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Thursday, April 26 1990
Vaisakha 6, 1912 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Second Session
(Ninth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA SECRETARIA
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, April 26, 1990/Vaisakha 6, 1912
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Harmful effects of Pesticides on Human Body

*615. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the reports that pesticides applied to plants and crops have harmful effects on the human body as they percolate in the foodgrains/food articles; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is keen that, as far as possible, less persistent and easily biodegradable insecticides are used in pest control to minimise the risks due to pesticides residues in articles of consumption and

environment.

The Government is advocating Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the main thrust of Plant Protection strategy. This strategy envisages incorporation of cultural, mechanical and biological techniques for pests and diseases management. Adoption of this strategy leads to judicious and need based application of pesticides.

The Government has also undertaken review of the uses in India of pesticides banned or restricted elsewhere in the world.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, after all this work having been done by the hon. Minister and his Department, about ten days ago—just about ten days ago—to mention an example in Bastar district of Uttar Pradesh in Rajpur village about 200 people died in one dinner, as a result of pesticide poisoning of wheat flour. This is just one dramatic incidence. But *India Today* for instance, among other magazines has highlighted the danger which is there in every day food by the citizens. It had recently mentioned this in an article. It expresses the opinion of every section, citizen and expert on this subject. I will quote the lead article appeared in *India Today* 'Poison in your food':

"Repeated surveys have shown that Indians are daily eating food laced with some of the highest amounts of toxic pesticide residues found in the world. In the process, they are exposed to the risk of heart disease, brain, kidney and liver damage and even cancer.

Even more frightening, studies indicate that right from the day our babies

begin to suckle they are taking in pesticides deposited in breast milk. And some readymade baby foods too are similarly contaminated. We are not only slowly poisoning ourselves but jeopardising our future generations too..."

Has the Government received a representation for the formulation of a National Pest Control Policy? If so, from whom they have received the representation; which individual and which organisation? When will the National Policy on Pest Control be formulated and tabled on the floor of the House by the hon. Minister?

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, studies in respect of several aspects of adverse effect of pesticides on human body have been conducted and are being conducted in our country. In human body digestive system is the first to be affected followed by blood cells. It also percolates in the milk of the breast feeding mothers. The pesticides have these three adverse effects. There are also some statistics available with regard to adverse effect of excessive use of pesticides on different commodities all over the world. Different institutions have also conducted studies in this regard in our country also and the conclusion at which they have arrived about the harmful effects of pesticides shows that it is not that harmful. It is the look out of the Ministry to keep constant vigil, conduct tests from time to time and also conduct studies in this regard. In fact, it has been the concerted effort of the Ministry to see that such pesticides are not put to any use at all.

MR. SPEAKER: Mirdha Ji, he has pointed out that some people have died in the villages also. I am doing your job.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: As regards the Basti incident, this Department is not aware of the kind of pesticides that were used.

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: My question was very pointed, whether you have received or the Government has received a representation for a National Pest Control Policy. If so, from whom you have received and when will you formulate the policy? That was my question.

MR. SPEAKER: He has not received it.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Then, I have to give a notice of privilege because I have received a copy of the representation.

Now, I will put my second question. The hon. Minister has in the last part of his written reply said that there are many pesticides which are banned or restricted. He also said that the Government is undertaking a review of their uses in India. Now, no such review is necessary because the World Health Organisation has identified these pesticides, which the developed countries have banned in their own countries; they are exporting to third world countries in a form of neo-colonialist. What then Government is going to do to ban the import of these pesticides such as DDT, BHC and other pesticides, which are dangerous to health, identified by World Health Organisation, and forbidden in the developed countries. What are you going to do?

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: The pesticides which have been banned in different countries of the world are not being used in our country. We have evolved our own policy in this regard. Such pesticides, the use of which has been restricted in the world, have also been restricted in our country. Only permissible pesticides are being used. The Ministry takes every care to educate the farmers and provide them extension service about the proper use of these pesticides by mixing them mechanically and biologically in conformity with the norms prescribed in this regard.

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: My question has not been answered. I seek your protection. My question is: Why DDT and BHC are not banned here when they are banned all over the developed world and all over the socialist world?

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Great care is being taken in the use of D.D.T. and B.H.C. and it is not possible to ban their use now. These pesticides are useful in many ways and these are being used with great care.

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have received information about many tragic incidents which were caused due to content of pesticides and insecticides in edible items. One such incident took place in Basti which came to our notice. The hon. Member just now said that 300 people died in Basti due to this. But I would like to tell him that only 64 people died and 74 people were admitted in the hospital. Yesterday 100 out of 300 people taking part in a marriage feast fell ill due to food poisoning and now they are in hospital. This type of incidents have all along been taking place in Gujarat, Karnataka and Rajasthan. Just now, the hon. Minister has said that he is reviewing the matter as to which poisonous substance proved fatal and then only he would be able to do anything in this regard. In this connection, I would like to tell him that a Committee called the Banerjee Committee was constituted in 1988. The said Committee had made some recommendations. Would the hon. Minister please let me know as to how many recommendations of the above Committee have been implemented by the Government and what has been their effect? If the recommendations have not so far been implemented, the reasons therefor?

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, pesticides are used to save the standing crops from the insects. Insecticides

etc. are used to save grains in houses from some insects. These are also used in F.C.I. godowns. So far as the incident that took place in Basti is concerned, it cannot be true that some people died while spraying pesticides on standing crops to save them from insects. There can be no death by pesticides under such circumstances. Until and unless a thorough probe is made about the causes of this type of deaths that took place at different places, it will not be possible on my part to say that such and such number of people died of food poisoning etc. There can be no such problem by the pesticides. I am also not prepared to accept that due to use of pesticides, the food we eat could become so poisonous that it could cause death of its consumer.

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: The hon. Minister did not say anything about the Banerjee Committee.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: The Banerjee Committee has done a very good job. The Government has been benefited by the information collected by the committee and it has made good use of it. This Committee is still working. The Government will consider their recommendations when received.

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Have they not finalised their recommendations?

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: We have constituted yet another Committee which would constantly look into all these things. Whatever action is deemed fit will be taken. The Government utilises the information being collected by them.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, normally we have seen Ministers holding certain portfolios or in charge of certain Departments, answering on behalf of a Minister who belongs to another Department. That is understandable. With the permission of the Speaker it is done. But here, unfortunately, it is not being done on behalf

If one looks at the paper supplied to us, at least the answer to the question, it says 'the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies'... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already seen it and I will get it examined.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: It is not that I have anything against Mirdhaji, Sir... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised a point and I will get it examined.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, there is a specific question which I would like to ask Mirdhaji. There is a very deadly toxic pesticide which goes by the name of 'cell phos'. It is like tablets and is normally supposed to be used in large godowns where wheat is stored. But it is sold as almost tablets to farmers and off the shelf and it is used often for suicide. I understand that an analysis in India shows that there have been eight thousand cases of persons who committed suicide using the cell phos pesticide, which is a deadly toxic material. I wonder what is the reason for which the Government has not banned this. I would like to know whether in respect of the Basti poisoning which took place, the forensic report has come or not. We understand that it is an organo phosphorus set up, but I would like to know the details because there it is very clear that the food was poisoned by pesticides. We would like to know what was the type of pesticide and whether the Government would ban that particular pesticide.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he gave the name of an insecticide which is generally used in godowns to protect the foodgrains from insects. Sometimes, the farmers take this insecticide for their private use. There is also an insecticide to kill rats, viz. zinc oxide, which is used in godowns to protect foodgrains. These insecticides are also being used in and F.C.I. godowns. There are qualified technical per-

sonnel who handle these poisonous objects. But no such technical personnel is available to private users. They learn the technique and put them in use by applying their own intelligence.

[*English*]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: For suicide, they take it as tablet.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: People take it as tablets to commit suicide.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Anybody could consume poison in any form he likes and commit suicide. Even less effective poisons could cause harm to its user. The insecticide, the name of which was mentioned by the hon. Member is being used by technical personnel in order to protect the foodgrains and save them from insects. The farmers who store paddy and wheat in large quantities, also make use of this insecticide. They learn the technique from technically qualified personnel. If somebody does not learn the technique properly and uses pesticides without proper guidance, he will have to face the consequences.

[*English*]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Why can't you give it on prescription.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: As I have already said, it is not possible to give it on prescription in each and every case. Who will give a prescription? When somebody approaches a shopkeeper selling these articles, the same shopkeeper gives some basic idea about the use of the pesticide.

SHRI RAGHAVJI: The hon. Minister said in his reply that there are a number of pesticides and insecticides which have been either banned or their use has been restricted in foreign countries. The Govern-

ment is thinking as to what should be done in respect of the above pesticides and insecticides in our country. For last several years a number of pesticides and insecticides have been banned in foreign countries but they are being imported into our country and payment is being made in foreign exchange for these imports. As such I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are those pesticides and insecticides which have been banned in foreign countries and when such a ban is likely to be imposed on them on our country?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have got the detailed information about the drugs which are permitted under the Law and we are using only those drugs. The Government have imposed restrictions on the use of such drugs even in our country, which do not suit us and which have been banned in the foreign countries. So we do not use these drugs. At present these drugs are permitted under section-93 of the Law. We will use only the permitted brands of pesticides and will not use the restricted ones. As per the information available with me, there are two lists of restricted drugs in our country. The lists are quite big, if you want I may read them out otherwise I will lay them on the Table of the House.

[English]

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: Sir, I would like to point out that this Government are only a Government of Committees. They have effected some bans on certain drugs which are not actually implemented. The World Health Organisation has banned certain drugs, certain pesticides. But the Government of India are saying that they are considering the ban. When the W.H.O. has already said that drugs 'A', 'B' and 'C' are banned, why should the Government of India delay the ban? This is what I want to know. Sir, I also want to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that B.V.O. chemical agent which is used in soft drinks was banned

by our Government a year ago with a grace period of one year. Now, after having banned these things, why do the Government of India delay the effective implementation of the ban, whether it is soft drinks, whether it is pesticides. The WHO says that these things should not be used, why should the Government of India use them? It is insensitive to our health and well-being and exploitation of the developing countries. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the beginning itself the hon. Members has given a political tinge to this issue, when she stated that this Government are a Government of Committees. Unless she delivers such speeches, she feels somewhat uncomfortable. She has also stated that a ban had been imposed on the use of some drugs but the present Government have now permitted it. I would like to say that it is absolutely wrong.

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINIALI (Kanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that just a few days back, about two hundred people died in Basti District..... (Interruptions) Their death has been attributed to the residue content of some pesticides in the wheat they had consumed. It resulted in the absorption of poison in their system and consequential death of these persons. It means that the pesticides that are being imported in our country are becoming the health hazard for the people of this country. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether the Government propose to formulate a policy in respect of pesticides. While formulating such a policy, medical, scientific and agricultural experts should be consulted and involved and multi-national corporations should not be allowed to operate here and kill the people of our country by treating them as guinea pigs.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Members have delivered good speeches. In reply to their speeches, I would like to make a short speech..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please give your reply.

[English]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: I am giving reply to the speeches.

MR. SPEAKER: Leave the speech part.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: She has not asked any question in her speech. She has made a mention of an incident that had taken place in Basti District. The Ministry of Agriculture has no proof to substantiate it that any such pesticide was sprayed on the wheat crop at the time when it was still growing in the fields. So far as the pesticides to which she has referred... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He will get the information and furnish the same later on. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: This is a disgraceful answer. Everybody says, every newspaper says that they have died, but you say that they have not died. It is most unfortunate. (Interruptions)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Sir, it is a serious matter. There should be Half-an-hour discussion on this. The Minister's answer has created so many new questions. So, there should be Half-an-hour discussion on this. (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Let him not answer it today. Let him inquire and find out and answer later on. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Have you understood the crux of the question? Is the Government going to formulate a policy regarding pesticides which are being sold in the open market and which any body can purchase? (Interruptions)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: As Mr. Chatterjee has suggested, the Minister should hold an inquiry. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: So far as the point of these mishaps is concerned, these have not taken place just on account of the presence of pesticides in the foodgrains. That is the information we have got. However if there is some fault on the part of the Government, we will rectify it. But so far we have not received any such report. (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINIALI: The focal point of my question was whether the Government proposed to consider the formulation of a National Pesticide Policy?

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: The Government have been formulating such a policy and also constantly reviewing it and even in future the Government will continue to review this policy? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Next question, Shri Pandeya!

[Translation]

Implementation of National Oilseeds Development Programme

+

*616. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI CHHABIRAM ARGAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Oilseeds Development Programme is being implemented by various State Governments with the help of Union Development;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Union

Government to ensure timely supply of desired quality of seeds to various States; and

(c) whether Government propose to bring forward some legislation under which the responsibility of timely supply of seeds to all the States as per their requirements will lie with the Union Government?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Production and the timely supply of quality seeds is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, arrangements to meet the seed requirements are tied up at the Central level with various seed supplying agencies like National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Corporation and I.C.A.R. system through the Zonal Seed Conferences.

(c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Madhya Pradesh is a very big oilseeds producing State. Its oilseeds production has been quite high as compared to that of other States. Mandasaur and Ratlam are the main oilseeds producing districts of Madhya Pradesh. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether the Central Government propose to include this provision in the Seeds Act itself that Central Seeds Corporation will supply the required quantity of seeds to the various State Governments and the State Governments will get the supply of seeds from the Central Seeds Corporation?

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: I have stated that there are four organisations i.e.—National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Corporation and I.C.A.R. which are engaged in the work of coordination, production and supply of seeds. These organisations sit together to

discuss the requirement of seeds and accordingly they are producing the basic seeds in their farms and then, after the multiplication of these seeds, they are supplying it as per the requirements of the State Governments. These four organisations jointly undertake the work of supply of seeds.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the reply to my question. I would like to know whether the Government propose to see that provisions of the Central Seeds Act which is a Central Act, are complied with. The Hon'ble Minister has answered in the negative. I want to know whether necessary provision will be made in this legislation, so that the supply of seeds may be improved. The programme of producing Soyabean and sunflower has been undertaken in my State and its production also has been quite good but seeds are not being supplied in the required quantity. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether it would be made binding on these Institutions that they supply the required quantity of seeds.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: It does not appear to be necessary to make amendments in the existing Act at this moment because the supply of seeds is smooth. All these institutions have been working jointly to supply seeds as per the requirements. It is because of their cooperation that the production of oilseeds has registered a substantial increase. In some of the states such as Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana etc., the production of oilseeds has substantially increased and also to this date, no complaint has been received about the supply of seeds. First of all they sit together to chalk out a programme to assess the actual demand of seeds in the states and accordingly they regulate the production and supply of seeds. However it is the responsibility of the Central Government to see how much quantity and what quality of seeds are to be supplied to the State Governments.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: My question was specific. What I meant was that required quantity of seeds had not been

supplied to the State of Madhya Pradesh, which has adversely affected the oilseed production programme.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: I have not received any such complaints. If any such complaint is received or you pass on any information in this regard remedial action will certainly be taken.

SHRI CHHAVIRAM ARGAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bhind, Morena and Chambal in Madhya Pradesh are oilseed producing areas which are known for its high produce of oilseeds in the country also. There are several godowns of oilseeds. Oilseeds are supplied to other parts of the country also. Will the Government open a centre of the National Seeds Corporation or the Indian Council of Agriculture Research at Chambal so that oilseed producing areas get the seeds easily?

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: The hon. Member has given the information of good production of oilseeds in Madhya Pradesh and has also made a demand to ensure supply of quality seeds of oilseeds there in adequate quantity. I feel that if the State Government considers it appropriate, the National Seeds Corporation may be approached for setting up a seed godown there. If any difficulty is experienced, the State Government may ask the Central Government to remove the difficulty. The Government will definitely help them. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHHAVIRAM ARGAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the Government is aware that some private agencies are supplying seeds of inferior quality which adversely affects the production and the farmer have to suffer heavy losses due to it. Will the Government ensure supply of seeds of good quality to the farmers.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Private shops are also authorised to sell seeds but they can sell it under a proper trade mark on its packing. If seeds are found to be of inferior

quality, there is a law for it and action is taken under that law.

[*English*]

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, the country is losing thousands of crores of rupees in terms of valuable foreign exchange by importing edible oils, in spite of the fact that the farmers in the country have got enough knowledge, capacity and adaptability of latest technology and are able to produce oilseeds in this country.

The Technology Mission has already identified potentialities in Andhra Pradesh. We are all aware about the lot of allegations in regard to quality of seeds that are supplied by the State Seeds Corporation or other Government organisations. Keeping in view that there is already the method of identifying and giving award to the best farmers in the country, will the Ministry and the Government think in terms of utilising the services of these best farmers and giving them incentives and awards to produce oilseeds in their own areas so that they will have commitment, pride and satisfaction that they could produce better oilseeds.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has prefaced his submission with the issue of foreign exchange. Foreign exchange of the country is being spent on import of edible oils. The Government is worried about it. When they were in power, a quantity of 18 lakh tonnes of edible oils was imported. The production of edible oils falls short of our demand by 8-10 lakh tonnes. There is need to convert 14 lakh tonnes of other oils into edible oils. The action is being taken by formulating a programme. Whether it is a question of making Palm oil or deoiling of oil-cakes or extracting oil from rice bran, we are trying to exploit the potential of 14 lakh tonnes to meet our requirements. At present we are producing 7 to 8 lakh tonnes of edible oils. A programme has been formulated for it. I agree with you that the Government should give incentives

and extend facilities to the farmers for increasing production of oilseeds with the use of improved varieties of seeds. We distribute improved varieties of seeds of oilseeds to small farmers also. We provide facilities to small and big farmers alike. Those farmers who help in increasing production of edible oils, are honoured by the Government and National Awards are given to them.

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to know from the hon. Minister the percentage increase in production of oilseeds in Uttar Pradesh after implementation of the scheme of increasing production of oilseeds with the assistance of the Central Government to meet the shortage of oil and oilseeds.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, separate figures of increase in production of oil and oilseeds in Uttar Pradesh after implementation of these schemes are not available with me. But I have information about the increase in production of oil and oilseeds in the country. I also have details about the requirements and supply of seeds.

MR. SPEAKER: If information is not available with you at present, you may furnish it later on.

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV: Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that 150 persons lost their lives due to existence some poisonous content in the edible oil in Uttar Pradesh?

MR. SPEAKER: It has been raised several times. Please sit down. Now Mr. Kalvi.

SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI: Sir, I would like to know whether a variety of mustard seed is being developed as a result of which not only its per acre yield and oil recovery will increase but bitterness in its taste will also vanish, if not, whether there is a plan to import this variety of seed from other countries?

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: There are many varieties of mustard seed in the

world. It is under research as to whether two percent content of uric acid present in mustard seeds can be eliminated from it or not? In our country the content of oil in mustard oilseeds is 37-38 per cent while in other countries oil content is 42-43 per cent. The Government is aware of this fact. The I.C.A.R. and other institutions are trying to improve the variety of seeds which have been imported. The programme is also being prepared for its proper distribution.

[English]

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: This is a vast country having different agro-climatic zones. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister:

- (a) Will Government of India decide to have small research centres in different agro-climatic zones for development of oil seeds;
- (b) The hon. Minister said that "We are sending seeds to small and marginal farmers." But, in practice, it has been found that the seeds and fertilisers etc., meant for small and marginal farmers reach the farmers after the season is over. Usually, they are sold in the market or consumed by the farmer. I am sorry to say that the figures received by the Government are manipulated figures.

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: If you say that figures furnished by the Government are wrong, I cannot do anything. I would like to tell you that the production of oilseeds has increased after implementation of schemes for oilseeds in the country. As a matter of fact production of all other crops including oilseeds has increased. In 1985-86, oilseed cultivation was made on 190 lakh hectares of land and its production was 108.3 lakh tonnes and its per hectare yield was 570 kg. In 1986-87, 186.....

[English]

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: My question is something different.

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: You are talking about agro-climatic centres. These centres I.C.A.R. or other seed distribution centres have been set up as per the need of the respective area. The research is being conducted as to what type of seed is suitable for a particular area and fundamental seeds are being prepared. It is not a new thing that type of work is being done in Agro-climatic centres.

Slaughter House at Ivri Izzat Nagar

*617. SHRISANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzat Nagar is considering to open a slaughter house in collaboration with a firm;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for opening this slaughter house?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given to my question leaves no scope to say anything further in the matter. What can I say now? I.V.R.I. is a reputed institute not only of India but also of the world. About two dozen memorandam

have so far been given to the Minister concerned about the state of affairs prevailing in the Institute for the last five years. There is not one charge but as many as 20 to 25 charges have been levelled. I raised this question earlier also but everytime I got the reply that the question of slaughter house did not arise. I have the minutes of the meeting in which it was decided to open slaughter house. It has the signature of Mr. Alana who processed it. Now the reply comes in one line that there is nothing like that. I would like to say that either my documents are wrong or the reply given to me is incorrect. I would again like to know from the hon. Minister in reference to his reply as to whether any discussion was held or any move was made during the last two years in the matter?

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked whether any move was ever made in the matter. I would like to say that an effort was made to open a slaughter house in Izzat Nagar to process and pack buffalo meat scientifically. He referred to I.V.R.I. In this regard I would like to submit that a company approached the authorities of the University to set up a meat processing factory there in collaboration with them. They were also ready to provide funds and undertake the work. As stated earlier, Izzat Nagar is famous all over the world for its veterinary research. The officers of that centre were thinking to set up a slaughter house for buffaloes in collaboration with that company. That is why meetings were held and ultimately a decision was taken not to set up any slaughter house. That is why I replied the question in the negative. There is no use to raise old issues.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: My second question is that a lot of things are being said about I.V.R.I. Mr. Rao, the Chairman of Q.I.D. has himself alleged and it is a fact that Shri Bhatt has made the institute as his fiefdom. I repeat allegation that Mr. Alana had given an illegal gratification of Rs. 2 lakh to Shri Bhatt for this purpose. My question is has C.B.I. conducted an enquiry into the affairs of the I.V.R.I. on the basis of previous complaints because Shri Bhatt has been

transferred from there and he obtained stay orders from the court. He wanted to suppress his misdeeds. Therefore, I would like to submit that an enquiry should be conducted to bring the facts to light and gain people's confidence.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no information about those complaints and charges which the hon. Member has referred. Had he given notice of this question straight away, I would have given reply.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that incidents of bungling and disputes have been taking place in IVRI for the last many years. Last time also I had submitted in the House that complaints to this effect had been received from Central Audit, and I had also urged the hon. Minister to clarify the issue during the zero hour. Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us whether the Government proposes to get the entire series of bungling investigated. Earlier, I had demanded that the cases be referred to the C.B.I. So, now, does the Government propose to refer the cases to the CBI for further investigation to find out the fact and settle the issues involved.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, had he asked the question straight away, I would have come prepared and replied to that accordingly. Now the question as he has put it is whether a slaughter House is being opened or not. And then he raises the point that Bhattji received money. I would like to point out that all these things are not related to the main question.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: I would like to know whether the matter would be got investigated by the CBI.

MR. SPEAKER: At the moment, the hon. Minister is not prepared.

....(Interruptions)....

MR. SPEAKER: When he is not seized

of all the relevant facts, how can he say that CBI would be investigating the case?

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want your protection. Through you, I had asked the hon. Minister to reply the question which has been raised here time and again. Is he ready to hold an investigation to unearth the facts. What preparations are required to be made for the same?

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: I am not afraid of holding any enquiry. But unless I have got all the relevant facts with me, how can I hold out an assurance in this regard.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: The hon. Minister must be having at least that much of information. Because he is replying on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down, I have not allowed you.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on one side, there is Indian Veterinary Research Institute and on the other there are a large number of slaughter houses at various places and in the cities like Bombay, Calcutta etc. where animals are butchered mercilessly. People know that cattle of good breed which have not outlived their utility for agricultural purposes, are taken there and butchered. Sir, even oxen of very good breed are taken there and first crippled by chopping off their legs so as to get them declared as unutilisable and then under the relevant rules they are sold to the slaughter house. So that is the way animals are being slaughtered mercilessly just for earning foreign exchange. Everybody knows that animals, which are extremely useful for agriculture, are slaughtered there. Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any research has been conducted by the Institute situated in Izzat Nagar to save the oxen of good breed, and if so what conclusions they have arrived at and what steps are proposed to be taken to save the animals of fine breed from being slaughtered.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr.

Speaker, Sir, I am very much impressed by the sense of compassion of Shri Sathe for the animals. I agree that animals of good breed should be protected and should not be taken to the slaughter House. No doubt a number of organisations in the country have been busy with the work of protection of animals and arousing the same feeling among the general public... (*Interruptions*)... Now the Institute situated in Izzat Nagar has been busy with the research work to find out as to how to improve the breed of the animals, what are the main diseases which affect them, how they can be protected against these diseases, what nutrients should be given to them in their food and whether other eatables should be given to them in their food and whether other eatables should be given to them for the improvement of their genetic quality and breed. That is the basic function of that Institute. Even the policy of the Government seeks to protect animals of fine breed from being taken to the slaughter house. But certain evil person violate the provisions of law and cut off heating limbs of good animals to sell them to the slaughter house. Here they may escape the punishment from a court of law but they will have to face the wrath of God. I agree that this is being practised on a large scale in the country.

[*English*]

DR. ASIM BALA: Sir, export of meat is a foreign exchange earner. It is earning more than approximately Rs. 100 crores of foreign exchange. I would like to know whether the slaughter houses are going to be opened in other States also as people require hygienic and clean meat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of opening a slaughter house is altogether a different issue. It requires several things to be taken into consideration. For example, the slaughter house should be based on scientific lines, the animals should be slaughtered without

pain and their organs should be separated in such a way that they may fetch an attractive amount of foreign exchange. That is our policy. However, people have objections to the slaughtering of some particular animals at a few places. On the whole the slaughter house should function on scientific lines and all the animals be it a goat, lamb, buffalo or a bison should be slaughtered in a scientific way i.e. without causing any pain to the animal. Meat should be packed properly and disposed quickly whether it is to be sent outside the country or to be sold here to the local consumers.

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 618. Shri Samarendra Kundu. (Absent)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Sir, this is a very important question. It appears that Kundu Sahib has deliberately absented himself because the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is not here.

MR. SPEAKER: No, that is not the reason.

Relief and Rehabilitation of Bhagalpur Riot Victims

*619. **SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 29th March, 1990 to Starred Question No. 266 regarding Assistance to Bhagalpur riot victims and state:

(a) whether the total amount of relief and ex-gratia given to riot-affected people of Bhagalpur is found adequate and satisfying; and

(b) if so, the number of people who have got relief or who have been rehabilitated and the number of damaged houses which will be reconstructed or get repaired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Ex-gratia @Rs. 1.00 lakh each has been given to the next of kin in 111 cases by the Government of Bihar. A total number of 12,885 houses have been surveyed and Rs. 2.56 crores has been distributed among 10,245 affected persons. The State Government have also decided to provide Rs. 3,000/- each to 1,000 handloom weavers and Rs. 8,000/- each to 250 powerloom weavers as loans from banks to the affected persons.

Similarly, out of an amount of Rs. 1.00 crore sanctioned from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for the Bhagalpur riot victims, Rs. 50.00 lakhs has been earmarked for the families of those killed in the riots @Rs. 10,000/- each. The amount is over and above the amount of ex-gratia relief of Rs. 1.00 lakh per person being provided by the State Government. An amount of Rs. 1,500/- per handloom weaver and Rs. 5,000/- per powerloom weaver as grant for purchase of raw materials is being provided to the affected weavers. A sum of Rs. 27.50 lakhs has also been earmarked for this purpose. The remaining sum of Rs. 22.50 lakhs has been earmarked for extending hostel facilities at Bhagalpur for the students.

So far as the question of AGARWAL or satisfaction of the riot victims vis-a-vis, ex-gratia relief is concerned, it may be submitted that human life and misery can not be measured in monetary terms. The Government is committed to do its utmost to provide succour and security to the riot-victims.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply the hon. Minister has assured to provide compensation to the riot victims whose houses or handlooms had been destroyed in the riots. However, we have visited the area and we found that about 157 shops particularly of the poor people had also been gutted. The hon. Minister has made no mention of it in his statement. We also met the DM who assured us that all such shopkeepers who had the

licence for the shop or who had opened shops on their own land, would be given ex-gratia relief. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government propose to cover, for the purpose of compensation, a large number of such shopkeepers who had opened their shops on the Railway land or the land belonging to the PWD and other unauthorised land, without obtaining any licences and the same had been gutted in the fire during the riots.

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: Sir, so far as the matter of burning of shops is concerned, a large number of cases had been registered and for that reason, the work of providing relief could not make progress in the beginning because most of the people had left the riot-torn city. However, those who are now turning up to submit their claims are being rehabilitated. For this purpose, about 10 officers of the rank of Additional Collector have been appointed and they have been monitoring the whole work on a war-footing. List of the owners of such shops which had been burnt during the riots, has been prepared and all those who are on that list, are sure to be rehabilitated.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: When asked as to how he was preparing the list of the persons who had been killed in the riots since in a number of cases FIR had not been registered with the police and the bodies had been left without postmortem, the D.M. said that the block development officer would be preparing the list on the basis of the information provided by the 'pradhan'. But there have been a large number of 'pradhans', who were involved in the incidents of killing the children, with their spears. In these circumstances how can they give a true report. I would like to know from the Government whether compensation to those killed will be provided on the basis of the record of birth and death of the individual kept at the police station.

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: I think that the hon. Member has given a good suggestion. While giving compensation, we would taking into account the names given

by the Pradhans or other local residents and also the fact that the particular individual was a Government servant.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Seiging of Police Lines at Rohtak by BSF

*618. SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BSF seiged the police lines at Rohtak;

(b) if so, whether there was a clash between the Haryana Police and Border Security Force; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Collaboration with Foreign Countries to Develop Telecom Facilities

*620. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any collaboration agreements have been made in the last two years with any foreign country so as to develop telecom facilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, the following collaboration agreements have been signed by the Department of Telecom during the period 1.4.88 to 31.3.90:—

- (1) Cable Terminal Boxes with KRONE of West Germany.
- (2) Coin/Token Type STD Payphones with Tamura of Japan.
- (3) 6 GHz and 13 GHz Microwave Equipment with NEC, Japan.
- (4) Optical Fibre Cable and Line Equipment with NKT of Denmark.

Report of Nambiar Committee on C-DOT

*622. SHRIMULLAPPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN:
SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the main findings of the Nambiar Committee on the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and the action taken thereon;

(b) whether Government have decided to drop the projects of C-DOT; and

(c) if not, the extent to which it is proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c). The Government has received the Report of the Nambiar Committee on the Centre for Development of Telematics and also the Dis-

senting Note of four Members of the Committee. These Reports are being examined. Recommendations of the Committee alongwith decision of the Government will be presented to the Parliament as soon as the examination is complete and the decisions of the Government are finalised.

New Telephone Exchanges in Orissa

*623. SHRI ANANDI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up some new telephone exchanges in Orissa

during 1990-91;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the places identifies for the location of the new exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) There are proposals to open telephone exchanges at 30 new locations in Orissa during 1990-91.

(b) These telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened in the various divisions as follows:

1.	Cuttack	-	5
2.	Bhubaneswar	-	5
3.	Sambalpur	-	3
4.	Rourkela	-	2
5.	Dhenkanal	-	3
6.	Balasore	-	4
7.	Bolangir	-	2
8.	Koraput	-	3
9.	Behrampur	-	3
Total			30 Nos.

