and we will be able to have STD facility in all tehsil headquarters of the country.

I have also taken a decision to provide STD facility at permanent address of the hon. Members. If the hon. Member belongs to the rural area where he has a permanent address in a village the STD facility will be provided in his village, at his permanent residence so that he can be available to the political executive in the country. That is the criterion we have taken for all hon. Members of Parliament.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the priority that would be accorded by the Government to provide telephone facility to hilly and backward areas? Part (b) - In many areas people were asked to deposit money. They were assured that telephone exchange will be set up when money is deposited. Six years have since elapsed when people from several areas deposited money, but no step to set up telephone exchanges has so far been taken. Will the hon. Minister take the trouble of knowing the names of those places? Will he accord priority to set up telephone exchanges in those places?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that there is too much enthusiasm in the villages to have telephone connections there. We are getting as many as 50 applications for fresh telephone connection from the places where we set up P.C.Os. I agree that we gave assurances to provide telephone facilities to villages and remote areas with two angels in mind. The first was

to expand the communication network and the second was to earn more revenue. The telephone facility will reach villages. The villagers will enjoy the benefit thereof and then its demand will increase. This was the dual purpose of the Government.....

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: The fact is that not even a single telephone is functioning in the villages.....

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: It is the most encouraging thing.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Not even a single telephone is working well and yet he is talking high of their policy. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I have listened to the hon. Member and let me give my reply also. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have always pleaded that there is scope for improvement always. We are making improvements and we will be doing it in future also. It is not a one day affair that all the improvements will be made in a single day. It is a continuous process. We are making efforts and we are ready to implement the suggestions of the hon. Members if they have any in this regard. But nobody will accept that nothing at all is being done in this regard. Now let one go along any road and you will find the S.T.D. and P.C.O. facility. Never in the past it was made so liberal. Nearly 20-22 thousand S.T.D./P.C.O.s have been installed throughout the country. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please elicit answer from the hon. Minister.....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Look, only two questions have so far been answered in 27 minutes. There are other questions also.

Rural Electrification in Bihar

*83. **SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:** Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agricultural pumps energised in Bihar during each of the last two years and the number proposed to be energised during 1992-93;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the target for rural electrification in Bihar;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Bihar State Electricity Board has reported energisation of 5514 and 2712 pumpsets during 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively. A target for energisation of 3960 pumpsets has been fixed for the year 1992-93.

(b) to (d). The Annual Plan Outlays and targets for various States are decided by the Planning Commission every year, in consultation with the concerned State Electricity Board. No proposal has been received from the Bihar Government/Bihar State Electricity Board to increase the targets.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister is very unsatisfactory. The report received by the hon. Minister from Bihar State Electricity Board is fictitious. I would like to apprise the hon. Minister in clear terms that only 10 new pumpsets were energised by March 1992. There is a target of energising to 83 pumpsets by March 1993. 45 pumpsets out of total 1500 under the modernisation scheme have been energised by March 1992 and a target for electrifying 315 pumpsets has been set for the year 1992-93. 548 pumpsets out of

3112 have been electrified under the rehabilitation scheme by March 1992..

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Paswan, mind it, you have to ask question and you are not supposed to deliver a lecture.

SHRICHHEDIPASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am coming to the question itself.

MR. SPEAKER: There are many questions to be asked on this issue. Please come to the question.

MR. CHHEDI PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make it clearly that the reply given by the Minister is grossly unsatisfactory.

MR. SPEAKER: No, you ask question, he is a wise minister.

SHRICHHEDI PASWAN: I am coming to the question. According to the proposal of 1992-93, 788 pumpsets have got to be energised whereas the hon. Minister has stated that a target of energising 3960 pumpsets has been set for the year 1992-93

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow this kind of question. You please come to the question.

[Translation]

SHRICHHEDIPASWAN: I would therefore, like to know from the hon. Minister whether the pumpsets that have been energised are functioning or not. I would also like to know the time by which the set target of 1992-93 will be achieved.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Annual Plan outlays and targets for various States are finalised by the Planning Commission in consultation with the con-

cerned States and the State Electricity Boards. Shri Paswan has sought to know the details of last two years as well as of the current year. The Planning Commission sanctioned Rs. 44 crore and 66 lakh to Bihar during the year 1990-91. Out of that the State Government spent only Rs. 26 crore 41 lakh. The target was to electrify 1500 villages. Only 528 villages have, however, been electrified. A sum of Rs. 14 crores 85 lakh was again sanctioned by the Planning Commission during the year 1991-92. The Government of Bihar, however, utilized only Rs. 11 crore 44 lakh. The target was to electrify 350 villages and 517 villages were actually electrified. A sum of Rs. 22 crore 95 lakh was again sanctioned during the year 1992-93, in last 6 months. The Government of Bihar has utilized only Rs. 49 lakh during this period. Their target was fixed at 365 out of which they were able to achieve only 105. It means that the Bihar Government has not been able to utilise even the plan outlay allocated to them. They have not been able to achieve even the fixed target. This is the situation in Bihar, according to them.

SHRICHHEDIPASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know whether the Union Government proposes to provide Grants for the minimum needs programme alongwith the Rural Electrification Programme, on the lines of the allocations made for the Health Department and the Public Health Engineering Department, under the minimum needs programme. Apart from this, does the Union Government, on whose directions the State Governments implement the Rural Electrification Programme, propose to bear a part of the losses incurred by the State Governments in the implementation of the rural Electrification Programmes?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: I have already replied the question which has been raised by Shri Paswan. I would like to state that the Bihar Government has not achieved its plan target even in a single year, despite the plan

outlay allocated to it, as per its request and also it has never spent the full amount allocated to it. Despite this fact, the centre allocated the amount to the Government of Bihar whenever the latter asked for it.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN Please answer the question that we are asking.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI I am doing just that. Thereafter, the Government of Bihar sought assistance for the Rehabilitation of the deficient *i.e.* for the pump sets, which are out of order and whose system have become defective and we allocated an amount of Rs. 47 crores, under this Head. However, they were able to spend only Rs. 25 crore out of that amount. Now, who is responsible for it? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN Mr. Speaker, Sir, the acute power shortage is responsible for the poverty, hunger, misery, destruction and drought situation in Bihar. Therefore, I feel that the Union Government and this House should give a serious thought to the situation in Bihar. No problem can be solved through allegations and counter allegations. Bihar is very rich in mineral resources and mines yet, as far as I know, no private sector unit is coming up in Bihar, despite the new economic and industrial policy. While the centre claims that it has given and it is giving money to the Bihar Government, the truth is that the Bihar Government is facing a resource crunch, due to which it is not able to set up any new plant. Similarly, there is no proposal to set up any Nuclear Power Plant in the State, despite the presence of large quantities of radio active minerals. The Central Government says that it has held talks and written to the State Electricity Board, but is yet to get any response from them. Through you, I humbly submit to the Government and especially to the hon. Minister, who hails from the border area of Bihar, not to indulge in allegations and counter-allegations and instead give some positive assur-

ance in the House, hold talks with the Government of Bihar and to invite the Chief Minister, if necessary.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER Shri Ram Vilas Paswan ji, generation of electricity is different from electrification.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN Alright, therefore I would like to know from the Government whether it has held talks with the Bihar Chief Minister in this regard or whether it proposes to discuss the matter with the Chief Minister by writing to him and whether it is drawing up any plan to be completed in twenty years, if not five or ten years to improve the present conditions in Bihar?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI I agree with the concern expressed by hon. Paswanji, with regard to the situation in Bihar and I humbly submit to all the hon. MPs from Bihar irrespective of their party affiliations that I am prepared to talk with them, with regard to the situation in Bihar, whenever they desire so. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to inform the House that Bihar has an installed capacity of 1456 Megawatts out of which, the Plant load factor is a meagre, which is the lowest in the country. Now, who is responsible for this? Can the Union Government be blamed for it? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN The Central Government is to be blamed as much as the State Government. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALP NATH RAI I am not speaking on behalf of the Congress Party. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN All the machines in the power houses are defective.

and the Congress Party was in power at the time of their installation. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KALP NATH RAI. It is necessary to give you the information. During the year 1988-89, the Plant Load Factor was 37 per cent, in 1989-90, it decreased to 31 per cent. Then, during 1990-91, it went down to 24 per cent and during 1991-92, it further fell to 21 per cent and at present it stands at 22 per cent. Thus, it has come down from 37 per cent to 22 per cent.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to acquaint the House of the energy shortage faced by Bihar. During 1988-89, it was 5-6 per cent, in 1989-90, it rose to 20 per cent, in 1990-91, it further escalated to 39 per cent, in 1991-92, it went upto 43 per cent and at present it stand at 43.8 per cent. Indeed, the condition of Bihar is pitiable and Mr. Speaker Sir, contrary to the allegations made by Paswanji, had we not been concerned about Bihar, then the Koel Karo Project, with 710 MW capacity. *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell Paswanji that in order to solve the problems faced by Bihar, the Koel Karo Hydel Power Project, estimated to cost Rs. 13 or 14 hundred crore. *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, keeping in view the concern expressed by Paswanji and to solve the problem of power shortage faced by the State of Bihar, the Centre has given its approval for the Rs. 14 hundred crore, 710 Megawatt, Koel Karo Hydro-Electric Project. An amount of Rs. 15 crore was allocated during the current year for the project, but the work is not taking off due to the ongoing Jharkhand agitation in the area. I would like Shri Paswanji and other hon. MPs from the State to see to it that the Bihar Government commences work on this project which promises to inject a new life to the State, with the

money allocated by the Centre, so that the people of Bihar don't face any power shortage at all.

SHRINITISH KUMAR. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are also observing that the hon. Minister is addressing the galleries more and answering the questions less. With regard to the main question pertaining to rural electrification during the years 1991-92 and 1992-93, the hon. Minister has replied that the fixed target has not been met and the allocated amount has not been spent. In the context, I would like to know from him, the target fixed and achieved and the amount allocated and spent for the same purpose, during the Seventh Five Year Plan, when the Congress Party was in power in the State. Secondly, Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will also agree with me that rural electrification is not possible in Bihar, unless and until the power generation capacity is increased in the State. Therefore, I would like to know as to when the hon. Minister will lay the foundation stone of the Koel Karo Project?

MR. SPEAKER. Nitish Kumarji, generation, transmission and electrification are three separate issues. As your question pertains to electrification, you kindly dwell on that.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not have asked this question, had the hon. Minister not made any reference to the Koel Karo Project. Because he mentioned it, I am asking as to when the foundation stone of the project will be laid and also the target for rural electrification fixed and achieved during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the target fixed for rural electrification, during the Seventh Five Year Plan was 72,000 villages and only 54,000 villages could be electrified. *(Interruptions)*

**Film Unit of Delhi Doordarshan
Kendra**

*84 SHRI MANORANJAN SUR
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the film unit of Delhi Doordarshan Kendra has been lying idle since 1982 and the costly equipments lying unused

(b) if so the details and reasons thereof and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government to make use of the unit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS)

(a) Yes Sir. After introducing the electronic news gathering equipment in 1982 the use of old equipment was reduced in the beginning and has been completely stopped now.

(b) With the introduction of latest technology by Doordarshan, the Film Unit is no longer of use of Doordarshan.

(c) It has been decided to transfer the film equipment to the Film and Television Institute of India at Pune for their use for training purposes.

MR SPEAKER Yes, Mr. Sur, do you have any supplementary question?

[Translation]

Allright, if you are satisfied, then I will call others.

Mr. Sur, you can take your seat, please.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI They came to know that this machinery was useless in 1982. Since then why did it take ten years to take the decision to send it to the Film Institute in Pune? That is the first part of my question. What is the total price of this machinery and when was it purchased?

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS The old machinery was purchased in 1970 and the cost was Rs. 31 lakh. For ten years it was stand-by because we were using the new technology and now we have decided to send it to Pune.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA See the total cost of the machinery. When it was purchased, I would like to know whether anybody had seen that the new technology was coming in or not. Looking to this aspect, unnecessarily this kind of equipment was purchased and now it has no use.

MR SPEAKER One minute before the hon. Minister has replied.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA My point is whether any responsibility has been fixed or not.

MR SPEAKER She says that it was a stand-by arrangement.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA It was not a stand-by arrangement.

MR SPEAKER Okay, you can ask the question.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA This obsolete machinery was purchased at that point of time also.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA) It is not correct. Almost everyday in television new technology is coming in. This system prevailing at that time since 1970, that is since the inception of television, was used up to 1982. In 1982 new type of technology came in which is called ENG, that is tape-recording system. When it came in, it remained stand-by, that is gradually the use of this machine - because it was costing Rs. 31 lakh at that time - was reduced and new machine purchased was used. The workforce which was used for this particular old machine gradually was trained up to the new machine and not a single worker was allowed to become surplus or lose his job. Therefore in India we cannot just jump and throw a thing in view of the workforce involved. We have trained them up. Now it has become such a thing that we have to train our people who are getting training in Pune because this can be used in cinematography and other film units. That is why it is being transferred. I can assure this House. I am grateful this question was raised, otherwise it might have been delayed further. But within two weeks' time it will reach Pune or any other unit where such training will take place.

Strike by Indian Airlines Pilots

*85 SHRIMATI SUSEELAGOPALAN:
SHRIMOHAN SINGH (DEORIA)

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pilots of Indian Airlines went on strike during October, 1992;

(b) if so, the details of their demands;

(c) whether the strike affected the Indian Airlines flights causing undue hardship

to general public and passengers all over the country.

(d) if so, the details thereof and the loss of revenue to the Airline as a result thereof

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Union Government to avoid such strikes in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION) (SHRI MOH FAROOK) (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (d) The Indian Commercial Pilots' Association has raised several financial demands and has issued directives to its members not to operate many flights. As a result, some of the pilots refused to undertake flying duties which resulted in cancellation of 283 flights during October, 1992 causing inconvenience and hardship to the affected passengers in different parts of the country. The loss of revenue to Indian Airlines as a result of the agitation during the period is estimated to be about Rs. 3 crores.

(e) and (f). The issues relating to landing and navigational aids have been referred to the Director General of Civil Aviation for arbitration. As regards financial demands, the entire question of pay and allowances for all categories of employees of Indian Airlines for a period of 5 years w.e.f. 1.9.90 stands referred to the National Industrial Tribunal. Indian Airlines Management has also offered to work out in consultation with the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association Productivity Linked scheme of payment.

SHRIMATI SUSEELAGOPALAN: Since the safety of the airport is one of the major

demand of the pilots and it concerns the safety of the passengers, pilots and crew, will the Government give a time limit to the arbitrator?

SHRIM O H FAROOK Sir I fully agree with the views of the hon Member We would like to give the time for the arbitrator for about three months and then try to give his findings over it

It is an ongoing process We are all concerned about the safety of it We will do it in the correct direction

SHRIMATI SUSELLA GOPALAN Is it a fact that there is a vast difference between the salary and allowances and other service conditions given by the private airways and the Indian Airlines?

It has actually provoked the pilots for an action We are not rousing up the patriotism of our employees to protect the interests of the public sector and of our country But we are depending on the market forces to decide the future of the country

Will the Government take a conciliatory attitude and try to solve the problem in an amicable manner without causing more hardship to the passengers and without taking arbitrary action against the pilots?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA) Sir the management is acting with utmost restraint keeping in view the inconvenience that is caused to passengers I think the management has shown extreme patience in spite of many actions which have caused major disruptions

As far as the salaries of Indian Airlines pilots are concerned compared to what generally prevails in the private air taxi operated areas, if you take the salary per hour flown, the management has estimated

that the Indian Airlines pilots get as much as 20 per cent more than the private air-taxi operating pilots

This is because whereas Indian Airline pilots fly between 45 to 50 hours per month, private air-taxi operating pilots are flying approximately 80 hours a month It is not a comparable situation

Airlines management has offered incentive productivity-linked schemes to the pilots Fly more, pay more However, these matters are still under discussion But as at present I think, the best yardstick that could be taken would be the pay given per hour flown In that calculation the management says that the Indian Airlines pilots are getting as much as 20 per cent more

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH Mr Speaker, Sir, during the strike period, in October and November 283 flights were cancelled and consequently the Airlines incurred the loss of Rs 3 crore undoubtedly, there is a limit to everything Year after year, why does the Government of India take lightly the strike by the pilots especially during the peak tourist season and during the Dussehra and Diwali holidays? I would like to know from the hon Minister whether the Government has got any permanent solution to the flash strikes by Airlines pilots or is pondering over any such scheme? The hon Minister has stated in the reply that the Indian Airlines Management has also offered them to link the salary with productivity So, in this connection what is the reaction of the ICPA and what is its stand and also whether the Government propose to take any initiative in this regard?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA Mr Speaker, Sir, it is the stand of the management that indiscipline will not be tolerated and will be seriously dealt with The Manage-

ment of the Indian Airlines had prolonged negotiations with the pilots. The hon. Member rightly said that there is a limit to everything. That's why when the continuous negotiations with the striking pilots did not stop disruption of flights and other hindrances such as announcement of cancellation of flights at the last moment or refusal to fly even after the passengers had boarded the aircraft to cause maximum discomfiture to the passengers, the Airlines Management had to resort to suspension to tackle the situation effectively. In all 17 pilots had been suspended and against 4 action had also been taken after the issuance of the charge-sheets. The Airlines Management has communicated to us that it is prepared to take even the stringent measures but at the same time it is also trying to maintain patience.

[English]

SHR S B SIDNAL: There are regular and continuous strikes going on in the Indian Airlines recently which are totally discouraging the foreign tourists to come in. Is the Government or the management thinking to settle it by any means as these things are happening regularly after privatisation? Are the private people tempting these people to go on strike or these people themselves are attempting to shift from private to public? I would request the Minister to enlighten us on this point.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: As the hon. Member Mr. Mchan Singh has also said earlier, it is unfortunate that it may be a coincidence that every year we are noticing strikes and illegal action taking place when either the *pooja* holidays are on or when the peak tourist season is going on. Sir, you also know it as you yourself had been the Civil Aviation Minister at one point of time. I wanted to respond to the question of Mr. Mohan Singh also on this point. It is most fortunate that because of the steps taken in

the later half of 1991, there is a tourists boom, as far as India is concerned, which has gone up by almost 20 per cent and foreign exchange earnings has gone up by 12 per cent in dollar terms. And I think we stand to earn a great amount of foreign exchange from tourism in the next three to four months. It is unfortunate that that may be disrupted due to this sort of irresponsible type of action which the pilots are taking continuously. The track record is such that I do not think that the pilots need to be tempted or guided by anyone to take this sort of action but it is unfortunate. I know that with the potential that exists in the staff of Indian Airlines, they are capable of making this Airlines second to none in the world; they have the potential and capability but it is the will and the motive that have to be greatly accelerated and cultivated and that is what the management is trying to do. Ever since the new Chief Executive took over in the middle of July, for the first three months, he and his team had put together an exercise which saw very fruitful results. We were operating at almost 85 per cent punctuality which is higher than most international airlines. It is unfortunate that again this matter has come about at a time when the management wants to take a reasonable stand and wants to continue the dialogue and work to the benefit of the staff. Whatever well-being and whatever prosperity that happens in the Indian Airlines, the intention of the management is to see that all sections should share it. It is unfortunate that this attitude has been adopted by the pilots.

SHRICHANDRAJEET YADAV: I share the anxiety of the Minister. Really speaking, this is a serious matter. The Indian pilots are one of the best paid pilots and efficiency wise also they have got a very good record. As the Minister has said, the latest tendency is that they go on strike which not only causes loss of revenue to the Government but serious disadvantages and difficulties to the common people. This is becoming almost an

annual feature. I would like to know from the Minister whether he has taken into account one point. While introduction of new private airways like east, west and city-linked. And I am told that there are many others who are in the queue and they are coming. Is there any other reason for other forces working to disrupt and bring a bad name to the Indian Airlines? I want to know whether this matter has been specifically taken up with the Pilots' Association. They are one of the most enlightened people and they are one of the best paid people in the Indian conditions. So, why are they doing this kind of a thing? I want to know whether any positive and definite response has come from them or not.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I would like to inform the hon. senior Member that the dialogue, of course, is continuous and not only on one occasion, but on two occasions, in fact as recent as yesterday, the Chairman and Managing Director of the Indian Airlines, has once again issued a letter of appeal to the pilots. He has personally written to all the pilots, asking them to adopt a reasonable attitude, to see reason and let the dialogue go on. I am sure, it will come to a successful culmination.

But it cannot be a one-sided dialogue. As I said, the management has offered an incentive scheme whereby they get more if they fly more and work more, as is permissible under the rules. Flying almost at half of what the private air taxi pilots are flying and expecting the same sort of pay, is not a very reasonable stand. But I don't think any extraneous influences are playing a part, though there is a sinister campaign of disinformation that is trying to spread. If there is a little competition in the air, it is not really going to cause any harm. I think it will help everyone and everyone will become more efficient. As far as Indian Airlines is concerned, I cannot see anyone outcompete the India Airlines at least in the next ten years. We have an

infrastructure spread over the entire country. We have a computerised software reservation system. We have offices in countless number of places. I don't think anyone can outcomplete Indian Airlines. If they can, I think, it will be a super-human effort. I don't think there is any extraneous reason influencing the pilots. It is something in their mind. They keep talking about certain financial demands. On the 13th, when there was a discussion and dialogue with the Management, they put forward a long sheet of financial demands, though according to them they did not put it up. They gave this long sheet of financial demands and asked the Management and the CMD to respond within 48 hours! These demands include things like a 200 per cent increase in meal allowance, retrospectively from 1989, an interest free loan to buy a new Maruti, 300 litres of free petrol per month, Rs. 3,000 per month as car maintenance, 300 per cent annuity for medically grounded pilots, and an increase in fire insurance compensation from Rs. 4 lakh to Rs. 8 lakh. And the management is supposed to respond within 48 hours. The management said that it is preposterous to think that anyone can respond to a whole series of such demands within 48 hours. Then came the strike notice at night, slipped under the door of the Chairman and CMD, after the door was battered and bashed open in the middle of the night. This strike notice is again mainly on flight safety methods. Later when the Chief Labour Commissioner's Office asked the pilots as to what flight safety has got to do with financial requirements, the pilots suddenly said, "Sir, we disown that paper, we have nothing to do with it." Yet, it is in the hand-writing of one of the main union leaders, though he may not have signed it. His hand-writing, amending those demands, is there on the paper. He may deny it, but it is his hand-writing. This sort of a problem is going on. Actually, we shall have to come to the grips of the situation. Let the pilots be more reasonable in their attitude. The Management is prepared to exercise utmost

patience and restraint. We want the inconvenience to the passengers minimised to the largest extent possible. The pilots and staff have also to keep in mind that unlike the Air India, Indian Airlines is an organisation, which, may be due to reasons beyond its control, because of ATF increase and devaluation of rupee in July 1991, has incurred a loss of almost Rs. 200 crore. And this year, that loss is cut down from Rs. 100 crore in six months last year to Rs. 60 crore this year. And I am sure, we are working towards a situation where we will get out of this loss. But if this sort of a thing goes on, there is no hope of getting out of this loss and having a healthy balance sheet, where Indian Airlines can stand on its own legs, where Indian Airlines can have confidence that it is giving a good service and where Indian Airlines can feel that it is self-sufficient and self-reliant. That is what we have aimed at and every section of the staff has to participate in this. Here again I must appreciate what the management has told me. May I say that the management has informed me that a large number of staff is highly responsible? They have been cooperating. But unfortunately, if there are certain sections which suddenly go and take illegal action, then the whole system gets disrupted even when the majority is supporting our motivation campaign towards a better service.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. Today I do not want to avail of this opportunity given by you because the Question Hour is soon going to be over.

MR. SPEAKER: If question is short it could be easily replied to within the stipulated time.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of my relations with Shri

Madhavrao Scindia questions can never be short or small.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I think the people of Gwalior have the bad habit of asking long questions.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: And of giving long answers too.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: We learn all these things from you. (Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Eastern Region Power Grid

*86. **SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:** Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Eastern region power grid collapsed recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent of damage caused to the generating units; and

(d) the preventive measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) A grid disturbance occurred in the Eastern Region Grid on 22nd October, 1992 at 20.47 hours, resulting in partial collapse of the Grid. Consequently, power supply in West Bengal (excluding Calcutta city) and Bihar (excluding Western parts) was interrupted.

The Orissa and Sikkim systems remained unaffected

(b) The Eastern Grid disturbance was triggered when the jumper of one of the three conductors of the 220 KV Parulia -Bidhan-nagar (Y-Phase) snapped near the dead end tower of the Parulia Substation resulting in a short circuit fault

(c) No damage to any of the generating units has been reported

(d) The remedial measures proposed include maintenance and upkeep of electrical equipments and protective relay system, augmentation of load despatch and communication facilities, appropriate technical measures to localise the faults such as islanding scheme, automatic under frequency load shedding to arrest fast decay of frequency, installation of static var compensation and power system stabilisers to arrest voltage decay in the event of a contingency

Indian Pilots for Foreign Airlines

*87 SHRIMATI DIPIKA H
TOPIWALA
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the number of pilots who left the Indian Airlines and Air India and joined the foreign airlines during the last one year.

(b) the reasons attributed by the pilots for leaving these airlines

(c) the steps taken by the Government so far to check their exodus, and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken to meet the shortage of pilots in the Indian Airlines and Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). During the period 1.11.91 to 31.10.92, 2 pilots of Air India and 31 pilots of Indian Airlines have left their services. The resignation of two pilots of Air India and 17 pilots of Indian Airlines was on personal grounds. 7 pilots of Indian Airlines resigned to join Air India. The resignation of the remaining 8 pilots of Indian Airlines was without assigning any reason. After acceptance of their resignation, pilots do not inform their previous employers about their employment elsewhere.

(c) and (d). New entrants joining Air India as trainee pilots/co-pilots and Indian Airlines as trainee pilots are required to execute a bond for serving the airlines for a minimum period of five years and ten years respectively. Adequate number of pilots are recruited and trained to meet the requirements of the airlines.

Blast at Kahalgaon Thermal Power Station

*88 SHRI ANIL BASU
SHRI SARAT CHANDRAPAT-
TANAYAK

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether any blast occurred at NTPC, Kahalgaon project in October, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) the extent of loss of life and property as a result thereof,

(d) whether the Government have set up any expert committee to probe into the blast, and

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALPNATHRAI) (a) Yes, Sir An explosion occurred on Boiler of Unit No 1 (210 MW) at Kahalgaon Super Thermal Power Project (STPP) of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in the night of 9/10th October, 1992

(b) Unit No 1 of Kahalgaon STPP was synchronised in March 1992 On 9th October 1992 when the boiler was in lighted-up condition and checking of safety valves was to be conducted the start-up power supply to the station went off When the power supply was restored after a few minutes an explosion occurred

(c) The explosion resulted in the death of 12 persons The loss to property is being assessed

(d) and (e) A senior level expert committee was set up by the NTPC to probe into the blast extent of loss/damages etc and to suggest for prevention of recurrence of similar accidents The Committee has since submitted its report which is under examination

Flights Safety Facilities

*89 SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVIS-
INGH PATIL
SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines are operating its flight to those airfields where certain flight safety facilities are not available

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of those airfields

(c) whether it is a fact that the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association had asked its members not to operate flights from October 15, 1992 to such airfields,

(d) if so, the extent to which the Indian Airlines operations were paralysed and the loss of revenue suffered by the Indian Airlines as a result thereof, and

(e) the steps proposed by the Government to make available these facilities at these airfields?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) and (b) All the airports, where Indian Airlines operates, are equipped with landing and navigational facilities essential for safe operations

(c) Indian Commercial Pilots Association (ICPA) issued directions on 10th October 1992 advising its members not to undertake any flight to any airfields where Visual Approach Slope Indicator (VASI) Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) or Electronic Glide Path is not available for landing ICPA further directed its members not to operate to those airports where Non-Directional Beacon is the only navigational and approach aid

(d) 283 flights were cancelled due to ICPA agitation during October 1992 The loss of revenue to Indian Airlines as a result of the agitation during the period 15th Oct to 30th October, 1992 is estimated to be about Rs 3 00 crores

(e) The issues relating to landing and navigational aids have been referred to Director General of Civil Aviation for arbitration Upgradation of air traffic control facilities at airports is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon requirements and resources available

Prasar Bharati Act, 1990

*90 SHRI RAMCHANDRA GHAN-
GARE
SHRI DHARMANNA MON-
DAYYA SADUL

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the reasons for inordinate delay in the implementation of the Prasar Bharati Act 1990

(b) the measure taken by the Government for the implementation of the Act

(c) whether there is any time bound programme for its implementation, and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJAVYAS)

(a) to (d) Some amendments to the Prasar Bharati Act are considered necessary. Expeditious action is being taken to consult political parties and employees associations on the proposed amendments. Hence no date has been fixed for the issue of the notification for implementing the Prasar Bharati Act.

Production of T.V. Programmes

*91 SHRI R DHANUSKODI
ATHITHAN
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MAN-
DAL

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the steps contemplated by the Government to improve the quality of Doordarshan production to compete with Star T V and other foreign T V networks,

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up high quality T V programme production centres like the Central Production Centre in other metropolitan cities, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJAVYAS)

(a) Doordarshan contemplates to restructure its programmes with a view to bring about a qualitative improvement in the form and contents and sustain the interest of its viewers

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

Blue Dust

*92 SHRI CHANDULAL CHAN-
DRAKAR
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) whether there is abundant availability of blue dust (iron ore) in Deposit No. 14 of the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited at Bailadila Iron Ore projects in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh

(b) whether this blue dust is suitable for the manufacture of a variety of items for defence and electronic industry,

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for its utilisation,

(d) whether any plan has been formulated by the National Mineral Development Corporation for doubling its iron ore production at Bailadila, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

SHRI *ASHOK ANANDRAO
DESHMUKH

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH
MOHAN DEV);(a) Yes, Sir

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(b) Yes Sir

(a) the Sector-wise percentage of cur
tailment in the Indian Airlines flights since
August, 1992

(c) Presently National Mineral Devel-
opment Corporation (NMDC) is producing
ferric oxide from blue dust in a demonstra
tion plant. The ferric oxide produced is being
exported and also sold to indigenous indus
tries. A proposal has been recently submit
ted for availing of United Nations Develop
ment Programme (UNDP) assistance for
setting up a second stage demonstration
pilot plant for the production of ferrites and
iron powder from ferric oxide/iron oxide. The
ferrites and iron powder are import substitu
tion products. Ferrites are used in the elec
tronic and defence industries. Iron powder is
used in the manufacture of auto/bicycle
components and preparation of special
steels. It is also used for manufacturing
some components for the defence industry.

(b) the percentage of decline in profits
thereby

(c) the reasons for curtailing the Indian
Airlines flights

(d) the measures taken by the Govern
ment to restore the flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCIN
DIA) (a) the sector wise percentage of cur
tailment in Indian Airlines flights since Au
gust 1992 are shown in statement

(d) and (e) NMDC has proposals to
develop two new deposits i.e. Deposit 11 B
and Deposit 10/11 A at Bailadila. The Gov
ernment has already accorded clearance for
preparation of detailed project reports for
both the projects. These two projects when
implemented along with the ongoing
schemes for enhancement of production from
the deposits being presently operated will
result in doubling of iron ore production by
NMDC at Bailadila.

(b) Consequent to reduction in the
seating capacity the net loss declined to Rs
5.95 crores in August, 1992 as compared to
Rs 14.69 crores in July, 1992 since the load
and seat factors improved resulting in im
proved financial performance of Indian Air
lines.

(c) Indian Airlines has reduced the fre
quencies of its services on some sectors
effective 1.8.1992 in order to improve punc
tuality, provide stand-by aircraft capacity, and
to send aircraft for maintenance according to
schedule.

Indian Airlines Flights

*93 SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD
YADAV

(d) With the improved availability of
operating aircraft the frequencies of some of
the flights which were curtailed in Au
gust, 1992 have been restored.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Routes	% Change in capacity				
		Aug.	Sep.	Nov.		
1	2	3	4	5		
TRUNK ROUTES						
1.	Bombay-Bangalore	+0.7				
2.	Bombay-Calcutta	+8.3				
3.	Bombay-Delhi	-32.0				
4.	Bombay Goa	+21.5				+16.3
5.	Bombay-Hyderabad	+1.3				
6.	Bombay Madras	+7.6				
7.	Delhi-Bangalore	-16.3				
8	Delhi-Bombay-Trivandrum	N				
TERMINATORS						
9	Bombay Trivandrum	W	N			W
10	Bombay Jaipur	W	N			W

Sl. No.	Routes	% Change in capacity				
		Aug.	Sep.	Nov.		
1	2	3	4	5		
11.	Bombay-Bhavnagar	-28.6	+20.0	W		
12.	Bombay-Calicut		+22.2	W		
13.	Bombay-Nagpur	+33.3				
14.	Bombay-Rajkot	-28.6	+20.0	W		
15.	Calcutta Bangalore	-42.9				
16	Calcutta-Dibrugarh	-25.0	+33.3	-75.0		
17.	Calcutta Hyderabad	-62.5				
18.	Calcutta Agartala	-21.4	+27.3			
19.	Calcutta Bagdogra	-29.6				
20.	Calcutta Port Blair	-33.3	+50.0	-33.3		
21	Delhi Ahmedabad	-25.0		W		
22.	Delhi Jammu			W		

Sl. No.	Routes	% Change in capacity		
		Aug.	Sep.	Nov.
1	2	3	4	5
23.	Delhi-Leh			W
24.	Delhi-Lucknow	-70.0		
25.	Delhi-Pune	-4.8	+15.0	
26.	Delhi-Srinagar	W	W	W
27.	Hyderabad-Vizag	28.6		
28.	Jammu-Leh			W
29.	Leh-Srinagar			W
30.	Madras-Hyderabad	+33.3		
31.	Madras-Port Blair	-25.0		
MULTI-STOPFLIGHTS				
32.	Bombay-Farakol-Bhuj-Bombay			N
33.	Bombay-Raipur-Bhubaneswar-Calcutta	-33.3		N
34.	Bombay-Bhubaneswar-Calcutta			N

Sl. No.	Routes	% Change in capacity		
		Aug.	Sep.	Nov.
1	2	3	4	5
35.	Bombay-Ahmedabad-Jaipur Varanasi-Culcutta	-33.3		
36.	Bombay-Ranchi-Paina Bombay	+33.3		
37.	Bombay-Jamnagar-Bhuj	-20.0		W
38.	Bombay-Bhavnagar-Jamnagar-Bombay			N
39.	Calcutta-Guwahati-Silchar			W
40.	Calcutta-Guwahati-Tezpur-Jorhat-Culcutta	33.3		W
41.	Calcutta-Tezpur-Dibrugarh—Calcutta	-		N
42.	Calcutta-Silchar-Dimapur-Jorhat-Calcutta	-		N
43.	Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur Calcutta	-250.0		W
44.	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal			N
45.	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal			

Sl. No.	Routes	% Change in capacity				
		Aug.	Sep.	Nov.		
1	2	3	4	5		
46.	Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhathi-Guwahati-Calcutta	-33.3			W	
47.	Delhi-Agra-Kahjurahe-Varanasi-Delhi	-			N	
48.	Delhi-Guwahati-Imphal	-25.0				
49.	Delhi-Guwahati-Agartala	-33.3				
50.	Delhi-Goa-Cochin	-42.9				
51.	Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Dimapur				W	
52.	Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Delhi				N	
53.	Delhi-Chandigarh-Jammu Srinagar				50.0	
54.	Delhi-Chandigarh-Leh				-33.3	
55.	Delhi-Jammu-Srinagar				+33.3	
56.	Delhi-Jammu-Leh				N	
57.	Delhi-Srinagar-Leh				N	

Sl. No.	Routes	% Change in capacity				
		Aug.	Sep.	Nov.		
1	2	3	4	5		
58.	Delhi-Jaipur-Jodhpur—Idaipur-Aurangabad	W	W	W		
59.	Delhi-Jaipur-Udaipur Aurangabad-Bombay	N				
60.	Delhi-Nagpur-Raipur	25.0		W		
61.	Delhi-Nagpur-Raipur-Delhi			N		
62.	Delhi-Raipur-Bhubaneswar ^{W,†}			W		
63.	Delhi-Varanasi-Bhubaneswar-Delhi	-50.0			+150.0	
64.	Madras-Bangalore-Ahmedabad	33.3				
65.	Madras-Bangalore-Coimbatore				14.3	
66.	Madras-Bangalore-Goa	W	W	W		
67.	Madras-Bangalore-Mangalore	-25.0				
68.	Madras-Vizag-Calcutta	-25.0				

Sl. No.	Routes	% Change in capacity				
		Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	
1	2	3	4	5	5	
INTERNATIONAL						
69.	Bombay-Karachi	-20.0				
71.	Bombay-Colombo	W	W	W	W	
72	Trichy-Colombo	W	W	W	W	
73.	Calicut-Sharjah		+40.0			
74	Calcutta-Bangkok	-25.0	+33.3			
75	Calcutta-Dhaka	-25.0	+33.3			
76	Colombo-Madras	-7.7				

W: Flight withdrawn

(100% Reduction in capacity)

N: New Flight

(% Increase can not be indicated)

∴ No Operation Blank Space: No change in capacity

International Flights from Calcutta

*94. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR:
SHRI AMAL DATTA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of West Bengal for more international flights from Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The Government of West Bengal has requested the Central Government to promote operation of more flights of foreign airlines and Air India from/to Calcutta. As a matter of policy, Government has been offering Calcutta as a point of call for foreign airlines on liberal terms during bilateral air services talks with foreign countries. In the recent past, E1 A1 (Israeli Airline), KLM (Royal Netherlands Airline), Tarom (Romanian Airline), Balkan Airline (Bulgarian Airline) have been given rights to operate to Calcutta.

Modernisation of IISCO

*95. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the modernisation project for the Burnpur unit of the Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited has been considerably delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the expert committee held any meeting with the companies which had evinced interest in executing the modernisation of the project;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether Japan has recently offered for the modernisation of IISCO;

(f) if so, the terms and conditions of such offer; and

(g) by when the modernisation work is likely to be started and the total outlay involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (g). Though Government are committed to the modernisation of the Burnpur Steel Works of IISCO, no investment decision could so far be taken, basically due to inadequate availability of plan funds and internal resources with SAIL and IISCO. The approved VIII Plan outlay for modernisation of the works is only Rs.300 crores. In view of this position, Government have appointed a Committee of Experts to explore the possibilities of private participation in IISCO/Modernisation and to make recommendations thereon.

The Committee had met the parties, who submitted letters of interest, indicating their willingness to participate in IISCO and discussed with them their approach to the participation; to the modernisation scheme; etc. The Committee hopes to obtain their final offers and evaluate them early in January, 1993 and submit its recommendations to Government, also in January, 1993. All aspects of the modernisation like the scope of work, cost of the scheme, time schedule for implementation of the project, etc. are expected to form part of the offers to be received and evaluated by the Committee.

M/s. Mitsui of Japan is one of the parties which have shown interest in the IISCO Modernisation Project; Mitsui's terms and conditions of participation will be known when the final offer is submitted.

Erosion in Padma and Bhagirathi Hooghly Rivers

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the acute problem arising out of severe erosion in the Padma and the Bhagirathi Hooghly rivers system;

(b) if so, whether the Government have drawn up any plan/project to check this erosion;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Erosion of varying magnitudes at some locations in Ganga (Padma) and the Bhagirathi-Hooghly rivers system has been taking place from time to time. In such alluvial rivers these are natural phenomena being caused by their meandering tendency.

(b) to (d). A plan listing the envisaged erosion protection works at Ganga (Padma) and the Bhagirathi-Hooghly rivers system in West Bengal costing about Rupees 356 crores has been prepared by the State Government.

Fire Fighting Equipments at Airports

*97. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the existing fire fighting equipments provided at airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indira Gandhi International Airport lacks in fire fighting equipments and that the present equipments are non-functional; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to remove such deficiencies at the IGI and other airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Depending upon the frequency of flight and types of aircraft different category of fire fighting services are provided at the airports.

(c) and (d). Fire fighting equipments provided at Indira Gandhi International Airport are functional in respect of safety of aircraft landing and take off, passenger terminals and cargo complex. However, there was an incident of fire in the power house which feeds electricity to Terminal-II at Indira Gandhi International Airport. As per recommendations of the enquiry ordered by the DGCA, following measures have taken:-

(i) Upgradation of fire detection and alarm systems;

(ii) streamlining the monitoring of maintenance procedures;

(iii) provision of more fire extinguishers, new low tension (LT) panels with Air Circuit sheet tops and emergency lights in the power house as well as terminals;

(iv) training and drill of personnel concerned with fire fighting;

- (v) drawing up of evacuation plans for emergencies;
- (vi) posting of an assistant engineer on night shift at the power house;
- (vii) strengthening of fire alarm detection system and fire fighting system at other airports.

[Translation]

New Airports in Uttar Pradesh

*98. DR. G.L. KANAUIA:
SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct new airports in Uttar Pradesh during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the places selected for the purpose;

(c) the time by which the construction work is likely to be started; and

(d) the estimated cost of construction?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir;

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

[English]

T.V. Kendras and Production Centres

*99. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of TV Kendras and

Production Centres in the country and their expansion plans during the Eighth Plan, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate any new media policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total outlay approved for media expansion plans during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the percentage of total expenditure incurred on production of regional programmes to cater to the regional culture and for using best available regional talents?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJA VYAS):

STATEMENT

(a) to (e): At present 540 TV transmitting stations are functioning in the country. Programme production / generation facilities are available at 24 Centres. Besides these, 30 programme production/generation Centre projects and 201 TV transmitter projects including projects for augmentation of facilities in the existing Centres are at present under implementation/envisaged to be set up. State/Union Territory-wise break-up of the above mentioned projects is given in the statement. Locations for establishment of additional TV transmitting stations to be set up during the remaining period of VIII Plan, i.e., 1993-1997 have not been finalised.

2. There is no proposal at present under consideration of the Government to formulate a consolidated media policy.

3. Media-wise break-up of the total approved outlay of Rs. 3634 crores, for the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for the VIII Five Year Plan, as intimated by Planning Commission is as under :-

Rs. in Crores

AIR	1134.95
Doordarshan	2300.00
Information & Publicity	99.05
Total :	3634.00

4. Where it is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to produce and telecast on Doordarshan network programme of local interest and relevance depending upon the programme requirement and give adequate

opportunities to the talents spread over the country, information regarding percentage of total expenditure incurred on production of regional programmes is not maintained separately by Doordarshan.

STATEMENT
EXISTING & PROPOSED TV STATIONS

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	No. of existing TV transmitting Stations	No. of existing Programme production centres	No. of transmitter Projects under implementation/ envisaged to be set up	No. of Programme production centre projects under implementation/ envisaged to be set up
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Assam	13	1	6	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	32	1	20	1
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	19	-	2	1
4.	Bihar	32	2	10	3
5.	Goa	1	1	-	-
6.	Gujarat	32	2	11	1
7.	Haryana	5	-	2	1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	14	-	8	1
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	21	1	9	2

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	No. of existing TV transmitting Stations	No. of existing Programme production centres	No. of transmitter Projects under implementation/ envisaged to be set up	No. of Programme production centre projects under implementation/ envisaged to be set up
1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Kerala	15	1	5	-
11.	Karnataka	28	1	3	1
12.	Madhya Pradesh	54	1	10	1
13.	Madhhalaya	4	-	2	2
14.	Maharashtra	43	2	15	1
16	Mizoram	3	-	1	1
17.	Nagaland	7	-	2	1
18.	Orissa	25	2	8	-
19.	Punjab	8	1	1	-
20.	Rajasthan	42	1	26	-

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	No of existing TV transmitting Stations	No. of existing Programme production centres	No. of transmitter Projects under implementation/ envisaged to be set up	No. of Programme production centre projects under implementation/ envisaged to be set up
1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Sikkim	4	-	1	1
22.	Tamil Nadu	27	1	9	1
23.	Tripura	2	1	1	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	63	2	21	2
25.	West Bengal	15	1	11	2
26.	Delhi	1	1	-	1
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8	-	3	1
28.	Daman & Diu	2	-	-	-
29.	Pondicherry	4	1	2	-
30.	Lakshadweep Islands	9	-	-	-

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	No. of existing TV transmitting Stations	No. of existing Programme production centres	No. of transmitter Projects under implementation/ envisaged to be set up	No. of Programme production centre projects under implementation/ envisaged to be set up
1	2	3	4	5	6
31.	Chandigarh	1	-	-	1
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	-	-	-
		540	24	201	*30

*This includes 8 Programme Production/Generation Centres where studio facilities are under augmentation.

[Translation]

Air Routes in Rajasthan

100. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to introduce new air-routes in Rajasthan;

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

(c) whether the Government of Rajasthan has requested the Union Government for introducing air-services on Bombay-Surat-Sirohi-Bhilwara-Jaipur-Ahmedabad, Delhi-Jhunjhunu-Bikaner-Jaisalmer-Jodhpur, Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer and Udaipur-Ahmedabad-Bombay routes; and

(d) if so, decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Indian Airlines has conducted a survey on introducing its services between Udaipur and Ahmedabad.

(c) The Government of Rajasthan has suggested setting up of a feeder airlines either in the public or in the private sector for linking places like Jaipur-Jodhpur-Udaipur-Jaisalmer, Kota and Bikaner.

(d) Government do not propose to set up any such feeder airline in the public sector. Air taxi operators are free to operate to any station open for scheduled operations.

[English]

Import of Steel

921. SHRI JAY MUKHOPADYAY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state to

total import of useable steel during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHANDEV): The quantity of saleable steel imported during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Quantity
1989-90	1.47 Million Tonnes
1990-91	1.28 Million Tonnes
1991-92	1.04 Million Tonnes

NB: Imports from major ports only.

Cost Escalation for Power Projects

922. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power sector facing cost escalation by 77.6 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of power projects which are facing this cost escalation;

(d) the original estimated cost and the escalated cost of these power projects; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the escalation in cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) to (d). Out of 144 sanctioned/ongoing power generation projects 138 are facing cost escalation. The original estimated cost of these projects is 40,850.68 crores and the latest estimated cost of these projects is

78,774.74 crores. The cost escalation is mainly on account of delay in obtaining statutory clearances, financial constraints and general inflation along with time over-runs in the commissioning of these projects.

(e) The monitoring of these projects has been considerably stepped up. To closely monitor the various activities of the projects, the Department of Power and CEA are holding meetings regularly with the project authorities, major contractors, equipment suppliers and manufacturers to overcome constraints and identify corrective measures.

[*Translation*]

Sanctioned Posts in Bokaro Steel Plant

923. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the cadre-wise number of sanctioned posts and actual strength in technical and non-technical cadres in Class I, II, III and IV, respectively in Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) the number of sanctioned posts and actual strength of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and general category out of them in each cadre; and

(c) the cadre-wise details of the reserved posts for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which are lying vacant and by when these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The cadre-wise number of sanctioned posts and actual strength in technical and non-technical cadres in Bokaro Steel Plant as on 31.3.1992 is as under:

Group	Sanctioned Post	Actual Strength				Total
		Technical		Non-Technical		
		3	4	5	6	
1	2					5
A (Other than EO, EI)	3439	2615	824			3439
EO, EI	1404	1080	319			1379
B	6850	4275	2575			6850
C (Exclusive Sweepers)	35709	30152	5582			35734
Sweepers only	939		939			939
Total:	48341	38102	10239			48341

(b) The number of sanctioned posts and actual strength of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and general category as on 31.3.1991 is as under:-

Cadre-wise Sanctioned Posts

Group	Total No.	Gen. Categ.	Sc	St.	Gen. Categeg.	Sc	St
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
"A" (Other than EO&E)	3439	2615	-	-	824	-	-
EO EI	1404	843	162	80	248	47	24
"B"	6850	3314	641	320	1996	386	193
"C" Excl. Sweepers	35709	23322	4519	2286	4327	837	418
Sweepers	939	-	-	-	729	140	70
Total:	48341	38094	5322	2686	8124	1410	705

Cadre-wise Actual Strength

Group	Total No. of Actual Strength	Technical					Non-Technical			
		Gen. Categ.		Sc	St	5	Gen. Categ.		Sc	St
		3	4				6	7		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
"A" (Other than EO, EI)	3439	2526	59	30	791	13	20			
EO EI	1404	926	89	45	262	35	22			
"B"	6850	3973	196	106	2299	77	199			
"C" Excl. Sweepers	35009	22637	4275	3240	3851	822	909			
Sweepers Only	939	-	-	-	19	786	134			
Total	30062	4619	3421	7222	1733	1284				

(c) The Cadre-wise details of the reserved posts for SC/ST as lying vacant as on 31.3.1992 are given below

Group	No. of Reserved Posts Lying Vacant									(Shortfall)
	Technical			Non-Technical			Non-Technical			
	Sc	St	St	Sc	St	St	Sc	St	St	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	9	
A (E/O/E-I)*	162	80	47	24	14	5	-	-	-	
B	641	320	386	193	445	214	309	-	-	
C (Excluding Sweepers)	4519	2286	837	418	244	-	15	-	-	
Sweepers Only	-	-	140	70	-	-	-	-	-	
Total:		5322	2686	1410	705	703	219	324		

The position with regard to the filling up of the above vacant posts of SC/ST is given below group-wise:

Group

A - (I)

(II)

B-

C-

Position

Around 50% of the shortfall is likely to be covered by promotions to the lowest rank of this group which are expected by 1993.
 The rest of the vacant posts are likely to be filled-up gradually over the period of next 3 years by way of recruitment promotions.
 There is no lateral entry to this group. Filling-up of all the vacant posts in this group which has to be by way of promotions only are likely to take a few years and a realistic estimate of time cannot be given at this stage.
 The vacant posts in this group is expected to be filled up by next 3 years by way of recruitment of SC/ST candidates exclusively.
 Reservation for Group "A" for SC/ST is applicable for the first level of Executive position at EO/E1 grade. Reservation for SC/ST does not apply to other grades.

[English]

Curtailment in Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati flights

924. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati is the only airlink between North Bengal and Delhi; and

(b) if so, the reasons for curtailing the number of flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati is the only direct airlink between North Bengal and Delhi.

(b) The frequencies of some of the Indian Airlines flights (including Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati) were reduced with a view to improve reliability of services by providing standby capacity and also for meeting maintenance requirements

Telefilm on Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel

925. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to produce and release a telefilm on the life of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be released?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJAVYAS): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present

(b) Does not arise.

Performance of Bokaro Steel Plant

[Translation]

926. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Laparwahi Ke Karan Machine Barbad" appearing in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated September 29, 1992; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. SAIL has reported that proper attention is being given to machinery in the Bokaro Steel Plant. There is also no report of damage of any equipment in the absence of proper care.

The procurement of machinery is being done after due scrutiny and justification. These machines are kept in stores with proper care and issued as per the need of the various departments. In the Plant Design Department in Works Division, Computer Aided Drafting machine is being used regularly.

All the equipment/spares received are stored in sheds or as per storage requirement. From time to time reconserveration is also undertaken to protect and preserve the material.

[English]

Guidelines for STD/ISD/PCO Telephones

927. SHRI SHRAVANKUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been laid down for issuing permits or licences for STD/ISD/PCO telephones; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Public Telephones are allotted to those who volunteer, subject to technical feasibility and completion of departmental formalities under the franchise scheme. One applicant is provided with only one Public Telephone of each type.

As per the present policy, preference is given to Handicapped persons, Ex-service-men/Retired staff of Department of Telecom, Women (educated and unemployed), SC/ST and other weaker sections of society. The allottee has to procure Public Telephone Equipment on his own. No. rental or installation fee is charged but the hirer has to guarantee a minimum monthly revenue of Rs.1600/- and deposit a minimum security of Rs.9600/- for STD/ISD payphone and is eligible for a commission of 20 paise per call for first 10,000 calls and 10 paise per call beyond 10,000 calls. For a local PCO, the commission payable is 40 paise per call. There is a monthly guaranteed minimum charge for 500 call units.

Sharing of Yamuna Water

928. SHRI KALKA DAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inter-State meeting to discuss the sharing of Yamuna water and other connected issues was recently held in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir. The last meeting on the series of inter-State meetings convened to discuss issues regarding sharing of Yamuna waters was held on 19th July, 1992.

(b) Further discussion on the construction of proposed Renuka Dam, parallel channel for Delhi, Hathnikund Barrage, Kishau dam and on the matters concerning apportionment of Yamuna waters for drinking water purpose took place in this meeting. There was broad consensus of approach between the States practically on all the associated issues. As per the decision taken in this meeting Chairman, Central Water Commission held a meeting with the Technical Officers of the basin States on 29.7.92 for sorting out some of the gaps in the information and data and to re-assess carefully the figures of use and availability of water from the Yamuna river upto Okhla. Based on this report, a proposal allocating the available Yamuna Water amongst the basin States was formulated and circulated to all the basin States for their consideration.

These issues will be further discussed in the next inter-State meeting.

[Translation]

Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957

929. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

★ THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c). The Government is considering amendment of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 taking into account the proposals received from various State Governments/ Union Territories, Federation of Mining Associations and the Mining Industry and in the wake of statement on Industrial policy, 1991. Amongst the proposals being considered are changes in the eligibility of corporate bodies for prospecting licences and mining leases; in the period of mining leases (ML)/prospecting licences (PL); revision of the First Schedule of the Act which specifies the list of minerals in respect of which prior approval of Central Government is required before grant or renewal of ML/PI; certain other amendments to remove any ambiguity in the Act and make its implementation more effective.

<i>Cadre</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>SC</i>	<i>ST</i>
1. Operator	3923	751	127
2. Supervisor	363	66	18

(b) The officials in telephone operators and supervisory cadres are in excess than the required representations in SC category but there is a shortfall in case of ST category. However, the combined representation of SC/ST i.e. 22.1/2% is fully met with.

(c) There is surplus staff in the cadre of Telephone operators and therefore there is no recruitment in this cadre.

[English]

Telephone Operators in M.T.N.L., Delhi

930. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEER-APPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of SC/ST telephone operators and supervisors in MTNL in Delhi with reference to total number in these categories of posts;

(b) whether these are according to the sanctioned strength as for reservation orders for SC/ST; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to fill up the backlog?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The number of SC/ST telephone operators and supervisors in MTNL Delhi is as follows:

Privatisation of ITDC Hotels

931. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from hotel industry against the move to offer certain India Tourism Development Corporation hotels to international hotel chains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). A number of requests have been received from Indian hotel chains to participate in a scheme whereby small groups of ITDC hotels would be formed for the purpose of developing them as joint ventures with leading foreign hotel chains.

(c) The reasons for inviting foreign international chains for setting up of joint ventures of ITDC hotels are as follows:-

(i) The equity participation by foreign international chains would bring foreign exchange to the country.

(ii) Their coming to India would create healthier competition amongst the hotel industry.

(iii) The presence of international hotel chains in India would help in making available a large international marketing network thereby increasing tourist to India.

Second Channel for Doordarshan In Orissa

932. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand for second channel of Doordarshan at Bhubaneswar in Orissa where T.V. studio complex is nearing completion;

(b) whether the Government propose to start second channel in the first year of Eighth plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir. Representation has been received from time to time for the establishment of "second channel" facilities at Bhubaneswar where TV studio Centre has recently been commissioned. The entire State of Orissa has been given Regional Satellite Channel from September, 1991.

(b) to (d). The Eighth Plan proposals of Doordarshan do not include provisions for the introduction of "second channel" service from any Doordarshan Kendra in the country as the same was earlier introduced at all the metropolitan cities and was also envisaged at some other cities. Orissa is one of such States where satellite derived Regional TV Service has been provided which is relayed by all the TV transmitters in the State.