(c) Places have not been identifies. As per the present norms a new exchange can be opened only after a minimum demand of 10 telephones is registered at a place.

[Translation]

New Post Offices in Basti, Deoria, Ghazipur, Azamgarh and Mau Districts of U.P.

the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new post offices proposed to be opened in Basti, Deoria, Ghazipur, Azamgarh and Mau districts of Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91;

(b) whether their location has also been identified;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

*624. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will

(d) the steps being taken by Government to open more new post offices in these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c). Post Offices have been sanctioned for following villages:

<i>District</i>	<i>Village</i>
Basti	(1) Tighara
	(2) Pakhuapar
	(3) Popaya
	(4) Umarī Kalan
	(5) Ekma
	(6) Dhamaicha
	(7) Maharajanj Girmut
	(8) Bhinsa Khunt
	(9) Pakari Araj
Ghazipur	(1) Dharikala
Azamgarh	(1) Lohra

There are no proposals at present in respect of Deoria and Mau districts

(d) The norms for opening of new Post Offices are now under review. Further proposals may be formulated after completion of the review.

[English]

Repatriation of Chakma Refugees

*626. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI LAETA UMBREY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the repatriation of the Chakma tribal refugees of the Bangladesh's Chittagong hill tracts;

(b) whether a high level team from Bangladesh visited Tripura recently to begin with the 'process of repatriation' of these refugees; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIKISHORE SINGH): (a) 58,499 Chakma refugees from Bangladesh continue to stay in camps in Tripura since May, 1986. Fourteen meetings have been held so far between district officials of India and Bangladesh, the latest being on May 29, 1989. The matter was also taken up during the recent visit of External Affairs Minister to Bangladesh in February, 1990. We have consistently stressed that Bangladesh should create the conditions in the Chittagong Hill Tracts which would give the Chakmas the confidence to return to their homes voluntarily.

(b) Such a team from Bangladesh is expected to visit the camps in Tripura in the near future to try and persuade the refugees to start returning to Bangladesh.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

April, 1990?

Voluntary Organisations Receiving Foreign Aid For Upliftment of SCs/STs

*627. SHRIDASAICHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of voluntary organisations which receive foreign grants for the upliftment of harijans, tribals and weaker sections; and

(b) the organisation-wise amount of foreign grants received during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a). No such information is maintained about receipt of foreign contribution by organisations for the development of Harijans tribals and weaker sections. It is not also possible to do so since all organisations registered for rural development, health care, social services have betterment programmes for all sections of the population without reference to caste and creed.

(b) It is not feasible to furnish the information organisation-wise/yearwise for the last three years in view of its being voluminous in nature

[English]

Compensation to Bomb Explosion Victims at Batala

*628. SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the compensation paid to the families of the deceased and to the injured in bomb explosion at Batala on 3

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): According to information received from the Government of Punjab, the families of the 27 civilians killed have been paid compensation at the rate of Rs. 50,000/- each, (Rs.20,000/- in cash and Rs. 30,000 in the form of National Savings Certificates. Eight others who lost their lives were Government servants and compensation to their families will be paid by the Departments concerned. Compensation upto Rs. 5,000/- has been paid to those injured depending upon the nature of injuries. In the case of 100% disability, like loss of limb or organ, compensation has been paid at the rate of Rs.20,000/

World Bank Aid for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Projects in Maharashtra

*629. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Government has sought World Bank aid for integrated rural water supply and environmental sanitation projects in various villages and towns.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Integrated Project has been prepared covering 75 regional piped water supply schemes for 500 villages, 12 habitations and two towns from 10 districts of Maharashtra. The project also includes 174 low cost piped water supply schemes for 174 villages and bore wells programme in 178

villages and 884 habitations etc. Health education programme and demand based sanitation programme are also included in the project. The total estimated cost of the project is Rs.169.97 crores for implementation in five years.

(c) A pre-appraisal mission of the World Bank visited the State in end of March, 1990 for detailed discussions and finalisation of the project. The project will be finalised after appraisal by the World Bank mission approximately in September–October, 1990. Actual implementation of the project will start after conclusion of the agreement with the World Bank.

Purchases by C-DOT

*630. SHRI M.G. SEKHAR:
SHRI R. GUNDU RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether C-DOT made certain purchases from companies based in USA, Singapore and other countries dealing in electronic test equipments, computers, components etc.;

(b) if so, the purchases made and the names of selling companies;

(c) whether any Indian or Indians have any direct or indirect interest in the foreign companies from whom C-DOT made the purchases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is ready.

[Translation]

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges Into Electronic Exchanges at Dholpur and Bharatpur

*631. SHRI THAN SINGH JATAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to convert telephone exchanges at Dholpur and Bharatpur into electronic exchanges;

(b) if so, the time by which electronic exchange will be installed there;

(c) whether telephone bills issued to telephone users in March, 90 were of excessive amount; if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to strengthen the organisational set up in view of the large number of the telephone users and difficulties faced by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1991-92 subject to availability of equipment.

(c) Out of 547 users excess billing complaints were received from 157 users during March, 1990. On preliminary inquiry 19 cases were found in order. In the remaining 138 cases provisional bills have been issued based on their past trend.

(d) Officers from Bharatpur Division have been instructed to visit Dholpur regularly.

To strengthen the organisational set up

a Sub-Division will be created as and when justified.

Filling up of SCs/STs Posts

*632. DR. BENGALI SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each group lying vacant at present in his

Ministry and since when;

(b) the action being taken to fill up these vacancies; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) The number of posts reserved for SCs and STs in each group, lying vacant at present in Ministry of External Affairs is as follows:

GROUP	SC	ST	Since when lying vacant
1	2	3	4
A	—	—	—
B	1	6	3 from 1986, 2 from 1987 and 2 from 1988
C	5	3	From 1988
D	1	4	2 posts for STs since 1988, 2 posts for STs since 1989 and 1 for SC in 1990

(b) For Group B and C posts, vacancies have been conveyed to Department of Personnel and Training for filling them under the Special Recruitment Drive this year. For Group D posts, applications are being invited from eligible Casual Labourers working in the Ministry. If SC and ST candidates are not available among the Casual Labourers, requisition will be sent to the Employment Exchange for sponsoring SC and ST candidates.

(c) Does not apply

[English]

Portuguese Culture Central at Goa

*633. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the Portuguese Government has made a request for setting up a cultural centre at Goa under the aegis of the Portuguese Embassy;

(b) if so, whether the request has been agreed to by Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) to (c). The Portuguese Government has made a request for setting up a Cultural Centre at Goa within the ambit of Government of India's policy guidelines on operation of such centres. The matter is under discussion

between the two Governments.

Meeting of the Re-Constituted National Integration Council

*634. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reconstituted National Integration Council has held its first meeting,

(b) if so, the subjects discussed at that meeting.

(c) whether proposals were placed before the Council to tackle the problem of recurring communal tensions in the country, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) (a) Yes, Sir. It held its first meeting on 11th April, 1990.

(b) Communal situation in India. Increased use of violence by political/secessionist activists. Punjab situation; Kashmir situation; and Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue.

(c) and (d). There was general discussion on all the subjects of the Agenda and after reviewing the communal situation in the country the National Integration Council resolved to set up a Committee to recommend a plan of action to effectively counter this growing menace

[*Translation*]

Telephone Connection in Bharouch

*635. SHRI CHANDUBHA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of applicants on the waiting list for telephone connection till 31st January, 1990 in Bharouch;

(b) the time by which telephone connections are likely to be provided to them; and

(c) the steps proposed for early release of telephone connections to all the applicants on waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) 2143 as on 31st January, 1990.

(b) and (c) The equipped switching capacity at Bharouch has been recently expanded on 16.2.90 by conversion from 2400 lines manual to 5000 lines automatic exchange. 850 new telephone connections have been provided upto 31.3.90. In the year 1990-91, 1300 more new telephone connections are proposed to be provided and this will clear the waiting list upto 31st January, 90. Further expansion of the exchange by 2000 lines is proposed for 1992-93 which will help in meeting further demands at Bharouch.

[*English*]

S.T.D. Disconnections in Delhi

6619. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Telephone Subscribers in Delhi who have got disconnected STD facility on their telephones and how many of them have got these disconnections as a protest against faulty billing by the Department;

(b) whether there has been any loss of

revenue on account of such disconnections; and

(c) the total number of STD institutional subscribers and private individual subscribers in Delhi and their total billing separately during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) As on date, 56% of telephones subscribers have telephones barred for STD. Most of the subscribers get their STD barred at the time of installing the connection or later to avoid misuse/unintentional excessive use. Also, as per Government instructions, most residential and office telephones of Government staff are STD barred as a economy measure. Faulty billing does not normally lead to request for barring of STD as such bills are corrected. No separate list of such disconnections is, however, maintained.

(b) No Sir, instead of STD the subscribers make use of operative assisted trunk calls.

(c) Information relating to the total number of institutions using STD is not maintained. The number of private subscribers having STD facility as on 1-4-90 is 1,82, 54. No separate information with regard to their billing is being maintained.

Supply of Milk by Mother Dairy

6620. SHRI P. PENCHALAI AH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether only toned milk is supplied in Delhi by Mother Dairy; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to arrange supply of full cream milk by Mother Dairy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Mother Dairy is designed to handle milk only through bulk vending system and is not equipped with the facilities required for packing of Full Cream Milk.

Linking of Sawaimadhopur District by STD

6621. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sawaimadhopur District (in Rajasthan) has been connected with STD and if not, the reasons thereof;

(b) the details of Automatic telephone exchanges installed and proposed to be installed in District Sawaimadhopur during this year; and

(c) whether the proposal for installation of automatic exchange at Gangapur and STD facility at Mahawa has been finalised if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. Sawaimadhopur District Headquarter has been connected with S.T.D.

(b) A Statement is given below.

(c) The manual exchange of Gangapur City is proposed to be replaced by an electronic exchange during 1990-91.

There is no proposal at present to provide STD facility at Mahawa.

STATEMENT**Part (b)**

List of automatic exchanges installed during 1989-90 in Sawaimadhopur District.

- | | | |
|-----|----------|--------------|
| (1) | Kudgaon | 25 lines SAX |
| (2) | Keladevi | 25 lines SAX |

List of automatic exchanges proposed to be installed during 1990-91 in Sawaimadhopur District subject to availability of equipment.

-
- | | | |
|-----|--------------|--|
| (1) | Todabhim | 128 Port C-DOT to replace SAX |
| (2) | Hatroi | 25 line SAX |
| (3) | Bhanakpura | 25 lines SAX |
| (4) | Gangapur | 512 Port (2 units) to replace manual exchange. |
| (5) | Hindaun | 512 Port (2 units) to replace manual exchange. |
| (6) | Karauli | 512 Port to replace manual exchange. |
| (7) | Srimahavirji | 64 Mini ILT to replace SAX. |
| (8) | Shiwar | 64 Mini ILT to replace SAX. |
-

Generation of Employment in Rural Areas

6622. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jobs created in rural areas during the last three months in the country under various schemes of Government;

(b) whether any new schemes have been started to provide employment under the right to work programme of the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) The Rural Development Department is implementing two programmes for employment generation in the rural areas, namely, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY). Under the IRDP, families having annual income below Rs. 4800/- are assisted for self-employment. Under the JRY, wage employment is created through the works programme at public cost. Accordingly, the IRDP is monitored in terms of families assisted and the JRY in terms of person days of employment generated. According to reports received from the States/Union Territories,

983673 families were assisted from December, 1989 to February, 1990. In the same period, about 2429 lakh mandays were generated under the JRY.

(b) and (c). No new scheme has yet been started. Details of the Employment Guarantee Scheme for the drought prone areas and areas with acute problem of rural unemployment, as announced by the Union Finance Minister in his budget speech for the year 1990-91, are being worked out.

Fishing Harbours in Orissa

6624. SHRID AMAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in regard to the construction of the fishing harbour projects which were taken up in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the number of fishing harbours proposed to be set up in Orissa during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) The progress upto February, 1990, on the construction of fishery harbour projects sanctioned for Orissa in the Seventh Five Year Plan is as follows:

Name of the fishery harbour

<i>Project</i>	<i>Progress</i>
(i) Nuagarh	Sub soil investigation partly completed, 5 acres of land has been reclaimed, construction of 12 sheds completed and work order to the contractor on the major item namely construction of quay wall has been issued.
(ii) Gopalpur	Consultant on the project appointed, construction of administrative and security office reached completion stage, tender for major item of work namely quay wall has been received.
(iii) Paradip	The project was sanctioned in February, 1990.

(b) There is no proposal, at present, to sanction any fishery harbour for Orissa during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Scheme for Tribal Farmers Affected by Natural Calamities

6625. SHRI BASAVAPUNNAIAH SINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government provide any assistance under any scheme to tribal farmers affected by natural calamities; and

(b) if so, whether assistance for payment of minimum wages under employment generation programme, agriculture in-put subsidy and assistance for cattle conservation are included in the Schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) and (b). Central assistance for various items including for payment of minimum wages under employment generation programmes, agricultural input subsidy and assistance for cattle conservation in the wake of natural calamities is extended to the affected farmers as per Central norms without making distinction between the tribal and non-tribal farmers.

Implementation of Operation Flood Projects In Kerala

6626. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the results and achievements of the implementation of Operation Flood projects in Kerala during the last two years;

(b) the financial assistance given by National Dairy Development Board to Kerala during that period; and

(c) the action plan proposed by the National Dairy Development Board under Operation Flood programme in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) Achievements of the implementation of Operation Flood in Kerala under key parameters during the last two years are given in table below:—

<i>Key Parameters</i>	<i>Cumulative Achievements as on</i>	
	<i>Dec., 1987</i>	<i>Dec., 1989</i>
i) Dairy Cooperative Societies organised	773	887
ii) Farmer Members ('000)	132.15	183.52
iii) Milk procurement (Lakh Kg. per Day)	1.73	2.18
iv) Milk processing capacity (Lakh Ltrs. per Day)	2.20	3.76
v) Milk Marketing (Lakh Litres Per Day)	1.64	1.85

(b) Financial Assistance of Rs. 396.8 lakh (provisional) has been provided to the Kerala Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (KCMMF) during the last two years (1988-89 and 1989-90).

(c) The KCMMF has not yet sent their Annual Action Plans beyond 1990 to the National Dairy Development Board.

Provision of Telephone Connection

6627. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of telephone connections provided so far in each State/ Union Territory todate;

(b) by when, the persons registered in 1989 for telephone connections in South Delhi are likely to be provided with telephones;

(c) the position regarding availability of telephone instruments and spares as against total demand in the country; and

(d) which are the companies engaged in manufacturing of telephone instruments in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The information is given in the attached statement I.

(b) It is proposed to clear the waiting list of South Delhi as on 31.12.1989 during the 8th Five Year Plan progressively subject to availability of equipment.

(c) Adequate quantity of telephone instruments and spares is available to meet the demand.

(d) A statement II giving the information is attached.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of State/Union Territory</i>	<i>Telephone connections provided upto 31.3.90</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	313150
2.	Assam	37707
3.	Bihar	97141
4.	Gujarat	422543
5.	Haryana	91351
6.	Himachal Pradesh	29392
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	*27399
8.	Kerala	229892

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of State/Union Territory</i>	<i>Telephone connections provided upto 31.3.90</i>
1	2	3
9.	Karnataka	299317
10.	Maharashtra	960685
11.	Madhya Pradesh	171023
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	2794
13.	Mizoram	1996
14.	Meghalaya	6514
15.	Nagaland	3825
16.	Manipur	4215
17.	Tripura	4232
18.	Orissa	60121
19.	Punjab	169375
20.	Rajasthan	138080
21.	Tamil Nadu	419744
22.	Uttar Pradesh	291024
23.	<u>West Bengal</u>	305036
24.	Sikkim	1777
25.	Goa	12999
26.	Pondicherry	7672
UNION TERRITORY		
27.	Delhi	458553
28.	Chandigarh	20229

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of State/Union Territory</i>	<i>Telephone connections provided upto 31.3.90</i>
1	2	3
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1606
30.	Lakshadweep	1056
31.	Daman & Diu	978
32.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	679
Total:		4592105

As on 31.1.1990.

STATEMENT-II

Name of the firms in whose favour letter of intent for manufacture of Telephone instruments has been issued

1. Bharti Telecom Limited
2. BPL Systems and Projects Limited
3. Crompton Greaves Limited
4. Gujarat Communications Electronics Limited
5. Indian Telephone Industry Limited (Bangalore)
6. Indian Telephone Industries Limited (Srinagar)
7. Indian Telephone Industries Limited (Naini)
8. Keltron Telephone Instruments Limited
9. L Avnir Business Systems
10. Pradeshya Industrial and Investment Corpn. of U.P. Limited
11. Pulsar Electronics Limited
12. Punjab Wireless System Limited
13. Rajasthan Telephone Industries Limited

14. Remington Rand of India Limited
 15. SET Telecommunications
 16. Suneel Communications
 17. Swede India Teletronics Limited
 18. Telematics Systems Limited
 19. Texton Telecommunication Private limited
 20. The Priyaraja Enterprise
 21. United Telecoms Limited
 22. UNITEL Communications Limited
 23. WEBEL Communication Industries Limited
-

Strike by Workers In Paradip Port

6628. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the workers of Paradip Port went on strike during 1988-89 and 1989-90 and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the details of the steps taken by Government to fulfil the demands of those workers?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The employees and workers of Paradip Port Trust participated in all-Ports strike from 17.4.1989 to 22.4.1989 over the demand for wage revision. It was settled by a Memorandum of Understanding arrived at on 21.4.1989. In addition, the cargo handling workers were on strike from 7.6.1989 to 9.6.1989 in protest against direct delivery of fertilizers from the vessel. In the first shift of 19.8.1989, work on vessels were affected due to death of a Winchman in an accident.

Again, in the first shift of 27.8.89, winchmen and signalmen stopped work over a local demand. The demands of local nature are discussed and settled by bilateral discussions/conciliation.

Ammonia Plant based on Naphtha at Sindri

6629. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for setting up a 900 tonne per day Ammonia plant based on naphtha at Sindri was submitted to Union Government for clearance; and

(b) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A proposal for setting up a new 900 TPD of Ammonia and 1500 TPD Urea project at Sindri was received from the Fertiliser Corporation of India. The proposal would be considered after the VIII Plan is finalised.

Opening of Post and Telegraph Offices in Madhya Pradesh

6630. SHRI DALIP SINGH JU DEO:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where new
Post and Telegraph offices are proposed to
be opened during the current year in Madhya
Pradesh and those which are being up-
graded; and

(b) the names of places in Madhya
Pradesh where new telephone exchanges
are proposed to be installed, the existing

telephone exchanges to be upgraded and
places to be linked by STD during the current
year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). The
names of proposed Post offices are indi-
cated in the attached statement. As regards
upgradations, information is being collected
and will be laid on the Table of the House.

The information regarding opening and
upgrading of Telegraph offices and Tele-
phone exchanges is being collected and will
be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Proposed Post Offices</i>	<i>District</i>
1	2	3
1.	Parsada	Durg
2.	Nandal	Durg
3.	Bharda	Durg
4.	Salhetola	Rajnandgaon
5.	Korchatola	Bilaspur
6.	Piparkhunti	Bilaspur
7.	Jhingatpur	Bilaspur
8.	Semaria	Bilaspur
9.	Darri	Bilaspur
10.	Terhadhaura	Bilaspur
11.	Donda	Bilaspur
12.	Deorikhurd	Bilaspur

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Proposed Post Offices</i>	<i>District</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
13.	Rasola	Bilaspur
14.	Umaria Dadar	Bilaspur
15.	Gadadih	Bilaspur
16.	Bandha	Sidhi
17.	Kohka	Shahdol
18.	Dhamokhar	Shahdol
19.	Badwar	Shahdol
20.	Medra	Sidhi
21.	Onilhiyamar	Shahdol
22.	Checharia	Shahdol
23.	Jhal	Shahdol
24.	Bilaspur	Shahdol
25.	Chanda	Mandla
26.	Chamni	Mandla
27.	Bhimdongri	Mandla
28.	Pondi	Mandla
29.	Bramhpuri	Raipur
30.	Koliha	Raipur
31.	Koteya	Ambikapur
32.	Lurgikala	Raigarh
33.	Chiranga	Raigarh

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Proposed Post Offices</i>	<i>District</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
34.	Garwakala	Rewa
35.	Jhapal	Betul
36.	Bheda	Chhindwara
37.	Malwagi	Ratlam
38.	Kharakataka	Guna
39.	Gynehri	Guna
40.	Tarai	Guna
41.	Vikrampur	Guna
42.	Badera	Guna
43.	Damdama	Guna
44.	Kukreta	Guna
45.	Bilakhedi	Guna
46.	Ghasad	Dewas
47.	Sarai	Dhar
48.	Baledi	Dhar
49.	Bhidotakot	Dhar
50.	Bola	Dhar
51.	Dorai	Neemuch
52.	Loharia	Neemuch
53.	Kojya	Mandsaur
54.	Masira	Shahdol

Departmental sub offices

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Proposed Post Office</i>	<i>District</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	S.G.I.P.S. Birshinghpur Pali	Shahdol
2.	Ujjain Chimanganj Mandi	Ujjain
3.	Shri Synthetics Ujjain	Ujjain

Bangla-Deshi Labourers in Agartala

6631. SHRI K.B.K. DEB BURMAN:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) the average number of Bangla-
Deshi labourers coming to Agartala town
every day; and

(b) what is the Government's policy with
regard to checking of this free flow of labour,
who come across from Bangla Desh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI
SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). The
Government does not permit any Ban-
gladeshi labourer to cross the border with a
view to taking up labour jobs in India. All
illegal entrants who are detected on the
border are pushed back except, the tribals
from Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh
who have been coming to this Country with
a view to seeking temporary refuge and are
being accommodated in camps in Tripura.

Option from Employees of MCEF

6632. SHRIGANGA CHARAN LODHI:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mobile Civil Emergency
Force (MCEF), Delhi was wound up in Sep-
tember, 1989;

(b) whether employees of the organisa-
tion were sent to the Central Surplus Cell at
the time of winding up of the M.C.E.F.; and

(c) whether Government propose to
take option from the employees in the matter
of their absorption in some other organisa-
tion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI
SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the time of formal winding up of
MCEF, such of the employees of the MCEF
who did not exercise their option to join the
CISF were sent to the Central Surplus Cell
for redeployment in terms of the interim
order of the Supreme Court dated 15.5.89.

(c) The option has already been exer-
cised by the employees and action thereon
has been taken in accordance with the or-
ders passed by the Supreme Court.

Shifting of Telecom Factory, Calcutta

6633. SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift the existing factory premises of Telecom Factory at Calcutta;

(b) whether new site has been selected and if so, the estimated cost of further investment on construction etc.;

(c) whether there has been any representation regarding any pollution from the present factory premises;

(d) whether any efforts has been made to check air-pollution, if any in the existing set up of the Telecom Factory at Calcutta;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action proposed to avoid fresh expenditure on shifting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. only a part of the factory is proposed to be shifted.

(b) Yes, Sir. The new site has been selected at Gopalpore, Calcutta. The estimated cost of construction etc. is Rs. 6,09,80,000/-.

(c) Yes, Sir. A notice was received from West Bengal Pollution Central Board in July, 1985 to obtain their consent for discharge of effluents from the existing factory in accordance with the "Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974".

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) On the basis of advice rendered by an export agency approved by West Bengal Pollution Control Board, certain pollution control equipment have been procured and are under installation at present.

(f) Telecom Factory at the existing site at Calcutta was set up in 1855. At that time, the factory areas was outside the residential limits. In course of time, the factory area, has come with Inner City Zone on account of expansion of city. it is, therefore, essential to shift the pollution prone manufacturing processes to an alternative site and as such only a part of the factory is being shifted to Gopalpore, a suburb of Calcutta. Thus, the fresh expenditure on shifting is unavoidable.

Import of component and Spares for Building up of Vessels by H.S.L.

6634. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Vishakhapatnam has increased import of component and spares during the year 1988-89 and 1989-90 compared to previous two years, for building up different vessels;

(b) if so, the details of items of imports made by the HSL from each country and expenditure incurred for the procurement of these items during 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(c) the details of proposed import of such items for the year 1990-91 including fire protection door?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir. The position is stated below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of items imported</i>		<i>Cost (Rs. in crores)</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	2		3	4
1986-87	For Cargo Ships	113	3.13	
	For Drillship	5	54.19	
	For OPSSVs	3	1.32	58.64
1987-88	For Cargo Ships	121	14.05	
	For Drillship	5	0.56	
	For OPSSVs	2	0.06	14.67
1988-89	For Cargo Ships	56		13.69
1989-90	For Cargo Ships	37		5.1

(b) Details of Imports with countries of origin would be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) During 1990-91 HSL proposes to import 25 items for Cargo Ships at a cost of Rs. 1.83 crores. However, import of Fire Protection Doors during 1990-91 is not contemplated by the Shipyard

[*Translation*]

Telephone Facility to Gram Panchayats in Rajasthan

6635. SHRI NANDLAL MEENA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Panchayat head - quarters in Rajasthan having telephone facility;

(b) the time by which all Panchayat headquarters in Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Dungarpur and Banswara districts of Rajasthan are likely to be lined with telephones; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for providing direct telephone link between Pratapgarh and District headquarters of

Chittorgarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) 2245 Nos. of Gram Panchayat Headquarters are having Telecom facilities as on 31.3.1990.

(b) All Gram Panchayat Headquarters in Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Dungarpur and Banswara districts of Rajasthan are likely to be lined with Telecom facility during 8th Five Year Plan.

(c) Pratapgarh is already connected with district headquarter Chittorgarh by an open-wire line.

In order to improve connectivity, and reliability it is proposed to connect Pratapgarh with Chittorgarh by means of a 120 Channel Digital UHF System during the 8th Plan.

Construction work on National Highway between Pasrata and Narayanpur in Bihar

6636. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work on National Highway between Pasrata and Narayanpur in Khagaria District of Bihar is going on for the last many years and has not been completed so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for early completion of the work for the smooth flow of traffic?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. All the works sanctioned for improvement of this section earlier under the regular development programme have been completed. However, flood damage repair works sanctioned during the last financial year are in progress. These are likely to be completed by June, 1990.

[English]

Arappuzha Bridge in Kerala

6637. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved the proposal to construct Arappuzha bridge in Kerala at the first reach of Kozhikode bye-pass; and

(b) if so, the total amount sanctioned for the construction?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The work of construction of Arappuzha bridge is provided in the Annual Plan 1990-91 at an estimated cost Rs. 500.00 lakhs and the Technical proposal received from the State Government has been approved.

[Translation]

Pilgrimage to Hinglaj Mata's Temple

6638. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the location of Hinglaj Mata's temple in Pakistan;

(b) whether Hindu pilgrims are allowed to go there;

(c) if so, the number of Hindu pilgrims who have visited that temple since independence; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by Government to get the temple opened to Hindu pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Hinglaj Mata's temple is located in District Lasbela (Balochistan) in Pakistan.

(b) to (d) Government have requested the Government of Pakistan to open up more shrines, including Mata Hinglaj's temple, to pilgrims from India and the matter remains under the latter's consideration.

[English]

Construction and Improvement of National Highways in Punjab

6639. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total kilometres of National Highways constructed, improved, and repaired in Punjab during the year 1989-90; and

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). No new construction of National Highways was undertaken during 1989-90. However, improvements by way of strengthening the carriageway in 85 kms. provision of paved shoulders in 32.88 km. and raising of road level in 1.5 km., were completed during the year. The entire length of 973 kms. of the National Highways was maintained and repaired to the required standards, keeping in view the traffic intensity as well as the availability of funds. During the year, expenditure of Rs. 26.16 crores and Rs. 4.5 crores respectively has been reported by Punjab P.W.D. for development and maintenance of the National Highways.

Pesticides Insecticides in the Schedule to the Insecticides Act 1968

6640. **SHRI RAMDAS SINGH:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the insecticides, fungicides, herbicides which were in the schedule to the Insecticides Act, 1968 since its enactment and have been granted registration certificate by the Registration Committee of the Central Insecticides Board during the last three years; and

(b) the names of the insecticides, fungicides and herbicides which are pending before the Registration Committee of the Central Insecticides Board for inclusion in the schedule and also which are pending for grant of registration certificate before the Registration Committee under sections 9 (3) and 9 (3B) of the Insecticides Act along with the names of the parties, product-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) Names of the insecticides including fungicides and herbicides which are in the schedule to the Insecticides Act, 1968 (upto date) are given at Annexure-I [Placed in Library. See LT No. 1002/90]. Name of the insecticides, fungicides, herbicides which were in the schedule to the Act since its enactment and have been granted registration certificate by the Registration Committee during the last three years are given at Annexure-II [Placed in Library. See LT No. 1002/90].

(b) No application pertaining to insecticides including fungicides and herbicides is pending before Central Insecticides Board for their inclusion in the Schedule to the Insecticides Act, 1968.

List of insecticides including fungicides and herbicides in respect of which applications for registration under section 9 (3) and 9 (3B) pending before the Registration Committee is placed at Annexure-III [Placed in Library. See LT No. 1002/90] A and III [Placed in Library. See LT No. 1002/90] B respectively. Names of the applicants product wise are also mentioned therein.

Telephone Connections in Ghaziabad Telephone Exchange

6641. **SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the backlog in telephone connections provided in Ghaziabad under each category as on 31 March, 1990; and

(b) the tentative programme for coverage by the end of current year in each category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The number of

persons on the waiting list category wise as on 31.3.90 in various exchanges in Ghazia-

bad is given below:

Category	No. of persons in waiting list in		
	Rajnagar Telephone Exchange	Patel Nagar Telephone Exchange	Shahdara East Telephone
1	2	3	4
OYT General	9	3	6
OYT Special	—	—	—
NOYT Special	14	5	8
NOYT SS	—	1	—
NOYT General	3584	378	463
Total	3607	387	477

(b) Expansion by 7000 lines in Rajnagar telephone exchange has been planned during the current year which is expected to clear the waiting list in all categories except NOYT. General category in that exchange. No expansion in other exchanges is expected during the current year.

Applications of Freedom fighters

6642. PROF. GOPALRAO MAYEKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications of Freedom Fighters from Goa pending with the Central Government for approval of their pensions;

(b) reasons for the delay; and

(c) the steps proposed to expedite the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c). All applications received from Goa upto the prescribed date (31.3.1982) were considered and decisions communicated to the applicants. However, where applicants, whose claims had not been accepted, furnish additional evidence, the case is reviewed. This is a continuing process.

Road Projects Cleared under Central Road Fund to Rajasthan

6643. SHRI HEMENDRA SINGH BANERA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is proposal to construct a bye-pass road at Bhiwara and a road from Bhiwara to Deoli via Banera;

(b) if so, whether Union Government propose to provide assistance for the con-

struction of these projects from Central Road Fund;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Government of Rajasthan has not sought Central assistance for the construction of Bhilwara bypass, located on a State road. As regards, construction of State Roads from Bhilwara-Shahpura (via Banera) and Shahpura-Jahajpur-Deoli, proposals have been received from the State Government for assistance under Central Road Fund.

(b) to (d). As the actual augmentation of Central Road Fund against which the proposals were invited has not yet taken place, the same have not been processed for approval.

[Translation]

Microwave Centre at Jaspur in Raigarh District

6644. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Microwave Centre at Jaspur in Raigarh district;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Jaspur is being given connectivity through 8 Mb/s (120 Chl.) High grade optical fibre system in the 8th plan period and therefore Microwave System is not being planned on this route.

Salaries to Extra Departmental Employees

6645. SHRISATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) since when the Extra Departmental Employees service is existing in Postal Departments and the details of the salaries and facilities being provided to them; and

(b) the State-wise number of Extra Departmental Employees in the country at present and the number of such employees who have been regularised in the Departmental services during the last three years and the scheme for regularising them in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The Extra Departmental System, as a regular measure, was introduced in the year 1866-67. The Extra Departmental employees are not paid salary but they are paid monthly allowance subject to a certain minimum and maximum depending upon the workload. The allowance of all categories of Extra Departmental employees revised with effect from 1.1.1986 are as under:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Max.</i>
ED Sub postmaster and ED Sorter	385	620
ED Branch postmaster	275	440
All ED Stamp Vendors	270	420

<i>Category</i>	<i>Min.</i>	<i>Max.</i>
All other ED Agents.		
i) for less than two hours of workload.	Rs. 240 (Fixed)	
ii) for workload of two hours and above.	270	420

In addition to the aforesaid allowances, the ED Branch Postmasters are eligible to draw delivery and conveyance allowance upto a maximum of Rs. 50/- and office maintenance allowance upto a maximum of Rs. 25/- p.m. The ED Delivery Agents/ED Mail Carriers and eligible for grant of cycle allowance of Rs. 20/- p.m. There is also a provision to grant fixed stationery charges of Rs. 3/- per Extra Departmental Branch Postmasters/Extra Departmental Sub postmasters and Rs. 1/- in respect of other categories of ED Agents. From 1.1.90 the ED employees have become entitled to dearness allowance at the rate of 38/- of their basic allowance. They are also eligible for grant of ex-gratia gratuity and the maximum amount payable is Rs. 3000/- subject to a minimum service of 10 years. ED Agents can avail leave without allowances upto a maximum of 180 days. Besides this, flood advance of Rs. 100/- recoverable in 10 instalments is also sanctioned to ED employees as and when the same is sanctioned to regular government servants in the flood affected areas. The ED Agents are also entitled to productivity linked bonus on the basis of their actual emoluments.

(b) The information is being called from the postal Circles and will be placed on the table of the House.

[English]

STD Facilities in Orissa

6646. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposed to provide STD facilities in some more towns in Orissa during 1990-91;

(b) if so, the towns identified therefor;

(c) whether there is a proposal to introduce STD facility in Paralakhemundi and some other towns in Ganjam districts in Orissa;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether STD facilities would be provided to those towns in 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following 11 stations are planned to be provided with STD facility during 1990-91: Aska, Bargah, Chandipur Gunupur, Joda, Jatni Barbil, Kantabanji, Mowrangpur, Porlakhemundi, Rajgangpur.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Paralakhemundi and Aska.

(e) Yes, Sir, subject to availability of equipment.

Agitation by Ladakhi Buddhists Association

6647. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to the threat given by the Ladakhi Budhists Association to launch an agitation for an autonomous District Council;

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

(c) the Government's stand in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). The Ladakhi Budhists Association have since dropped their demand for Union Territory Status and have instead demanded autonomous District Council for Leh. It is for the State Government to consider the demand of the Association within the framework of the constitution of Jammu and Kashmir and other State laws.

Committee to Enquire into Delhi Police Officer's Delinquencies

6648 SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee set up to inquire into the delinquencies of Delhi Police Officers during November, 1984 riots in Delhi has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the finding thereof, and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c). The Kapur-Mittal Committee, which was set up to enquire into the delinquencies of Delhi Police Officers has submitted its Report to the Lt. Governor of Delhi on 1st March, 1990, and is under examination of the Delhi Administration.

Recommendations of Kapur-Mittal Committee

6649. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

SHRI KIRPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Justice Kapur a co-member of the Kapur-Mittal Committee set up to inquire into the delinquencies of Delhi Police Officers during November, 1984 riots in Delhi has recommended the institution of a full-fledged high powered inquiry into the conduct of the police personnel; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). The Report of Kapur-Mittal Committee submitted to the Lt. Governor, Delhi on the 1st March, 1990 is under examination in Delhi Administration.

[Translation]

Land under Delhi Land Reforms Act

6650. SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the maximum limit of irrigated land in possession of one family under the Delhi Land Reforms Act;

(b) whether sanction to purchase the land and get it registered in villages of Mehrauli Tehsil was issued to some people during the year 1985; and

(c) if so, the details and reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) Under the provisions of Delhi Land Reforms Act, no maximum limit of land irrigated or otherwise which could be held by one family is prescribed. The limit of holding to be held by the bhumidhars is prescribed in the Delhi Land Holding Ceiling Act, 1960, details of which are as under:

- (a) i) 7.25 hectares, in case of land which is assured of irrigation from a private source of irrigation and is capable of yielding at least two crops in a year; or
- ii) 5.8 hectares, in the case of land which is assured of irrigation from a Government source of irrigation and is capable of yielding at least two crop in a year; or
- (b) i) 10.9 hectares, in the case of land which is assured of irrigation from a private source of irrigation and is capable of yielding at least one crop in a year; or

- ii) 8.7 hectares, in the case of land which is assured of irrigation from a Government source of irrigation and is capable of yielding at least one crop in a year; or

- (c) 21.8 hectares, in the case of any other land including an orchard.

In addition to the above land, a person representing a family shall, also be entitled to hold land not exceeding the ceiling limit for each of his major sons.

(b) and (c). Transfer of land in Delhi is registered under the Indian Registration Act only when a No Objection Certificate is obtained from the Deputy Commissioner, Delhi under the provisions of Delhi Land (Registration on Transfer) Act, 1962. This No Objection Certificate is issued only in respect of lands which are free from the notification of acquisition issued under Section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act. Particulars of such N.O.C. issued on 27.3.85, 25.7.85 and 8.8.85 are given in the Statement enclosed.

APRIL 26, 1990

STATEMENT

List of No Objection Certificates Issued on 27.3.85, 25—7—1985 and 8.8.1985 in Respect of Villages (Tehsil Mehrauli) New Delhi.

S. No.	Name of the Seller	Name of the Purchaser	N.O.C. Number	Date		Khasra No.	Area		
				Receipt	Issue		Bigha	Biswa	Village
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Sh. Sati Ram	Sh. Amitabh Bachan	6060	26.3.85	27.3.85	7/18—19	4	— 19	Jonapur
2.	Sh. Vinod kumar	— do —	6061	26.3.85	27.3.85	7/12	1	— 17	— do —
3.	Sh. Chattar Singh	— do —	6062	26.3.85	27.3.85	7/13	3	— 10	— do —
4	Sh. Pat Ram	— do —	6063	26.3.85	27.3.85	7/8	4	— 9	— do —
5.	— do —	— do —	6064	26.3.85	27.3.85	24/12/2, 13/2, 18/1 etc			— do —
6.	— do —	— do —	6065	26.3.85	27.3.85	7/2/2	3	— 1	— do —
7.	— do —	— do —	6066	26.3.85	27.3.85	4/23	4	— 12	— do —
8.	Sh. Chen Sukh	Sh. Mohar Singh	6073	26.3.85	27.3.85	45/4	4	— 16	Samalka

S. No.	Name of the Seller	Name of the Purchaser	N.O.C. Number	Date		Khasra No.	Area		
				Receipt	Issue		Bigha	Biswa	Village
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.	Sh. Dhir Singh	Sh. Mohd. Amim	6074	26.3.85	27.3.85	759/531/359	0	— 4	Asola
10.	— do—	Sh. Rafiq Ahmed	6075	26.3.85	27.3.85	— do—	—	do—	— do—
11.	— do—	Sh. Niyaz Ahmed	6076	26.3.85	27.3.85	— do—	—	do—	— do—
12.	— do—	Sh. Mohmad Umar	6077	26.3.85	27.3.85	— do—	—	do—	— do—
13.	Sh. Man Singh	Sh. Ahmed Rajiuddin	6078	26.3.85	27.3.85	— do—	—	do—	— do—
14.	Sh. Dhir Singh	Sh. Bashrah Sultan	6079	26.3.85	27.3.85	— do—	—	do—	— do—
15.	— do—	Sh. Syed Manzoor	6080	26.3.85	27.3.85	— do—	—	do—	— do—
16.	— do—	Sh. Mohd. Ahmed	6081	26.3.85	27.3.85	358	0	— 4	Asola
17.	— do—	Sh. Mohd. Javed	6082	26.3.85	27.3.85	358	0	— 2 1/2	— do—

S. No.	Name of the Seller	Name of the Purchaser	N.O.C. Number	Date		Khasra No.	Area		
				Receipt	Issue		Bigha	Biswa	Village
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
18.	Sh. Dhir Shingh	Sh. Hoshier Singh	6083	26.3.85	27.3.85	759/531/359	0	— 4	Asola
19.	— do—	Sh. Afsar Jahan begum	6084	26.3.85	27.3.85	— do—	0	— 4	— do—
20.	Sh. Sunder Singh	Shakuntala	6085	26.3.85	27.3.85	1151/3	225 Sq.Yds		Mehrauli
21.	Smt. Kamlesh	Kanta Kumari	11876	24.7.85	25.7.85	1104/1	1	— 0	Rangpuri
22.	— do—	Anit Lal	11877	24.7.85	25.7.85	1104/1	1	— 0	— do—
23.	— do—	Mahender Singh	11878	24.7.85	25.7.85	— do—	1	— 0	Rangpuri
24.	Sh. Ram Sarup	Ajitabh Bachan	11881	24.7.85	25.7.85	18/7,26,etc.	12	— 2	Jonapur
25.	— do—	— do—	11882	24.7.85	25.7.85	18/5,6	12	— 2	Jonapur
26.	— do—	— do—	11883	24.7.85	25.7.85	— do—	12	— 2	Jonapur
27.	— do—	Sheela	11884	24.7.85	25.7.85	58/16,20/2	5	— 17	Jonapur

S. No.	Name of the Seller	Name of the Purchaser	N.O.C. Number	Date		Khasra No.	Area		
				Receipt	Issue		Bigha	Biswa	Village
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
28.	Sh. Ram Sarup	Ramola Bachan	11885	24.7.85	25.7.85	58/16, 20/2	5—17		Jonapur
29.	— do—	— do—	11886	24.7.85	25.7.85	16/17, 18	5 — 17		Jonapur
30.	— do—	Dhir Kumar Bachan	11887	24.7.85	25.7.85	16/19, etc.	33 1/2 — 0		Jonapur
31.	— do—	— do—		24.7.85	25.7.85	56/14/2	10 — 2		Jonapur
32.	— do—	Ramola Bachan	11888	24.7.85	25.7.85	14/2/17	10 — 2		Jonapur
33.	— do—	Bhim Kumar Bachan	11889	24.7.85	25.7.85	18/7 etc.	12 — 2		Jonapur
34.	Sh. Mahender Singh	Vijaybhair Doah	11890	24.7.85	25.7.85	731, 730	5 — 8		Godapur
35.	Sh. Ram Sarup	Amitabh Bachan	11891	24.7.85	25.7.85	18/7, 26, etc.	12 — 2		Jonapur
36.	Sh. Koshal Gupta	R.K. Gupta	11892	24.7.85	25.7.85	1104, 1430	1 — 8		Rangpuri

S. No.	Name of the Seller	Name of the Purchaser	N.O.C. Number	Date		Khasra No.	Area		
				Receipt	Issue		Bigha	Biswa	Village
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
37.	Sh. Nethu	Ramkishan	11893	24.7.85	25.7.85	374	1	— 14	Fatehpur
38.	Sh. Bhola	Sanjay Sharma	11894	24.7.85	25.7.85	364, etc	5	— 13	— do—
39.	Sh. Bhola	Pardeep Kumar	11895	24.7.85	25.7.85	340, 374	2	— 7	— do—
40.	Sh. Bhola Ram	Ram Kishan	11896	24.7.85	25.7.85	371	4	— 9	— do—
41.	Sh. Bhola Ram	Naresh	11897	24.7.85	25.7.85	335 etc.	2	— 7	— do—
42.	Sh. Ghan Sham	Revti Sharma	12283	6.8.85	3.8.85	1531, 1532	4	— 19	Asola
43.	Sh. Parsa Etc.	Shanti etc.	12284	6.8.85	3.8.85	940	7	— 11	Asola
44.	Sh. Munshi Etc.	Panchsheel Service	12285	6.8.85	8.8.85	56/14/2/etc.	10	— 2	Jonapur
45.	Sh. Munshi Etc.	— do—	12286	6.8.85	8.8.85	— do—	10	— 2	Jonapur
46.	— do—	Baleshwar Bahl	12287	6.8.85	8.8.85	56/23/1, 24/1	4	— 16	Jonapur

S. No.	Name of the Seller	Name of the Purchaser	N.O.C. Number	Date		Khasra No.	Area		
				Receipt	Issue		Bigha	Biswa	Village
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
47.	Sh. Man chand	Urvashi Wallia	12288	6.8.85	8.8.85	56/5	12	— 14	Jonapur
48.	— do—	— do—	12289	6.8.85	8.8.85	56/5,6	12	— 14	Jonapur
49.	Munshi etc	— do—	12290	6.8.85	8.8.85	56/14	1	— 6	Jonapur
50.	Mam Chand	Panchsheela Service	12291	6.8.85	8.8.85	56/15 etc	10	— 2	Jonapur
51	Lakhi etc.	Kishan Chand Gupta	12292	6.8.85	8.8.85	1703'947	15	— 11	Fatehpur Berl

[English]

Persons Arrested on Charge of Espionage

6651. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons arrested on charges of espionage during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases decided and those still pending along with reasons for the pending cases; and

(c) the number of persons acquitted, and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c). As per available information, during the last three years 247 persons were arrested on charges of espionage. During this period, 61 cases resulted in conviction and 73 cases are either under trial or under investigation. Three persons were acquitted by the Courts during this period.

Reduction of Chemical Arms

6652. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO
BRAHMBHATT:
SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD
VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States of America and USSR have agreed to reduce the chemical arms so as to give peace in the world;

(b) if so, to what extent.

(c) whether this move has been welcomed by India and other countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). In their bilateral dialogue on chemical weapons the United States and the Soviet Union have agreed to start reducing their chemical weapons stocks even before the entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention which is under negotiation within the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. The exact details of these reductions are still to be worked out.

(c) and (d). India and most other neutral and Non-aligned countries have welcomed the recent US-Soviet understanding on the reduction of their chemical weapons stockpiles. They hope that these reductions will be carried out as a part of the basic objective of the Chemical Weapons Convention under negotiation, completely to eliminate all chemical weapons and their production facilities within a period of ten years after the entry into force of the Convention.

[Translation]

Visit of Indian Writers Delegations to Foreign Countries

6653. PROF. SHAILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of delegations of Indian writers went to foreign countries during 1988-89, 1989-90 and the countries visited by them; and

(b) the total number of writers in the said delegations and the number of Hindi writers amongst them?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) During 1988-89, one Indian writers delegation went to Czechoslovakia and during 1989-90 two Indian writers delegations - one each to China and Bangladesh - were sponsored by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

(b) The information is as under:

- i) The delegation to Czechoslovakia comprised of five writers and included two Hindi writers.
- ii) The delegation to China comprised a total of seven writers (sent in two parts in June, 1989 and December, 1989) and included two Hindi writers.
- iii) The delegation to Bangladesh comprised of two writers and did not include any Hindi writer.

[English]

Foreign Loan for Watershed Project

6655. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Development Association and World Bank have sanctioned loan for watershed project in the country;

(b) the amount of loan applied, loan sanctioned and the terms and conditions settled with each of the above organisation, separately; and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be launched, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The International Development Association (IDA) and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) have recently sanctioned credit and loan for Integrated Watershed Development Project (Hills).

(b) A credit of US\$ 56.8 million and a loan of US\$ 13.0 million have been negotiated and sanctioned. The terms and conditions for credit and loan are given below:

- i) *The terms and conditions of credit*

from IDA

The credit is repayable in half yearly instalments over a period of 35 years with a grace period of 10 year.

A commitment charge on the principal amount of the credit not withdrawn from time to time at a rate to be set by IDA as of June 30 of each year, but not to exceed the rate of one half of one per cent per annum.

A service charge of three-fourths of one per cent per annum on the principal amount of the credit withdrawn and outstanding from time to time is also payable.

- ii) *Terms and condition of loan sanctioned by IBRD*

The loan is repayable in half yearly instalments over a period of 20 years with 5 years grace period.

A commitment charge at a rate of three-fourths of one per cent per annum on the principal amount of the loan not withdrawn from time to time; and

Interest at a rate of one-half per cent per annum on banks' qualified borrowings is also payable.

(c) The project is likely to be launched shortly in the states of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab.

Diversion of Funds Meant for Earthquake Victims

6656. SHRI NARSINGRAO SURYA-WANSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds sanctioned by Union Government to Himachal Pradesh Government for relief to the victims of the earthquake that rocked Kangra in April, 1986 were diverted by the State Government for other purposes;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) No, Sir.

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

Supply of Potash by Soviet Union

6657. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet Union has agreed to supply five lakh tonne of muriate of potash under the trade plan for this year;

(b) if so, to what extent this will meet the requirements of the fertilizer;

(c) whether some other countries have also agreed to supply the same; and

(d) if so, the quantity thereof, countrywise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) to (d). It would not be in the public interest to disclose the information sought.

[*Translation*]

Fishery Harbours in Maharashtra

6658. PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposal for construction of fishery harbours in Maharashtra pending with Union Government;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to clear these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) There are no proposal for the construction of fishery harbours in Maharashtra pending with Government of India.

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

[*English*]

Verification about Foreign Collaborations

6659. SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI T. BALA GOUD:
CH. RAM PRAKASH:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the credentials of foreign collaborators, particularly from the angle of security and integrity of the country, are verified before their requests for collaborations are cleared;

(b) if so, how this verification is done;

(c) whether this verifications was done in the case of major foreign collaborations decided finally during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The verification is done through record-check of foreign collaborators.

(c) and (d). This relates to security, and cannot be disclosed on the Floor of the House.

Foreign Consultant in C-DOT

6660. SHRI R. GUNDU RAO:
SHRI Y. RAMAKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign consultants employed by C-DOT as technical consultants;

(b) the jobs for which appointments were made;

(c) whether any conditions regarding qualifications, experience, etc. were laid down;

(d) whether any selection board was set up; and

(e) if so, the details of such appointment including terms of contract consulting service obtained, their provisions background and foreign exchange paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House as soon as it is ready.

[Translation]

STD Links to District Headquarters from Jaipur

6661. SHRI NATHU SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide STD link to each district headquarter from Jaipur in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of districts likely to be linked during 1990-91; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

All the 27 district headquarters in Rajasthan have been provided with STD facility to Jaipur.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Tribunals or Redressal Forums of Telecom Department under Consumers' Protection Act

6662. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of excess billing pending against the department in Tribunals or redressal forums under Consumers' Protection Act, 1986 and the number of cases decided against the department for the past one year; and

(b) whether the General Manager incharge of customer services of telecommunications department instructed all chiefs of telecom department to treat the Tribunal under Consumers' Protection Act or Consumer Redressal Forums against the department, if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

New Thevera Bridge

6663. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of the Thevera bridge connecting Cochin Port to Cochin has been completed;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the construction;

(c) whether the link roads connecting this bridge to the Cochin city and to the Cochin Port are not yet completed;

(d) the amount allotted for this purpose;

(e) the agency involved in construction of these two link roads;

(f) whether enquiry has been made to find out the reasons for delay in the construction of the link roads;

(g) the steps taken for the speedy completion of these link roads, and

(h) when it is expected to open this link road-cum-bridge for regular traffic?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An expenditure of Rs. 639 lakhs has been incurred on the construction of the bridge upto March, 1990.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. An amount of Rs. 359.39 lakhs has been provided for this project for 1990-91, and the Cochin Port Trust is the executing agency.

(f) to (h). The slow progress is due to late starting of reclamation work and deployment of less number of dredgers. Progress of the work is being reviewed regularly and the bridge is expected to be opened for traffic by the end of the financial year.

Widening of National Highways

6664. SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN:
SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-
THALA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for widening of National Highways with high density of traffic to four lanes; and

(b) if so, the sectors identified along with the details of the widening proposals of those sectors, State-wise, the allocations made, if any, therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement indicating the details is attached.

STATEMENT

S.No.	State	NH. No.	Name of work	Length Km.	Estd. Cost Rs. Crore	Allocation during 1990-91 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	Km. 355.0-434.2 Chilakaluripet- Vijayawada	79.8	122.00	10.00
	Andhra Pradesh	9	Km. 515.0-520.0 Pune-Hyderabad	5	3.50	10.00
2.	Delhi	1	Km. 8.5-15.0 Delhi-Murthal Section	6.5	3.00	30.00
	Delhi	1	km. 15.0-21.0 km. 15.0-21.0	6.0	3.00	15.00
3.	Gujarat	8	km. 108.4-125.6,	44.3	20.35	12.00

S.No.	State	NH. No.	Name of work	Length Km.	Estd. Cost Rs. Crore	Allocation during 1990-91 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

129.5-131.0, 192.0-
204.0, 208.0, 0-213.0
& 259.4-263.0,
Ahmedabad-Vadodara-
Mah. border Section

4.00

3.60

7.2

km. 12.0-13.20, 362.0-
368.0 (near Kandla
Ahmedabad-Umbdi-Kandla
road.

8A

Gujarat

2.00

3.00

6

Near Porbander

8B

Gujarat

18.00

10.10

19.77

km. 17.0-24.0, 25.150-
33.500, 35.0-36.0, 39.0-
42.42, Chiloda Sarkhej
Section.

8C

Gujarat

S.No.	State	NH. No.	Name of work	Length Km.	Estd. Cost Rs. Crore	Allocation during 1990-91 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

4.	Haryana	1	km. 132.675-212.61 Karnal-Ambala-Punjab border.	79.935	98.00	40.00
	Haryana	8	km. 36-74, Delhi- Jaipur Road	38	21.30	5.00
		10	km. 35-70 Delhi- Rohtak Road	35	20.00	5.00
5.	Karnataka	7	km. 8.83, Bangalore- Hosur Section	25	30.00	5.00
6.	Kerala	47	km. 332.15-348.5 Alwaye-Vytilla Section	16	29.60	1.00
		47	km. 366.50-387.5	21	16.40	1.00

S.No.	State	NH. No.	Name of work	Length Km.	Estd. Cost Rs. Crore	Allocation during 1990-91 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Arpor-Sherattalai

7.	Madhya Pradesh	3	km. 574.0-591.6, Gwalior-Shivpuri-Mah. border section	27	20.00	10.00
		3.	Indore Bypass -do-	32	39.70	10.00
		6	km 282-308, Raipur-Drug section	26	10.00	5.00
8.	Maharashtra	3	km. 414.0-418.0 Nashik-Dhule-M.P. border.	4	1.60	1.00
		4	km. 43.0-61.60, Bombay-Pune road.	18.6	11.20	2.00

S.No.	State	NH. No.	Name of work	Length Km.	Estd. Cost Rs. Crore	Allocation during 1990-91 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.			km. 79.3-94.5 Bombay- Pune road.	15.2	9.10	2.00
8.			km. 439-497, Bombay- Ahmedabad Section.	58	72.00	10.00
			km. 497-499 -do-	3	1.00	1.00
9.	Orissa	5	km. 0.0-23.0, Bhubaneswar- cuttack Bihar; Orissa border, Mahanadi bridge & Approaches.	26.70	113.20	30.00
10.	Punjab	1	km. 212.80-252.80, Ambala- Sirhind Section.	40	60.00	30.00
11.	Rajasthan	8	km. 162.5-231, Delhi-	68.5	56.00	10.00

S.No.	State	NH. No.	Name of work	Length Km.	Estd. Cost Rs. Crore	Allocation during 1990-91 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Uttar Pradesh	2	Jaipur road. km. 148.33-199.60, Delhi- Agra road	51.4	51.00	25.00
		24	km. 28-48.6, Delhi-Hapur road	21.6	14.00	10.00
13.	West Bengal	2	km. 438.6-474.0, West Bengal/Bihar-Raniganj Section.	35.4	67.60	0.50

Digital Electronic Exchanges

6665. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of digital electronic exchanges commissioned in different metropolitan cities so far;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to set up more such digital electronic exchanges during Eighth Plan; and

(c) if so, the number of digital electronic

exchanges proposed to be commissioned in different cities during the plan period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) As on 31.3.1990, eighty one (81) local digital electronic exchanges have been commissioned in different metropolitan cities namely Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details are given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Details of Digital Electronic Exchanges during Eighth Plan period in various Cities and Towns

Sl. No.	State	No. of Digital Exchange	
		Cities	Towns
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16	567
2.	Assam	3	176
3.	Bihar	5	257
4.	Karnataka	10	483
5.	Kerala	17	303
6.	Manipur	1	
7.	Meghalaya	1	161
8.	Tripura	1	
9.	Orissa	3	212
10.	Tamil Nadu	13	358
11.	Pondicherry (UT)	1	
12.	West Bengal	11	236

Sl. No.	State	No. of Digital Exchange	
		Cities	Towns
1	2	3	4
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1	185
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	62
15.	Goa	1	—
16.	Madhya Pradesh	4	406
17.	Delhi (UT)	28	—
18.	Gujarat	23	370
19.	Uttar Pradesh	12	394
20.	Rajasthan	9	345
21.	Haryana	8	187
22.	Punjab	10	291
23.	Maharashtra	24	595
24.	Bombay	94	
Total		298	5588

[Translation]

Setting up Telephone Exchange in Jhanjharpur, Bihar

6666. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Union Government have taken any steps to set up telephone exchange in Jhanjharpur in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) At present 100

line manual exchange already exists at Jhanjharpur in Bihar.

(b) and (c). Not applicable in view of (a) above

[English]

Automisation of Telephone Exchanges

6667 SHRIMORESHWARSAVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kasaragod circle in Kerala is the first to automise all telephone exchanges in the whole of the country;

(b) if so, whether there are any other districts wherein such automisation facility is

planned in the near future, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) (a) No, Sir Kasargod was the last District to automate all telephone exchanges in Kerala Circle

(b) and (c) In view of reply at (a) question does not arise

[Translation]

Overcharging by Taxi and Auto Rickshaw Drivers in Delhi

6668 SHRI RAJVEERSINGH Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) the number of complaints received from Delhi during last six months against auto-rickshaw and taxi drivers for refusing to take passengers, overcharging and misbehaviour and

(b) the action taken against the drivers/owners of these vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) (a) The number of such complaints received by the Directorate of Transport Delhi Administration and the Delhi Police during the last six months is 3250 As a result of spot checking conducted by the Delhi Police, 8480 auto-rickshaw driver and 130 taxi drivers were also challaned during the period of last six months

(b) Refusal, over-charging and misbehaviour are violations of the conditions of permit Strict action is taken against the violators of permit conditions On conviction

by a court the permit is suspended upto 30 days and the vehicle is impounded

[English]

Accidents Involving Private Buses under DTC Operation

6669 SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur) Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) the number of private buses under D T C Operation involved in accidents during the last six months, month-wise how do the same compare with the last three years in the same period

(b) whether these accidents were due to unroadworthiness of the buses and

(c) the details of action taken against the operations?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) (a) The number of accidents involving private buses under D T C operation during the period from October, 1989 to March, 1990 and the figures for the corresponding period for the last three years are given in the attached statement

(b) One of the terms of agreement between the D T C and the owner of the bus is that the owner of the bus should keep the bus roadworthy in terms of the Delhi Motor Vehicles Rules and carry out all necessary repairs

(c) Out of 22 private buses under D T C operation involved in fatal accidents during October, 1989 to March 1990, contracts of 17 buses were terminated, fine was imposed on the operator of one bus and no final decision has been taken in regard to the remaining 4 cases

STATEMENT

Statement of the number of accidents involving private buses under D.T.C. operation during the period from October, 1989 to March, 1990 and figures for the corresponding period during the last three years.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Number</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
October, 1989	18
November, 1989	12
December,	9
January, 1990	11
February, 1990	8
March, 1990	15
Total	73

October, 1988	8
November, 1988	11
December, 1988	15
January, 1989	23
February, 1989	10
March, 1989	8
Total	75

October, 1987	147
November, 1987	167
December, 1987	141
January, 1988	131
February, 1988	126

<i>Period</i>	<i>Number</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
March, 1988	59
Total	771
October, 1986	168
November, 1986	147
December, 1986	128
January, 1987	134
February, 1987	120
March, 1987	135
Total	832

Note: Information for the period from October, 1986 to March, 1987 and October, 1987 to March, 1988 have been given from the records of DTC who has provided conductors to the private buses under DTC operation. Information for the periods from October, 1988 to March, 1989 and October, 1989 to March, 1990 have been obtained by the DTC from the police records.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Micro-wave Telecommunication Centre at Jhabua

6670. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which micro-wave telecommunication centre set up in Jhabua district in Madhya Pradesh is likely to be commissioned;

(b) whether this centre is ready for a

long time and the necessary equipments are also available; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not making the said centre functional so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) A UHF Centre at Jhabua has been commissioned on 26.3.90.

(b) No, Sir. The complete equipment was received only in February'90 and the instalation was completed on 26.3.90.

(c) Not applicable.

[English]

Pepper Corporation of India

6671. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to constitute a Pepper Corporation of India on the Lines of the Jute Corporation, Oilseeds Corporation, Coconut Corporation etc.,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

(b)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The production and research aspects of pepper are well taken care of by the Ministry of Agriculture. The Spices Board constituted under the Ministry of Commerce is intended to develop, promote and regulate the export of spices including pepper. Therefore, it is felt that there is no need to constitute a separate Corporation for pepper.

Digital Electronic Exchanges in Delhi.

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

(a) whether new digital electronic exchanges have been opened in Delhi during this year; and

(b) if so, the cost incurred, exchange-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

<i>Name of exchange and code</i>	<i>Approximate Project Cost in Lakhs (Rs.)</i>
1	2
Janpath '371'	1900
Chhattarpur '727'	320
Delhi Gate '326/327'	1000
Vasant Kunj '689'	540

<i>Name of exchange and code</i>	<i>Approximate Project Cost in Lakhs (Rs.)</i>
1	2
Palam '3295'	175
Shadipur '570	892
Idgah '753'	530
Janakpuri '550/559'	2040
Jorbagh '462'	175
Delhi Cantt '329'	300
Paschim Vihar '558'	892

**Road Construction Proposal from
Andhra Pradesh**

6673. SHRIM. BAGA REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in July, 1989, Andhra Pradesh Government submitted a proposal regarding road construction to Union Government for approval under Central Road Fund; and

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

MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As the actual augmentation of the Central Road Fund against which the proposals were invited has not yet taken place, the same have not been processed for sanction.

**Expansion and Modernisation of
Telecommunication Network in Rajasthan**

6674. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the expansion and modernisation of Telecommunication network in Rajasthan during Seventh Plan period; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the service and clear the pending applications during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) (a) During the 7th Plan, the telecommunication network in the State of Rajasthan has been expanded, inter-alia, by addition of:-

- (i) local switching capacity of about 64000 lines which included about 39110 lines of electronic switching equipment.

- (ii) about 43760 net new telephone connections.

- (iii) telex capacity of 800 lines.

- (iv) about 1109 net new long Distance Public Telephones in rural areas.