Losses in Hindustan Steel Works Construction Company Limited

933. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Company Limited (HSCL) is incurring/recurring losses;

(b) whether the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Company Limited is unable to cope with the competition from other Companies;

(c) if so, the steps being taken to reduce the losses; and

(d) the reasons for mounting losses?

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

(b) to (d). HSCL has to face stiff competition from private sector construction companies. Substantial loss in Libyan operations, severe competition in obtaining orders for new works, pressure on margins, increase in establishment costs are adversely affecting the financial position of the company. The Company is making efforts to identify jobs to be taken up on a sustained basis in the steel sector, reduction in establishment cost and improvement in efficiency of manpower.

[*Translation*]

Darbhanga Airport

934. SHRI BHOGEN DRA JHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the total area of the airport at Darbhanga in Bihar and the purpose for which it was constructed;

(b) whether there is any proposal to start air services between Calcutta-Darbhanga-Janakpur-kathmandu and Delhi-Varanasi-Darbhanga-Bagdogra;

(c) whether there is any proposal to close down the Darbhanga airport; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The airport at Darbhanga belongs to Indian Air Force and has a runway dimension of 9000 ft x 150 ft. It was constructed for defence purposes.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). The airport has not been opened for civil flights so far.

[*English*]

Purchase of Power from Nepal and Bhutan

935. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power is being purchased from Nepal and Bhutan:

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of such purchase;

(c) the quantity of power purchased during 1992-93 and likely to be purchased during 1992-93;

(d) the names of States/districts which are being supplied power wholly or partially from this foreign origin; and

(e) the distribution of power purchased among the States/ districts concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India and Nepal have agreed to exchange power at the following tariff w.e.f. 1.1.1988:-

From January 1, 1988	82 Indian paise per unit
January 1, 1989	90 Indian paise per unit
January 1, 1990 onwards:	An increase of 8.5% per year on the tariff applicable in the previous year. The tariff would be reviewed after five years from 1st January, 1988.

The above tariff is at 33 KV supply. For 11 KV supply, a surcharge of 7.5% would apply and for supply at 132 KV a rebate of 7.5% is admissible. India is purchasing power from Ghukha Hydro-electric Project of Bhutan at a flat rate of 27 paise per unit.

(c) India received 88.10 Million Units of energy from Nepal and 1431 Million Units from Bhutan during 1991-92. The availability of power during 1992-93 from Nepal and Bhutan would depend upon the availability of surplus power in Nepal & Bhutan for

export to India after meeting their own demand.

(d) and (e). Power is being received from Nepal at Ramanagar, Raxaul, Jogbani and Thakurganj in Bihar. The power from Bhutan is received at Birpara in West Bengal and distributed to the States of Bihar, Orissa, Sikkim, West Bengal and the DVC. The power is distributed within the States by the concerned State Electricity Boards. The distribution of power received from Bhutan is as follows:-

DVC	15.00%
Bihar	25.75%
Orissa	13.50%
Sikkim	1.65%
West Bengal	29.10%
Unallocated	15.00%
	100.00%

Post Offices in West Bengal

936. SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open post offices in the villages of West Bengal during 1992-93; and

(b) the district-wise and categorywise details thereof with location?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

Departmental Sub Post Offices:

		Districts
1.	Kandi Bazar	Murshidabad

<i>Districts</i>		
2.	Panchasayar	South 24 Parganas
3.	Raninagar	Jalpaiguri
4.	Shivamandir	Darjeeling
5.	New Market Jaigaon	Jalpaiguri
6.	Bakreswar Thermal Power Project	Birbhum
7.	Nonakuri Bazar	Midnapur

Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices:

Name of the District-Darjeeling:

1. Jyotinagar
 2. East Bhaktinagar
 3. Bilaksu
 4. Tamsingdhura
 5. Nijbari
 6. Mim T.E.
 7. Seyok
 8. Lingia T.E.
 9. Magarjung
 10. Swansay Cinchona Plantation
 11. School Dhura Takdah T.E.
 12. Suruk
 13. Jamadarvitta
-

Districts

14. Nurbang

Name of the District - Jalpaiguri:

1. Khowchandpara
2. Hantapara T.E.
3. Tasati T.E.

Name of the District - COOCH BEHAR

1. Barodanga
2. Chuapara
3. Kalipur
4. Ratinandan Konamukta
5. Kurshamari
6. Lalchandpur

Name of the District - West Dinajpur

1. Andharia
2. Babhanbari
3. Kamdevbati
4. Shikarpur
5. Parbatipur
6. Debiganj

Name of the District - Murshidabad

1. Jununpur
 2. Jagaipur
-

Districts

3. Mahisgram
4. Sripur
5. Dalua
6. Upar Fatepur
7. Muktinagar

Name of the District-Malda

1. Laskarpur

Name of the District-Burdwan

1. Sanchara
2. Dhuluk
3. Chanak
4. Bahadurpur
5. Nopur

Name of the District-Bankura

1. Monohar
2. Ghorandanga
3. Kharigerya

Name of the District-Hooghly

1. Jarvra
2. Paschim Gopinathpur

Name of the District- South-24 Parganas

1. Gourdaha
-

Districts

2. Ramtanu Nagar

3. Taranagar

Name of the District-North 24 Parganas

1. Joyram

2. Bhabanipur

3. Paltapara

Name of the District- Nadia

1. Idrakpur

2. Sonda

3. Bharatpur

4. Bhurulia

5. Chapal

Name of the District-Howrah

1. Shibnarayanchak

Name of the District-Birbhum

1. Latbhabanipur

2. Gopalpur

3. Patharehapri

Name of the District-Midnapur

1. Taldaratanchak

2. Susunia

3. Dhaniapara

Districts

4. **Rathtala Balarampur**

Name of the District-Nadia

1. **Idrakpur**

2. **Sonda**

3. **Bharatpur**

4. **Bhurulia**

5. **Chapai**

Name of the District-Howrah

Shibnarayanchak

Name of the District-Birbhum

1. **Latbhabanipur**

2. **Gopalpur**

3. **Patharehapri**

Name of the District-Uttar Dinajpur

1. **Athiabari Chainpur.**

Power Projects In Private Sector

937. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total capacity of power projects which three private sector has been invited to set up in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the offers received and additional capacity likely to be generated therefrom by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATHRAI): (a) A

capacity of 33854. MW has been advertised by State Governments State Electricity Boards for being put up in the private joint sector. State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) Private Companies have offered to set up 15222.5 MW capacity in private sector. Details are given in statement II. The likely capacity addition during the Eighth Plan is 4268 MW.

STATEMENT - I

LIST OF POWER PROJECTS ADVERTISED/IDENTIFIED FOR PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION"

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
A. Thermal Coal Units					
1.	Pench TPS St-I Units 1 & 2	MPAVNL	MP	WR	420
2.	Birsinghpur TPS Ex tn. St. II	MPAVNL	MP	WR	420
3.	Korba (West) TPS Extn. Units 5&6	MPAVNL	MP	WR	420
4.	Tenughat TPS Extn. St. II	BSEB	Bihar	ER	630
5.	Khaperkheda TPS Extn. St. II Units 3 & 4	MSEB	Mah	WR	420
6.	Raichur TPS St. III	KEB	Kar	SR	500
7	Chandli TPS St I Units 1 & 2	BSEB	Bihar	ER	500
8.	Muzaffarpur Extn. St. II	BSEB	Bihar	ER	420
9.	Naraj TPS	OSEB	Ors	ER	500

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Vishakhapatnam TPS St. I Units 1 & 2	APSEB	AP	SR	1000
11.	GNDP St. III Bhatinda	PSEB	Pun	NR	420
12.	Goindwal Sahib TPS	PSEB	Pun	NR	420
13.	Hissar TPS	HSEB	Har	NR	1000
14.	Rosa TPS Units 1 & 2	UPSEB	UP	NR	420
15.	Jawaharpur TPS Units 1, 2 & 3	UPSEB	UP	NR	630
16.	Mysore TPS Units 1, 2 & 3	KEB	Kar	SR	1500
17.	Hospet TPS St. I Units 1, 2 & 3	KEB	Kar	SR	1500
18.	Patna TPS St. Units 1 & 2	BSEB	Bihar	ER	135
19.	Nabinagar TPS St. I Units 1 & 2	BSEB	Bihar	ER	1000
20.	Lignite Based Units 1, 2 & 3	TIDCO	TN	SR	1500

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Durgapur TPS	OSEB	Ors.	ER	500
22.	Hirma TPS	OSEB	Ors.	ER	500
23.	Gopalpur TPS	OSEB	Ors	ER	500
24.	Tuticorn St. IV Expansion Scheme	TNEB	TN	SR	500
25.	Cuddalore TPS	TNEB	TN	SR	1000
26	Palwal TPS	HSEB	HAR	NR	#
27	Faridabad TPS	HSEB	Har	NR	1000
28	N Madras St. III TPS	TNEB	TN	SR	1000
29	Vembar TPS	TNEB	TN	SR	500
30	Bhavnagar Lig. Based TPS	GEB	Guj	WR	250
31	Kutch Lig. Based TPS	GEB	Guj	WR	250
				Total	19755

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
B. THERMAL GAS UNITS					
1.	Jagdishpur CCST	UPRVUNM	UP	NR	210
2	Gandhar CCST	GPCL	Gur	WR	615
3.	Pipavav CCGT	GPCL	Gur	WR	615
4.	Nagothane/Kolad CCGT	MSEB	Mah.	WR	820
5.	Godavari CCGT	APSEB	Ap	SR	400
6.	Bawana CCGT	DESU	Delhi	NR	800
7.	Babrala CCGT	UPRVUN	UP	NR	600
8.	Shahjahanpur CCGT	UPRVUN	UP	NR	600
9.	Aonla CCGT	UPRVUN	UP	NR	600
10.	Pillalperumainallur CCGT	TNEB	TN	SR	300
11.	Amguri CCGT	ASEC	Assam	NER	300

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Namrup TPS Extn.	ASEB	Assam	NER	60
13.	Bashkandi Open Cycle	ASEB	Assam	NER	22.5
14.	Admittilla Open Cycle	ASEB	Assam	NER	15
15.	Gas based		Tripura	NER	100
Total:					6117.5
C. HYDEL POWER UNITS					
1.	Larji HE Units	HPSEB	HP	NR	126
2.	Uhl-III HE Units	HSEB	HP	NR	70
3.	Ghanvi HE Units	MPAVNL	HP	NR	22.5
4.	Tawa HE Units	MPAVNL	MP	WR	12
5.	Baspa-II HE Units	HPSEB	HP	NR	300
6.	Dhamwari-Sunda HE	HPSEB	HP	NR	70

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Maheshwar HE Units	MPAVNL	MP	WR	400
8.	KC Canal HE Units	APSEB	AP	Sr	3
9.	Guntur BCRD HE Units	APSEB	AP	SR	4
10.	Guntur PCRCP HE Units	APSEB	AP	SR	4.5
11.	Malana HE Units	HPSED	HP	NR	86
12.	Neogal HE Units	HPSEB	HP	NR	4.5
13.	Khauli HE Units	HPSEB	HP	NR	10.5
14.	Hibra HE Units	HPSEB	HP	NR	240
15.	Parbt-III HE Units	HPSEB	HP	NR	501
16.	Other HE Projects	APSEB	AP	SR	19.8
17.	Shiva Hydel Mini Scheme	KEB	Kar	SR	3
18.	Vanivilas Sagar Scheme	KEB	Kar	SR	4.5

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Drop Down Stream	KEB	Kar	SR	0.25
20.	Madhavamanthri Anecut	KEB	Kar	SR	3.5
21.	Bansagar PH-2	MPEB	MP	WR	30
22.	Bansagar PH-3	MPEB	MP	WR	60
23.	Bansagar Ph-4	MPEB	MP	WR	20
24.	Teesta-III	NHPC	Sik	NER	1200
25.	Pachiparai Dam	TNEB	TN	SR	1.3
26.	Thirumurthi Dam	TNEB	TN	SR	1.95
27.	Thuklapatti Canal drop	TNEB	TN	SR	0.35
28.	Mukurathi Dam	TNEB	TN	SR	0.7
29.	Ram Pur	HPSEB	HP	NR	680
30.	Swara Kuddu	HPSEB	HP	NR	86

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
31.	Karchamwangtoo	HPSEB	HP	NR	900
32.	Shonglong Karcham	HPSEB	HP	NR	225
33.	Baspa - I	HPSEB	HP	NR	210
34.	Allainduhagan	HPSEB	HP	NR	192
35.	Budhili	HPSEB	HP	NR	81
36.	Patikari	HPSEB	HP	NR	20
37.	Thumankal	KEB	Kar	SR	800
38.	Mahadavi	KEB	Kar	SR	345
39.	Sarapadi	KEB	Kar	SR	90
40.	Varahi	KEB	Kar	SR	15
41	Keertihole	KEB	Kar	SR	21
42	Harangi LBC	KEB	Kar	SR	4.5

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
43.	Ka bini RBC	KEB	Kar.	SR	1.95
44.	CEEV	KEB	Kar.	SR	6.5
45.	Nuga High Level Canal	KEB	Kar.	SR	2
46.	Kabirji Dam Power House	KEB	Kar.	SR	20
47.	Brindawan	KEB	Kar.	SR	12
48.	Elaneeru	KEB	Kar.	SR	15
49.	Anandka	KEB	Kar.	SR.	9
50.	Hemavathi LBC	KEB	Kar.	SR	15
51.	Hemavathi RBC	KEB	Kar	SR	2
52.	Dadupur	HSEB	Kar	NR.	#
53.	Teesta St. V		Sikkim	NER	660
				Total:	7612.3

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
D. WIND ENERGY UNITS					
1.	Ramgiri Wind Mills Power Genration				
2.	Kappatagudda Mills	APSEB	AP	SR	50
3.	Jogimatti	KEB	KAR	SR	4.5
4.	Gokak Hills	KEB	KAR	SR	4.5
5.	Malagatti	KEB	KAR	SR	3
6.	Hanumansaeer	KEB	KAR	SR	#
7.	Bommannahalli	KEB	KAR	SR	#
8.	Hanumana Hatti	KEB	KAR	SR	#
Total:					62
E. SOLAR ENERGY UNITS					
1.	Kothagudam Solar TPS	APSEB	AP	SR	30
Total:					30

Sl. No.	Project Name	Agency	State	Region	MW
1	2	3	4	5	6
E. DG SETNS					
1.	Kolar-Bidal Indri. Jamkhandi	KSEB	KAR	SR	78
2.	Samayanallur	TNEB	TN	SR	100
3.	Cuddalore	TNEB	TN	SR	100
Total:					278
Total A+B+C+D+E+F					33854.8

* Indicates where Project award has been finalised.

Capacity not indicated

STATEMENT - II

Annexure referred in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha USQ No. 937 30.11.92 regarding Power Projects in Private Sector

Details of Power Projects Proposed in the Private Sector

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crores)	Project Name State
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Calcutta Electric Supply Co.	Indian	500 (Coal)	1638.00	Budge-Budge TP/ West Bengal
2.	Century Power	Indian	420 (Coal)	1300.00 (July 92)	Pench PTS St. I/ Madhya Pradesh
3.	GVK Industries, USA	Foreign (NRI)	172 (Gas)	515.00	Jegurupadu COGT/ Andhra Pradesh
5.	Ballarpur Industries Ltd.	Indian	70 (Hydro)	176.77 (Feb 91)	Uhl-III HE/ Himachal Pradesh
6.	ST Power Systems Inc. USA	Foreign (NRI)	210 (Lig)	750.00 (Dec.9)	Zero Unit TPS of NLC/ Tamil Nadu
7.	Ashok Leyland/Mission Energy (USA)/APSEB	For/Ind. Jt. Ventr	1000 (Coal)	3000.00 (July 92)	Visakhapatnam/ Andhra Pradesh
8.	Coleman & Associates (Australian Consortium)	Foreign	240 (Lig)	585.73 (Apr 91)	Barsingsar TPS Rajasthan

Sl No	Name of the Company	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx Cost (Rs Crores)	Project Name State
1		3	4	5	6
9	Spectrum Technologies USA	Foreign	200 (CCGT)	500 00	Kakinada/ Andhra Pradesh
10	Enron Power Dev Corpo (USA)	Foreign	2550 (Gas)	6000 00 (June 92)	Dabhol LNG TPS Maharashtra
11	North Eastern Energy Services Inc. USA/ Kalinga Powe Corpo	Foreign/ Indian	500 (Coal)	1548 00 (Jan 92)	Duburi TPS/ Orissa
12	Congentrox Omc (USA)	Foreign	500 (Coal)	1000 00	Mangalore/ Karnataka
13	Congentrix Inc USA	Forgn	500 (2x250) (Coal)	1000 00	Hissar I & II Haryana
14	Mega Power Pvt Ltd / (M/s Confodence Shipping Co Ltd	Indian	110 (I SHS)	395 00 (May 92)	Barge/Ship Mounted TPS Maharashtra
15	Congentrix Inc (USA)	Foreign	500 (Coal)	1000 00	Bangalore/ Karnataka

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crores)	Project Name State
1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Jaiprakash Industries Ltd., Bombay	Indian	300 (Hydro)	547.00 (June 92)	Baspa-II HE, Himachal Pradesh
17.	RPG Enterprises	Indian	500 (Coal)	1637.00 (Apr 92)	Chandli TPS/ Bihar
18.	GM Swamy Associates	Indian	250 (Lig)	800.00 (Nov. 91)	TICAPCO/ Tamil Nadu
19.	Jayamkondam Lignite Power Corporation	Foreign/ Indian	1500 (Lig)	4500.00 (Jan 92)	Jayamkondam TPS/ Tamil Nadu
20.	Century Textiles & Industries Ltd.	Indian	500 (Coal)	1036.20 (Feb 92)	Chittorgarh TPS/ Rajasthan
21.	Spectrum Technologies (USA)	Foreign	20 (Gas)	40.00 (June 92)	Dhankuni/ West Bengal
22.	NTPC & M/s. ABB Swedeb	Foreign/ Indian	800 (Gas)	1600.00 Feb 92)	Green site
23.	Gujarat Power Corpn. Ltd. & Torrent Exports Ltd.	Foreign/ Ind Jt. Vent.	615 (Gas)	573.73	Gandhar/ Gujarat

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crores)	Project Name State
1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Birla Technical Services	Indian	135 (Coal)	500.00	Gouripore/ W. Bengal
25.	Caithness Int. Power Corp. USA	Foreign	60 (Hydro)	125.00	Dandeli Karnataka
26.	Caithness Int. Power Corp. (USA)	Foreign	210 (Hydro)	350.00	Bedthi/ Karnataka
27.	Asia Power Co. Ltd. (TAPCO) (USA), & Karnataka Power Corporation	Forgn/Ind Jt. Ventr	270 (Hydro)	312.00	Almatti Dam/ Karnataka
28.	HOK Intercontinental Ltd. (USA)	Foreign	500 (Coal)	1350.00	Hospet/ Karnataka
29.	Public Power Int. Inc. (North East Energy), USA Karnataka Power Corpo	Forgn/ Jt. Vntr	500 (Coal)	1000.70	Raichur St-V/ Karnataka

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crores)	Project Name State
1	2	3	4	5	6
30.	Public Power Int. Inc. (North East Energy). (USA)	Forgn.	1000 (Coal)	3000.00	Mysore/ Karnataka
31.	Chalais Holding Ltd. (UK)	NRI	300 (Coal)	600.00	Dharwar/ Karnataka
32.	Societa Italiana Condotte Acqua, (Italy) Karnataka Power Corp.	Forgn/ Jt. Vntr	268 (Hydel)	151.00	Shivasamundram/ Karnataka
			Total:	15222.50	37571.13

[*Translation*]

**Cancellation/delay of Indian Airlines
Flights**

938 SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply
given to Unstarred Question No 3882 on
August 3, 1992 and state

(a) whether information has since been
collected,

(b) if, so the details thereof and

(c) if not, time by which it is likely to be
collected?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCIN-
DIA) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The assurance has already
been fulfilled

**Regularisation of Daily Wages Workers
in Department of Posts**

939 SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES Will
the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have re-
ceived any representation in regard to regu-
larisation of the daily wage workers in the
Department of Posts,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be
taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Yes Sir

(b) A representation has been received
from the All India RMS Employees Union,
Mail Guards and Class-IV requesting that
the casual labourers of Deptt of Posts be
regularised in the same manner as has been
done in the Deptt of Telecommunications

(c) The casual labourers are eligible for
appointment to Gr D Posts, the Recruit-
ment Rules for which however provide for
giving first preference to the Extra Depart-
mental Agents of the Department As the ED
Agents are in large numbers the casual
labourers normally do not come up for ap-
pointment However, casual labourers with
one year's continuous service and who were
on the roles n 29 11 1989 have been con-
ferred temporary status" in accordance with
the directive of Supreme Court of India

[*English*]

Rate of Occupancy in ITDC Hotels

940 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the rate of occupancy in a
number of ITDC hotels has declined as
compared to hotels in private sector, and

(b) if so, the average rate of occupancy
particularly in Delhi and Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCIN-
DIA) (a) We do not compare the rate of
occupancy of ITDC hotels with that of private
sector hotels

(b) The average rate of occupancy of
ITDC hotels in Delhi during the year 1992-93
(upto Sept ,92) is as follows -

S.No.	Name of hotel	Rate of occupancy
1.	Ashok Hotel	53
2.	Qutab Hotel	42
3.	Hotel Samrat	66
4.	Hotel Janpath	51
5.	Kanishka Hotel	55
6.	Lodhi Hotel	36
7.	Hotel Ranjit	30
8.	Ashok Yatri Niwas	39

ITDC does not operate any hotel in Bombay.

[Translation]

Landing Facility at Kheria Airport, Agra

941. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent any scheme for approval of landing arrangement of civilian aircraft at Kheria airport in Agra and for the expansion and development of civilian airport;

(b) if so, the the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the above scheme is likely to be approved; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred on this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d). The State Government has

submitted a request to upgrade Agra Airport to an International Airport whereas National Airports Authority has no proposal for such an upgradation. However, it has plans to extend and modify the existing terminal building, to cater to the traffic needs of Air Bus-320 operations, in this financial year and the project will be completed in 30 months approximately.

Increase in Telephones Fees

942. SHRI RAM SAGAR:
SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA
NAYAK:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the proposal to increase registration fee for new telephone connections in different categories;

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

► (c) the date by which this proposal is likely to be given effect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The proposal is under consideration.

Bansagar Project

943. SHRI N.J.RATHVA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meeting of Bansagar Control Board was held in August, 1992;

► (b) if so, the state Governments participated in the discussion;

(c) the details of the suggestions and recommendations made in the meeting; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir, Eleventh meeting of the Ban Sagar Control Board was held on 24.8.92 at New Delhi.

(b) The meeting chaired by Union Minister, Water Resources was attended by Irrigation/Water Resources Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar and also by Finance and Energy Ministers of Madhya Pradesh

(c) and (d) After reviewing the financial position and progress on various components of the Bansagar dam project, the Board revised the target date of completion of the project as follows:-

Dam upto crest level	.. June, 1995
Dam with gates June, 1998.

It was also decided that the rehabilitation and Resettlement policy as made applicable to the entire State of Madhya Pradesh be made available to the State Governments of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh for their concurrence.

[English]

Forced landings of Indian Airlines Aircraft

944. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Airlines aircraft which made forced landings in each of the last three years;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the loss suffered by IA thereby; and

(d) the steps taken to minimise such landings?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There has been no forced landing of Indian Airlines aircraft during the last three years.

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

[*Translation*]

**Installation of HP Transmitter,
Saharsa**

945. SHRISURYA NARAYAN YADAV:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the range of Doordarshan Andhra of border district Saharsa is very

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to set up a high power transmitter there; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) The low power (100W) TV transmitter at Saharsa operating in UHF Band is reported to be functioning normally and is providing satisfactory TV service within its range of 15 kms inclusive of fringe service areas, where elevated antennae and boosters are required to obtain satisfactory reception.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

**Visakhapatnam Thermal Power
Project**

946. SHRID. VENKATESWARA RAO.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested the Union Government for inclusion of Visakhapatnam Ther-

mal Power Project in the proposal for Japanese OECF Loan for 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The State Government of Andhra Pradesh had asked for the Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project (2x500MW) to be posed for availing of OECF assistance. However, as no new Power Projects were being posed for OECF assistance and as the project had been advertised for implementation in the power sector and was being pursued with Mission Energy, USA and Ashok Leyland, Madras, it was not posed for OECF assistance.

[*Translation*]

Telegrams in Uttar Pradesh

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

(a) whether the incoming and outgoing telegrams from the hilly areas particularly Pauri and Chamoli districts of Uttar Pradesh are generally delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time limit fixed to send or to receive telegrams in these areas;

(c) whether telegrams are being sent by post to many places, if so, the district-wise number of such post offices in eight districts where telegrams are being sent by post; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to ensure timely despatch and delivery of telegrams in these areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) and (b) No Sir On certain occasions telegrams are delayed owing to difficulties in maintenance of lines due to hilly terrain conditions. There is no time limit fixed by Government for sending and receiving telegrams in these areas separately.

(c) On occasions owing to interruptions on telegraph lines and non-availability of Postal Signallers, telegrams have to be posted. Such post offices under 8 Revenue Districts are as follows:

- 1 Almora 9
- 2 Nainital 10
- 3 Pithorgarh-9
- 4 Dehradun Nil
- 5 Pauri 8
- 6 Tehri-3
- 7 Chamoli-7
- 8 Uttarkashi 1

(d) It has been planned to replace old overhead wires by Microwave and UHF systems gradually to improve the delivery of telegrams.

Change in timings of TV News Bulletins

948 SHRI BARE LAL JATAV Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to change the timings of news bulletins on T V and also to reduce its duration, and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS) (a) and (b) Restructuring of the present programme format of Doordarshan w e f 01 01 1993 on the recommendations of the Mahalik Committee envisages a change in the time and duration of the news bulletins telecast under the National/Network programmes from Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi

[English]

Attract More Foreign Tourists at Santiniketan during Poush Mela

949 SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of West Bengal seeking financial assistance for attracting more foreign tourists at shantiniketan during Poush Mela,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

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

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) to (c) An incomplete proposal was received from the Government of West Bengal seeking financial assistance of Rs 5 00 lakhs for assisting the Mela at Santiniketan. The State Government has been requested to send complete details of the proposal.

Aid from Exim Bank of Japan for NTPC

950 SHRI RAM NAIK Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have made any negotiations with the Exim Bank of Japan for obtaining financing arrangements for the National Thermal Power Corporation Projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATAH RAI): (a) and (b). In 1988, the EXIM Bank of Japan extended a loan of Yen 62 billion (or reimbursement restricted to Rs. 585.6 crores) with a rate of interest of 5.3% per annum, for co-financing the local cost of Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Station-II and associated Transmission Line, Rihand Transmission Line and Farakka-II and associated Transmission Line of the National Thermal Power Corporation. The loan has since been fully utilised.

Joint Ventures by NTPC and SAIL

951 KUMAR PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the number and details of the captive power plants along with their capacity proposed to be set up by the National Thermal Power Corporation and Steel Authority of India Limited in the joint sector during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on 16 November, 1992 to cooperate for formation of a joint venture company along with private investors for setting up a 500 MW power plant which would substantially met the power requirement of the Bhilai Steel Plant of SAIL and also augment power supply in the region through Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board System. The Project is

envisaged to be taken up during the 8th plan period.

[Translation]

Norms for Publication of Telephone Directory

952. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of norms/criteria fixed for the publication of telephone directory;

(b) whether the rules and the criteria have not been followed in regard to its publication in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Telephone Directories are published Secondary Switching Area wise once in a year.

(b) The rules and guidelines have been followed in regard to publication of directory in Orissa. However, due to failure on the part of contractor, the Circle Telephone Directory 1991 Issue could not be brought out on time. This is now under print and is expected to be brought out by March, 1993.

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

C-Dot Exchanges in Uttar Pradesh

953. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in Uttar Pradesh where C-Dot-512 board/exchanges are functioning;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up such boards/exchanges in the State during 1993-94;

(c) if so, the district-wise details in this regard; and

(d) the time by which these board/exchanges are likely to be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Names of such places in Uttar Pradesh are as under:-

1 Srinagar,

2. Sardhana,

3. Kashipur,

4. Saidpur,

5. Bilaspur,

6. Khamaria,

7. Shahganj.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) District-wise details are as under:

District	No. of Exchanges planned
1 Dehradun	2
2 Aligarh	2
3 Maharajanj	1
4 Sidharthnagar	1

(d) By March, 1994

Shortage of Telephone Equipment In Uttar Pradesh

+954 SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether telephone equipments and other items are found to be short in various godowns of telecommunication centres in Uttar Pradesh,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether responsibilities have been fixed for the shortage, and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against such persons?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) In one godown some Telephone Equipments have ben found short in U P.

(b) Approximately, 1300 Telephone instruments have been found short at one of the Stores godown of Telephone District, Lucknow

(c) Yes, Sir. 4 officials have been found responsible on the basis of preliminary investigation.

(d) One of the officials has been placed under suspension and the other three officials have been transferred to non-sensitive posts.

[English]

Indian Delegation to Israel for Promotion of Tourism

955. SHRI SYED SAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian delegation visited Israel and signed a protocol on tourism with the Government of Israel;

(b) if so, the text of the protocol;

(c) whether it is proposed to enter into a bilateral agreement with Israel on tourism and civil aviation; and

(d) if so, the salient features of the proposed agreement?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, agreed minutes were signed between Ministries of Tourism of both the countries.

(c) and (d). A proposal to enter into a bilateral agreement on tourism with Israel is under consideration.

An air service agreement was signed on 29th May, 1992 and the salient features of this agreement are:

(i) Both countries have right to designate one airline each for the purpose of operating air service.

(ii) The agreed services shall be operated by the designated airlines

on routes specified for them under the agreement.

(iii) Principles of predetermination shall be followed in the matter of frequencies of services and capacities.

[Translation]

S. T. D. in Telephone Exchanges in Uttar Pradesh.

+956. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts in Uttar Pradesh where targets had been fixed to provide S.T.D. facility in various exchanges during 1992-93; and

(b) the number of exchanges connected with S.T.D. so far and the time by which the remaining target is likely to be achieved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Names of Districts are given in the attached statement.

(b) Out of 52 exchanges identified, 37 exchanges have been connected with STD and the remaining are likely to be connected by March, 1993.

STATEMENT

Names of Districts in U. P. where Targets have been Fixed to provide S. T. D. Facility during 1992-93.

1. Agra
2. Allahabad
3. Bahraich

161	<i>Written Answers</i>	AGRAHAYANA 9, 1914 (SAKA)	<i>Written Answers</i>	162
4.	Banda		28.	Shajahanpur
5.	Bareilly		29.	Unnao.
6.	Basti			<i>[English]</i>
7.	Dehradun			Out of Turn Allotment of Telephones
8.	Etawah			957. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
9.	Farrukhabad			
10.	Faizabad			(a) whether all the telephone connections sanctioned on out of turn basis prior to June, 1991 have been provided;
11.	Fatehpur			
12.	Ghaziabad			(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
13.	Ghazipur			(c) the time by which the remaining connections are likely to be provided?
14.	Gorakhpur			
15.	Gonda			THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.
16.	Hamirpur			
17.	Kanpur			(b) and (c). Some of the telephone connections have not been provided as the sanction orders pertaining to them are presently held in abeyance pending CBI inquiry in connection with some fake out-of-turn sanction orders. However, telephone connections sanctioned on the basis of specific recommendations of Members of Parliament have been released.
18.	Lucknow			
19.	Lakhimpur Khiri			
20.	Mathura			
21.	Moradabad			
22.	Muzaffarnagar			Censor of Newspapers
23.	Meerut			958. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state
24.	Mirzapur			
25.	Nainital			(a) the details of the language dailies being censored now; along with the place of their publications;
26.	Paun Garhwal			
27.	Pratapgarh			(b) whether the Government have a proposal to ban some of the dailies which are

inciting communal feelings through scurrilous writings; and

(c) If so, the details of those dailies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):

(a) There is no censorship of language dailies.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

New Broadcast/Telecast Policies

959. SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether new broadcast and telecast policies are proposed to be formulated;

(b) if so, the salient features of the new policies; and

(c) by when these are likely to be introduced?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c). The Government have notified a Scheme on 30th September, 1992 for allotting Time Slots on the Metro Channels of Doordarshan and FM Channels of All India Radio at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras to private producers. The 'Air Time Committee of India' has also been constituted on 14th October, 1992. This Commit-

tee will invite applications from interested parties, issue Licences and allocate suitable Time Slots for the programmes on the channels of AIR/Doordarshan.

Delhi Telephone Advisory Committee

960. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Telephone Advisory Committee has been reconstructed;

(b) if so, the details of its members, and

(c) the power and function of the Committee?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The list of members of Telephone Advisory Committee for Delhi and the 5 Zonal TACs namely east, west, north, south and central is furnished in the statement enclosed.

(c) The functions of Telephone Advisory Committee include monitoring the performance of telecommunications services, advising the Department for their improvement, acting as a link between the telephone using public and the Department of Telecommunications, assisting the Department in deciding out of turn connections as provided in the rules on a fair and equitable manner under OYT & special categories, etc. The Telecom. Advisory Committees are constituted normally for a period of two years.

STATEMENT*List of Members of Delhi Telephone Advisory Committee*

-
- | | | |
|----|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Shri Sajjan Kumar, M P
Madipur, Delhi | 713, Janta Flats, Paschimpuri, |
| 2 | Shri Rajesh Khanna, M P | C-8495, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi |
| 3 | Shri Kalka Das M P | 9 Dr Bishambar Das Marg, New
Delhi |
| 4 | Shri Madan Lal Khurana
M P | F-104, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi |
| 5 | Shri R K Takkar,

Chief Secretary
Delhi Administration | 5, Somnath Marg, Delhi |
| 6 | Shri Ramesh Chandra
President NDMC,
Palika Kendra | |
| 7 | Shri P V Jaikrishan,
Commissioner, MCD,
Town Hall Chandni Chowk,
Delhi | |
| 8 | Shri H K Dua, Editor,
Hindustan Times,
Kasturba Gandhi, Gandhi Marg,
New Delhi | |
| 9 | Shri Prabhu Chawla, EDITOR,
Indian Express, Bahadur
Shah Jafar Marg, New Delhi | |
| 10 | Shri Sumer Kaul, EDITOR,
National Herald, Bahadur
Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi | |
| 11 | Shri C R Irani, Editor,
Statesman, Statesman House,
Connaught Circus, New Delhi | |
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12. **Shri Dilip Padgaonkar,**
Editor, Times of India,
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi.
13. **Shri Vinod Mehta, Editor,**
The Pioneer, Bahadur Shah Zafar
Marg, New Delhi.
14. **Shri Anil Narendra, Editor**
Vir Arjun, New Delhi.
15. **Shri Ashwini Minna, Editor**
Punjab Kesari. Punjab Kesari Printing Press 1
Near Wazirpur Depot, Plot No.2
16. **Shri Shahid Siddiqui, Editor,**
Nai Dunia, D-21, Nizamuddin West, N. Delhi.
17. **Editor, Dainik Hindustan,**
Kasturba Gandhi Marg,
New Delhi.
18. **Editor,**
Navbharat Times,
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi.
19. **Editor,**
Janasatta, Bahadur Shah
Zafar Marg, New Delhi.
20. **Shri Arun Poori, Editor,**
India Today F-14/15 Connaught Circus,
New Delhi.
21. **Shri Veer Sanghvi, Editor,**
Sunday, New Delhi. 1, Anand Bazar Patrika,
Prajulla Sarkar Street,
Calcutta (W.B.)
22. **Shri Rajeev Shukla,**
(Sunday Observer) 100, Bakhtawar Singh Block,
Asiad Village, New Delhi.
23. **Dr. Narendra Behari**
-

- Medical Superintendent
Ram Manohar Lohiya Hospital
New Delhi.**
24. **Dr. P.C. Rai,
Medical Superintendent
Safdarjung Hospital,
New Delhi.**
25. **Shri P.N. Lekhi,
President, Bar Association,
Delhi High Court,
New Delhi.**
26. **Shri R.K. Jain,
President, Bar Association,
Supreme Court,
New Delhi.**
27. **Shri B.D> Kaushik,
President, Bar Association,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi.**
28. **Shri Wazahat Habibullah,
Secretary, Rajiv Gandhi
Foundation, Jawahar Bhavan,
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road,
New Delhi.**
29. **Shri M.L. Nandrajog,
Secretary General,
PHD Chamber of Commerce &
Industry
PHD House, Thapar Floor, Opp. Asian
Games Village, New Delhi-16.**
30. **Shri J.p. Aggarwal,
Ex M.P. 1998, Naugraha, Kenari
Bazar, Delhi. 6.**
31. **Shri Bharat Singh** **B-1/153, Paschim Vihar,
N.D.-63.**
32. **Shri Vishwabandhu Gupta** **5, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi.**
33. **Shri Jag Pravesh Chandra** **70, Khan Market, New Delhi**

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- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 34. | Shri Mohinder Singh S
Punjabi Bagh (W). | H.NO. 53, Road NO.78,

New Delhi-110078. |
| 35. | Smt. Tajdar Babbar | 1, Golf Link, Sadan, NDMC,
Golf Link, New Delhi. |
| 36. | Dr. Bhaskar Rao | E-140 East of Kailash,
N.D-48. |
| 37. | Shri Khuswant Singh | 49-E, Sujan Singh Park,
New Delhi. |
| 38. | Admiral S.C. Chopra | B-6511, Safdarjung Enclave,
New Delhi. |
| 39. | Lt. General B.D. Pandit
(Retd.) | |
| 40. | Smt. Mohini Giri,
Noida Ghaziabad (U.P.) | H. No. 43, Sector-15 A, |
| 41. | Shri Bansi Lal Mehta, | 19 Rajendra Park, N Delhi. |
| 42. | Smt. Ambika Soni | 7, Friends Colony, N Delhi |
| 43. | Ch. Prem Singh | F-301, Village Lado Sarai,
Mehrauli, New Delhi |
| 44. | Shri J.P. Goel | D-13-A/B Model Town, Delhi |
| 45. | Shri M.M. Agarwal | 21, Sriram Road, Delhi |
| 46. | Shri .A.N. Chawla, Ex M.P. | A-230, New Friends Colony
New Delhi. |
| 47. | Ch. Dalip Singh, Ex M.P.
Usaf-Sarai, New Delhi- | 212 Shahpur Jat P.O.
110016 |
| 48. | Shri Shadi Ram | 2747, Trinagar, Delhi- 35 |
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List of the Members of Telephone Advisory Committee for the EAST ZONE OF MTNL, New Delhi.

5771/5, New Chandrawal, Delhi-7.

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|---|
| 1. | Shri B.L. Sharma "Prem" M.P.
1, Western Court, N. Delhi. | 12. | Shri Zafer Jung,
Hameed Manzil, 3631, Netaji
Subash Marg, Darya Ganj,
New Delhi-2. |
| 2. | Shri Ashok Sharma,
Dainik Hindustan , 11/2934,
Sir Saiyed Ahmed Road,
Darya Ganj, New Delhi-2. | 13. | Shri Zabir Ali Pasha,
President, JJ Cell, East DCC (I)
P-1, A-3, Dilshad Garden,
Shahdara, Delhi-95. |
| 3. | Shri Srikrishna,
154, Samachar Apartments,
Mayur Vihar Extn.
Delhi. | 14. | Shri Mohd. Muslim,
99, Hazi Bhavan,
Crockery Market,
Sadar Bazar, Delhi. |
| 4. | Shri Veer Saxena,
173-N, Aram Bagh,
Chitragupta Road, N. Delhi-55. | 15. | Shri Sukhbir Singh,
Village & P.O. Mauzpur
Gonda, Shahdara, Delhi. |
| 5. | Shri Shailesh (Nav Bharat Times)
418-D, Pocket-II, Mayur Vihar
Phase-I
New Delhi. | 16. | Shri Govind Singh Adhikari,
194-D, Pocket -I Mayur
Vihar Phase-I, New Delhi |
| 6. | Shri Ajeet Anjum (Amar Uzala)
118, Ashirwad Apartments,
I.P. Extension, Delhi-92. | 17. | Shri Deepak Bhagat,
34, Prithvi Raj Road,
New Delhi. |
| 7. | Shri Onkar Singh (PTI TV)
1150, Gulabi Bagh, N. Delhi. | 18. | Ch. Bal Raj Singh,
Village Seelampur,
Shahadara, Delhi. |
| 8. | Smt. Gyan Verma,
9, Delhi Admn. Flats,
Karkar Duma, Delhi. | 19. | Shri Udai Beer Singh,
DA-7, Vikas Marg, Shakarpur,
Delhi-92. |
| 9. | Shri Ishwar Das
E-23, Double Storey,
Motia Khan, Pahar Ganj,
New Delhi. | 20. | Shri Surendra Bhura,
D-13, Caneshlinos Gali
No.5, Kishan Ganj, Delhi. |
| 10. | Shri Suresh Chand
Vice President, DPYC, (I)
B-243, Bhajan Pura, Delhi. | 21. | Shri Ram Swaroop,
B-6, 193, shiv Mandir,
Gali Mauzpur, Shahdara,
Delhi. |
| 11. | Shri Sunil Kumar,
Org. Secy. DPYC (I), | 22. | Shri Shah Nawaz,
4902, Bara Hindu Rao, |

Delhi.

23. Shri Iqbal Bharti,
H.NO. 1307, Bharti Sadan,
Farasth Khana,
Delhi-6.

Spl. Correspondent(Times of India),
45/19, East Patel Nagar, (1st Floor),
New Delhi.

11. Shri Munshi Ram Gupta,
President All India Federation of
Plastic Industries,
D-13, Naraina Vihar,
N. Delhi.

List of the Members of Telephone Advisory Committee for The WEST ZONE MTNL NEW DELHI.

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|--|
| 1. | Shri Kalka Das,
9, Dr. Bishember Dass Marg,
New Delhi. | 12. | Shri Suraj Bhan Balmiki,
WZ/542, Naraina Vihar, N. Delhi. |
| 2. | Shri Sajjan Kumar,
713/A/B, Paschim Puri,
Janta Colony Pocket-2
New Delhi. | 13. | Sardar Baldev Chana, 1-C/1,
Namdhar Colony, Kirti Nagar,
New Delhi-15. |
| 3. | Shri Ram Narain,
Village & P.O. Nangal Dewata
I.G.I. Airport, New Delhi-32 | 14. | Sardar Harmanjit Singh,
Advisor, Shiromani Akall Dal,
D-3, Rajouri Garden, N. Delhi. |
| 4. | Shri Depak Kalyani,
D-503, Tagore Garden Extn,
New Delhi | 15. | Shri Mange Ram Sharma,
16, Kavita Colony,
Nangloi, Delhi-41. |
| 5. | Shri Raj Kumar Kohli,
G-228, Naraina Vihar,
New Delhi. | 16. | Shri Kishan Swaroop, Chairman
All India SC/ST Cong. (I)
18/7, Punjabi Bagh Extn.
New Delhi. |
| 6. | Shri Mani Madhikar,
9, Pusa Road, New Delhi-5. | 17. | Shri P.C Kaushik,
37, Nangloi Extn.No.2,
Delhi-41. |
| 7. | Shri Ram Kant Goswami,
25/30, East Patel Nagar,
New Delhi. | 18. | Shri Faiz Mohd.
42/7, Mangol Puri
Delhi. |
| 8. | Shri A.R. Wig,
B-2, Pusa Road, N. Delhi-5. | 19. | Shri Sadhu Singh,
WZ/194, Basai Darapur,
New Delhi. |
| 9. | Shri R.Krishnan,
4, Birla Flats, Arya Samaj Road,
Karol Bagh,
New Delhi. | 20. | Shri gopal Singh, Pahadia,
General Secretary,
DPCC (I) (SC/ST) Department,
D/3 DDA Colony,
Khayala, N. Delhi-110018. |
| 10. | Shri Subash Karpekar, | | |

177	Written Answers	AGRAHAYANA 9, 1914 (SAKA)	Written Answers	178
21	Shri S. Onkar Singh Thapar, WZ-530, Shiv Nagar, Jail Road, New Delhi	4	Shri Harcharan Singh Josh, Advocate, 1206, Shora Kothi, Subzi Mandi, Delhi-110007	
22	Shri D R Shah, 24/42, West Avenue, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi	5	Shri Sadhu Ram, C-35, Mahendra Enclave, G T Karnal Road, Delhi-33	
23	Shri Dinesh Kumar, DI-A, Janakpuri, N Delhi	6	Shri Sunil Khosla, No 63-A, DDA Flats, Ashok vihar Phase-III, Delhi-52	
24	Shri Mangat Ram Maharada, Gen Secy Delhi Pradesh Cong Committee (SC/ST Deptt) C-8/454Sultanpur Nangloi Delhi-41		Sardar Rachhpal Singh, President,Shiromani Akali Dal, 10, Jamuna Road, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006	
25	Shri Kanwar Karan Singh, 80, Rajpura, Gurmandi, Delhi	8	Shri Madan Lal Sharma, R-18, Budh Vihar Colony, Delhi-41	
26	Shri Harsh Bharti, 1980, Malkaganj Road Delhi-7	9	Shri Rati Ram 786, Tringagar, Delhi-35	
27	Shri Ramnath Verma 52/58, B-1, Gali No 7 Anand Prabhat, Delhi 5	10	Shri Gopi Chand, 381, Jor Bagh, Tri Nagar, Delhi	
28	Shri Tarshem Sharma, BE/162, Hari Nagar, New Delhi-64	11	Shri Harsh Bharti, 1980, Malka Ganj Road, Subzi Mandi, Delhi-7	
	<i>List of the Members of Telephone Advisory Committee for the NORTH ZONE of M TNL, New Delhi</i>	12	SAhn Ishwar Kumar singhal, H-205, IInd Floor, Ashok Vihar-I, Delhi	
1	Shri Tara Chand Khandelwal, MP 509, Kuncha Pati Ram, Bazar Sita Ram, Delhi-110006	13	Shri Sushil Sharma, PresidentDAYC (I) MP-27 Maurya Enclave, Delhi-110034	
2	Shri Mahendra Choudhary 24, Old Market, Timarpur, Delhi	14	Shri Ravinder Kumar, Gen Secretary, DPYC(I) K-1/1, Model Town, Delhi	
3	Shri Jatan Singh Basoya, Advocate, Tis Hazan Court, Delhi	15	Shri Sohan Lal Khan, 5801, New Chandrawal, Delhi-7	

16. **Shri Gulshan Jain,**
363, Trinagar (Near PNB)
Delhi-35.
17. **Shri Khem Singh,**
Village Gopalpur,
P.O. Burari, Delhi-9.
18. **Shri Krishnan Premi,**
42, Duplex Flats,
Gurmandi, Delhi-7.
19. **Shri Nand Lal Choudhary,**
3903, Hamilton Road,
Laxmi Building, Mori Gate,
Delhi-110006.
20. **Shri Raginder Sharma,**
A-112, SEM Colony,
Najafgarh Road,
New Delhi.
21. **Shri P.S. Rana,**
A-32, LIG Gulabi Bagh,
New Delhi.
22. **Shri Rajinder Gupta,**
C-4/6A, Model Town,
New Delhi.
23. **Shri Ganesh Pal,**
113, Village malik Pur,
Delhi-9.
24. **Shri Chattar Singh,**
1806, Jorbagh, Trinagar,
Delhi-35.
25. **Shri Rajinder Sharma,**
A-8, Rana Pratap Bagh,
Delhi-7.
- List of the Members of Telephone Advisory Committee for the SOUTH ZONE of MTNL, New Delhi.*
1. **Madan Lal khurana, MP**
F-104, Kirti Nagar,
2. **Shri Jagdish Singh Lohiya,**
Advocate,
A-180 Andheria Mode,
Mehrauli, New Delhi-30
3. **Shri Swaroop Singh,**
Advocate,
B-46, Friends Colony.(W),
New Delhi.
4. **Dr. B.M. Sharma,**
36, Delhi Admn. flats,
Greater kailash Part-I
New Delhi.
5. **Dr. (Mrs.) Sadhna Kala,**
Mool Chand Hospital,
B-316, Chittaranjan Park,
New Delhi-110019.
6. **Shri Pankaj Sharma,**
D-42, East of Kailash,
New Delhi.
7. **Shri Ashwani Sarin,**
A-79, Malviya Nagar Corner,
New Delhi.
8. **Shri Zafar Agha,**
A-105, SBI Flats, G. Block,
East of Kailash. N. Delhi.
9. **Shri Sekhar Gupta**
C-6/57, Safdarjung Dev. Area,
New Delhi.
10. **Shri H. Swaroop,**
D-IV/610, Vinay Marg,
Chankyapuri, New Delhi.
11. **Shri Surya Prakash,**
E-1, Press Enclave, Saket,
New Delhi.
12. **Shri R. Prabhu,**
A-13, Andrews Ganj Extn.,

181	<i>Written Answers</i>	AGRAHAYANA 9, 1914 (SAKA)	<i>Written Answers</i>	181
	New Delhi	24	Shri Kartar Singh Mavi, Vill Tekhand N Delhi-20	
13	Shri Janak singh, D-32, PressEnclave, Saket, N Delhi	25	Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Ex MP & President, All IndiaFreedom Fighters AssociationFreedom Fighters Cultural Centre Neb Sarai N Delhi	
14	Shri Indranil Banerjee, A-192, 2 nd Floor New FriendsColony, New Delhi	26	Smt Gayatri Ray 395 MandakiniEnclave New Delhi	
15	Shri S Venkatanarayan E 128 Saket N Delhi	27	Shri Ramesh Verma, J-24, Lajpat Nagar-III, New Delhi	
16	Shri Dev Sagar Singh Indian Express CB-3A, DDA Flats Munirka New Delhi	28	Shri Man Chand Tanwar Ex Councillor 5 Asola Fatehpuri Bero New Delhi	
17	Ms Sandhya Jain SUNDAY MAIL 300, SFS DDA Flats Gul Mohar Enclave N Delhi	29	Shri Sardar Singh H No 176 vill & P O Arya Nagar, New Delhi	
18	Shri M Kaul (PATRIOT) C-400, Defence Colony New Delhi	30	Mrs Vijay Bala Sharma, 1680 A/Z Gobindpuri Exten Kalkaji, New Delhi	
19	Shri Anil Kumar, A-211, Lajpat Nagar-I First Floor New Delhi	31	Mrs Anjana Kanwar, K-12, Green Park Extension, New Delhi 110016	
20	Shri Mahendra Singh 2A, Bharat Nagar Friends Colony New Delhi	32	Pt Tek Chand Sharma, Vill, & P O Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi-110030	
21	Shri Ramesh Kaul, A-18, Pamposh Emc ave, New Delhi-110048	33	Shri Kishore Upadhyaya, G-40, DDA S F S Flats, Saket, N Delhi-110017	
22	Col, R V M Menon (Retd) 187, Sakir Bagh Apartment, Okhla Road, New Delhi-25	34	Shri Naresh Juneja, F-44, East of Kailash, New Delhi-17	
23	Shri Rajan Singh, Vill Jasala, P O Badar Pur, New Delhi-44	35	Capt Vinod Kumar,	

- E-13, Press Enclave,
New Delhi-17.
36. Capt. Ashok Sharma,
171, Basant Enclave,
New Delhi-110022.
37. Dhri Dina Nath Rai,
j8/68, Rajouri Garden,
New Delhi-27
38. Shri Sulekh Chand J
40297, Gali Ahiran,
Pahari Dhiraj, Delhi
39. Shri Gurdeep Joban,
A-11, Inderlok, New Delhi.
40. Shri Balbir,
C-52, Khan Pur Extension,
Delhi-62.
- List of the Members of Telephone Advisory Committee for the CENTRE ZONE of MTNiL, New Delhi*
1. Shri Rajesh Khanna, MP
20, Willingdon Crescent
New Delhi.
2. Shri C.S. Kherwal,
Transport Commissioner of Delhi
D-1/78, Ravindra Nagar,
New Delhi.
3. Shri Madan Lal,
Advocate, (Patiala House)
62, Bapu Park, Kotla Mubarakpur
New Delhi.
4. Ch. Balbir Singh Chauhan,
Advocate, Chamber No. 53,
Supreme Court,
New Delhi.
5. Shri Ashok Bhan, Advocate,
116, Lawyers Chambers,
Supreme Court Building,
- New Delhi.
6. Dr. Ramesh Kumar,
12, Central Lane, Bengali Market
New Delhi-110001.
7. Dr. (Mrs.) Charu Hans,
D-11/33, Pandara Road, N. Delhi.
8. Dr. Chaya Malhotra,
F-11, Jangpura Extension,
New Delhi.
9. Shri S.S. Baniyal,
A-802, Curzon road, Apartment,
Kasturba Gandhi Marg, N. Delhi.
10. Shri Bhushan Marwah,
D-1/75, Bharati Nagar, N. Delhi.
11. Shri Mohan Chiragi,
D-106, Curzon Road, Apartments,
Kasturba Gandhi Marg, N. Delhi.
12. Shri Ashok Dubey,
201, Asia House, Kasturba Gandhi
Marg, N. Delhi.
13. Shri Vivek Saxena (Jansatta),
780, Baba Kharak Singh Marg,
New Delhi.
14. Shri Rajendra Singh
Vice President and Head of Department
of Physical Education,
Delhi Public School, Mathura Road
New Delhi.
15. Shri Chandan Singh Payal
Organisation Department AICC
152-153, North Avenue, New Delhi.
16. Ms. Nirmala Deshpande,
A-223, Pandara Road, New Delhi-3.
17. Prof. Saifuddin Soz, Ex. MP

C-1/7, Humayun Road,
New Delhi.

F.M. Radio Station at Cochin

18. Shri C.S. Kotnala
Office Supdt. AICC, 24,
Akbar Road, N. Delhi.
19. Shri Kuldip Singh Gujnal
G-47, Jangpura Extn. N. Delhi.

961. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the F.M. Radio station at Cochin; and

20. Lt. Gol, K.P. Singhal (Retd),
Joint Convenor,
Ex. Servicemen Congress,
24, Akbar Road, N. Delhi.

(b) if so, the details thereof?

21. Smt. Renuka Rawat,
44-1A Sector-2, DIZ Area,
New Delhi.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJA VYAS): (a) and (b). there is no proposal to upgrade the FM radio station at Cochin. However, there is a scheme to establish Vividh Bharati/ Commercial Broadcasting Service at Cochin with 10 KW FM Transmitter, Studio and Office facilities.

22. Shri Harkishan Shastri
1 Moti Lal Nehru Place,
N. Delhi.

[Translation]

23. Capt. Praveen Davar,
Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Trust,
12, Willingdon Crescent,
New Delhi.

Purchase of Goods by Bhavnathpur of Bokaro Steel Plant

24. Shri Hasan Ahmed,
Chairman, Delhi Pradesh Cong. (I),
Sewa Dal, B-39, Pandara Road,
New Delhi.

962. SHRI RAMDEW RAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

25. Shri Horam Singh
Village Kotla,
New Delhi.

(a) whether goods purchased by Bhavnathpur Limestone Mines and Tulsidamer Dolomite Mines under Bokaro Steel Plant located at Bhavnathpur, Bihar have not reached the godown.

26. Shri Shyam Singh,
A/4, Amrit Nagar,
South Extension, N. Delhi.

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

27. Shri Prakash
Old Pijanji Village,
New Delhi.

(c) whether goods have been stolen from the godown and the the said mines; and

28. Shri Shyam Sunder,
31, Samman Bazar, Jangpure,
Bhogal, Delhi.

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH

MOHAN DEV) (a) No Sir,

(b) Does not arise

(c) No, Sir However, there was a case of theft of materials from the Meter Garage of Bhavnathpur Limestone Mines during April 1991

(d) The Mines Authority have taken care by providing for additional security for the Motor Garage of Bhavnathpur Limestone Mines by development of additional Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel

Yatri Niwas at Chitrakoot in Madhya Pradesh

963 SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the construction of yatri niwas at Chitrakoot for middle class tourists

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon and

(c) the time by which approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Does not arise

[*English*]

Mahalik Committee Recommendations

964 SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be

pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 2790 on July 27, 1992 and state

(a) whether the recommendations of the Mahalik Committee on commercial advertisements have since been considered by the Government, and

(b) if so the action taken by the Government on the recommendations of the committee?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS)

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) The major recommendations of the Committee have since been accepted

[*Translation*]

Enhance Grants for Irrigation to Bihar

965 SHRI LALL BABU RAI Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Bihar Government has requested the Union Government to Enhance grant for irrigation schemes

(b) if so, the steps being taken thereon, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) to (c) No specific request has been received at the Centre for enhancing financial assistance for completion of irrigation projects from Government of Bihar However, now it has been decided at the Centre to rigorously monitor earmarking made for irrigation projects in the annual

plans of the States to ensure timely completion of the projects

[English]

Gas Based Power Projects in Rajasthan

966 SHRIMATIVASUNDHARA RAJE
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the proposal to set up some gas-based power projects in Rajasthan are pending for clearance by the Central Electricity Authority,

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received from the State Government and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALPNATHRAI) (a) to (c) Ramgarh Gas Turbine Project of 3 MW sanctioned by the Planning Commission in August, 1984 at an estimated cost of Rs 3 94 Crores is under construction by the Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB) and is envisaged to be commissioned in January, 1993

Another proposal for the installation of a 160 MW combined cycle gas turbine project at Ramgarh, Jaisalmer district, Rajasthan at an estimated cost of Rs 511 83 Crores was received from the RSEB in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in July, 1992 since the gas availability of 0 55 MCMD confirmed by the Ministry of Petroleum & Neutral Gas would not be adequate to operate the proposed station on base load basis, the CEA have advised the RSEB to review the proposal and change the capacity of the project accordingly. The Project Feasibility Report could be considered for techno-economic clearance by the CEA after the RSEB have

ted up the essential inputs/clearances such as fuel linkage, water availability, compliance of section 29 of electricity (Supply) Act 1948, associated transmission system and clearance of the Central as well as the State authorities from environmental angle

[Translation]

Privatisation of Vayudoot

967 SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the total amount of profit/loss earned by the Vayudoot during 1990-91

(b) whether any proposal to privatise Vayudoot is under the consideration of the Government, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) Vayudoot has incurred an estimated loss of Rs 37 08 crores during the year 1990-91

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

[English]

Commission of Railway Safety

968 SHRI PRAKASH V PATIL Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Commission of Railway Safety is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Civil Aviation & Tourism,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to transfer it to the Ministry of Railways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to ensure the independence of working of the Commission of Railway Safety, it was transferred from the Railway Board in 1941 and since then it has been under the administrative control of Department of Civil Aviation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of LPTS in Orissa

969. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up low power T.V. Transmitters (LPT) in Ganjam and Gajapathi districts in Orissa during the 8th Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). There is no proposal at present to set up any transmitter in Ganjam/Ganjanpahal districts of Orissa. Locations for the establishment of low power TV transmitters in various parts of the country during the remaining years of VIII Plan period i.e. 1993-1997 have not been finalised.

[Translation]

International Airports

970. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION & TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare some more airports as international airports to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Since the existing international airports are adequate to handle the present international traffic to and from India, there is no proposal to declare any more airport as international airport.

Privatisation of Copper Mining and Processing

971. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any decision to privatise the copper mining and processing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Hindustan Copper Limited propose to disinvest its capital in various phases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the steps taken by the Government to reduce the import of alloy metals during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). In terms of the

Statement of Industrial Policy laid in the Parliament on 24.7. 91, copper processing has been delicensed. As far as copper mining is concerned, this continues to be reserved for Public Sector.

(c) and (d). Government owns 100% equity of Hindustan Copper Limited. However it has been decided, in principle, to disinvest part of the share holding in HCL during 1992-93.

(e) The following are some of the important steps taken by the government for achieving greater self-sufficiency in non-ferrous metals including alloys

- (i) Production of non-ferrous metals and their alloys has been delicensed and metallurgical industry has been included in high priority list for automatic approvals and foreign technology transfer.
- (ii) Government has set up a Non-ferrous Materials Technology Development Centre (NFTDC) at Hyderabad for developing sophisticated high technology non-ferrous materials including alloys with a view to progressively indigenising supplies of these materials and products.

[English]

Attack on Civilian Aircraft in Jammu and Kashmir

972. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'IA pilots kept in dark about Stinger missile threat' appearing in the 'Pioneer', New Delhi dated November 18, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Uncorroborated intelligence reports have been received from time to time about stinger missile threats to airports in J&K. Indian Airlines was apprised of these and advised to take certain protective measures to ensure safe operation of aircraft.

(c) All possible security and counter measures at airports in Jammu & Kashmir are taken in consultation with the concerned agencies like Indian Airforce, paramilitary forces and J& K Police etc. The implementation of these measures is also monitored and reviewed by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security from time to time.

Meeting on National Water Board

973. SHRIMATI DILKUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting of the National Water Board has been held in January, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof with objectives for such meeting;

(c) whether representatives of States were invited to this meeting;

(d) if so, the details thereof with specific reference to Sikkim;

(e) whether any action plan on the suggestions made in the meeting has been drawn up; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Yes, Madam. The third meeting of the National Water Board was held on 20.1.1992 at New Delhi with the following objectives:

- (i) to review the progress of implementation of the National Water Policy;
- (ii) to assess the achievement of different institutions working on the water related activities;
- (iii) to recommend setting up of appropriate organisations for integrated development of Water Resources and;
- (iv) to make recommendations on the pattern of financing of the water development projects for speedy and systematic development.

(c) and (d). Yes, Madam. Chief Secretaries of all the States and Union Territories were invited to this meeting. Shri N.S.Lepcha, Secretary, Irrigation & Public Health Engineering Department, Government of Sikkim attended the meeting on behalf of the Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim.

(e) and (f). A Statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Action points arising out of the meeting of the National Water Board held on 20.1.1992.

1. States and Central Ministries to furnish the information on follow up in implementation of National Water Policy with regard to:

- (a) (i) Procedures/Rules/Guidelines
 - (ii) Institutional Mechanism, and
 - (iii) Allocation of Finance and Man power, in the format to be circulated
- (b) Establishing Science and Technology Committees at State level.
 - (2) States to return the revised draft Water Information Bill to the Board after getting it vetted by the respective Law Departments within a month's time.
 - (3) States to initiate action on performance evaluation (environmental, Social, economic and technical) of projects with commands larger than 1 lakh hectares.
 - (4) Indian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (INCID) to prepare format for evaluation of performance of projects with commands less than 1 lakh hectares.
 - (5) States to discuss cost sharing of Catchment Area Treatment with their Planning Departments and send their view to the Board within 2 months time.
 - (6) Two copies of the guideline on allocation of water for different uses to be sent to States/Union Territories/Central Ministries for rewording/modifying by way of slips and to return one copy to the Board.
 - (7) The report on Water Revenue Collection Mechanism alongwith updated reports of States to be sent to Shri Vaidyanathan's Committee on 'Pricing of Water'.

- (8) Suggestions for agenda items for the next meeting of National Water Resources Council.

S.T.D Facility on Public Telephones

974. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE. Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to provide STD facility on the telephones installed at public places; and

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the number of such telephone booths operating in Gujarat?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under our liberalised policy, PCOs with STD facility are provided under the franchise scheme to those who volunteer to run the same subject to technical feasibility and observation of departmental formalities. Apart from this, Public Telephones with STD facility are also being opened departmentally.

In Gujarat, 3681 Public Telephone Booths are operating as on 31.10.92.

Issue of Power Bonds

975. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to raise Rs. 1,650 crore through public bonds to finance central power projects during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details regarding its progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Against Rs 1,747 crores allocated by the Finance Ministry to the various Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power against issue of Bonds for the year 1992-93, only Rs. 50 crores could be raised so far through private placement.

[*Translation*]

Airlinks to New Areas

976. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
SHRI ASLAM SHER KHAN:
SHRI K P. SINGH DEO:
SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE:
KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO.
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION & TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the places proposed to be airlinked by Indian Airlines, Vayudoot and Pawan Hans Limited in the next three years, sector-wise and state-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to resume the suspended services of Vayudoot and Indian Airlines; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Indian Airlines, Vayudoot and Pawan Hans Limited have not taken any firm decision about the new stations to be airlinked in the next three years.

(b) and (c). Indian Airlines and Vayudoot may consider resumption of their suspended services subject to availability of operating aircraft and other resources and traffic potential justifying resumption of such services.

[English]

Disappearance of Aircraft near Thiruvananthapuram

977. SHRIRAMESHCHENNITHALA:
SHRIATALBIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI SHANKERSIN H
VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION & TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any inquiry has been made into the disappearance of TB-20, 4-seater trainee aircraft about 27 Km from Thiruvananthapuram recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the precautionary measures proposed to be taken to eliminate the possibility of similar incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Academy's TB-20 aircraft VT-EMD on a cross country flight from Bangalore to Trivandrum on 29.10.92 lost contact with Trivandrum air traffic control tower at about 2500 feet altitude and 26 nautical miles from Trivandrum airport. Despite extensive search the wreckage could not be located so far. The search is continuing. Director General Civil Aviation has appointed an inspector of accident to investigate the accident after which precautionary measure, if any, will be undertaken.

Report on Narmada Project

978. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH:
SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
REDDY:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-
DEYA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 76 on July 13, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the meeting of the Narmada Control Authority was held on July 125, 1992 to consider the views of the State Governments on the report by the independent review commissioned by the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Based on the clarifications received from the State Governments on the issues raised in the report of the Independent Review commissioned by the World Bank a joint response, was sent to the World Bank on 7.8.1992.

Warehouses at International Airport

979. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION & TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the union Government propose to set up warehouses at some important international Airports in the country including Thiruvananthapuram; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Demand for Newsprint

980. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand of newsprint in the country;

(b) whether the demand of newsprint can be met indigenously;

(c) if not, the total quantity of newsprint proposed to be imported during 1992-93; and

(d) the total amount of foreign exchange likely to be incurred thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) the total demand of newsprint in the country for the year 1992-93 is estimated to be 5.55 lakh metric tonnes.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). As the newspapers are allowed to purchase newsprint from foreign suppliers to meet their import requirements as per the current Import-Export Policy after decanalisation, it is not possible to indicate the quantity of newsprint that would be imported by the newspapers during this year and the foreign exchange involved therein.

Royalty to Himachal Pradesh for Power Production

981. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh has demanded any royalty from the Union Government for power production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The Government of Himachal Pradesh has demanded 12% free power as royalty for power production out of the Central Sector Baira Siul Hydro-electric Project located in Himachal Pradesh. The demand has been referred to the other beneficiary States viz Punjab, Haryana and the Union Territory of Delhi as this would result in reduction in their shares and increase in tariff.

Telephone in Rural Post Offices in Maharashtra

982. SHRI TEJSINGHRAO BHONSLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post-offices in the Nagpur and Amravati districts of Maharashtra, where the telephone facility is not available; and

(b) the time by which the Government propose to install telephone connections in all the rural post-offices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU). (a) The number of Post Offices without telephones facility in

Nagpur Distt. is 171 and in Amaravati Distt. is 269.

(b) There is no separate plan to provide Telephone facility in all the rural post offices. Government have planned to provide Telephone facility to Panchayat villages progressively by 31.3.1995 subject to availability of resources. The Post office is one of the suggested locations for installation of such Telephones.

Srinagar Power Project

983. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ongoing work at the World Bank aided Srinagar Power project in U.P. has been held up?

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to restart the construction work at this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The project works of Srinagar Hydro-electric Project have been held up due to suspension of World Bank assistance to this project and funds constraint faced by the Uttar Pradesh Government. The matter has been taken up with the World Bank authorities for revival of their assistance to this project.

Tourists in Kashmir Valley

984. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is continuous de-

crease in the number of tourists in Kashmir Valley; and

(b) if so, the number of tourists who visited the Valley during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There has been decline in tourist traffic to Kashmir Valley since 1989.

(b) According to the figures furnished by the State Government, the estimated number of tourists both domestic and foreign, who visited Kashmir Valley during the years 1989, 1990 and 1991 are 557977, 10722 and 6415 respectively.

[English]

Irrigation Projects

985. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH-HOODA:
SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY:
SHRI TEJSINGH RAO:
BHONSLE:
SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals for medium and major irrigation projects received by the Union Government during each of the last three years, state-wise;

(b) the details of proposals which have since been cleared, State-wise;

(c) the details of proposals still pending with the Union Government, State-wise;

(d) the time by which these are likely to be cleared, and

(e) the details of estimated cost in each case?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-

SOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) to (c) State-wise details of new major and Medium Irrigation Projects received during the last 3 years (October 1989 to September 1992) and their Status of appraisal and estimated cost is attached as Statement I & II respectively

STATEMENT - I

Number of new Major and Medium Irrigation Projects received from 1.10.89 to 30.9.1991

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total Proposals received									
		Oct. 1989 to Sep. 1990			Oct. 1990 to Sep. 1991			Oct. 1991 to Sep. 1992			Total
		Major	Medium	4	Major	Medium	6	Major	Medium	8	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	1	4	4	1	2	11	0		
2.	Assam	3	3	-	1	-	1	8			
3.	Bihar	2	2	5	1	-	-	10			
4.	Gujarat	-	4	-	5	-	1	10			
5.	Haryana	1	-	5	-	-	-	6			
6.	J & K	-	1	-	-	1	2	4			
7.	Karnataka	-	-	1	-	2	-	3			
8.	Kerala	2	-	-	-	1	-	3			
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2	1	2	2	8	1	16			

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total Proposals received							
		Oct. 1989 to Sep. 1990		Oct. 1990 to Sep. 1991		Oct. 1991 to Sep. 1992		Total	
		Major	Medium	Major	Medium	Major	Medium		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10.	Maharashtra	-	4	2	14	-	4	24	
11.	Orissa	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	
12.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
13.	Rajasthan	-	1	2	4	-	7	14	
14.	Uttar Pradesh	2	1	1	-	1	-	5	
		12	18	25	33	13	18	119	

STATEMENT - II

Statement giving Status of appraisal and estimated cost of new Major and Medium Irrigation Projects received from 1.10.1989 to 30.9.1992.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Projects found acceptable by Advisory Committee subject to observation deferred		Projects put up to the Advisory Committee but consideration deferred		Projects under correspondence with State Governments		Projects sent back to State Government		Estimated cost (Rs. in crores)
		Major	Medium	Major	Medium	Major	Medium	Major	Medium	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	3	2392.07
2.	Assam	-	-	1	-	1	2	1	3	509.25
3.	Bihar	1	-	-	-	5	-	1	3	820.58
4.	Gujarat	-	4	-	-	1	2	-	4	261.49
5.	Haryana	-	-	1	-	4	-	1	-	758.83
6.	J & K	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	63.67
7.	Karnataka	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	557.62
8.	Kerala	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	141.67

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Projects found acceptable by Advisory Committee subject to observation deferred		Projects put up to the Advisory Committee but consideration deferred		Projects under correspondence with State Governments		Projects sent back to State Government		Estimated cost (Rs. in crores)
		Major	Medium	Major	Medium	Major	Medium	Major	Medium	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Madhya Pradesh	2	-	-	-	6	3	5	-	5008.73
10.	Maharashtra	-	5	-	-	2	5	-	12	438.32
11.	Orissa	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	64.97
12.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	49.61
13.	Rajastha	1	1	-	-	1	4	1	6	924.14
14.	Uttar Pradesh	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	201.05
Total:		6	10	2	-	26	24	18	33	1212.00

Note. The clearance of Projects depends upon how soon the State Government is able to comply with the comments of the Central Appraising Agencies.

[Translation]

Jaipur as International Airport

986. SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION & TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to develop the Jaipur airport as an international airport;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government of Rajasthan has submitted any proposal for the improvement of standards of airport at Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Since the existing international airports and domestic airports handling international flights are adequate for the present international traffic to/from India, there is no proposal to develop Jaipur airport as an international airport.

(d) to (f). A proposal had been received from the Government of Rajasthan to upgrade the airports at Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur. National Airports Authority has taken up major expansion/modification of the existing terminal building at Jodhpur. As regards Udaipur airport, National Airports

Authority is ready with plans and as soon as land is made available by the State Government the work for upgradation will start. Jaipur has been chosen as one of the airports to be developed as model airport.

[English]

Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited

987. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHAKUR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any World Bank assistance has been sought for the purchase of pollution abatement equipments for the Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited, Bhadravathi;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance and number of pollution abatement equipments to be purchased from the assistance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has obtained a loan from the World Bank for a technical assistance project which includes purchase of pollution control equipment also. SAIL has allocated Rs. 8.16 crores from the loan to Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited, Bhadravathi (VISL) for purchase and installation of air pollution control equipment at VISL. Total estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 10 crores which covers installation of air pollution control systems at ferro-silicon plant, electric arc furnace and lime calcination unit.

Details of the equipments are as under:

Ferro-Silicon Furnace

1 No. bag house of 2,00,000 m³/Hr Capacity

EAF Furnace

1 No. Bag house of 1,89,000m³/hr capacity.

Lime Calcination Plant

1. No. Bag house of 8,100 m³/hr capacity

(c) Does not arise.

Master Plan for Irrigation in West Bengal

988. SHRI RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK:
SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have considered the master plan on irrigation-cum-drainage-cum-navigation-cum-pisciculture in Sundarban area in West Bengal Submitted to the Central expert team in October, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). During the visit Central Team in October, 1992, a broad indicative outline of possible Master Plan for Irrigation Drainage, Flood Control, Navigation and Pisciculture for benefitting the districts of 24 parganas South and North was made available for the study and consideration of the team. The proposal was in the form of fund requirement listing out works like watered development project for rainfed area involving the construction of thousand hectares ponds, excavation and rehabilitation of drainage channel with sluices and gates for drainage as well as irrigation

purposes; anti-erosion works, improvement of vulnerable bundlies; improvement of navigation channels for quicker and safer implementation of inland water transport system by introduction of fibre glass boats, production of seed and feed for pisciculture etc. The rough estimate of the proposal was of the order of Rs. 767 crores. After examination in Central Water Commission the State Government was advised to prepare a detailed and well worked out master plan indicating the need, objectives, and development strategies leading to a plan of action. It was also pointed out that the Master Plan has to follow with Project reports on specific schemes contained therein with its techno-economic viability and assigned priority.

(c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Rural Electrification in U.P., Orissa and Gujarat**

989. SHRIRAJENDRAAGINIHOTRI:
SHRI N.J. RATHVA:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Gujarat have since been electrified and the number not electrified so far, district-wise; and

(b) the time by which the remaining villages are likely to be electrified and the target fixed for 1992-93 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) Gujarat State has declared cent percent electrified by 28.2.89. The District-wise number of electrified and un-electric lifted villages in respect of Gujarat, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh is given in statement I, II and III respectively.

(b) The unelectrified villages will be

electrified in 8th ans subsequent five year plans subject to availability of funds and other inputs. The target for village electrification for 1992-93 in respect of Orissa and Uttar Pradesh is as under:

Orissa	-	860
Uttar Pradesh	-	980

STATEMENT-I

Districtwise details of villages electrified in Gujarat State

Sl No	Districts	Total No of villages (1981 Census)	Villages electrified
1	2	3	4
1	Valsad (Balsar)	821	819 (+)
2	Surat	1190	1190
3	Dangs	31*	311
4	Bharuch	1123	1099 (+)
5	Vadodara (Baroda)	1651	1637 (+)
6	Panchmahals	1895	1872 (+)
7	Kheda (Kaira)	965	965
8	Ahmadabad	653	653
9	Gandhinagar	75	75
10	Sabarkantha	1359	1341 (+)
11	Manesana	1089	1087 (+)

Sl. No.	Districts	Total No. of villages (1981 Census)	Villages electrified
1	2	3	4
12.	Banaskantha	1368	1368
13.	Kutch	887	866 (+)
14.	Rajkot	854	854
15.	Surendra Nagar	648	648
16.	Bhavanagar	866	864 (+)
17.	Amreli	595	595
18.	Jamnagar	693	690 (+)
19.	Junagarh	1071	958 (+)
Total:		18114	17892 (100.0%) (+)

(+) - Gujarat has achieved 100% village electrification as on 28.2.1989 by electrifying 17892 villages. However, 222 villages have been declared non-feasible.

STATEMENT

Districtwise details of villages electrified and yet to be electrified as on 31.3.92 in Orissa State.

Sl. No.	Districts	Total no of villages (1981 Census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.92	Villages yet to be electrified as on 1.4.92
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Balasore	3832	3101	731
2.	Bolangir	2537	2030	507
3.	Cuttack	6036	5279	757
4.	Dhenkanal	2891	2072	619
5.	Ganjam	4185	2942	1243
6.	Kalahandi	2695	1500	1195
7.	Keonjhar	2045	1662	383
8.	Koraput	5848	2594	3254
9.	Mayurbhanj	3729	2320	1409
10.	Phulbani	3406	1438	1968
11.	Puri	4448	3656	792

Sl. No	1	2	3	4	5
	Total no of villages (1981 Census)			Villages electrified as on 31.3.92	Villages yet to be electrified as on 1.4.92
12.		Sambalpur	3436	2479	.957
13.		Sundergarh	1665	1409	256
		Total:	46553	32482	14071

STATEMENT - III

District wise details of villages electrified and yet to be electrified as on 31.3.1992 in Uttar Pradesh State.

Sl. No.	Districts	Total No. of villages (1981 Census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.92	Villages yet to be electrified as on 1.4.1992
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Saharanpur	1700	1631	69
2.	Hardwar			
3.	Meerut	920	1039 (*)	-
4.	Ghaziabad	704	754 (*)	-
5.	Bulandshahar	1365	1404 (*)	-
6.	Muzaffarnagar	927	929 (*)	-
7.	Aligarh	1704	1703	1
8.	Mathura	867	867	-
9.	Agra	1174	1129	45
10	Ferozabad			
11.	Mainpuri	1371	1144	227

Sl. No.	Districts	Total No. of villages (1981 Census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.92	Villages yet to be electrified as on 1.4.1992
1	2	3	4	5
12.	Etah	1510	1099	411
13.	Bareilly	1901	1383	518
14.	Bijnor	2154	1669	485
15.	Budaun	1785	1375	410
16.	Moreadabad	2473	2227	246
17.	Rampur	1092	813	279
18.	Shahjahanpur	2124	1134	990
19.	Pilibhit	1198	767	431
20.	Farrukhabad	1577	1390	187
22.	Kanpur Nagar			
23.	Kanpur Dehat	1885	1228	657
24.	Fatehpur	1349	1104	245

Sl. No.	Districts	Total No. of villages (1981 Census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.92	Villages yet to be electrified as on 1.4.1992
1	2	3	4	5
25.	Allahabad	3514	3059	455
26.	Jhansi	759	523	236
27.	Lalitpur	683	326	357
28.	Jalaun	939	638	301
29.	Hamirpur	917	536	381
30.	Banda	1207	762	445
31.	Varanasi	3662	2609	1053
32.	Mirzapur			
33.	Sonbhadra	3034	1249	1775
34.	Jaunpur	3245	2967	278
35.	Ghazipur	2540	2543 (*)	
36.	Gorakhpur			

Sl No	Districts	Total No of villages (1981 Census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.92	Villages yet to be electrified as on 1.4.1992
1	2	3	4	5
37	Maharajganj	4110	2657	1453
38.	Ballia	1920	1727	193
39	Deona	3538	2291	1247
40	Basti	6929	3162	3767
41	Sidharth Nagar			
42	Azangarh			
43	Mau	4935	4539	396
44	Lucknow	899	916 (*)	-
45	Rae-Bareli	1731	1749(*)	
46	Unnao	1687	933	754
47	Sitapur	2330	1018	1312
48	Hardoi	1881	926	955

SI No	Districts	Total No of villages (1981 Census)	Villages electrified as on 31 3 92	Villages yet to be electrified as on 1 4 1992
1	2	3	4	5
49	Khen	1699	1288	411
50.	Faizabad	2645	2172	473
51.	Gonda	2809	1547	638
52	Bahraich	1884	1347	537
53	Sultanpur	2492	2398	94
54	Pratapgarh	2185	1547	638
55	Barabanki	2043	963	1080
56	Nainital	1806	1802	4
57	Almora	3019	2351	668
58	Pithoragarh	2174	1366	808
59	Dehradun	743	712	31
60	Uttarkashi	669	601	68

Sl. No.	Districts	Total No. of villages (1981 Census)	Villages electrified as on 31.3.92	Villages yet to be electrified as on 1.4.1992
1	2	3	4	5
61.	Chamoli	1516	1105	411
62.	Pauri-Garhwal	3237	1907	1330
63.	Tehri-Garhwal	1953	1307	646
Total:		112566	83309 (*)	29505 (**)

(*) Includes unclassified villages (***) Figures are provisional due to certain unclassified villages being included.

[English]

Functioning of AI, IA, and Vayudoot

990. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircraft with Air India, Indian Airlines and Vayudoot at present;

(b) the number of over-aged aircrafts of AI, IA and Vayudoot, out of them;

(c) the net profit/loss earned by each of them during each of the last three years; and

(d) the strength of crew per aircraft as per international norms and the number of employees working for one aircraft in AI, IA Vayudoot?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a)

Air India	22
Indian Airlines	52
Vayudoot	17

(b) Normally aircraft which are over 20 years old, are considered as overaged. The number of such aircraft in the three airlines is as follows:

Air India	3
Indian Airlines	4
Vayudoot	8

(c) Net profit/Loss

(Rupees in crores)

	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
Air India	70.89	81.23	145.89
Indian Airlines	(15.24)	(64.59)	(198.85)
Vayudoot	(35.83)	(37.08)	(30.59)

(d) The crew per aircraft varies from airlines to airline depending upon the type of aircraft, its utilisation, flight duty time limitations, etc. Average number of employees per aircraft in Air India, Indian airlines and Vayudoot is 726,412 and 92 respectively.

[Translation]

Buildings for Telephone Exchanges in States

991. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SUL-

TANPURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of buildings for telephone exchanges have been approved by the Government during the last one year in each State; and

(b) the amount allocated for this purpose, State-wise?;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

P.V. RANGAYYANAIDU: (a) 265 buildings have been approved during the last year. Statewise details indicated in Annexure.

(b) Statewise details of the amount allocated are indicated in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

9
 NNE

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of Buildings for Telephone Exchanges approved last year	Amount allocated for this purpose Rs.
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	2,69,16,680
2.	Assam	2	15,38,960
3.	Bihar	8	3,20,00,000
4.	Haryana	3	49,81,900
5.	Himachal Pradesh	5	97,95,000
6.	Gujarat	10	23,25,79,209
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	22,20,000
8.	Madhya Pradesh	17	3,2300,000
9.	Maharashtra (Including ...)	50	11,50,00,000

Sl No	Name of State	No of Buildings for Telephone Exchanges approved last year	Amount allocated for this purpose Rs
1	2	3	4
10	North Eastern States		
	i Meghalaya	1	12 50,000
	ii. Nagaländ	1	63,00,000
	iii Tripura	12	21 86,000
	iv Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil
	v Manipur	Nil	Nil
	vi Mizoram	Nil	Nil
11	Punjab	18	3 9 94,000
12	Orissa	3	6 00,000
13	Karnataka	15	8,7,56,000
14	Kerala	41	10 37 61,000
15	Rajasthan	12	2,55,85,000

Sl. No	Name of State	No of Buildings for Telephone Exchanges approved last year	Amount allocated for this purpose Rs.
1	2	3	4
16	Tamil Nadu	35	11,05,22,000
17	Uttar Pradesh	11	6,15,00,000
18	West Bengal	7	42,01,188
19	MTNL Bombay	3	89,55,000
20	MTNL Delhi	1	1,28,55,400

[English]

[Translation]

Closure of Mines at Kolar Goldfields

992 SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI
SHRI K H MUNIYAPPA
SHRI V KRISHNA RAO

will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have decided to close down the Gold Mines at Kolar Goldfields in a phased manner,

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether there is enough scope for continuing shallow mining

(d) whether there is any proposal to transfer Kolar Goldfields workers to Hutti Gold Mines, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) (a) and (b) Government had taken a decision in 1987 to phase out three old gold mines in Kolar area, namely the Mysore Mine, the Champion Reef Mine and the Nundydroog Mine over a period of 7 years. Accordingly, working of the Mysore mine and, deep levels of Champion Reef and Nundydroog mines has been phased out

(c) The investigations carried out so far indicate some shallow deposits with limited potential

(d) No, Sir

(e) Does not arise

Misuse of Telephone Lines in Delhi

993 SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA
SHRI RATILAL VARMA
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH
SHRI RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware that the telephone lines of a number of subscribers are being misused by the employees of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited in Delhi for overseas communications particularly to Gulf countries to help certain businessmen,

(b) whether the Government have issued any instructions to get the matter investigated by the CBI,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps Government propose to take to check such illegal practices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Yes Sir some such instances have come to the notice of the Government

(b) Joint raids are arranged by the vigilance machinery of MTNL alongwith CBI whenever any such case comes to notice

(c) On 4 11 92 during a joint raid conducted by the MTNL vigilance staff and CBI, one Official of MTNL was found involved in misusing telephone facility for STD/ISD calls. The official was arrested by the CBI.

(d) With a view to check such illegal practice, four special Cells of CBI, each under the charge of Superintendent of Police, are being set up at Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta to work in coordination with Departmental Officers. A High Level Committee is being set up to examine the vigilance set up with D O T and recommend remedial measures.

Use of Imported Equipments in W.B. Aided Power Projects

994 DR LAL BAHADUR RAWAL
SHRI M V CHAN-
DRASHEKARA MUR-
THY
SHRI NITISH KUMAR
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE
SHRI V SREENIVASA
PRASAD

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the World Bank has imposed conditions to use imported equipments and spares in its aided thermal power projects despite indigenous availability

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

(c) the amount spent on the import of the equipments and spares during each of the last three years and

(d) the action taken by the Government to make use of indigenous equipments in the thermal power projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) to (d) In case of projects executed with world Bank assistance, it is expressly agreed with the Bank that the equipment for

the projects under the contracts awarded will be procured in accordance with procedures consistent with the 'Guidelines for procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credit' published by the Bank, which do not exclude indigenous bidders, in fact indigenous manufacturers are granted a margin of preference in international competitive bidding thereby providing an advantage to them in competing with international firms.

The amount spent on import of equipments and spares procured for thermal power projects under World Bank aid bank aid during the last three years is as under

<i>(Rs in lakhs)</i>	
<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount released for import</i>
1989-90	3 44 90
1990-91	45 06
1991-92	1,67,21 46

[English]

Operation of Foreign Airlines

995 DR RAJAGOPALAN
SRIDHARAN
SHRI PRAKASH V PA-
TIL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow foreign airlines to operate in India without demanding Air India's right to fly in that country,

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether the Government have permitted landing facilities to some international airlines, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) No Sir

(b) does not arise

(c) and (d) Landing facilities to international airlines are generally granted under bilateral air services agreements. These facilities are given on the generally accepted principle of reciprocity.

Delhi Entertainment Tax Policy

996 SHRI N K BALIYAN Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to review entertainment tax policy in Delhi, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) (a) and (b) the Constitution vide Entry No 69 of the State List provides complete powers to State Governments in the matter of levy of entertainment tax for exhibition of films. The Central Government do not have statutory powers to issue direction to them in this respect.

[Translation]

Telecast of Hindi News Bulletins in States

997 SHRIRAMPUJANPATEL Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the National Programme of Hindi News Bulletin is not being telecast in some parts of the country,

(b) if so, the names of such States and the reasons therefor, and

(c) the arrangements made to telecast Hindi news bulletin in all States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) (a) to (c) The National News Bulletin in Hindi is relayed by all the Kendras except Door-darshan Kendra Madras. The relay of this Bulletin by Dooradarshan Kendra Madras was discontinued on the request of the Government of Tamil Nadu. No decision to restore this bulletin from Madras Kendra has been taken.

[Translation]

Tenughat Thermal Power Project

998 SHRI SHIBU SOREN Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the construction work at the Tenughat thermal power project has been completed

(b) if not, the reasons therefor

(c) the amount spent on the project so far and the quantum of power likely to be generated by it at the first stage, and

(c) the number of persons provided employment whose land has been acquired for this project and the number of those yet to be provided employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) No, Sir, The construction work in respect of Tenughat Thermal Power Project

Stage-I (2x210 MW) which was sanctioned in March, 1979 has not been completed

(b) The reasons for delay in completion of the project include delay in acquisition of land, delay in finalisation of contract on turnkey basis with BHEL paucity of funds law and order problems at site delay in readiness of stack and delay in availability of start-up power

(c) An amount of Rs 675.32 Crores has been spent upto June 1992 on this project. On completion of first stage of the project, a total of 420 MW of power is likely to be generated

(d) The Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited have informed that 366 persons, whose land have been acquired have already been provided employment. The District Administration has however not finalised the additional list of persons who could be considered for providing employment

[English]

Constitution of Broadcasting Council

999 SHRI RABI RAY
SHRI SIMON MARANDI
SHRI N J RATHVA

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have recently constituted a Broadcasting Council,

(b) if so the details thereof, and

(c) the names of the members and the specific tasks assigned to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS)

(a) to (c) Yes Sir Government have constituted "Air Time Committee of India" under the scheme for allotment of time slots on the metre channels of Doordarshan and FM channels of All India Radio. Names of Chairman and Members and functions of the Committee are given in the attached statement

STATEMENT

The Names of Chairman and Members and Functions of the Broadcasting Council (since Renamed Air Time Committee of India)

1	Shri P S Deodhar	Chairman
2	Ms Minal Pande	Member
3	Shri Nikhil Chakravorty	Member
4	Shri Habib Tanvir	Member
5	Shri Anil Bordia	Member
6	Dr (Mrs) Kapila Vatsyayan	member
7	A representative of the Ministry of Information	Ex-officio Member

and Broadcasting

8. Director General and Engineer-in-Chief Doordarshan when matters relating to Doordarshan are deliberated Ex-Officio member
9. Director General and Engineer-in-chief All India Radio when matters relating to All India Radio are deliberated Ex-Officio Member

Functions of the Committee

- (a) Invite applications by issue of public notice from individuals who should be citizens of India/companies with majority Indian shareholding/partnership firms all of whose partners should be citizens of India for the purpose of allotment of time slots on the television/radio channels.
- (b) Issue licence and allocate suitable time slots for the programmes on the channels of AIR/Doordarshan.
- (c) Review the programmes telecast/broadcast by the licenses.
- (d) Consider, decide and take action for suspension/ revocation of licence.
- (e) Decide the quality parameters for the programmes on the channels.
- (f) Act as the forum for redressal of complaints/grievances in respect of the programmes telecast/ broadcast by the licenses under this Scheme.

Pending Power Projects

1000. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW:
DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM:
SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH:
SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT:
SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE:
SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN:
SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJIKSHIRSAGAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of hydro-electric and thermal power projects of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra pending for clearance by the Union Government at present;

(b) the reasons for the delay in giving clearances; and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be cleared and commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The flowing power projects of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Mahar-

ashtra are pending for approval by the Union Government -

<i>S No</i>	<i>Name of Projects</i>	<i>Presents Status</i>
<i>Kerala</i>		
1	Puyankutty (H) (2x120 MW MOE &F	Techno-economically cleared by CEA and is awaiting clearance from
2	Adirappally (H) (2x80 MW)	
3	DG Power Plant near Brahamapuram (100MW) (T)	All linkages/replies to comments and up dated project reports awaited
4	DG Power plant at Kasarkode (T) (60MW)	
5	DG Power plant near Vadakara (T) (120MW)	
<i>Tamil Nadu</i>		
1	Paralayar (H) (1x25 MW) CEA and is awaiting clearance from	Techno economically cleared by MOE&F
2	Pillaiperumalnullur CCGT-Stage I (T) (300MW)	Techno-economically cleared by CEA and is awaiting investment decision
3	Pillaiperulamnullur CCGT- Stage II (T) (300(MW)	All linkages/clearances awaited
4	North Madras Stage II (T) (1x500MW)	
5	Lignite Based TPS at Srimushnam (Neyeli)- M/s Tamil Nadu Industries Captive Power Corpn Ltd (M/s TICAPCO) up various inputs M/s GM Swamy Associates (1x210 MW) I (1x250 MW)II	CEA Intimated M/s G M Swamy Associates on 13/11/91 that this proposal appears to be feasible and Promoted by may take action to tie and submit updated report within 2 months for further consideration
<i>Maharashtra</i>		
1	Bhivpuri Pumped Storage	Techno-economically cleared be

S.No.	Name of Projects	Presents Status
	Scheme (H) (1x90 MW)	by CEA and is awaiting investment decisions.
2.	Western Maharashtra TPS (BSES Ltd.) (T) (500MW) decisions.	Techno-economically cleared by CEA and is awaiting investment decisions.
3.	Pimplegaon Joge Pumped Storage (H) (2x300 MW) awaited.	Environment clearance is pending. Replies to CEA-CWC comments awaited.
4.	Barge Mounted Power Plant by M/s. Confidence shipping Co. Ltd, Maharashtra near Dabhol (110 MW)	All linkages/clearances awaited.
5.	Dabhol CCGT by M/s. Enron power Corpn. USA and General Electric Corpn. USA (2000 MW 2550 MW)	All linkages/clearances awaited.

(c) Techno-economic clearance and investment approval depend upon several factors including the comprehensiveness of the project report received from the project authorities in replying to various comments/ observations made by the Central Electricity Authority and or Central Water Commission, availability of various inputs and clearances such as fuel availability, clearance from environment and forest angles, constraints of funds, etc. In view of those, it is difficult to assess as to how long it may take for obtaining the requisite statutory clearances from all concerned to finally accord clearance to the concerned projects.

European Community Assistance in Computers and Telecom. Areas

1001. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:
PROF. RITA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals have been received from European Community for assistance in the areas of computers and telecommunications;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding on technical cooperation and exchange of experts in different fields of telecommunications has been signed in April 1981 between Government of India and the Commission of European countries (CEC). As part of the

MOU a few Indian engineers were deputed under various schemes. Also a work station on exchanges of data interchange on inet between India and European countries has been set up in October, 1992.

[Translation]

Telephones to Freedom Fighters

1002. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide telephone connections on priority basis to freedom fighters; and

(b) if so, the criteria fixed for the purpose and the time by which this facility is likely to be provided?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Sir, with effect from 15th August, 1992, freedom fighters have been made eligible for provision of a telephone connection on top most priority basis under the "Swatantra Senani" category (non-OYT-SWS). Prior to this, freedom fighters were eligible for registration for telephone connection under "NON-OYT-Special" category. Each freedom fighter fulfilling the prescribed requirements is eligible for a telephone connection under this category at a place where he normally resides. No installation fee is charged and only half the normal rental is chargeable under this category.

New Tourists Spots

1003. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified any new tourist-spots for development in the country;

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

(c) the amount allocated during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, till date, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The identification and development of new tourist sports is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Governments. However, the Central Government extends financial assistance on specific proposal for development of tourism infrastructure on the basis of their merits, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

[English]

Conference of State Irrigation Ministers

1004. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
SHRIR. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tenth National Conference of water Resources and irrigation Ministers had stressed to expedite the ongoing projects and strive to complete them during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the other recommendations made in the conference;

(c) the details of the state ministers attended the conference; and

(d) the steps suggested to expedite the

water projects which are pending or incomplete so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The recommendations made in the Conference are given in Statement -I

(c) A list of State Ministers who attended the conference is enclosed in the Statement II

(d) the Conference recommended full allocation of the required funds during Eighth Plan period to ensure completion of the projects which are in the advanced stage of construction, formulation of Action Plans for completion of identified project close monitoring of the progress of the projects and carrying out comprehensive quarterly reviews of their progress

STATEMENT

Recommendations made in the tenth National Conference of Water Resources and Irrigation Ministers of States and Union Territories Held on 21st September, 1992

Item No 1 Founding or Irrigation projects

(i) In view of resources crunch it is imperative that thin spreading of funds is avoided and projects in advanced stage of construction allocated full requirement of funds to ensure their completion in the Eighth Plan period

(ii) State Governments shall formulate and vigorously pursue comprehensive action plans for completion of identified projects yearwise, during Eighth Plan and allocate required funds for each

(iii) State Government shall closely monitor progress of these projects, carry out comprehensive quarterly reviews and keep Central Water Commission Ministry of Water Resources and Planning Commission informed

(iv) State Government may consider increasing Plan allocation to irrigation sector in order to take up extremely needed new projects to correct regional imbalance To augment resources they may consider charging beneficiaries of established irrigated areas

Item No 2 Provision of water Supply From Irrigation Projects

(i) In conformity with the National Water Policy, irrigation and multi purpose projects ought to include drinking water component to meet the needs of human beings and animals

(ii) For such purposeful project formulation State Governments shall set up a multi-disciplinary unit comprising experts from Urban and rural Water supply Departments State Governments shall also ensure proper coordination in respect of planning funding and execution so that works connected with drinking water component of projects proceed *pari passu* with other components

Item No 3 Environmental Preparation for Water Resources projects

(i) Every state shall set up an environmental multi-disciplinary unit comprising experts from disciplines like water resources engineering, agronomy, forestry, fishery, sociol-

ogy, archaeology, health, welfare, etc. under the charge of the concerned Secretary, to assist Project authorities in formulation and implementation of water resources projects incorporating environmental concerns;

- (ii) an Environmental Data Bank Cell for collection storage and retrieval of environmental data; and
- (iii) a State level environmental monitoring mechanism to oversee implementation of environmental safeguards laid down by Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Item No. 4 Rehabilitation Measures for Water Resources projects

- (i) Draft National Policy on resettlement and rehabilitation shall be recast after considering comments from States and placed before the National Water Resources Council for approval within three months.
- (ii) Keeping in view the principles enunciated in the Draft National Policy, each State shall draw up its own detailed policy on resettlement and rehabilitation.
- (iii) In respect of Inter-State projects where submergence is limited to only one State, Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy of that State shall normally become applicable. where submergence is more in more than one State, a uniform agreed policy specific to that project shall be evolved by party States.

Item No. 5 Command Area Development Programmes

- (i) The Command Area Development Programme shall be recognised as command Area management Programme (CAMP) to make it multi-disciplinary and to realise effective implementation.
- (ii) The Control of entire irrigation network and implementation of Command Area Management Programme (CAMP) shall be placed under a single agency at the project level to ensure reliability of irrigation water supply.
- (iii) The distribution of irrigation water beyond the Minor through farmers organisation shall be encouraged to improve water utilisation and maintenance of infrastructure at micro-level.

Item No. 6 Rehabilitation of Minor Irrigation Tanks

- (i) Connected States give priority to rehabilitation/modernisation of existing tanks, if cost effective, on the basis of likelihood of quick restoration of already developed irrigation potential.
- (ii) They shall prepare consolidated Project reports for such works and pose them for external assistance where necessary.
- (iii) The government of India shall consider funding of such works from JRY provisions.

Item No. 7 Water Shed Programmes

The ongoing centrally sponsored scheme of soil conservation and Integrated Watershed Management in river valley catch-

ments shall continue. Cost of catchment area treatment need not be charged to the river valley projects because such treatment is needed primarily to prevent land degradation and sustain its productive capacity. The States shall take up similar schemes in catchments of selected minor irrigation tanks where catchments may be vulnerable.

Item No.8 : Ground Water Research Programme

- (i) As ground water development in some areas of the country has caused decline of ground water levels, concerned States shall take steps to augment ground water recharge.
- (ii) The State Government shall consider recharge schemes in specific hydrogeological situations for which recharge technologies have been evolved. Central Government shall through a centrally sponsored scheme, assist the States to initiate such works during the VIII plan.
- (iii) Central Ground Water Board may expedite exploratory and operational projects to evolve and test economics of appropriate technologies in such hydrogeologic situations where technologies are yet to be evolved.

Item No. 9 : Flood Management

- (i) In view of increasing pressure of population and developmental activities on flood plains top priority shall be given to measure for flood proofing of civic amenities so that the adverse effect of floods on daily life of inhabitants is minimized.
- (ii) Habitation and developmental works in flood plains without regu-

latory mechanism leads to increase in flood damages. Pending enactment of legislation on flood plain zoning, the State Governments shall take up suitable administrative measures for regulation of such works in flood plains.

- (iii) There is need to extend flood forecasting network to all flood-prone basins while modernising existing network.
- (iv) Preparation of flood risk maps shall be taken up on priority basis for creating public awareness and to ensure public participation in flood management.

Item No. 10 : Irrigation Management Policy

- (i) The conference broadly agrees with the thrust of the policy on proper management of irrigation system for the optimal use of water and the guidelines regarding operation and maintenance, conjunctive use, drainage, farmers, participation, maintenance grants, water rates, training etc., because it will help saving water while increasing productivity. Application of proven technologies like sprinkler drip etc., which also carry substantial incentives are recommended for acceptance.
- (ii) The Conference recommends that the policy be finalised at an early date under the auspices of the National Water Resources Council.

STATEMENT II

Andhra Pradesh

Shri C. Ramachandra Reddy,

Minister for Minor Irrigation.

Maharashtra

Assam

1. Shri Zahiru.l Islam, Minister of irrigation.
2. Shri Haren Bhumij, Minister for Flood Control.

1. Shri Padamsingh Patil, Minister of Irrigation.
2. Shri Ranjit Deshmukh, Minister of State for Irrigation.

Manipur

Bihar

Shri Jagdanand Singh, Minister for Water Resources.

Shri H.Thoi Singh, Minister for Irrigation & Flood Control.

Meghalaya

Gujarat

Shri C.D. Patel, Home Minister & Minister of Water Resources.

Shri C.W. Mark, Minister for Agriculture & Irrigation.

Mizoram

Haryana

Shri Jagdish Nehra, Minister for Irrigation & Parliamentary Affairs.

Shri Saikaphiana, Minister of State for Agriculture.

Orissa

Himachal Pradesh

Shri Vidhya Sagar, Minister for Irrigation & Public Health.

Shri Bijoy Mohapatra, Minister for Irrigation.

2. Shri R.K Patnaik, Minister for Rural Development.

Karnataka

1. Shri Malhangouda S. Patil, Minister for major & Medium Irrigation.
2. Shri K.S. Mallikarjuna Prasana, Minister of State for Minor Irrigation.

Punjab

Shri H.S. Brar, Minister of Irrigation & Power.

Rajasthan

1. Shri Mailash Meghwak, Minister for Irrigation.
2. Shri bhanwar Lal Sharma, Minister for Command Area Development.

Kerala

Shri T.M. Jacob, Minister for Irrigation & Culture.

Tamil Nadu

Madhya Pradesh

Shri Ramhit Gupta, Finance Minister.

Thiru S. kannappan, Minister for Public Works.

Tripura

Shri Ratimohan Jamatia, Minister for Public Works Department.

Uttar Pradesh

Shri Om Prakash Singh, Minister for irrigation.

West Bengal

1. Dr. Omar Ali, Minister in- Charge of Minor Irrigation.
2. Shri Debabrata Bandopadhyay, Minister in- Charge of Irrigation & water Ways.

Cellular Mobile Telephones

1005. SHRI PRITIVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have awarded contracts for starting cellular mobile telephones and Radio paging services in metropolitan areas;

(b) if so, the salient features of the terms and conditions of the offer alongwith the details of parties involved;

(c) whether these parties have offered to manufacture any equipments in the country; and

(d) the likely foreign exchange outflow annually in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The Government had provisionally selected 8 bidders for the award of contract for cellular mobile phones. However, since one of the unsuccessful bidders had gone to the Court, the matter is subjudice.

(c) Manufacture in the country was not one of the tender condition since the tender was for operation of cellular mobile service.

(d) One of the conditions of the tender document is that the entire foreign exchange requirement is to be met by the foreign partners. So the likely outflow of foreign exchanges is 'Nil'.

[Translation]

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges Into Electronics in Maharashtra

1006. DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number of telephone exchanges in Maharashtra and number out of them which are electronic exchanges; and

(b) the details of the telephone exchanges proposed to be converted into electronic exchanges during the current year, district-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Details are given Statement I

(b) Details are given in Statement -II

STATEMENT - I

District-Wise No. of Telephone Exchanges Working in Maharashtra and Electronic Exchanges out of them as on 31.10.1992

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Total No. of Exchanges.	Total No. of Electronic Exchanges.
1	2	3	4
1.	Pune	111(+ RLU)	62
2.	Thane	66	37
3.	Ahmednagar	152	69
4.	Aurangabad	51	22
5.	Jalna	32	11
6.	Latur	38	24
7.	Beed	31	14
8.	Osmanabad	24	14
9.	Nanded	54	24
10.	Parbhani	44	15
11.	Nagpur	59 (+3 RLU)	32

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Total No of Exchanges	Total No of Electronic Exchanges.
1	2	3	4
12	Akola	43	19
13	Amravati	51	26
14	Bhandra	50	28
15.	Buldhana	56	28
16	Wardha	34	22
17	Yavatmal	41	17
18	Kolhapur	80	31
19.	Solapur	76	48
20	Sindhudurg	37	15
21	Ratnagiri	62	20
22	Sangli	81	24
23	Satara	70	29
24	Nasik	117	52

No.	Name of the District	Total No of Exchanges.	Total No. of Electronic Exchanges.
	2	3	4
25.	Jalgaon	108	53
26.	Dhule	72	19
27.	Raigad	62	49

STATEMENT-II

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Number of the Telephone Exchanges Programmed for conversion during 92-93.</i>
Dhule	12
Raigad	8
Jalgaon	23
Nasik	14
Thane	10
Ratnagiri	21
Sangli	30
Sindhurdurg	6
Satara	18
Kolhapur	22
Solapur	24
Nagpur	1
Aurangabad	5
Jalna	2
Beed	5
Latur	5
Osmanabad	4
Nanded	6
Parbhani	8
Ahmadnagar	29
Pune	31

Name of District	Number of the Telephone Exchanges Programmed for conversion during 92-93.
Akola	11
Amrabati	12
Bhandara	9
Buldana	2
Chandrapur	5
Yeotmal	7

[English]

**International flights from Calcutta
Airport**

1007 SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HAN-
DIOJE
PROF MALINI BHATTACHAR-
AYA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether a number of foreign airlines
have sought Government's permission to
operate international flights from Calcutta

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether there is any proposal to
extend the open sky policy to the Eastern

region of the country

(d) if so, the details thereof and

(e) if not the reason therefor

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCIN-
DIA) (a) and (b) No, sir However, 29
airlines hold traffic rights over Calcutta but
only eighth are exercising such rights at
present

(c) (d) and (e) The open sky policy in
respect of cargo flights is applicable to all
airports open to international operations,
including those situated in the eastern re-
gion. Air taxis are permitted to operate to all
the authorised airports in the country which
are open to scheduled operations with prior
approval, wherever necessary, of the au-
thorities of the airports

Reopening of Bhati Mines in Delhi

1008. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any decision to reopen the Bhati Mines in Delhi;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Bhati Mines area has been notified as a Wild Life Sanctuary by the Delhi Administration.

Irregularities in Selection of T.V. Serials

1002. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether C.B.I. inquiry into the selec-

tion of sponsored serials by Doordarshan has pointed out in its report irregularities in the selection of 60 serials;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). The CBI has submitted an interim report according to which irregularities have been observed in the selection of 62 serials. They have proposed to register P.E. against some officials of Doordarshan and conduct an open probe to ascertain whether the officials have committed any criminal misconduct.

(c) Doordarshan has been directed to priorities the serials in respect of which CBI has not reported any irregularities. The prioritisation will be done on the basis of programme requirements of Doordarshan.

[*Translation*]

Pending Power Plants in Madhya Pradesh

1010. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the demand, production, supply and shortage of power position in much as on October 31, 1992, State-wise; and

(b) the position in regard to the Government's approval of the pending power plants along with their capacity proposed to be set

up in Madhya Pradesh as on date?

✦ THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF POWER, (SHRI KALP NATH
RAI): (a) State-wise power supply position

an Actual Energy generation during April-
October, 92 is given in Statement I & II.

(b) The required information is given
below:

MADHYA PRADESH

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Bansagar-Tons	2x10= 20	Cleared on 22.11.91 subject to certain conditions. Scheme sanctioned by State Govt. confirmation regarding fulfillment of conditions awaited. E & F clearance also pending.
	Bodhghat H.E. Project	500 MW (4x125 MW)	Sanctioned by the Planning Commission but awaiting clearance from MOEF.
2.	Hasdeo Bango H.E.P.	120 MW (3x40 MW)	Sanctioned by the Planning Commission but awaiting clearance from MOEF.
3.	Marikhera MPP (Mohini)	2x20 + 1x20	Under examination of CEA.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Remarks
1	2	3	4
	Sagar (H) (Power component) of Sindh River Project-Phase-II	=60	
4.	Vindhyachal STPP State-II	2x500 MW =1000 MW	Cleared by CEA in October, 1989 Awaiting investment decision.
5.	Raigarh (T)	2x500 = 1000	Certain Linkage/clearance to be tied-up.
6.	Pench TPS by M/s. Century Textiles & Industries Ltd.(T)	2x210 =420	Sanctioned by Planning Commission in 8/88 in State Sector.
7.	Bine (T)	4x250 = 1000	Certain linkages/clearance to be tied up.