Modernisation programme during the same period included automatisisation of 20 manual exchanges, replacement of about 40 old exchanges, ducting of underground network and induction of modern electronic exchanges.

(b) The Eighth Plan proposals provide for:-

- (i) Automatisisation of all local manual exchanges.
- (ii) Replacement of all life expired, worn out and unserviceable equipments.
- (iii) Induction of electronic equipments.
- (iv) Ducting of underground cable system.
- (v) Expansion of the network to provide telephones practically on demand in all local exchange systems with capacity upto 5000 lines and to contain the waiting period on an average to one year in local exchange systems with a capacity of more than

5000 lines by the end of 8th Plan period.

Transfer of Technology by U.S.

6675. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S. has offered technology and expertise to India in the field of irrigation, seeds, livestock improvement, brackish-water aquaculture post-harvest technology etc;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed with the U.S. Government;

(c) the main areas of agreement; and

(d) to what extent the adoption of this expertise is likely to increase the agriculture production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (d). A.U.S. Agricultural Trade and Development Mission visited India towards the end of March, 1990 and held wide ranging discussions with Indian officials. The objective of the Mission was to build stronger agricultural trade relationships between the U.S. and other countries.

During the discussions, broad areas for cooperation were identified in the sectors relating to seeds, livestock, dairying, fisheries, post harvest technology and agro-based industries etc.

The visit of the Mission was exploratory in nature and no agreement was signed.

[*Translation*]

Losses Incurred by Central Agricultural Farms

6676. SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Agricultural Farms in Suratgarh, Sardargarh and Jaitsar are incurring continuous losses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there are complaints of irregularities in these farms; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The complaints are enquired into the necessary action taken.

[*English*]

Indian Fishermen in Jails in Sri Lanka

6677. SHRI R.N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Indian fishermen are languishing in jails in Sri Lanka.

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) since when they are in jails there: and

(d) the steps taken by Government to secure their release?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) No, Sir.

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

Long Term Road Policy

6678. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to formulate a long-term road policy; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). A paper on Transport Policy including development of Roads covering the new orientation to be given is being formulated.

[*Translation*]

Crop Insurance Scheme for Vegetables and Fruits

6679. SH HARISH RAWAT: SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANDHANAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fruit and vegetable crops are not covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the alternative measures proposed to be taken by Government to protect the fruit and vegetable cultivators from natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) and (b). Presently, only wheat, paddy millets, oilseeds and pulses are covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS). Since the Central and State Government are incurring losses in running the scheme even in respect of the crops presently covered under the scheme it is not proposed to cover fruit and vegetable crops under the CCIS for time being. Besides, the idea of the Government is to gain some more experience in respect of the crops presently covered under the Scheme

(c) It is for the State Governments to take necessary preventive measures to minimise the impact of natural calamities on the cultivators for all types of crops including fruits and vegetables. Prior to 31 March, 1990, Central assistance was extended in the form of 'agricultural inputs subsidy' for all types of crops including fruits and vegetables at Rs.200/- per ha. for small and marginal farmers whose crops were damaged more than 50%. However, from 1-4-1990 onwards, such assistance is to be provided directly by the State Governments through Calamity Relief Funds required to be set up with an allocated amount.

[English]

Crops Included Under Technology Mission

6680. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of crops for which Technology Mission has been set up;

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend it to coconut; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) to (c). The Technology Mission on Oilseeds (TMO) was set up by the Govt. of India in 1986 to accelerate self-reliance in edible oils. The immediate objective was to produce 16.5 million tonnes of oilseeds by the end of 1989-90 so as to cut down edible oils import by half.

The Mission seeks to increase the production of annual oilseed crops viz groundnut, rapeseed/mustard, castor, sesamum, linseed, niger, safflower, sunflower and soybean and also plantation crops such as coconut and oil palm. Exploitation of tissue culture techniques in coconut and oil palm has been included in the activities of Minis Mission-I which addresses itself to the improvement of crop production technology and large scale propagation of high yielding plant materials.

Organisations for Fishermen's Welfare

6681. SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of fishermen families in the country and their average annual family income;

(b) the names of national organisations that have been formed to study the fishermen's problem and contribute to their welfare; and

(c) the specific responsibility of each such organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) The information is being collected and

will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Government have not established any national organisation to study the fishermen's problems and contribute to their welfare.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Recommendations of Sarin, Khosla and Agrawal Committees Reports

6682. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have implemented the recommendations of Sarin Committee, 1980, Khosla Committee, 1986, Agrawal Committee, 1987 in respect of Technicians/Technical Supervisors in the Department of Telecommunications;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c). The Sarin Committee in their 7th Report dated 30.11.81 indicated the need for rationalisation of the non-gazetted cadre structure with a view to cutting down the large number of superfluous cadres and to provide adequately skilled personnel for the various types of jobs. The work of recommending actual restructuring was entrusted to Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore. This issue was considered by the 4th Central Pay Commission and its report has been implemented by the Government in 1986. There is no committee named Khosla Committee on this issue. The recommendations of the Agrawal Committee have been modified by

the Department and the proposal is under consideration of the Government.

[*English*]

Memorandum from Women Organisations

6683. SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEK HAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Women's associations, women academicians and students have sent a memorandum calling for amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code, Indian Penal Code and Evidence Act to prevent escape by persons indulging in crimes against women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c). A letter dated 22.12.89 has been received from certain Women's Organisations seeking amendment of the law relating to punishment for the offence of rape to make it clear that while the Courts may award imprisonment for less than the minimum term prescribed therein for exceptional reasons, for this purpose the character, reputation, status or any aspect of the conduct of the victim of rape shall have no relevance whatsoever. The matter is engaging the attention of the Government of India in consultation with the State Governments.

A memorandum dated 8th march, 1990 from Women's Organisations states *inter alia* that changes are required in the criminal Law relating to rape, bigamy, adultery, etc. However, no Specific amendment has been suggested.

[*Translation*]**Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme**

6684. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) the Statewise assistance provide
under Comprehensive Crop Insurance
Scheme during 1989-90; and

(b) the number of farmers covered
under the scheme during 1989-90,
State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL
SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) Under the Comprehensive Crop Insur-

ance Scheme (CCIS) financial assistance
on matching basis is given by the Govern-
ment of India for constituting State Crop
Insurance Funds (SCIF) which are respon-
sible for administration of the scheme in the
implementation States. Since most of the
implementing States have constituted their
respective SCIF for which the Government
of India have already released its share, no
further assistance was, therefore, released
to any State during 1989-90. However, an
amount of Rs. 90 crore, being the 2/3 Central
Share for payment of indemnity claims un-
der the CCIS for past seasons was releaseed
by the Government of India to the General
Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) during
1989-90.

(b) A Statement is attached

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State/U. T.</i>	<i>Number of farmers covered under the Scheme during 1989-90*</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	720593
2.	Assam	4883
3.	Bihar	190072
4.	Goa	972
5.	Gujarat	550865
6.	Himachal Pradesh	5132
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	—
8.	Karnataka	194354
9.	Kerala	23459
10.	Manipur	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State/U.T.</i>	<i>Number of farmers covered under the Scheme during 1989-90*</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
11.	Meghalaya	2860
12.	Madhya Pradesh	403877
13.	Maharashtra	1385092
14.	Orissa	261089
15.	Rajasthan	-
16.	Tripura	3551
17.	Tamil Nadu	107348
18.	Uttar Pradesh	-
19.	West Bengal	371649
20.	A & Islands	401
21.	Delhi	-
22.	Pondicherry	12
TOTAL		4226209*

*Data relates to Kharif 1989 season only.

[English]

**Rehabilitation of Entrepreneurs of
Agro-Service Centres**

6685. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the entrepreneurs of
Agro-Service Centres are suffering untold
hardships;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to
rehabilitate these entrepreneurs and the
outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) Surveys conducted by Government of
India show that nearly 25% of the entrepre-

neurs were not doing well.

(b) and (c) The Government of India filed a revised rehabilitation scheme for sick Agro Service Centres in the Supreme Court in September, 1989.

Development of Reservoir Fisheries in Karnataka

6686. SHRI H. C. SRIKANTAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided by Union Government for the development of Reservoir Fisheries Scheme in Karnataka.

(b) the quantity of fish likely to be produced under the scheme.

(c) the number of fishermen likely to be benefited, and

(d) the places selected in Karnataka under the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) An Integrated Cooperative Reservoir Fisheries Project has been taken up for implementation in Karnataka at an estimated cost of Rs.473.88 lakhs of which the Central assistance including the share of the National Cooperative Development Corporation is Rs 406.58 lakhs

(b) About 3500 tonnes of fish is estimated to be produced annually on full implementation of the scheme.

(c) 2570 fishermen are likely to be benefited.

(d) The scheme will be implemented in 11 Talukas of Mysore district

Declaration of National Highways as Per Recommendations of NTPC

6687. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether new National Highways are declared as per the recommendations of the National Transport Policy Committee;

(b) if so, whether the roads declared as National Highways during February 1980 were as per the recommendations of the National Transport Policy Committee;

(c) whether the roads in Gujarat recommended by National Transport Policy Committee have been declared as National Highways; and

(d) if is, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) New National Highways are declared in the country keeping in view the following guidelines besides the availability of resources, recommendation of National Transport Policy Committee (NTPC) and proposals of the State Government:—

- i) roads which run through the length and breadth of the country;
- ii) roads connecting adjacent countries;
- iii) roads connecting State capitals;
- iv) roads connecting major ports and important industrial or tourist centres;
- v) roads meeting very important strategic requirements;
- vi) roads carrying high density of traf-

fic over an adequate length; and

- vii) roads which will enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achievement of substantial economy thereby.

(b) Presumably, the Hon'ble member is having in mind the five State Roads declared as National Highways in February, 1989. Out of these, four roads were identified by the National Transport Policy Committee for declaration as National Highways.

(c) and (d). National Transport Policy Committee recommended three State Roads which serve Gujarat State for declaration as National Highways. One of these roads namely Beawar-Sirohi-Radhanpur Road, part of which falls in Gujarat State, has already been declared as National Highway. Other two roads identified by National Transport Policy Committee for this State could not be included in National Highway grid because of constraints of resources and other priority considerations.

Scheme for Providing Employment to Youths in Punjab

6688. SHRI KIRPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared special schemes for providing employment to the youths in Punjab with a view to eliminating terrorism;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes prepared during the last three years;

(c) the number of educated youths who were given employment during the period; and

(d) the number of those who applied but could not get employment under these

schemes and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). According to information available, the Government of Punjab have drawn up a scheme which would provide employment to youth in the age group of 15 to 20 years from the border belt of 16 Kms. in the border district of Gurdaspur, Ferozepur and Amritsar. The selected persons would be paid ration money and pocket allowances and kept in camps and given training. Efforts would be made to absorb them in the police, Home-guards or other Government jobs subsequently or provided with assistance to set up their own small units.

(c) and (d). Information in this regard is being collected.

[Translation]

Enhancement of Compensation Given to Families of Road Accident Victims

6689. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to enhance the amount of compensation given to the families of persons killed and injured in road accidents;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be enhanced and the extent of enhancement; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Loss to Ship—Owners Due to Holding up of Ships at Ports

6690. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether cargo ships are being held up at the ports due to shortage of certificated officers consequently increasing shipowners' operating costs; and

(b) if so, the quantum of losses being incurred by them on this account?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The Indian National Shipowners Association has estimated the total number of ship days lost by Indian shipowners for want of certificated officers to be around 335 during the period from July 1989 to January 1990. The average loss per ship day on account of standing charges has been estimated by Indian National Shipowners Association at around Rs. 1 lakh.

Entrusting of Work of Village Panchayat to Taluka Panchayat Under JRY

6691. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a flexibility is given to the State Governments or to DRDA to entrust the work of the Village Panchayats to the Taluka Panchayats if the Village Panchayat is not in a position to take up the work under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA

NATH VERMA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Where the Village Panchayat/Panchayats are not in existence, their (Village Panchayat/Panchayats) share of funds will be passed on to the concerned Block/Block Samiti who will be responsible for implementing the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana in those Panchayat/Panchayats.

[Translation]

Haj Nivas

6692. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Haj Nivas' have been constructed in Delhi and Bombay for Haj pilgrims; and

(b) if so, the share of Union Government in the construction of these Haj Nivas?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). The construction work of "Bait-ul-Hujaj" or "Haj House" in Bombay is nearing completion. The Central Government did not provide any financial assistance in its construction. Information on the part of the question relating to "Haj Nivas" in Delhi is being collected.

[English]

Exemption of Telephone Services from the Ambit of Consumers' Protection Act, 1986

6693. SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has any proposal to seek exemption of telephone services from the

ambit of the Consumers' Protection Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the reasons that weighed in favour of seeking such exemption;

(c) whether this would not be regarded as anti-consumer measures; and

(d) if not, the forum that will be available to the telephone subscribers for redressal of their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for seeking such an exemption are as follows:

(i) Elaborate grievances redressal machineries already exist within the Department of Telecommunications, some of which are given in the answer to part (d) of this question.

(ii) Certain anomalies exist between the Consumer Protection Act and the Indian Telegraph Act.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) For redressal of the grievances, the subscribers, have a number of grievance redressal machineries at several levels. Some of the forums where a subscriber can make his complaint and get the redressal of his grievances are given below:

(i) In case of services complaints, the subscriber can dial '198' or any of the officials/officers of the Department, normally listed

in a telephone directory;

(ii) Public grievances cells in large offices;

(iii) over 400 Customer Service Centres throughout the country;

(iv) Telephone Adalats and Open House Sessions;

(v) Officers of the Department meet the public normally on all working days;

(vi) Telecom Advisory Committee, which have representation from various public forums;

(vii) provision exists for arbitration in disputes between the subscriber and the Department under Section 7(b) of the Indian Telegraph Act.

Expansion of Telephone Exchanges in Kottayam District In Kerala

6694. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to expand Ramapuram, Erattupetta Mundakayam, exchanges in Kottayam Telephone district, Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as follows:

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Present Capacity</i>	<i>Expansion Planned</i>	<i>Year of Commissioning</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
1.	Ramapuram	MAX II	400	400 to 600	90—91
2.	Mundakayam	-do-	400	400 to 800	90—91
3.	Erattuppta	-do-	600	Planned to be replaced by Electronic Exchange of 2000 lines	End of 8th Plan

[*Translation*]

**Waiting List for Telephone Connections
in Maharashtra**

6695. SHRI KISANRAO BABURAO BANKHELE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise and exchange-wise number of applications in waiting list for telephone connections in Maharashtra as on 31st March, 1990; and

(b) the details in regard to measures adopted to increased the capacity of telephone exchanges to dispose of all pending applications?

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

[*English*]

**Revision of Pay Scales of Inspector and
Assistant Superintendent in Department of Posts**

6696. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
SHRI MANIK SANYAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite lapse of 3 years, the recommendations (para 10.44) of Fourth Central Pay Commission in the matter of Revision of Pay Scales of Inspectors and Asstt. Superintendents' in the Department of Posts have not yet been implemented by Government, and

(b) if so, when the implementation is to take effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). The recommendations involve a basic restructuring of Supervisory levels in the Department in-so-far as a partial direct recruitment to the cadres of Inspectors of Post Offices/Railway Mail Service has been proposed, as also integration of the two cadres to be followed by a revision of the pay scales. The Department has formulated necessary proposals in this regard and the process of consultation with other concerned Ministries/Departments is going on. It is not practicable to state at this stage when the recommendations are likely to be implemented.

[*Translation*]

Post Offices in Rural Areas of Unnao

6697. SHRI ANWAR AHMAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open post offices in the rural areas of Unnao district during 1990-91;

(b) if so, the names of villages identified for this purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) At present there are no proposals under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The norms for opening of new post offices are presently under review.

*[English]***Places to be Connected by STA Permit Buses**

6698 SHRI PRATAPRAO B BHOSALE Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to provide bus service under STA to more localities of Delhi during 1990 and 1991,

(b) if so, the places selected, year-wise, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) (a) The Delhi Administration has stated that there is no such proposal under STA

(b) Does not arise

(c) The Delhi Administration has suggested notification of entire Union Territory of Delhi for area Stage Carriage Permits for DTC and no final decision in this regard has been taken

Increase in Mini Bus Fares

6699 SHRI SUBEDAR Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether Mini buses plying in Delhi have increased fares from 1 April 1990

(b) if so details thereof

(c) whether Delhi Administration has approved the proposal and

(d) if not, the steps taken to check arbitrary enhancement of fares?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) (a) to (d) State Transport Authority, Delhi has approved the revised fares applicable w e f 2 4 90 for the Stage Carriage Buses under STA Permit (Mini Buses) in the Union Territory of Delhi as follows –

<i>Kms</i>	<i>Revised fares</i>
1	2
0-6	Rs 0 75
6-16	Rs 1 50
16 and above	Rs 2 00

Development and Maintenance of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

6700 SHRIMATI CHENNUPATI VIDYA Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the details of the schemes for development and maintenance of National Highways approved for implementation during 1990-91 in Andhra Pradesh along with the allocations made therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) An allocation of Rs 25 crores has been made during the year 1990-91 for development of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh including ongoing works. New schemes projected in the Annual Plan for 1990-91 are as indicated in the statement attached. As regards maintenance, a sum of Rs 10 25 crores has been allocated for 1990-91, which includes Rs 4 95 crores for periodical renewals

STATEMENT

Details of the schemes projected in Annual Programme of the year 1990-91

Sl. No.	Name of work	Length (Km.)	Estimated Cost (Rs. In crores)
1	2	3	4
a (i)	Widening to four-lane Chilakaluripet-Vijayawada Section on NH-5.	82.00	122.00
(ii)	Widening to four-lane NH-9 Pune-Hydarabad Section.	10 00	3.50
		92.80	125.50
b.	Strangthening 2-lane pavement on NH Nos. 5, 7 & 9.	184.00	27.42
c.	Widening to 2-lane pavement on NH No. 7, 16 & 43.	23.70	5.10

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of work</i>	<i>Length (Km.)</i>	<i>Estimated Cost (Rs. In crores)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
d.	Culverts and approaches to minor bridges as required		1.50
e.	Miscellaneous-Improvements to geometrics, junctions, drainage, wayside amenities etc		5.30
f.	Land acquisition for Eluru bypass and realignment of NH No 16		6.00
			170.82

BRIDGE WORKS

Sl. No.	Name of bridge	Estimated cost in crores
1	2	3
(A)	MAJOR BRIDGES	
1.	Bridge at Km. 190/4 on Chanda on NH-7	2.00
2.	Bridge at Km. 178/8 on Mandagad on NH-7.	1.60
3.	R.O.B. at Km. 21/8 including approaches on NH-7.	1.70
4.	R.O.B. at Km. 35/4 including approaches on NH-7	1.70
5.	Bridge in Km. 502/4 including approaches on NH-9.	0.50
(B)	MINOR BRIDGES	
6.	Bridge at Km. 213/4-6 (Gudihatnoor) on NH-7.	0.20
7.	Bridge at Km. 430/10 of H.B. Section on NH-7	0.15

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of bridge</i>	<i>Estimated cost in crores</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
8.	Bridge at Km. 212/2 of M.V. Section on NH-5	0.07
9.	Bridge at Km. 55/4 of V.V. Section on NH-5.	0.18
10.	Bridge at Km. 48/8 of V.V. section on NH-5.	0.30
11.	Bridge at Km. 331/10 of V.V. Section on NH-5	0.30
12.	Bridge at Km. 332/10 of V.V. Section on NH-5	0.50
13.	Bridge at Km. 333/10 of V.V. Section on NH-5	0.50
(C)	DISTRESSED BRIDGES	
14.	Minor bridge at Km 341/8-10 of H B Section on NH-7	0.45
	Total	9.65

Road Overbridge Between Bhubaneswar and Berhampur on National Highway No.5

6701. SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct road overbridge in place of Railway level crossing between Bhubaneswar and Berhampur on National Highway No.5; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to construct a road over bridge about 56 metres long on Rambha bypass in place of the railway level crossing at Km 297.150 on National Highway No.5 for which provision of Rs. 60.00 lakhs has been made in the Annual Plan 1990-91.

Construction of New Passport office Building at Calicut

6702. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have acquired some land in Calicut for construction of the passport office building;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in starting the construction work; and

(c) when Government propose to complete this work and shift the office from the present rented building?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The construction drawings have been examined and approved after

appropriate revisions on the basis of user requirements. Efforts will be made to ensure that the work is executed expeditiously so that the Passport Office can shift without delay.

Delay in Delivery of Telegrams

6703. SHRI D. PANDIAN:
SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are widespread complaints about the inordinate delay in the delivery of the Telegram and letters;

(b) whether Government propose to find out the causes for the delay and take steps for the speedy delivery of the posted material; and

(c) whether Government propose to regularise the services of the deliverymen and also recruit more staff to remove the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The Department of Telecommunications is aware that there are occasions when telegrams are delivered late, giving rise to complaints. Complaints about delay in delivery of mails are occasionally received by the Department of Posts. Immediate enquiries are made and wherever necessary, authorities concerned are advised to take remedial measures as necessary.

(b) The causes for delay in delivery of telegrams have been analysed by Department of Telecommunications and, briefly, the causes are:-

(1) delays due to transmission of telegrams through a number of

intermediate offices between the office of origin and office of destination;

- (2) unreliable open wire line;
- (3) frequent power failures;
- (4) far-flung delivery areas.

The following are the remedial actions initiated already:—

- (1) Introduction of Store-and-Forward Switching Systems in the Telegraph Network to reduce manual transmitting telegrams;
- (2) Gradual introduction of Satellite and wireless media;
- (3) Use of Mopeds for delivery of telegrams.

In addition, Electronic Teleprinters and Electronic keyboards are being introduced in the telegraph network to ensure more reliable telegraph services.

The Department of Posts has prescribed norms for delivery of letters. These norms are based on distance, transportation outlets available and the number of handlings each article requires. Mail movement is constantly monitored and corrective action taken for any deviation observed.

(c) In the Department of Telecommunications adequate number of Telegraphmen have been sanctioned on the basis of norms prescribed for delivery of telegrams. The delivery staff of Departmental Telegraph Offices are regular employees. There is no proposal to recruit more Telegraphmen for the purpose. In the Department of Posts, generally, delivery work is performed by departmental employees in urban areas and

extra-departmental employees in semi-urban/rural areas. The question of regularisation does not arise in either of these cases. However, to the extent that casual labourers were engaged for such work, a scheme has already been taken up to grant them temporary status.

Flood Affected Villages in Hoshiarpur District of Punjab

6704. SHRI SARJU PRASAD SAROJ:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 20th July, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 447 regarding Central assistance to flood affected areas of Punjab and state:

(a) whether the Central team had visited in 1988 the flood affected villages of Badla, Harta and Rajpur Bhayan in district Hoshiarpur of Punjab and assured the inhabitants the assistance for clearing their land of 5–10 feet thick layer of sand to make the land cultivable;

(b) if so, the total area rendered uncultivable and the number of persons who were rendered unemployed;

(c) the total area cleared of this sand;

(d) the area still to be cleared;

(e) the number of bulldozers deployed for this purpose; and

(f) the time by which the entire area is likely to be cleared to make the land cultivable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b). A Central Team in 1988 visited some of the flood affected villages in Hoshiarpur District of Punjab to make an assess-

ment of the damage caused to agricultural land by sandcasting. As reported by the State Government, the total agricultural land affected by sandcasting in the villages of

Badla, Harta and Rajpur Bhayan and the number of persons rendered unemployed is as under:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Village</i>	<i>Area affected (in ha.)</i>	<i>Persons rendered unemployed</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Badla	125	80
2.	Harta	28	19
3.	Rajpur Bhayan	—	—

However, the depth of sand varied from 2 inches to 4 ft and no agricultural land in the said villages had sand depth between 5–10 ft.

(c) to (f). As per report received from the Government of Punjab, agricultural land measuring 96 ha. having sand depth less than 2 ft. has been brought under cultivation in these villages. The remaining agricultural land measuring 57 ha. had sand depth more than 2 ft. and the State Government approved a separate scheme for removal of sand from these areas. Funds under the scheme were released in the last week of March, 1990 but the same could not be utilised due to shortage of time. Hence, the remaining agricultural land will be made available for cultivation during 1990-91. No bulldozers were deployed in the sand clearance operations.

Research on Use of Neem as Pesticide

6705. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the institutions and places where research on Neem has been conducted in the country;

(b) the progress made at each institute so far and expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) whether any evaluation has been done and if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) Sir, The major institutions where research on pesticidal effects of neem has been conducted are:—

- (i) Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.
- (ii) National Chemical Laboratory, Pune.
- (iii) Regional Research Laboratory, Hyderabad.
- (iv) Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.
- (v) Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry.
- (vi) Osmania University, Hyderabad.

(b) The major achievements are as follows:—

- (i) Identification and isolation of biologically active compounds from neem for their exploitation for control of insects, namatodes and plant diseases.

- (ii) Neems role in insect pest management has been well established. Several effective extracts/fractions and pure products have been screened against a large number of pests

- (iii) Stable and economical formulations for use under Indian conditions have been developed

The research on Neem is being undertaken as an integral part of the research programmes of these institutions and no separate allocations have been made specifically for research on Neem.

- (c) A number of National and International symposia/seminars have been organized to review the neem research and the possibility of utilization of neem products in pest management strategies

Evaluation of Neem products against various agricultural pests is an integral part of neem research and development. It has been found effective against some major pests. Such as *Heliothis*, *Spodoptera*, white fly and a number of stored grain pests.

Delivery of Articles Sent Under Certificate of Posting

6706 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any special organism or mechanism has been or is being proposed to be created to ensure the delivery of the articles to be posted under Certificate of

Posting; and

- (b) if so, its broad features?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir. Posting of a postal article under Certificate of posting does not render it different from an unregistered article posted in the letter box, except that the Certificate of Posting serves as evidence of posting. Its delivery is therefore like that of any other unregistered postal article.

- (b) Does not arise

Entering of Burmese Army into Mizoram

6708 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI SHIV SHARAN VARMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 10 Burmese Army personnel entered some villages in Mizoram on the 28th March, 1990 and opened fire;

- (b) whether earlier too, the Burmese Army personnel entered Indian Territory;

- (c) if so, the precautionary measures taken to prevent such intrusion by the Burmese Army into the Indian soil; and

- (d) whether the matter has been taken up with the Burmese Government and if so, its reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Yes, Sir. 4 Burmese Army personnel had earlier entered into Indian Territory on

17th March, 1990.

(c) In connection with the incident of 28th March, 1990 the Home Minister of Mizoram visited the place of incident on 30.3.1990 to take stock of the situation. Standing patrols of Assam Rifles have been detailed to patrol the area. Flag meetings were also held in connection with the above incidents on March 21 and April 18, 1990 respectively. The Burmese Army personnel regretted crossing over the Indian border and assured prevention of recurrence of such instances.

(d) The matter was taken up by the Ministry of External Affairs with the Burmese Ambassador in New Delhi and the Ambassador has promised to convey our unhappiness at such incident to his Government.

Central Assistance to Kerala for Drinking Water Facilities

6709. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

<i>District</i>	<i>No. of villages</i>	<i>Population benefitted (1981 census)</i>	<i>Estimated cost (Rs. in lakh)</i>
1	2	3	4
Cannanore	6	54996	353.92
Calicut	1	20077	64.00

(c) The scheme for Cannanore district has been technically approved by the Government of India while the scheme for Calicut district is under technical scrutiny

[*Translation*]

Export and Import by NAFED

6710. SHRI CHHABIRAM ARGAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased

(a) whether any request has been received from the Kerala Government for assistance for projects for providing drinking water facilities in the districts of Cannanore, Kasargod, Waynad and Calicut;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) No such request has been received from the Kerala Government. However, under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, rural water supply schemes for providing safe drinking water facilities in the districts of Cannanore and Calicut have been received by the Union Government for technical clearance.

(b) The details of the schemes are as given below:

to state:

(a) the details of agricultural products, quantity-wise exported and imported by NAFED during 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(b) whether NAFED are exporting pulses, onion fruit and vegetables after making local purchases;

(c) if so, the target fixed for the current

year and the names of the places where purchase centres have been set up

(d) whether NAFED proposed to set up a purchase centre in district Bhind for purchase of lentil and onion and

(e) if so the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) Commodity wise figures of export and import by NAFED during 1988-89 and 1989-90 are given below

EXPORTS

Qty. in MTs/Value in Rs. lakhs

Sl. No.	Commodity	1988-89		1989-90(*)	
		Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	SESAMESEED	220	26.57	4071	507.37
2.	NIGERSEED	2980	368.85	5364	433.22
3.	ONION	221974	6548.92	353000	8500.00
4.	POTATO	13	0.52	—	—
5.	FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES	—	2.00	40	14.59
6.	PROCESSED FOODS	—	4.50	—	42.00
7.	TURMERIC	280	38.10	494	56.98

Qty. in MTs/Value in Rs. lakhs

Sl. No.	Commodity	1988-89		1989-90(*)	
		Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	RED CHILLIES	1250	267 75	—	—
9	METHI SEED	50	7 70	—	—
10.	GUM KARAYA	111	54 55	—	—
11.	MISC	—	5 00	30	30 32
	TOTAL	226878	7324.46	362999	9584.48

IMPORTS

Sl. No.	Commodity	Qty. in MTs/Value in Rs. lakhs					
		1988-89			1989-90		
		Qty.	Value		Qty.	Value	
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1.	MAIZE						
	(I) Aid	193881	—	199624	—		
	(II) Commercial	27330	473.00	—	—		
2.	PULSES	4100	258.00	—	—		
3.	FRESH FRUITS	3668	245.93	840	72.91		
	TOTAL	228979	976.93	200464	72.91		

(*) Figures are provisional

(b) Export of onion, fresh fruits and vegetable is made after making purchases, locally through the cooperative societies who are member of NAFED. Export of Indian pulses is, however, not allowed.

(c) Targets for export of onions and fresh fruits and vegetables during 1990-91 are given below:

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Quantity</i>
1	2	3
1.	Onion	3.80 lakhs MTs
2.	Fresh fruits & vegetables	550 MTs.

Purchase are made in open auction out of mandi arrivals through the State Cooperative Marketing Federations, who, in turn involve the Primary Marketing Societies located in various mandies in India. Purchase centres are identified at the time of harvest depending upon the marketable surplus and importers preference for quality. For Price Support Scheme/Market Intervention Scheme operations, additional centres are also opened to procure the stocks

lotteries run by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether those directives are still in force and being followed;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the further action contemplated in this regard?

(d) There is no such proposal

(e) The question does not arise.

Regulation of State Lotteries

6711. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government had issued any directive to State Governments in June 1984 with a view to regulate the

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). Union Government had issued guidelines in June 1984 to all State Governments with a view to regulating the lotteries run by them. A copy of the same is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) The guidelines are still in force and it is for the State Governments to adhere to them.

STATEMENT**MOST IMMEDIATE**

No. V. 21011/7/83-GPA.IV

Government of India/Bharat Sarkar

Ministry of Home Affairs/Grih Mantralaya

.....

New Delhi-110001, the 26/27th June, 1984

To.

The Chief Secretaries,
All State Government/Union Territory Administrations.

Subject: Guidelines for the conduct of State lotteries and lotteries permitted by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

Sir,

I am directed to say that the lotteries/raffles organised by the Central Government and the State Governments are covered by item 40 of the Union List in The Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The State Governments have been authorised by the Government of India in the past to run State Lotteries for augmenting their financial resources for developmental purposes. It is seen that the prize structure, the price of the lottery ticket, the periodicity of draws, the commission paid to agents and other features vary considerably from State to State.

2. Of late, there has been criticism about some aspects of the lottery schemes. Complaints of malpractices have been received and unhealthy competition amongst the various State lotteries has been reported. The matter has been carefully examined by the Central Government. It is considered necessary to bring about some uniformity and to curb the scope of mal-practices in the running of lotteries. With this end in view the following broad guidelines have been formulated:

(1) *Weekly lotteries*

- (a) The ceiling on the first prize may be Rs. 1 lakh. There may be a separate prize for each series.
- (b) The maximum price for one ticket may be fixed Rs. 1/-

Note: There may be no lotteries with draws at intervals of less than a week.

(2) *Bumper draws:*

- (a) The ceiling on the first prize may be fixed at Rs. 25 lakhs.
- (b) The first prize may be made common to all series.
- (c) The maximum price of a ticket may not exceed Rs. 3/-
- (d) Any draw other than a weekly draw may be treated as a bumper draw for the above purpose.
- (e) The maximum number of bumper draws in a year may be twelve.

(3) *Total outgo of prizes:*

The total value of prizes to be paid for each draw should not be less than 50% of the gross value of the tickets printed for sale.

(4) *Minimum revenue accruing from lottery:*

The net profit accruing from the lottery may atleast 15% of the gross value of the tickets printed for sale

- (5) The printing of tickets should be got done by the Government.
- (6) The draws for the prizes should also be conducted under the direct supervision and control of the Government in the presence of responsible Government officials.
- (7) The payments of all prizes, as far as possible should be made by the Government directly; prizes above the value of Rs. 10,000/- and above should invariably be paid by the Government directly.
- (8) Contracts already signed by the State Governments/UT Administrations with private organising agents/sole selling agents, which are not in accordance with the above guidelines may be reviewed by the State Governments/UT Administrations concerned keeping in view of the legal implications.

3. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are advised to observe the above guidelines while conducting the State Lotteries

4. Some State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations may have permitted certain private organisations or individuals to organise lotteries under the powers conferred by item 34 of the State List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. It is requested that the State Government/Union Territory Administrations may keep in view the above guidelines while determining the conditions subject to which such private lotteries are authorised.

5. The receipt of this letter may be acknowledged. The action taken in the matter may also

be intimated to this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(P. N. NARAYANAN)

DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

No. V/21011/7/83-GPA IV, New Delhi, dated the June, 1984

Copy to:

1. Secretaries, Department of Finance,
All State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.
2. Directors of lotteries, All State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

Copy also to:

3. Secretaries All Ministries and Departments of the Government of India.
4. All Divisions of Ministry of Home Affairs (with the request to follow the a r r e d guidelines).

Sd/-

(P.N. NARAYANAN)

DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

[English]

**Motel Facilities Along National
Highways**

6712. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SUR-
FACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided
or propose to provide Motel facilities along
the National Highways in the South; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANS-
PORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a)
and (b). Presumably the Hon'ble Member is
referring to this Ministry's scheme for provid-
ing passenger oriented wayside amenities
along National Highways. Under this scheme,
as a long-term policy, such amenities are
envisaged to be created every 100 kms or so
on high traffic density corridors of National
Highways where following facilities would be
provided:

(i) Parking lots (ii) Snack bar/Restau-
rant (iii) Toilets (iv) Drinking water (v) Dor-
mitories/Rest rooms for short stay (vi) First

aid (vii) Telephone booths (viii) Petrol Pump and minor repair shop (optional) (ix) Kiosks for sale of miscellaneous/Sundry items (x) landscaping.

A wayside facility has been provided at Palghat on NH 47 in Kerala by the State Tourism Department. Wayside amenities at Palamanger on NH 4 in Andhra Pradesh and Sattur on NH 7 in Tamil Nadu have also been sanctioned.

News Item Captioned "Pitroda's Million-Dollar Link"

6713. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news item captioned "Pitroda's million-dollar link" appearing in the *SUNDAY MAIL*, Delhi dated 1st April 1990;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter is gathered by his Ministry, and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The matter is looked into.

Dead Mileage of DTC Buses

6714. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made for the daily dead mileage involved in the empty plying of DTC buses from shed to destination and vice-versa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether DTC propose to issue for strict compliance necessary instructions to the crew members to pick up passengers while plying empty buses from shed to destination and vice-versa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). DTC operates buses from depot to the starting point/destination and vice-versa on bus routes and the kilometres on account of such trips are essential features of DTC operations. No assessment has been made of such plying on which revenues are not earned.

(c) and (d). Instructions have already been issued by the DTC that the bus crew should display the destination boards, stop the bus at bus-stops and pick up the passengers while going from depots to the starting point/destination and vice-versa. These instructions are repeated from time to time and are also announced on public address system in the depots for information and strict compliance by the staff. The checking staff have also been instructed to exercise necessary checks with a view to curbing any violation of these instructions

Import Policy for Seeds

6715. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have a critical review of import policy for seeds and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of leading industrial companies including Multi-nationals which entered in the field of seeds production and imports during the last three years;

(c) the quantity and value of seeds

imported during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether any complaints have been received in regard to the quality of seeds imported; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the parties involved?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) Review under the New Policy on Seed Development, is a continuous process. A high level Review Committee, monitors the implementation of the policy from time to time.

(b) Seed is not a Scheduled Industry under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 and thus licensing is not required. Only MRTP/FERA Companies require prior approval for taking up the production and marketing of seeds. Seven MRTP and two FERAs Companies have obtained the approval so far.

(c) The data pertaining to import, including of seeds are published in the Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India Vol. II Imports, brought out by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics. The latest publications pertain to the year 1987-88. During 1988-89 and 1989-90—16,623.43 kgs. and 82,803.22 kgs. seeds of various crops including vegetables and flowers coarse cereals and pulses were imported, respectively. The value of the seed is yet to be published.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

Allocation of Funds to States Under NREP

6716. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds and quantity of foodgrains allocated and released to Maharashtra under the NREP and other Centrally sponsored/Central sector schemes during 1988-89 and 1989-90, scheme-wise;

(b) the details of the progress achieved by broad-norms/indicators of assessment;

(c) the tentative allocation of funds under these schemes for Maharashtra during 1990-91; and

(d) the details of modifications/introduction of new schemes proposed/envisaged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):
(a) to (c). A Statement is attached.

(d) The Finance Minister in his budget speech for the year 1990-91 proposed an Employment Guarantee Scheme for the Drought Prone Areas and areas with acute problem of rural unemployment in identified areas of the country. Work relating to finalisation of details of the said scheme is in progress.

STATEMENT

Details of the amount of funds and quantity of foodgrains allocated/released to Maharashtra during the years 1988-89 and 1989-90, progress made and the tentative allocation for 1990-91 under NREP and other major Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes handled by the Department of Rural Development

NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME (NREP)

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)		Quantity of foodgrain (in MTs)		Physical Progress (Lakh mandays generated)
	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1988-89	6929.88*	6640.71*	57310.00	49404.00	258.52
1989-90	—	—	—	—	—

*Including state share and value of foodgrains at subsidised rates.

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)		Quantity of foodgrain (in MTs)		Physical Progress (Lakh mandays generated)
	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	
1	2	3	4	5	6
RURAL LANDLESS EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE PROGRAMME (RLEGP)					
1988-89	6498.32*	6063.14*	38580.00	22628.00	258.87
1989-90	—	—	—	—	—
*Including value of foodgrains at subsidised rates					
JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA (JRY)					
1988-89	—	—	—	—	—
1989-90	20993.90	20993.90	—	—	544.10
1990-91	20424.63	(including state share)	—	—	(upto February, 1990)

INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (IRDP)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in lakhs)</i>		<i>Physical Progress (Total No. of beneficiaries)</i>
	<i>Allocation (Central share)</i>	<i>Release</i>	
1	2	3	4
1988-89	2538.27	2494.34	252241
1989-90	2947.27	2697.07	187369 (upto January, 1990)
1990-91	2947.27	--	—

DROUGHT PRONE AREA PROGRAMME (DPAP)

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)		Physical Progress		(in Hectares)	
	Allocation	Release	Areas treated under Land Dev. measures	Irrigation potential created	Area Development under forest & pasture	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1988-89	1343.00	670.58	34836	4226	18700	
1989-90	1343.00	671.50	1125	3889	14964	(upto De., '89)
1990-91	1343.00					

*Total allocation shared on 50:50 basis by Centre and the State Govt.

ACCELERATED RURAL WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME (ARWSP)

Year	Amount (Rs in lakhs)		Physical Progress (Coverage of problem villages (Nos.))
	Allocation	Release	
1	2	3	4
1988-89	3334 00	2735 40	1123
1989-90	3063 00	2466 40	340 (Likely coverage by 31 3 90)
1990-91	3063 00		

[Translation]

Para-Military Forces in Bihar

6717. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Para-military forces sent to Bihar by Union Government during the last three years;

(b) the purpose for which these forces were sent there;

(c) the monthly expenditure being incurred thereon by the Union Government and State Government respectively; and

(d) when Government propose to withdraw these forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d). Central para-military forces are provided to the States on their request, subject to availability, to meet the law and order situations. The duration of their deployment depends on the prevailing situation.

The expenditure on such deployment, is met by the Centre and the State Governments, as per the approved scheme.

[English]

Renovation of Existing Ammonium Nitrate Plant at Sindri

6718. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for renovating existing ammonium nitrate plant at Sindri has been cleared by the Fertilizer Corporation of India; and

(b) if so, the details of the capacity, cost and the date of commencements of construction work?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The proposal for renovation of the existing Ammonium Nitrate Plant at Sindri was cleared by the Board of Directors of the Fertilizer Corporation of India on 22.2.90 for increasing the capacity from 30 TPD to 55 TPD at an estimated cost of Rs. 390/- lakhs. Action for preliminary work for effecting the modification has been initiated.

[Translation]

Business of Blue Films in Delhi

6719. DR. BENGALI SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the business of Blue Films is flourishing in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the number of cases that came to the notice of Government; and

(c) the action taken against the persons involved in this business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Some cases of possession and hiring of blue films have come to notice.

(b) and (c). In year 1989, 22 cases were reported in which 25 persons were arrested, while in the year 1990 (upto 31.3. 90) 17 cases were reported in which 21 persons were arrested.

Prisoners Died in Tihar Jail

6720. DR. BENGALI SINGH:
SHRI SHEO SHARAN
VARMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of prisoners who died in Tihar Jail, Delhi during the last three months;

(b) whether any inquiry was conducted to ascertain the causes of such deaths;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) During the last 3 months, i.e. January-March 1990, 4 prisoners died.

(b) to (d). Inquest proceedings have been initiated in all these cases

[English]

Gujarat Public Works contracts Disputes Arbitration Tribunal Ordinance, 1989

6721. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO
BRAHMBHATT:
SHRI N.J. RATHWA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat forwarded the Gujarat Public Works Contracts Disputes Arbitration Tribunal Ordinance, 1989 to Union Government for obtaining previous instructions of the President as required under the Constitution; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The ordinance is engaging the attention of the Government of India.

Embezzlement of IRDP Funds

6722. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports of embezzlement of Integrated Rural Development Programme funds during 1989-90;

(b) if so, the details of reported IRDP funds embezzled;

(c) whether Government have made any study to determine the problems of effectively implementing the Integrated Rural Development Programme; and

(d) if so, the details of findings and steps taken or proposed to be taken to overcome these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) Of the twenty States and U.Ts who have sent information on cases of corruption, malpractice and mis-utilisation under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) from April to December, 1989, five States have reported receiving such complaints.

(b) Number of complaints received in these five States is: Haryana 38, Madhya Pradesh 227, West Bengal 199, Kerala 241 and Rajasthan 237. The State Governments are taking action in these cases.

(c) and (d). The implementation of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is evaluated through research studies and concurrent evaluation studies sponsored by this Department. During the Sixth Plan, major evaluation studies were carried out by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO), Institute of Financial Management and Research (IFMR). Department of Rural Development also have a monthly concurrent evaluation on IRDP since October, 1985. The 3rd round of Concurrent Evaluation Study has been started from January, 1989. The main findings of Concurrent Evaluation of IRDP for January, 1989 to June, 1989 is given in Statement-I.

On the basis of main findings of Research Studies and Concurrent Evaluation Studies, number of steps have been taken to improve the implementation of IRDP. Major steps taken to improve the implementation of IRDP is given at Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

Main Findings of the 3rd Round of Concurrent Evaluation Study of January-June 1989.

Positive Points:

1. According to the annual income assessment made by the investigators, about 10% of the assisted families belong to the destitute group, 37% to the very very poor group, 34% very poor group (Rs. 3501-4800) and 12% to the poor group (4801-6400).
2. At the national level, 67% beneficiaries were selected in the meeting of Gram Sabhas.
3. About 81% beneficiaries had found

the assistance (subsidy and credit) sufficient for acquiring the asset.

4. In 73% cases, the assets were found intact. The assets were not intact in 3% cases due to unexpected events like deaths, in 6% cases on account of inadequate income generation and in the remaining 18% cases, the assets were not intact because of other reasons.
5. About 37% of the sample families had no overdue and 30% families had overdues less than Rs. 1000. This compares well with the NABARD study (1985) of recovery under IRDP at 69%.
6. The assets had generated incremental income of more than Rs. 2000 in 43% cases. The incremental income was between Rs. 1001 to Rs. 2000 in 18% cases and between Rs. 501 to Rs. 1000 in 10% cases.
7. At the national level, 78% old beneficiaries had crossed that income level of Rs. 3500 and 28% old beneficiaries, the revised poverty line of Rs. 6400.

Areas of Concern:

1. The selection of ineligible families had been high as 12% of families assisted had annual income between Rs. 4801 to Rs. 6400 and another 7% even more than Rs. 6400.
2. In 82% cases, there was no difference in the cost as per record and value of asset in the opinion of the beneficiary. In 9% cases difference of more than Rs. 500 was found

- which indicates malpractices and leakages and require investigation by the concerned authorities.
3. Working capital was required in 65% cases but it could not be provided to the beneficiaries in 22% cases.
 4. After care support was not imparted to beneficiaries in 53% cases out of 75% cases requiring such support.
 5. The repayment period was less than 3 years in 9% cases and it was 3 years in 29% cases.
 6. Increasing the coverage of Women beneficiaries to 30%, and now 40% with effect from 1.4.1990.
 7. A new system of concurrent evaluation by 29 reputed academic institutions has been introduced from October, 1985.
 8. The limit for security free loans under IRDP has been raised from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000 and ISB sector Rs. 25,000.
 9. A uniform application cum appraisal form for IRDP loans has been introduced w.e.f. 1.4.1987.

STATEMENT-II

Steps Taken to improve the Implementation of IRDP

1. The poverty line has been kept at Rs. 6400. The income of the assisted families is to be raised to this level.
2. For identification purposes, the cut off point has been raised to Rs. 4800 per family. However, all the families with income upto Rs. 3500 have to be covered before taking up families with higher income.
3. A higher level of investment per family to enable proper return on investment.
4. Supplemental dose of assistance to those families assisted during the Sixth Plan who have not been able to cross the poverty line, for no fault of their own.
5. The approach of uniformity has been changed to one of selectivity based on poverty incidence.
10. In order to provide social security to the IRDP beneficiaries w.e.f. 1.4.1988, a Group Insurance Scheme has been started with help of Life Insurance Corporation of India. Under this scheme, every IRDP beneficiary will be insured for 3 years for Rs. 3000 with double benefit in case of accidental.
11. For encouraging in setting up of small industrial units in rural areas by IRDP families etc., exemption from excise duty have been given for production of processed food, footwears having value less than Rs. 75. Television sets (B&W), radios, cassette players, recorders, voltage stabilizers, calculators, electronic clocks, time pieces, electronic watches, audio cassettes, adaptors and toys etc. by registered cooperative societies including women agencies, the Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIC) and units supported with cash assistance from district rural development agencies under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

12. With the objective of marketing of IRDP goods on model lines and with professionalism a separate cell has been set up in CAPART. A number of 'melas' to popularise and sale of products made by the beneficiaries of rural development programme and voluntary organisations have been organised by CAPART.
13. For facilitative greater coverage of Women under IRDP, group approach of Women beneficiaries has been extended to all district from 1st January, 1990, under which groups of Women forming thrift and credit societies would be provided matching grant for a revolving fund equal to the amount of savings generated by the groups. The matching grant would be subject to ceiling of Rs. 15,000 per group.
14. It has been decided that from 1990-91, 3% of IRDP benefits should be earmarked for physically handicapped person under IRDP.
15. The target for coverage of SC/ST families has been increased from 30% to 50% of total families assisted with effect from 1.4.1990.

Import of Fertilizers

6723. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to drastically cut the import of fertilizers; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the

total quantity of fertilizers to be imported during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) and (b). Fertilizers are imported to bridge the gap between the assessed demand and the indigenous availability. Some quantities of phosphatic fertilizers would be imported to meet this gap during 1990-91. The entire requirement of potassic fertilizers would be met by imports as there are no known commercially viable sources of this material in the country. However, it would not be in the public interest to disclose the details of the quantities of the fertilizers to be imported.

Drinking Water to Villages of Orissa

6724. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government has prescribed priorities for different villages for providing drinking water and sanitation during the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-91):

(b) the quantum of external assistance received and utilised so far; and

(c) the number of villages identified under different period priority-categories and achievements made in respect of Orissa, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) The Union Government had prescribed 100% coverage of rural population with safe drinking water and 25% of rural population

with sanitation during the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-91)

(b) The quantum of external assistance received from Danish Development admini-

stration upto 31st March, 1990 is Rs 1954 23 lakhs which has been utilised

(c) The number of problem villages identified and achievements made upto 25th March, 1990 in respect of Orissa district-wise is given in the Statement

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STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Number of identified Problem Villages (PVs)	Achievement upto 25th March, 1990		Balance 'No Source PVs yet to be covered
			Fully Covered	Partially Covered	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Balasore	3554	3027	528	—
2.	Bolangir	2208	2158	50	—
3.	Cuttack	4678	3869	809	—
4	Dhankanal	2519	2105	408	6
5	Ganjam	4073	2886	675	512
6	Kalahandi	2314	2115	185	14
7.	Keonjhar	1922	1839	65	18

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Number of identified Problem Villages (PVs)	Achievement upto 25th March, 1990		Balance 'No Source' PVs yet to be covered
			Fully Covered	Partially Covered	
1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Koraput	5212	4083	567	562
9.	Phulbani	3913	3702	58	153
10.	Mayurbhanj	3166	2891	273	2
11.	Puri	3870	3223	621	26
12	Sambalpur	3176	2801	355	20
13.	Sundargarh	1615	1562	46	7
		42221	36261	4640	1320

[Translation]**S.T.D. Link to each District headquarters for Bhopal**

6726. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI CHHABIRAM ARGAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide STD link to Bhopal with each district headquarters in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of districts likely to be linked with Bhopal during 1990-91; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. 29 out of 45 district headquarters are provided with STD as on 1.4.1990.

(b) The remaining 16 district hqrs. planned for STD to Bhopal in 1990-91 are Balaghat, Betul, Chattarpur, Damoh, Suna, Jhabua, Khargona, Mandla, Narsingpur, Rajgarh, Shahdol, Sidhi, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Panna, Tikamgarh.

(c) Question does not arise.

[English]**Telephone Connections**

6727. SHRI ANBARASU ERA:
SHRI D. AMAT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications Statewise on the waiting list for telephone connections and since when they are waiting;

(b) the steps taken to provide connections to all the applicants; and

(c) the time by which they are expected to get the telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Information is given in attached statement.

(b) and (c). The total waiting list in the country as on 31.1.90 is 17,39,67. The 8th Plan has been formulated with a view to provide telephone connections on an average in the country. (i) on demand in telephone exchanges of less than 5000 lines capacity, and (ii) to contain waiting list to one year period in telephone exchanges of capacity 5000 lines or more. To achieve these objectives the 8th Plan proposal envisage expansion of the telephone network by about 52 lakh new connections. The presently pending waiting list is likely to be cleared progressively during 8th Five Year Plan subject to the availability of resources and approval of Plan.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	State	Waiting List as on 31.1.90	Earliest application registered in the waiting list
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	76290	29 10.82
2	Assam	11420	11.1 79
3	Bihar	17478	1984
4	Gujarat	128613	1982
5	Haryana	46421	25 8 78
6	Himachal Pradesh	7503	9 4 84
7	Jammu & Kashmir	16141	6/81
8	Karnataka	90096	18 1 82

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Waiting List as on 31.1.90</i>	<i>Earliest application registered in the waiting list</i>
1	2	3	4
9.	Kerala	146176	30.5.78
10.	Madhya Pradesh	74803	9.9.81
11.	Maharashtra including Goa	393909	10/78
12.	Orissa	7345	6.9.84
13.	Punjab	100369	9.4.79
14	Rajasthan	84059	1981
15.	Tamil Nadu	127679	4.6.82
16.	Uttar Pradesh	83098	16.6.81
17.	West Bengal	38437	30.9.73

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Waiting List as on 31.1.90</i>	<i>Earliest application registered in the waiting list</i>
1	2	3	4
18.	Sikkim	169	13.5.86
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	359	4/89
20.	Manipur	1526	1986
21.	Meghalaya	1233	6.2.85
22.	Mizoram	467	30.3.88
23.	Nagaland	927	1984
24.	Tripura	868	April 85
25.	Union Territory Chandigarh	21676	30.4.80

Sl. No.	State	Waiting List as on 31.1.90	Earliest application registered in the waiting list
1	2	3	4
26.	Union Territory Delhi	261413	26.12.79
27.	Union Territory Lakshadweep	286	24.8.87
28.	Union Territory Pondicherry	915	29.6.82
Total		1739676	

Total waiting list of all States as on 31.1.90 (in words) is Seventeen Lakhs thirty nine thousand and six hundred seventy six.

Solution of outstanding issues between India and Nepal

6728. SHRI ANBARASU ERA:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PURO-
HIT:
SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian delegation visited Nepal recently to discuss the bilateral issues between the two countries,

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any mutually acceptable solution to outstanding issues has been evolved; and

(d) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. An Indian official delegation led by the Foreign Secretary visited Kathmandu from March 31 to April 3, 1990 to discuss the bilateral issues with Nepal

(b) to (d). As desired by the Nepalese side, the Indian side handed over to them a comprehensive draft covering various aspects of the bilateral relationship. The Nepalese side requested for some more time to study the draft and give their reaction. We agreed to this request.

Funds Allotted for Development in Telephone Service in Orissa

6729. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the funds allotted for developing

telephone service in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and various other district in Orissa State during 1990-91; and

(b) the time by which the development schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) It is expected to allot Rs. 26 crores to Orissa Telecom Circle for the year 1990-91 under Capital heads for development of telecommunication services. Out of this, about Rs. 52 lakhs is likely to be spent in Bhubaneswar and Rs. 24 lakhs in Cuttack on Switching projects costing Rs. 50 lakhs and more individually. A major portion of the investment of Rs. 26 crores is on the development of the network which will benefit the entire State of Orissa including Bhubaneswar and Cuttack. The allocations will be subject to change in the light of actual receipt of equipment etc., during the course of the year.

(b) Different ongoing projects will be completed on different dates. The following major switching transmission projects are likely to be commissioned in 1990-91 subject to availability of equipment.

Telephones: Expansion of Bhubaneswar E 10B exchange from 5000 to 7000 lines. Installation of a 1500 lines RLU at Mancheswar presented to Bhubaneswar exchange.

Installation of 2000 lines RLU at Cuttack parented to Digital TAX at Cuttack.

Opening of 2048 port ILT Exchange at Jeypore.

LDPTs: Opening of 1100 LDPTs using 2/15 shared Radio System in Koraput District.

TELEX: 100 lines Electronic Telex

concentrator at Rourkela.

Transmission: 140 MB/s optical fibre cable link between Bhubaneswar and Cuttack.

140 MB/S digital microwave link between Cuttack and Sambalpur.

34 MB/S Digital microwave link between Cuttack and Bhubaneswar.

Development of Postal Services in Orissa

6730. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programme pertaining to development of postal services in

Orissa during the year 1990-91;

(b) the reasons for delay in opening of proposed new branch post office under Cuttack North Postal Division of Orissa; and

(c) the time by which these Post Offices are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) New post offices have been sanctioned for Orissa to be opened during 1990-91. The names are furnished in the attached statement.

(b) and (c). There is no delay. As soon as necessary formalities are completed, the sanctioned post offices are expected to start functioning.

STATEMENT

ORISSA CIRCLE

E.D. Branch Post Offices

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of proposed offices</i>	<i>District</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	Gobindpur	Balasore
2.	Barsar	— do —
3.	Rudhanga	— do —
4.	Ankoria Padar	Bolangir
5.	Kandhanjhula	— do —
6.	Hirapur	— do —
7.	Gadapokhari	Cuttack
8.	Rigdol	— do —

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of proposed offices</i>	<i>District</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
9.	Sirul	Cuttack
10.	Chalki	— do —
11.	Salandi	— do —
12.	Bankual	Dhenkanal
13.	Khajuria	— do —
14.	Kamapur	— do —
15.	Kudagaon	— do —
16.	Gunangobeda	Kalahandi
17.	Bundealguda	— do —
18.	Ektara	— do —
19.	Kendlijhara	— do —
20.	Samagiri	Keonjhar
21.	Kharjur Iban	Keonjhar
22.	Metapaka	Koraput
23.	Bahalda	Mayurbhanj
24.	Turlakhaman	Kalahandi
25.	Kundabandha	— do —
26.	Dengkarlakhunta	— do —
27.	Kaitapai	Koraput
28.	Duburuneali	— do —
29.	Bhatalpur	— do —

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of proposed offices</i>	<i>District</i>
1	2	3
30.	Mundakote	Koraput
31.	Tampargarh	Sambalpur
32.	Bota	Balasore
33	Raitala	Dhenkanal
34	Dimiramunda	Keonjhar
35.	Kaunnkala	— do —
36.	Perupanga	Koraput
37.	Badparkala	Koraput
38	Sargidihi	Sambalpur
39.	Gargadhahal	— do —
40	Amlapali	— do —
41.	Mahalingkaur	— do —
42	Mohulpali	— do —
43.	Nileswar	Sambalpur
44	Tentulibelari	Cuttack
45	Mundamahar	Bolangir
46	Dasarathipur	Cuttack
47	Barunei	— do —
48	Jamudoli	Dhenkanal
49.	Kotturu	Ganjam
50.	Jagannathpur	— do —
51.	Radapilli	— do —

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of proposed offices</i>	<i>District</i>
1	2	3
52.	Janenipatna	Kalahandi
53.	Lakhbahal	Kalahandi
54.	Panoapodar	— do —
55.	Dhanureypur (Hermota)	Keonjhar
56.	Baragoda	— do —
57.	Kusakala	— do —
58.	Muktapur	— do —
59.	Rallegada	Koraput
60.	Khaira	— do —
61.	Penakan	— do —
62.	Boiliguma (Janba)	— do —
63.	Taramara	Mayurbhanj
64.	Balakia	Phulbani
65.	Jamjori	Sambalpur
66.	Malalipada	— do —
67.	Bhaineadarha	— do —
68.	Sarlikela	— do —
69.	Routbalal	— do —
70.	Baddakli	Sundargarh
71.	Lembo	Cuttack
72.	Kusumbi	Cuttack

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of proposed offices</i>	<i>District</i>
1	2	3
73.	Bhagabanpur	Cuttack
74.	Laxmipur Gamunda	Korapur
75.	Tabalguda	— do —
76.	Ramlanka	Puri
77.	Mordabad	— do —
78.	Chhamundiapalli	— do —
79.	Bilaspur	Sambalpur
80.	Kanso	Cuttack
81.	Mahulia	— do —

Departmental Sub Offices

1.	Uttarbahini NDTSO	Balasore
2	Maratiguda NDSO	Koraput
3.	Bariniput DSO	— do —
4.	NAD Sannbeda SCO Navel Armament Depot, Garison, Engg. Project.	
5.	Chandrasekharpur Housing Board Colony Bhubaneswar	Puri
6.	IRC Village Bhubaneswar	Puri
7.	Orient Colliry Branjaraj	Sambalpur

Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries

6731. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to
control livestock diseases;

(b) the number of Veterinary Hospitals
and Dispensaries in the country, State-wise;
and

(c) the places in Cuttack District of
Orissa where such Hospitals/Dispensaries

have been set up or are proposed to be set
up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) There are as many as 5878 Veterinary
Hospitals/Poly-Clinics, 12185 Veterinary
Dispensaries, 20372 Veterinary Aid Centres
and about 400 Mobile Veterinary Dispensa-
ries all over the country to control livestock
diseases.

(b) Please see statement 'A'.

(c) Please See Statement 'B'.

STATEMENT-A

Statement Showing the number of Veterinary hospitals/Polyclinics, Dispensaries and Vety. Aid Centres (Statewise)

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	Hospitals/Polyclinics	Dispensaries	Vety. Aid Centres
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	279	1422	2565
2.	Assam	25	436	1207
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	81	119
4.	Bihar	62	1152	2180
5.	Gujarat	25	314	557
6.	Goa	2	20	1
7.	Haryana	495	474	777

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>State/U.T.</i>	<i>Hospitals/Polyclinics</i>	<i>Dispensaries</i>	<i>Very. Aid Centres</i>
1	2	3	4	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	232	519	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	16	570	40
10.	Karnataka	33	520	826
11.	Kerala	117	524	92
12.	Madhya Pradesh	708	1943	—
13.	Maharashtra	84	1050	2557
14.	Mizoram	2	39	88
15.	Manipur	61	97	27
16.	Meghalaya	1	53	51
17.	Nagaland	4	28	62

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>State/U.T.</i>	<i>Hospitals/Polyclinics</i>	<i>Dispensaries</i>	<i>Vety. Aid Centres</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
18.	Orissa	57	457	2816
19.	Punjab	881	445	553
20.	Rajasthan	911	366	—
21.	Sikkim	12	25	55
22.	Tamil Nadu	81	735	2226
23.	Tripura	9	39	229
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1610	234	2637
25.	West Bengal	110	582	659
Total States		5817	12125	20324

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	Hospitals/Polyclinics	Dispensaries	Vety. Aid Centres
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Union Territories</i>				
1.	A & N Islands	7	3	33
2.	Chandigarh	4	9	—
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	1	9
4.	Delhi	46	24	—
5.	Lakshadweep	—	9	2
6.	Pondicherry	2	14	4
Total U. Ts.		61	60	48
Grand Total		5878	12185	20372

STATEMENT -B

List of Places in Cuttack district where Veterinary Hospital/Dispensaries have been set up

<i>Name of the Subdivision</i>	<i>Name of the place</i>	
i) Cuttack Sadar	1) Buxibazar	Vety. Hospital
	2) Nayabazar	Vety. Dispensary
	3) Kalapada	— do —
	4) Baranga	— do —
	5) Phulbakhara	— do —
	6) Mahanga	— do —
	7) Salipur	— do —
	8) Nischintakoil	— do —
	9) Niali	— do —
	10. Tangi	— do —
	11) Chaudwar	— do —
	12) Kantapada	— do —
2) Jagatsinghpur	13) Kisanagar	— do —
	14) Raghunathpur	— do —
	15) Jagatsinghpur	— do —
	16) Balikuda	— do —
	17) Machhagan	— do —
	18) Nauganhat	— do —
	19) Tirtol	— do —
	20) Kujanga	— do —
	21) Erasama	— do —

*Name of the
Subdivision*

Name of the place

	22)	Paradeep	Vety. Dispensary
	23)	Tulanga	— do —
	24)	Biridi	— do —
3) Kendrapara	25)	Kendrapara	— do —
	26)	Derabis	— do —
	27)	Tendakuda	— do —
	28)	Marsaghai	— do —
	29)	Mohakalpada	— do —
	30)	Patamundei	— do —
	31)	Aul.	— do —
	32)	Rajkanika	— do —
	33)	Indupur	— do —
	34)	Chandol	— do —
	35)	Naladia sasan	Vety. Dispensary
	36)	Badapada	— do —
	37)	Garadapur	— do —
	38)	Rajanagar	— do —
4) Banki	39)	Banki	— do —
	40)	Baideswar	— do —
	41)	Subanapur	— do —
5) Jaipur	42)	Jaipur	Vety. Hosi
	43)	Sujanpur	Vety. Dispense

*Name of the
Subdivision*

Name of the place

	44)	Dasarathpur	Vety. Dispensary
	45)	Binjharpur	— do —
	46)	Angalo	— do —
	47)	Rampa	— do —
	48)	Ratnagiri	— do —
	49)	Korei	— do —
	50)	Rasulpur	— do —
	51)	Dangadi	— do —
	52)	Jajpur Road	— do —
	53)	Sukinda	— do —
	54)	Dharamsala	— do —
	55)	Chhatia	— do —
	56)	Gopalpur	— do —
	57)	Gobardhanpur	— do —
	58)	Badachana	— do —
6) Athagarh	59)	Athagarh	— do —
	60)	Tigiria	— do —
	61)	Baramba	— do —
	62)	Narasinghpur	— do —
	63)	Gurudijhatia	— do —
	64)	Kanpur	— do —
	65)	Kamaladihi	— do —
	66)	Maniabandh	— do —
			(not sanctioned)

There is no such decision of the Government of Orissa to set up any new Veterinary Dispensary/Hospital in near future.