STATEMENT - I

Actual Power Supply Position for April 92-October 92

(figures in MU net)

Region/State System	April 92 October 92				
	1	2	3	4	5
	Requirement		Availability	Shortage	
					(%)
NORTHERN REGION					
Chabdugarg		380	380	0	0.0%
Delhi		6168	6124	44	0.7%
Haryana		6778	6608	162	2.4%
Himachal Pradesh		869	869	0	0.0%
Jammu & Kashmir		1940	1661	279	14.4%
Punjab		11870	112261	609	5.1%
Rajasthan		7527	7368	156	2.1%
Uttar Pradesh		18830	16648	2182	11.6%
Total: (N.R.)		54354	50919	3435	6.3%

Region/State System	April 92 October 92				
	1	2	3	4	5
	Requirement	Availability	Shortage		(%)
WESTERN REGION					
Gujarat	14655	14277	378		2.6%
Madhya Pradesh	11759	1067	9.1%		
Maharashtra	24925	23387	1538		6.2%
Goa	438	438	0		0.0%
Total: (W.R.)	51777	48794	2983		5.8%
SOUTHERN REGION					
Andhra Pradesh	14455	13289	1166		8.1%
Karnataka	11660	8850	2810		24.1%
Kerala	4390	4195	195		4.4%
Tamil Nadu	14285	14052	233		1.6%
Total: (S.R.)	44790	40386	4404		9.8%

Region/State System	April 92 October 92				
	1	2	3	4	5
	Requirement	Availability	Shortage		(%)
ESTERN REGION					
Bihar	4705	2881	1824		38.8%
D V.C	4395	3323	1072		24.4%
Orissa	4790	4103	687		14.3%
West Bengal	7065	6551	514		7.3%
Total (E R)	20955	16858	4097		19.6%
NORTHEASTERN REGION					
A P	952	665	287		30.1%
Assam	14328	11977	2351		16.4%
Manipur	1593	1282	311		19.5%
Meghalaya	1534	1476	58		3.8%
Mizoram	602	467	135		22.4%

Region/State System	April 92 October 92				
	1	2	3	4	5
		Requirement	Availability	Shortage	(%)
Nagaland		83.8	67.3	16.5	19.7%
Tripura		168.3	131.0	37.3	22.2%
Total (N.E.R.)		2153.0	1785.0	368.0	17.1%
All India:		174029	158742	15287	8.8%

STATEMENT - II*State-wise/System-wise Energy Generation during April, 92 - October, 1992**(Figs in MU)*

<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Energy Generation</i>
BBMB	8414
Delhi	4401
Jammu & Kashmir	2033
Himachal Pradesh	1525
Haryana	2194
Rajasthan	4187
Punjab	6133
Uttar Pradesh	25947
Gujarat	13286
Maharashtra	22676
Madhya Pradesh	18142
Andhra Pradesh	16407
Karnataka	7122
Kerala	3696
Tamil Nadu	16078
Bihar	1569
Orissa	3012
West Bengal	8598
DVC	2853
Sikkim	21

(Figs. in MU)

<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Energy Generation</i>
Assam	582
Meghalaya	836
Tripura	96
Manipur	251
Arunachal Pradesh	0
All India	170059

[English]

Meeting of Power Ministers

1011 SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) the details of the decision arrived at the meeting of the state Power ministers held recently at New Delhi,

(b) whether the Union Government have accorded its approval to these decisions, and

(c) the time by which these decisions are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) to (c) A Conference of Power Ministers of States and Chairman of State Electricity Boards was convened at New Delhi on 4th April, 1992 where in the following resolutions were adopted

- (i) the need for State Electricity Boards to function on sound commercial principles and earn a statutory minimum return of 3% per annum as prescribed in the Electricity Supply Act 1948

(ii) the need to fix a minimum national agricultural tariff @ 50 paise per unit for the present

(iii) the need to immediately constitute the National and Regional Tariff Board

(iv) the need to accord utmost priority to hydro power development and add 25000 MW of hydro capacity in the next decade to improve the hydro thermal mix and thereby to enable the optimal utilisation of the installed capacity and enhance the reliability of the power system

The Central Government has constituted National Tariff Board and five Regional Tariff Boards. The State Electricity Boards are organisations under the State Governments and the decision to implement the resolutions has to be taken by the State Governments

[Translation]

Advertisements to newspapers published from Maharashtra

1012 SHRI VILAS RAO NAGNATH RAO GUNDEWAR Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the norms followed for release of advertisement to the newspapers published from Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government propose to liberalise the norms;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJA VYAS):

(a) Government advertisements are issued as per the publicity requirements and availability of funds to those newspapers which are empanelled with DAVP. This policy is uniformly applied to all newspapers including those published from Maharashtra

(b) No. Sir The present norms are considered adequate.

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

[English]

Newspapers registered with DAVP for Advertisements

1013. SHRICHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the number of newspapers, weeklies and periodicals registered with DAVP for the Government specified advertisements;

(b) the rate of DAVP advertisements and the criteria of registration of small newspapers, weeklies and periodicals by DAVP; and

(c) the number of fresh weeklies, periodicals and newspapers likely to be registered?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJA VYAS):

(a) There are at present 3317 newspapers/weeklies and periodicals registered with DAVP for issue of Government advertisements.

(b) DAVP advertisement rates are fixed on the basis of rate structure formulated by an expert committee for uniform application as related to their circulation. The broad criteria followed by DAVP for registration of newspaper/periodicals are given in the attached Statement.

(c) As on 24.11.1992, DAVP has received 255 fresh applications from newspapers/journals for registration.

STATEMENT

Broad criteria for registration of newspapers/periodicals with DAVP for issue of Government advertisements

1. Every newspaper must have got itself registered with the RNI and obtained the required registration certificate.
2. Newspaper/journals with a minimum paid circulation of not less than 2,000 copies. Relaxations, however, may be made in the case of the following:
 - (a) Specialised/scientific technical journals with a paid circulation of 500 copies per issue.
 - (b) Sanskrit newspapers/journals and newspapers/journals published in backward, border or remote areas or in tribal language or primarily meant for tribal readers and those published from J&K with a minimum paid circulation of 500 copies per issue.

3. Newspapers/journals should have an uninterrupted and regular publication for a period of not less than four months and should comply with the provisions of Press & Registration of Books Act, 1867 before they qualify for consideration for placing Government advertisements. For quarterly journals, they have

to bring out at least two issues before they are considered.

4. Newspapers/journals should have the following minimum print area to be acceptable for Government advertising:

<i>Periodically</i>	<i>Print area not less than</i>
Dailies	— 760 St. Col. Cms.
Weeklies & Fortnightlies	— 480 St. Col. Cms.
Monthlies & Other Periodicals	— 960 St. Col. Cms.

Exceptions might be made in the case of newspapers/journals published in tribal language or primarily for tribal readership.

5. Circulation of all newspapers/journals should be certified by a Chartered Accountant or by a Professional and reputed accounts body or institution

Retirement age for Pilots

1014. SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation has allowed pilots to fly till they reach the age of sixty;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have considered the growth of unemployed persons in this field; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d). Prior to 1991 there was no prescribed maximum age for issue of licence to Pilots. Taking into consideration relevant factors such as safety in commercial aviation, requirement of Pilots and their employment status, Government have prescribed with effect from 7.2.91 the maximum age for issue of Professional Pilots licence at 60 years.

Cochin Airport

1015. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for modernisation and expansion of the runway of Cochin airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to construct a new airport at Cochin; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) to (d) There is neither a proposal to expand the existing runway nor to construct a new airport at Cochin

Shortage of Pig Iron in West Bengal

1016 SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH
SHRI HARADHAN ROY
DR ASIM BALA

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware that shortage of pig iron in West Bengal has led to crisis in foundries there

(b) the requirements of pig iron for foundries in West Bengal

(c) the allocations made by the Government and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for allocation of more quantity to the State for the smooth functioning of the industry

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) Representations have been received regarding shortage of pig iron being faced by some units. This is mainly due to the poor lifting of material against offers made to the West Bengal Small Industries Corporation (WBSIC) by main producers

(b) Most of the foundry units in West Bengal are in the small scale sector. The requirement of pig iron for small scale industries including foundry units in West Bengal as indicated by Director of Industries, West Bengal, is 1,00,000 tonnes for the year 1992-93

(c) The total allocation of pig iron made

by the Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel (DCI&S) for small scale units of West Bengal including foundry units during the year 1992-93 is 75,000 tonnes (33,500 tonnes to the WBSIC and 41,500 tonnes to the Indian Foundry Association). Requirements of industries other than small scale units are met directly by the main producers in accordance with their distribution guidelines

(d) The allocation of pig iron made for small scale industries in West Bengal during the current year is 46.3% higher than the last year. DCI&S has requested WBSIC to respond quickly to offers made by the main producers. He has also advised the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and Indian Iron and Steel Company to supply directly to the consumers the quantity against lapses of offers.

To enable pig iron user industries to meet their full requirements, pig iron has been made freely importable. Import duty on pig iron has also been reduced from 55% to 35% with effect from 16th January, 1992. Government have also taken steps to encourage production of pig iron in the private sector.

Augmentation of T.V. Transmissions in North Eastern States

1017 SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARIDEVI Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether there are any projects to augment T.V. transmission, especially in tribal local languages in North Eastern States including Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Manipur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS)

(a) and (b) Besides the TV studio Centres functioning at Guwahati (Assam) and Agartala (Tripura) which are already telecasting regional programmes, studio Centres are presently under implementation at Dibrugah & Silchar (Assam), Shillong & Tura (Meghalaya), Imphal (Manipur), Kohima (Nagaland), Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh) and Aizawl (Mizoram) in the Northeastern region. Consequent on commissioning of the above mentioned TV studio Centres it would be possible to telecast programmes in local languages from the respective TV transmitters.

As regards expansion of TV coverage in North-eastern region 16 TV transmitter projects are at present under implementation/envisaged to be set up subject to availability of resources for the purpose.

Policy for new Airports

1018 SHRI Y S RAJASEKHAR REDDY Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to review its policy regarding sanctioning of new airfields

(b) if not the reasons therefor

(c) whether there is any proposal to modernise Gannavarām airport in Andhra Pradesh, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) and (b) The existing policy is working well and does not require revision

(c) and (d) The National Airports Authority (NAA) has drawn up plans for the upgradation of Vijayawada airport for Boeing-737 operations. But due to paucity of

resources with the National Airports Authority, it has not been above to take up the project so far.

Catering Contract

1019 SHRI SUDHIRSAWANT Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether contract of catering and other items for the Air India are awarded to foreign companies,

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

(c) whether any priority is given in the allotment of contracts to Cooperative Societies in the all Airlines and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) and (b) Catering contracts have not been given to foreign companies by Air India at Indian stations. However, certain consumables are procured from abroad on considerations of quality and non-availability in India. Catering items are supplied by foreign agencies when such items are needed to be uplifted abroad.

(c) and (d) Contracts are generally awarded on the basis of tenders. The offers of Co-operative Societies are given due consideration subject to competitiveness of rates, quality of material, capability for timely supply etc.

[Translation]

Communication facilities for Tourist places in M.P.

1020 SHRI ASLAM SHER KHAN Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to provide communication facility to important tourist places of tribal populated areas in Madhya Pradesh in order to link them with the major cities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are ten identified tourist places in Tribal Area of Madhya Pradesh (Bastar, Chanderi, Maheswar, Mandu, Omkareshwar, Pali, Pachmarhi, Rahatgarh, Burhanpur and Dhar). All the ten tourist places have been provided with telephone facility. The two tourist places, Burhanpur and Dhar, have also been provided the STD facility and the remaining are proposed to be provided with STD facility during 8th Five Year Plan period.

Rural post offices

1021. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the norms for setting up rural post offices;

(b) whether in some villages rural post offices have not been opened despite fulfilling requisite requirements; and

(c) if so, the State-wise number of such villages?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The norms for setting up of post offices are given in the attached statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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

STATEMENT

Criteria/Norms fixed for opening new post offices in rural areas

The following norms for opening branch post offices effective from 1/4/1991 have been adopted:-

(i) *Population:*

(a) *In Normal areas:*

3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO villages)

(b) *In the Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas:*

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

(ii) *Distance:*

(a) *In normal areas:*

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 KM.

(b) *The Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas:*

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

(iii) *Anticipated Income:*

(a) *In Normal areas:*

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33 1/3% of cost.

(b) *The Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas:*

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

[English]

Foreign aid to Orissa for flood control

1022. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes for flood control under foreign aid schemes received from the Government of Orissa pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) whether there is any demand for sanction of flood control scheme of Kansabansa river in Orissa out of foreign aid scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No flood control schemes sent by Government of Orissa under foreign aid are pending for approval with the Union Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Exploration of Minerals in Gujarat

1023. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will

the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to conduct survey for locating minerals in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have formulated any plan in this regard for Gujarat and other States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has undertaken four mineral investigations during 1992-93 in Gujarat. The details are as under:-

1. Structure, stratigraphy and mineralisation potential in the extension areas of the Ambamata Polymetallic Deposit, Banaskantha Distt.
2. Search for strategic minerals, Ghoda-Dhanpupa area, Banaskantha Distt.
3. Study of volcanics and associated rocks in Alech Hills for Gold occurrences, Jamnagar Distt.
4. Regional exploration for Lignite in Gujarat.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The mineral exploration programme formulated by GSI during the 8th Plan period for Gujarat and other States is as under:-

i. Mineral Exploration

A. Non-Coal Minerals/Metals

1. Basementals Programme - 46 investigations in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Karnataka, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, J & K, Maharashtra, Megha-

- laya, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala.
2. Gold Programme - 40 investigations in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Arunachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat.
 3. Tin-Tungsten Programme - 15 investigation in Haryana, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, J & K.
 4. Platinum Group of Metals Programme - 9 investigations in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Orissa, Maharashtra, J & K.
 5. Molybdenum Programme - 3 investigations in Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Meghalaya.
 6. Multimetals Programme - 13 investigations in Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Haryana, Sikkim.
 7. Diamond Programme - 8 investigations in Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh.
 8. Fertilizer Minerals in West Bengal.
 9. Ferrous Group of Minerals (Chromite, manganese etc.) in Orissa, Manipur.
 10. Limestone & Dolomite and other minerals in Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh.

B. Coal and Lignite

1. Damodar Valley Coal basin in West Bengal and Bihar (4 projects).

2. Rajmahal-Birbhum Master Coal Basin in West Bengal and Bihar (2 projects)
3. Mahanadi Valley Coal basin in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh (4 projects).
4. Sope Valley Basin in Madhya Pradesh (2 projects)
5. Wardha Valley Coal Basin, Maharashtra
6. Godavari Valley Coal Basin, Andhra Pradesh.
7. East Coast Lignite Field, Tamil Nadu.
8. West Coast Lignite Field, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

T.V. Relay Centres in Karnataka

1024. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Karnataka where T.V. relay Kendras are functioning and the capacity thereof;

(b) whether Belthangady, Sullia and Puttur taluks in Dakshin Kannada district are excluded from TV relay coverage;

(c) whether the Government have received a representation to include these areas in the T.V. relay coverage by setting up a relay centres in Puttur; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIYAVYAS):

(a) The requisite information is given in the attached Statement.

(b) to (d). The existing TV network in

Dakshin Kannada district of Karnataka comprising of 3 low power TV transmitters one each at Mangalore, Udipi and Bantwal is not expected to provide TV service to Belthangady, Sullia and Puttur taluks of the district due to large intervening distance from these transmitters. Representations have been received from time to time for strengthening of TV service in these areas of the district

With a view to strengthen TV service in the district, it is envisaged to replace the existing low power TV by a high power TV transmitters at Mangalore subject to the availability of adequate resources and inter-se priorities. On commissioning of this transmitter, the entire Dakshin Kannada district including Balchangady, Sullia and Puttur taluks, is expected to get TV service

STATEMENT

VV Transmitters in Karnataka

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Location of the transmitter</i>	<i>Power of the transmitter</i>
1	Bangalore	10 KW
2	Gulbarga	1 KW
3	Shimoga	10 KW
4	Athani	100 W
5	Bantwal	100 W
6	Bidar	100 W
7	Belgaum	100 W
8	Bellare	100 W
9	Bijapur	100 W
10	Chitradurga	100 W
11	Dharwad	100 W
12	Chickinagara #	100 W
3	Devangere	100 W
14	Chikodi	100 W
15	Gadag Betgaru	100 W
16	Sandur	100 W

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Location of the transmitter</i>	<i>Power of the transmitter</i>
17.	Hassan	100 W
18.	Hosp-et	100 W
19.	Kolar Gold Gield	100 W
20.	Karwar	100 W
21.	Madikeri	100 W
22.	Ranibennur	100 W
23.	Mangalore	100 W
24.	Mysore	100 W
25.	Sirsi	100 W
26.	Raichur	100 W
27.	Tiptur	100 W
28.	Udipi	100 W

Central Assistance to Irrigation Projects of Andhra Pradesh

1025. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposal for major irrigation projects received from Andhra Pradesh for inclusion in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the central assistance proposed to be provided during the plan period in each case?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) State Government has pro-

posed 17 major ongoing Pre-Eighth Plan projects with latest estimated cost of about Rs. 6778.5 crores and 7 new Major Projects with estimated cost of about Rs. 4685.5 crores for inclusion in the Eighth Plan.

(b) The Planning Commission has agreed to an outlay of Rs. 2066.78 crores during Eighth Plan for major and Medium Irrigation. Out of this about Rs. 1749 crores are for Ongoing Major Schemes and Rs. 33 crores are for new Schemes

Increase in Passenger Traffic at different Airports

1026. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in passenger traffic at different airports during the last three years, year-wise and domestic and international, passenger-wise; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to meet the increased passenger traffic?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) The steps include construction of new terminal complexes, expansion of runways, fast exit taxiways and aprons, modernisation of airports, air-traffic control and communication systems, where necessary and feasible.

STATEMENT

Number of Passengers at International Airports

Sl. No.	Airports	1989-90		1990-91		1991-92	
		Domestic	Int.	Domestic	Int.	Domestic	Int.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Bombay	4459285	3885379	3764208	3877987	4215328	3737588
2.	Delhi	3719117	2312750	2995224	2171308	2974938	2191275
3	Calcutta	1999426	391845	1714747	360336	1721846	439135
4	Madras	1529646	418475	1257407	470771	1361313	620393
5.	Tiruvandrum	598794*	252108*	269964	273683	205777	427266

*Calendar Year 1989

1991-92 Figures are Provisional

Calcutta Telephones to Private parties

1027 SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to hand over Calcutta telephones to a Consortium of Private Companies;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the details thereof along with the name of Companies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYY NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

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

[*Translation*]

Proposals from abroad for development of tourist sports

1028 SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received about the proposal from abroad for the development of various tourist places in India,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Power grid at Jagdishpur in Bihar

1029. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have released its share of the sanctioned amount for setting up a power grid at Jagdishpur, Bihar;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The Ministry of Power has not taken up any transmission project for implementation of Jagdishpur in Bhojpur district of Bihar.

[*English*]

Aircraft for Mail service

1030. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the department of posts has considered to acquire its own aircraft to operate night air mail services for expeditious mail delivery in Bombay, Madras, New Delhi and Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the time by which this arrangement is likely to be introduced?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

Power shortage in Eastern Zone

1031. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eastern Zone suffers from chronic power deficit;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to divert power to Eastern Zone from other surplus Zones; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) During the period April-October, 92, the energy requirement in Eastern Region was 20955 million units against which the availability was 16858 million units which represents a shortage of 4097 million units (19.6%).

(b) and (c). In order to mitigate the power shortage conditions in Eastern Region, assistance was provided by diverting power from neighbouring Northern, Western, Southern and North Eastern Regions depending upon day to day availability of power and system conditions. The details of assistance provided during April-October, 92 are as follows:-

<i>Assistance to Eastern Region from</i>	<i>Million Units (MU)</i>
Northern Region	169.2
Western Region	87.1
Southern Region	9.8
Northern Eastern Region	63.9

Temporary connections in Delhi

1032. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) the guidelines laid down and criteria fixed for sanction of temporary telephone connections;

(b) the minimum time within which a temporary telephone connection is sanctioned;

(c) the number of times the temporary

telephone connections are extended or re-sanctioned; and

(d) the number of temporary telephone connections given in Delhi during October, 1992?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Sir, temporary telephones are sanctioned by competent authorities for temporary requirements of applicants on the grounds of illness, functions, seminars, exhibitions, etc. Such connections are sanctioned immedi-

ately depending upon the need as stated above

(c) The temporary telephones are sanctioned/extended/re-sanctioned normally upto a maximum period of 4 years

(d) 641 temporary telephones were sanctioned in Delhi during October, 1992

News Readers in Delhi Doordarshan

1033 DR AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the number of permanent and casual news readers in Delhi Doordarshan Kendra,

(b) the amount being paid to a casual news reader,

(c) whether the Delhi Doordarshan workers union has submitted any demand regarding salaries, working conditions and other benefits,

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIYAVYAS)

(a) Four regular employees of Doordarshan and 44 Casual Artists are doing news-reading for Delhi Doordarshan

(b) Casual News Readers are paid @ Rs 500/- per assignment for the National Bulletins and Rs 250/- per assignment for the Regional Bulletins

(c) Government are not aware of any such union of News Readers in Delhi Doordarshan

(d) and (e) Does not arise

Open house for disposal of Telephone cases

1034 PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARAYA
SHRI AMAL DATTA
SHRI AJYO MUKHOPADYAY

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the details of the main points raised and the number of cases disposed of at the first open house session of Calcutta Telephones (South area) held recently?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) Sir, the following main points were raised at the Open House Session of Calcutta Telephones (South area) held recently

- (i) Problems relating to billing i.e. excess billing, issue of notice before disconnection for non-payment of bills and provision for cheque collection boxes in the Exchanges
- (ii) Problems in meeting the Commercial Officers
- (iii) Unhelpful attitude of the subordinate staff
- (iv) Inconvenience in visiting hours to meet the concerned officers for redressal of grievances

A total number of 168 individual complaints from the Subscribers regarding faulty telephones were received which have since been attended to. There were 41 specific complaints regarding non execution of work orders, out of which 7 work orders have

already been executed and the work is in progress to execute the remaining work orders

[*Translation*]

Telephone connections after issue of O.B. in Delhi

*1035 SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited has not provided telephones to its consumers after issuing O B number even after the expiry of three months

(b) if so the reasons thereof

(c) the number of such cases pending in

Delhi, exchange-wise, and

(d) the time by which all such cases are likely to be provided with telephone connections?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) and (b) Sir, most of the telephones have been installed within norms, after issue of the OBs. Some of the OBs pertaining to non-feasible areas where adequate cable pairs in external net work are not available to take beyond 3 months to provide

(c) Sir, a statement to this effect is placed on the table of the house (Annexure)

(d) All out efforts are being made to clear all pending cases by March 1993 end

STATEMENT

Statement showing the number of O Bs delayed beyond 3 months area wise and Exchange-wise

<i>Area</i>	<i>Name of the Exchange</i>	<i>No of OBs pending</i>
Central	—	—
East	Delhi Gate	80
	Shahdara/Yamuna Vihar	594
	Laxmi Nagar/Mayur Vihar	440
	Idgan	108
	Total	1222
North	Tiz Hazari	80
	Shakti Nagar	1322
	Keshav Puram	46

Area	Name of the Exchange	No. of OBs pending
	Narela	38
	Alipore	14
	Badli	122
	Rohini	124
	Total	1746
South	Nehru Place	684
	Okhla	283
	Hauz Khas	200
	Total	1167
West	Rajauri Garden	153
	Karol Bagh	592
	Delhi Cantt & Shadipur	32
	Janakpuri	115
	Najafgarh	153
	Nangloi	34
	Hari Nagar	28
	Total	1107
	Grand Total	5242

Power capacity in Madhya Pradesh

(a) the quantum increase in power generation capacity of each power station in Madhya Pradesh during each of the last three years;

*1036. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(b) whether the Union Government

proose to increase the present generation capacity of power stations in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Power Station wise increase in generating capacity (MW) in Madhya Pradesh is as under:-

<i>Power Station</i>	<i>Increase in Generating Capacity (MW)</i>		
	<i>1989-90'</i>	<i>1990-91</i>	<i>1991-92</i>
<i>Thermal Stations</i>			
Vidhyachal (NTPC)	420	210	0.0
<i>Hydro Stations</i>			
Ben Sagar	0.08	0.0	105.0
Bir Singpur	0.0	0.0	20.0

(b) and (c) Details of sanctioned and CEA cleared power projects in M.P. which

are likely to give benefits during 8th Plan period is given below -

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State	Type	Status	Total Installed Capacity (MW)	92-97 (MW)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Birsingpur UJ, 2	M.P.	(T)	(S)	420.0	420.0
2.	Pench T.P.S.	M.P.	(T)	(S)	420.0	420.0
3.	Birsingpur Ext	M.P.	(T)	(S)	420.0	420.0
4.	Bansagar Ton	M.P.	(H)	(S)	30.0	30.0
5.	Bansagar Ton	M.P.	(H)	(S)	60.0	60.0
6.	Hasdeo Bango	M.P.	(H)	(S)	120.0	120.0
7	Tawa LBC Hep	M.P.	(H)	(S)	12.0	12.0
8.	Raighat (50%)	M.P.	(H)	(S)	22.5	22.5
9.	Sar. Saro. (57%)	M.P.	(H)	(S)	285.0	285.0

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State	Type	Status	Total Installed Capacity (MW)	92-97 (MW)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Sar. Saro. (57%)	M.P.	(H)	(S)	541.5	541.5
11.	Bansagar Ton IV	M.P.	(H)	C	20.0	20.0
Grant-Total:					2351.0	2351.0

T = Thermal

H = Hydro

S = State Sector

C = Central Sector

[English]

Revenue losses in Telecom Department

1037 SHRIV SREENIVASAPRASAD.
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have recently adopted a policy making the staff members accountable for the loss of revenue suffered by the telecommunication department

(b) if so, the number of cases in which responsibility has been fixed for the losses, and

(c) to what extent the step taken has increased the efficiency?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Sir, disciplinary rules already contain provisions recovery of any pecuniary loss suffered by the Department or any employee if he can be held directly responsible. No new policy in this regard has been recently adopted

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

Commercial revenues of A.I.R. and Doordarshan

1038 SHRIK THULSIAH VANDAYAR
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the present rates of advertising for various categories of advertisements on Doordarshan and AIR

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the rates of advertising in AIR and Doordarshan and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIYAVYAS).

(a) The rate of advertising (30 seconds of spot buy) on All India Radio varies from Rs 90/- to Rs 900/- depending on the channel/category and in the case of Doordarshan, the rate varies from Rs. 500/- to Rs 1 30 lakhs (10 seconds of spot buy)

(b) and (c) The rates are revised from time to time depending on (i) increase in the coverage area/size of potential audience, (ii) rise in the cost of production of programmes, and cost of client servicing and (iii) demand from advertisers for particular slots

[Translation]

Chandil Thermal Power Project

1039 SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHAY

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the Chandil Thermal Power Project through capital investment by private sector, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The 2x250 MW coal-based thermal power projects at Chandil in Bihar is proposed to be set up in private sector by R.P.G Enterprises Ltd at an estimated cost of RS. 1637 crores. The project is presently scheduled to be commissioned in 1996-97

[English]

Profit/Loss in Hotel Corporation of India

1040. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hotels owned by the Hotel Corporation of India Ltd. (HCI);

(b) the profit and losses earned by HCI during the last three years;

(c) whether there is any proposal under

consideration of the Government for further expansion of HCI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). A statement is attached.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

(a) The number of hotels owned by the Hotel Corporation of India is four. HCI also operates Centaur Hokke Hotel at Rajgir in collaboration with Hokke Club of Japan.

(b) The Profit and Loss figures during the last three years, for HCI are given below:-

Net Profit/Loss () of HCI

1989-90	-	(Rs. 934.12 lakhs)
1990-91	-	(Rs. 1483.42 lakhs)
1991-92	-	(Rs. 1381.26 lakhs)

[Translation]

Development of Tourism in Uttar Pradesh

*1041. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes likely to be formulated in future by the Government for promoting tourism in the country;

(b) the details of proposals received by the Union Government from the Government of Uttar Pradesh in this regard;

(c) the amount sanctioned for the purpose during 1992-93; and

(d) the achievement made during the last three years to attract the foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Development of tourism is an ongoing process and is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Department of Tourism extends some financial assistance to State Governments in respect of specific proposals received from them, subject to availability of funds and

inter-se priorities.

(b) 5 project proposals have been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh during 1992-93.

(c) An amount of Rs. 3.58 lakhs has been sanctioned and released out of an amount of Rs. 163.24 lakhs earmarked for schemes prioritise for 1992-93.

(d) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has augmented tourist facilities at some of the important tourist centres. Regular publicity programmes are undertaken to disseminate tourist information to prospective tourists to attract a large number of foreign tourists.

Electronic Exchanges in Country

1042 DR P.R GANGWAR: Will the

Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of electronic exchanges set up in the country during 1991-92;

(b) the number of exchanges out of them which are but of order; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The information is given in the attached Statement.

(b) Nil.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

List of Electronic Exchanges set up in the country during the year 1991-92

S. No.	Name of State	No. of electronic exchanges set up during 1991-92
1.	Andhra Pradesh	403
2.	Assam	76
3	Manipur	6
4.	Meghalaya	8
5.	Mizoram	5
6.	Nagaland	11
7.	Tripura	9
8	Arunachal Pradesh	8
9	Bihar	51

<i>S No</i>	<i>Name of State</i>	<i>No of electronic exchanges set up during 1991-92</i>
10	Gujarat (including Dadra & Nagar Haveli Daman & Diu U Ts)	211
11	Haryana	150
12	Himachal	78
13	J & K	23
14	Karnataka	376
15	Kerala (including Lakshadweep U T)	155
16	Madhya Pradesh	539
17	Maharashtra (including Goa)	326
18	Punjab (including Chandigarh U T)	129
19	Rajasthan	131
20	Tamil Nadu (including Pondicherry U T)	193
21	Uttar Pradesh	285
22	Orissa	150
23	West Bengal (including Andaman Nicobar U T)	135
24	Sikkim	6
25	Delhi (U T)	10

[English]

National Speed Post Network

1043 SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the details of new centres in various states proposed to be linked with speed post in National Speed Post Network for 500 K M and beyond,

(b) whether the Government propose to appoint private representatives on commis-

sion basis for the next fix point chart I (CB) in this regard; and

(c) the progress report of speed post in comparison with other private courier services?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Introduction of new Speed Post Centres under National Network is an ongoing process. Whenever, a proposal to link any place with Speed Post is received, the same is examined keeping in view availability of regular transport facilities and commercial and market viability.

(b) There is no proposal to appoint representatives on commission basis for Speed Post.

(c) Since its inception in 1986 Speed Post has shown a growth of 371.61% in traffic and 585.63% in revenue. Government has no authentic information on the business of other private courier service to enable any comparative analysis between the two.

Multi-purpose Project at Baitarani River in Orissa

1044. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted any proposal for multipurpose project at Baitarani river;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). The Government of Orissa proposed to take up Bhimkund Multi-

purpose Project in two stages. The project report for Stage I envisaging construction of a dam at Neopara on river Baitarani and two power houses with installed capacity of 48 MW and 345 MW respectively and to provide flood benefits to an area of 1400 square kilometres in Baitarani delta at an estimated cost of Rs. 328.15 crores was received in Central Water Commission in June, 1980 for clearance. After examination the Project report was sent back to the State Government in October 1983 for preparing modified project report. Modified report has not been received at the Centre.

The Stage-II of the Project has not been received in Central Water Commission.

Speed Post Corporation

1045. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the report regarding setting up of a separate Speed Post Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The matter is under consideration.

Airlink to Ranakar and Bhilwada in Rajasthan

1046. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start Vayudoot service at Ranakpur and Bhihwada in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to commercial and operational reasons, it is not possible for Vayudoot to airlink any new stations at the present juncture.

[*Translation*]

River basin Development Scheme

*1047. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme for the overall development of river basin in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether the State Government have been consulted before setting up such organisations;

(d) the allocation made to those River Basin Organisations to achieve the target of utilisation of water potential in various River Basins; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). National Water Policy adopted in 1987, recommended establishment of appropriate organisations for the planned development and management of a river basin as a whole. After detailed deliberations in various forums, a Policy Note on the subject for setting up of River Basin Organisations in the country has been prepared. It was considered in the Fourth meeting of the National Water Board in July, 1992. As decided in the meeting it has been circulated to all the State Governments for their examination and comments.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Electrification in Assam

1048. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pace of electrification in Assam is very slow;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the quantum of approved assistance and the actual amount released during 1990-91 and 1991-92 for the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). According to available information, out of 21,995 inhabited villages in Assam, (1971 Census), 21464 villages have been electrified upto 31.3.92, yielding the percentage of electrification in Assam as 98% which is more than the All-India average of 84%.

(c) The details of plan allocation for rural electrification and its utilisation by Assam State Electricity Board during 1990-91 and 1991-92 as as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

*Year	Plan allocation for REC	Utilisation
1990-91	1510	1510
1991-92	850	600

Complaints of Telephones in Metropolitan Cities

1049. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
SHRI SHARAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of grievances/general complaints received regarding the working of the telecommunication services in the metropolitan cities;

(b) the average number of complaints being made by the subscribers and the na-

ture of complaints made; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to improve the telecommunications services in the country.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Amongst other grievances, these mainly relate to telephone faults and delays in their rectification and excess billing.

(b) Details for the four metropolitan cities for 1991-92 are as follows:-

Name of the city	No. of DELs as on 31.3.92	No. of faults per 100 stns./per month	Excess metering complaints as percentage of bills issued
Bombay	791222	19.4	0.52
Calcutta	274426	18.2	1.1
Delhi	605272	22.6	0.40
Madras	186473	27.0	0.56

(c) To improve the operation and maintenance of telecom. services, following steps have been initiated by the Department:

(i) Replacement of worn-out electro-

mechanical exchanges by electronic ones.

(ii) Replacement of worn-out telephone instruments by new ones.

- (iii) Replacement of fault prone cables.
- (iv) Replacement of heavy overhead alignment by underground cables.
- (v) Provision of cable ducts in large cities.
- (vi) Customer oriented training to the staff of the Department.

Computerisation of:

- (a) fault booking and repair services
- (b) billing
- (c) special services

Production of Steel in Public Sector

1050. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether production has fallen in some of the public sector steel plants as against the target fixed during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the month-wise performance of each steel plant till the end of October, 1992; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to identify the bottlenecks so that each plant achieve its target every month?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Saleable steel production in the public sector steel plants

for the period April – October, 1992 has been, by and large, to target except for some shortfalls experienced in DSP, IISCO and VSP. Details are given in the Statement attached.

(c) The bottlenecks identified and steps taken to achieve targets are:

- (i) The shortfall at Durgapur Steel Plant is mainly due to delay in commissioning of Blast Furnace No. 2 after modernisation, coupled with the poor condition of Blast Furnace No. 4 & 1 which are due for reconstruction under modernisation programme. Action plan has been drawn up to expedite commissioning of Blast Furnace No. 2.
- (ii) The shortfall in production at IISCO is due to operational problems being faced at the Steel melting shop and shortage of fee material for the Rolling Mills. As a result of corrective actions taken, production at the Steel melting shop has stabilised and action has been taken for augmenting feed material for Rolling Mills from sister plants.
- (iii) The production units at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant are still in the process of stabilisation. Owing to problems arising due to overlapping of construction activities pertaining to Stage II units and stabilisation of Stage I unit during the year, production has not been according to targets. The production is however, on the increase. Management has taken steps, including engagement of foreign specialists, for removal of bottlenecks and stabilisation of production at optimum levels.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the month-wise performance during April - October, 1992.

Tem Kent	April '92		May '92		June '92		July '92	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
SLEABLE STEEL								
DW	221	238	228	244.2	213	225.3	248	245.1
DP	46	40	63	45.5	59	58.1	62	51
EP	77	78.6	76	82.2	70	79.1	85	92.2
BL	232	236.8	237	241.5	235	237.1	245	245.1
IMCU	31	30.5	33	30.3	31	27.1	33	28.5
SEILTOTAL	607	623.9	637	643.7	608	626.7	673	661.9
VR	95	43	95	70	95	64	100	76
Grand Total	702	666.9	732	713.7	703	690.7	773	737.9

Tem Kent	Aug. '92		Sept. '92		Oct. '92		April-Oct. '92	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
1	10	11.0	12	13	14	15	16	17
SLEABLE STEEL								
DW	266	264.8	256	257.1	266.0	264.8	1698	1739
DP	62	52	61	54.2	53.0	55	406	356
EP	94	101.3	98	100.1	95.0	102.2	590	6
BL	218	220.5	238	238.1	267.0	260.1	1672	1679
IMCO	33	34.5	35	31.4	36.0	34	232	216
SAILTOTAL:	673	673.1	688	680.9	717.0	716.1	4598	4626
VR	115	52	150	80	155	83	780	446
Grand Total:	788	725.1	838	760.9	872	799.1	5378	5072

Doordarshan Coverage

1051. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of T.V. coverage in the rural areas as compared to urban areas;

(b) whether the Government propose to cover the entire District of Srikakulam during 1992-93; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIYA VYAS):

(a) The TV service is at present, available to an estimated 78.1% of rural population as compared to about 93.4% of urban population of the country. These coverage figures are inclusive of the population in fringe service areas where elevated antennae and boosters are required for obtaining satisfactory reception.

(b) and (c) Whereas there is no proposal at present to strengthen TV service so as to cover entire district of Srikakulam during 1992-93, any step in this direction can be undertaken in a phased manner depending upon the availability of resources in the future plans of TV expansion.

Shifting of Telephones in Metro-Cities

1052. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether shifting of telephone in

metropolitan cities under MTNL takes more than six months;

(b) whether the telephones have remained non-functional at either of the locations till they have been re-installed after requesting for shifting;

(c) whether the MTNL has been charging rent for this non-functional period for which it has not provided any telephone service;

(d) whether any decision has been taken by the Government to waive the telephone charges during the period of telephone remained out of order/non-functional;

(e) if so, details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir. Excepting some cases which are delayed due to technical constraints, all the requests for shifting of telephones are executed within reasonable time.

(b) No, Sir. Only on the specific requests of the subscriber for disconnection of telephone under shift, telephones are kept functional at their earlier location.

(c) No, Sir. Rebate in rental is allowed if period of disconnection under shift exceeds 15 days due to departmental reasons.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Prorata rebate is given if a telephone remains interrupted continuously for 7 days or more due to departmental reasons. A decision has also been taken to waive the monthly rental if a telephone remains interrupted for more than 14 days due to departmental reasons.

(f) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Telecom System in Forest areas of Gujarat

*1053. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the telecommunication system in forest areas of Vadodra district of Gujarat;

(b) whether the Government propose to install microwave system in hilly areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Telecom System in the rural and Forest Areas of Vadodra are being strengthened by installing Electronic Exchanges and Modern Transmission Media like OFC, MARR and UHF system.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. As there is no hilly areas in Vadodara district, no microwave systems are planned at Vadodra at present. In other hilly area, wherever required and economically feasible these are planned at appropriate time.

[*English*]

Development of Tourism sports in Andhra Pradesh

1054. SHRI K.V.R. CHOWDARY:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have

receive any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the development of tourist spots in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereby; and

(d) the financial assistance provided for the purpose during 1992-93; till date?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d). Fourteen proposals from the Government of Andhra Pradesh have been received, only in November, 92 for developing tourism in the State. A statement listing the proposals is given in the attached Statement Rs. 130.00 lakhs have been earmarked for 1992-93 for the State

STATEMENT

Sl. No. Name of the Proposal

Andhra Pradesh

1. Tourist lodge at Medak
2. Forest lodge at Sirsailem
3. Trekking equipment at Visakhapatnam
4. Trekking equipment at Tirupati
5. Water sports equipment at Rajahmundry
6. Water sports equipment at Kollera
7. Tented accommodation at Horsley Hill
8. Tented accommodation at Vishakhapatnam

Sl. No. Name of the Proposal

9. Illumination of Buddha statue at Hyderabad
 10. Illumination of Arches at the entrance of Tankbund, Hyderabad
 11. Barge for cruising in Hussainsagar Lake, Hyderabad
 12. Tourist complex at Vishakhapatnam
 13. Deccan Festival
 14. Andhra Food Festival
-

URI Power Project

1055. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreigners working at Uri Power Project in Jammu and Kashmir have insisted to pull out from the project;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The Swedish-U.K. Consortium, which had been entrusted by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC) with the execution of the Uri Hydroelectric Project in J&K on turn-key basis, has not informed NHFC or the Government of India of their intention, if any, to pull out from the project.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Post Office building in Balasore

1056. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of the Department buildings for Post Offices in Balasore district in Orissa and particularly Bant Sub Post office have started according to the revised estimates and plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The status of the three departmental Post Office building projects in Balasore District is as under:-

(i) Banta Post Office

The revised plan has been approved for construction of Banta Post Office and notice inviting tenders has been issued for awarding the work to contractor. The project has been delayed due to land dispute which has since been settled.

(ii) Jaleswar Post Office

The project is in progress and 55% of the work has already been completed. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 26 lakhs.

(iii) Balasore H.O.

Extension to Balasore H.O. building at an estimated cost of Rs. 25.6 lakhs has been approved. The work is to be awarded after inviting tenders.

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance to Haryana

*1057. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of amount spent out of the World Bank assistance received for the development of water resources in Haryana; and

(b) the amount proposed to be provided to the State development programmes of water resources in future?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). The Government of Haryana have utilised 100% of total credit under Haryana Irrigation-I project and 100% of total revised credit under Haryana Irrigation-II Project assisted by the World Bank. The State of Haryana has recently joined the World Bank assisted National Water Management Project as an additional participating State and their scheme has been approved on 23.6.92 for an assistance of Rs. 50.00 crores against which, as reported by the State Government, an expenditure of Rs. 13.64 crores has been incurred uptill September, 1992. The proposed Haryana Water Resources Consolidation Project is in its preparatory stages.

[English]

Development of Beaches

1058. SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI GOPI NATH
GAJAPTHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop the sea beaches for tourism in the country;

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

(c) the amount earmarked for the purpose during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Development of tourism infrastructure is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, financial assistance is given for specific proposals received from State Governments, depending upon merits of the proposal, inter-se priorities and availability of funds.

[Translation]

Ground Water Resources in Desert areas of Rajasthan

1059. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted in the ground water resources in the desert areas of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on the results of hydrogeological surveys and scientific exploration, the ground water resources of desert areas of Rajasthan have been estimated at 4545 million cubic meters. District-wise availability of ground water resources in the desert areas of Rajasthan is given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Availability of ground water resources in the desert districts of Rajasthan

<i>S No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Total replenishable ground water resource annually - MCM/Yr</i>
1	Ganganagar	327 00
2	Bikaner	147 00
3	Churu	251 00
4	Jhunjhunu	356 00
5	Sikar	549 00
6	Nagaur	656 00
7	Jodhpur	511 00
8	Barmer	319 00
9	Pali	673 00
10	Jaisalmer	143 00
11	Jalore	613 00
	Total	4545 00

[English]

**Hydel Power Project on Teesta
River**

1060 SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether as per experts opinion India can produce two thousand five hundred megawatt hydel power by setting up two projects in river Teesta-one at upper catch-

ment area of North Sikkim and another at Gajoldoba of West Bengal,

(b) whether such proposals have been received by the Union Government from State Government of Sikkim and West Bengal, and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government to sanction these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) to (c) Hydro Potential of river Teesta is proposed to be developed by setting up of various Hydro-electric Schemes in

the States of Sikkim and West Bengal. The details of these projects along with their latest status are given in the Statement attached

STATEMENT

Sl No	Name of the Project	State	Tentative Firm Power Potential (MW)	Latest Status
1	2	3	4	5
1	Teesta Si I	Sikkim	96	Investigations have to be taken up
2	Teesta Si II	Sikkim	224	do-
3	Teesta Si III	Sikkim	180	Proposed to be executed by N H P C with installed capacity of 1200 MW Project found technoeconomically in order formal clearance of CEA would be given after compliance of section 29 of Electricity (Supply) Act 1948 and E & F clearance
4	Teesta Si IV	Sikkim	61	Project under investigation by Central Water Commission
5	Teesta Si V	Sikkim	72.61	DPR for setting up of Hydric electric project with installed capacity of 510 MW has been prepared by Central Water Commission The

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State	Tentative Firm Power Potential (MW)	Latest Status
1	2	3	4	5
6	Teesta St. VI	Sikkim	25	State Govt. has been requested to explore Private Sector participation for execution of the project.
7	Teesta High Dam	W. Bengal	235	Investigation have to be taken up. West Bengal State Electricity Board have proposed investigations for setting up of Hydro-electric project with installed capacity of 700 MW.

**Utilization of Bye Products by
Visakhapatnam Steel Plant**

1061. SHRI M V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is utilising the bye-products coming out from steel manufacturing;

(b) if not, the details of quantity of bye-products getting wastage annually along with value thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken for utilisation of the bye-products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has reported that the gases produced in the blast furnaces are being used as fuel in the plant. The bye-products coming out of coke ovens are utilised for production of Ammonium Sulphate and Naphthalene. The value of the bye-products produced from 1st April, 92 to 31st October, 1992 was Rs. 21.06 crores. The balance gas available is used as fuel in the plant. The production, value and utilisation of the bye-products would improve with the stabilisation of operations of the plant.

Time limit for local calls in Bangalore

1062. SHRIMATI CHANDA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) whether any time-limit for local calls has been prescribed in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to remove the restriction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. It applies to electronic exchanges in all telephone systems of more than 30,000 lines.

(b) One call is registered when the called party answers and afterwards calls are metered for each unit of five minutes.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Power Generation Capacity

1063. SHRIMATI KESHARBAISONJI KSHIRSAGAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of power generated at present by the thermal power stations in the country;

(b) the power generation capacity of these power stations and whether their capacity is fully utilised; and

(c) if so, the names of the States making optimum utilisation of capacity of the thermal power stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) During the period April 92 - October 92, the Energy Generation from thermal power stations in the country was 123765 million units.

(b) and (c). The generating capacity of the thermal power stations in the country as on 19.11.1992 is 48305.5 MW. The average plant load factor of Thermal Power Stations during April - Oct., 92 was 53.9%. It is not possible to generate from thermal units to its full capacity as the performance of thermal

generating units depends upon age of the unit, quality of coal, system load condition, hydro thermal mix in the state/region, planned maintenance and forced outages for the units and transmission constraints. The state/system having thermal plant load factor more than the national average during April- October 1992 are given below:-

<i>State/System</i>	<i>PLF (%) during April-October, 1992</i>
1. Delhi	67.8
2. Rajasthan	68.9
3. Punjab	62.0
4. Uttar Pradesh	56.5
5. Gujarat	57.5
6. Maharashtra	56.7
7. Madhya Pradesh	55.9
9. Tamil Nadu	61.0

[English]

Rourkela Steel Plant

1064. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken to commission the fifth blast furnace in Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

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

International flights from Calicut Airport

1065. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce more flights from Calicut to Gulf countries;

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

(c) whether any request is pending with the Government from private agencies for operation domestic flight from Calicut;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to increase the runway length of Calicut airport, and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). At present there is no such proposal under consideration of Indian Airlines because of capacity constraint.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. Air Taxi operators are free to operate domestic flights from Calicut.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Facilities for Tourists in Madhya Pradesh

1066. SHRI ARVIND NETAM:

DR. LAXMINAAYAN
PNDEYA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have receive any proposals from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for development of tourism and providing infrastructure facilities at Gwalior, Khajuraho, Mandu, Onkeshwar, Maheshwar, Ujjain and Mandсарu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon,

(d) the financial assistance provided to the State in this regard during 1991-29 and 1992-93 till date; and

(e) the details of proposals rejected and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Central Dept. of Tourism has received the following proposals in respect of Gwalior, Khajuraho, Onkareshwar, Maheshwar and Ujjain for development of tourism and providing infrastructural facilities:-

Sound & Light show at Manmandir, Gwalior.

2. Provision of toilet and drinking water facilities at Khajuraho
3. Tourist reception centre at Khajuraho.
4. Tourist bungalow at Maheshwar.
5. Tourist Bungalow at Onkareshwar.
6. Printing of Ujjain Kumbh Mela literature/ general publicity literature

7. Yatri niwas at Ujjain.

(c) All the above schemes have been sanctioned.

(d) and (e). Central Government has released an amount of Rs. 163.26 lakhs for various projects on tourism during 1991-92 and Rs. 2415.200/- during 1992-93, till date.

[English]

Racket in out of Turn Telephone Connections

1067. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has unearthed a major racket in out of turn telephone connections;

(b) whether the CBI has unearthed a major racket in out of turn telephone connections;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) On the basis of vital information furnished by the Department of Telecommunications, CBI had conducted searches in Punjab and U.P., interrogated persons including Officials of the Department of Telecommunications. Two Officials of Delhi were arrested. The CBI investigation is in progress and their final report is awaited.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). In view of the answer to part (b), the Question does not arise.

Telephone in Delhi

1068. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for new telephone connections in Delhi that are pending upto date;

(b) the number of such applications which are pending in Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(c) the steps taken to clear all the pending telephone connections?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The number of applications pending for provision of new telephone connections as on 31.10.92 in Delhi is 3,78,854 and in Andaman & Nicobar Islands 757 respectively.

(c) As per eighth five year plan proposals, telephone connections in small telephone systems in the country are expected to be given practically on demand by the end of the plan period, (March 1977). In larger Telephone systems, the waiting time for getting a telephone under ordinary category connection is likely to be contained to a period of two years by the end of the eighth plan period. Expansion plans are being drawn to fulfil these objectives.

Working of Farakka Barrage Authorities

1069. DR. ASIM BALA:
SHRI. ZAINAL ABEDIN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the Government of West Bengal regarding working of Farakka Barrage authorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action, if any taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). While no representation has been received from Government of West Bengal regarding working of Farakka Barrage Project Authorities, Minister, Irrigation & Waterways, Government of West Bengal and Senior Officers of the State are Members of the Farakka Barrage Control Board and Monitoring Committee as well as Technical Advisory Committee respectively which overview the programme and working of the Farakka Barrage Project at regular intervals.

Export Promotion Council for Steel Industries

1070. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed to set up task force and constitute export promotion council for Steel Industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). There is no concrete proposal at present for setting up

an export promotion council for the steel industry.

[*Translation*]

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in Bihar

1071. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the time by which all the district centre telephone exchanges in Bihar are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): From out of the 50 DHQ. 33 have been provided electronic exchanges, all the remaining 17 district centre telephone exchanges in Bihar are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges by 1994-95 subject to availability of equipment.

[*English*]

Sundarbans as Tourist Spot in W.B.

1072. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of West Bengal for developing the Sundarbans as a tourist spot;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Following proposals for tourist facilities in Sundarbans have been

sanctioned by the Central Government:-

(i) Floating accommodation at Sundarbans.

(ii) Cruise vessel for Sundarbans.

[*Translation*]

Land for Telephone Exchanges in Madhya Pradesh

1073. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether land has been acquired to increase the capacity of the existing telephone exchanges and to open new exchanges particularly in Ratlam and Mandsaur districts of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the locations thereof; and

(c) the time by which the construction of the buildings are likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Land has been acquired at the following locations for construction of new telephone exchange buildings:

District Mandsaur

1. Mandsaur

2. Manasa

3. Malhargarh.

District Ratlam

1. Jaora
2. Sailana
3. Simlaoda

(c) Buildings at Mandsaur and Manasa are likely to be completed in 1994-95. At other stations i.e. Malhargarh, Jaora, Sailana and Simlaoda building construction activities are likely to be taken up and completed during 8th Plan period.

[English]

**Doordarshan Production Centre at
Chandigarh**

1074. SHRI PAWANKUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made towards setting up a Doordarshan Production Centre at Chandigarh; and

(b) the time by which the Centre is likely to become operational?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRJA VYAS): (a) and (b) The site and the major equipment for the project have already been procured. The Studio Centre at Chandigarh is expected to be commissioned into service during 1995, subject to the approval of the competent authority.

ILS at Varanasi Airport

1075. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Instrument Landing System (ILS) has been awaiting installation at Varanasi Airport for more than two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) when it is proposed to be installed; and

(d) the loss suffered on account of non-installation of ILS?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The Instrument Landing System has already been installed at Varanasi. It is likely to be commissioned by the end of this year. The delay is due to some contractual problem faced by M/s RITES who were awarded this project.

(d) There has been cost and time overrun, however, loss suffered on account of delay in installation can not be quantified.

Private Aviation Companies

1076. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Navbharat Times dated May 26, 1992 regarding private aviation companies;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Directorate General of Civil Aviation keeps a constant vigil on the operations of private airlines (air taxi operators) to ensure that they fulfil the mandatory requirements of airworthiness of aircraft and licensing of aircraft maintenance engineers. No compromise is made by the regulatory authority with regard to safe operation of aircraft.

New International Airport at Calcutta

1077 SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the target date of the completion of the construction of New International Airport at Calcutta

(b) whether the construction is likely to be completed within the targeted date, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) to (c) There is no proposal to construct a New International Airport at Calcutta. However, the proposed date for completion of construction of New Terminal Complex at Calcutta is 31st December, 1993.

[Translation]

Sharing of Ravi-Beas Water

1078 SHRI N J RATHVA Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the details of the meeting organised during the last three years on the issue of sharing of Ravi-Beas Water,

(b) whether any such meeting was held

in Delhi in August, 1992,

(c) the names of the State Chief Ministers participated in this meeting,

(d) the details of recommendations made therein, and

(e) the reaction of the Government therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) No separate meetings were held on the issue of sharing of Ravi-Beas Waters. However, meetings were held on 29th and 30th July, 1992 and 6th August, 1992 to discuss various waters related issue between Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan during which sharing of Ravi-Beas Waters was also discussed.

(b) Yes, on 6th August, 1992

(c) Shri Beant Singh, Chief Minister, Punjab, Shri Bhaja Lal, Chief Minister, Haryana and Shri Bharon Singh Shekhawat, Chief Minister, Rajasthan

(d) and (e) Further discussions on related issues will continue in subsequent meetings.

[English]

Poor Quality of Services by Postal Department

1079 SHRID VENKATESWARARAO Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether as many as 1681 complaints against the postal department were lodged with the Public Grievances Directorate within a period of four years by dissatis-

fied consumers throughout the country;

(b) if so, the main cause of these complaints; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove these complaints?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. During the period from 1 4.88 to 30 9 92, 1681 complaints were registered by the Directorate of Public Grievances against the postal Department

(b) The Complaints related to delay in delivery of mails, payment of money orders, loss of articles in transit, Savings Bank and Cash Certificates, personal claims arising out of service matters and post retirement benefits xyz

(c) Performance of postal services is periodically reviewed, monitoring of mail transmission and delivery work is performed by Supervisory staff. Complaints are analysed to determine their causes for improving the supervision in Post Offices. Constant coordination with Railways and Air lines is kept. Interaction with the members of public has been improved by activating the Grievance Cells at all levels by holding meetings of Post-forum, Dak Adalat, Pension Adalat and Open House Sessions. Disposal of personal claims is also reviewed through visits and inspections of Administrative offices

World Bank Loan for NTPC Projects

1080 SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to extend loan to the National Thermal Power

Corporation (NTPC) to help finance new power projects;

(b) if so, the amount of loan and the names of power projects for which the loan has been sanctioned;

(c) whether the first tranche of the loan has been released by the World Bank, if so, the amount of the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d) Discussions are being held with the World Bank regarding the funding of new power projects of National Thermal Power Corporation. The projects to be funded have not been finalised

[*Translation*]

Telephone Advisory Committee of Orissa

1081 SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) Whether the Telephone Advisory Committee in Orissa has been reconstituted,

(b) if so, names of the members of this committee;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be reconstituted?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) The names of members of Tele-

phone Advisory Committee for Orissa are furnished in the statement attached.

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

STATEMENT

List of TAC Members of Orissa

Members of Parliament:

- 1 Ms. Sushila Tiria,
Member of Parliament (RS)
123, South Avenue, New Delhi
- 2 Shri Ram Chadra Rath,
Member of Parliament (LS)
Duplex Lane, New Delhi
- 3 Shri Sarat Chandra Pattnaik,
Member of Parliament (LS)
180, South Avenue, New Delhi
4. Shri Gopinath Gajpathi,
Member of Parliament (RS)

State Legislature.

- 1 Shri Basant Kumar Biswal,
MLA, Orissa.
- 2 Sushree Devi, MLA
Orissa
- 3 Shri B.K. Deo
MLA, Orissa
4. Shri Habibullah Khan,
MLA, Koraput, Orissa

Press

Shri Govindh Dass
Cuttack, Orissa.

2. Shri Rabi Das,
Bhubneshwar, Orissa
3. Shri Satya Narain Mahapatra,
Dinalipi, Orissa
4. Shari Sarada Prasa Nanda,
Sunday, Orissa

Legal Profession:

1. Shri Srintah Mishra,
Cuttack, Orissa
2. Shri Jagannath Mund,
Kalahandi, Orissa
3. Shri Bidhan Chandra Mishra,
Dhenkanal, Orissa.
4. Shri Anna Patnaik,
Orissa.

All other Professions Like Engineers Architects, etc.

- 1 Shri Mohd. Hassan,
Bhubneshwar, Orissa.
2. Shri N.K. Patnaik,
TISCO, Orissa.

Trade, Commerce & Industry

1. Shri Bimal Kishor Malhotra
President, Orissa Small Scale Industry
Association, Cuttack, Orissa.
2. Shri B.N. Pattnaik,
General Secretary,
Chamber of Commerce,
Rourkela, Orissa.
3. Shri S.S. Singh Deo,

- President, Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Orissa.
4. Shri Nikunj Chot Roy, President, Orissa Small Scale Industries Association
13. Shri R.N. Panigrahi, Orissa
14. Smt. Uma Rani Palta, Ex. MLA President, Orissa Pradesh Mahila Congress
15. Smt. Indira Mitra, Tahsildar Lane, Cuttack, Orissa.

Public Workers & others

1. Shri A.P. Sethi, Ex. M.P. (LS)
2. Shri Arya Kumar Gyanendra, Bhubneshwar.
3. Shri Madhusudan Patnaik, Bhanjanagar
4. Shri Chittarajan Samantray, Sambalpur.
5. Smt. Jayanti Patnaik, Former M.P. and Former President All India Mahila Congress
6. Smt. Madhumita Parida, Puri
7. Dr. Sarat Chandra Patra, Bhubneshwar
8. Shri Sujit Kumar Pandhi, President, Orissa Pradesh Youth Congress (I)
9. Shri Baikuntha Nath Sahu, Ex M.P. (RS)
10. Shri Khanurjoy Laguri, Ex. M.L.A.
11. Dr. Srinivas Choudhury Korapur
12. Smt. Saranswati Hembram Sambalpur
16. Shri Harihar Mohanta, Samrkhanta Bloc Chairman, P.O. Samarkhanta, Distt. Mayurbhanj, Orissa.
17. Shri Bihari Chandra Biswal C/o Hemananda Biswal, Ex. C.M. Or. No. VIII-C/2, Unti-I, Bhubneshwar, Orissa.
18. Shri Nabin Ch Narai Das, Dhenkanal, Orissa
19. Shri bhibhuti Das, Ch. Truck Owners Association
20. Shri Haladhar Mishra, Conservationist, Orissa
21. Shri Nitya Nanda Mishra Ex. M.P., Bolangir, Orissa
22. Shri Ram Chandra Khutia, Ex. MLA, Orissa
23. Shri Badal Dani, At & PO Modipara, Sambalpur, Orissa
24. Shri Bhawani Panda, At & PO: Phatak, Sambalpur, Orissa
25. Shri Jagannath Rout,

- At & Post VIP Colony,
148, Nayapali,
Bhubneshwar-15,
Orissa
- 26 Shri Damodar Sahu,
Ex Vice Chairman, N A C ,
Junagarh, At/Post Junagarh,
Distt Kalahandi, Orissa
- 27 Shri Kishore Chandra Mohapatra
Ex Principal,
Kharar College,
Dist Kalahandi, Orissa

Basemetals in Tons Valley area, Dehradun Distt Galpakot-Kimkhet area , Pithoragarh and Nainital Distts; lehrri-Puri Distts and in parts of Almora Dist , (ii) Gold in Nainital, Gorakhpur, Sonibhudrapur and districts adjoining Madhya Pradesh (iii) Plationiods in Sonbhadra Distt , (iv) Rare elements in Sonbhhdhadr Distt (v) Tin-tungesten in Bundelkhand region, Hamirpur Distt and (vi) Silica sand in Uttarkashi Distt

The results of the exploration will be known after completion of work

(d) Does not arise at this stage

[English]

Exploration of Mines in Uttar Pradesh

1082 SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Geological, Survey of India has made any survey in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years,

(b) if so the details thereof,

(c) the estimated deposits of each metals/ minerals and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for their proper exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM
SINGH YADAV) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) During the last three years, Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been carrying out prospecting/exploration for (i)

**Titles Published by Publications
Division**

1083 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the number of titles language-wise, published by the Publications Division during 1991-92 and during March-September, 1992

(b) the number of copies of all publications in stock as on 31 March 1991 and March 31, 1992, and

(c) the names of periodicals published by the Division on April 1, 1991 and April 1, 1992?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS)
(a) The number of titles published by the Publications Division, language wise is as under -

<i>During 1991-92</i>		<i>During March- September., 1992</i>	
English	44	English	48
Hindi	40	Hindi	32
Assamese	08	Assamese	08
Bengali	05	Bengali	05
Gujarati	12	Gujarati	12
Kannada	07	Kannada	07
Marathi	10	Punjabi	04
Punjabi	10	Marathi	10
Tamil	06	Tamil	06
Urdu	07	Urdu	04
	141		136

(b) No. of copies of publications in stock as on:

31st March, 1991	31st March, 1992
30,07,500	20,05,00*copies

(c) The names of periodicals published by the Publications Division as on 1st April 1991 and 1st April, 1992 are given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the Names of Periodicals Published by the Publications Division on 1.4.1991 and 1.4.1992.

S. No.	Name of Periodical	3	4
1.	Employment News	(English)	Weekly
2.	Rozgar Samachar	(Hindi)	Weekly
3.	Rozgar Samachar	(Urdu)	Weekly
4.	Yojana	(English)	Fortnightly
5.	Yojana	(Hindi)	-do-
6.	Yojana	(Tamil)	-do-
7.	Yojana	(Telugu)	-do-
8.	Yojana	(Assamese)	Monthly
9.	Yojana	(Bengali)	-do-
10.	Yojana	(Gujarati)	-do-
11.	Yojana	(Kannada)	-do-
12.	Yojana	(Malayalam)	-do-

S No	Name of Periodical	3	Periodicity
1	2	3	4
13	Yojana	(Marathi)	-do-
14	Yojana	(Punjabi)	-do-
15	Yojana	(Urdu)	-do-
16	Kurukshehra	(Hindi)	-do-
17	Kurukshehra	(Hindi)	-do-
18	Bal Bharati	(Hindi)	-do-
19	Aikal	(Hindi)	-do-
20	Aikal	(Urdu)	-do-

Coverage by Air

1084. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHUZANTYÉ:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to provide full coverage by All India Radio in the country during 1992-93; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):
(a) and (b). No, Sir. However, it is envisaged that about 97% of the population and 90.4% of area of the country will be covered by 1992-93.

[*Translation*]

Air Station at Daltonganj in Bihar

1085. SHRI RAMDEW RAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) by when All India Radio Station presently under construction at Daltonganj in Bihar is likely to start functioning;

(b) whether the required staff to man the Akashwani Kendra has been provided;

(c) whether local people are being given priority in the appointments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):

(a) and (b). The Radio Station at Daltonganj is envisaged to be technically ready by the end of December, 1992 and commissioned thereafter when the minimum staff required for operation and maintenance is in position.

(c) and (d). The recruitment to Group 'D' posts is done locally.

[*English*]

Doordarshan Coverage in Kerala

1086. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hilly district of Pathanamthitta in Kerala is not covered by the Doordarshan Malayalam programmes;

(b) whether the Government have taken steps for increasing the relay capacity of Trivandrum Kendra to Pathanamthitta district and also to connect Trivandrum with satellite; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):
(a) Whereas the low power transmitter functioning at Pathanamthitta relays the programmes telecast from Delhi via satellite, parts of Pathanamthitta district receive TV service from the high power TV transmitters functioning at Trivandrum and Cochin which relay Malayalam programmes, besides National service. However, the extent of coverage from these transmitters in the district is limited due to intervening distance and hilly terrain conditions.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal, at present, to augment the power of the exist-

ing 10KW TV transmitter functioning at Trivandrum. However, with a view to provide full-fledged regional TV service in the State of Kerala, it is envisaged to link all the TV transmitters in the State to Doordarshan Kendra, Trivandrum via satellite subject to availability of adequate resources and facility in the space segment.

Wardha Steel Plant

1087. SHRI RAM CHANDRA GHAN-GARE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the date of licensing a steel plant at Wardha;

(b) the financial participation of Union/ State Governments therein;
and

(c) the time by which this plant is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHANDEV): (a) M/s. Lloyds Steel Industries Limited (formerly M/s. Integrated Steels Limited) was given Letter of Intent on 31.10.1985 for setting up a steel plant at Bhugaon in Wardha District in Maharashtra.

(b) There is no financial participation of the Union/ State Government in the project. However, the all India financial Institutions and Banks have sanctioned financial assistance of 305.88 crores for the project.

(c) As reported by the Company, the plant is expected to become operational by March, 1994.

Field Survey and Investigation for Water Transfer Links

1088. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARIBHANDARI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Development Agency has undertaken some fields surveys and investigations for certain water transfer links;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any progress has been made in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to ask the Agency to undertake some studies on the water transfer links in the Himalayan region;

(f) if so, the details thereof with programme of action drawn up in this regard; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The National Water Development Agency has taken up survey and investigation of three water transfer links in peninsular region viz. (i) Pamba-Achankovil-Vaigai; (ii) Ken-Betwa; and (iii) Par-Tapi-Narmada.

(c) and (d). Following Agencies have already been engaged on different type of works. The target date of completion of investigations is 1993-94;

<i>Item of Works</i>	<i>Agency</i>
Reservoir Area Survey	Survey of India
Geo-technical Investigations	Geological Survey of India
Agro-Socio-Economic and Environmental Impact Studies	National Council of Applied Economic Research
Other Civil Engineering Surveys for Project components	National Water Development Agency.

(e) to (g). National Perspective for water resources development prepared by the Government envisages both Peninsular and Himalayan region development. The present mandate of National Water Development Agency is concerned with peninsular rivers development. Undertaking of Himalayan component requires modification to the objectives of National Water Development Agency.

Air Station at Bhubaneshwar

1089. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state.

(a) whether the radio programmes are not being properly received at hilly areas like Deogarh, Malkangiri, Paralakhemundi in Orissa;

(b) whether there is any demand for installation of a short wave transmitter at Bhubaneshwar for broadcasting local programmes; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJAVYAS):

(a) At present Deogarh in Sambalpur dis-

trict, Malkangiri in Koraput district and Paralakhemundi in Ganjan district are not covered by any of the Medium Wave transmitters of All India Radio in the State of Orissa. However, on completion of schemes for upgradation of transmitters at Sambalpur and Jeypore and the local radio station at Behrampur, Deogarh, Malkangiri and Paralakhemundi will get coverage respectively from these radio stations.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) At present, there is no proposal under consideration to establish a Short-wave Transmitter at Bhubaneshwar.

Soil Erosion by Sharda River in U.P.

1090. DR. G.L. KANAU JIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether solid erosion in large areas of land is caused in Tarai region of Uttar Pradesh by the Sharda river each year and cultivable land remains submerged under water for full six months; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken to check the soil erosion?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN

SHUKLA) (a) Erosion of varying magnitudes has been caused by the Sharda river due to its meandering nature. The water logged area is 35,200 hectares which is about 2% of the total culturable command area under Sharda Sahayak Project.

(b) The state Government has undertaken over 30 anti-erosion schemes to protect cluster of villages and towns.

Adventure Tourism

1092 SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government have drawn up any plan to explore the vast potentials of the adventure tourism in the country.

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) the amount allotted during the current financial year for the purpose, and

(d) the details of the suggestions received by the Union Government from the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) to (d) The Central Government encourages the State Governments and UTs by extending financial assistance for promotion of adventure tourism in the country. The financial assistance is based on specific proposals received from the concerned State Government/UTs which are considered on their merits, inter-se priorities and availability of funds.

During the current financial year Rs 120.00 lakhs has been allotted for development of adventure and sports tourism.

Development of Tourism in Lakshadweep

1093. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up any comprehensive Master Plan for development of tourism in Lakshadweep islands during the Eighth Five Year Plan,

(b) if so, the details of infrastructural facilities proposed to be provided in the islands during the period,

(c) whether central investment subsidy has been discontinued to these islands,

(d) whether this has affected the desired level of tourist traffic in the islands, and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) The major schemes proposed to be taken up during Eighth Five Year Plan period by the Union Territory Administration of Lakshadweep include construction of water sports institute at Kadmat, information and publicity subsidy for construction of tourist huts and water sports equipment, tourist home at Agatti and ferry boat for tourists.

(c) Central investment subsidy scheme has been discontinued all over the country including Lakshadweep. However, special provision has been made by Union Territory Administration to compensate this in their plan.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Electricity Connections for Unauthorised Colonies in Delhi

1094. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite depositing development charges electricity connections have not been provided to the people living in unapproved colonies in Delhi for the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

T.V. Relay Towers in Uttar Pradesh

1095. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to install T.V. Relay Towers at Champawat and Didihat in Pithoragarh district and at Bageshwar and Chowkitya in Almora District, Uttar Pradesh during 1992-93; and

(b) if so, by when these are likely to be installed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJA VYAS): (a) and (b). A low power TV transmitter (LPT) at Champawat and a very low power TV transmitter (VLPT) at Didihat (both in Pithoragarh distt.) and another VLPT at Chowkhutia in Almora district of Uttar Pradesh are presently under various stages of implementation. Subject to availability of resources, a VLPT is also envisaged to be set up at Bageshwar in Almora district. Whereas the LPT at Champawat and VLPTs at Didihat and Chowkhutia are scheduled for commissioning during the year 1993-94, the VLPT at Bageshwar is expected to be commissioned during the year 1994-95.

Rural Telephone Exchanges in Bihar

1096. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target had been fixed for opening rural telephone exchanges in Bihar during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in achieving the target; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for achieving these targets?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The progress achieved is given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Progress achieved</i>
1990-91	25	40
1991-92	40	51
1992-93	61	11 (upto October, 1992)

(c) Locations have been identified and purchase orders for procurement of required stores for opening of telephone exchanges have been placed.

Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project

1097. SHRI SUSHEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have distributed the compensation amount due to the landowners for acquiring their land for setting up of Kayamkulam thermal power project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the construction of the project will commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). For Kayamkulam Super Thermal Power Project, the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has acquired 20 acres of private land in phase-I. In phase-II, 161 acres of private land for permanent township is being acquired by NTPC. For 20 acres private land acquired in phase-I, NTPC deposited Rs.0.648 crore which has been

distributed to the land owners. For 161 acres of private land in phase-II, an amount of Rs. 3.60 crores has been deposited by NTPC. The award has been passed by the State Government and payment to land owners is in progress.

(d) The project has been included in the Eighth Five Year Plan for yielding benefits in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Public Telephone System

1098. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:
SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government during the last three years to improve the public telephone system all over the country;

(b) whether any new scheme has been drawn up for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Sir, the policy for provision of Public Telephones has been reviewed and liberalised. As per this policy, Public Telephones are allotted

those who volunteer to run the same subject to technical feasibility and completion of departmental formalities.

(c) As per the present policy, preference is given to Handicapped persons, Ex-servicemen/Retired staff of Department of Telecom, Women (educated and unemployed), SC/ST and other weaker sections of society. The allottee has to procure Public Telephone Equipment on his own. No rental or installation fee is charged but the hirer has to guarantee a minimum monthly revenue of Rs. 1600/- and deposit a minimum security of Rs.9600/- for STD/ISD Payphone and is eligible for a commission of 20 paise per call for first 10,000 calls and 10 paise per call beyond 10,000 calls. For a local PCO, the commission payable is 40 paise per call and there is a monthly guaranteed minimum charge for 500 call units

[Translation]

Advertisements on Doordarshan

1099. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVIS-
 INGH PATIL:
 SHRIMATI SAROJ DBEY:
 SHRI SHYRAVAN KUMAR
 PATEL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a fall in the number of advertisements on Doordarshan as a result of advertisements of Indian products on STAR TV and CNN;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Doordarshan is constantly endeavouring to telecast more interesting and entertaining programmes to retain the interest of its viewers as well as to increase its commercial revenue through advertisements, etc.

[English]

Press Council Act, 1978

1100. SHRI CHANDULAL CHAN-
 DRAKAR:
 SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Press Council Act, 1978; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):

(a) and (b). The Government has decided to amend Explanation under Section 5 (3) of the Press Council Act, 1978 to revise the criteria laid down for big, medium and small news papers.

Loss to Indian Airlines due to Strikes

1101. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
 SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATH-
 ERIA:
 SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether agitations including strikes and observance of work to rule by Air Traffic Controllers, Pilots and Engineers and other staff of the Indian Airlines had resulted in enormous loss during 1990, 1991 and 1992 so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to avert such agitation and to avoid losses;

(d) the main demands of these categories of employees, separately; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The estimated loss, suffered by Indian Airlines due to work to rule/strike by its employees and agitation by the Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs) of National Airport Authority during the last three years are as under:-

<i>(Rupees in crores)</i>	
1990-91	0.57
1991-92	4.91
1992-93 (upto 31st October, '992)	5.71*

* Includes Rs. 3.60 crores towards cost of additional fuel burnt on account of agitation by ATCs.

(c) The entire question of revision of wages and allowances for employees of Indian Airlines and Air India for a period of five years from 1.9.1990 has been referred to the National Industrial Tribunal. On some

of the pending issues, settlements have been made through bilateral negotiations without prejudice to the final award of the National Industrial Tribunal. Bilateral talks are held to discuss and resolve various issues raised by the Unions and management. Unresolved issues, wherever, necessary are referred to the prescribed authorities for conciliation. The demands of the Air Traffic Controllers Guild were examined by an Empowered Committee set up by the National Airports Authority. The Committee has agreed to create additional posts for improving promotional prospects. The management, while ameliorating genuine grievances of the employees, is committed to enforcing discipline.

(d) The main demands of these categories of employees are given in the statement attached.

(e) some of the demands are of national nature. Regarding other demands, action as stated above has been taken/is being taken.

STATEMENT

Employees Represented by Indian Commercial Pilots' Association

1. Firm decision on operation of A-320 aircraft.
2. During the pendency of decision on A-320, Indian Airlines should be refrained from taking aircraft on wet lease from any foreign agency.

Private enterprises must be restrained from carrying out commercial air transportation in India.

4. Vayudoot should only be permitted to operate feeder routes

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>5. Authority is restored in Indian Airlines management as per the provision of the Air Corporations Act, 1953 for effective functioning.</p> <p>6. Transfer of Boeing-737 Pilots to Calcutta.</p> <p>7. Issues involving safety.</p> <p>8. Additional increment to be treated as basic pay.</p> <p>9. Incident involving lady Pilot and Aircraft Engineers at Bombay on 4.10.1992</p> <p>10. Violation of existing Awards/Settlements regarding Career Pattern.</p> <p>11. Increase in the rates of Meal Allowance.</p> <p>12. Provision of Special Travelling allowance for International flights.</p> | <p>6. Reformulate industrial and economic policy of Govt. of India.</p> <p>7. Stop all measures for privatisation of Public Sector Undertakings.</p> <p>8. Immediate finalisation of Tripartite D.A. Committee's recommendations.</p> <p>9. Scrap B.P.E. Circular on pension.</p> <p>10. Withdraw reference to N.I.T. and commence bipartite negotiations on charter of demands.</p> <p>11. Ensure payment of bonus to all employees.</p> <p>12. Withdraw ban on recruitment.</p> |
|--|---|

Employees represented by Air Corporations Employees' Union

1. Firm decision on operation of A-320 aircraft.
2. During the pendency of decision on A-320, Indian Airlines should be refrained from taking aircraft on wet lease from any foreign agency.
3. Private enterprises must be restrained from carrying out commercial air transportation in India
4. Vayudoot should only be permitted to operate feeder routes.
5. Authority is restored in Indian Air-

13. Immediate enactment of Bill on workers' participation in Management.
14. Do not resort to disinvestment in PSUs including Indian Airlines and Air-India.
15. Withdraw Air Corporations (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal Bill), 1992.

Employees represented by All India Aircraft Engineers' Association

1. Removal of disparity of Pay & allowance and Service Conditions between Engineers of Indian Airlines and Air-India.

Employees represented by Indian Aircraft Technician Association

1. Firm decision on operation of A-320 craft.
2. During the pendency of decision on A-320, Indian Airlines should be refrained from taking aircraft on wet lease from any foreign agency.
3. Private enterprises must be restrained from carrying out commercial air transportation in India.
4. Vayudoot should only be permitted to operate feeder routes.
5. Authority is restored in Indian Airlines management as per the provision of the Air Corporations Act, 1953 for effective functioning.
6. Withdraw Repeal of Air Corporations Act, 1953.
7. Withdraw reference to N.I.T. and start bipartite negotiations.
8. Pending finalisation of charter of demands, pay interim relief.
9. Introduce suitable pension scheme for all Indian Airlines employees.
10. Immediate finalisation of existing DA Tariff.
11. Enhance the existing bonus ceiling.
12. Introduce approval of system for Technicians.
13. More approval coverage of Inspectors.

14. Stop all measures of contract out of existing workload.

15. Maintain parity/relativity.

16. Increase in R.T. Allowance.

Employees represented by Indian Flight Engineers Association

1. Firm decision on operation of 'A-320 aircraft.
2. During the pendency of decision on A-320, Indian Airlines should be refrained from taking aircraft on wet lease from any foreign agency.
3. Private enterprises must be restrained from carrying out commercial air transportation in India.
4. Vayudoot should only be permitted to operate feeder routes.
5. Authority is restored in Indian Airlines management as per the provision of the Air Corporations Act, 1953 for effective functioning.
6. Vertical Promotions.
7. Additional Special Travelling Allowances.
8. INS Allowance.
9. Transit Check/Check 'A' Inspection.

Employees represented by Airlines Radio Officers, & Flight Operations Officers Association

1. Firm Decision on operation of A-320 aircraft.

2. During the pendency of decision on A-320, Indian Airlines should be refrained from taking aircraft on wet lease from foreign agency.
3. Private enterprises must be restrained from carrying out commercial air transportation in India.
4. Vayudoot should only be permitted to operate feeder routes.
5. Authority is restored in Indian Airlines management as per the provision of the Air Corporations Act, 1953 for effective functioning.
6. Payment of Computer Allowance.
7. Flight Clearance allowance.

→ *Employees represented by Air Traffic Controllers Guild*

1. Time-bound assured promotion at all levels to remove stagnation
2. Management of airports to be restored to Aerodrome discipline.
3. Night weightage/shift allowance and clear weekly off of all Air Traffic Controllers.
4. To treat ATC personnel comparatively at higher level because of nature of their job.

Bifurcation of Doordarshan and Air

1102. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
SHRI RAMSINGH KASHWAN:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHARY:
SHRI SUBASH CHANDRANAYAK:
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received from the employees of Doordarshan regarding the bifurcation of Doordarshan and A.I.R.; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJA VYAS):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to go into the question of bifurcation in detail and implication thereof.

Withdrawal of Newsprint Control Order

1103. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Newspaper Society has demanded complete removal of all controls on the newspaper industry and withdrawal of newsprint control order; and

(b) if so the response of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJA VYAS)

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Government's response to such issues is consistent with its policy of safeguarding the interest of the indigenous newsprint manufacturers as also the healthy growth of the Press

Irrigation Projects in Orissa

1104 SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the name of irrigation project in Orissa proposed to E E C for financial assistance during 1992-93

(b) whether some of the projects will cover the tribal belt of Western Orissa and

(c) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) Salandi Irrigation Project of Orissa has been proposed for EEC assistance during 1992-93. A minor Irrigation Project covering the districts of Puri, Ganjam and Pulbani in Eastern Orissa is under consideration for PEC Assistance

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

[Translation]

Functioning of Telephone Exchanges in U.P.

*1105 SHRI RANJENDRA AGNIHOTRI
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether a large number of telephone exchanges in several districts of Uttar Pradesh are not functioning properly,

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

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) and (b) The functioning of most of the telephone exchanges in U.P. is satisfactory. Rural exchanges may occasionally be non-functional due to prolonged interruption in power supply or theft of or damage to the open wire junction line

(c) To further improve the performance following steps are being taken

(i) Replacement of manual and old technology exchange by electronic exchanges

(i) Strengthening of Supervision over maintenance routines

[English]

**Bengali Programme From Guwahati
Doordarshan Kendras**

1106. SHRISUBRATAMUKHERJEE:
SHRIJITENDRA NATH DAS:
DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the time allotted to broadcast/telecast of Bengali programmes from Guwoti/Dibugah aiao and TV centres daily;

(b) whether the Government are considering to allot more time for Bengali programmes from Guwahati and Dibrugarh Doordarshan/AIR Stations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJAVYAS):

(a) to (c). All India Radio, Dibrugarh and Doordarshan Kendra, Guwaahiti do not broadcasts/telecast any programme in Bengali. Doordarshan Kendra at Dibrugah does not originate programmes at present except playing back recordings of programmes obtained from Doordarshan Kendra, Guwahati. All India Radio, Guwahati broadcast is 10 minutes of Rabindra Sangeet every week. There is no proposal at present to make any change in this pattern.

[Translation]

Recognition to Film Journalists

1107. SHRI VISHWANATHSHASTRI:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to accord recognition to the film journalists;

(b) if so, the criteria thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRJAVYAS): (a) PIB grant accreditation to news media representatives including media/film critics in accordance with the Central Press Accreditation Rules, 1985. In accordance with these Rules, some persons working for film magazines/periodicals have been granted accreditation facilities as media/film critics.

(b) A person to be eligible for accreditation as a Film/media Critic should have not less than five years, regular and full-time experience in the line.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of Steel Plants

1108. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA): Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the annual supply and demand of steel in the country at present;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up steel plants in private sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Against the projected demand of 17.76 million tonnes of finished steel, the production of finished steel in the year 1992-93 is expected to be 16.12 million tonnes.

(b) and (c). The new industrial policy announced in July 1991 has exempted the Steel Industry from the provisions of compulsory licensing under the Industries (D&R) Act, 1951. Entrepreneurs are required to apply to Government for a license only in case the unit is located within a distance of 25 Kms. from a city with a population in excess of 10 lakhs as per the 1991 census. In other cases, they only need to file a memorandum with Government indicating the capacity, location, etc. of the proposed project

A large number of Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda have been filed for new steel projects and expansion of existing capacities. The State Governments of Orissa and Karnataka have proposed to implement integrated steel plants in the joint sector. Interest has also been shown by some private sector companies to set up large integrated steel plants

Posts of Scheduled Tribes in the Ministry

1109. SHRI KRISHNA DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts of officers and employees reserved for scheduled tribes are lying vacant in his Ministry, if so, the details thereof,

(b) the number of posts filled up during last one year; and

(c) the details of the time bound programme formulated for filling up the said posts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the field units and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

[English]

Arkavathy Medium Irrigation Project in Karnataka

1110. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far with regard to Arkavathy medium irrigation project in Kanakapura, Bangalore district;

(b) the time by which this project is likely to be cleared; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). The Arkavathy Reservoir Project estimated to cost Rs. 22.25 crores and envisaging utilisation of 3.459 Thousand Million Cubic feet of water in Cauvery basin for irrigating 8560 hectares in Bangalore district was received in Central Water Commission in May, 1985. The Project was sent back to the State Government in April, 1987 due to non-resolution of issues regarding sharing of Cauvery Waters among the basin States.

[Translation]

Linking of Airports with Foreign Airlines

1111. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the airports linked with foreign air lines;

(b) whether the Government propose to link some more airports with foreign airlines;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Five international airports viz. Calcutta, Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Trivandrum are linked by foreign airlines. Some foreign airlines operate to Trichy and Amritsar. Besides these, chartered flights from abroad operate to /from Goa.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The existing airports are sufficient to cater to the needs of international air traffic to/from India.

[English]

T.V. Serials on Dr. Mukherjee Veer Sawarkar and Krishna

1112. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the T.V. Serials on Dr. Shayama Prasad Mukherjee, Veer Sawarkar and Krishna for telecast;

(b) if so, since when these serials are

pending clearance; and

(c) by when these are likely to be telecast?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Doordarshan did not receive any proposal for TV serials under the titles 'Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee and 'Veer Sawarkar'. The proposal for the serial 'Krishna' received under the New Sponsorship Scheme, 1990 has not been recommended by the Selection Committee.

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

[Translation]

Licensing System for Cable T.V. and Dish Antenna

1113. SHRIMATI BHAVNACHIKHLIA:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYANAYAK:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHURY:

DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
REDDY:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS
PATEL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce licensing system for Cable T.V.

network and Dish Antenna System in the country,

- (b) if so, the details thereof, and
(c) by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS) (a) to (c) Licence under the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 is required to distribute TV programmes received through Dish Antennae/and to establish Cable TV networks through Cable laid across/along public roads. The question of further regulating Cable T V networks and Dish Antennae Systems in the country has already been taken up by the Government

Privatisation of Power Transmission and Distribution Work by DESU

1114 DR LAL BHADUR RAWAL
SHRI NITISH KUMAR
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN
SHRI V S RAJASEKHAR
REDDY

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the work of power transmission and distribution is being handled by private sector in some metropolitan cities in the country,

(b) if so, the names of those metropolitan cities

(c) whether the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking has constituted a task force with a view to transfer the work of power transmission and distribution to the private sector

(d) if so, when this task force was constituted and the time by which it was asked to submit its report

(e) whether the aforesaid task force has submitted its report to the Government, and

(f) if so, the details thereof, indicating the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) and (b) At present the distribution of electricity is with the private companies in parts of Bombay, Calcutta and Ahmedabad metropolitan cities

(c) to (f) Government had set up a Task Force in August, 1992 to consider the proposal from M/s Indian Electric Supply and Transmission Limited (Modi Group of Companies) for generation, transmission and distribution of electricity in part of Delhi and to examine the possibilities of entrusting generation, transmission and distribution of electricity in Delhi to private sector. The Task Force was required to submit its reports on these two aspects by 15.9.1992 and 15.10.1992 respectively. The Task Force has not so far submitted the report to the Government

[English]

ITDC Employees Opted for Retirement

1115 DR RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether a large number of staff of the India Tourism Development Corporation have opted for retirement now,

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

(c) the number of men and women out of them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) and (b) Under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme of ITDC, 98 Executives and 875 non-executives have sought retirement

(c) The break up of men and women is as under -

Men - 921

Women - 52

Posts and Telegraph Offices in Bihar

1116 SHRI LALIT ORAON Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the district-wise number of posts and telegraph offices proposed to be set up in Bihar during 1992,

(b) the funds allocated therefor, district-wise

(c) the details of the posts and telegraph offices set up so far in each district, and

(d) the time by which the remaining posts and telegraph offices are likely to be set up including in Sitamarhi district?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) **Telegraph Offices** The district-wise details of the telegraph offices proposed to be set up in 1992 is given in Statement -I

Post Offices: The information is being collected

(b) **Telegraph Offices** No separate funds have been earmarked for Bihar

Post Offices: Rs 5.50 lakhs allocated to Bihar Circle for opening of post offices during 1992-93

(c) **Telegraph Offices:** The details of telegraph offices set up in each district so far is given in Statement -II

Post Offices: Information is being collected

(d) **Telegraph Offices** The details of the time by which the remaining telegraph offices are likely to be set up including Sitamarhi is given in Statement-III

Post Offices: Information is being collected

STATEMENT - I

Details of Telegraph Offices Proposed to be setup in 1992 District wise in Bihar Circle.

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of Telegraph officers proposed to be set up in 1992			
		Telegraph Office	Combined P & T Office	3	4
1.	Motihari	-	-	2	2
2.	Dumka	-	-	3	3
3.	Darbhanga	-	-	3	3
4.	Gopalganj	-	-	2	2
5.	Khagaria	-	-	2	2
6.	Nawada	-	-	3	3
7.	Ranchi	-	-	1	1
8.	Samastipur	-	-	2	2
9.	Sitamarhi	-	-	2	2
10.	Hajipur (Vaishali)	-	-	4	4

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of Telegraph officers proposed to be set up in 1992			
		2	3	Telegraph Office	Combined P & T Office
1					4
11.	Banka		1		2
12.	Buxar		1		-
13.	Bhabua		1		-
14.	Jamui		1		3
15.	Sahebganj		1		-
16.	Supaul		1		-
17.	Kishanganj		1		1
18.	Chatra		1		-
19.	Garhwa		1		-
20.	Gumla		1		-
21.	Barth		1		-

STATEMENT - II

Details of Telegraph Offices Setup in Each District so Far. °

S. No.	Name of District	Details of Telegraph Offices set up in each district so far.			
		1	2	3	4
		Telegraph Offices		Combined P & T Offices	
1.	Banka			1	
2.	Buxar			1	
3.	Bhabhua			1	
4.	Jamul			1	
5.	Sahebganj			1	
6.	Supaul			1	
7.	Kishanganj			1	

STATEMENT - II

Details of Telegraph Offices setup in each District so far

S. No.	Name of District	Time by which the remaining Telegraph offices are likely to be setup including Sitamarhi.		
		1	2	3
		Telegraph Offices		
		Combined P. & T. Offices		
1.	Mithani		3	4
2.	Darbhanga		-December 1992	
3.	Gopalganj		-December 1992	December 1992
4.	Khagaria		-	December 1992
5.	Nawada		-	December 1992
6.	Ranchi		-	December 1992
7.	Samastipur		-	December 1992
8.	Sitamarhi		-	December 1992
9.	Hajipur (Vaishali)		-	December 1992
10.	Banka		-	December 1992

S. No.	Name of District	Time by which the remaining Telegraph offices are likely to be setup including Sitamarhi.		
		Telegraph Offices	Combined P & T Offices	
1	2	3		
11.	Jamul	-		December 1992
12.	Dumka	-		December 1992
13.	Kishanganj	-		December 1992
14.	Chatra		December 1992	
15.	Garhwa		December 1992	
16.	Gumla		December 1992	
17.	Bairh		December 1992	

Inflated Telephone Bills in Delhi

1117. SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR (DEEPA):

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received by the MTNL, Delhi recently regarding inflated telephone Bills sent to the subscribers;

(b) if so, the total number of complaints received during the last six months, exchange-wise;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made in the matter, if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the officials found guilty?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir, some complaints regarding excess billing have been received.

(b) During the last 6 months period i.e. May, 1992 to October, 1992, 5913 complaints about excess billing have been received. Exchange-wise information is given in the attached statement.

(c) Each and every complaint about excess billing is examined thoroughly from all aspects as per the existing departmental instructions and wherever justified, rebate is granted to the subscribers.

(d) No departmental official was found involved in any of the above cases where detailed investigation have been completed.

STATEMENT

No. Of Excess billing Compliants received from 5/92 to 10/92

<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>No. of complaints about excess billing.</i>
1. Janpath	156
2. Jorbagh	260
3. Kidwai Bhavan	181
4. Rajpath	146
5. Sena Bhawan	77
6. Lodhi Road	26
7. Chanakya Puri	335

<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>No. of complaints about excess billing.</i>
8. Hauz Khas	309
9. Nehru Place	549
10. Vasant Kunj	47
11. Chhattar Pur	10
12. Tehakhand	15
13. Okhla	281
14. Alipur	1
15. Badli	9
16. Tis Hazari	677
17. Shakti Nagar	540
18. Narela	12
19. Lawrance Road	50
20. Rohni (North)	90
21. Rohni (South)	32
22. Delhi Cantt	23
23. Janakpur	190
24. Karol Bagh	539
25. Rajouri Gardern	469
26. Najaf Garh	8
27. Shadipur	31
28. Pachim Vihar	133

Name of Exchange	No. of complaints about excess billing.
29 Hari Nagar	19
30. Nangloi	14
31. Darya Ganj	110
32. Idgah	253
33. Laxmi Nagar	134
34. Yamuna Vihar	50
35 Mayur Vihar	36
36 Shahdra	101
Total	5913

Promotion of Tourism in Maharashtra

1118 SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for promotion of tourism in Maharashtra received by the Union Government during the last three years, up to June 30, 1992;

(b) the number of proposals approved, rejected and still pending indicating the reasons for rejecting of each proposal; and

(c) the financial assistance proposed to be provided by the Union Government to the

State in this regard during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA). (a) Forty proposals for development of tourism in Maharashtra have been received for three year period up to June 30th, 1992.

(b) Thirty one proposals have been sanctioned, and nine were rejected due to their unsuitability. No proposal was pending with the Government as on 30th June, 1992.

(c) Union Government have earmarked Rs. 236.70 lakhs for financial assistance to the State of Maharashtra during 1992-93.

[Translation]

Telephone with STD in Country

1119. SHRIMATISAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephones under Subscriber Trunk Dialing facility proposed to be installed in the country by the end of December 1992;

(b) whether the working capacity of telecommunication system has been induced due to installation of S.T.D. P.C.C.Os in Large number; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the government to make the working capacity of telecommunication system more effectively?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Sir, 3.4 lakh additional telephone connections are likely to be provided by the end of December, 1992 in this financial year. Subscribers Trunk Dialing facility is optional, as such, exact number cannot be indicated.

(b) STD/Local PCOs are provided out of 5% reserve capacity and have, as such, no effect on the working capacity of system.

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

Gold Deposits in Bihar

1120. SHRI SHIBU SOREN:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI BRAHMANANDMANDAL:
SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge deposits of gold have been found at Kunderkocha village in Potka block of Eastern Singhbhum, Swaran Bhandar in Rajjgir hills and Karmatiya of Jamui district Bihar;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for extraction of gold in these places; and

(c) the time by which mining of gold is likely to be started there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

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

Telephone Connections in Delhi from M.P.s. QUOTA

1121. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of telephone connections sanctioned so far from the members of Parliament in Delhi during the year;

(b) whether all the sanctioned telephone connections have been installed within one month of the date of sanctioning by the Maha Nagar Telephone Limited;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the directions being issued for the timely installation of said telephones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 1292 telephone connections have been sanctioned against the quota of Members of Parliament

in Delhi from 1.1.1992 to 31.10.92.

(b) and (c). All connections are normally provided within thirty days subject to technical feasibility and completion of formalities by the applicants.

(d) The standing instructions are to provide all such telephone connections within 30 days. Pending cases are reviewed from time to time and efforts are made to provide technically non-feasible cases at the earliest.

New Areas for Tourism

1122. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from various States to open new areas for tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d). The National Action Plan for Tourism presented to the Parliament in May, 1992, has suggested 17 circuits/ destinations to be taken up for intensive development. A list of the identified circuits/destinations is given in the attached statement. This has been done in consultation with the State Governments and tourism industry.

STATEMENT

Circuits -cum-Destination Identified for intensive development under National Action Plan

Travel Circuits

1. Kulu-Manali-Lan
2. Bwalion-Shivpuri-Orcha-Khajuraho
3. Bagdogra-Sikkim-Darjeeling-Kalimpong
4. Bhubaneswar-Puri-Konark
5. Hyderabad-Nagarjunasagar-Tirupati
6. Madras-Mahabalipuram-Pondicherry
7. Rishikesh-Narender Nagar-Gangotri-Bandrinath
8. Indore-Ujjain-Maheshwar-Omkareshwar-Mandu
9. Jaisalmer-Jodhpur-Bikaner-Barmer
10. Raigad Fort-Janjira Fort-Kuda Caves-Sirivardhan-Harihareshwar-Sindhudrug
11. Bangalore-Mysore-Hassan

Destinations

1. Lakshadweep Islands
2. Andaman Islands
3. Manali (Solang-Nalah)

4. Bekal Beach
5. Muttkukadu Beach
6. Kangra (Pong Dam)

T.V. Relay Centre in Ajmer

1123. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in setting up a high power T.V. relay centre at Ajmer, in Rajasthan;

(b) the amount provided for this purpose;

(c) by when the work is likely to be completed;

(d) the names of schemes taken up to strengthen T.V. transmission centres in Rajasthan; and

(e) whether the Government propose to give priority to cover desert, hilly and border areas of the state; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):
(a) to (c): The scheme for establishment of a high power (10KW) TV transmitter at Ajmer is being processed for obtaining approval of the competent authority. However, in the meanwhile, orders for the equipment costing Rs. 284.20 lakhs involving long delivery schedule have already been placed on the manufacturers. Subject to the availability of resources and infrastructural facilities, it would take about three years for completion

of the transmitter after approval of the scheme by the competent authority.

(d) to (f). It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to give priority to the coverage of desert, hilly and border areas of the country including those in Rajasthan. Towards this end, high power TV transmitters are presently under implementation /envisaged to be set up, subject to availability of resources at Ajmer, Anupgarh, Barmer, Bundi, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Nathdwara in placement of the existing low power TV transmitters already functioning at these places. In addition, 19 low power / very low power TV transmitters are also under implementation /envisaged to be set up in Rajasthan so as to strengthen TV service in the State. On commissioning of these projects, an estimated 83.4% area and 79.9% population of the State is expected to be brought under TV service. These figures are inclusive of fringe service areas where elevated antennae and boosters are required for obtaining satisfactory reception.

[English]

Repair Base for Airbus and Boeing Aircraft at Gwalior

1124. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATIONS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a repair base for Airbus and Boeing aircraft in Gwalior;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this repair facility would be offered to foreign airlines as well; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir

raise the capacity of these telephone exchanges during 1992-93 to clear the waiting list;

(b) to (d) Do not arise

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

[*Translation*]

(e) the time by which all persons on the waiting list are likely to be provided telephone connections?

Capacity of Exchanges in Jalgaon Maharashtra

1125. DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYANAI DU): (a) and (b). There are 108 telephone exchanges in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra and capacity of each of Exchanges alongwith Waiting List for telephone connections for last 3 years is given in the attached statement.

(a) The total number of telephone exchanges functioning at present in the Jalgaon district of Maharashtra and the capacity of each exchange separately;

(b) the total number of persons who are on the waiting list for the telephone connections in the said exchanges for the last three years, separately;

(c) and (d): Yes, Sir for 6 exchanges and for other exchanges capacity addition would be done based on availability of equipment and demand for telephones after 92-93. It is proposed to raise the capacity of 6 exchanges during 1992-93 as detailed below:

(c) whether the Government propose to

Name of the Exchange	present capacity	Expansion up to March 93.
1. Adawad	88	176
2. Ainpur-R	45	88
3. Bahdagaon-U	176	264
4. Chopada-U	360	512
5. Pachore	600	1000
6. Raver	264	512

(e) The persons on waiting list are likely to be provided with telephone connections progressively during 8th Five Year Plan period (1992-97) which envisages:

— to provide telephone connections practically on demand in rural and tribal areas.

— waiting period for telephones connections not to exceed two years for large telephone systems.

The expansion programmes for Jalgaon District of Maharashtra are being drawn accordingly.

STATEMENT

List of Telephone Exchanges, Equipped Capacity and Waiting List of Persons for last three years of Jalgaon District (Maharashtra).

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Equiped capacity	Person who are on W/L for the last Three Years.
1	2	3	4
1.	Adawad	88	-
2.	Ainpur-R	45	5
3.	Amadade-R	35	-
4	Amagaon-R	1000	55
6.	Angale-R	35	-
7.	Anturli-R	88	-
8.	Bahadurnpur-R	25	-
9.	Bannod-R	176	1
10.	Bhadagaon-U	176	-
11	Bhadali-R	35	-
12.	Bhalod-R	35	6

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Equiped capacity	Person who are on W/L for the last Three Years.
1	2	3	4
13.	Bhokar-R	50	-
14.	Bhusawal-U	1200	223
15.	Bodwad-R	176	15
16.	Chahardj-R	10	-
17.	Chalisagaon-U	1300	84
18.	Chandusar-R	25	-
19.	Changdeo R	25	3
20.	Chopada-U	360	40
21.	Dahogaon-R	25	-
22.	Dahiwad-R	25	-
23.	Deulgaon-R	25	-
24.	Dhanora-R	56	-

Sl. No. ⁴	Name of the Exchange	Equipped capacity	Person who are on W/L for the last Three Years.
1	2	3	4
25	Dharangaon-R	176	-
26	Edlabad-U	176	1
27.	Erondal-U	264	-
28.	Fattepur-R	88	-
29	Gaukheda-R	45	-
30	Gondegaon-R	25	-
31	Ghodgaon-R	25	-
32	Cudhe-R	35	-
33	Hatile-R	25	-
34	Idgaon-R	25	1
35	Jalgaon-U	6600	916
36.	Jammal-U	384	-

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Equiped capacity	Person who are on WL for the last Three Years.
1	2	3	4
37.	Jamthi-U	56	-
38.	Janva-R	25	-
39.	Kajgaon-R	176	-
40.	Kanalda-R	56	2
41.	Karko-R	25	-
42.	Kasoda-R	176	-
43.	Kathora-R	35	-
44.	Khechane-R	25	-
45.	Khanapur-R	25	-
46.	Kharohi-R	25	-
47.	Khodgaon-R (N)	10	-
48.	Khirwad-R	56	-

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Equiped capacity			Person who are on W/L for the last Three Years.
1	2	3	3	4	
49.	Khiroda-R	56	56	2	
50.	Kingaon-R	176	176	-	
51.	Kinhi-R	35	35	-	
52.	Kurha Kakoda	88	88	-	
53.	Kurha (P) - R	56	56	-	
54	Lasur-R	25	25	-	
55	Lohtar-R	10	10	-	
56.	Lohura-R	25	25	-	
57	Maldabadi-R	10	10	-	
58	Mangrul-R	10	10	-	
59	Marwad-R	56	56	-	
60	Mohunbara-R	25	25	3	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Equiped capacity	Person who are on W/L for the last Three Years.
1	2	3	4
61.	Mhasavad-R	88	2
62.	Moykhoda (D) -	35	-
63.	Mudi-R	25	3
64.	Nagad-R	35	4
65.	Nagardovla-R	30	-
66.	Naddra-R	56	-
67.	Nandod-R	25	-
68.	Nashirabad-R	176	1
69.	Nari-R	88	-
70.	Nimbhora-R	176	4
71	Nimkhdi-R	25	-
72.	Pachora-U	600	25

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Equiped capacity	Person who are on WL for the last Three Years.
1	2	3	4
73.	Pahur-R	176	-
74.	Pal-R	56	-
75.	Paldhi-R	88	-
76.	Parola-U	264	15
77.	Pimpalgaon-R	35	-
78.	Pimpalkotha-R	25	-
79.	Pimpri	88	7
80.	Rajwad-R	10	-
81.	Ranjangaon-R	10	-
82.	Ravar-U	264	124
83.	Saigaon-R	25	-
84.	Saklior	88	-

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Equiped capacity	Person who are on W/L for the last Three Years.
1	2	3	4
85.	Salva-R	35	-
86.	Shendurai-R	88	-
87.	Savda-Fauzpur	384	4
88.	Shirooli-R	56	-
89.	Sonwad-R	35	-
90.	Sunagaon-R	25	-
91.	Talegaon-R	56	-
92.	Tamaswadi-R	25	-
93.	Tandalwadi-R	88	-
94.	Tondapur-R	35	-
95.	Uhanda-R	56	1
96.	Umbartheda-R	25	-

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	2	3	Person who are on W/L for the last Three Years.
1				4
97.	Ultran-R		45	-
98.	Utikheda-R		45	-
99.	Varangaon-R		264	-
100.	Vardi-R		25	-
101.	Varikhadi-I		25	-
102.	Virwada		10	-
103.	Wagfli-R		88	-
104.	Wakdi-R		25	-
105.	Vakod-R		25	-
106.	Yawal-U		264	11
107.	Khedgaon		25	-
108.	Pardhade-R		25	-

LPT at Joshimath in U.P.

1126. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION and BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a low-power transmitter at Joshimath in Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) the estimated expenditure to be incurred on the project and by when this project is likely to be commissioned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A very low power TV transmitter is under implementation at Joshimath in Uttar Pradesh. Approved capital cost of the project is Rs. 70.81 lakhs. As per present indications, this TV transmitter is expected to be commissioned during 1994.

[English]

Cellular Mobile Telephones

1127. SHRICHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Singapore Government has made an offer to meet the entire foreign exchange cost of setting up of cellular mobile telephone services in Bombay, Delhi and Madras and to invest in several Indian telephone manufacturing companies in the country;

(b) if so, the details of offer indicating the estimated cost involved and the production capacity and technology transfer components; and

(c) the response of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Telephone Exchanges in Villages of Himachal Pradesh

1128. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a number of villages in Himachal Pradesh, general public numbering 11 or more have deposited money before 1989 for setting up telephone exchanges;

(b) whether telephone exchange have been set up in the places;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the time by which telephone exchanges are likely to be set up with location thereof; and

(e) the places where telephone exchange are likely to be set up during 1992-93 and 1993-94?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes Sir. Out of 79 such places telephone exchanges/services have been provided at 62 places upto 31.10.1992.

(d) and (e). The details are given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

(I) Telephone exchanges at the following places are planned to be set up during 1992-93.

1. Kashmir
2. Kuthera
3. Lohara
4. Lowerkoti
5. Raipur Maidan

(II) Telephone exchanges at the following places are planned to be set up during 1993-94.

1. Ghagas (It is proposed to serve the area from the proposed Beri exchange after shifting the existing telephone exchange from Barmana to Beri).

2. Karot
3. Khamedi
4. Kohbagh

(III) Setting up of the telephone exchanges at the following places depend upon technical feasibility of connectivity to other exchanges and the same is under examination.

1. Behal
2. Chambi
3. Jakatkhana

4. Kihar
 5. Kingal
 6. Majheen
 7. Nakrot
 8. Riba
- [English]

I.S.D./S.T.D. Booths in Kerala

1129. **SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-THALA:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number of ISD/STD booths sanctioned in the Kerala so far;

(b) the district-wise details of pending applications for sanction of ISD/STD booths; and

(c) the steps proposed to clear the pending applications?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The requisite information is furnished in the attached statement .

(c) Pending applications will be clear progressively subject to technical feasibility and observations of departmental formalities.

STATEMENT

NAME OF DISTRICT	NO OF ISD/STD BOOTHES SANCTIONED	NO OF APPLICATION FOR SANCTION OF ISD/STD BOOTHS PENDING
1 Thiruvananthapuram	193	380
2. Kollam	107	156
3 Alleppey	80	236
4 Ernakulan (including iddukki)	407	400
5 Trissur	229	310
6 Palakkad	190	231
7 Calicut	263	859
8 Malappuram	97	1504
9 Wynad	16	160
10 Kannur	91	418
11 Kasargode	87	150
12 Mahe	12	16
13. Pathanamthitta	135	120
14 Kottaym	132	84

[*Translation*]**Unauthorised Power Connections
in the Delhi**

1130 SHRIBRJBHUSHANSHARAN
SINGH Will the Minister of POWER be
pleased to state

(a) the total number of cases of un-

authorised electric connections detected in
Delhi during the last six months,(b) the number of persons arrested in
this regard, and(c) the measures being taken by the
Government to check unauthorised electric
connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (e) During the period May-October, 1992, DESU detected 9968 cases of unauthorised electricity connections and 156 persons were arrested by Delhi Police in this regard. Theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910. DESU has intensified raids against theft and other violations in use of electricity and FIRs are lodged with the Police against persons found involved in this offence.

[English]

**Review of Indian Telegraph Act.
1885**

1131. **SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAOVADDE:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee set up to review the Indian Telegraph Act, 1985 has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below

(c) The report has been taken up for examination.

STATEMENT

The Committee has recommended

passing of a new single legislation covering the Indian Telegraph Act (1885). The Indian wireless Telegraphy Act (1933) and the Indian Telegraph Wires Unlawful possession Act (1950) and to name the new Act as "The Indian Telecommunication Act" (199-).

The tone of the Act which was Authority oriented is sought to be changed to service or consumer oriented. The main recommendations of the committee are as under:

1. The scope of the section relating to privileges and powers of the Government has been proposed to be considerably enlarged by defining the status and role of the different players in the business of telecommunications. In addition to the privileges and powers, the duties and responsibilities have also been added.

2. No change has been proposed in the privileges of the Central Government to establish, maintain and operate telecommunication systems, apparatus and services and the power of the Central Government to grant licenses.

3. In the environment of a possibility of a number of licensee service providers, besides the Central Government, the Committee has recommended that the status of the organisation of the Government responsible for establishment, maintenance and operation of telecommunication systems, apparatus and services retained by the Government under the above privilege should be at par with the licensee service providers for the purpose of regulation and controls. Also this organisation should have an identity distinctly separate from the Central Government. The Committee has proposed that this organisation may be called "telecom operating authority"

4. It is proposed that the Central Gov-

ernment should be responsible for the functions which are common to all the service providers namely,

- (i) Standardisation
- (ii) Research and development
- (iii) Preparation and monitoring of the development plans
- (iv) Regulation and management of frequency spectrum
- (v) Management of relations with International Bodies

5 The Central Government should create a statutory authority to monitor and regulate the services and settle the disputes between the subscribers and the service provider, or between two service providers. This authority has been given the name "telecom regulatory authority" and its duties and responsibilities have been listed in the proposed Act.

6 In order to make the Act service oriented, the duties and responsibilities of the "service provider" and the "subscribers" have been listed in the proposed Act.

7 The section dealing with the rates for transmission of telecommunications within and outside India is proposed to be modified and factors to be kept in view while fixing these rates have been listed.

8 The section relating to settlement of disputes is proposed to have provision to deal with disputes between subscribers and the service provider and also the disputes between two service providers. The arbitrator is proposed to be appointed by the

telecom regulating authority instead of the Central Government.

9 A modification in section dealing with fraudulent use of telecommunication system is proposed to widen it to include any person who dishonestly obtains telecommunication service with a view to avoid payment, and employee helping him to do so.

10 A new section has been proposed to take care of the improper use of the telecommunication system by sending malicious and obscene telecommunications.

More Telecommunication facilities in Maharashtra

1132 SHRIVILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to provide some additional telecommunication facilities in Maharashtra, and

(b) if so, the details for the places selected for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER
IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Yes Sir

(b) 1 It is proposed to provide STD Facility to 58 places in Maharashtra during 92-93 (list is given in the attached statement -I

2 It is also proposed to open 133

New Telephone Exchange in Maharashtra during 1992-93 (Statement -II)

graph facilities in 39 places in Maharashtra during 1992-93 (Statement -III)

3. It is proposed to provide Tele-

4. Radio paging facilities are planned at Nagpur and Pune.

STATEMENT - I

List of 58 Places STD Facility Proposed to Provide during 1992-93 in Maharashtra.