[Translation]

CBI Raids at Officers Houses

6732. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the officers working in his Ministry whose houses were raided by C.B.I. during last two years;

(b) the details of the property recovered therefrom;

(c) the action taken against them; and

(d) whether the officers are still posted at such positions even today where there is much scope of corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) During the period from 1.1.1988 to 30.3.90, 72 searches were conducted by the Various branches of the CBI on the residential/office premises of 54 officials /officers including 19 Gazetted Officers of the Ministry of Communications in connection with investigation of 28 cases taken up against them. The nature of allegations is having acquired assets disproportionate to the known source of their income, demanding and accepting of bribe, criminal misconduct, departmental misconduct etc.

(b) During the course of searches the movable/immovable assets worth Rs. 19,43,125/- have been discovered besides plots and houses in the name of some of the officers. A large number of incriminating documents have also been seized by the CBI which are under scrutiny.

(c) Out of the 28 cases, investigations in respect of 20 cases have been finalised. 5 out of 20 cases have been sent for trial; departmental action for major/minor penalty proceedings etc. is being initiated in 12

cadets. In 2 cases sanction for prosecution is being issued by the competent authority. 1 case has been closed. Remaining 8 cases are under investigation by the CBI.

(d) When certain irregularities are noticed against certain officers efforts are made to post them against non-sensitive posts. A close watch is also kept, on the activities of all such officials so that they are not in a position to misuse their official position.

[English]

Outstanding Telephone Bills

6733. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of telephone bills outstanding for more than one year from various subscribers-Government and private separately in Bombay, Nagpur, Pune and Aurangabad cities of Maharashtra State and the State as a whole; and

(b) the steps taken for realisation of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The information, as on 28.2.90, is given below:

(Amount in thousands Rs.)

	Government	Private
i) Bombay	9004	304291
ii) Nagpur	4	463
iii) Pune	292	3214
iv) Aurangabad	—	65
v) Maharashtra (as a whole)	9932	312902

(b) The following steps are being taken by the Government for realisation of the dues:

- i) In so far as Government dues are concerned the same are being pursued at the level of Chief General Managers and the Directorate. The Chairman, Telecom Commission, has also written to the Chief Secretary of the State for clearance of dues.
- ii) In the case of private subscribers, the following steps are taken:

- (a) Pursuit by means of personal contact and offer of receiving payment in instalments, when requested for the same
- (b) Disconnection of other telephones of the same subscriber, if there is more than one connection working for him.
- (c) Legal action.

Establishment of C-DOT Office in Chicago, USA

6734. SHRI M.G. SEKHAR:
SHRI R. GUNDU RAO:
SHRI Y. RAMAKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C-DOT has established/started an office in Chicago, U.S.A.

(b) if so, whether the prescribed guidelines in respect of setting up a liaison cell office of a Government of India Undertaking/Society overseas were followed in this case:

(c) whether the C-DOT expenditure in Chicago was borne by an American firm and was later reimbursed by C-DOT after obtaining RBI permit;

(d) whether C-DOT has violated FERA rules; and

(e) if so, what action Government propose to take on C-DOT and the officials responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the house as soon as it is ready.

[Translation]

Filling up of posts reserved for SC/ST in Ministry

6735. DR. BENGALI SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the category-wise number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lying vacant in the Ministry and since when;

(b) the action being taken to fill those vacancies; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The category-wise number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the year since when these posts are lying vacant in the main Secretariat of Ministry of Surface Transport is as under: -

YEAR	Group 'A'		Group 'B'		Group 'C'		Group 'D'	
	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1988	-	-	5	3	4	3	-	-
1989	2	3	14	8	17	8	-	-
1990	1	-	3	2	19	5	1	-

The information regarding the subordinate offices of the Ministry of Surface Transport is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). In some of the cases selection formalities have been completed and offers of appointment sent to the candidates selected. Action has been taken to fill up the remaining vacant posts also.

Removal of Private Buses under DTC

6736: DR. BENGALI SINGH:
SHRI HARI SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of increasing incidents of molestation of women passengers and accidents Government propose to remove the private buses under D.T.C. operation; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). No case of molestation of women passengers in the private buses under DTC operation has been reported to the DTC during the period from October, 1989 to 31st

March, 1990. 28 private buses were disengaged from DTC operation on account of their involvement in fatal accidents during the above mentioned period. However, there is no proposal to remove the private buses from the DTC operation on these counts.

Linking of Tehsils in Bharouch District with Delhi by STD

6737. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tehsils in Bharouch district in Gujarat linked through S.T.D. with New Delhi;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by Government for providing the S.T.D. facility to the framing tehsils; and

(c) the time by which this facility is likely to be provided to all the tehsils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Brouch (Bharuch) is the only tehsil headquarter linked with New Delhi through STD.

(b) and (c). The remaining 10 Tehsil Headquarters of Brouch district are planned to be provided with S.T.D. facility during the 8th Plan period.

[English]

**Visits Abroad made by employees/
Officials of C-DOT**

6738. SHRI R. GUNDU RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of visits abroad made in 1989-90 by Advisor C-DOT, Executive Director and other employees/officials of C-DOT and the purpose of their visit; and

(b) the details of expenditure incurred in Indian Rupees and foreign exchange on each visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). Advisor C-DOT/Executive Director did not visit abroad during 1989-90 officially. 32 visits were made by C-DOT officials, Employees, purpose of their visit and details of expenditure are given in the attached statement.

S.No.	Purpose	Expenditure	Rupees Foreign Exchange (Equivalent Indian Rupees)
1	2	3	
1.	Conference Cum Tutorial	25014.00	30326.00
2.	Conference Cum Tutorial	23259.00	30326.00
3.	First European Test Conference	16589.00	38352.00
5.	First European Test Conference	16413.00	38352.00
6.	Dot Delegation to Vietnam	14177.00	7772.50
7.	Conference Cum Tutorial on Parallel Processing	27024.00	45232.00
8.	Conference Cum Tutorial on Parallel Processing	27024.00	45232.00
9.	Visit to PCB Manufacturing Factory	6828.00	23295.00
10.	Audit of Chicago Cell & Briefing of Purchase Exe.	19918.00	58127.00

S.No.	Purpose	Expenditure
1	2	3
11.	Participating in CCITT Meeting	29168.00
12.	Inspection of Satellite Channel Unit	29495.00
13.	To study Vsat Network	14823.00
14.	For Attending 5th Chill Conference	37810.00
15	For Attending 5th Chill Conference	27003.50
16.	Visit to PCB Manufacturing Factory	13623.00
17.	Discussion on with Jordan Technology Group for MOU	9823.00
18.	Discussion with Jordan Technology Group for MOU	9823.00
19.	Discussion with Jordan Technology Group for MOU	9823.00

S.No.	Purpose	Expenditure
1	2	3
<i>Rupees Foreign Exchange (Equivalent Indian Rupees)</i>		
20.	Discussion with Jordan Technology Group for MOU	11646.00
21.	For IEEE Conference	120.00
22.	Development of Power Supply	41667.40
23.	Identifying Vendors for Procurement of PCBs	6357.00
24.	Identifying Vendors for Procurement of PCBs	6357.00
25.	Identifying Vendors for Procurement of PCBs	3433.00
26.	Identifying Vendors for Procurement of PCBs	6357.00
27.	To Attend Seminar on ISDN	11364.00
28.	For Conducting Training Programme	12489.00
		0.00

S.No.	Purpose	Expenditure	
		Rupees Foreign Exchange (Equivalent Indian Rupees)	
1	2	3	
29.	For Conducting Training Programme	13855.00	0.00
30.	Procurement of PCBs	27620.00	8925.25
31.	For Discussion with Experts and Collecting Data	67318.00	62091.00
32.	For Conducting Training Programme	22929.00	0.00
Note:	(1)	Visits commencing before 1/4/89 have not been included.	
	(2)	Consultants have not been included.	

Spraying of Pesticides

in country during 1988-89?

6739. SHRID. AMAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the State-wise quantities of pesticides sprayed

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/U.T.</i>	<i>Consumption</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9,910
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	30
3.	Assam	575
4.	Bihar	1 700
5.	Gujarat	5,500
6.	Goa	22
7.	Haryana	4,500
8.	Himachal Pradesh	718
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	110.00
10.	Karnataka	3,900
11.	Kerala	1,100
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4,500
13.	Maharashtra	6,020
14.	Manipur	50
15.	Meghalaya	45
16.	Mizoram	15.00
17.	Nagaland	12.00
18.	Orissa	1,800
19.	Punjab	5,770

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/U. T.</i>	<i>Consumption</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
20.	Rajasthan	2,758
21.	Sikkim	20
22.	Tamil Nadu	12,500
23.	Tripura	164
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8,480
25.	West Bengal	5,000
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	—
27.	Chandigarh	—
28.	Delhi	60.00
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—
30.	Daman & Diu	—
31.	Pondicherry	135.00
32.	Lakshadweep	0.70
Total		75,417.70

Progress of World Bank Aided National Highway Projects

6740. SHRID. AMAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the World Bank aided National Highway Projects in the country and the amount of World Bank aid released for those projects so far; and

(b) the details of the progress made in the completion of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHAN): (a) and (b). The World Bank had agreed to provide a loan assistance not exceeding US \$ 200 million for development of National Highways in six States. These projects are financed from the normal budgetary provisions and the portion of expenditure reimbursable by the World Bank is claimed subsequently. A sum US \$ 45 million has been reimbursed so far by the World Bank. The details of the schemes along with progress on each scheme are indicated in the statement attached.

STATEMENT

S.No.	State	NH.No.	Name of work	Overall progress on the sanctioned projects
1	2	3	4	5

1.	Gujarat	NE-1	Construction of a new dual carriageway Expressway linking the cities of Ahmedabad and Vadodara in the main Delhi-Bombay corridor of NH 8.	23%
2.	Haryana	NH-1	Widening to four lanes and strengthening of existing carriageway Murthal to Karnal (km. 74.88-130.0)	10%
3.	Punjab	NH-1	Widening to 4-lanes and strengthening existing carriageway	23%

S.No.	State	NH No	Name of work	Overall progress on the sanctioned projects
1	2	3	4	5
4.	Tamil Nadu	NH-45	Sirhand to Jullundur (km 252 525 to 372 7) Provision of an additional 2- lane carriageway and strengthening of existing 2-lane from Tamabaram to Pukkathurai (km 27 to 67) and strengthening from Pukkathurai to Villupuram (km 67 to 160)	57%
5.	Uttar Pradesh	NH-2	Construction of a two lane bypass of the city of Varanasi including a major bridge over the Ganga River	
6.	West Bengal	NH-2	Construction of a new two lane	

S.No.	State	NH.No.	Name of work	Overall progress on the sanctioned projects
1	2	3	4	5
			road with at grade inter section and service road linking the centres of Denkuni and Palsit in the main Calcutta-Delhi corridor.	24%

Bodos Agitation

6743. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in solving the Bodos issue;

(b) whether Government have agreed to give Autonomy to Bodos;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c). In pursuance to the latest round of tripartite discussion held between the Central Government, Assam Government and All Bodo Students' Union on 18.4.1990, a small Committee with representative from All Bodo Students Union, Bodo Peoples Action Committee, Government of Assam and Government of India is being set up. This Committee would be making recommendations suggesting suitable solutions to the techno-political and developmental problems of Bodos and other Plains Tribals in Assam within the framework of the constitution of India and will work out the details of an administrative, political and legal arrangement for devolution of powers acceptable to all sections of people living in the State. The Committee is to submit its report in the next round of talks scheduled to be held on 2.7.1990.

EEC Assistance for Agricultural Wholesale Markets

6744. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether European Economic Community has agreed to finance the agri-

cultural wholesale markets and similar projects in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the economic assistance proposed to be provided to each of the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) and (b). The European Economic Community have entered into an agreement with India for development of three large regional agricultural markets and three smaller district markets in Kerala. The project also provides assistance for monitoring and evaluation and special consultancy services. The project provides for supply of fertilisers valued at 18.10 million European currency units through Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India and 0.55 million European currency units for monitoring evaluation etc. The project is being implemented in Kerala.

Termination of Services of Executive Director and Director of C-DOT

6745. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA
MURTHY:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Executive Director and Director C-DOT had given a dissenting note to KPP Nambiar C-DOT Committee Report if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether services of these two officers have been terminated;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether a large number of engineers working in C-DOT have expressed their resentment over their removal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) In respect of Shri G.B. Meemamsi, Executive Director it was decided not to continue with his services, since he had crossed the age of 60 years

In case of Shri D.R. Mahajan, Director, his tenure of appointment had expired and extension was not granted

(d) and (e) Some representations have been received. The position has been explained to them

Disease Affecting Banana Cultivation

6746. SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANGARDHANAN Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the diseases that mostly affect the banana cultivation;

(b) whether a variety of banana called as Robesto, is affected by pest attack even at the seedling stage; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to help banana cultivators from these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) The diseases that mostly affect the Banana cultivation are - Panama wilt, leaf spot, anthracnose, cigar end rot and bunchy top.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The control strategy developed and recommended for adoption by the farmers to check pest disease attack includes planting of healthy and disease free and suckers, adoption of proper orchard management practices, judicious application of pesticides, roguing and destruction of diseased plants and observing domestic plant quarantine measures.

Potato Growing States

6747. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the main potato growing States;

(b) whether the Potato growers in Karnataka are facing hardship as there are no adequate marketing facilities;

(c) whether they are also not getting remunerative prices for their produce; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to create adequate marketing facilities and also to purchase potatoes from the farmers of Karnataka at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) The main potato growing states are Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh Assam and Gujarat.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Manufacturing of A.S.I.C. by Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore

6748. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore to undertake full fledged manufacture of Application Specific Integrated Circuits (ASIC) is pending with Government;

(b) if so, the time by which the proposal is expected to be cleared;

(c) the details of the production capacity of ASIC envisaged under the proposal; and

(d) the cost of the entire project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project is presently under examination in consultation with various Government agencies. It is likely to take about an year before the project is cleared.

(c)

<i>Capacity per Year</i>		
ASIC (Gate array)	2,50,000	Nos.
ASIC (Standard Cell)	1,00,000	Nos.
Processed wafer	7.000	Nos.

(d) Presently estimated cost of the project is Rupees 7444 lakhs.

Measures to Solve J&K and Punjab Problems

6749 SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:
SHRI CHIRANJILAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have recently take some stringent measures to solve the problem of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the new proposals that have been considered and introduced by Government in regard to these two States; and

(c) the extent to which these new proposals are expected to improve the situation in these States?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). "Public Order" being a State subject, it is for the Governments of Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab to take appropriate measures to maintain law and order in the States. Steps taken by Punjab Government include close supervision of anti-terrorist operations, strengthening of Police control rooms for better communication and reduction in response time, intensification of combing operations wherever necessary, setting up of task force, increased vigil on the border and barbed wire fencing at the sensitive stretches.

Steps taken in Jammu and Kashmir include strengthening of administration, improvement in the functioning of Police stations, better coordination between State Police, Central Police Forces and the Army, preventive arrests, combing operations, more compact supervision by higher officers, and increased vigil on the border.

Sustained efforts are being made by the Governments of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir with a view to improving the situation.

General Council Meeting of NCDC

6750. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a general council meeting of the National Cooperative Development Corporations was held recently;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed at the meeting and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the working of the cooperatives in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) In the last meeting held on 28.3.90, the General Council of NCDC considered the programme of Activities of NCDC for the year 1990-91 and approved the programme and financial estimates thereof at the level of Rs. 260 crores. Besides confirmation of the minutes of the earlier meeting and review of the action taken on actionable points of the previous meeting, the General Council also pursued the Audited Statement of Accounts of NCDC and NCDC Employees Provident Fund for the year 1988-89.

(c) "Cooperative Societies" is a State subject under the Indian Constitution. Measures to strengthen the "Cooperative Societies and to improve their working are taken by the State Governments in their area with assistance and guidance from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and other organisations interested in promoting and financing cooperatives in the country. Government of India has also commended the various recommendations of the Conferences of State Ministers of Cooperation held from time to time, with a view improve the working of cooperatives in the country. The recommendations made by the Committee on Cooperative Law for democratisation and professionalisation and Management in Cooperatives (Ardhanareshwaran Commit-

tee) have also been forwarded to the State Governments.

U.K.'s Views on Kashmir Issue

6751. **SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:**
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether United Kingdom has proposed for the settlement of Kashmir issue between India and Pakistan through bilateral negotiations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: (a) to (c). The position of the Government of UK as stated on a number of occasions is that the "Kashmir issue" can be settled only by agreement between India and Pakistan. The Government of UK has also stated that its position is entirely consistent with the terms of the Simla Agreement providing for settling of differences between India and Pakistan by peaceful means through bilateral negotiations.

[Translation]

Jobs to Farmers in IFFCO Factory at Aonla

6752. **SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:** Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers whose lands have been acquired for setting up IFFCO factory at Aonla in district Bareilly (Uttar Pradesh) and the number of farmers out of them who have been provided jobs:

(b) whether the policy of Government is to provide job to one member of each family of those farmers whose lands have been acquired; and

(c) if so, the time by which they are likely to be provided jobs and details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) to (c). There were 851 land-losers in the context of land acquired for IFFCO, Aonla Project. Out of these 715 were eligible for employment and 191 have been provided employment. In addition, about 100 land-losers have been given jobs intermittently on temporary basis.

In accordance with the State Government guidelines, IFFCO has given preference to land-losers for employment. For unskilled jobs, the recruitment is made from among the land-losers only. Recruitment rules have been relaxed for them. Further, land-losers with some education are being trained to get opportunities for being employed on semi-skilled jobs.

A number of development and other works have been undertaken by IFFCO in collaboration with State/District administration so that employment opportunities might further improve for land-losers.

Quota for All India Permits

6753. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to allot to certain quota of All India Permit to the State Governments for plying passenger buses;

(b) if so, the criteria followed for such allocation;

(c) the number of such permits allotted to Government of Uttar Pradesh during 1989;

(d) whether any quota has been reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHAN): (a) and (b) There is no quota for issue of All India Permits for the State Governments. The All India Permits are issued by the State Transport Authorities in accordance with the provisions of sub-sections (9) and (10) of Section 88 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Districts Selected by National Technology Mission for Development of Integrated Drinking Water Supply Projects in Uttar Pradesh

6754. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts selected by National Technology Mission for the development of integrated drinking water supply projects in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of these districts;

(c) whether a programme has been launched for the actual realisation of this objective; and

(d) if so, the progress made so far in the implementation of this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) and (b) Four districts namely Mirzapur, Agra, Unnao and Sultanpur have been taken up under the National Drinking Water Mission for the development of integrated drinking water supply projects in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Against the schemes approved under the detailed project reports of these districts for estimated cost of Rs. 18.18 crores, 13.21 crores have been released so far. The expenditure reported February, 1990 is Rs. 12.62 crores.

Funds to Madhya Pradesh for Extensive Dairy Development

6755 SHRICHHABIRAMARGAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to provide special financial assistance to Madhya Pradesh for extensive dairy development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have signed an agreement with Denmark for dairy development; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) and (b). Madhya Pradesh is already covered under the dairy development programme known as Operation Flood, since 1980. The project covers 29 districts of the State. 3814 village level dairy cooperative societies with a farmer membership of 1.5

lakhs have been organised in the State till December, 1989. National Dairy Development Board has released a sum of Rs. 3954.26 lakh (provisional) since inception of the project till March 1990, for implementation of the programme.

However, for financing projects under Operation Flood III, individual milk unions are required to submit Sub-Project Investment Proposals (SPIP) to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). NDDB has not received such proposals from individual milk unions in Madhya Pradesh except from Ujjain milk union.

Assistance for purchase of milch cattle is given to target group under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) also, in all States/UTs in Madhya Pradesh during 1989-90 (up to Feb., 1990), 37597 families have been provided milch cattle under this programme.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Development of Mandis

6756 SHRICHHABIRAMARGAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the amount sanctioned as Central grant during 1989-90 for the development of small mandis;

(b) whether project-reports for development of eleven major mandis are still pending for clearance by Union Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and when these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) A Central Sector Scheme to provide financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid is in operation since 1972-73. During 1989-90, an amount of Rs. 362.48 lakh was sanctioned to develop agricultural produce markets in the country. Out of it, an amount of Rs. 232.00 lakh has been sanctioned for the development of 58 new primary markets (small mandis).

(b) and (c). Proposals for development of eleven markets at Dabra (Gwalior), Binaganj (Guna), Biaora Rajgarh, Gulabganj (Vidisha), Chhindwara (Chhindwara), Gadawara (Narsinghpur), Betul (Betul), Ramanujganj (Surguja). Later (Vidisha), Khujner (Rajgarh) and Chhapiheda (Rajgarh) were received from Govt. of Madhya Pradesh but these could not be sanctioned as the State Govt. had not forwarded Utilisation Certificates for the amounts sanctioned in earlier years.

Rewards to Informers About Terrorists in Kashmir

6757. SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to give some incentive or reward to those people in the Kashmir valley who help in the arrests of militants or provide clues in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government also contemplate to provide full security to these people?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). 'Public Order' being a State subject, it is for the State Government to devise various methods, open or confidential develop intelligence to collect information and take concrete steps to improve law and order

situation. The Central Government renders all possible assistance to the State Government whenever necessary, in this regard.

Enquiry Report on Escape of Prisoners from Srinagar Jail

6758. SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiry into the escape of twelve prisoners from Srinagar Jail in Kashmir recently has been completed;

(b) if so, the details of the report; and

(c) further action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). 'Prisons' being a State subject, it is for the State Government to make necessary enquiry and take decisions. However, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir have informed that following an enquiry conducted into the incident of escape of twelve prisoners from Srinagar jail on March 27, 1990, the Superintendent of Jail, his Deputy, Assistant Jail Superintendent and 21 other officials have been dismissed.

[English]

National Highway Finance Corporation

6759. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposal for setting up a National Highway Finance Corporation for financing construction and development of National Highways has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the sources from where the finances are proposed to be raised; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposal involves a number of issues and is under consideration.

Intrusion by Pakistanis in Rajasthan

6760. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been frequent incidents of intrusions by Pakistanis into Ganga Nagar district of Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of Pakistani intruders arrested by the Border Security Force, while intruding into India during the last three years; and

(c) the details of weapons recovered from those persons and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). The number of infiltrators apprehended by the BSF, while intruding from Pakistan into Ganganagar District of Rajasthan during the last three years, were as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Intruders apprehended</i>
1	2
1987	34
1988	34
1989	30

(c) The following quantities of arms/ammunitions were recovered from the above intruders:

(i)	1987	Nil		
(ii)	1988	AK-47 Rifles	—	3 Nos.
		Rifle	—	1 Nos.
		Pistol	—	6 Nos.
		Gun	—	1 Nos.
		Rockets	—	33 Nos.
		Charging tubes	—	17 Nos.
		Magazines	—	8 Nos.
		Amn.	—	4,104 Rds.
(iii)	1989	AK-47 Rifle	—	5 Nos.

Rifle	—	1 Nos.
Gun	—	4 Nos.
Pistol	—	5 Nos.
Magazines	—	20 Nos.
Pistol/Rifle Cleaning Kit	—	4 Nos.
Detonators	—	10 Nos.
Hand Grenades	—	8 Nos.
Safety Fuze	—	9 Nos.
Explosive	—	16 Kgs.
Gun powder	—	32 pkts.
Amn.	—	3579 Rds.

The apprehended infiltrators were handed over to the State Police for further investigations.

supported the admission.

Diplomatic Relations with Namibia

6761. SHRIUTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have established diplomatic relations with Namibia and had also made efforts for the entry of Namibia into the Commonwealth; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A High Commission of India has been functioning in Windhoek since Namibia's Independence. Namibia has been admitted into the Commonwealth. India

Maritime Training Facilities

6762. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether maritime training facilities in the country are adequate;

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to augment maritime training facilities in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHAN): (a) to (c). The Maritime Training facilities for merchant Officer to meet the statutory requirements of Indian flag vessels are adequate. For the training of officers, work on setting up a new shore based academy at

new Bombay as replacement for the present training ship 'RAJEDNRA' has already commenced.

In the case of Seaman, the three Government Training Establishments were closed down between 1983 and 1985 in pursuance of the recommendations of the Nanda Committee, as the availability of Seamen was in excess of the requirements of the Indian fleet. Government are reviewing the availability of trained Seamen with a view to determine whether there is need for starting a Seamen Training Establishment.

[Translation]

Methods of Using Insecticides

6763. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether insecticides can be used to protect mustard crop from affid (Lahri) insects;

(b) if not, the details of loss to mustard crop and financial loss, as a result thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that China has controlled this menace by using alternative methods including biological control methods;

(d) whether this technology is being used or proposed to be used in the country; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) In China, aphids are controlled by adopting Integrated Pest Management encompassing cultural, mechanical biological control methods and need based use of insecticides.

(d) and (e). Use of bio-control agents as an element of Integrated Pest Management has been successfully tried in the case of mustard and some other crops. Integrated Pest Management is the main thrust of plant protection strategy adopted by the Government.

Promotion to Extra Departmental Employees

6764. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of E.D. Department of Posts and Telegraphs Department are not promoted on the merit basis and are not treated as the employees of Posts and Telegraphs cadre;

(b) whether there are certain rules which prohibit the employees above the age of 42 years to appear in the departmental examination for promotion;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the remedial measures being taken by Government to release the rules in this regard to help the aged employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Extra-departmental agents are selected for Group 'D' posts on the basis of a qualifying test and seniority. They are also promoted as postmen on the basis of a test, part of the vacancies being filled by seniority and part by merit. Extra-departmental agents consti-

tute a separate category of the work-force of the Department, different from regular employees.

(b) At present the age limit for extra-departmental agents appearing for departmental examination is 35 years. For candidates belonging to SC/ST the age limit is 40 years.

(c) The upper age limit has been prescribed with a view to making them eligible for reasonable pensionary benefits on their eventual retirement from Government service. Moreover, the concept of an upper age limit for recruitment is a normal condition insisted upon in case of all appointments in Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Trees Auctioned by Central Agricultural Farms

6765. SHRI SHOPAT SINGH

MAKKASAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether green trees were auctioned for felling in the Central Agricultural Farms of Suratgarh, Sardagarh and Jaitsar.

(b) if so, the number of trees auctioned during the last three years and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the income accrued from sale of green trees in these agricultural farms?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) to (c). Overmatured trees requiring replacement with fresh planting at Central State Farms, Suratgarh, Sardagarh and Jaitsar were auctioned with the approval of the Government of Rajasthan. The number of trees auctioned and income accrued thereon are as per statement attached.

STATEMENT

Name of the Farm	Year	No. of Trees Sold	Income
Central State Farm Suratgarh	1986-87	5939	29.10
	1987-88	1301	10.09
	1988-89	1262	12.55
Central State Farm, Sardargarh	1986-87	—	—
	1987-88	2995	25.43
	1988-89	470	4.92
Central State Farm, Jaitsar	1986-87	2966	26.89
	1987-88	1624	13.83
	1988-89	327	2.93

*[English]***Training to Women in CRPF**

6766. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the training provided to the women in the Central Reserve Police Force; and

(b) the difference if any in training given to men and women in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Training curriculum for the women Constables in CRPF is as under:

1. Physical Training, Yoga, Unarmed Combat.
2. Foot Drill, Rams Drill.
3. Weapons training.
4. Riot Drill and Tear smoke handling.
5. Police public relations.
6. Protection to weaker sections of society.
7. First-aid, hygiene and sanitation.
8. Fire fighting, rescue and relief operation.
9. Map reading, Road marching, Law, CRPF, Act and Rules.
10. General awareness of Indian history, Human psychology, General knowledge, etc.
11. Handling of women activists.

demonstrators, frisking/searching of ladies, handling of LMG and minor field craft & tactics.

(b)

1. The duration of the training period for women Constables is less than that of men Constables.
2. The stress on training of women Constables is on indoor activities while that for men Constables is on outdoor activities.
3. Training for women Constables in weapon handling is less rigorous than that for men Constables.
4. Training curriculum for men Constables include additional steps like jungle training, filed engineering, airport security, jail security, VIP security, etc.
5. Training of women Constables is oriented more towards handling of women activists, demonstrators, etc.

Performance of Shipping lines in International Trade

6767. SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the major Indian shipping companies and the number of their fleet that are operating in India and for overseas trade;

(b) the competitive performance of our shipping lines in international trade in terms of service, reliability and costs;

(c) the existing facilities that are being improved to give the Indian operators a

competitive edge in the international market; and

(d) whether the revenues being earned from operations in the international market are showing an upward trend?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The information is given in the attached Statement.

(b) No comparative analysis of the

performance of Indian shipping companies vis-a-vis foreign shipping companies is available primarily due to the absence of data pertaining to foreign flag ships.

The Indian shipping Companies have, however, been competing successfully with foreign shipping companies in the international market. This is evident from the increasing volume of overseas traffic lifted by Indian vessels as indicated in the table below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Overseas Traffic (Million Tonnes)</i>	<i>Traffic Lifted by Indian Ships (Million Tonnes)</i>
1	2	3
1955-56	17.43	1.13
1975-76	61.95	21.76
1985-86	86.35	29.95
1987-88	88.07	34.30
1988-89	101.95	34.63

(c) The Government has adopted several measures to assist the Indian operators to make them more competitive in the international market. These measures include:

- (i) Grant of fiscal incentives
- (ii) Streamlining of licensing procedures has enabled quicker ship acquisition in the fluctuating international markets.
- (iii) Cargo preference for Indian owners by Transchart in the movement of bulk cargoes.