So. No.	Name of the Station	3
1	2	3
1.	Vaijapur	Commissioned on 24.1.92.
2.	Sakoli	" " 31.7.92
3.	Amalner	" " 18.7.92
4.	Udgir	
5.	Ramtek	
6.	Degloor	
7.	Kinwat	
8.	Niphad	
9.	Mingoli	
10.	Sailu	" " 30.5.92
11.	Gadhinglaj	
12.	Mahad	" " 27.7.92

So. No.	Name of the Station	3
1	2	3
13.	Chiplun	" 10.9.92
14.	Dapoli	
15.	Sawantwadi	" 27.9.92
16.	Kankavali	
17.	Hinganghat	
18.	Venguria	
19.	Ambejogai	
20.	Newasa	
21.	Srigonda	
22.	Karanja	
23.	Warud	" " 26.9.92
24.	Paithan	
25.	Kannad	" " 20.8.92

So. No.	Name of the Station	1	2	3
26.	Goregaon			
27.	Tiroda	"	"	12.10.92
28.	Chikkali	"	"	22.10.92
29.	Shegaon	"	"	22.10.92
30.	Mohol			
31	Palghat	"	"	10.9.92
32.	Amgaon			
33.	Nandura			
34.	Pachora			
35.	Parola	"	"	10.4.92
36.	Chadwad			
37.	Satna			
38	Sinnar			

So. No.	₹	Name of the Station	2	3
39.		Kagal		
40.		Omerga	"	25 7 92
41.		Basmatnagar	"	1.8 92
42.		Roha		
43.		Khed		
44.		Seloo		
45.		Chandrapur MIDC		
46.		Gokulshirgaon		
47.		Parlivajinath		
48.		Shirdi		
49.		Dhamangaon Rly		
50.		Kapsi		
51.		Bulti-Bori		

So. No.	Name of the Station	1	2	3
52.	Mansur	Commissioned on		13.8.92
53.	Kolad	"	"	20 10.92
54.	Lote	"	"	20 10.92
55.	Kirkoskurwadi	"	"	21 8.92
56.	Waliv	"	"	21 8.92
57	Nalasopera	"	"	21 8.92
58.	Vita	"	"	21 8.92

STATEMENT II

List of New Telephone Exchanges Proposed to be opened during the year 1992-93 in Maharashtra

Sl.No.	District	Name of the Village
1	2	3
1.	Ahmednagar	Pangarmal
		Kaudgaon
		Duregaon
		Hasnapur
		Kawatha
		Wagholi
		Virgaon
		Arangaon
		Songaon
		Ambhore
2.	Akola	Ugwa
		Alewadi

Sl.No.	District	Name of the Village
1	2	3
3.	Amravati	3. Debha 4. Dahihanda 5. Lohara 1. Wadhona Rampath 2. Adgaon 3. Peth Maugrul
4.	Aurangabad	1. Deolgaon Bazar 2. Lad Sawangi 3. Chitegaon
5.	Beed	1. Mandava aithan 2. Talkhed 3. Nandurghat 4. Madalmoni

Sl.No.	District	Name of the Village
1	2	3
6.	Bhandara	1. Asgaon 2. Pohara 3. Kalmati
7.	Buldhana	1. Shendurjan 2. Jawala Bazaar 3. Shahapur
8.	Chanderpur	1. Volias Camp At Mijra 2. Bhangaram Talodhi 3. Tembhurda
9.	Dhule	1. Ambe 2. Arthe 3. Kitdawad

Sl.No.	District	Name of the Village		
1	2	3	c	
10.	Jalgaon	1.	Wade	
		2	Natnur	
		3	Santure	
		4	Dhar	
11	Jalna	1	Anva	
		2	Gondi	
		3	Saste Pimpalgaon	
12	Kolhapur	1	Signapur	
		2	Shivanage	
		3	Ambewada	
13.	Latur	1	Gudusur	
		2	Shirol	
		3	Atnoor	

Sl. No.	District	Name of the Village
1	2	3
14.	Nagpur	4. Kajal Nipperga 5. Yerol 1. Fetri 2. Chandapada 3. Chacher 4. Kargash
15.	Nanded	1. Jam 2. Shindi 3. Kamatha 4. Narangal 5. Barul
16.	Nasik	1. Katrani 2. Panzendeo

Sl.No.	District	Name of the Village
1	2	3
		Sandhane
		Yesgaon
		Talshet
		Mhasurli
		Shirwadawani
		Sonaj
		Tadwale
		Khopodi
17	Osmanabad	Bodga
		leet
		Sheigaon
18.	Parbhani	Kanhergaon Naka
		Shewala

Sl No.	District	Name of the Village
1	2	3
19.	Pune	Walki
		Kalewadi
		Pimpalgaon Khalasa
		Umbaraj
		Kamgaon
		Nimone
		Panshet
		Malthan
		Magarsani
		Paregaon
20.	Raigad	Mazagaon
		Vile
21.	Ratnagiri	Veldur

Sl.No.	District	Name of the Village
1	2	3
		2. Nerle
		3. Savday
		4. Talsani
		5. Pophali
		6. Waghware
		7. Bhoom
22.	Sangli	1. Noria
		2. Bhose
		3. Bhorgi
		4. Lengare
		5. Urugi
23	Satara	1. Palashi
		2. Girvi

Sl. No.	District	Name of the Village
1	2	3
24.	Sindhudurg	3. Vijawadi
		4. Wagholi
		5. Nandwal
		1. Malgaon
		2. Thakurwade
		3. Patgaon
25.	Solapur	1. Darshanal
		2. Mattarsang
		3. Dharampur
		4. Dombalwadi
		5. Narkhed
		6. Bhose
		7. Lavang

Sl.No	District	Name of the Village
1	2	3
26	Thane	8. Salgare (BK) 9. Kasegaon 10. Fulghindholi 1. Kondale 2. Dabhad 3. Anjurdive 4. Tekawada
27.	Wardha	1. Dehegaon Gosavi 2. Mangrul 3. Bhugaon
28	Yeotmal	1. Chikhali 2. Sakhara 3. Pekhari

STATEMENT

It is proposed to introduce Telegraph Facilities in one Post Office in each of the 21 Districts namely:

1. Ahmednagar
2. Akola
3. Amravati
4. Aurangabad
5. Beed
6. Bhandara
7. Baldhana
8. Chandrapur
9. Gadchiroli
10. Jalana
11. Latur
12. Nagpur
13. Osmanabad
14. Parbhani
15. Ratnagiri
16. Sangli
17. Satara
18. Sindhudurg
19. Thane
20. Wardha

21. Yeotmal

And in Two Post Offices Each in 9 Districts namely:

1. Bombay
2. Dhule
3. Jalgaon
4. Kolhapur
5. Nanded
6. Nasik
7. Pune
8. Raigad
9. Solapur

Joint Power Project in Madhya Pradesh

1133. **SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:**
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Gujrat have submitted any proposal to set up 1300 MW joint venture power project in Madhya Pradesh in collaboration with Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan Governments;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project.

(c) the proposed allocation of power / electricity to each of the State;

(d) whether any private or public enterprise is also likely to invest in this project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (e) The Government of Gujarat have not submitted a proposal to set up a 1300 MW Power Project in Madhya Pradesh as a joint venture with Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Praoesh and Rajasthan.

Telecom. Finance Corporation

1134. SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a separate Telecom. Finance Corporation; and

(b) if so, the details there of and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Adalats in Delhi

1135 SHRI RAM SAGAR. Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decisions taken at Telephone Adalats in Delhi till March 31, 1991 have been implemented;

(b) if not the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of cases in which the decisions have not been implemented so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir, decisions taken at Telephone Adalats in Delhi till March 31, 1991 have been implemented.

(a) and (c) Question does not arise in view of the part (a) above.

[*English*]

Telephone Connections under OYT and General Categories

1136. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRI RAM KAPSE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up any plan to provide telephone connections within six months to the registrants under OYT category and within two years to the registrants under General Category in major exchanges all over the country by March, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of registrants waiting for the telephone connections likely to be provided by the end of March, 1993, category-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) About 3.75 lakh DELs under OYT and Special Category and about 4.75 lakh

DELS under General Category are likely to be provided upto the end of March, 1993.

active consideration of the Government.

Operation of Dish Antennas

C-Dot Exchange in Madhya Pradesh

1137. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to states:

1138. SHRIASLAM SHERKHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since considered the question of violation of the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 by operation of Dish Antennae and Cable TVs; and

(a) whether the Government propose to establish 1000 lines C-DOT Exchanges in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the steps contemplated by the Government in this regard?

(b) if so, the details thereof with location?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The issues regarding regulation of Cable TV and Dish Antennawe are currently under the

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the attached statement

STATEMENT

Details of localities where 1000 lines C-DOT exchanges are planned to be established during 1992-93 in Madhya Pradesh.

Sl. No.	Name of Location	Remarks, if any
1	Barwaha	
2.	Dhar	
3.	Kahrgone	
4	Gangbasoda	
5.	Betul	
6.	Balaghat	
7.	Chhindwara	
8.	Pandhurna	Already Commissioned

Sl. No.	Name of Location	Remarks, if any
9.	Parasia	
10.	Bina	
11.	Bhind	
12.	Shivpuri	
13.	Sheopurkalan	Already Commissioned
14.	Burhar	
15.	Jagdalpur	

Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra

1139. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether SYD facility was proposed to be provided at Rajapur and Kankavli and Vengurla in Maharashtra by March, 1992;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be provided;

(d) whether telecommunication facility set-up in Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri Districts is not working satisfactorily;

(e) whether any investigation has been made in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Kankavli & Vengurla are likely to be provided with the SYD facility by March 1993. The time schedule for Rajapur can drawn up only on acquisition of land etc., for which the case has been processed.

(d) The telecommunication service in these District is working satisfactorily.

(e) to (g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Assistance to Bihar for Irrigation Projects

1140. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has requested the Union Government for financial assistance for the construction of small, medium and major irrigation projects in the state,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the assistance proposed to be provided by the Union Government during 1992-93 in this regard and

(d) the assistance provided for the implementation of each scheme during 1990-91 and 1991-92 ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) and (b) No specific request has been received at the Centre for extending financial assistance for completion of irrigation projects from Government of Bihar. However Central assistance in the State Plan is provided in the form of Block Loans and Grants and irrigation projects and funded out of the State Plan outlays under Irrigation Sector

(c) and (d) Do not arise

[English]

Chandil Dam Project

1141 DR KARTIKESWAR PATRA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the esteemed cost and irrigation potential of the inter-state Chandil dam project,

(b) the amount sanctioned and released for this project during each of the last three years, and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) The estimated cost (March, 1990 price level) of Chandil Dam, a component of sSubernarekha Multi-Purpose project is about 624 crores. The project envisages annual irrigation to an area of about 1 05 lakh hectares

(b) Information is being collected and Will be laid on the Table of the house,

(c) The schedule of completion of the Chandil Dam Project is as follows -

Chandil Dam	-1992-93 ^o
Chandil Left Main Canal	-1996-97
Chandil Right Main Canal	- Not fixed
(Under investigation)	

[*Translation*]**Waiting List of Telephone Connections in Maharashtra**1142. SHRIYASHWANTRAOPATIL:
SHRI RAM KAPSE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections for more than six months under O.Y.T. category and for more than two years under non-OYT category including Bombay in Maharashtra, separately; and

(b) the time by which telephone connections are likely to be released to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The district-wise detail is given in the attached Statement.

(b) The new telephones to the waiting applicants are proposed to be provided progressively during the 8th Five Year Plan which envisages:

-Provide telephones practically on demand in Tribal and rural areas.

-waiting period of telephone connections not to exceed two years for large telephone systems.

Accordingly expansion plans are being drawn for Bombay and Maharashtra.

Districtwise list of the Persons Waiting for Telephone Connections in Maharashtra Including Bombay.

S. No.	Name of Districts	Persons on waiting list for telephone connection under OYT category more than 6 months	Persons on waiting list for telephone connection under Non-OYT category more than 2 years.
1.	Raigad	73	528
2.	Nasik	318	5322
3.	Dhule	100	1350
4.	Jalgaon	147	2850
5.	Akola	150	2026
6.	Amravati	12	3289
7.	Bhandara	55	498
8.	Buldana	8	324

S. No.	Name of Districts	Persons on waiting list for telephone connection under OYT category more than 6 months	Persons on waiting list for telephone connection under Non-OYT category more than 2 years.
9.	Yeotmal	47	654
10.	Chandrapur	160	1882
11.	Gadchiroli	3	144
12.	Vardha	50	947
13.	Nagpur	1329	21202
14.	Nanded	65	2880
15.	Parbhani	18	950
16.	Latur	42	1622
17.	Usmanabad	2	184
18.	Beed	70	560
19.	Ahmednagar	85	5430
20.	Aurangabad	625	7668
21.	Jaina	20	1074
22.	Kolhapur	699	9051
23.	Sholapur	846	3431
24.	Sangli	177	2226
25.	Ratnagin	162	1193
26.	Sindhu Durg	20	275
27.	Satara	24	1457

S No	Nam of Districts	Persons on waiting list for telephone connection under: OYT category more than 6 months	Persons on waiting list for telephone connection under Non-OYT category more than 2 years
28	Thane(Excluding MC Bombay)	2316	19520
29	Pune	586	20159
30	Bombay (MTNL)	12472	124067

[English] .

Soil Erosion Along the Banks of Ganga

1143 DR ASIM BALA Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the plan to preserve the flow of Ganga and to prevent the soil erosion along the banks of the Gangas and

(b) the amounts spent for the purpose so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) *The alluvial rivers like Ganga will continue to flow in a mending way. It is possible to check erosion at some critical locations only by techno economy methods.*

(b) An amount of about Rupees 40 crores has been spent in West Bengal so far on the Anti erosion works

Iron Ore Deposits in Ajana in Aithur Village, Karnataka

1144 SHRI V DHANANJAYA KUMAR Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) whether a huge iron ore have been discovered at Ajana in Aithur, Karnataka,

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government for its extraction,

(c) whether the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company has been entrusted with the task of examining the samples and report, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) and (b) The Department of Mines and Geology of the Government of Karnataka, on the basis of a survey conducted in 1971-72, have assessed reserves

of 8.5 lakh tonnes of siliceous Iron ore north east of Ajana with an average Fe content of 52%. The Central Government has no proposal at present for taking up extraction of iron ore from these deposits.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges in Bihar

1145. SHRI LALL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop modernise telephone exchanges in Bihar during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges in Bihar mostly by replacement with Electronic Exchanges during the 8th Five Year Plan is planned as under:

-Achieve full automisation of Telephone Exchanges (Target has already been achieved during the current year).

-replace all life expired and worn out switches as and when they become life expired.

-replace all stronger MAX-III and MAX-TI exchanges by electronic exchanges (as part of the programme to provide NSD to all exchanges).

[*English*]

Guidelines for Setting up of Iron and Steel Plants

1146. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued for setting up iron and steel plants based on different processes to attract private entrepreneurs in the steel sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reactions of the entrepreneurs thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b), A set of "Guidelines for Entrepreneurs in Iron and Steel Industry" were issued in October, 1992. The guidelines provide entrepreneurs in the iron and steel sector comprehensive information on the policy framework, demand projections, availability of essential raw materials, infrastructural facilities, possible locations, technological capabilities existing within the country, requirement of environmental clearance for iron and steel projects, etc. Entrepreneurs have evinced keen interest in these guidelines.

[*Translation*]

New Irrigation Policy to Bihar Farmers

1147. SHRI TEJNARAYAN SINGH: SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for inclusion of farmers in the implementation of National Irrigation Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have approved the policies adopted by the Governments of Bihar, Gujarat and Maharashtra in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) and (b). The existing centrally sponsored Command Area Development Programme provides for active participation of farmers in the irrigation water management. A draft approach paper on Irrigation management policy prepared by the Ministry also provides for active participation of the farmers in irrigation management and turning over of tertiary system management to water users association.

(c) and (d) No formal documents from Bihar, Gujarat and Maharashtra have been received in this regard. However, they are working under the overall policy guidance provided by the Ministry.

[English]

Promotion of Golf Courses in Goa

1148. SHRI HARISH NARAYNA PRABHUZANTYE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of golf course in the country owned and maintained by his Tourism Department and maintenance grant provided therefore and by other organisations alongwith average maintenance cost for golf courses;

(b) the special efforts made/proposed for promotion of golf courses in the contra by his Tourism Department for the development of Golf and for the promotion of tourist in the country and Goa in particular;

(c) whether the Government of Goa sought any expert advice of the Union Government authorities in the matter for selection of sites for two golf courses in Goa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA)

(a) The Central Department of Tourism does not own or maintain or provide any maintenance grant to any Golf course in the country.

(b) The Central Department of Tourism has set up a Golf promotion Committee, which has identified 20 golf courses for development in a phased manner. Goa is one of the places identified by the Committee. To protean golf tourism in the international market, a brochure has also been brought out.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Japanese Collaboration for Tourist Town in Goa

1149. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Union Government for construction of a tourist town in north Goa in Collaboration with Japan ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be materialism?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) The feasibility of setting up of a tourist village in Goa, is presently under the consideration of the Government of Japan.

(b) The details of the proposal are yet to be finalised by the Government of Japan.

Telephone Directories in Madhya Pradesh

1150. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madhya Pradesh High Court, Indore, Bench, has held that the telephone authorities to publish annually an upto date directory in English as also in Hindi and regional languages where there is a

reasonable demand for the latter and in case of a failure the authorities must nor charge any call for making directory inquiry;

(b) if so, the action take on by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal to make 197 a free telephone call; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):

(a) The Madhya Pradesh High Court Indore Bench has passed orders on 10.8.92 to the extent that the Department should extend and introduce facility of furnishing information regarding the existing and new telephone numbers free of charge to the subscribers as well as other users, till such time as the news upto date directories in Hindi and English are published. However, the Hon'ble Court has not passed any directions regarding the periodicity of publishing the telephone directory.

(b) Necessary guidelines for publishing directories already exist.

(c) The directory enquiry service (197) has already been made free.

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

RE. PROPOSED KAR SEVA AT
AYODHYA

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker Sir, despite the grant of permission for Kar Seva by the Supreme Court, around 50,000 personnel of paramilitary forces have been rushed to Ayodhya. Till date neither any incident has been reported from there nor the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has made any request for para-military forces, yet such a large contingent of paramilitary forces has been rushed to Ayodhya purportedly to disturb peace there and it is in violation of the federal structure of our polity. The functioning of the present Government of Uttar Pradesh has been very commendable and except the solitary incident of Varanasi at no other place communal riots have taken place in the entire State during the last one and a half year. Earlier, even at the request of the State Government para-military forces were not made available to the State Government by the Central Government to deal with the menace of terrorism in the Terai region but now when no request has been made by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, paramilitary forces in such a large number have been rushed to Ayodhya. As per my feed back all the buildings and rest houses, have been occupied by the paramilitary forces and on every motorcycle three jawans of the paramilitary forces have been seen roaming there. In this way an atmosphere of fear and terror has been created in the city. The situation has become explosive in the city and the presence of paramilitary forces is likely to pose a threat to peace and law and order situation instead of maintaining peace in the city.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that a discussion should be held and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should also make a statement on the issue in the House and should explain as to why the paramilitary forces in such a large number have been posted there. The situation in the city is quite

explosive. The deployment of paramilitary forces by Central Government without having any consultation with the State Government should be immediately stopped. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the fact that despite the orders of the Supreme Court the Central Government is indulging in such activities. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR (Khandwa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the critical condition of the Newsprint factory at NEPANAGAR, in Khandwa. This factory once earning foreign exchange for the country is totally in bad shape. At present the factory has got stocks of raw material worth Rs. 14 crore and stock of finished paper worth Rs. 8 crore and paper worth Rs. 10 crore has been sold on credit. All this is happening due to inefficient officers of the factory. As a result of all this, the country is losing the precious foreign exchange. In view of this situation there is a need to ponder over the fate of the employees of the factory.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, such a large factory, a Central Government Undertaking, is not being efficiently run by the inefficient officers posted there. As a result of which stock of raw material worth Rs. 14 crore is lying unutilised there. Paper worth Rs. 10 crore has been sold on credit the payment for which is not being at all received by the factory. 44,00 tonnes of paper worth about Rs. 8 crore is lying unsold and the factory has taken a bank overdraft of nearly Rs. 15 crore. Financial position of the factory is so bad that even the employees are not being paid their dues in time.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, since 1986 NEPA Ltd. has got record stock of raw materials. 52670 tonnes of industrial cane and 18000 tonnes of pulpwood. However, because of the inefficiency of the officers the country is losing huge amount of foreign exchange and is also facing the problem of acute shortage of paper. I would like to request the Government to look into this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr.

Speaker, Sir, a reign of terror has been let loose by the Central Government in the entire State of Uttar Pradesh. (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER: Listen, it will be nice if such a serious issue is debated upon very seriously in a peaceful environment in the House. If discussion is sought to be held immediately after the Question Hour on such an issue, regarding which no prior notice has been given to the other side, then probably the true picture will not come up before the country and the House. It seems that all efforts are being made by everyone to amicably solve the problem. Therefore, no further problems should be created. If you are so keen then first go through the rule book and only thereafter, raise the issue in accordance with the rules. If such an important issue is sought to be raised without any prior notice, then it won't be proper. You just ponder over all this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister is present here. Let him come out with something....

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD): I do not agree with the hon. Member - he said - that the Government of India is creating a law and order situation in Ayodhya. However, as far as general situation in Ayodhya is concerned, the Government has no problem in giving a statement. I will ask the hon. Home Minister to give a statement tomorrow if he agrees to give on the general situation. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad): They are vitiating the atmosphere. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Parliament, as I told you, is the highest, supreme and very important institution in the country. If any issue is sought to be debated here, then it should be discussed in such a

manner that every point raised is also properly replied to. If 10 or 20 hon. Members speak simultaneously on such an important issue, then it is quite possible that the main issue could get sidetracked, thereby making all the discussion totally fruitless. If a discussion is considered necessary by you then first ponder over it seriously. Spontaneous reaction and utterances are not good and they also prevent us from discharging our duties. Discussion could be held here. Therefore, I would like to request you to adopt such a strategy that a solution is found, because I do appreciate your feelings and sentiments....

(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: It is a very serious issue. On the one hand paramilitary forces are being withdrawn from the Terai region in Uttar Pradesh and on the other hand flag marches are being held in Ayodhya. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked for a statement and he has said that the Minister will make a statement.

The authority of the Parliament is eroded if you behave in this manner. If the Members do not follow the rules, the authority of Parliament is lowered. You, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: I would like to submit that the milk meant for children in Faizabad is being diverted to the paramilitary forces. They must speak in a responsible manner. (Interruptions)

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur): On one side the Government of Uttar Pradesh gives assurances while on the other side its senior leaders want to participate in Kar Seva. (Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have given

a good suggestion that the question should be raised in a manner that it is answered too. We are ready to act on your suggestion. But the problem is that it is Zero Hour and I would like to thank you for the opportunity you gave to Shri Madan Lal Khurana to speak.....

MR. SPEAKER: Actually I wanted Shri Khurana to raise the question under rules but he insisted, rather stood up to speak.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I have already given a notice.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one thing is there. As it has been indicated, efforts are being made to avert the confrontation on Ayodhya issue. Supreme Court order was also an effort to avert any confrontation and to solve the problem peacefully, it was an effort to let the Kar Seva begin but without violating the order of the court.....

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA(Midnapore): That is what is actually happening.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I know that you want this. But in spite of that certain actions are being taken there. No member would have any objection if our friend who has been elected from Faizabad, the district where Ayodhya is situated, expresses his views on this occasion. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs is to give his reply tomorrow. He should also be aware of what the Centre is doing there. What is the need of deploying security forces on such a large scale when efforts are being made to settle the dispute amicably. Is it not creating tension there? I do not think, the Centre wants to create tension there. (Interruptions)

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Many senior leaders are proposing to visit the site, and this is creating tension there.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Kindly listen. (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would submit to you to kindly allow members of every party to express

their views on this issue.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: A member has got a right to know what were the disturbing circumstances that forced the Army to stage flag march there. If the House is taken into confidence, I think Shri Vinay Katiyar must get an opportunity to speak for two minutes and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should take those points into consideration when he gives his reply tomorrow. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. Shri Vajpayee is speaking thought fully and in an impressive manner. I can not and I will not object to it. But despite this, the difficulty before me is that when members are allowed in this way to speak, they start raising questions one after the other and reply is also given to these questions. It is better if the gravity of the situation lessens but it becomes very difficult if it worsens. If those members had to speak, they should have spoken before Shri Khurana. If they are allowed now, others would also raise similar demand thus creating difficulty. Ministers also want to give reply, and the process continues. If this continues, then it becomes difficult to manage the proceedings. This is a House where we concentrate and discuss the significant issues confronting the country. It is not a matter of any political party, it is a matter concerning to the interest of the country, it is an issue of the sentiments and principles. If we develop such feelings, we would not fail to solve any problem. But the problems arises only when we attach more importance to our party interests.

It is very pleasing that the wise and senior leaders always keep all the important factors in view while speaking. But those who have not much experience can cause difficulty if they commit even a little mistake while speaking. That is why my submission is that a proper procedure should be followed to have a discussion; only then the discussion would be meaningful. Otherwise the statements may be misinterpreted. Therefore, my submission to you and the House is to conclude this discussion today itself. Tomorrow you may discuss this matter

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee made a correct submission. Actually, you said that the hon. Minister wants to speak. Basically, only one thing is dangerous. Yesterday the chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh was in Aligarh and I was in Lucknow. Journalists asked him if he would participate in Kar Seva? He replied that he would go. Asked whether he would not allow the court verdict to be violated, he gave no reply. Today everybody knows that Shri Advani and the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh would go to participate in Kar Seva. But no assurance has been given that court order would not be allowed to be violated. This has created doubts throughout the country. The efforts we are making to solve the problem are being undermined. Instead of creating an atmosphere not to violate the court order the matter of participation of a responsible senior leader in Kar Seva is being highlighted....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let me know if you want discussion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me know if you want to discuss it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) He did not make any such statement. Mr. Speaker, Sir, his statement is incorrect....It is not proper to make allegations against a Chief Minister. It should be expunged.....(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. It does not look good to raise a point of order on this occasion, but Shri Pilot is always in the air. It is not proper to level allegation against the Chief Minister. When he was in Aligarh, he himself was in Lucknow..... did he receive a

wireless message (Interruptions)——
Let me complete my submission. Efforts are being made to tackle the problem and not to make it more complicated.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, an affidavit submitted by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in the Supreme Court is relevant. Is it justified on the part of Shri Pilot to raise the matter there just on the basis of a hearsay that he would participate in Kar Seva. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: You should add that it would not be allowed to....

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It can be your opinion....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: You should announce here that Shri Advani and the Chief Minister would not go there (Interruptions)

Shri Advani is here. He should give an assurance that the court verdict would not be allowed to be violated. The entire country is doubtful in regard to it. You read newspapers....(Interruptions).....slogans are being raised, posters are being pasted in Lucknow, announcements are being made on loudspeakers. What is all this? (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: We would go to participate in Kar Seva....

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have to take the decision. There is too much noise from that side, I am unable to understand anything———

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: The entire country doubts your intentions.(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Ayodhya issue related only to BJP and Congress?

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, it is related to you also....

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sometimes one thing is said and at other

time the other thing is said. Let there be a discussion on it if you want.....

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow it. At the moment, you please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, please allow a full-fledged discussion on this if this kind of cross firing goes on. We have got many things to say. Then how are we to do it?....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is exactly what I was trying to avoid.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, Members like Shri Vajpayee and Shri Pilot are getting up and saying anything as they like. This is an issue agitating the whole House....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is exactly what I was trying to say.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: We also want to speak on this. I want to ask for example about the statement made by the Defence Minister in the presence of the Prime Minister.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not ask it today.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: But according to the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now you also want to prolong the discussion.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Yes, of course, when you are allowing some people and not allowing others. Please allow a proper

discussion on this. Allow everybody in the same manner... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It should not be the responsibility of only the Presiding Officer to see that we discuss the matter in a proper manner. It should be the responsibility of each one of us sitting here in the House. I have said that if you want a discussion on this, please give a notice and then I will consider it. And at the same time I have told Shri Khuranaji also not to raise this matter today and asked him to give a notice.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA(Bankura): In spite of that, you allowed him....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: How do I talk if you get up when I am standing. You finish it and I will speak later on.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, you have said just now that you requested Mr. Khurana not to raise this issue today. Why did you allow him then? If you have requested him and if he does not accede to your request, why did you allow him to say something?(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me complete what I have to say. My throat is not well. After five minutes, I would not be able to talk also. If I have to raise my voice, I would not be able to speak also. I have already said that it should not have been raised. But in this Hour, all sides have been raising the issues even without obtaining the permission of the Presiding Officer. One day you take that plea; the next day someone else takes the plea and the third day someone else takes the plea. And it becomes very difficult. Please understand that the issues are very delicate. They are not Party issues. They are national issues. They go to the very root of it. That is why, please do not prolong the discussion. Please do not get up and make the statement on the spur of the moment. Please consider everything relating to it and give a notice to

me regularly. I will consider it. And if this august House wants to discuss it, I shall have no objection and nobody can have any objection. But without doing that, if you are getting up and making the statement on the spur of the moment, we are not helping ourselves. Please help me by not prolonging this discussion. Please consider it today and come back to me tomorrow and we will consider it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the deteriorating law and order situation in Delhi, the capital of the country and I would like to say that the condition of law and order is continuously deteriorating specially in the East Delhi. I read in the newspaper on 25th that one Rajesh Mittal was killed in a factory. During the last four months alone many incidents of murders have taken place in ten factories under Seemapuri police station and a number of incidents of dacoities have taken place under the jurisdiction of same police station. Children are kidnapped and a sum of rupees fifty thousand or lakh or five lakh is demanded in ransom to secure their release. Leaders of various political parties are kidnapped and then they are released after getting a huge amount in ransom. I would like to tell you that I met the hon. Home Minister and Shri Jacob Saheb and the Police Commissioner on 26th in connection with the incident that took place on twenty fifth of this month. I would like to submit that law and order situation in Delhi is the responsibility of Central Government as there is no popular Government in Delhi and Parliament is in session. Therefore, I would like to urge that Government should pay serious attention towards the deteriorating law and order situation in Delhi. Government should inform the House regarding the number of incidents of murders, rapes, dacoities and kidnaping that took place in Delhi during the last six month. It is a very serious matter that under the very nose of the Government all such incidents are taking place in Delhi where there is Parliament and the office of the Prime Minister. This a very grave and serious

matter and Government should make a statement in the House detailing the steps being taken in order to improve the deteriorating law and order situation in Delhi.

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the deteriorating law and order situation in Delhi is a matter of deep concern.

12.26. hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Delhi Police has become totally unbridled. It is working according to its fancies and will. Consequently a number of incidents of murders have taken place. Just now a case of murder of a shopkeeper was pointed out by Shri Paswanji. When his funeral procession was being taken out some people of D.S.P.'s office tried to stop the procession and beatened the people accompanying the procession. This is the present state of affairs of Delhi police. It has become totally unbridled. The law and order situation is very critical. Delhi is the capital of this country and union territory, therefore, directions should be issued by the Central Government and Delhi Police should be checked and restrained. The citizens of Delhi are distressed over the behavior of Delhi Police. This is a matter which needs serious thought by the Government.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, we have got 35 minutes at our disposal and there are 21 names. If each one were to speak for one minute, I think, we can cover the entire thing. Therefore, I need your co-operation. Secondly, if you just permit me to go according to the list, which is before me, I think, everybody can speak. But, there is one thing, nobody should misunderstand this. The first five Members all belong to BJP, then sixth-Congress (I) and seventh-Janata Dal, like that. Shall I call the names?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): I do not understand what is this five-BJP, six-Janata Dal.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that those who come to the Office at 10 O' Clock and give their applications, their names are listed according to the list. there is no pick and choose. If you just permit me, I shall go according to the list, so that we can complete it within thirty-five minutes.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us be very fast. We have agreed to go according to the list.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Sir, I submit that the Members from other parties and other States should also be allowed to speak. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the law and order situation in Dilshad Garden and its adjoining areas has been very grave for the last four months. I would like to draw Government's attention towards it. During the last four months three businessmen have been killed and many incidents of rape and snatching of bags etc. have taken place. Just 15 days before a person was stabbed and a sum of Rupees four lakh was snatched from him. A few days back a person named Mittal was murdered and his funeral procession was lathi charged by the police. I consider it an immoral act of the Police. It is the height of everything and no person, no Government no man can tolerate it. I would like to submit that the person responsible for giving orders of lathi charge should be suspended forthwith. The whole incident should be enquired into and action should be taken against the guilty persons.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, an additional S.P. was murdered in Hyderabad at 4.00 P.M. yesterday. This is not an ordinary incident of murder. The terrorists of Kashmir and activists of JKLF had come to our village Dhauli Chowk. Hyderabad to kill the S.P. Additional S.P. had gone there in search of them. A number of

bullets were fired on him. His accompanying gunman Shri Venkateshwar Rao was also murdered in the same area in Hyderabad.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the Home Minister and Prime Minister as to why the Pakistani Nationals whose period of passport has expired are not being sent back to their country. These people are three thousand in number. Why no action is being taken against such individuals? The terrorists of Kashmir are not active only in Kashmir, they came to Hyderabad and fired bullets on the Additional S.P and killed him. Therefore, I would like to submit the hon. Minister that action should be taken against the people whose passports have expired so that terrorism does not spread to other parts of the country.

[English]

SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS (Karimganj): Sir, the oil-seeds production in the State of Assam is so to say very low, but there is sufficient scope for growing such seeds in this State. I feel it will be one of the leading States in oil-seeds production provided Central assistance is forthcoming. In dry season, by extending irrigation facilities, mustard seeds could be grown in thousands of acres of land throughout the State and in this way, it may attain self-sufficiency in the field of edible oil with simultaneous development of rural small industries. The farmers of Assam hardly reap two harvests per annum and as such, crop rotation is absent there. The farmers are hard-hit because of lack of multiple cropping.

So, I urge upon the concerned Central Ministry to initiate a special scheme through *Jawahar Rozgar Yojana* to grow more Rabi Crops in the State of Assam by extending adequate irrigation facilities.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the biggest carpet industry of the country is in Bhadoni, Mirzapur. Country earns foreign exchange of more than one thousand crores of rupees from this

industry. But it seems some elements have hatched a conspiracy to destroy this carpet industry and people like...** are involved in the conspiracy. They are taking money from foreign countries and working for the destruction of this industry at their instance. They are misinterpreting the definition of bonded labour and child labour and are trying to destroy this industry. They have formed the voluntary organisations and have received the money from the national and international sources in the name of liberating the child labour and bonded labour. They have been launching the comparing for the liberation of child labour and bonded labour through newspapers, magazines and Doordarshan etc. in my constituency. This is a matter of my constituency.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is nothing for whose liberation funds are being collected on national and international level and this amount is being misused. This is a question of country's reputation. India's reputation is being tarnished by using the foreign media and receiving the money from foreign countries. The Festival of India is being organised in Germany very soon. The carpet industry would also take part in that festival. Indian carpets are much better than the carpets manufactured anywhere in the world. The carpets manufactured in Bhadoi have a great name in the world. But Shri Swami is bent on destroying this carpet industry in the name of child labour and bonded labour. I would like to urge the Government that his passport should be cancelled. A person like..** should be arrested. A Central Minister Shri Khursheed Alam Khan had once issued a statement...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You cannot make any allegation against a person who is not present in the House. That portion will be expunged.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN

(Murshidabad): Sir, he is repeatedly mentioning the name. It should not be a part of the record.(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already said that any allegation or reference against any person who is not present in the House will not form part of the record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Such a person, who is misusing public money in the name of an organisation should be arrested. He is bent upon destroying the carpet industry. India is earning foreign exchange worth one thousand crore of rupees. This is a matter of country's reputation.(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. It should be taken seriously.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Fate of fifteen lakh people of my constituency is linked with it.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will not allow others whose names are not here.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That will not go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Those hon. Members, whose names are not found here in the list, will not be called to speak and they are not expected to speak. Let us follow certain decorum in the House. Shri Anna Joshi may speak now.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Mr. Deputy

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

*Not recorded

Speaker, Sir, as per the demand of Central Government, the Government of Maharashtra has forwarded to the Ministry of Surface Transport, Government of India and proposal of 11 State Highways for declaring them as National Highways. Thereafter the Central Government informed the State Government on 9.5.1986 that due to shortage of funds in Seventh Plan, it would not be possible to declare any new National Highways. Since then, since five years now, the issue is pending. It is a matter of public interest. But the Central Government has not paid any attention to this issue.

The same list was again submitted to the Central Government when the Eighth Plan was discussed. However, the note regarding the 11 State roads suggested for declaration as National Highways was accepted.

After many more discussions, the hon. Minister of Surface Transport informed that the said issue will be considered at the time of declaration of new National Highways during the Eighth Plan. Now that the Eighth Plan has come into force, we appeal to the hon. Minister of Surface Transport, through you, to declare the proposed 11 State highways or at least some of them as National Highways.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: I would like to raise a very important issue in the House. Recently Satish Chandra Committee was constituted, which has deleted seven languages from U.P.S.C. examinations. I would not like to say anything about other languages but three particular languages are used by a large section of people in India. These languages are Arabi, Persian and Pali. These three languages have been deleted and as a result of it, there is a widespread resentment among the people.

Yesterday a number of people staged demonstration at Boat Club and registered their protest in this regard. I urge upon the Government that these three languages

should be reincluded in the U.P.S.C. examinations because 10 thousand students are studying these languages in colleges and universities. At least 300 persons are engaged in research work in Persian and Arabi languages. A large part of history of India is written in Persian, besides this there are 30-35 Arab countries in the world, and our diplomats represent our country in these Arab countries, so there is a great need of Persian knowing persons to work in the countries.

Therefore, I request the Government to reconsider the issue and take necessary steps to reinclude these languages in the U.P.S.C. examinations.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): One point I want to mention here in this connection. We had been to Lakshadweep. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly hear me. Everybody wants to ask something or the other on every subject which comes before the House. Therefore, you all have agreed that those Members whose names are found here are to be called.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In Zero Hour also you should have some morals.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: It is completely a different thing. We have gone to Lakshadweep on behalf of the Public Accounts Committee. At Lakshadweep they say the literacy is eighty per cent. We enquired and found to our surprise that everybody literally knows Arabic. Here Arabic is not recognised and therefore, they say that 20 per cent of the population are not literate. I want to mention this in connection with his deposition and draw the attention of the entire House to this interesting fact. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If we, ourselves have agreed for certain things and

if we ourselves have to violate it, what is the fund of agreeing for certain things on the floor of the House? There should be some morals.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (*Harpur*): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards declaring important highways of Uttar Pradesh as national highways. The Government of Uttar Pradesh have time and again requested the Union Government to declare some important highways of the state as national highways. Some of important highways among these are—Delhi—Aligarh—Etah—Kanpur highway, which is 405 kilometre long; Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut-Haridwar-Rishikesh-Joshimath-Badrinath highway which covers a distance of 524 kilometre; Mirzapur - Allahabad - Banda - Jhansi highway which covers a distance of 474 kilometre. The State Government have sent the proposals of these highways to the Ministry of Surface Transport but no decision has yet been taken in this regard. I would like to demand from the Government that in view of the importance of these highways these should be declared as national highways as soon as possible.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (*Garhwal*): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has a proposal of constituting four Selection Boards by dissolving the Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Service Commission to appoint the teachers in recognised schools under Intermediate Education Act, 1921. This Bill has been passed by both the Houses of the State Legislature. Now it is pending with the President for his approval. Besides other things the provisions have been made in this Bill to discontinue the system of appointment of *ad hoc* teachers and to regularise services of some *ad hoc* teachers. The education system has come to standstill due to lack of teachers in Uttar Pradesh and particularly in the hilly areas. There are less than 50 percent

teachers in schools and colleges. Honouring the feelings of the public, the Government should take necessary action and arrange to get the approval of the President immediately.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (*Mandsaur*): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, approximately one lakh opium cultivators in Mandsaur, Rattlam and Ujjain districts of Madhya Pradesh are facing a lot of difficulties. Recently, the Government have framed a policy about opium. As a result of this policy on the one hand a lot of discrimination has been made between the farmers of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and on the other hand injustice has also been done with the farmers of Madhya Pradesh. Contrary to these principles of policy farming, the officials are cancelling their licences arbitrarily and are reluctant in hearing their appeals. In such a situation the future of one lakh farmers is in dark. Opium farming is not only useful to the farmers or it is a cash crop for them but the Government also earns sufficient foreign exchange through it. The Government should make efforts to save such foreign exchange earning crop and the hon. Finance Minister should make a statement in this regard in the House.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NAIK (*Bombay North*) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the services of Indian Airlines have been notorious for their irregularly and low standard of efficiency. The services have reached their lowest ebb now and hardly any flight is running in time. The management of Indian Airlines is confusing the issue of the demands of the pilots. Their demands are security-based and the Indian Airlines management is trying to project that there are only monetary and trade union demands. The issue is being confused. The Pilots' Association has now given the notice of strike. 19 Pilots have been suspended so far and the President of the Pilots' Association has also been suspended only yesterday. The point is, the Minister has told us what the management has done. Now, I want to know what the Minister is doing to see that this issue is sorted out. I demand that the Minister should have some discussion

with the Pilots' Association, listen to their demands and then he should take a proper decision. Otherwise, the passengers will face a lot of inconvenience. The management is unnecessarily putting the passengers into a lot of difficulties. So, I demand that the Minister should have direct negotiations with the Pilots' Association.

SHRIRAMKAPSE (Thane): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to raise the following matter of urgent public importance. The consumers of LPG gas are going to be hit hard due to non-availability of cylinders on account of threatened closure of distributing outlets all over the country by the All India LPG Distributors Federation, as their longstanding demands have not been accepted by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to settle the matter and save the consumers from hardships. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to support what Mr. Ram Kapse has said just now. It is a very grave situation. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How can you take up this issue? You are a signatory to this agreement. How can you do this?

(Interruptions)

Translation]

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Gazipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards gauge conversion of Chhapra - Aunrihar metre gauge line.

The Government had already approved this conversion work several years ago but the construction work started only two years back. In spite of the delayed start of work on this line very little amount of fund had been allocated for this conversion work, and it was difficult to complete this work within the stipulated time frame, now whatever nominal

work was going on, that has also been stopped. Necessary equipments and material which had been brought here for this conversion work are also being diverted to some other place. The attitude of Railway department shows that it would not like to complete this work of gauge conversion within the stipulated time frame.

In this regard I had written to the hon. Minister of Railways. Replying to my letter the hon. Minister said that neither the gauge conversion work is stopped nor it will be stopped. Now not only the work has been stopped but also the material and equipments are being shifted to other places. As a result of it, there is a widespread resentment among the people of Gazipur, Ballia and Chhapra. The people of these districts regard it an unfair action and a discriminatory act against the Purvanchal region.

Therefore, I request to the Government to take this issue seriously and give directions to the Department of Railways not to stop this gauge conversion work. Otherwise it may cause the serious consequences in view of the prevailing resentment among the people.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister that after prolonged discussion for the last 2-3 years with All India Rural Bank Workers Organisation it has been decided that Bhartiya Gramin Bank will be set up. High level meeting of the officers of the Reserve Bank of India had agreed in principle and it was expected that the report would be submitted by 15 September.

In this regard I would like to inform that the Narsimhan Committee has also recommended separate entity of the Regional Rural Banks. In this connection, the Government has also announced the implementation of the recommendations of the committee. I came to know that the Government has received the proposal in this regard but is delaying its establishment. I request the Government to make an announcement in this regard immediately

and Bhartiya Gramin Bank should be established in the country.

[*English*]

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH (Adoor): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the recent statement by some BJP leaders that they did not consider Mahatma Gandhi as the father of the nation has caused pain and anguish in the hearts of millions of patriotic countrymen. Their Party leaders some of them in Kerala have repeated it many times. It is the height of ungratefulness that any Indian should question the wisdom of calling Gandhiji the father of the nation. They are not only hurting the sentiments of the patriotic Indians but they are repudiating the whole contribution Gandhiji had made to liberate India.

I take this occasion to request ** to clarify whether Gandhiji is the father of the nation or not. The country wants to know it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is speaking about Advaniji. He has not given notice to Advaniji.

[*English*]

He has not given notice to Advaniji.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is objectionable. We shall remove it. It will be removed.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We have to bring on the floor of the House such relevant matters pertaining to the commonmen. My feeling is in Zero Hour, there are other important subjects. This kind of subjects, in the normal course, you can take them up under the provisions of different rules and procedures. I do not know why we are wanting to use this opportunity.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East): Sir, the National Highway No.52 and

National Highway No. 37 were damaged at several points. The roads were damaged sometime in April this year in floods and the matter was brought to the notice of the concerned authorities but nothing has been done so far. It cause great difficulties to the people of Dibang Valley and Lohit district of Arunachal Pradesh and Tinsukia district of Assam.

I request the hon. Minister of Surface Transport to immediately take certain steps to restore the damaged roads and also I request the hon. Minister of Water Resources to take immediate steps for food protection measures before the next monsoon. Otherwise by the next monsoon, the entire upper Assam is likely to be under water.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, the Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., is a newsprint factory in Kerala working in Vellore. It is working very well and making profit. I undersand for the last two or three years, very good profit has been made. This year also it is going towards high profit. But the labourers there are now perturbed as there is a news in the Press that this company is going to be given to some private agency as the Hindustan Paper Corporation (HPC) as such is at a loss. This is only one of the subsidiaries of HPC. But this has got independent entity with the separate management and with a separate MD. I would suggest and pray that it should not be given to the private sector as such. Any kind of disinvestment against the policy, I would submit, will be very dangerous. This profit-making public undertaking should not be disturbed at any time.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani): Sir, India has displayed an important role in the socio-economic and political life of the international organisation. It has exhibited significant contribution to discharge serious responsibility to achieve the cause of international peace. India as a permanent member and chairman of Non-Aligned Movement which it headed as president of the Security council for two times, has been very genuine and worthy to

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

become a permanent member of the Security Council. This august House should unanimously pass a resolution to uphold and acclaim our genuine demand in this regard.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): For some time now, this Government has been systematically and concertedly moving towards dismantling and weakening the public sector. Now a shocking piece of news has come out in a section of the Press about the engineering giants in the public sector, the Bharat Electricals Ltd. There is a move to take over this BHEL by multinational company, GEC Alstom NV. This is going on for quite some time now. Once there was an attempt to compel them to commercially borrow from international money market which has weakened them. Ultimately there was disinvestment and this has further accelerated the process of weakening. Now the most shocking part of it is that they are attempting to hand it over and negotiations are going on to sell it out to a multi-national company GEC Alstom NV. The hon. Minister is present. He should respond to this disturbing news that has come out and clarify. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): I have given notice for two days. He mentioned about Hindustan Paper Mills. BHEL is one of the purchase stories in India and it is one of the biggest organisations in the public sector. It should not be handed over to multi-national companies. We are now succeeding in competing with international organisations and we are getting tenders and orders from not only this country but outside also. If BHEL is handed over to the multi-nationals, then we must understand that we are handing over to the multi-nationals the entire economic structure of our country. The hon. Minister promised that he will respond. He will assure that it will not happen. Let him respond to the House and assure the House that it will not happen. Let him answer. *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI P.K.

THUNGAN): It is absolutely wrong charge that we are going to hand over BHEL to multi-nationals. It is absolutely wrong charge. I would like to assure the hon. Member that at the moment we do not have any proposal to hand over or make such negotiations with multi-nationals. Of course, we will certainly keep the interests of BHEL uppermost. We will keep the interest of the country uppermost. Of course, we need investment from some investors. There is no dispute in that. But the charge that we are going to hand over BHEL is a wrong charge.

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADYAY (Krishnagar): It is reported in the Press that the United States of America and the European Community have entered into a secret agreement to work together in the Uruguay Round to press some countries including India so that they fall in line with their joint demands and open their markets to the US Banks, insurance companies and security funds. But it is a very serious matter of national interest. In fact, such a move is against the sovereignty of this country. So, I would request the Government to respond immediately and to clarify the whole matter to remove the confusion.

[Translation]

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol): Sir, we have drawn the attention of the Government in this House towards the Raniganj Coal mines time and again *(Interruptions)*. Uncertain mining is going on there which has created danger. Consequently, residents in 46 rural and urban areas have been issued notice to vacate the area. *(Interruptions)* Bungling of crores of rupees is going on there. *(Interruptions)*

13.00 hrs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on 17.9.92, a mine caved in Madhusudanpur colliery in Kajora area, and this accident resulted in the death of one labourer and two others were seriously injured. Later on the land caved in every where around Madhusudanpur village, which resulted in cracks in many houses in Bawdipara, Santalpara areas etc. The

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 adjoining villages were also affected, land
 caved in and cracks developed in many
 houses in Dangajpara, Kajora and
 Bhangipara etc. The agricultural land has
 caved in from 2 to 40 feet. To rehabilitate the
 residents of Madhusudanpur village, the
 huggies (hutments) have been constructed
 but as there is no arrangement of water and
 electricity nobody has shifted there and
 everybody is living in those dangerous
 houses, where any mishap can occur any
 time. Instead of solving their problems the
 Government is making a fun of those people.
 The hon. Minister says that he is ready to
 give funds to the Government of West Bengal
 but the State Government is not ready to
 take the amount, which is obviously wrong.
 The West Bengal Government says that it is
 the responsibility of the Central Government
 and therefore the latter should shoulder
 it. People are being killed in these mishaps
 daily and their life is in danger but the Central
 Government is doing nothing. If no proper
 arrangements are made by the Central
 Government, mining of coal will be stopped.
 Like wise, in the name of sand stowing,
 bungling of crores of rupees is going on
 there; but actually the work is not being done
 due to which the mines are caving in and
 other such accidents take place.

The Government should pay attention
 to all such things and action should be taken
 against the guilty persons. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It will not go
 on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI
 (Shimla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would
 like to draw the attention of the Government
 towards the sever problems of the farmers of
 Himachal Pradesh. Sir, the support prices of
 apple had already been withdrawn in
 Himachal Pradesh and today the crop of
 potato is also rotting and there is nobody to

*Not recorded.

purchase it. In the villages in my constituency,
 like Jubbel, Kotkhai, Rohdu etc. the farmers
 grow the seeds of potato but their crops is
 rottings. The farmers have spent thousands
 of crores to grow and to bring this crop in the
 market but today, it is not being purchased at
 any cost.

Sir, my submission to the Government
 is that if the Himachal Government can not
 give support price to the potato and ginger
 growers then the Central Government should
 extend a helping hand so that the farmers
 can recover the loss, otherwise they will not
 be able to survive. Therefore, the Government
 should pay attention to it immediately so that
 the problems of the farmers can be solved.

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI
 TRIPATHI: (Kaiserganj): Mr. Deputy-
 Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention
 of the Government through you, towards the
 problems of the farmers of Uttar Pradesh.
 The licences of sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh
 are lying pending with the Central
 Government due to which the sugarcane
 crop of the farmers is not being crushed. The
 hon. Prime Minister had assured to give
 licence to 17 sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh, but
 no decision in this regard has been taken as
 yet.

Sir, in Chitwaria district - Bahraich licence
 had been issued by the Central Government
 to set up a sugar mill in co-operative sector,
 named as Kisan Sahkari Sugar Mill. The land
 was also purchased to set up the sugar mill.
 But due to lack of funds, the Government
 decided to set up this sugar mill in private
 sector and it was handed over to private
 entrepreneur. But the said mill which is
 proposed to be set up in the private sector
 has not been issued licence so far.

The setting up of the mill has come to a
 stand still as the letter of intent has not yet
 been issued. The farmers of Bahraich district
 are primarily engaged in growing sugarcane
 only. The crushing of sugarcane is a major
 problem for them. Either the sugarcane
 withers and dries up in the fields or they are
 compelled to sell their sugarcane at cheap
 rates to the private crushers.

I seriously demand from the Central Government that arrangements should be made to issue immediately a licence and letter of intent to set up the proposed Kisan Sahkari Sugar Mill in Chilwaria in district Bahraich.

Besides, I would like to submit that the hon. Prime Minister should immediately take a decision in regard to honoring the assurance to give licences for 17 sugar mills.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for permitting me to apprise the House of the situation on Bosnia-Herzegovina which has been in the news for the last six months. But the tragedy has now reached an unprecedented proportion. The media in the West has commented that unless firm international action is taken immediately and effectively, with the winter setting in and the people facing a huge shortage of food, drugs and other essential material - where more than a lakh and fifty thousand people had lost their lives in the civil war perhaps a million may lose their lives on account of these shortages. That will be the tragedy of the century. Now the Silence of the international community is rather amazing. There is a Civil War Situation. A neighbouring country has virtually attacked the republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, occupied parts of it and is giving full support to the rebel elements in that territory. It is the duty of the international community to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina and to that I notice that India has taken charge of the presidency of the Security Council and therefore a great responsibility lies on our shoulders. I appeal to the Government of India to discharge its responsibility to see to it that firm international action is taken to punish the republic of Serbia to protect not only the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina, but also to provide immediate and necessary much needed relief for the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Devegowda, the rule is that such of those

people who come to the office and give notice, their names are being listed here. I have called out all those persons' names listed here.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (Hassan): I do not want to quarrel with the chair. I went to the hon. Speaker on Friday morning and requested him that I have given calling attention motion and it has not come in ballot and again I have given notice under Rule 377 and that too not come in ballot. I have come here only to do my little job for my people. That is all.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is true, normally Zero Hour is expected to come to an end at one o' clock.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: I went to the hon. Speaker on Friday....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your point? Ar, how we are deviating.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Your goodself also know this matter; there is no fund in unnecessarily wasting the time of the House.

The virginia tobacco growers in Karnataka, that is in five districts of Mysore, Hassan, Coorg, Chickmagalur, Shsimoga districts are in great difficulties. They have produced about 30 million kilograms of tobacco and the ceiling limit fixed for Karnataka is 20 million kilograms. At the same time, the ceiling limit fixed for Andhra Pradesh is 130 million kilograms.

Last year, about 50 authorised buyers were participated in the auction and the growers got a price of Rs. 42 per kilogram and this year even after two months; delay not more than four to five buyers have come forward to participate in the auction yard. Last year, USSR and Brazil were the main buyers. Due to certain political development, they are not in a position to buy unless some credit facilities are made available. Taking advantage of this situation, clandestine operation is going on and with the connivance of the lower level employees of the Tobacco

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Board. The buyers are purchasing the tobacco at Rs. 18 to Rs. 20 per kilogram outside the auction yard which is not going to fetch even 50 per cent of the actual cost of cultivation to the growers.

Shri Kurien is here. I have written a letter; he has also responded to my letter. But unfortunately nothing is being done. To prevent this, the Tobacco Board must enter the market; for that at least Rs. 50 crore must be made available as loan to Tobacco Board by the Government of India. Secondly, at least a loan of Rs. 50 crores must be given to authorised buyers on bank guarantee, so that they can participate in the auction.

About the cotton growers, your good self knows that firing took place and your party also went there. I want only to mention one or two points about it. Last year, first class quality of cotton was sold at Rs. 1700 per kilogram. This year, the same cotton is not even sold for Rs. 1000 per kilogram. The traders are taking advantage of the situation in collecting 15 per cent to 20 per cent commission and in some cases, the growers are selling for distress sale and they are receiving only ten per cent of the value of the sale and ninety per cent of the sale value is to be collected after the Textile Mills pay the amount to the traders. At least ten lakh bales of cotton must be permitted to export without any delay as the production is more than 45 lakh bales than the internal consumption by the Textile Mills in the country.

Secondly, the Cotton Corporation of India must be made to purchase at least ten lakh bales to save the cotton growers from this misery. They are only a silent spectators and they are not doing anything even though there is a big market in Kottur. There was an agitation by the farmers; two deaths took place on account of police firing in Kottur in Karnataka. A tense situation is prevailing even now in Karnataka.

So, I demand that the Government of India must take early steps to save the cotton and tobacco growers; I request them to allow export of cotton and the money must be

made available for the farmers. Thank you very much, Sir.

13.10 1/2 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the SAARC Convention (Suppression of Terrorism) Bill, 1992, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 26th November, 1992"

13.10 3/4 hrs.

SAARC CONVENTION (SUPPRESSION OF TERRORISM) BILL, 1992.

As passed by Rajya Sabha

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the SAARC Convention (Suppression of Terrorism) Bill, 1992, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 26th November, 1992.

13.11 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Enhancement of Assistances to Artists and Voluntary Agencies in the Field of Performing Arts.

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE

DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): On behalf of Shri Arjun Singh I make the following statement.

There have been request and suggestion honourable members and the artistic community to enhance the quantum of scholarship and fellowship awards being given under various schemes being administered by the Department of Culture. It has also been felt that the assistance being provided to artists in indigent circumstances needs to be enhanced. Further, to encourage voluntary agencies, it has been suggested that the grants in the field of performing arts be made more liberal.

The matter has been engaging the attention of the Government and I am happy to announce that the quantum of various awards has been increased. The quantum of grants in the field of performing arts to voluntary agencies has also been enhanced.