(iv) Simplification of the procedure for

scrapping of ships.

(v) Modification of pari-passu obligation.

(vi) Encouragement for acquisition of modern, fuel efficient ships.

(vii) Financial incentives through interest subsidies.

(viii) Construction of new port of Nhava Sheva and improvements in port infrastructure and cargo handling facilities in other ports.

(d) Yes, Sir. The operating earnings

during the last 3 years by 16 Private Sector Shipping Companies and Shipping Corporation of India are given below:

(Rs. in crores)

<i>Year</i>	<i>16 Private Shipping companies</i>	<i>Shipping Corporation of India</i>
1	2	3
1986-87	Rs. 367.88	Rs. 703.24
1987-88	Rs. 431.73	Rs. 808.05
1988-89	Rs. 556.34	Rs. 846.18*

*(Provisional figures converted for 12 months)

STATEMENT

Details of the number of the Major Shipping Companies and the number of their fleet that are operating in India and for overseas trade (as on 31.12.1989)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the company</i>	<i>Number of Ships</i>	
		<i>Coastal</i>	<i>Overseas</i>
1	2	3	4
1	Shipping Corporation of India	24	102
2.	Oil and Natural Gas Commission	239	—
3.	Great Eastern Shipping Company Ltd.	4	29
4.	Essar Shipping Company Ltd.	15	7
5.	India Steamships Ltd.	—	18
6.	Scindia Steam Navigation Company	—	13
7.	Century Shipping	—	12
8.	Surrendra Overseas Ltd.	—	9
9.	South India Shipping Corporation	—	9
10.	Chowgule Steamships Ltd	1	7

1	2	3	4
11.	Garware Shipping	5	2
12.	Varun Shipping Company Ltd.	3	4
13.	Larsen and Tubro Ltd	1	5
14.	Jay Shree Shipping Ltd.	—	5

Setting up of Rural Telephone Exchange in Rajasthan

6769. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of areas of Rajasthan where the Rural Exchanges are likely to be set up under Technology Mission during the current and the ensuing financial year;

(b) the rural areas of Rajasthan together with its population which is likely to benefit under the above scheme; and

(c) the number of telephones likely to be installed under the above scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) In rural areas of Rajasthan, Department plans to set up 65 number of telephone exchanges during current financial year and 75 numbers during the ensuing financial year. These exchanges will spread over all rural areas of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c). Under the above scheme 1500 numbers of telephones are likely to be installed during the current financial year and 2500 numbers during the ensuing financial year depending on the actual demand. The benefits will extend to the entire popula-

tion of the villages as also nearby villages where these exchanges would be installed.

Foreign Nationals in India

6770. SHRIGUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of nationals of China, Japan, Tibet, Indonesia, Malaysia residing in India as on 28 February, 1990; and

(b) the number of nationals of these countries granted asylum in India during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid down on the table of the House.

(b) Nil.

Proposal Submitted by Gujarat for Supply of drinking water

6771. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI G.K. SHEKHADA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat have submitted the proposal for supplying the drinking water for Saurashtra and Kutch through pipe-line from the river Narmada for approval of Union Government; and

(b) if so, when the sanction to this proposal is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPEENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government is likely to convey its decision to the State Government by the end of May, 1990.

Meeting of INDO-Pak Joint Commission

6772. SHRIJANARDHANAPOOJARY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether any meeting of Indo-Pak Joint Commission for normalising relations between the two countries was held in March, 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) No Sir

(b) and (c) Does not arise

Pension to Widows of Victims of Terrorism in Punjab

6773. SHRI KIRPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of widows of victims of terrorism in Punjab who are being given

pension as on 31 March, 1990:

(b) the number of applications for pension of eligible widows pending as on 31 March, 1990, district-wise;

(c) the reasons for which pension has not been sanctioned to them; and

(d) when the pension is likely to be sanctioned in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d). Information is being collected from the Government of Punjab and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of Telephone Instruments

6774. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of items imported during the last three years, year-wise, in connection with the manufacture and maintenance of telephone exchanges, push-button instruments, cable and other instruments; and

(b) the quantity and value of items proposed to be imported during 1990-91?

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

Replacement of Chairman of IFFCO, KRIBHCO and NAFED

6775. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have recently replaced the Chairmen of IFFCO, KRIBHCO and NAFED; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) and (b). According to the Bye-Laws of NAFED and IFFCO, Chairman has to be elected by the Board of Directors from among themselves. The Board of Directors of NAFED elected a new Chairman on 22nd January, 1990. The Board of Directors of IFFCO elected a new Chairman on 26.3.1990. The Government of India had nominated the Chairman of KRIBHCO on 19th December, 1989 under its Transitory Bye-Laws, which ceased to be effective from 11th April, 1990. The Board of Directors of KRIBHCO elected the same person as Chairman on 11.4.1990 under the Bye-Laws which are now applicable.

Conversion of Uncultivated Land Into Agricultural Land

6776. **SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise area of uncultivable land in the country;

(b) the steps taken or contemplated to bring the uncultivated land under cultivation; and

(c) the results achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Out of the total geographical area of about 329 million ha., according to current estimates, an extent of about 41-42 million ha. is classified as uncultivated land including permanent pasture and grazing lands, miscellaneous tree crops, groves, culturable wastelands, fallows other than current fallows. A statement showing State-wise information is attached.

(b) and (c). Though the State and Central Governments are undertaking programmes for bringing the uncultivated/wastelands under bio-mass production primarily for fuel and fodder, increased agricultural production is sought to be achieved through vertical growth in productivity rather than through horizontal spread.

STATEMENT

State/UT-Wise Details of Uncultivated Area (1986-87)

(Area in 000"ha.)

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of State/UT</i>	<i>Extent of uncultivated land</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3505
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	140
3.	Assam	619

1	2	3
4.	Bihar	1840
5.	Goa	101
6.	Gujarat	2852
7.	Haryana	52
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1384
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	356
10.	Karnataka	2385
11.	Kerala	208
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5481
13.	Maharashtra	3740
14.	Manipur	24
15.	Meghalaya	877
16.	Mizoram	340
17.	Nagaland	518
18.	Orissa	2246
19.	Punjab	44
20.	Rajasthan	9843
21.	Sikkim	84
22.	Tamil Nadu	1559
23.	Tripura	55
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2849
25.	West Bengal	326
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	43

1	2	3
27.	Chandigarh	—
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
29.	Delhi	20
30.	Daman & Diu	4
31.	Lakshadweep	—
32.	Pondicherry	5
Total:		41481

**Arms and Ammunitions with Extremists
in Punjab**

6777. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) the details of arms seized from the
extremists in Punjab during the last four
months;

(b) the assessment of Government
about the extent of arms and ammunitions
with the extremists in and around Punjab;
and

(c) steps taken to unearth and seize
these arms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI
SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) According to
information received from the Government
of Punjab, the following arms and ammu-
nitions have been seized during the three
months from December 1989 to Feb. 1990:

Revolvers	—	34
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Pistols	—	62
AK-47 Chinese		
Assault Rifles	—	32
Ak/54/56/74 rifles	—	7
Other rifles	—	11
Guns	—	18
Stenguns	—	3
Carbines	—	2
LMG/SMG/MMG	—	1
Mousers	—	4
Hand-grenades	—	23
Bombs	—	6
Rockets	—	10
Rocket launchers	—	1
Cartridges	—	6673

Some explosive material has also been recovered/seized.

Similar information for March 1990, is awaited from the Government of Punjab.

(b) It is not possible to make any exact assessment of the extent of arms and ammunitions available with them.

(c) The security agencies are organising regular raids at the suspected hide-outs of the terrorists/extremists and their associates for the purpose.

Floating Fish Farms

6778. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate to promote the concept of floating fish farms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to promote this concept under the Eighth Five Year Plan to augment the food resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c). Floating fish farms or floating cages are used for fish seed rearing in tanks at high densities and for raising table size fish in reservoirs using supplementary feed.

Pre-fabricated plastic cages are used presently for rearing seed in some of the States such as Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, etc. Feasibility studies have also been carried out on cage culture of fish in reservoirs by some of the State Governments such as Kerala and Goa through foreign assistance. Research and development studies are being carried out at the Central Fisheries Research

Institutes under ICAR on culture of table size fish.

[Translation]

Fertilizer Plants in Madhya Pradesh

6779. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fertilizer plants which remained closed during the year 1989-90;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of fertilizer plants functioning in Madhya Pradesh at present and the total production capacity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) and (b). One unit licensed to produce Ammonium Chloride at Varanasi remained closed down during the entire year due to financial constraints. Besides, 10 other units also remained shutdown for different periods on account of power-cuts, equipment break-downs, industrial relations problems, shortage of imported phosphoric acid and ammonia etc.

(c) There are eight fertilizer plants functioning in Madhya Pradesh with total annual installed capacity of 3,40,700 tonnes of Nitrogen, and 82,800 tonnes of Phosphates.

Electronic Exchange at Unnao District

6780. SHRI ANWAR AHMAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to install an electronic telephone exchange in Unnao district and if so, the details of the effective steps being taken by Government in this regard; and

(b) the time by which electronic exchange will be installed there and the details in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. Steps are being taken to instal a 1000 lines electronic exchange equipment and also provide necessary transmission medium to Kanpur.

(b) The electronic exchange is expected to be installed during 1991-92 subject to receipt of necessary equipments

[English]

Recommendations of the Committee on International Sea Freight Charges

6781. **SHRI K.S. RAO:**
SHRI B.N. REDDY:
SHRIMATI J. JAMUNA:
SHRI T. BALA GOUD:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee headed by the Director General of Shipping constituted in October, 1988 for studying the international sea freight charges has submitted its report;

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

(c) whether shippers have expressed their reservations about the recommendations and pleaded that the matter be referred to either the National Institute of Port Management or the Bureau of the Industrial Costs and Prices; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee submitted its final report to the Government on 13.3.90.

(b) The main conclusions of the Committee are:

(i) There does not seem to be a case to reduce the Terminal Handling Charges (THC) currently being levied at Bombay.

(ii) There seems to be little possibility of scientifically concluding and arriving at any ideal freight rate for each commodity which could be valid over any period of time. The Committee, therefore, carried out a comparative study of freight rates of 19 common commodities, as given by the All India Shippers' Council, moving from India and neighbouring countries to the same destinations. This study has brought out that the freight rates were, more or less, comparable to those obtaining from adjoining ports.

(iii) On the basis of material made available to it, the committee was not able to make any categorical recommendations as to how the freight rates could be reduced and how this factor was coming in the way of Indian exports.

(c) The All India Shippers' Council has suggested to the Committee that the task of periodic assessment of fair and reasonable THC could be entrusted to an official agency such as the National Institute of Port Management or the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices or such other agency as the Government might think fit.

(d) The Committee did not make any recommendations in this regard. The Committee noted, however, that about 70-75% of the THC are comprised of charges notified by the Bombay Port Trust and the Bombay Dock Labour Board and, therefore, any reduction in THC is possible only if the notified charges are reduced. Moreover, the THC are decided by the shipping lines after taking into account their costs and marketing strategies and interaction between the shipping lines and the shippers.

Women Pick-pockets in Delhi

6782. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether women-pick pockets are on the increase in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of women pick-pockets arrested during the last three

calender years;

(c) whether Government have made any study regarding involvement of women in pick-pocketing;

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

(e) whether the Government propose to post plainclothes women police staff at all public places of Delhi to curb pick-pocketing by women; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). The details regarding number of cases of pick-pocketing by women and women arrested during the last three calender years are given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of cases reported</i>	<i>No. of women arrested</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1987	17	25
1988	15	19
1989	21	25

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). Plain clothes staff including women police are detailed at busy bus stands and busy markets to check this crime.

Railway Special Services under DTC

6783. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Railway special services run by Delhi Transport Corporation to several localities of Delhi;

(b) the criteria for provision of such services only in certain localities;

(c) whether this service has been found quite useful and more resourceful for D.T.C.:

(d) whether D.T.C. propose to provide this service to certain more localities of Delhi like Moti Bag, South Avenue, R.K. Puram,

Vasant Gaon, etc. during 1990 and 1991;

(e) if so, the places so selected; and

(f) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) A statement giving details of Railway Special Service run by Delhi Transport Corporation is given in the attached statement.

(b) There is no hard and fast criteria for determining the routes of Railway Special

Services. However, they are operated on major trunk routes of Delhi keeping in view the larger interest of the travelling public.

(c) These services are found useful for the public. DTC's earning per K.M. from Railway Special Services is far less than the Cost of operation per K.M.

(d) to (f). R.K. Puram is served by Railway Special Services RL-51 and RL-61. It is not proposed to introduce Railway Special Services to other localities on account of fleet constraints.

STATEMENT

Details of Railway Special Services Run by Delhi Transport Corporation to several Localities of Delhi

S.No.	Route No.	From	To
1	2	3	4
1.	RL-21	Nand Nagri (Terminal)	New Delhi Railway Station
2.	RL-23	New Seemapuri	New Delhi Railway Station
3.	RL-24	Indrapuri	New Delhi Railway Station
4.	RL-25	New Seemapuri	Old Delhi Railway Station
5.	RL-32	Arun Vihar Noida	New Delhi Railway Station
6.	RL-33	Dilshad Garden (Terminal)	New Delhi Railway Station
7.	RL-34	Vivek Vihar	New Delhi Railway Station
8.	RL-42	Tughlakabad Railway Colony	Old Delhi Railway Station

S.No.	Route No.	From	To
1	2	3	4
9.	RL-43	Deovli Village	Old Delhi Railway Station
11.	RL-44	Nizamuddin Railway Station	New Delhi Railway Station
11.	RL-45	Nizamuddin Railway Station	I.S.B.T.
12.	RL-51	Mehrauli	Old Delhi Railway Station
13.	RL-61	Vasant Kunj	Old Delhi Railway Station
14.	RL-71	Uttam Nagar	New Delhi Railway Station
15.	RL-72	Janakpuri	New Delhi Railway Station
16.	RL-75	Vikasपुरी	Old Delhi Railway Station
17.	RL-76	D-Block Janakpuri	Old Delhi Railway Station
18.	RL-77	Manglपुरी	New Delhi Railway Station
19.	RL-78	Najafgarh	New Delhi Railway Station

S.No.	Route No.	From	To
1	2	3	4
20.	RL-91	Nangloi JJ Colony	New Delhi Railway Station
21.	RL-92	Jahangirpuri	New Delhi Railway Station
22.	RL-93	Sarswati Vihar	New Delhi Railway Station

**Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Krishna
District, Andhra Pradesh**

6784. SHRIMATI CHENNUPATI VIDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh, for the development of agriculture in this region; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

**Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in
Uttar Pradesh**

6785. SHRI SUBEDAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert telephone exchanges in Chunar in Mirzapur District and Shakti Nagar, Ranukut, Obra and Churk in Sonbhadra district in Uttar Pradesh, into electronic exchanges;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes Sir, except telephone exchange in Obra.

(b) Electronic exchanges of suitable capacity stands allotted for Chunar, Shakti-nagar, Ranukut and Churk. These electronic

exchanges are planned to be commissioned on the availability of equipment.

(c) Replacement of Obra automatic exchange is not due at present and equipment for expansion has already been allotted.

[English]

**Representation from Kerala in Coconut
Development Board**

6786. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala State has proper representation in the Coconut development Board; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to reconstitute the board with proper representation from Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Drug Peddlars Arrested by Delhi Police

6787. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drug peddlars arrested by Delhi Police during the last one year; and

(b) the action taken against them and to book the criminals dealing in drug trafficking?

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) 1389 persons were arrested during 1989.

(b) Action against all the arrested persons has since been initiated. Following measures were taken to book the criminal dealing in drug trafficking:

- (i) Some active drug traffickers/smugglers operating inter-State and also internationally have been identified.
- (ii) Special watch is being maintained at the entry and exit points of the UT of Delhi against drug trafficking.
- (iii) The bail of drug traffickers, who are sent to judicial custody in drug cases is strongly opposed in courts.
- (iv) Cases of major drug traffickers are moved for preventive detention to the Delhi Admn. under the provision of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

Expansion and Modernisation of Karungapally Telephone Exchange

6788. **SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from the people and organisations for the expansion and modernisation of Karungapally Telephone Exchange;

(b) whether power plant and microwave tower for providing S.T.D. facility have been constructed and if so when; and

(c) the steps taken for implementing the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir by March, 1990.

(c)

- (1) In order to expand and modernise Karungapally Telephone exchange it is proposed to replace the present electro-mechanical telephone exchange by an electronic exchange of suitable capacity during 8th Plan period.
- (2) For providing STC facility a reliable transmission medium is required between Karungapally and Trivandrum Trunk automatic exchange. The microwave Tower and power plant have been used to commission a UHF link between Karungapally and Quilon. Between Quilon-Trivandrum an optical Fibre link is planned to be commissioned during 1990-91. STD facility would become feasible soon after commissioning of above scheme using the existing automatic exchange.

Problems faced by Mechanised Fishing Industry

6789. **SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems of mechanised fishing industry in Kerala;

(b) whether Government have received any memorandum from the All Kerala Mechanised Fishing Boat operators Association, Cochin for diesel subsidy; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to resolve the crisis face by the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A memorandum from the All Kerala Mechanised Fishing Boat Operators' Association, Cochin was received only on 10.4.1990 by the Agriculture Ministry. No decision has been taken on the contents of the Memorandum so far.

Sale Price of Edible Oil 'Dhara'

6790. SHRI Y S. RAJA. SEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board is selling its own product 'Dhara' at prices higher than those of the same edible oils in the market;

(b) if so, the efforts being made to bring down the price of 'Dhara';

(c) whether National Dairy Development board has been given immunity from the Essential Commodities Act in the past two years; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b). No Sir. National Dairy Development Board's products of 'Dhara' brand are

generally priced lower than other packs of similar edible oils available in the market and hence the question of making efforts to bring down 'Dhara' prices does not arise.

(c) and (d). Under the Essential Commodities act State Governments are empowered to issue orders pertaining to licensing, control and stock declaration of essential articles. However, the sale, purchase and storage of essential article by or on behalf of the Central Government is excluded from the Order. NDDB buys, stocks and sells edible oilseeds/oils on behalf of the Central Government in implementation of the Integrated Policy on Oilseeds.

[Translation]

Fire In High Rise Buildings

6791. SHRI SARJU PRASAD SAROJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of multi-storeyed commercial and residential buildings in Delhi alongwith the names of their owners and occupants which still do not have proper fire safety equipment;

(b) the number of cases of fire in these buildings during the last three years;

(c) the action taken by Government against the owners/occupants of such multi-storeyed buildings which are lacking in fire-fighting equipments; and

(d) the steps taken to monitor the compliance of Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) There are 138 commercial and 19 residential buildings which lack fire safety measures.

(b)

[Translation]

87-88 136

88-89 132

89-90 137

(c) Notices under the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986 have been issued and follow-up action initiated to ensure compliance of fire-safety requirements. 3 buildings, which did not have prescribed fire safety requirements and where incidents of fire had taken place, were sealed.

(d) The Chief Fire Officer and the nominated authorities conduct periodic surveys of the defaulting buildings. As a result of these surveys, private buildings have formed associations which has yielded considerable progress. CPWD have set-up a separate cell for providing 12 safety requirements in the buildings and have taken suitable measures for getting the fire safety requirements implemented.

[English].

Amount Sanctioned for Four laning of National Highway No. 47 in Kerala

6792. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the total amount sanctioned for four laning of Alwaye to Vytilla and Aroor to Shertallai sections of National Highway No. 47 in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): Estimates costing Rs. 501.91 lakhs, covering surveys and investigations, and land acquisition from Alwaye to Edapally, have been sanctioned so far in respect of four-laning of NH 47 in Kerala.

Telephone Service in Bihar

6793. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telecommunication service in the State of Bihar particularly of Katihar and Diyara in district Khagaria is unsatisfactory;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to improve the telephone service in Bihar; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir. however, interruption in service in Diyara belt of Khagaria District occurs during rainy season because of heavy floods which dislocate the lines and repairs are possible only after flood waters recede.

(b) and (c). Khagaria District Headquarter exchange has been converted into electronic exchange with STD facility. During the 8th Plan the Department has a programme to improve the services in Bihar by:

- (i) Converting old type of Strowger exchanges and manual exchanges by electronic exchanges.
- (ii) Linking Rural telephone in Diyara belt area on Multi Access Radio Relay system.
- (iii) providing engine alternators in most of the exchanges to improve the power supply.

Drinking Water in Punjab

6794. S. ATINDER PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Municipal Committees/Notified Area Committees and rural blocks, separately, in Punjab where facility of safe and purified drinking water has been made available;

(b) whether Government propose to formulate a scheme to provide safe and purified drinking water in all those areas where it has not yet been made available;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

(d) the total amount being allocated to Punjab for the purpose during the current financial year;

(e) the time by which the target of providing safe drinking water in all areas is likely to be achieved; and

(f) the details of the target fixed for the year 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) Out of 2254 problem villages (PVs) as on 1.4.85 and 129 towns, 1306 PVs and 95 towns have been covered fully or partially with safe drinking water facilities upto the end of Seventh Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c). Schemes for towns are taken up under State Sector Plan and those for PVs under State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) and Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) depending upon annual plan outlay.

(d) The provision made by the State Government in its budget for 1990-91 is Rs. 2.75 crores for drinking water for towns and Rs. 18 crores under MNP for rural areas. The allocation for 1990-91 is Rs. 3.804 crores under ARWSP and Rs. 1.65 crores for Mini Mission Project Areas.

(e) All 948 residual PVs are likely to be provided safe drinking water facilities by the end of VIII Plan. 34 uncovered towns are likely to be covered by the end of the Decade.

(f) The target for rural areas for 1990-91 is to cover 100 hardcore PVs and 270 other peripheral villages. About 13 partially covered towns are likely to be taken up in 1990-91.

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in Raipur

6795. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert the existing telephone exchange in Raipur into an electronic exchange;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing Exchange equipment has not outlived its life and hence no replacement has been planned. However, the additional demand are being met from the newly installed electronic RLU Exchange.

[English]

Poor Telephone Service in Bhubaneswar

6796. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhubaneswar telephones are remaining out of order most of the time;

(b) if so, the reasons for the poor service of Bhubaneswar telephones; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the telephone service at Bhubaneswar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There was some increase in fault rate in February and March 90 due to abnormally heavy rainfall.

(c) New Electronic exchange has been commissioned. The external plant has also been upgraded

Speed Post Service in Punjab

6797. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the place brought within the reach of "Speed Post" during 1989 in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): No place in Punjab has been brought into the Speed Post network in the year 1989.

Black Marketing of Cinema Tickets

6798. SHRI J.P. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received during the year 1989 regarding black marketing of cinema tickets in Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). During 1989, 167 cases were registered under Punjab Cinema Regulation Act and 177 persons arrested. Of these 153 persons have since been convicted.

South Korea's Membership of United Nations

6799. SHRI PARASRAMBHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South Korea has sought help from India and other non-aligned countries for becoming a member of the United Nations;

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

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). India supports all efforts aimed at the peaceful reunification of Korea. In conformity with the principle of universality India supports the aspirations of the Korean people to actively contribute towards the realization of the purposes and principles of the United Nations through representation in the world body.

[*Translation*]

Agro Based Industries

6800. S. ATINDER PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted or study paper has been prepared by Government regarding industrial units which can be established based on agricultural producer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether requisite world class technologies available for this purpose in the country;

(d) whether Government propose to reserve the licences for agro-based industrial units for the farmers or the cooperatives of the farmers only.

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Various studies are conducted from time to time for development of various sectors of Food Processing Industries including fruit and vegetable processing, meat processing, marine fisheries and Small Scale Industries etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Government has not proposal at present to reserve the licence for agro-based industrial units for the farmers or the co-operatives of the farmers.

(f) Due to meagre utilisation of the

agricultural produce by the industry, it may not be advisable to adopt reservation policy.

[*English*]

Million wells Programme (Jeevandhara) for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes

6801. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that million wells programme (Jeevandhara) taken up for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 1988-89 has helped in upliftment of the weaker sections;

(b) if so, the number of pucca wells built for SCs/STs. State-wise so far;

(c) the funds still required for the remaining wells;

(d) whether Government would allocate additional funds to complete all the wells;

(e) whether this scheme would be a continued and other schemes taken up for the welfare of the weaker sections in rural India; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of wells reported to have been constructed under the Million Wells Scheme (the correct name of the Scheme) State-wise, so far, have been indicated in the Statement-A.

(c) and (d). The Million Wells Scheme (MWS) was launched during the year 1988-89. The requirement of resources for the

scheme during the year constituted the first charge on the resources of wage employment programmes released to the States/ Union Territories during the year. As such, it was fully funded. MWS was continued during 1989-90 also. The requirements of funds for the Scheme were required be met out of the 15% resources earmarked for individual beneficiary-oriented schemes for Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs) under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. During 1990-91, Rs. 524.62 crores which is 20% of the total allocations under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna have been earmarked for the MVS.

(e) and (f). Rural Development Depart-

ment is implementing two major programmes of Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY) and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), which have the earmarked provisions for the benefit of the SCs/STs and freed bonded labourers amongst the weaker sections of rural India. Both the programmes are being continued during the 1990-91.

Besides, Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes meant for the development of SCs/STs being implemented by the Ministry of Welfare, the details of which are given in Statement-B, will also be continued during the current financial year.

STATEMENT-A

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/UTs.</i>	<i>No. of Wells reported to have been constructed so far (Nos.)</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17211
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—
3.	Assam	—
4.	Bihar	39034
5.	Goa	8
6.	Gujarat	7737
7.	Haryana	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	37
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	113
10.	Karnataka	2399
11.	Kerala	188
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5069

1	2	3
13.	Maharashtra	7444
14.	Manipur	19
15.	Meghalaya	—
16.	Mizoram	—
17.	Nagaland	44
18.	Orissa	11245
19.	Punjab	—
20.	Rajasthan	9399
21.	Sikkim	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	6143
23.	Tripura	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	464
25.	West Bengal	2663
26.	A&N Island	—
27.	Chandigarh	—
28.	D & N Haveli	30
29.	Delhi	—
30.	Daman & Diu	—
31.	Lakshadweep	—
32.	Pondicherry	—
Total		109247

STATEMENT-B

The details of the Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes the development of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes under the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India.

The Ministry of Welfare have the following Central and Centrally sponsored Schemes for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

1. Special Central assistance to states/UTs as an additive to their special Component plans for the development of Scheduled Caste people
2. Special Central Assistance to State Governments to supplement their efforts in Tribal Development.
3. Income generating schemes sponsored by the Scheduled Castes Development Corporations in the States/UTs. The Corporations have been constituted with an aim to interfacing SC and ST families with financial institutions in respect of bankable schemes of economic development.
4. Post-Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students.
5. Pre-Matric Scholarships for the children of those engaged in "unclean occupations".
6. Book Banks Scheme for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students in Medical and Engineering Colleges.

7. Construction and setting up of Girls Hostels for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Communities.
8. Construction and setting up of Boys Hostels for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Communities.
9. Coaching and allied schemes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates to appear in Examinations;
10. Aid to Voluntary Organisations engaged in the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
11. Schemes of Development of Oil Seeds of tree and forest origin.
12. Share Capital contribution to Tribal Cooperative Marketing Federation (TRIFED).
13. Schemes for establishment of Ashram Schools in TSP Area.

[Translation]

Drinking Water Scarcity in Rajasthan

6802. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to formulate any special plan to solve drinking water problem in Rajasthan;

(b) whether deepwell drilling machines have been imported by Government for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number such machines proposed to be provided to Rajasthan and by which time these are to be given to the State;

(e) whether State Government have submitted any memorandum to Union Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) Drinking water problem in rural areas in Rajasthan is being solved under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme and the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme.

(b) and (c). Government of India has received a 'Gift' of six rotary drilling rigs from USSR as drought assistance.

(d) Out of these rigs, four rigs have been deployed in Rajasthan.

(e) No, Sir

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Support Price of Cotton

6803. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revise the support price of cotton as it is not remunerative;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the percentage of purchase by the Cotton Corporation of India of the total

production of cotton in the current season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b). The Government have fixed the minimum support prices of Kapas of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) basic varieties i.e. F-414/H-777 and H-4 at Rs. 570 per quintal and Rs. 690 per quintal respectively for the 1989-90 cotton season (i.e. September-August).

(c) The official estimates cotton production are not yet due. However, out of estimated market arrivals of 113.36 lakh bales, the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has purchased 10.65 lakh bales of cotton (till 9.4.90). Of the total arrivals, 21 lakh bales belong to Maharashtra where the support operations are undertaken by the Maharashtra State Cooperative Marketing Federation under the Monopoly Procurement Scheme.

Purchase of Groundnut Oil

6804. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NDDB did not purchase groundnut from farmers particularly small and marginal farmers directly or through cooperative institutions but groundnut oil from traders;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether State Government has requested Union Government to advise NDDB to release groundnut oil in open market of Gujarat; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) and (b). The NDDB under the market intervention operations financed the oilseeds growers cooperatives for purchase of groundnut. Membership of these cooperatives consists largely of small and marginal farmers. NDDB purchases groundnut oil from the open market apart from the growers' cooperatives so as to achieve the objectives of the market intervention operations.

(c) and (d). The Government of Gujarat has requested the Central Government to advise NDDB to release groundnut oil in the open market in Gujarat in order to control prices of groundnut oil. The current groundnut oil prices are within the prescribed limits and NDDB would release its stock in such a way as to maintain the wholesale prices of edible oils broadly within the prescribed limits. However, NDDB continues to market groundnut oil in consumer packs under brand name "Dhara".

SAARC Summit

6805. **SHRI A.R. ANTULAY:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the SAARC summit of 1990 is scheduled to be held in Maldives;

(b) whether the Sri Lankan Government have recently insisted that the SAARC Summit earlier scheduled to be held in 1989 in Colombo (Sri Lanka) be held there itself in 1990; and

(c) if so, the stand of Government of India in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Consultations are taking place among the Governments of SAARC member countries and, in particular, between the Governments of Sri Lanka and the Maldives to resolve this issue. Pakistan's Foreign Minister, in his capacity as the representative of the current Chairperson of SAARC, is playing an active role in these consultations. Government of India would go along with any decision that may be arrived at following the conclusion of these consultations.

Indo-US Discussions on Security Issues

6806. **SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had discussions with US on regional and global security issues;

(b) if so, the specific issues on which US had dialogue with India in this regard;

(c) whether US has agreed to provide military assistance to India; and

(d) if so, to what extent and whether the Government have agreed for the same?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The dialogue has covered a wide range of issues, such as: the situation in Afghanistan and Indo-China, developments in the South Asian Region, US-Soviet relations, the changes taking place in East Europe, etc.

(c) No, Sir. It was never sought.

(d) Does not arise.

Regional Conferences of Overseas Indians

6807. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received from overseas Indians a suggestion for organising regional conferences of overseas Indians; and

(b) if so, whether Government have agreed to extend co-operation and assistance in the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). Although some suggestions, in this regard, have been made by overseas Indians, no specific request has been received by the Government.