The details are as follows:-

The amounts of Scholarship, Junior Fellowship, Senior Fellowship and Emeritus Fellowship have been increased from Rs. 600/-, Rs. 900/-, Rs. 1800/- and Rs. 3000/- to Rs. 1000/-, Rs. 1500/- Rs. 3000/- and Rs. 5000/- per month, respectively. In the case of Emeritus Fellows, they would also be given an incidental grant of Rs. 10,000/- per annum.

For assisting the voluntary agencies, the salary grants to Gurus and Artistes have been increased from Rs. 1500/- and Rs. 750/- to Rs. 2000/- and Rs. 1500/- per month, respectively. Assistance in producing plays, dance-drama etc. to voluntary agencies has been increased from Rs. 25,000/- or Rs. 40,000/- to Rs.50,000/- per production.

13.11 1/2 hrs.

INTEREST ON DELAYED PAYMENTS TO SMALL SCALE AND ANCILLARY INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS BILL *

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

*Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated-30-11-92

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for and regulate the payment of interest on delayed payments to small scale and ancillary industrial undertakings and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for and regulate the payment of interest on delayed payments to small scale and ancillary industrial undertakings and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto".

The motion was adopted.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I introduce the Bill**

13.12 hrs.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT GIVING REASONS FOR IMMEDIATE LEGISLATION BY THE INTEREST ON DELAYED PAYMENTS TO SMALL SCALE AND ANCILLARY INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Interest on Delayed Payments to Small Scale and Ancillary Industrial Undertakings Ordinance, 1992.

13.13 hrs.

NATIONAL THERMAL POWER CORPORATION LIMITED, THE NATIONAL HYDROELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION LIMITED AND THE NORTH-EASTERN ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION LIMITED (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide in the public interest for the acquisition and transfer of the power transmission systems of three companies and the right, title and interest of those companies in the power transmission system situated in different parts of India, with a view to developing the National Power Grid to ensure transmission of power, within and across the different regions of India, on a more scientific, efficient and economic basis and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide in the public interest for the acquisition and transfer of the power transmission systems of three companies and the right, title and interest of those companies in the power transmission system situated in different parts of India, with a view to developing the National Power Grid to ensure transmission of power, within and across the different regions of India, on a more scientific, efficient and economic basis and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto".

The motion was adopted

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: I introduce the Bill

13.13 1/2 hrs.

DELHI DEVELOPMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Delhi Development Act, 1957.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Delhi Development Act, 1957".

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: I introduce the Bill.

13.14 hrs.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
GIVING REASONS FOR IMMEDIATE
LEGISLATION BY THE DELHI
DEVELOPMENT (AMENDMENT)
ORDINANCE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Delhi Development

(Amendment) Ordinance, 1992.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question

13.15 hrs

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE
(AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R.
BHARDWAJ): Sir, I beg to move for leave to
introduce a Bill further to amend the
Representation of the People Act, 1950

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question
is:

"That leave be granted to introduce
a Bill further to amend the
Representation of the People Act,
1950."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I introduce the
Bill.

13.15 1/2 hrs.

INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION
(TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKING AND
REPEAL)BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR
SINGH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to
introduce a Bill to provide for the transfer and
vesting of the undertaking of the Industrial
Finance Corporation of India to and in the
company to be formed and registered as a
Company under the Companies Act, 1956,
and for matters connected therewith or
incidental thereto and also to repeal the
Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948.

"That leave be granted to
introduce a Bill to provide for the
transfer and vesting of the
undertaking of the Industrial
Finance Corporation of India to
and in the company to be formed
and registered as a Company
under the Companies Act, 1956,
and for matters connected
therewith or incidental thereto
and also to repeal the Industrial
Finance Corporation Act, 1948."

The motion was adopted

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: I introduce the
Bill.**

13.16 hrs.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT GIVING
REASONS FOR IMMEDIATE
LEGISLATION BY THE INDUSTRIAL
FINANCE CORPORATION (TRANSFER
OF UNDERTAKINGS AND
REPEAL)ORDINANCE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR
SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table an
explanatory statement (Hindi and English
versions) giving reasons for immediate
legislation by the Industrial Finance
Corporation (Transfer of Undertakings and
Repeal) Ordinance, 1992.

13.17 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification under Indian Telegraph
Act. 1961

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

*Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part-II Section II dt. 30.11.1992.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

589 Matters under Rule 377 AGRAHANAYA 9, 1914 (SAKA)Matters under Rule 377 590
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 730 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th August, 1992 containing corrigendum (English version only) to the Notification No. G.S.R. 587 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th June, 1992 issued under section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1961.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2785/92]

13.17 1/2 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to transfer Birsa Madan in Rourkela to Birsa Munda Statue Committee presently in possession of Rourkela Steel Plant**

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO (Sundargarh): Sir, I draw the attention of the Government on the future of the age-old rich culture of the tribals due to repaid industrialisation in the tribal belt. Industrialisation displaced hundreds of tribal families attracting large number of non-tribals for employment. This has caused a direct threat to the very survival of tribal culture. Both the industries as well as the State Governments have shown least interest for the promotion and preservation to tribal culture.

Birsa Munda Statue Committee, Rourkela, a leading culture organisation of the tribals, after installing a bronze statue of Birsa Munda at Rourkela, releasing his Postal Stamp and getting the portrait unveiled in the Central Hall of Parliament, is since last ten years trying to set up 'Birsa Munda Tribal

Cultural Centre' on the popularly-known 'Birsa Maidan' now under the possession of Rourkela Steel Plant. The Steel Authority of India in 1991 has taken a decision to transfer 19.6 acre Birsa Maidan to Birsa Munda Statue Committee only with the concurrence of the State Government.

I appeal to the Central Government to take a decision to directly transfer Birsa Madan to Birsa Munda Statue Committee.

- (ii) **Need to set up 'Marathwada Vikas Mandal' early**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR (Beed): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a need to set up the 'Marathwada Vikas Mandal' to maintain balanced development in Maharashtra. Marathwada is a backward region in terms of development. Sources of irrigation are very limited. There is no national highway. The region also locks in railway lines. It is therefore imperative to set up a statutory development board as soon as possible, so that development could be ensured in this region. The Maharashtra Legislature has passed a resolution to this effect and recommended setting up of this development board. I would, now, like to request the Union Government to set up immediately the 'Marathwada Vikas Mandal'.

- (iii) **Need to grant maximum licences to Andhra Praaesh for setting up Sugar Industries**

[English]

SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY (Warangal): Sir, Andhra Pradesh is presently

[Sh. R. Surender Reddy]

having only 33 sugar factories with a daily crushing capacity of 56,650 metric tonnes. Although there is vast potential for the growth of sugar industry in the State, the progress has been tardy. The State has good irrigation potential with abundance of ground water facilities. With the liberalised licensing policy of the Government of India, there has been good response from entrepreneurs in the State setting up new sugar factories in potential areas. The State did not get a fair share in the grant of intent in the earlier years.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to consider favourably the applications from the State and grant maximum number of licences for the State of Andhra Pradesh in view of the vast cane area and the potential that the State has for a cane development.

I hope the Centre will take necessary action in this regard.

(iv) Need for another office regional Passport office at Nadiad in Gujarat

DR. K.D. JESWANI (Kheda): Sir, there is only one regional passport office located in Ahmedabad in Gujarat. On an average, it received about one lakh passport applications per year. The staff pattern of the regional passport office has been just the same as per 1960 rules. Accordingly, there is a very huge backlog in the processing of passport applications. About 30,000 such applications are still pending and a lot of difficulties are being faced by the persons who applied for passports. Usually, it takes more than three months to issue one passport. It is high time

that the regional passport office is bifurcated. As more than 60 per cent of the applications are from the Kheda, Baroda and South Gujarat districts, Nadiad would be the proper place to establish another branch of regional passport office.

I urge upon the Government to give a serious consideration to this matter.

(v) Need to give subsidy to Uttar Pradesh Government for transporting foodgrains under Public Distribution System to hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, the Food Corporation of India supplies foodgrains to all the hilly districts from the godowns situated at various railheads. These godowns are at present located at Tanakpur, Haldwani, Ramnagar, Kashipur, Kichha, Rishikesh, Dehradun and Kotwara. The department of food of the State Government lifts foodgrains from these base-godowns to the internal godowns situated in the hilly areas. From there, the work of transporting the foodgrains to the Fair Price Shops is done by the shopkeepers themselves. The transportation expenses of foodgrains from interior godowns to Fair Price Shops is borne by the consumers only. The transportation charges of foodgrains from the base-godowns to interior godowns is borne by the State Government as subsidy. In this way, the cost at which foodgrains is made available to the consumers becomes costlier depending upon the distance of the location of interior godowns from base godowns.

The total area of eight hilly districts is

51,115 square kilometres and the population is nearly sixty lakhs which is far more than the area and population of certain other hilly States. Besides the Central Government has indentified as many as 145 blocks under the new Public Distribution System which cover almost all the hilly districts of the State. The objective of this system is to bring about parity in consumer price throughout the country. So far as the operation of this system in the districts in plains of the State is concerned, the State Government is bearing the transportation on charges of foodgrains from its own resources, but it is not possible to bear this transportation charge for the hilly regions. The Government should therefore, try to provide transportation facility to the hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh on the lines of other hilly States.

(vi) Need for electronic telephone facilities in Champahati, South 24 Paraganas, West Bengal and bring it under calculate telephone exchange

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): Sir, Champahati is an important place in the District of South 24 Paraganas of West Bengal and it is famous from different aspects. It is an important business centre and several Central State and Government officers are located here. It is under Calcutta South Parliamentary constituency and only 24 kilometres away from Calcutta. People of this area are facing hardship in the absence of electronic telephone facilities.

I request the Minister of State for Communication to bring this vital area under Calcutta Telephone Exchange to improve the telephone system there.

(vii) Need to take immediate steps to protect the interests of migrant workers from Orissa Working at different sites at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the plight of the migrant workers from Orissa. A large number of migrant workers from Orissa have been working in Ghaziabad. They have been lured away by some local contractors in Balugaon areas in Orissa with the promise that they would be given a higher amount of wages than what they might be getting in Orissa. As many as 35 people of the State are working at several construction sites in Ghaziabad as migrant workers. They had been told that they would be given food and housing facilities apart from lucrative wages. But it is regrettable that they have been made to work for more than 14 hours. Due to hard work and due to want of proper diet they have been falling ill. As a result of their illness when they fail to go to work, they were beaten mercilessly by the musclemen. As the workers are living in a pathetic condition, they should be given immediate protection.

As such, I demand that the Government of India should intervene in the matter and rescue these migrant workers forthwith.

(viii) Need for early construction of Bagaha-Chhitauni Railway Bridge, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, I would like to give a notice under Rule 377. The construction of Bagaha-Chhitauni Railway bridge supposed to connect eastern Uttar Pradesh and northern Bihar has been under going for last 18 years. The

construction work has not yet been completed. The Members of Parliament have raised this issue on several occasions during the session. Even then adequate funds are not available for this work. The development of this region has been blocked for want of communication and transportation facilities.

It is, therefore, requested that the Central Government should take the steps to construct the Bagaha-Chhitauni Railway bridge in the public interest.

[English]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for lunch to reassemble at 14.30 hours.

13.26 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha Reassembled after Lunch at thirty-five minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

ADVOCATES (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House now shall take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri H R Bhardwaj on the 26th November, 1992, namely:

That the Bill further to amend the Advocates Act 1961 be taken into consideration."

Shri Vijay Kumar Yadav to continue his speech. He is not there.

Shri Syed Shahabuddin

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDIN

(Kishanganj) Mr Deputy-Speaker, the Bill, as it is before us, is uncontroversial and broadly I not only support it but also welcome it. But as I pointed out earlier, I wish the drafting was little nor precise and accurate. It has already been pointed out by senior colleagues and I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Law Minister to the fact that the standard of drafting in the Law Ministry is going down precariously. Instead of curbing litigation, perhaps it is giving rise to litigation in many cases because of the loose drafting. There is a loose drafting in this Bill as well.

I would like to take this opportunity to point out the need for some revamping of the entire legal profession. I think the way the legal profession has been conceived, promoted and established in our country is based on an adversarial role of the advocates. On the one hand we say, a lawyer is an officer of the court, and on the other, we always taken only the British Model before us and have not given a thought to more accurately defining the role of the lawyer in the court, outside the court and *inter se* in the profession. For example, the cost and credibility of the litigation has gone up primarily because of the well known fact that our senior and established lawyers are charging higher fees under the table much higher than what is prescribed. Now that leads to the cost of justice going up and that also leads to the denial of justice in many cases. There is a whiff of corruption in this august profession. I think the country will do well to take note of that and take remedial measures in time. There are, for example, of negative practice in various High Courts. I am sure, the hon. Minister understands what is meant by negative practice, it means that a certain lawyer is paid fees so that the case does not go before a particular Bench or a particular Judge and that is how the money is earned. I think these are things which the legal profession should itself take note and try to cure.

Like other professions, the legal profession must have an apprenticeship system. I think there used to be some system like an Articled Clerk. But today,

from the word 'go' on the first day, when you get a degree, you can go to the bar Council and get yourself registered as a lawyer without any apprenticeship whatsoever. I think some system of apprenticeship must be brought in. In the medical profession there is something called internship, residency, and I don't think why we cannot have some sort of two-year or three-year programmes of Artickedship. Even among the Chartered Accountancy, there is Artickedship. I think that ought to be reintroduced.

I would like to point out to the hon. Minister I am happy- that some power has now been vested in the Bar Council to examine the working of the law Facilities in various universities because from general education now the flood has taken over legal education just as ordinary Degree Colleges are being opened right and left without any planning whatsoever; exactly, in the same way, Law Colleges are being opened throughout the length and breadth of the country without any planning whatsoever. It would amaze the hon. Minister if I let him know that I have a sign board of a Law College in a part of the country just over a couple of huts so and so college. Now, this is happening; this has to be restricted. I think in order to maintain the respectability of the profession and its public status, there has to be some planning of the legal education. How many lawyers does this country finally need? And there has to be some element of control over the admission and over the quality of education being provided in these private Degree Colleges.

There was some talk here about the age limit for entering the profession. Now, Shri Lodha, my hon. colleague made the point that the retired officers enter the profession. If there is no retirement age for the lawyers to retire from the profession, why should there be any limit on the date of entry into the profession? If a lawyer can go on functioning until he passes away, until he reaches the age of 80 to 85 then surely a person at the age of 60 has every right to enter the legal

profession if he has the requisite qualification. The two things do not match. There has to be some sort of an age limit, if possible with some retirement benefits for the legal profession. That must be introduced as by the profession itself.

Finally, I would like to make a point that I am a lawyer by profession. I must confess to this that the legal profession is also responsible for the build up of arrears in the courts.

I think, the reasons is, not only not enough judges. I think one reasons for the large scale litigations and continued litigation is the fact that there is an overflow of the number of lawyers who are prepared to ask for adjournment and get another fee and yet another fee. That way the case goes on. I think suitable reform in this connection is also necessary. The pile-up of the cases will not go down merely increasing the number of judges and the number of Benches. I think some inner discipline in the profession is called for.

With these suggestions, which I have taken the opportunity to present to the hon. Law Minister, I thank you for giving me a chance I support this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time allotted for the subject was only one hour. Now it has taken one hour and thirty five minutes. Therefore, the time at our disposal is very short. So the subsequent speakers may please be brief.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): I think, we can ask the Minister to reply.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihari): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has not been clear on some points in the very objectives of the Bill that has been introduced by him. I would like to relate a brief story about the lawyers. I have a personal experience in this regard. A certain person was arrested in court of Uttar Pradesh

[Sh. Kamla Mishra Madhukar]

person was arrested in court of Uttar Pradesh under the Arms Act and was put under custody. On investigating on it was discovered that a particular lawyer had much access to the judge who was hearing the case. The said Judge took bribe thought the lawyer and ultimately released the person under custody on bail, I am relating the fact that I saw with my own eyes. This incident occurred in Meerut. such things are taking place these days.

Junior lawyers are now leading a very miserable life, clients do not pay fees to them. After day's hard labour they return home in the evening empty handed. What is being done for their welfare by the Government. Is the Government thinking of providing them some minimum facilities? They are facing numerous hardships. Does the Government propose to provide them some allowances? There is also a proposal to introduce a welfare programme for them, but how can it be implemented. How is it possible to implement the scheme without funds? The Government should, therefore constitute a fund so that the Junior lawyers who are poor and miserable may be in a position to meet the minimum needs of their life. These days Government service is not available nor are there employment opportunities in private companies. Since they do not get any employment after completion of B.A. and M.A. they are forced to call to the bar. The helpless poor fall prey of their grip. Now it is the responsibility of the Government to look into it.

The Government should implement the decision of the Supreme Court regarding reservation. It is good that the entrance fees in respect of the lawyers belonging to Scheduled Castes have been reduced. We also do support it, but Government should also ensure that the benefit of special reservation are availed of by people belonging to Scheduled Castes. I would also like to know whether the Government proposes to increase the facilities for the people belonging to reserved categories so that there could be

further reduction in their admission and enrollment fees. The provisions of reservation should be put to practice. If necessary, the Government should constitute separate fund for this purpose.

There are many instance where the financially well off lawyers have links with particular Magistrates. They take bribe. I do not intend to cast any aspersion on the Ministry of Law. I am simply relating the facts what I saw with my own eyes. This corrupts the Judiciary and increase the hardship of general public and the poor. This is also ultimately responsible for the increase in the number of litigations. Syed Shahbuddin has rightly said that it is due to lawyers that the dates of cases are extended. This weight heavily upon the poor. The Government talks of making the lawyers' profession a judicious one and also aims at arousing a consciousness among the people to be law abiding. But it should consider the points as to how it is possible? When the judiciary is in the worst State and where bribing has become the order of the day, how is it possible to think of welfare of the public.

I am not aware whether there have been any consultations on this point with the Democratic Lawyers Association or the Bar Associations. Actually, the Government should have introduced a comprehensive Bill so that all the main points would have been incorporated in it. Provision should be made so that the junior lawyers may also avail themselves of all facilities. The Government should put a check on corruption in the judiciary as also on the bribe in which lawyers are involved. Similarly, the Government should have made a provision in this Bill. Its benefits should be enjoyed by the Junior lawyers belonging to the reserved category. No doubt, the objective of this Bill is good but it will not be achieved in the manner the Government is trying. The Government will have to bring a fresh Bill or it will have to resort to amendment in the Bill., The Government should have brought forward a comprehensive Bill once and for all. We would not have been hesitant in supporting the Bill had the Government taken all these points into consideration.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL
(Chandigarh): Mr. Deputy -Speaker, Sir, one very outstanding feature of this amending Bill is that it seeks to impart real meaning to the democratic working of the State Bar Councils.

It is a human tendency that any one to us who comes to occupy a particular office may at times not like to vacate the same. That has been the observation of all of us as far as the working of the State Bar Council is concerned. Now the amendment which the hon. Minister has brought is that election should ordinarily be held within a period of five years. The Bar Council of India may extend that period for six months, if still the State Bar Council fails to hold elections within that period the Bar Council of India would suspend, would put an end to the life of the State Bar Council and a special Committee would come into existence, which would be charged with the responsibility of holding the elections. I think, this is a very statutory provisions which deserves outright approval because this would make it mandatory for the sitting members of the State Bar Council to ensure that elections are held in time.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that I am sure he is aware of it otherwise and as I learn this Bill was drafted earlier-it may not be encompassing within its scope many other things which we have experienced with the passage of time. I think, there is a need to lay down as to what procedure really has to be followed as far as elections to the Bar Councils are concerned. In the past we saw is that the systems of collecting the ballot papers personally or getting them posted leads to many malpractices. It should be made mandatory. May be it means little more expense. You are enhancing the amount of Membership fee and. I suppose, the State Bar Council should be able to bear that. They can seek assistance from the Universities; from the electoral staff of the State Concerned. But it should be ensured that the elections are held strictly by secret ballots conducted, may be at the

District headquarters or even at the Tehsil headquarters, where the practising advocates should be able to participate in the elections. And only then, we would have democracy in the spirit of the word.

When I talk of the Bar Councils, there is one point which I would like to mention. I have some sort of a reservation about it. The provision seems to be good as such. That is, it has to be the objective of the Bar Councils to ensure the growth of the Bar Associations for taking up certain programmes relating to the welfare of the advocates. On the face of it, it is a very good provision because the Bar Council and the Bar Associations should be charged with that responsibility. It should primarily be the responsibility of these organisations to ensure that new entrants to the profession come to the profession with honour and stay in the profession with honour. But, I suppose, again this could lead to the development of some sort of a tendency on the part of the State Bar Council to interfere with the working of the Bar Association at the High Court, the Bar Association at the District level and the Bar Association at the Mofussil Courts. What would happen is that whereas under the present practice, these Bar Associations are completely independent entitled now there could be some sort of inroads into their functioning. This we have to scrupulously check. And I think, this can be done by making some amendment may be not in the Act but this could possible be done by making some amendments in the rules which can be framed with to time.

Sir, one very important function which the State Bar Council and the Bar Council of India are charged with is dealing with the cases relating to the disciplinary proceedings. And for that also, I feel that it is time for us to give a fresh look to the rules relating to those matters and some more elaborate guidelines have to be provided so that people who are guilty of violating the legal professional ethics do not go scot free. But at the same time this should not become a tool in the hands of some wily clients also to harass the lawyers, may be after the result of a particular case. And because of the bell Sir, I would not like to dwell on this., I would conclude this part

[Sh. Pawan Kumar Bansal]
here.

Very briefly I would like to refer to one or two things. I know the hon. Minister took a step long back to work out a scheme like Benevolent Fund for the advocates and may be resource constraints have somehow put it in the cold storage for the time being. But, I think, there are certain other very small measures not necessarily to be taken up by the Ministry of Law but nevertheless which would be the function of the Government. In this connection, I would like to mention that today the Government is encouraging people who take to self employment oriented jobs and today the emphasis is not on Government jobs but on creating opportunities for people to have some sort of an income. And it is in that category, that the lawyers would fall. To begin with, when a person enters the profession, some sort of loan without any collateral security should be given to him for building up a library and for buying a vehicle. I would like to say one very important thing and it is not merely concerned with this Ministry but it is nevertheless very important that the category of lawyers should be included in the special category for the grant of telephones. There are many professions which come in this category. And there is no reason to deny this one simple facility to the lawyer because each lawyer requires a telephone. It is not something like a luxury to him. It is a necessity for him to do his job more efficiently because clients have to contact by him. There is no denying the fact that a lawyer is not just a professional; a lawyer is an important part of our society he is an important part of our judicial system. He is as much an Officer of the Court as a Judicial Officer himself. Therefore, we have got to ensure that these basic things are given to him and it would help the lawyer to discharge his duties well. And I suppose it becomes the responsibility of the State to cater to these.

To conclude I would very briefly refer to one remark which Mr. Lodha made the other day while initiating the debate. When he talked about certain things relating to appointment of Government lawyers, we

cannot lose sight of the fact that the relationship between the lawyers and the clients is that of mutual faith and is a personal relationship. We may ask Government for certain benefits but I think we transgress that limit when we ask the Government to ensure that it follows a particular policy or a particular guideline to distribute work. I suppose that it is just the responsibility of any Government, any Department anywhere to engage any lawyer they feel like. When you talk of the legal aid, yes and when you want to involve lawyers in Lok Adalat, yes. That is where the Bar Associations and the Bar Council should come forth. But when you went to enforce upon the Government as to how they should pick up their lawyers, I think we transgress our jurisdiction and we should keep away from that.

Finally I would only lay emphasis on one thing. There was a thought about the duration of the law course. A serious thought was being given to it that it should be a five year course but and since something went away somewhere. And I suppose there are one or two places which have five year course and the others have three year course. I think different branches of law are becoming very complicated. For instance, even a service matter, service jurisprudence is becoming so complicated now. And there are many other branches, Mercantile Law and other branches are coming up. It is imperative that we introduce a five year course and that would also save the student of one year because after 10+2+3+ he does the graduation and thereafter spending another three years for law means that he spends one year extra. If a student after taking plus two examinations if he were to go in for a five year course, that would be ideal because he would start learning some lessons in law right at that stage. This is not a very simple question. It would need a lot of consultations. But I think, some sort of consultations, discussions on this should start.

I am sorry, I am using the words 'to conclude' again and again. I would now really conclude by saying one more thing. When we say that Bar Council should have a right to visit the Universities, they should also have a right to send representatives to

the senates of the Universities. This should also be explored because their presence on the senates of the Universities would provide them right opportunity to participate in the discussion, as far as the matter concerning law and the study of law are concerned.

15.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA (Rampur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you. Sir, before expressing my views on Advocates Amendment Bill, I think it necessary to express my views on judiciary. Sir, hon Minister has been a reputed advocate himself and the State of judiciary prevailing in the country today is not hidden from any body and if corrective measures were not taken in time, people would lose confidence in judiciary.

Tens of thousands of cases are lying pending in the High Court of Uttar Pradesh today and they are not decided for year together. As the saying goes, "Justice delayed is justice denied" so, the more the justice is delayed the more it will not be dispensed. In fact, no one is getting fair justice under the present judiciary system. Justice is done in favour of those who have money, which is most unfortunate. The poor for whom we raise here are suffering as they are not getting justice. None is there to hear this grievance.

There have talks of Adalats. I would like the hon. Minister to streamline the functioning of Lok Adalats and make an amendment in this Bill so that more and more people may benefit from it and may get cheap and free justice. Sir, the amendment made in the Bill all welcome and the fees of advocates, which has been raised from Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 700, is also welcome. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the funds available with our Bar Councils may do any welfare of the advocates. We have a social welfare scheme for advocates but the fund is so meagre that no social welfare

scheme can be launched for our advocates. I would like to request the hon. Minister to make available grants from the State or Central Governments for these funds so that more money is available with them. Today advocates are in dire need of proper sitting arrangements and chambers. One can see the plight of clients in courts, there is no sitting arrangement for them while it is they who pay hefty fee to State Government. The Bar Council should be responsible for all these things and it should be our duty to strengthen the Bar Council to a great extent.

Sir, a provision has been made for conducting the meetings of the Bar Councils at other places instead of the places where High Courts are located. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that it is necessary to conduct meetings at other places. Of course, if these meetings are conducted at the districts of that particular state, it is certainly a welcome step.

Sir, the members of our bar Councils would go to universities and carry out inspection of libraries which are not required there. I would like to say it very clearly that these libraries are required in district courts. Are rich libraries really available to our advocates there? This matter needs urgent attention.

Sir, at the same time, I would like to submit that a Bill in connection with the appointments had been introduced at the time of when Shri V.P. Singh was in power. All the politics being played in the appointments of Judges of High Courts and Supreme Courts has to be stopped. The main reasons for falling standard of judiciary is this that while making appointment we take decision keeping in view our political interests. The Bill should be re-introduced in this House in order to think over all these aspects.

Sir, I would like to submit that the Lokpal Bill should be passed as soon as possible and all the officers of the Chief Minister and the Prime Minister etc. should be brought under its purview so that the corruption in public life is checked and strict action taken.

[Sh. Rajendra Kumar Sharma]

should pay attention to it.

Unless strict action is taken against checking corruption, it cannot be checked.

I would like to make more point. When one becomes advocate and gets oneself registered, one cannot practice in the courts the Excise Commissioner and in the Family Court. Therefore it is my submission that Section 30 should be applied and no advocate should be allowed to practise in all courts after registration. The hon. Minister should pay attention to it.

Sir, the most serious today is that the gap between advocates and judiciary continue to be widened. It should be the role of our State Bar Council that it may pay attention to it. Advocate go on strike for a couple of months and stage dharnas. With the result, poor clients have to suffer. They don't get justice and have to face difficulties. There is need to pay attention to it as well.

Similarly the senior Judges of High courts and Supreme Court, including the Chief Justice, should not practise after their retirement. They can give advice sitting in their private chamber, but it does not behove of them to present themselves physically in courts because in that case it becomes very difficult for the judges, who have been their subordinates, to deliver Judgement. It is contrary to the spirit of justice. Attention should be paid to this fact.

15.37 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

I would like to make one more point. Whenever any Government comes to power. new panels of advocates are prepared and empanelled advocates find themselves in trouble. In Supreme Court, High Court and district courts panels are prepared on political grounds. The advocates, who are on the existing panels, are removed. There should be some specific ground for this purpose. Bar Council should be taken in the Committee that prepare panel. Panels not be made on political considerations. The Government

In the end, I would like to make one more important point. Today judiciary is under fire. Criminals are intimidating senior judges. Such atmosphere should not be allowed to emerge. The Government should give it some thinking. To keep cases pending for long periods of providing harmful. Government should take necessary corrective measures.

With these words, I expressing my gratitudes and hope the hon. Minister would pay attention to my suggestions. I support all the amendments that have been moved.

[*English*]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, should the wearing of black coats and black gowns by the lawyers continue? Shall we not change to Indian conditions? Should we follow the old British or the European method of continuing with that dress? I think the advocates are being misled because of this dress which they are wearing. Even in hot summer, they have to wear the black coat and tie. I think there must be a change.

This is a profession which is so noble but which is so misunderstand nowadays. It is because of various changes that have come in the society as well as amongst the lawyers and in their profession also.

I think this Act, which provides for giving more powers to the Bar Council in respect of giving training or putting up libraries as well as having some control over universities and for implementing the welfare schemes for the lawyers, is a welcome step. This is welcome step. But I would think that in the drafting, as has already been stated, some every serious changes must be thought of. Of course, I know that it is not the new Government which has actually drafted it. The drafting should change, not only in this law but in all our laws. Of course, we do make legislations. But these laws, when they are made, are so complicated that the normal citizen is not able to understand them.

I find one serious anomaly in this. It may

not be serious. But it may become very serious. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this aspect. On page 2, line 30 where the formation of the special committee is stated, there is a mention that a senior-most among the ex-officio members shall be the Chairman. I think this has to be made clear as to whether it is the seniority in age, or seniority by profession or seniority in ex-officio position which is taken into account. Secondly I would also think that on page 3 there must be a mention of some limitation as to the extent to which Bar Council of India can prolong or can exceed the time of this committee for conducting elections.

With regard to the general aspects, I would submit a few points. One thing is about the India Judicial Service. This has been stated by the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court, in fact has given some directions also with regard to the formulation of judicial service by I.J.S. I think that must be taken into very serious consideration.

With regard to court I want to say something. Of course, this is not directly coming under this Act. But court fee is something where must be some reduction. I think this has to be discussed in detail because the litigants are finding it so difficult to go courts for getting justice.

About the fees of advocate many things have been stated and many hon. Members have stated that lawyers are charging enormous fee. But this is only true with regard to a few lawyers who come to the top and who are supposed to be cream. There are so many lawyers who do not get a proper fee. For example I can say that in the Fee Rules, for an injunction case which may prolong for days together for examination of witnesses and the conduction of the case as such the fee which is provided under the rules is Rs. 50 even now, which I think is too low. I think this has to be taken into consideration and some reforms have to be brought in with regard to this aspect of the

fees which can be charged by lawyers. Of course, a limit may be brought in with regard to some types of cases where the lawyers are supposed to charge very heavily.

I may submit one word with regard to the problems of the junior lawyers. Many have already stated that junior lawyers who come to the profession are finding it so difficult to exist. There may be some apprenticeship or some training etc. But those who come to the profession in the young age and those who are trying to strive in this profession are finding it very difficult because of the financial constraints. I think their problems must be very seriously dealt with and the Central Government must take a commission to study the problems of these youngsters who are coming large numbers to this profession.

There are often cases of misconduct and there are cases where the profession itself is let down by the competition which is coming and by the kind of doubting which has come into the profession and by the lowering of the profession by the enormous number of entrants who are coming. But, I think, the lawyers who are serious in this profession, who come to this profession to serve the society, to serve the litigations, must be cared for. Some steps must be taken to provide some financial assistance or some assistance for getting library books etc.

I would conclude by supporting my colleague Shri Bansal for one point which he said which is about the telephones. The hon. Ministry of Communications is here. I think the lawyers are a class who have been completely left out in this category. This is something which should be taken seriously. I think this has been brought to the House many a time. I may submit that no legislation is actually necessary and it is only an executive order which is needed. I hope the hon. Minister will look into this.

In conclusion I would only submit that the Bill which says about the welfare schemes of the lawyers is a very good measure.

I think that the first step in this regard was taken by the Kerala Government which has started welfare schemes for the lawyers.

With these words I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Chairman Sir, a very small Bill is being presented. It was brought in the previous Lok Sabha and it has been brought again since the previous Lok Sabha was dissolved. Much has been said about it. It would have been better if it was brought after a deep thinking. Since the formation of this Bill 13 amendments have been made in it. Even now the amendment in it is being done to a certain limit. This amendment will not help the advocates. But it is being said that it will mostly benefit the advocates. If you enquire about some new advocate in this regard you will come to know everything. Much damage has been done in the last 40 years. The education has degraded. The one who does not get admission anywhere seeks admission in L.L.B. No attention has been paid to it during the last so many years. Therefore, it should be pondered over and new criterion should be laid down for it. The problems and the complaints of the advocates have been repeated here. It is necessary that a uniform education policy should be there in the whole of the country. It should not be that somewhere it is of one year, somewhere it is of two years and somewhere it is three or five years. The admission procedure should be same everywhere, since there are many confusions about the admission. Some of the universities are bringing a change into it. The education should be completed in three years and there should be provision of practical learning for 6 months. Because today when an advocate starts practising, he is unaware of certain things. Today, 50 percent of the advocates in the Courts are such who can not earn even the minimum wages, they have to spent money from their own pocket to attend the court. They should be provided with the facility of Chambers and library.

Therefore, keeping all these things in mind a comprehensive Bill should have been brought.

You have raised fee and it is said that the meetings of the State Bar Council and Central Bar Council will be held at a place other than the centre, but it should be kept in mind that this provision should not be misused. The degradation during the last 40 years can be seen everywhere. Unless politics is set aside of it, there can be improvement in the judiciary system. The judges are appointed on political basis then how can we hope for the betterment. Today, the judicial process is so much complicated that if a person files a suit no decision is taken till his grand children are born. The work should be done in the direction of removing this flaw. Arrangements should be made to provide immediate and accessible justice to the people. Lok Adalats should be encouraged and the litigants should be given proper facilities since all these things are related to that.

I don't want to go into the details but I would like to say that I do not oppose the Bill brought by the hon. Minister but a Comprehensive Bill should have been brought in which all these things should have been included. Setting up of a commission for the selection of judges has been talked about since long but it has not been implemented as yet. At the time of the selection of the judges resentment can be seen among the people and they resign. The Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana, High Court has just resigned because his junior was promoted. Many matters related to the states lie pending with the Centre and these should also be decided at the earliest. The Bills which are sent to the Centre after recommendations should be decided at the earliest. The Government of Uttar Pradesh had taken an important decision but the same has not been decided even after the six months have passed. We have sent a Bill to the Centre for approval regarding prevention of cow slaughter in whole of the Uttar Pradesh, but the approval has not been granted even now. More over 6 Bills of the Government of Uttar Pradesh are lying pending with the

Central Government for approval. On one hand the legal process creates problem and on the other hand the weakness of the law gives a chance to the people to laugh at. The need of the hour is that the judiciary should be placed on the highest level. It should be considered above all the political differences and it is necessary that we should think over all of its aspects. An advocate holds an important place and he should be considered of that rank. He also works in the supreme court. The age limit for an advocate should be 60 or 65 years i.e. he would practise law till that age, but it is not so. A lawyer in my district is 70 years old and if he falls ill then it takes 6 months in taking the new date the court. So due attention should be paid towards it.

At last, my suggestion is that the advocates go on strike, which should be banned by the judiciary that the strike will not be allowed. Although I have many more things to say but several hon. Members have expressed their views in this regard. So, the hon. Minister while replying should accept those suggestions while making amendments in the Bill. I have no objection to this Bill but a system should be evolved through which instead of raising figures on the judiciary, the people should talk about respectfully. I express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my submission to the hon. Law Minister is that he himself had been a lawyer and the advocates are considered to be most civilised community of the society. When one does not get job anywhere, he goes for L.L.B. becomes an advocate and starts practising law, and the leaders also after retirement from politics start their shops. It appears to me that after the elections when some people will retire from the Lok Sabha, they will have to do the same business. Therefore my submission is that as you are the Minister you should do good to these people.

Mr. Chairman Sir, when a girl completes

her L.L.B. then the parents have to search an L.L.B. match for her and when they succeed in finding a suitable match the girl is married with him. Nothing should be done so that the lawyers may feel neglected. I hope that all these things will be kept in mind while making amendment in this Bill. It is a very good Bill and I welcome it.

Mr. Chairman Sir, you are well aware of the fact that the cases in the Court lie pending for long. The example of Ayodhya issue is before you, it has been pending for many years. If it had been decided earlier then the present situation would not have come up. The cases in the courts remain pending for 40 years and the generation passes away in the process. This process should be made easy so that the cases can be decided at the earliest. Election petition should be decided within six months but it takes six long years and by that time the other election comes. I understand that a person, who is defeated in the election has to face many problems and he has to pay the fees of the advocates. It should also be pondered over and how the cases can be settled at the earliest should also be thought over. Now comes the legal process. I mean to say that this process has been continuing since the days of the British rule and it is also existing in the country even after 44-45 years. This process is going on even after the Britishers have left the country. It does not seem that any improvement has been brought about in this procedure in India. In this regard, I would like to suggest that this procedure should be simplified so that people may get justice at low cost.

When our colleague Shri Guman Mal Lodha was a judge of the High Court, he was also a judge of the Supreme Court a gentleman wrote him a post card about his grievances. Shri Lodha Ji treated that post-card as a petition and passed his judgement on that. At times he also initiated necessary legal action on the basis of news items published in the newspapers. So what I intend to say is that the Government should implement the good things in the direction of simplifying the legal procedure.

[Sh. Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

One of my submission is that the Government should also provide grants to the Bar Councils. If the Government fixes the amount at Rs. 250 or Rs. 750, I think that will not be sufficient as one cannot buy even one book of law with that amount of money. It is, therefore, imperative that the Government of India should provide assistance to the Bar Councils by way of grants. My next submission is that a lot of time is taken in making the appointment of Judges. In the first place appointments are not made and whenever the appointments are made, there are made on political basis. This practise is not good. There should actually be a tribunal for making appointments to the post of judges. Many posts of judges are lying vacant in Rajasthan. When the posts are vacant and judges are not there in adequate number to administer justice, how will then the people get swift and inexpensive justice? There should be a time frame for filling up all the vacant posts, say for example, a vacant post should be filled up within one or two months from the date of its falling vacant. The Government can do it easily. If it takes two to four years in filling up the vacant posts, it is not good. I would, therefore, like to submit that there should be a tribunal for that purpose.

My next demand is that more and more Lok Adalats should be set up and free legal aid should be available in these courts. All including the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister should come under the purview of the Lok Pal Bill. My next submission is that as the Doctors and Engineers are provided loans similarly the lawyers should be provided loan for library by the Finance Department or by the Banks. If the lawyers do not have good library, the clients will not consider them as good lawyers. A lawyer, having a large collection of books in his library definitely impress his clients. The Government should provide loan facilities to the lawyers either through Finance Department or through Bank for the purpose of books and furniture.

There is one more issue concerning

telephone facility. Doctors and Engineers get telephone connection on priority basis. We M.Ps can recommend for 10 telephone connections. My lawyers taunts that what is the use of my becoming an M.P. when I cannot get him a telephone connection. The lawyer should also therefore, be given telephone facility on priority basis.

My next submission is that when a lawyer puts a board at his house, say like 'Girdhari Lal Bhargava - Advocate' he has then to pay the water and electricity charge on commercial rates. If an ordinary person pays one rupee, the lawyer will have to pay two and a half rupees. When I become a lawyer, I do not get any special supply of Ganga water, but simply because I have put up the board of advocate, I will have to pay at commercial rates. The Government should give some relaxation and should not charge at commercial rates. This is what I want to submit.

Lastly, I would like to remind that previously the examination of the Bar Council was conducted after the completion of two years course. After that the Junior lawyers had to work under some Senior lawyers for two years or six months and then they had to obtain the experience certificate. Now, what we see is that there are lawyers who are of course for all practical purposes, lawyers, but their knowledge is not more than that of Munshis. I would, therefore, like to submit that the present course should be of six months duration and at the end of the course a certificate of completion of the course should be issued.

There used to be the examination of Bar Council. The examination was both written and oral. If both types of the examination are revived, it would enable the new-lawyers to give the minimum knowledge as how to stand in the court and plead in the court. Now the lawyers do not have even this much knowledge. I would, therefore, like to submit that the old practice of conducting both types of examination of the Bar Council should be restored. An interview for all the lawyers should also be made compulsory.

Lastly, I would like to submit that the Government should also make provisions

to allow the lawyers to present before the family courts. The hon. Minister is himself a lawyer, so he must be knowing the present plight of the lawyers. He must be knowing that there are lawyers who do not have chambers of their own. As they do not have chambers, so they have to sit beneath neem tree and pipal tree while there are others who put their chair somewhere and sit on it. At times, the chairs in which they sit are broken. If such a neglecting attitude is adopted towards the lawyers even during his tenure as the Minister of law and justice, then it would be a matter of great regret. Time is everchanging. He is witnessing as to how the things are taking shape in the country. We have witnessed the ninth and the tenth Lok Sabha and we do not know how soon we will have to see the eleventh Lok Sabha. I would, therefore, like to submit that he should realise the importance of time. He is now the Minister of Law and Justice so he has got the opportunity to do something and it is quite uncertain whether he will have this opportunity in future or not, so he should act according to the constructive suggestions given by me to serve the interests of the lawyers. If he misses this opportunity, he will realise later on that what Mr. Bhargava had suggested at half past three on 30th November was right. He will have to repent then, I would, therefore, again submit that my suggestions should be accepted. With these words I would conclude and would thank Mr. Chairman, for providing me an opportunity to express my views.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to the hon. Members who have contributed a lot of points in the consideration of this Bill. The measures suggested in this Bill are very few but hon. members who have spoken have contributed in a large number on very vital issues which will help in improving

our justice administration system and legal system.

There are no two opinions on the issue that justice administration system and the legal system reflect the ethos and the culture of the society to which they belong. If you have an efficient justice administration system and efficient legal system, this goes to show that it is a very cultured and civilised society. So, these two institutions, the judiciary and the legal profession, are considered the noble professions along with other noble professions and their role, before and after independence. It is recorded in folded letters in history. I concede that a lot is to be done to revamp the image of the bar. A lot has to be done to improve the image of the judiciary also. There are no opinions on this issue and as hon. Member Shri Syed Shahabuddin suggested it is not patch work that is needed today. It is total review of the system whether you take one plea or the other. We called it the Westminster system, we copied it and we are following it. That is why, a change is necessary. If you say that it is not in tune with the Indian genius, and that is why we have to review. There are various reasons for which we have to take a fresh look at the Indian Justice Administration system and legal system. But one must accept one fact that our legal profession and our justice system have been able to carry lot of burden today and, therefore, lot of work is to be done. So, in tune with what I say, I called immediately one meeting with the Law Ministers of all the States, about a month and half before. We cannot do this good work unless we talk to the States. It is because of the fact that all our Courts right up to the District Courts and then the High Court are located in various States and the administration of justice is vested in the High Court. The Subordinate Judiciary is also under the administrative control of the High Court. So, we thought it proper that before embarking upon any programme touching these two sensitive Institutions, we must talk together and we must have an Agenda before us, the Agenda relating to these two issues. So, I discussed thoroughly in the

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Bangalore and in Mysore these issues relating to the justice administration and the legal profession.

Sir, I concede further that we have been asking for one thing. There has been a debate in Parliament several times and outside the Parliament several times when it is said that India must have a system which is speedy, which is inexpensive, which is cost-effective and which is substantial justice. This system must be given immediate relief so that it can serve the common man and the most under-privileged man in the country. That is our firm commitment that we must bring ultimately a justice administration system to those four vital points. It must be speedy, it must be substantial, it must be inexpensive and effective. But have you ever seen a decision on such a vital issue without a dialogue, without a discussion between the litigants, between the consumer of justice as we call them, between the legal profession. I am pained to say today that there is no dialogue. Today, if we invites a section of the Bar to discuss a particular issue, there is no response. We want to discuss every issue with the members of the Bar, all the Members of the Bar who are Members of this House also. They will recognise one fact that judicial independence and the independence of the legal profession are paramount for the success of the rule of law and democracy ultimately. But unless you have a dialogue exchange of view interaction on all these issues, any decision, any quick decision this way or that way would ultimately lead to certain infraction of one point of view or the other. So, we have invited the Bar Councils on this particular Bill. There has been total unanimity among all the bar Councils of the State and the Bar Council of India. They are the representative bodies. So, we have immediately taken up this with this august House.

Sir, certain other matters have been raised by Shri Guman Mal Lodha. He has been a very active judge. I know him personally. He has contributed a lot in the Lok Adalat in the Public Interest Litigation and he has some very good ideas. I had

used his ideas when I was a Minister earlier. For five years we sorted out lakhs of cases through the mechanism of Lok Adalats. We used to meet. I am very happy to inform this august House that such Judges who are prepared to come out of their Ivory Towers and serve the people are welcome. That is the Indian genius—that. If you see a poor man not able to reach the Court of Justice, the Judge must reach the poor. This system was evolved and it is being pursued. We have already introduced the National Legal Aid Services authority Bill which is pending, which will come very shortly for the consideration of this House. The Institution of Lok Adalat has been inbuilt there and a full Chapter has been given. In all the cases which will be decided by the Lok Adalat, the court fee paid by the party will be refunded. Legal Assistance, Legal aid would be provided. That system is also being experimented. It has almost succeeded. This is going to be adopted permanently in the Indian administration of justice.

There are a few gestions in regard to the welfare scheme of the lawyers. I also concede one fact. I am happy that the hon. Members have raised the issue that the weaker sections—whom we call the Socially and Educationally Backward section of Society—are coming to the Bar in large numbers now; the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are also coming in large numbers now. It is not a very unhealthy sign; it is a very healthy sign that they also come and become lawyers. So, we have to see that welfare schemes for these under-privileged sections of the society, who get an opportunity to be enrolled as lawyers are given and the welfare measures have to be provided.

I am informing the august House that a Bill has already been drafted. In some States, there are welfare measures. For instance, the State of Kerala and there is also one in Bihar. But we want to bring in uniformity in the welfare system. So, we had constituted a Committee under Justice Barul Islam. They gave a report and we have already drafted a Bill. But unfortunately, the elections were held which we lost and, therefore, I could implement that. I am committed to bring the welfare to the poor lawyers wherever I get an

opportunity. It is recognised that this measure has to be brought in. It is a commitment from our side. We are going to recognise the need for these welfare schemes and people who were not so rich enough to stand on their own legs at the inception stage at the Bar, they must be helped. So, young and under-privileged lawyers have to be supported so that they can also contribute in the justice administration system.

I am also reminded of several other points which the hon. Members have suggested. Regarding the Court Fees measure, there is already a decision to rationalise the court fees and to some extent abolish it. Why should we not charge court fees from a rich client? These principles have been accepted and we are already working in that direction. All the law Ministers of the States, irrespective of the party governments have been given that agenda and I am happy that they will be meeting again after the Parliament session and we will take a quick decision.

With regard to the neglect of judicial infrastructure, this was also recognised and we have now made the buildings, court rooms, Bar room and Chambers as part of the plan expenditure. I did that worked as a Planning Minister. I am happy that we have requested the States and they are also coming forward with various proposals to re-equip their Bar rooms and Bar Associations rooms and court rooms. These programmes will continue.

The Bar Councils felt that the money for their office administration and running the Bar Council is not with them. They are finding a lot of difficulties due to paucity of funds. They are just increasing their enrollment fees.

With regard to section 30 a demand has been made. I am happy to inform the House that so far as the Ministry of Law is concerned, the Government has decided to enforce Section 30 of the Act. Justice Lodha was very particular about it. I am happy to inform

that we have also taken a decision to file a counter-affidavit in the Supreme Court with regard to the pending cases saying that the Government now proposes to amend this section and to enforce the provisions of Section 30 with two limitations, namely, the Family Courts and Labour Courts. These are two issues which come under the domain of other Ministries where I cannot interfere. But we have now decided to enforce Section 30 also.

One hon. Member asked: "Why the Bar Councils should meet outside their headquarters?" The idea that these headquarters are located mostly in the capitals. Supposing the Bar Councils wants to hold a meeting away from the headquarters, in another district of the State, there should be no objection. After all, they are autonomous bodies; they can meet in one district at one time and in another district at another time. That would give them a little freedom in their working. But, that would not entail more expenditure. Bar Council of India and Bar Councils of States, they are autonomous bodies and I think that they will take care of their functioning. We need not really suspect their motives in holding the meetings at other places than at their headquarters.

With the regard to Section 24 (A), as I said this is another disqualification which was added. If a dismissed person wants to be enrolled, for two years he will not be entitled to be enrolled. The disqualification goes along with other disqualifications.

You may kindly look at the three or four measures which we have given. One is to increase the fees. Then the second one is elections. The most important amendment in this Bill is that democratic process must be restored. Some of the Bar Councils, even if five years were elapsed, they were not holding the elections. So we have come with the measures where elections will definitely be held after five years. After the term expires the Bar Council of India would immediately steps into holding the elections.

I am very happy that hon. Members

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have supported all these measures. I can give you an assurance regarding the appointment of judges. I can assure you that for is there are only two considerations. - one is the man must be of merit, man of integrity and he should be deserving to become a High Court judge. The consultation process is contained in the Constitution. We have to adhere to it unless another systems us evolved or introduced. So the plea that there are political appointments is wholly intensible. All the judges who are appointed are appointed after thorough scrutiny by the Chief Justice of the High Courts and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. No appointment would be made unless there are recommendations from Chief Justice. We can expect that Chief Justice do consult the Chief Minister and the Governor because that is the constitutional mandate. These things do cause some delay in consultation process; but the institution of judge is very important and this consultation is mandatory under the Constitution. We have to do that. How speedily we can make appointment, it is our job. We are expediting even cases referred to us by various States. I am in touch with the respective constitutional authorities and I assure you that we will make the appointments very quickly.

With these observations, I commend this hon. House to pass this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are three amendments moved to the Motion for Consideration of the Bill by Shri Mohan Singh, Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava and Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat. Are they present their amendments.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: I have made my point. So I am not pressing my amendment.

[English]

Amendment No.2 was deemed to have been negatived.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Amer): I am pressing my amendment Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No.1 moved by Shri Mohan Singh and amendment No 3 moved by Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat. to the Consideration Motion to the vote of the House.

Amendment No.1 and 3 were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Advocates Act 1961, be taken into consideration"

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. The question is:

"That clause 2 to 9 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 9 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clauses 1, Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Bill be passed.

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not record anything more on this Bill.

15.49 hrs.

PASSPORTS (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up the Bill further to amend the passports Act, 1967 for consideration. Hon. Minister Shri R.L. Bhatia.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): The administration of the departure of persons from India through issue of passports has been governed by the Passport Act of 1967. The Act has provided a framework for what has become over a period of time, a growing phenomenon of persons traveling abroad for purposes of education, business, employment, pilgrimage and tourism. An increasing number of persons have thus been seeking to travel outside India. There has also been a phenomenal growth over just two years in the recent past in passport applications received in 1990, the Passport Officers throughout the country received over 15 lakh applications just for new passports whereas in 1991, this figures was 24 lakhs.

Based on the experience that we have gained in administrating the Act, we found that there were certain aspects that required to be addressed through legislation to make the provisions of the Act current. It will be recognised that the very nature of our passport booklet has undergone major change. This has been the result of an ongoing review to bring it on par with international standards. The changes involve design, materials used and the introduction of several features which make the booklet more in keeping with those of the international community. Further development will over the next five years, lead to the introduction of machine Readable Passports and Visas, also in keeping with international decisions on the subject.

The Bill will enable the Government to take suitable steps to recover the cost of issuing a passport and to provide for more effective deterrence in case of misuse. The cost of issuing a passport has gone up considerably since 1978 when the fee was increased from Rs. 25 to Rs. 50. For the Government to be able to provide effective services in this area, it is essential that the product and the processes be consistently improved in keeping with our requirements and accepted standards in the international community. The issue of passports is clearly not a commercial operation, but at the same time, it is essential that the cost of the service be met by the fee that is charged for it.

Sir, we have also incorporated elements in the Bill to enhance the prescribed in the event of offenses committed under the Act. The penalties were prescribed several years ago and it is desirable that they be made more stringent in order to provide for effective deterrence of fraud or misuse.

In conclusion, I would like to state that the service provided by the Central Passport Organisation is one of the critical areas of activities of the Minister of External Affairs. We are deeply conscious of the need for smooth, effective and timely service to our fellow citizens. The Ministry is embarking on a major review of every aspect of passport activity in view of the tremendous growth that we foresee in this area in coming years. We are confident that this exercise will result in an improved system with enhanced efficiency to cater to the needs of the Indian Public.

Sir, I seek your leave now to request the House to take this Bill into consideration and to pass the Bill in its present form.

I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the passports Act, 1967, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the

Passports Act 1967, be taken into consideration”

Delegated Legislation’, it has been said,

There are amendments to motion for consideration of the Bill. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

“Matters in respect of which rules may be made are matters of procedure and detail. The delegation of legislative power is thus of a normal character.”

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: (Jaipur): I beg to move:-

“That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 11th March 1993.” (1)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move-

“That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 31st March, 1992” (2)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat's amendment is identical to Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava's amendment. So, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat's amendment does not survive.

Shri Ram Kapse may speak now.

15.54 hours.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I generally support the Bill; but at the same time, I am not in a position to support the Bill *in toto*

My first objection is to second amendment which has been moved by the Minister in Section 5 of the Passports Act, 1967. The amendment is:

“Such fee as may be prescribed to meet the expenses incurred in special security paper, Printing, lamination and other connected miscellaneous services in issuing passports and other travel documents”.

Here in the Bill, in the paragraph,

Originally, in the Bill, the fee was Rs. 25. Then it was raised to Rs. 50. I would have supported if the fees would have been mentioned, say, Rs. 100 or Rs. 200, whatever it is, taking into account the expenses you incur as on today. But you wanted us to delegate our powers to you will decide, that is, the department will decide as to what fees will be charged. We want the Government to be specific about the fees that would be charged because lakhs of people will be going out using your passport. Naturally, we would not like to delegate our powers to any department. We want it to be fixed here and here only as was done in the earlier years. Otherwise, we do not oppose enhancing the fees. It is necessary. But I would like to know that in last March, when we had raised this question of passports in the Parliament, there was an assurance from the Government side that here after there will not be any delay in issuing passports. But we would like to know what is the position as on today. For months together, the people have to wait for passport. For the last so many years, I am in public life. Never was there any person coming to me and telling me: please write to passport authority to issue the passport at the earliest. I have spent three weeks, four weeks five weeks. But I am not getting the passport. Please help me.

But in the last year. I think, it must have been the experience of almost everyone that the people come to us requesting us to write to you passport authority. We do not like writing such letters.

Then, Mr. Madhavsingh Solanki, the Minister at that time, had assured that within five weeks, the passports will be cleared. What is the result. We would like to know about it because his assurance was given on 13th March. Between March 13 and as on today, many things have happened. The

Minister has changed. They are happy about it. But at the same time, we would like to know the position as far as the passport office is concerned. Have you increased the staff? That was the real problem because you yourself had said that in the last two years, there an increase in the number. Then, have you increased the staff?

Have you increased your capacity to issue the passports in time at the earliest? We are happy about the situation there.

The other thing is about the next amendment that is where the passport is issued for a short period, then the prescribed period under section 7, such shorter period shall, unless the passport authority for reasons, be recorded in writing otherwise determines, be extendible for further period...It should not be more than the period for which the passport was issued.

That was the original Act. Now you want to say: which, together with the shorter period, shall not exceed the prescribed period.

That means, it can be even more than the original period, is it so? Then, I would like to know from the Minister as to the reason why this is being done.

The original section, I think, was reasonable. Supposing a person goes out for a year. Extension may be for one more year. That should be a shorter period. Actually, when you call it a shorter period, if it is more than the original period, then I cannot see the fun out of it.

I would like to support the other amendments. They are about the punishment whether they are Indians or whether they are outsiders. Whosoever uses its authority in a wrong manner, for that crime, we support whatever punishments you are going to prescribe by this Act. But at the same time, I would like to know who helped the people from Maharashtra the criminals from Maharashtra who are wanted

under TADA, to go out to Dubai. Was a valid passport issued to Bhai Thakur? He was actually detained at Calcutta. There was an inquiry from Calcutta Airport. Do you want this man. He is going to Dubai.

The name was cleared from Maharashtra side. Ultimately he left India for good. For the last so many months, he wanted under TADA. Now his brother is a Congress MLA. (*Interruptions*) He is wanted under TADA. Whether he has left India or not we do not know.

There are two Congress MLAs from Maharashtra who are to be detained under TADA. It is a record by itself in Maharashtra. But I am concerned more with the use of passport by Bhai Thakur for leaving India and going to Dubai. What happened actually? Was anything wrong as far as the issuance of passport is concerned? How as it used? I would like to know as far as such things are concerned. I think the passport office is not meant to help the criminals, but to see that right persons go outside without any detention from the passport office. Please help in that way. That is the request; that is the suggestion.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Thank you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Passport (Amendment) Bill. In Kerala, as you know, the maximum number of Keralites go and seek a fortune outside the country because the employment opportunities are very limited in Kerala. It is the most highly-educated State. So, the problem of unemployment of the educated is the most serious in our State.

It is really very sad that even for those who seek their fortune outside, are unable to go because of the inordinate delay caused in issuing the passport.

I generally support this Bill. I support all the sections. I share the concern of the hon. Member, Mr. Ram Kapse because it is not always good to delegate everything to the office. But I feel that the office and the Government will be very reasonable. The fee of Rs. 50 is very meagre. Under the

present circumstances, it is not sufficient to issue the passport. So, I will only plead with the hon. Minister to be reasonable when fixing the charge. I do not feel that this is an issue that has to be taken to the Parliament every time to have the enhancement of a small amount whether it is Rs. 100 or Rs. 150 or Rs. 200 because the Government also will be very genuine or reasonable in fixing the fee.

About the punishment side, I feel that computerisation of the passport offices will, to a large extent, solve that problem. It is one thing to enhance the punishment but generally another to avoid the circumstances or keeping the people who commit the crime. So, if you have computerisation, the moment one applies for a passport, it will be very easy to see whether he has suppressed any facts or he is a foreign national or he is eligible for the passport. In that case, I think, 90 per cent of the offences can be avoided. They have this system in all the developed countries. The moment one applies for a passport, if one presses a button, all his background will come there. So, I plead that this should be taken into consideration.

My main request is to avoid the present delay in issuing passport. Trivandrum is the capital of our State. The Government has been very kind enough to open a passport office there ten months back. In the first two to three weeks of opening, if somebody had applied for a passport, he got it within a month or two. Now, after ten months of opening the office, the present number of applications pending for passport is 70,000. As on date, 70,000 applications are pending in Trivandrum office alone. There is a regional office in Cochin. If my information is correct, one year delay is there in that office and our hon. Member, Mr. Muri will tell about Calicut and his problems. So, hundreds of people approach us when there is a delay after applying for passports. What can we do? On an average, 15,000 applications are coming every month in Trivandrum office alone. At present, 70,000 applications are pending. So, on an average, it will take more than ten

months to clear that 70,000 applications if 10,000 passports are issued every month. That means, at the end of the next ten months, the number of pending applications will be 1,50,000 which is more than double the present number. Ultimately, it may take years for a person to get a passport. There are several cases in which visa problem is there. Some relatives may be there or somebody may be sick or wife or husband has to rush up there. So, it is impossible for them to meet such a situation.

There are three problems which contribute for the delay in issuing passports. The first problem is the police verification. In most cases, it takes a long time. It is a very simple procedure. Under the present system, a Joint Secretary of the Government of India or an Additional Secretary of a State Government or a judicial officer not below the rank of the District Judge is competent to sign the application form. But none of them are signing it because the liability of somebody having some charges against them is there. So, they are scared of the whole thing. They never sign the forms especially when hundreds of applications are coming everyday. As Trivandrum is the capital, applications are more there. But the procedure is very simple. One has to affix his photograph in the application form. Then it goes to the local police station. The local inspector has to certify that there are no cases pending against that particular applicant in the police station and geographical jurisdiction is there. Suppose you make a legislation or a law that within two weeks of the receipt of the application form, the local sub-inspector should give the certificate through the DSP of SP, the matter becomes simple. The time can be made as two weeks by subordinate legislation. More than two weeks is not necessary to find out whether there is any case pending against the applicant or not. If subordinate legislation is made that not more than two weeks shall be taken or before two weeks the final report should go to the passport office, then one problem will be solved.

Then, the problem is requirement of staff. Trivandrum office has requested for an additional 60 clerks and three superintendents who are required for issuing

passports within a reasonable time. Five weeks time is mentioned here. But I would request that a passport should be issued at least within two months time accordingly, staff should be given to every office. I plead that Trivandrum may be provided with at least 60 clerical staff and three more superintendents to meet the requirements.

The third is the requirement of laminating machines. They have opened a new office in Trivandrum and they have given two machines. I have definite information that these machines are often under repair. They are not good machines. They also require three more machines. Unless the office in Trivandrum is equipped with five laminating machines - two already available plus three more new machines - and a staff comprising 60 workers, it will not be possible for them to issue passports in time. And month after month, the total pendency will keep on increasing. As I have already stated earlier, on an average, 15,000 applications are received every month in Trivandrum alone. In Cochin and Calicut, more applications are received. Therefore, I plead that the requirement of these Passport Offices should be taken into consideration and the promise made in this House to the effect that the passport would be issued within five weeks, should also be kept in mind. At least it must be ensured that the passports are issued within eight weeks, viz. two months. This will quite satisfy the people of every State and especially the people of Kerala. As I said earlier, many of our artisans, skilled labour and people belonging to the lower strata and weaker sections of our society go to the Gulf Countries. They work there and earn foreign exchange. Thereby, they are also helping our country in improving our balance of payments position as well. More than getting employment opportunities, etc. this is a major contribution towards helping the financial condition of this country. Therefore, help us to earn foreign exchange and help us to get employment opportunities. All that you have to do is to give the passports within two months. I am sure the hon. Minister will take note of these requirements and do whatever

is necessary so that the passports are issued as quickly as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has brought forward a brief amendment to amend the passport Act. Though there is not much to debate on the amendment under consideration or to oppose it, yet, I would like to take this opportunity to give a few suggestions. A need is felt to open more and more passport offices from time to time. Before introducing this amendment to enhance the passport fee, it would have been better had the cost of printing and issuing passport form would have been taken into account. It will be really nice if the increase in fee is quite reasonable keeping in view the pocket of common man in the country.

Secondly, the penal provisions have been sought to be amended which is quite good and welcome. Definitely penal provisions should be there to punish the persons guilty of concealing information for getting the passport issued. Many of our hon. colleagues have given suggestions from time to time, both inside and outside the House, to the Government regarding delay in the issuance of passports. However, I fail to understand the reasons why is the Government not opening up more and more passport offices in the country. The Government is requested to open more and more passport offices and recover the administrative and other expenditures to be incurred thereon from the passport fee.

I may say something about Lucknow. When I went there last month I was told that it takes between 8-10-12 months for getting the passport issued and in the passport office 7,000 applications were pending in October when I went there before Dussehra. What is the difficulty in opening up passport offices in Gorakhpur, Banaras and Bareilly? Before issuing passport, report from the CID is called for within a month. Therefore, if the passport offices are situated nearby, then it will be easier to call for reports from the CID.

[Sh. Mohan Singh]

An assurance and guarantee should be given that within one month of the receipt of the request for the issuance of the passport in the passport office, needful will be done. There is a need to streamline the procedure for the issuance of passport. In 1977 an amendment was made that if an application for passport is signed by a legislator, then it will be considered a sufficient proof. However, for some reasons it was later on amended again. The procedure was simple at that time and the applicants were merely required to get a certificate and the passport form signed by a legislator. I would like to bring to your notice that nowadays people often come to me and complain that despite my approach, passport was not issued. Within the stipulated period of 3 weeks passport could be got issued if Rs. 15,000 in Delhi and Rs. 10,000 in Lucknow could be arranged, while other people have to run from pillar to post. Therefore, this procedure should be simplified.

Under rule 4 three types of passports are issued—first, diplomatic passport; second, ordinary passport and third, Governments staff and officers passport. I would like to submit that circumstances within the outside the country are rapidly changing. With the coming into being of the European Common Market, procedure for the issuance of the passport there has been simplified and the provision for the issuance of the entry certificate has been made. The Government is requested to ponder over at least issuing fourth type of passport to the citizens of the SAARC countries for easy entry and exit facilities from one country to another country. This procedure should be started in our country, because India is a unique nation. Lakhs of Indians are living outside the country. Lakhs of persons from Uttar Pradesh alone are living in Bangladesh and Pakistan. Even in Nepal, Indians are living, but there is not much problem of passport to visit Nepal. However, when any family member of the persons, whose families have migrated to Pakistan and Bangladesh falls ill, then it is quite difficult for these families to visit their ailing family member, if for example son lives

in Moradabad, India and mother lives in Karachi, Pakistan. So, if the mother is on the death bed, then the son cannot go and see his dying mother. I can cite a number of such examples. Therefore, the system of issue of the fourth type of passport should be introduced so that the people can visit neighboring and SAARC countries without much hindrance. This will also boost trade relations to a large extent. Therefore, the Government should take up with SAARC countries the issue of introducing the facility of 'entry certificates' in India on the line of the new procedure evolved by the European Common Market. I think this will be a step in the right direction.

At the same time the Government is also empowered not to issue passport for the countries who are hostile to India, because a provision is there that in the interest of the country passport is not being issued. So what will the yard stick for it, as this right rests with the Government. This should be extensively debated upon as to what is the largest interest of the country. Impounding of passport of anyone on whimsical grounds is not good as was recently seen in the case of the Speaker of a Legislative Assembly. He is being prosecuted in the Supreme Court and the case is likely to linger on and on. His passport was impounded on the premise that he will most likely not come back to India. Therefore, the Government should explain it thoroughly in the House as to where and in what lies the interest of the country because all avenues are open to the Government for utilising it on political grounds in whatever manner the Government feels necessary as it has been misused by Government from time to time. My hon. friends rightly drew attention to the fact that a passport was issued to a legislator of the ruling party of a particular Legislative Assembly, against whom there are several smuggling charges pending and who has even been detained under TADA. But the passport was issued to him because he is a member of the ruling party. Had he been the member of the opposition party, his passport would have been definitely impounded on the grounds that his foreign junket would have most likely jeopardised the country's interests. So, the country's interests should be explained and well defined by all of us right here in the

House itself. The hon. Minister present in the House should convene a meeting in this regard. I once again request the hon. Minister to make the procedure for the issuance of the passport simple and easy.

With these words I conclude my speech and thank you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

DR. SUDHIR RAY (Burdwan): Mr. Chairman, now the demand for passports is increasing year by year. Already the hon. Minister has informed us that nearly 24 lakh applications for passports are lying with the Passport Office.

A large number of people are going abroad, not to speak of students, teachers, engineers and doctors; even unskilled workers are going abroad especially from Kerala. Lakhs of people are going to Gulf countries for earning their livelihood; and these people are adding to the national wealth by sending money form abroad; the relatives of those people who are working abroad are getting large remittances every year. Therefore, passport procedure should be simplified so that applicants may not suffer any hardship in getting their passports.

But it is found that the Regional Passport Offices make inordinate delay in issuing passports. The applicants have to loiter near the Passport Office; they have to pay money; and passports are not issued even after five to six months. The former hon. Minister of External Affairs, Madhav Singh Solanki, promised in this House that within five weeks a passport will be issued; but that is a long dream. Thousands of applications for passports are lying in the Passport Office.

As Mr. A. Charles observed, the police authority should be asked to clear police verification within two weeks; it should not exceed two weeks. But it is found that the police often takes time. When they make police verification, they often demand money. And an applicant for clearing his police

verification has to pay money. As far as possible, the police verification should be expedited. The Government must tell the police authorities to clear applications for police verification within two weeks.

Travel agents have been authorised to apply for passports. I think the ignorant applicants become victims of travel agents and touts. They extract money from these ignorant applicants and after much delay they are issued their passports. Therefore, the number of regional offices must be increased along with the staff. The Government should appoint more persons for this job.

Since the Government has to pay the actual cost of police verification and get in information to be passed on to the applicant, the cost varies from person to person. And there is a large scope for manipulation. Therefore, I do not object to the passport fees being increased somewhat, because due to inflation and the price rise the passport fees may rise; but it should be fixed by the Government, not by the officers or the police.

People who forge passports, who possess unauthorised documents, should be punished; there should be deterrent punishment for them. I support the argument here. I support the proposed amendment because in India many foreign countries are sponsoring terrorist activities. They are sending all kinds of persons with fake passports. If these people are detected they should be given deterrent punishment. Anyway, my argument is that the procedure should be simplified, applicants should be issued passports within five weeks and the fees should be prescribed by the Government.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRIK. MURALEE DHARAN (Calicut): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me a chance for participating in this debate.

I rise to support this Bill. Even though the Government had assured on the floor of this

[Sh K Muralee Dharan]

House that every pending passport application will be settled within five weeks, but it is not so. What is actually true?

I come from the northern part of Kerala. The most working community in the Gulf countries is from Malabar region in Calicut.

The Passport Office there received nearly 2,02,000 passport application in 1990-91 and only 1,85,000 applications were disposed off. In 1991-92 as far 2,10,000 applications were received so far and only very few cases with special verification certificates were issued passports. This is the fact. But what is the result. The applicants are not getting their passports and because of that they are not getting jobs in the Gulf countries.

Now the passport authorities issue passports only when they receive the original visa. But in some of the Gulf countries passports are required and if the applicants send photocopy of the passport, they and only then they get the visa. But unfortunately, the passport authorities are incompetent to supply the passports, in time.

The main thing is the passport staff working in the Passport Office is very less, especially in Calicut. In Calicut Passport Office, 3 Public Relation Officers' Posts, 1 Assistant Passport Officer's post, 8 UD Clerks' posts and 4 LD Clerks' posts are vacant. How can they issue passports to two lakh people. This is the main problem, especially in Calicut. So the people who apply for passports, do not get them in time. The main thing is that an applicant who has submitted the application along with the special verification certificate from the Superintendent or Commissioner of Police, is given passport without waiting for the CBCID's report. But at the same time, if a common man submits an application it will go to District Sub-branch Office as well as to the CBCI. So they do not get passports soon. What is the result. They lose their jobs. This is the main headache.

So, many request to the Minister is to

issue the passports speedily. You should provide additional staff in Passport Offices in Kerala. You know, in Kerala most of the people are literate, but unfortunately unemployment is very high there, round about 35 lakh people are unemployed in Kerala.

The Government has failed to give jobs for them so they go to Gulf countries. Now the actual truth is that they are not getting passports and they are losing their jobs, they are simply sitting idle in their houses.

This is the fact.

My suggestion is that the Government should introduce a vigilance cell attached to every Passport Office. I also suggest the introduction of computer system linked with the DIG's office to avoid delay in re-confirmation of the verification certificate issued by the Police Officer.

These are my suggestions. I hope that the hon. Minister will accept them.

[*Translation*]

PROF PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur)
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do support the amendment brought through this Bill by the hon. Minister but I would also like to make some suggestions to him. As has also been said by the preceding speakers an unlimited power is being given to the Government or the Department to raise the passport fee. In this regard I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that the passport fee which is at present fixed at Rs. 50 should be raised to Rs. 100 or 200. The amount of fee should be fixed to avoid any scope of exploitation. If the amendment in the Bill is not done on this basis then I would suggest that whenever the issue of passport fee fixation is taken, the Government should arrange for its due publicity so that the general public may come to know as to what is the passport fee. Generally, the people go to the local passport officers, they are not furnished with proper information there, this will surely provide scope for further exploitation. They may be charged Rs. 200 or Rs. 400 in an arbitrary manner. My first submission therefore, is

that the Government should fix a set amount for passport fee.

In the amendment brought forward by the Government a provision has been made under section 10 of the Bill that if a person is in possession of more than one passport then in that case his passports would be seized. Many such cases come to the knowledge of the Government when the smugglers, pirates and terrorists had been in possession of the passports of several countries at a time; so it is not enough to only seize their passports. There should be a provision of severe action to be meted out against such persons so that such malpractices might be curbed properly.

Similarly, an amendment has also been suggested under section 11 of the Bill concerning the present passport fee which is at the moment Rs. 25. As the Government has sought to have the right of amendment under section 5 but no amount thereof has been fixed. Similarly, it would be proper if a set amount is fixed even in this section so that the general public have not to face any difficulty and so that they may be clearly aware as to how much they have to pay.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, all the other amendments are worth welcoming, but I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one of the circulars issued by the Ministry of External Affairs in which it is stated that passports would be issued on 'first come first served' basis. But when the passport has to be issued to some one out of turn, then in that case his application will have to be sent to the Delhi based office of the Chief Passport Officer. A TELEX message from the Regional Passport Office will reach to Delhi and in response to that a reply will be sent from Delhi within 24 hours. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the charge of sending a TELEX message from Calcutta to Delhi is Rs. 150 and then Rs. 150 will again be added to that for making a reply message. In this way the applicant will have to spend Rs. 300 in this affair. On the one hand the Government talks of centralisation while on the other hand the

erstwhile power of the Regional Passport Officers is being conferred to the Delhi based chief Passport Officer. Earlier, the Regional Passport Officers enjoyed the power of issuing the out of turn passports if any applicant wasted it in cases of illness, death or any other cases of emergency. In this way an additional economic pressure of Rs. 300 or more is being put on every applicant. I would, therefore, like to submit that the Government should reconsider the point. The hon. Minister should give direction to all the Regional Passport Officers wherever they are located that the Officers there may issue out of turn passports with-out the botheration of any TELEX message to be sent from Delhi.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are many cases in which out of turn passports have to be issued. I would specially like to cite the example of the journalists who have to go abroad for the reporting the important events. A number of news reporters had accompanied the hon. Minister when he made a foreign trip. In such cases, they have to apply to the Regional Passport Office in the nick of time to obtain the passport immediately. For this purpose, if the message is sent to Delhi and again from there a reply is sent back, it involves too much expenditure. I would therefore, like to submit that this system should come to an end. There are too much expenses and wastage of time in it and at the same time the Regional Passport Office also has to face a lot of difficulties in issuing the passport.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would again like to cite the example of the Regional Passport Office located in Calcutta. On an average 350 fresh applications for passports are received there everyday. Adequate staff is required to collect 350 applications, to process these applications and to keep a record of them etc., but there is shortage of staff there. The issuance of passports is also a source of income for the Ministry of External Affairs. No passport office is running in loss. When the applications for passport, are received, when passports are prepared and issued it is also a source of income; rather, the position is that lakhs of applications for

[Prof. Prem Dhuma]

the passport are lying pending. I would therefore, like to submit that adequate number of staff should be posted in the different Regional Passport offices of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that a widespread resentment prevades among the employees entrusted with the job of passport issue, due to the irregularities in timely promotion. I would, therefore, like to submit that this should be regularised and a directive should be given to ensure timely promotion of the employees working in the Regional Passport Offices so that the officers and employees may get some incentive.

Sir, the hon. Minister has taken an appreciable step for which I would like to thank him. According to that system now any travel agency can put forward the application on behalf of its clients. This will help a lot to those who live in remote areas. I, therefore, welcome, this step of the Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the report of the Estimate Committee through which the Committee gave its valuable recommendations. According to the report of that Committee the Indian Passport Act, 1967 and the Passport Entry To India Act had to be merged to make such a comprehensive Act in which all the irregularities in the provisions of those two Acts will be removed. I hope that a Bill will soon be introduced under the active leadership of the hon. Minister to ultimately make it into an Act so that all difficulties lying in the way may be removed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the incidents of unauthorised infiltration in India. It causes great concern that the foreigners are infiltrating into the boundary of India in an illegal way. There are also cases when foreigners come to India for a certain period with due passport and they do not return to their respective countries even after the

prescribed period of their passport is over. It is creating a lot of problems in the country. I hope that the Ministry to which the hon. Minister belongs will pay attention to this problem and it will ensure that no foreigner should stay in the country when the period of their passport is over.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to give one more suggestion also. proposals to open Regional Passport Offices are pouring in from many regions, particularly from the distant regions. The Ministry should consider to open Regional Passport offices to those places. Besides, proper arrangements should also be made to remove the grievances of the clients. It would be better if the Government employee some non-Government agency with the charge of solving the grievances of the public. If some complaints are registered through such non-Government agencies, then the removal of the aforesaid grievances would be faster and then the burden of the Government would be competent to remove the complaints.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister hails from a State where there are numerous difficulties in issuing passport. Lastly, I would, therefore, like to submit that arrangements should be made to provide the passport quickly to those who have applied for that. I do not expect that all the difficulties in the way of issuing the passport would be removed by the efforts of the hon. Minister along with the corruptions that go with it.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Gazipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the Passport (Amendment) Bill presented in this House.

Sir, firstly, I would like to submit that lakhs of cases are pending in the passport offices in my state. Those who have applied more than one year back, are still waiting for the passports. The main problem is that L.I.O. which conducts the verification, gives one report and the police gives another report. As the report is not submitted in stipulated time, it results in undue delay in issuing passports. Therefore, I would like to

submit that the process of issue of passports should be streamlined and the passport should be issued within two months of submission of the application.

As there is only one regional passport office in Lucknow, a lot of cases remain pending there. There has been a long-standing demand for opening branches of Passport office in Varanasi, Bareilly and other places. Similarly the passport fee, to be charged should be fixed. It is not clear in the Bill as to how much fee the Government intends to charge instead of the existing Rs. 50.

The number of employees in Passport office is also less and this creates problem. Therefore, their numbers should be increased.

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR (Gaya): Mr. Chariman, Sir, I support some of the provisions of this Bill and would like to give some suggestions in this regard. The hon. Member Shri Mohan has rightly said that the passport offices have become a den of corruption. I would like to cite an example in this regard. I had gone to the Patna Passport office with a request to expedite the case of a person. The Passport Officer assured me that the passport will be issued later. But it was not issued. I want to say whether it is the passport office in Lucknow, Bihar or in any other part of the country, it has become a den of corruption.

I would like to suggest that a time-limit of 10 to 15 days should be fixed for the police verification and if the police verification report is not received within the stipulated period, the passport officer should be asked not to wait for it. You should get the investigation report through other agencies. Sometimes, police verification takes as long as one year or more than that. In addition to the other expenditures Police officials also demand money from the applicant. These malpractices should be removed.

Charitable institutions are run by foreign missionaries in the Chhota Nagpur area of

Bihar. The validity of their passports has expired. But inspite of that they stay back. Before the people raise hue and cry about it, the Government should conduct a survey regarding such people and they should be sent back to their respective countries.

Both-Gaya, is a place of international importance. A woman named Mary Lyp put is residing there for the last 20 years. She goes from village to village perches and converts people. The labourers of that area are influenced by her as she is spending a lot of money. The validity of her passport has expired a long time ago, lent neither the police nor the passport checking agency enquires about her. This matter should be investigated.

Besides this, I would like to give another suggestion. No priority is given to the cases recommended by the M.Ps. It appears the like M.L.As, recommendation of M.Ps. are also not given any weightage. This provision should also be included in the Bill.

Passports should be issued on the recommendation of the M.Ps. Ours is a poor country. People go to the Gulf Countries for jobs. As a lot of poor people go there, the passport fee should not be increased to much. Arrangements should be made so that the poor do not have to spend much and more of them can go to the foreign countries. Severe punishment should be given to those who get passports through wrongful means. Severe punishment should also be given to criminals, who are arrested under TADA and travel to foreign countries illegally. I fully support this provision.

The children of M.Ps, who are given diplomatic passports upto the age of 12 years should be given this facility upto the age of 20 years as the desire to travel abroad is increasing day by day.

With these few suggestions, I support some of the provisions of this Bill.

SHRI PIYUS TIRKEY (Alipurduar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, nothing much is there to say about this Bill, but I would like to give one or

[Sh. Piyus Tirkey]

two suggestions. I think there is no need to increase the present passport fee of Rs. 50. As there are different rates for a registered letter or a money order or for speed post similarly. Passports should also be categorized. More fee can be charged from a person who is in urgent need of a passport, but it should not be increased for the common man. This is my humble request.

It has been observed that the policemen demand money for early clearance of Passport case. This should be investigated. The Ministers have also been accepting gifts on this account. Have you every paid attention in this regard?

Recently, I had gone to Kashmir. It is a troubled area. The passport office has been shifted from Kashmir. The people now have to go to Jammu to get passports and this causes them a lot of difficulty. So, the passport office should be reopened in Kashmir at the earliest.

There is no passport office in north Bengal. A passport office should be opened in Jalpaigudi, Siligudi or in cooch Bihar. A lot of Bangladeshis come here. They have to get passports, but they face lot of difficulties in going to Calcutta. The Government should choose the location according to its convenience but it is necessary to open a passport office in North Bengal. This will not cast much. The tourist season has started so, there should be no problem.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Mr. Chariman, Sir, I would like to say only a few words on this Bill.

One of the grievances of the people is the delay in issuing the passports. Even some delay is caused because of some administrative difficulties. My first suggestion would be that the application forms for passports should be supplied through the past offices also. I do not know whether there is any difficulty in this. Presently if somebody

is to apply for a passport he will have to secure the application form from the regional passport office. Therefore, my first suggestion is that the Government should consider the desirability of distributing the passport application forms through various post offices.

My second suggestion is very important. I have known cases where it took more than three years to get the clearance from the police with regard to police verification and character clearance. These two are very important ingredients for a passport. You must get a character clearance. That must be obtained from the police. This police verification taken nearly three years. I have got details of a number of cases where it took at least 3 years for getting the passport and the purpose of visiting a country was not at all fulfilled. Therefore, some steps are to be taken to see that the police verification and character clearance are obtained within two or three months or within a rational time-frame.

Let us take the case of students passports. Indian students go outside for studies. Some grievances have come to me where the students could not get the passports in time as a result of which they could not avail themselves of a particular academic session and they had to wait for another six to eight months. I would request the hon. Minister to see that so far as student passports are concerned, his Ministry should make certain special arrangements so that the students can get the passports as quickly as possible.

SK Sir, earlier an announcement was made there will be no need of passports for Members of Parliament belonging in the SAARC countries, for travel within these countries. Why should we limit to Members of Parliament alone? Why not we broaden this a little if we want that there should be people-to-people relations amongst these countries? I would, therefore, suggest that the SAARC countries should have that kind of arrangement where people can move from one country to another at the quickest possible time.

Lastly, I submit that there is a provision for impounding the passport. We need some amendments in this too. What is the good of

getting the passports impounded? If you remember the case of Mr. Win Chadha, his passport was impounded. Even then he jumped out of the country. Therefore, this necessity of impounding the passports will be reduced to a great extent if the police verification and character clearance are made with much more caution. With these words, I think the Government will take appropriate action so that the grievances of the people are removed as early as possible.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udupi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I must thank the hon. Minister of bringing forward this legislation which is long overdue. It is long overdue because all over the country I find that a large number of people who have applied for passports wanting to go abroad are not getting passports issued in time. Therefore, I would like to make a few suggestions whereby it will be possible for the people to get their passports early. One of the reasons put forward is that our passport offices are not manned properly. The passport offices do not have adequate staff. Though we had raised this issue on the floor of the House a number of times and assurances were given that within five weeks passports would be issued, till date the situation is very bad. In my own State of Karnataka, even after nine months of applying for the passport, people are not getting passports.

Sir, there is another peculiar problem as my friend Mr. Muralidharan has stated. There are a lot of opportunities for our people to go abroad and work there. Today, we really have a problem of foreign exchange in our country and the people who came to the rescue of our country were the people who are working abroad sending remittances home to the extent Rs. 5,000 crores per annum and when that is the situation and when a large number of people wanting to go abroad, I feel that we should, on an emergency basis, issue passports so that our people who are getting the opportunity to go abroad will be able to get employment.

Now, in certain countries one of the

requirements is, the passport details should be furnished before the issue of *visa*. When the people go to the passport office and ask for a passport on out of turn basis, the passport officer has instructions that wherever there is a *visa*, a passport can be issued out of turn. But the problem is, people are not getting *visa* without passport details. So, in such cases, some relaxation should be made.

In Kerala, there are three passport offices because of the large number of people going to Middle East and other countries. In Karnataka, we have only one passport office. There was a commitment that in Dakshina Kannada district, one passport office will be opened. My colleague Mr. Dananjaya Kumar is mentioning about Mangalore. Mangalore is my district also. Then, in Uttar Kannada district also, we should have one passport office at Belgaum so that the people of Karnataka who are going in large numbers to other countries for employment will be able to get this facility. Otherwise, to visit Bangalore overnight by bus, they will have to spend a minimum of Rs. 500/- as to and fro bus charges and their stay. Then, there are agents who are, in a way, trying to help the people, but there is a complaint that they are exploiting also. Therefore, if we are able to open more offices as committed earlier, then this will be coming to the rescue of the people so that they will be able to get the passports early.

Simplification of procedure is another matter. There is a provision that if the police verification certificate is not issued within one month, the Passport officer is free to issue the passport. But even after nine months, 10 months or 12 months, passports are not issued. One of the reasons is, the police verification report is not received on time. So, the procedure has to be simplified. The question whether the passport application itself can be submitted to the police officer where he can certify and send it to the passport office or he can send it by telex is to be considered. I think, the procedure has to be simplified.

There are cases where out of turn

[Sh. Oscar Fernandes]

passports are to be issued. If necessary, additional fee may be charged. I do not mind, if they say, additional fee of Rs. 100 will be charged for issue of passport on out-of-turn basis. I know students who have got scholarships could not avail of those since passports are not issued on time. They have lost the scholarships. Many people have lost employment also because of delay in issue of passport. Whatever charges, the Government wants to charge reasonably, this is a good provision. The Government may decide what is the fee to be determined. It is because, every time it is not necessary that they should come to parliament for getting the approval. This Bill itself has taken a pretty long time to come before Parliament. We took up the matter when Mr. Solanki was the External Affairs Minister. He agreed for it but the Bill has come after six months. The Minister can do it by notification and the copy of notification can be laid on the Table of the House. If you want to raise a debate, you can do it and discuss it. Time and again to make the Minister to come to the House only for the question of determining the fee will affect the services that we have to render to the people. Therefore, I feel that the provision made is quite in order and it is in the interest of the people. It is not a question of delegating the power. It is a question of dealing with the problem. In the last six months we have been raising about it. We have been assured that the legislation would be brought in. But it has taken six months to bring in legislation. It is to help the people that this provision has been brought in.

At time, bundles of passport applications are opened after three months, six months and people are told that certain requirements are not fulfilled and again back reference is made. My request is, as and when the applications are received, the application should be scrutinised immediately and the people should be told that these requirements are not there at the earliest. Otherwise at the last stage while issuing the passport, if they scrutinise the application after six months and say, this requirement is not there and that is why, there is delay, justice is not done to the applicants. So the scrutiny should be done instantly.

Now I am referring to Bangalore office. It is rendering good service but constraints are there. Every day, there are a large number of people waiting in the queue. Even at five O'clock in the morning, people wait in the queue. Every day, only 200 people are allowed to meet the officers because the officers may be not be able to deal with more people. There is no place for the people to stand in the queue either. Inside the office also there is no place. There must be a new office premises for our Bangalore Passport Office. In order to help more number of people attending to and dealing with these applications certain simplification is necessary. More staff are necessary; computerisation is also necessary so that there would be permanent records and scrutiny will be easier. The index can also be maintained properly. I feel, you have to extend these facilities to our Bangalore office also.

There are a large number of complaints pouring in from other parts of the country and, may-be from our State also. I would request the hon. Minister to send a team of Members of Parliament to various State capitals, wherever passport offices are there, to have an inter-action with the people, with the applicants to find out the difficulties so that we will be able to remedy all these things in the coming days.

SHRI S.S.R. RAJENDRA KUMAR (Chengalpattu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for providing me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Passports (Amendment) Bill, 1992 on behalf of AIADMK.

The Bill proposes to give general power to the Central Government to prescribe fee for passport applications. The Bill also provides power to the passport authorities to extend the validity of short-term passports to a further period not exceeding the statutory period prescribed. The penal provisions are also being made more stringent. I welcome the measure.

But there are several other areas which require streamlining. The Estimates

Committee has recommended the enactment of one single statute on all aspects relating to passports. Presently, the Passports (Entry into India) Act and the Indian Passports Act, 1967 govern the matters. The Committee has also recommend for setting up of passport offices in the North-Eastern region and in Island territories. These are all constructive suggestions which the Government must give effect.

The Government has taken several steps to streamline the procedure. Application for men now can be presented by persons other than the applicants. The passport offices have been directed to issue passports within five weeks. In certain cases, the police verification has been away with. Indeed, all these steps will reduce the delay.

But there are several things which have to be done. The quickest way of issuing passports would be to computerise the issue of passports. Through a national network of computer based processing of applications and issue of passports, one can avoid applicants obtaining passports by suppressing information. Facility should also be made available to machine read the passports. This would reduce mischief by applicants as well as by the employees in the passport offices. Newspapers have reported the harassment the applicants have to undergo in the Madras Regional Passport Office at the instance of the employees. Files are want only misplaced and unless bribes are paid, the files will not be relocated. This is causing great inconvenience to the passport seekers. A lot of time and energy is wasted due to mischief by the employees of the passport offices. I want strict action to be taken on the employees of the Madras Regional Passport Office. The news item has appeared in the Indian Express dated 13 August, 1992. Honorable Minister may kindly take necessary action and apprise this august House. This malpractice in the passport offices must go.

To avoid long queues at passport offices,

more countries should be opened at the passport offices and the procedures should be simplified and the applicant must be able to get information from one place about the progress of his passport. He should not be made to run from pillar to post.

The police verification must be strictly followed. The Central Government has issued a circular that a verification certificate from a Deputy Secretary in Government of India and from a Joint Secretary in the State Government or issued by sub-divisional magistrate or superintendent of Police is enough and police verification is not required. This is wrong practice and again malpractices will grow. The Police verification must be done by a special police officer appointed in every police station for this purpose. He must on a daily basis report to the Regional Passport Office on all cases referred to him. This should not be dispensed with.

As far as other conditions for obtaining a passport is concerned, the present rules must be liberalised. The rule must be more permitting than restraining. Free movement of men is an indication of development. To check illegal traffic of goods into India, we have to strengthen our borders and Customs and Excise machinery. COFEPOSA and other economic offenders must be barred from having passports or if they have passports, that should be impounded so that foreign visits and economic offences are de-linked. I request the Government to amend the law for this purpose.

Passport applications for study abroad and passport applications for Third World countries must be granted on priority basis. A novel scheme of company applications for ventures in Third World countries must be granted quickly. A special fee may be charged from the company which would give a whole list of persons sought to be taken abroad for work in Third World countries. This should be encouraged so that India as well as the Third World countries can prosper.

With these words, I thank you very much for the opportunity given.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, though the amendment introduced by the hon. Minister, to the 'Passport Act', appears to be a minor one yet it will have wide implications.

17.11 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at present the state of affairs in the passport Offices in the country is not at all satisfactory. I would like to make a submission about the passport office in Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh, which is housed in only 2 rooms and all the work is done in these two rooms. In the office there is neither adequate place to provide for sitting facility nor are there any other facilities available. Therefore, first of all there is a need to improve the conditions in the Passport Offices so that the people frequenting these offices do get proper treatment and other facilities.

Similarly, the increase in the passport booklet fee too has not been specified. It has also not been made clear as to why it is being increased and what type of paper will be used for the booklet. Does the Government really want to use the good quality paper for it? All the powers in this connection rest with the Government. Government already has the unlimited powers about raising the fee etc. and I think it is not proper for the Government to acquire more such powers through this amendment. Instead it would have been better if the Government had increased the fee by a specific amount say, Rs. 50, Rs. 100, Rs. 150 or by Rs. 250.

Similarly, under the amendment, a few persons, organisations and travel agencies are proposed to be authorised/appointed to make arrangements for securing passports. Just today, a person who had asked a Chandani Chowk based agency for help in getting him the passport and Visa approached me. This agency gave only the Photostat copy of the passport against full payment. However, when this person went to the

Chandani Chowk address of the agency he found that there was no office of that agency at the given address. I have again called him today and have promised him of all possible help in the matter. I think all the necessary steps should be taken to check such types of frauds. It should be made obligatory for all the travel agencies to get themselves registered and information about these should be compiled.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not have passport. So, how can I speak on this issue?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you do not have passport then apply for the same.

(Interruptions)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: I would like to urge the hon. Minister to simplify the procedure to issue the passport. Though the time period for police verification has been reduced, yet it takes much time, even upto 6-7 months and sometimes even after that period the police verification is not done. It will be nice if this procedure is simplified so as to enable the people to timely get the passport because often in times of emergency i.e. illness or for any other reason urgent visit is a must. In the case of the persons not considered to be suspicious, there should be no need for police verification and immediately passport should be issued to them.

Recently the 'Estimates Committee' has made certain recommendations about the procedure of issuing passports. I would like to urge the hon. Minister to examine these recommendations and then make suitable changes in the passport procedure. In the light of these recommendations, it will be nice if the functioning of the passport offices is geared up.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, no doubt this Bill is a small one, but under the penal provisions the period of imprisonment has been increased. Under these penal provisions fine has also been increased, but many an other amendment are also necessary. In addition other related Acts also come into

effect simultaneously viz the registration of Foreigners Act, Enemy Act and FERA. There is a need to bring forward a comprehensive Bill, combining all these Acts, so that the other related issues can also be dealt with properly and the persons desirous of seeking passports can get the same with respect and on time. If these arrangements are made then I think the purpose to amend act will definitely be served.

With these words, I conclude my speech and hope that my suggestions will be definitely looked into.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at present unemployment is the biggest problem before the country. To remove unemployment many a scheme are formulated by the Government. Unemployment on a number of occasion has been seriously debated upon even in the House, but all types of bottlenecks are being created in the path of providing employment opportunities. Jobs abroad are available in abundance for youth and other persons. I think deliberately hindrances are being created by us in the way of availing these opportunities by them. Many hon. Members made a submission about passport application forms, which are not available in every village, thereby causing lot of inconvenience to people living in far flung areas. The people of the remote areas after receipt of the form deposit the same immediately, but even after waiting for months together they fail to get the passport.

I would like to request the hon. Minister to even raise the fee to Rs. 1,000 if the need be, but the people desirous of going abroad for employment should immediately get the passport. Other hon. colleagues have spoken about their states and I would like to speak about Kerala. In Kerala people get the passport after waiting for upto 2 years. In Cochin, Trivandrum and Calicut there are passport offices, but there are no proper facilities. There is acute shortage of staff. There is not enough staff even for entraining

the applications. The Government may provide additional hands or should go in for computerisation otherwise people won't get the passport in time. In my State S.P. and Secretary to the Government have got no other work except to sign the passport applications. Police officers do not get time for maintaining law and order situation in the State. Everyday the Police Officers are flooded with so many application forms that their whole day goes in just signing these forms. Any other alternative arrangement should be made for this.

A suggestion was made here by Shri Indrajit Gupta that MLAs and MPs should be authorised to sign the application forms and I do not oppose it. I also request for the same. Nowadays Police Officers in Kerala are unable to discharge their duties. Daily the queue in front of their offices is seen since morning. These officers are unable to look after their duties, except disposing off the work of the people standing in the queue. Please either make some alternative arrangement or authorise the MLAs and MPs to sign the application forms. At present, the applications submitted to the SPs are forwarded to the respective police stations, in which months time is wasted. Police verification is done and then the applications are submitted in the passport office, but passport is not issued in time. I would request the hon. Minister to think about some other method in this regard. A schedule should be prepared to remove the difficulties coming in the way of issuing passports. At present, there are two passport offices in Kerala. They are located at Calicut and Trivandrum. There is a public demand of another passport office. It should be opened at Kottayam, a hilly area, for the benefit of the people Kochhi, Pattanogadda and Idukki districts. I also demand that a passport office should be opened at Kottayam, my constituency.

At present, the validity period of a passport is 10 years and after that, it is renewed. I would request that this validity period should be increased to 15 years. This will be helpful to the people. I do not want to take much time of the House. In the end, I would like to make a demand from the hon.

Minister through you that he should take steps to remove the difficulties coming in the way of getting passport application forms and passports

With these words, I conclude

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) Mr Chairman, Sir, several hon Members expressed their views on this Bill I rise neither to oppose nor to support the Bill I only want to make some suggestions

Regarding the fees, I think that the employees of passport offices extort hundred times more than the required fees This is the main reason behind the delay in the entire process They take advantage of the situation and ask the concerned persons to give Rs 5000 to Rs 10,000 for early clearance of passports This is the minimum amount There is no limit of the maximum I have written to you earlier also in this regard In reply, you had written that it is interesting I would like to say that in view of the number of applicants and the number of the regional passport offices in the country and the staff employed in them, there is no chance of issuing passports before at least one and half years I would like to point out the suggestion I made in my letter A procedure should be evolved so that the entire process is done in the office of the district Magistrate or the Deputy Commissioner of the district They should be empowered in this regard Applications should be submitted there As the police department is also present there, supervision can also be done easily and the D M will also put his signature Then it will reach the regional passport office The present process creates problem as the application form is first submitted at the regional passport office Then it goes to the District headquarters and from there the Police Inspector is asked to conduct verification This constitute a long process It will be better if the prepared passports are sent to the D M from the regional passport office and the people collect them from there

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, you may recall

that during the disturbance in Kuwait the Indians had to return without passports The reason behind it was that the passports of some people remained with the Government or with the company owners Even after the lapse of so much of time, passports have not been issued in all the cases At least a directive should be given that if the regional passport office had any proof of the concerned persons' presence there and they are going to get employment there again, passport should be issued to them at the earliest

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stayed in Gulf Countries I know there are a number of people, who possess job visas, but they are not getting passports Their employers there will not wait for them and will appoint other persons They should be issued passports immediately Recently, a case in regard to Russia came to my notice Some Kashmiri boys came to me and said that they wanted to study in Tazakistan and for that purpose they have applied for passports in Delhi, but they are not getting them. They will not be able to take admission in medical courses there So, separate arrangements should be made for providing passports to such students

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is one more suggestion At present, three types of passports viz diplomatic, official and normal - are issued If separate passports for employment and education are issued and their validity period is increased, the passport holders will be able to renew them in the countries they are residing and in this way, the work will be done faster In my opinion, it will be good As Shri Nitish Kumar said that a number of M Ps get invitations from other countries Therefore, I would like to say that as soon as an M P is elected, like issuing the Identity card, passport should also be issued simultaneously with his spouse An hon Member has also demanded passports for his children also Therefore, I would suggest that the wards of M P s aged 19-20 years should also be issued passports to facilitate their movement

I hope my suggestions regarding separate process for providing passports for

employment and study will be included in the Bill and district process system of issuing passports will be adopted.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGARHI (Deogarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. In fact, most of the points have been covered by the hon. Members who have spoken earlier. This Bill has received support from all sides of the House. There is no controversial provision in the Bill. Only while lending support, some suggestions are being made as to how it could be further improved. There are five provisions on which the amendment is sought by the hon. Minister. Out of the five, there is one new provision which is required to be inserted, that is for stringent punishment for a person who is not a citizen of India, if he makes an offence for a passport by suppression of information, etc. The rest four relate to amendment of the existing provisions.

There is no denial in the fact that the world is becoming closer day by day. There is a necessity for a large number of people to go abroad. As has been rightly stated in our country, we are confronted with a serious problem of unemployment. When we are not able to provide employment and there are job facilities available outside, we should see that there is no hindrance whatsoever coming in their way to go abroad where they are offered jobs. Students are going to pursue higher studies - technical studies. Teachers, scientists and doctors are going. Patients are also going for better treatment. There are some categories where they cannot afford any delay. It has got to be attended to on priority, say, in respect of patients. But what happens in the field?

Of course, the Government of India is aware of this problem inasmuch as the hon. External Affairs Minister categorically stated some months earlier on the floor of this House as to how it could be expedited so that within a period of five weeks, the cases will definitely be cleared. But this remains, by

and large, a pious wish. Actually, this seriousness, as reflected by the Government here is not realised in the field. May be there are some genuine grounds that the offices are not properly staffed.

Secondly, there is also a motive working there in the offices. What to speak of getting ready a passport, even for Revenue Inspector's certificate in the State, a lot of time is consumed. A lot of money is also spent. It also happens in the case of a caste certificate and for old-age certificate. The people who are entitled for old-age pension are like beggars. The concerned officers do not mind exploiting them or expecting money from them. Unless money is paid and their hands are greased, age certificate is also not issued by doctors in some cases. This is the real level of humanity not only in our country but outside also. I really feel concerned about it. In which direction is the society moving. In which way, are we moving?

About staff, there should be more of Regional Passport Offices. They should be properly staffed. I am now reading out a portion of an article which appeared in *The Statesman* of 1st May, 1992:

"It is learnt that, on an average, the regional passport office in Calcutta receives 350 applications daily, out of which 30 to 35 are for urgent purposes. Processing 350 applications is a huge task. Issuing urgent passports is another difficult job, because extra efforts have to be made to prepare them early.

Attending visitors, nearly 200 daily, receiving the money, preparing telex messages, keeping a record of these as well as accounts and giving information to applicants have increased the workload considerably, though some posts are still vacant."

Our highly-qualified boys are available. Only a provision is to be made by the Government of India to give more staff. I would request the hon. Minister to look into

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

this aspect particularly.

Before concluding, I will give one or two more suggestions. There is a necessity for integration of different laws governing this. There are different laws - at least more than one - governing this. I had the privilege to serve as a Member of the Estimates Committee. That Committee has gone into this matter in detail and come out with its considered report. I would request the hon. Minister to give seriousness to the recommendations made by this Committee which are the outcome of joint efforts of 30 hon. Members of Parliament.

The Estimates Committee of Parliament has recommended enactment of a single statute to govern various aspects relating to issue of passports instead of the existing two - Passports (Entry into India) Act and the Indian Passport Act, 1967.

In its report presented to the Lok Sabha, it has also dwelt upon the question of harmonising the Indian Passport Act with other statutes governing entry of foreigners into India and Registration of Foreigners Act, 1946.

I would not like to go into other recommendations. But at the same time, I would say that the Committee has, therefore, not only called for attitudinal reforms in the actual functioning of regional passport offices but also desired greater involvement of CPV Division in the redressal of grievances. They also have drawn attention to the crying need for strengthening and monitoring grievances redressal machinery at the level of regional passport offices.

Another important suggestion made by the Committee is that it has underlined the need of setting up non-official passport advisory committees and of stipulating a time-limit for disposal of complaints.

We have now fixed the time-limit of five weeks for police verification, etc. it is coming in the way. There are also certain exemptions given in cases which will not come within the

purview of the police verification. It is all right. But at the same time, there should be a board like this to monitor.

Lastly, I tell you about my own experience also. I do not know whether all the hon. Members will agree. Of course, Mr. Ramesh Chennithala has supported this. He demands whether MPs and MLAs should be involved in this work. I cannot persuade myself to agree to this. It is a very delicate and tricky matter. This matter of issue of passport is not just a very easy thing. For many, it is good and very easy. But certainly, terrorism is growing everywhere - not only in India but outside also. Smugglers are there. They also go outside the country. Smugglers are also coming into our country. We do not know the antecedents of those people. MPs and MLAs, in their anxiety to satisfy their voters and active supporters put their signatures or they are forced to put their signatures. Since you do not know the person and since it is a tricky matter, it is better for MPs and MLAs to keep away from this area. At the same time, there should be a stricter provision so that police and other officials who verify do not unnecessarily delay the process and if their reports go wrong, they should be taken to task. This is my suggestion. With these words, I support this Bill and request the hon. Minister to kindly, give personal attention to the report of the Estimates Committee and accept the suggestions which are worthy of accepting.

SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI (Amreli): sir, there is no quorum in the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The bell is being rung-

Now there is quorum. Hon. Member, Shri K. Suresh may speak now.

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH (Adoor): Sir, I rise to support the Passports (Amendment) Bill, 1992.

In Kerala, there are three regional passport offices functioning. These passport offices are receiving a number of complaints everyday and in each passport office, lakhs of applications are pending. Thus, the

applicants in Kerala are facing lot of problems. I would like to draw your kind attention of the hon. Minister of External Affairs to the number of unemployed youths in Kerala. Employment requirement is very less in Kerala. So, most of the unemployed youths are interested to go to foreign countries particularly to Gulf countries and for this purpose, they want passports without delay. It takes six months or one year for a person to get a passport in Kerala. Companies abroad advertise and ask people to join within a specified time. But without passport and visa, our unemployed youths cannot go there for their job. Unfortunately, they do not get their passports in proper time. When it takes so much of time, the result is that they lose their chances. I would request the hon. Minister to take urgent steps to avoid this type of delay in issuing the passports.

In all Passport Offices of Kerala, there is a shortage of employees. Though the requirement of staff is more, the number of employees working in these offices is very small. I am aware that a number of employees who are working in the Central government offices outside Kerala are willing to go to Kerala. I have been requesting the hon. Minister to allow those who are interested in going to Kerala, to join the Passport Offices in Kerala. In this way, delay in issuance of passports due to shortage of staff can be avoided.

There is also a serious shortage of passport books. This also causes a great delay in issuing passports. Adequate number of books should be printed and supplied to avoid this sort of a delay.

I would like to mention another point with regard to the procedures followed under the present rules. It is very difficult to get a passport at short notice. Police verification reports are invariably delayed. Therefore, a condition should be laid in the rules that police verification reports should be submitted within two weeks.

Under the present rules, if certain

categories of officials certify a passport, then the passport could be issued without police verification. This provision is likely to be misused by the officials. Instead, the local MPs should be empowered to sign the passport form and then with proper police verification, the passport can be issued.

One more point that I would like to mention is about the availability of passport applications. My suggestion is that the applications should be sent to all the post offices. I hope the hon. Minister will consider all these points and take necessary action.

Finally, I would like to say that the delay in issuing the passport should be removed. There must be a stipulation in the rules that the Indian citizens would get passports within a prescribed minimum period. Delay in getting passports causes a great amount of hardship and this must be avoided at any cost.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I am happy that the Government has at last realised the need for amending the provisions of the Passport Act so that those who want to go abroad can get their passports at the earliest possible time.

Sir, the Statement of Objects and Reasons says, "On the basis of the experience gained in the administration of the Passports Act, 1967, it is found necessary to amend the said Act for its better administration." But the hon. Minister, while moving the Bill, did not bring to the notice of this august House as to what is the experience of the Government in the administration of this Act.

Sir, as the very name suggests, this is a kind of permission granted by way of issuing a passport. Passport would simply mean to give permission to pass through a port. In the olden days, people used to travel by ships only and when they go through the ports, they require passes. That is how, introduction of passports came into being. With the scientific and technological advancement, people would like to visit foreign countries as tourists, for higher education, for employment, to visit their relations who may

happen to fall sick and so on.

My basic question is why should you prevent people who would like to go abroad for many reasons? As I understand it, the only objection would be to prevent people with bad antecedents from going away from this country. Sir, in a lighter vein I would like to say that it is better, you send such people away as early as possible so that we can live peacefully. After all, even the Minister is very well aware that mere issuance of Passports will not entitle...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If it is vice-versa.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: That is what I am telling now. Mere obtaining of passport will not entitle any citizen of India to go abroad. Again, he will require a visa. Even for getting a visa, he has to complete many formalities. The foreign countries which will be receiving Indian citizens also will take care to see that only good people gain entry in those countries. So my submission is this: Why should the Government of India take such botheration for going through the process of filtering? We want good people here. Why do you want to retain all those people with bad antecedents here and permit only good people to go away?

My submission is that when there is enormous unemployment problem in this country, only the people who will be seeking jobs will be visiting foreign countries. There are a large number of employment opportunities in the Middle-East countries. And recently, due to Gulf war, that is after the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and after its liberation, there are a lot of employment opportunities for people who want to work as artisans, masons, drivers and so on for whom we have no better employment opportunities here. They would like to go through the Government of India and the government of India now wants more time for such cases.

My friend Shri Oscar Fernandes was referring to the difficulties being faced by the people who are coming from our region,

specially, Dakshina Kannada District and the people who come from some parts of Kerala State. So far as Karnataka State is concerned, there is only one Passport Office at Bangalore and so far as Kerala State is concerned, there are only three Passport Offices. In spite of that, still many people, specially from northern parts of Kerala, come to Bangalore for getting Passports. Sir, the situation in the Regional Passport Office in Bangalore is such that, there is absolutely no space for people to get in. We find, there are many people who will be standing in long queues in the roads starting from early morning hours till late in the evenings. The people who are illiterate, they cannot go and interact with the officials in the Passport Offices. So, such people should be assisted and they should not be made to dance everyone and then in the Passport Offices.

Sir, I had the occasion to raise an issue regarding opening of Passport Office in Mangalore long ago. Almost, one year has elapsed, nothing has been done. It was my good fortune that after I made the demand on the floor of this House, the hon. Minister, Shri Faleiro came all the way to Mangalore and made an announcement at Mangalore saying that a Passport Office would be opened in Mangalore. It was way back in January this year that he had made an announcement. After that, sometime during Monsoon Session, I made enquiries from the hon. Minister and he said that "now I am divested of the Passport Department, I am not looking after this particular Division."

He said Mr. R.L. Bhatia is looking after this Division. So, he can only give you the answer. Then jocularly he said, don't worry, before the expiry of your term, we would open a passport office in Mangalore. So, I would submit that before our term expires, let the Government open up an office in Mangalore so that the desire of the people in that area is fulfilled.

I would like to me one or two suggestions. I would agree with the suggestions made by other friends here like giving enormous power in the hands of the Government. If the Government feels that for want of funds

I do not know what does the Government want to do with it?

there is a delay in the issue of passports, then, of course, the Government's hands should be strengthened by allowing them to collect more funds. But what the government want is that it is free for all., Now, if really this was the situation nothing prevented the Government from issuing an Ordinance. Why did you wait for introduction of an Amendment Bill? Why do you move now an amendment? First you get permission from the Parliament and then only think of collecting funds. They could have come up with an Ordinance. So, my submission is that it is not the reason. The Government does not want to issue a passport as and when it is required by a citizen; they would like to exercise their power; they would like to throttle the right of the people.

Some definite amount should have been mentioned in the provisions of the Bill itself.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI(Amreli): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at present, there is no quorum in the House again.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The bell is being rung.

it is Six O'clock. Now the House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow the 1st December 1992 at 1100 hrs.

18.00 hrs.

The Lok-Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Tuesday, December 1, 1992/ Agrahayana 10, 1914 (Saka)