Ferry Service Between Rameswaram and Sri Lanka

6808. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation for resumption of the ferry service between Rameswaram and Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Sri Lanka has reciprocated by introducing service on this route?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Government have received no recent formal request from the Sri Lanka Govt. to re-introduce the ferry service between Rameswaram and Sri Lanka. Govt. may consider the reintroduction of the ferry serv-

ice at the appropriate time. The resumption of the ferry service has to be a joint decision of both Governments of India and Sri Lanka and cannot be taken unilaterally.

(c) Government have no information as to whether the Govt. of Sri Lanka have plans to introduce a ferry service on this route.

Grant of Asylum to Indians

6809. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of Indian nationals who have been granted asylum in China, Japan, Indonesia and Malaysia during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): None.

Applications for Grant of 'Swatantrata Senani Samman Pension'

6810. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fresh applications for grant of 'Swatantrata Senani Samman Pension', received from Uttar Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed of during the last three years;

(c) the number of cases still pending; and

(d) the steps taken to decide the pending cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) The number of fresh applications received from Uttar Pradesh during the last three years of 1987,

1988 and 1989 are 369, 349 and 503 respectively.

(b) and (c). Applications received after the last date viz. 31.3. 1982 are treated as delayed applications. Such applications are considered only where they are accompanied by evidence of suffering from official records and the applicant given adequate reasons for delay in applying. Where the applicant furnishes such evidence, the claim of the applicant is verified through the State Government and pension sanctioned to the applicant if, upon such verification, the same is found to be genuine. Other cases, including the cases where no evidence from official records has been furnished by the applicant, are rejected. No separate record is maintained for disposal of delayed applications.

(d) Action is taken to dispose of the pending case(s) as soon as the verification report from the State Government is received.

Allegations Against Indian Intelligence Services About Explosion in Air India's 'Kanishka'

6811. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI L.K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments' attention has been drawn to the allegation against some agents of Indian intelligence services, made in the book 'Soft Target' written by Canada-based two journalists about the mid air explosion in Air India's Kanishka in June, 1985;

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

(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The book entitled "Soft Target-How the Indian Intelligence Service Penetrated Canada" by Zuhair Kashmeri and Brian Mc Andrew, two Canadian journalists, was released in Canada on June 23, 1989, to coincide with the 4th anniversary of the blowing of the Air India's aircraft 'Kanishka' in June 1985. In the book, the authors have alleged that the Air India aircraft was blown by the Indian intelligence agencies to discredit the Sikhs living in Canada.

(c) These baseless allegations were refuted by the Indian High Commission in Canada through the press, radio and TV. The concern of the Government of India regarding the allegations contained in the book were also conveyed to the Canadian Government.

Suicide by Indians in Kuwait

6812. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians in Kuwait who have committed suicide during the year 1988 and 1989;

(b) the reasons therefore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) According to information available with the Government, there were two suicides in 1988 and three in 1989.

(b) and (c). It is understood that this extreme step was taken for personal and

private reasons and, therefor, there is no scope for any action by the Government.

Purchases Towards end of Financial Year

6813. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the broad items including stationery purchased, the parties from whom purchased and the expenditure incurred by different Departments of Delhi Administration during the second half of March, 1990;

(b) the justification for these purchases;

(c) the amount spent on the same heads during the last three years; and

(d) the steps contemplated, if any, not to allow the Departments to make bulk purchases in the ending month of the financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pay Scales of I.C.A.R. Scientists

6814. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the pay scales fixed by the University Grants Commission for different grade of scientists working in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR);

(b) whether there is any discontentment among the scientist of 'S' Grade and other similar grades; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) Sir, the University Grants Commission has not fixed the pay scales for scientist of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. But, with effect from 1.1.1986, the U.G.C. Pay Package has been extended to the Scientists of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Accordingly the following scales have been allowed to the Scientist of the I.C.A.R.:

1. Experimental Scientist
Rs. 1740-3000
2. Scientist
Rs. 2200-4000
3. Scientist (Sr. Scale)
Rs. 3000-5000
4. Scientist (Selection Grade)
and Senior Scientist
Rs. 3700-5700
5. Principal Scientist
Rs. 4500-7300

(b) Some representations have been received against the revised pay scales.

(c) The representations received in respect of the Scientists of 'S' Grade have been examined and rejected.

12.00 hrs.

....(Interruptions)....

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Several Papers are to be laid. First, let the Papers be laid. There, after you may raise whatever issues you want to raise.

[English]

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. Shri Dinesh Singh.

SHRIDINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we see from the Newspapers that a very important meeting has been held between our Foreign Minister and the Foreign Minister of Pakistan and that some important decisions have been taken. We feel that this House has a right to know what has been the result of this meeting. Even if the Foreign Minister is not here, a statement should be made by the Government as to what has been the discussion and the result of that discussion.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Morugao): Sir, I support what Shri Dinesh Singh says. Of course, it is welcome that a dialogue has taken place. We hope that the dialogue will continue. Now, at the same time, it is very deplorable that the Pakistani Foreign Minister should have raised the Kashmir issue at the Non-Aligned Meeting. This issue cannot be raised there; Kashmir is an integral part of India and all disputes must be settled bilaterally.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, today's Times of India has given a very disturbing news that the Shankaracharya of Dwaraka Sharda Peeth, Sarupanand, in a News Conference in New Delhi yesterday declared that shilanyas would be performed on May 7, in the disputed Ram Janambhoomi shrine by him and his followers. He said that thousands of people would gather on May 7 at the Saryu river and from there, march to the shrine with he himself and three others carrying the four bricks. If the police stop us, everybody will do so, except the four of us carrying the bricks: would go ahead and the police can do what-

ever they like.

Asked if the shilanyas would not lead to Hindu-Muslim riots, the Shankracharya said:—

"after an operation, there is bound to be pain".

It seems that there is a competition between VHP and this Jagadguru for getting the communalism to go ahead. I have heard—I may be wrong or I may be right—that behind this Shankaracharya, there are some, from amongst the Congress.

(Interruptions)

I will be happy if it is not so.

(Interruptions)

I consider Congress party to be a secular party and there must be secular elements present here. I would like them to disclaim this Shankracharya. I appeal to the Government to take immediate steps to stop this shilanyas.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): SIR, I am on a point of order under Rule 353. No Member can make a defamatory remark.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will see if there is anything defamatory. I will look into it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Sir, I am not on a point of order.

(Interruptions)

I will read Rule 353. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Sathe.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Subhashini Ali, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kalp Nath Rai, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed Mr. Sathe because he has a point of order.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Under the Rules, no person can make a defamatory remark against any individual or a party or an organisation. Kindly see. Here is an allegation. Here, an hon. member, while quoting something from a newspaper.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barackpore): You quote the rule.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It is Rule 353.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing, Mr. Topdar? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted Mr. Sathe.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: They are ignoramuses. They do not even know the Rule. I began by quoting the rule. *(Interruptions)* I said, rule 353. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sathe, you are a senior Member. I have permitted you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Rule 353 is very clear. These ** must know that Rule. *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): I am on a point of order. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The word '...' will not go on record.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Nobody can be foolish enough not to know this rule. I am withdrawing the word. *(Interruptions)* I have already withdrawn the word.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Advaniji, he has withdrawn the word.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I have withdrawn the word '...'. They are worse than that. *(Interruptions)* Nobody can make a defamatory remark. *(Interruptions)* I seriously object to any Member making an allegation against the Congress. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will see whether it is defamatory.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That must be expunged. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? Please take your seats.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga): Sir, you should expunge it. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: How can I hear you, Mr. Sathe, when all of you are standing?

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Even under Rule 352, sub-Clause 7, it is very clearly mentioned that a Member, while speaking, shall not utter defamatory words. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Have you finished your submission?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: My submission is, you have heard what the hon. Member has said. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am only to tell you that I will go through the records and then I will decide.

(Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

MR. SPEAKER: I will go through the records and if there are any defamatory words, I will see to it that they are not put on the record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: If you have heard her remark, she said that the Congress is behind Dwaraka Jagathguru Shankaracharya. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you that I will go through the records and if there are defamatory or unparliamentary words, then I will look into. What else can the Speaker do?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you that I will go through the records and then take a decision. Whether it is defamatory or unparliamentary, I will look into the records.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: She has made allegations against the Congress. What is the matter of doubt here? You have heard what she said. You should expunge it now. We all know what she has said. It was very clear and she stands by it even now. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Dinesh Singh.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I have allowed Shri Dinesh Singh.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can understand the concern of the hon. Member, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee about a possible disturbance in an effort by the Shankaracharya to place the *shilanayas* there. I can also understand the concern of hers that she does not want to put the blame on a partner of the Government, who started the whole thing. *Shilanayas* has been started by them..... *(Interruptions)* All that I would

like to say is that the position of our party is quite clear on this that the matter is before the court, and that nothing should be done to disturb the *status quo* till a decision is taken by the court. It is wrong on the part of the hon. Member, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee to try to put the blame on us and, Sir, you yourself saw how she was being briefed by a Member of the BJP.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. Now, Shri Advani.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a point of order. Shri Sathe raised a point of order. No ruling has been given so far on his point of order. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have given it. He had raised an objection.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have listened to the hon. Member, Shri Rawat, you have no point of order. You have unnecessarily stood up.

[*English*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: My point of order is under Rule 352 (ii)....

MR. SPEAKER: This has already been quoted by Shri Sathe.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: He has quoted Rule 353. Rule 352(ii) says:

"A member while speaking shall not... make personal reference by way of making an allegation imputing a motive to or questioning the bonafides of any other member of the House....

It is very clear that Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee has made an allegation against the Congress Party. It is a very serious matter.

[*Translation*]

This allegation has been deliberately made against the Congress Party. The intention behind it is very simple that the party, which is behind all incidents of communal disturbances, must be shielded. Efforts are being made to shield that party. Mr Speaker, Sir, you should have first listened to his point of order and then taken a decision. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee has expressed her concern over the fact that the Shankracharya of Dwarka is going to perform the shilanyas during the month of May.

AN HON. MEMBER: It will be performed on May 7

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I would not like to repeat the point as to what is the point of view of my party in regard to Ayodhya, but the Opposition which is there today. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: it is common knowledge.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am aware of it. I would not like to repeat it. I am not apologetic about it rather I am proud of it... (*Interruptions*) Although I do not agree with Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee's point of view, I respect her point of view. While speaking on the same subject, I submitted earlier as well that, despite the fact that the point of view of the Marxist party is not similar to ours, yet they have always been consistent in their outlook. Even now if Raja Dinesh Singh had not pointed in our direction, there would not have been any

need for me to make my submission. Is the Raja unaware of the fact that Jagadguru Shankaracharya criticises us at times and he has close links with you. It is my request to you that not only Jagadguru Shankaracharya but Shri Sathe and Raja Dinesh Singh should also participate in this Shilanyas ceremony. But I would like to reiterate that, whether it is the Ram Janam Bhoomi issue or any other issue concerning the Hindus and Muslims, there should not be any place for double policy.

I saw a photograph just now in which the President of the West Delhi Congress Committee is seen alongside the Shankaracharya (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a request that if the Congress Party actually ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have only allowed him to make a submission.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I have not criticised Raja Dinesh Singh.

[*English*]

I have permitted him to make a submission. No debate please

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I have not criticised him. If whatever Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee has stated is a fact, it should not be opposed. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have heard the points of order.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Since my name has been mentioned by the hon. member, on personal explanation... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you Mr. Choudhary.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Sir, the hon. Member Shri Advani has very kindly referred to me. I would only like to say that any Jagadguru, particularly Jagadguru Shankaracharya, should have blessings for all of us, including my friend Advaniji.

SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA (Bankura): We do not want Shankracharya's blessings. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? Mr. Acharia, I will come to you. Please take your seat, Mr. Chatterjee.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Dinesh Singh, you please address to the Speaker.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all that I said was... (*Interruptions*)

You can see for yourself now what is happening. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, you please take your seat.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, I don't know what has disturbed my friend, Shri Basudeb Acharia. If he does not want Shankracharya's blessings, and if he wants Marx's blessings, he can have it. I

have no dispute with him. But I am saying that Shankracharya should have blessings for all but no Shankracharya can attach himself with any one party or any one group. Therefore, the statement that has been made by the hon. Member Shri Advani that

[*Translation*]

The Shankracharya has close links with is not fair us, I do not think that the Shankracharya can be attached to anyone. It is against his dignity and also against our dignity. We do not have relationship with any Guru.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Khurana, will you please take your seat? I have called Mr. Choudhary.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL (Faridabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a point of Order. It is no issue at all. The issue is that we want your ruling on expunging Smt. Geeta Mukherjee's allegation from the proceedings of the house. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Is it a point of Order? Please sit down. I am listening

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The Speaker can listen to the submission of the Members before giving his ruling. Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY (Katwa): Sir, considering the seriousness of

the matter and the potential it has to ignite fire in the country, we all have been demanding that there has to be a settlement through a dialogue, otherwise it has to be taken to the Court and that verdict has to be abided by everybody. Now Sir, anybody going beyond that by Violating that concept is seriously trying to create a fire in the country. It may be BJP or Vishwa Hindu Parishad or any muslim organisation or any Congress organisation.... (*Interruptions*)

What Advaniji has said, that I appreciate. Their stand is clear. They want the temple to be built there. We are not going to accept it and we will fight them. But the Congress(I) though does not openly propagate that, but many of them secretly support this kind of attempt. (*Interruptions*)

In our country, certain parties, certain individuals take a firm stand on secularism. What our friends have seen during the last Lok Sabha Elections is that, to defeat a CPI candidate, our friends, BJP, withdrew their candidate in favour of the Congress(I).

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY: No, Sir. In view of the complications and in view of the danger which is imminent in connection with this dispute, I would request you to move a Resolution condemning each and everybody who are supporting communalism the attempt of violence or going beyond that. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I am giving my ruling. You had your say.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We are not starting a discussion on that. Please take your seat. I think I should first give my ruling. Let me proceed. I want to give my ruling now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr Basudeb Acharia, please sit down. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats; I have not permitted. I am not permitting. I want to give the ruling. I am not permitting a debate on this. Please take your seats. I will not allow anybody else. I had said that I would not allow it. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have to give a ruling. I am not allowing.

[Translation]

There is no need for it.

*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: first, please take your seats. Mr Choudhury has already made his point.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I will take only a few seconds.

MR. SPEAKER: Then, they will again speak; no.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: There is nothing for them to speak. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The whole country knows how the Shilanyas was allowed. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member may please sit down.

*(Interruptions)**[English]**(Interruptions) **

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I am not permitting anybody.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Will you expunge those remarks, or not?

MR. SPEAKER: If you want to know what I will say, then let me say what I have to say.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: If we all agree, then we can adopt a resolution, as suggested by Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury. *(Interruptions)* We can agree. We can have a resolution, and that resolution can be moved from the Chair. *(Interruptions) **

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, please take your seat. Mr. Soz, please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV (Faizabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the question of my constituency. I have given a notice. Please listen to me. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF P.J. KURIEN: Sir, here is only a simple issue....

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very simple issue which has already been complicated unnecessarily.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have got a point of Order. It is provided in the Rules that if the name of an hon. Member is mentioned while referring to a certain issue he should be given an opportunity of making a statement. People have mentioned my name while referring to the Shilanyas of Ram Janam Bhoomi Temple. I am connected with that constituency. That is why you should listen to my point

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: No; I have not heard. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I am not allowing you.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not heard it.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not giving permission, Madam.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI (Sitapur): Please expunge whatever has been said.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I shall come to the point of order

(Interruptions)

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV: If you will listen to my point of order I shall sit.

MR. SPEAKER: There is a provision in the rules that if something is said about any particular Member.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV: It is something about my constituency.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I am coming to it.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have heard the points of order raised by Mr. Vasant Sathe and also by Mr. Harish Rawat. Mr. Vasant Sathe has raised a point that the remark made by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee is defamatory and it should not be put on the record of the House. I have already observed and I am still observing that I will go through the record and then give my decision accordingly and let you know about it.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down Shri Kamal. Shri Rajveer Singh, you can raise your question.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Neither the Ruling

Party nor you can dictate to me—Shri Kamal Chaudhary.

Shri Rajveer Singh.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): What I have understood from you is this. You have said that you are going to go through the record and then decide whether the remark made by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee amounts to defamation or not. That is all.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: But I am more concerned about knowing this. If these people—Shankracharya and his friends—go ahead with their 7th May programme, which they have announced, what does the Government propose to do about that? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee has already made a point about it. I have heard her.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: How many shilanyas they are going to perform? We want to know what does the Government propose to do about that? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): The Government should say what they are going to do about that. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI (Kanpur): The Home Minister must be present here to tell us what does the Government propose to do about it? *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

India is burning. What is the Government going to do about it. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. What can I do.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What will the Speaker do about that?

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The question is that the Government should say what they are going to do about that.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What should I do. Yes, Mr. Rajveer Singh.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Opium is grown at some places in Uttar Pradesh. Unfortunately this year's opium crop has been destroyed due to heavy rain and hail-storm. I had written a letter to the hon. Finance Minister mentioning the destruction of the opium crop in my constituency and the need to look into this matter to ensure that farmers do not face problems in future. I wrote in the letter that...

MR. SPEAKER: That is enough. Please take your seat now.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: The hon. Finance Minister replied that the D.V.C. Lucknow had sent a team to survey the situation. This team sought a bribe of Rs.400 per 'Ari' from every farmer if they wanted a favourable report. Otherwise they would be given an adverse report. Such are the corrupt ways through which money is being taken from the farmers. If the farmer does not pay the money he has to give a larger quantity of opium failing which his licence would be cancelled. Through you, I appeal to the hon. Finance Minister to look into the

matter so that farmers can get relief. (*Interruptions*)

PROF MAHADEO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): Sir, reservation in all trains going to Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay is full upto 15th May. Due to this everyday nearly 100 passengers on the waiting list have to cancel their tickets. Sir, a movement is going on in Nagpur. Summer specials should be introduced in Maharashtra which go to Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay via Nagpur. I request the hon. Railway Minister to give this matter serious thought. Sir, the 'Lokmat' newspaper which is published from Nagpur has reported this in detail. I request the hon. Railway Minister to kindly read the 22nd April edition of this newspaper and take the necessary action.

SHRI JAGDISH SINGH KUSHWAHA (Ghazipur): Hon. Mr. Speaker Sir, a serious drought situation has developed in the eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh particularly in Ghazipur. This has badly affected 8 blocks of Ghazipur district compelling villagers to leave their homes. I want the U.P. Government to be directed to provide adequate drinking water supply in the drought affected areas so that villagers are not compelled to leave their homes.

[*English*]

SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA (Sambalpur): There has been extensive damage to standing crops in Sambalpur district in the last two months and school building and some cattle farms have been destroyed, due to a hailstorm. As hailstorm is not included as a natural calamity the farmers have been deprived of any assistance, both from the State Government and the Central Government. I appeal to Government to send a central team to assess the damage to Government buildings and also private buildings and also the command area and the non-command area and to

extend adequate financial assistance to tide over the situation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Home Minister stated that migrants from Kashmir are being given Rs. 500/- per month. But the other day also I had said that this is a wrong statement. They have not been given a single penny till today. An assurance given inside the parliament of this country is not fulfilled (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: We investigated this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: When I had spoken in this House on Friday last the hon. Home Minister felt that I was not speaking the truth. May I know why no money has been paid to them till now? It was also said that I should raise my point in the right perspective. On that day too I had challenged this point and I again challenge it today that the statement given by the hon. Home Minister last Friday is not true. As of now the said amount of Rs.500 per month is not being paid to them.

MR. SPEAKER: You may sit down now. You have made your point. Please let Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar speak now.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the workers of sugar mills all over India staged a Dharna for two days i.e. on the 24th and 25th and sent a charter of demands through the National Sugar Mill Employees' Coordination Committee. They have made a demand that the report of Third Wage Board is not in the interests of the sugar mill workers and it does not take care of their problems. Our Cabinet Ministers, Shri Madhu Dandavate and Shri

Geroge Fernandes are also seized of the problems of these workers. I would, therefore, like to request the hon. Minister of Labour to call the representatives of various labour organisations to discuss their problems once again and take the decisions afresh with the formulation of a New Policy in this regard pending the implementation of the report of Third Wage Board.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question should be answered first. I want to know as to what the Government has to say about the news that was published in a number of newspapers?.... (*Interruptions*)....

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Yes, Shrimati Subhashini Ali.

SHRI SUBHASHINI ALI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have just come back from my town. The entire Northern India is very tense at the moment. Under these circumstances, there may be the outbreak of disturbances at any moment and anywhere taking out a religious procession or organising the ceremony of shilanya as with all sorts of provocative slogans and abusive and absurd language may prove to be very disastrous for the entire northern India. I would, therefore, like to request the Government of India to come out with a statement imposing a ban on all such processions and announce that nobody will be allowed to arouse the sentiments of the masses in the name of resurgence of a particular community. Such announcement should be in clear words so that it may put a complete check on such activities.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Subhashiniji, you should stop... **... of B.J.P., then only things will improve. (*Interruptions*)....

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): BJP had withdrawn its candidate in favour of Congress (I) in Faizabad. (*Interruptions*)....

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATISUBHASHINI ALI: We don't have to indulge in... **... of anyone. You are calling us... **... first take stock of yourself. You... **... before the leader of the opposition for hours together and call me as... **... Do we have to learn **... from you. You are a king, an expert of ... **... I don't want to learn... **... from you. (*Interruptions*)....

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying this to you quite plainly. You should not think that we only say something and then quietly take our seats. I have been repeating it for last one month.

MR. SPEAKER: Take your seat. What is the matter?

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I only want to ask as to the why hon. Minister of Home Affairs is not keeping his word. What is the use of such assurance?

MR. SPEAKER: You may give it in writing.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: We have already given a notice, but nothing has happened as yet. Now please tell us as to what to do.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take you seat.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: But we want the reply today itself because now the

House will be adjourned for 4-5 days.

MR. SPEAKER: I think the Minister of state is ready to give his statement.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I want to ask the hon. Minister some questions regarding the statement he had made in the House on last Friday.

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it will be better first to let us make our submissions before the hon. Minister makes his statement so that he is able to clarify the position in respect of all the points raised here

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Has any Member got a special right to speak every time without your permission?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I have called the member because the Minister is ready to give reply to the question he has raised in the House. (Interruptions). ..

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

[English]

SHRICHITTA BASU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to draw the attention of the Government to the plight of the Chakma refugees who number about seventy thousand and who have now been sheltered in Tripura and other North Eastern States. They met the Prime Minister along with many Members of this House and submitted a memorandum, in which they have described the plight to which they have been subjected to. Some of their grievances are: inadequacy of the ration supply; inadequacy of the arrangement of education for their children

and also inadequacy of sanitation and other health measures.

This is one part of their grievance. Politically they have also made it write clear that they want to go to Bangladesh provided conducive conditions are created by the Government of India and also by the Government of Bangladesh. I urge upon the Government that in respect of external relations the Government of India should continue the dialogue with the Government of Bangladesh to create conditions conducive for their return to Bangladesh as early as possible. In the meantime, the Government of India should continue to provide improved reliefs and other measures so that they may not be forced to live in sub-human conditions in this country because it is we who have provided them the shelter here.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chidambaram, I have got your notice. But you have submitted it at 10.50 am. Therefore, I have not gone through it. I am not allowing to raise it here.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Shivaganga): The Prime Minister made such an important announcement outside the House...

MR. SPEAKER: I have not gone through it. I cannot allow you.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: How can the Prime Minister and the Government make such an important announcement regarding formation of a new para-military organisation outside Parliament? It is a gross breach of privilege.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Janardhanan, your calling attention notice regarding cotton prices is under my consideration. I will see whether I can permit. Regarding the other issues I am not allowing you to raise them here now because I have already given you the opportunity.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, what about my notice which I gave on the last Friday. Should I read out the statement of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Khurana, first I have to give my ruling on the notice you have given. *(Interruptions)*....

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Mr. Mitra Sen says that he gave you notice in good time. But you are not permitting him.

MR. SPEAKER: Which notice?

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV. Calling Attention.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: He is elected, as you know, from that area where this trouble, as apprehended, is going to take place on 7th of May about the second shilanyas. He gave you a notice about that and now you do not allow him to make any mention of that.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know whether he has given notice in time. He has given notice for a calling attention motion. That is under my consideration. He has not to raise it during this 1200 and 1300 hours.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You have spent one hour on this. You have allowed so many Members to speak. It is all right. But why do you exclude him? He is elected from there.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not excluded him. But he has not given notice.

12.53 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

Fertiliser (control) (Second Amendment) Order, 1990: Annual Reports and Reviews on the working of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Ltd., Srinagar, for the years 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 along with a statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Shri Devilal, I beg to lay on the table:—

- (1) A copy of the Fertiliser (Control) (Second Amendment) Order, 1990 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 271(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1990 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed on Library. See No. L.T. 729/90]
- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1981-82.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1981-82 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1982-83.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1982-83 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (c) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1983-84, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 730/90]
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 (Volumes-I and II)
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 731/90]
- [English]
- Notifications under Finance Act 1979
Income Tax Act 1961 Delhi Sales Tax
Act 1975 Customs Act 1962 and Central
Excises and Salt Act 1944 etc. etc.**
- THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHAS-
TRI): I on behalf of my senior colleague,
Prof. Madhu Dandavate I beg to lay on the
Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 41 of the Finance Act, 1979:—

- (i) G.S.R. 102(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to His Excellency Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, President of the Republic of Maldives and other members of the delegation who visited India from 15th to 16th March, 1990, from the payment of foreign travel tax.
- (ii) G.S.R. 103(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to His Excellency Mr. Daniel T. Arap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya and other members of the delegation who visited India from 3rd to 4th March, 1990 from the payment of foreign travel tax.
- (iii) G.S.R. 133(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to His Excellency Mr. Choi Ho-Jong, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and other members of the delegation who visited India from 15th to 17th March, 1990, from the payment of foreign travel tax.
- (iv) G.S.R. 134(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum

regarding exemption to His Excellency Mr. Qian Qichen, Foreign Minister of China and other members of the delegation who visited India from 20th to 24th March, 1990, from the payment of foreign travel tax.

- (v) G.S.R. 135(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to Honourable Winston Dookeran, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and Mobilisation of Trinidad and Tobago and one other member of the delegation who visited India from 9th to 16th March, 1990, from the payment of foreign travel tax.

- (vi) G.S.R. 138(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th March, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 7/FTT/90 dated the 1st March, 1990. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 732/90]

- (2) A copy of each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961:—

- (i) The Income-Tax (First Amendment) Rules, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 37(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th January, 1990.
- (ii) The Income-Tax (Certificate Proceedings) (Second Amendment) Rules, 1990 published in Notification No.

- S.O. 121(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th February, 1990.
- (iii) The income-Tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 1990 published in Notification No. 149(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 1990.
- (iv) The Income-Tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 164(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st February 1990.
- (v) The Income-Tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 203(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th March, 1990.
- (vi) The Income-Tax (Sixth Amendment) rules, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 226(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th March, 1990.
- (vii) The Income-Tax (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1990 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 141(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 1990. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 733/90]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 72 of the Delhi Sales Tax Act, 1975:-
- (i) The Delhi Sales Tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. F4(23)/89-Fin. (G) in Delhi Gazette dated the 30th October, 1989.
- (ii) The Delhi Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. F4(25)/89-Fin.(G) in Delhi Gazette, dated the 1st November, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 734/90]
- (4) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 240(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of Japanese Yen into Indian currency or vice-versa, under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 735/90]
- (5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:-
- (i) The Central Excise (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 761(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 1989.
- (ii) The Central Excise (Eleventh Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 964(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 1989.
- (iii) G.S.R. 100(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide that in accordance with a general practice that was prevalent at the relevant time, the excise duty

on magnetic ferrite with a binder shall not be required to be paid during the period from 28th February, 1986 to 28th February, 1989.

- (iv) G.S.R. 129(E) and G.S.R. 130(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th March, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide that in accordance with the general practice that was prevalent at the relevant time, the excise duty at higher rate on HDPE strips and the like used in the stitching of HDPE sacks during the period from 1st March, 1986 to 23rd February, 1987 and in the weaving of HDPE fabrics during 1st March, 1987 to 16th March, 1987 shall not required to be paid. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 736/90]

- (6) A copy of the Reserve Bank of India (Note refund) (Amendment) Rules, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd December, 1989 under proviso to Section 28 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 737/90]

Governors (Emolument, Allowance and Privileges) Act, 1982 and Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): I on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Special Order (Hindi and English versions) dated 22nd March, 1990 issued by the President regarding increase in the amount in respect of hospitality expenses and office expenses relating to Governor of Maharashtra for the year 1987-88 under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Governors, (Emolument, Allowance and Privileges) Act, 1982. [Placed in Library See No. L.T. 738/90]
- (2) The Indo-Tibetan Border Policy Motor Mechanic (Gazetted) Cadre Recruitment Rules, 1990 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 403 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 1990 under sub-section (3) of section 18 of the Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 739/90]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce for 1990-91

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Commerce for 1990-91. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 740/90]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Civil Aviation for 1990-91

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation for 1990-91. [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 741/90]

Notifications under the Companies Act, 1956 and a statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: On behalf of my colleague, Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following paper (Hindi and English Versions) under sub-Section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hoogly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hoogly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) (i) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above and (ii) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 742/90]

[Translation]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications for 1990-91

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I

beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Posts for 1990-91. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 743/90]

- (2) A Copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hind and English versions) of the Department of Telecommunications for 1990-91. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 744/90]

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): You do not request the Government to make a statement as to what they propose to do.

MR. SPEAKER: You are making the request. They are also there. I have not questioned them.

(Interruptions)

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): I support his point of view, Sir. He is asking the Government...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Rangaji, let the Government respond. I am not preventing the Government from responding to Indrajit Babu's point.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Mr.

Speaker. Sir, you have kindly decided and announced in this House that seven Members will be allowed to raise the matters of public importance, whom you select, and that has been announced here also. Today, even before.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: But you did not accept it

PROF. P. J. KURIEN. We did not accept it. Today, even before those seven Members were called, without his giving notice, you allowed Mr. Khurana two times...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER. What is your point of order?

(Interruptions)

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: But, Sir, you did not allow any of our Members to raise a point, whereas, being in Opposition, we have also the right to say. *(Interruptions)*. You are breaking the convention of everything. As an Opposition, we have also the right to say. You cannot take away that right...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is not point of order.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this has been the convention of this House. I am repeating it for the second time that the Opposition will have their say during the

Zero Hour. Today you did not allow me to raise a very important point...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Does Mr. Dinesh Singh not belong to the Congress party? Does Mr. Eduardo Faleiro not belong to your party?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Only one Member has been allowed for our side.

It is unjust... *(Interruptions)*. You have allowed only one Member from our side. It is not fair. I am very sorry to say...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not doing justice to the Speaker. I have, first of all, at 12 o'clock, after the Question Hour was over, permitted Mr. Dinesh Singh, even though he did not give a notice. Then I permitted Mr. Chidambaram also who has not given a notice.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the way.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, what is your point of order, Mr. Khurana?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me hear his point of order.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Sir, I am on a point of order. You have given him a chance to speak. But I did not get a chance despite my giving it in writing on Monday last.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That is no point of order.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Everyday our Members want to raise it, but...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Everyday the House is discussing about the Delhi fire.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please take your seats? If you take your seats, then I will consider.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Khurana, that is no point of order. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kumaramangalam, please take your seat. I will come to you.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barackpore): Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Under what rule you want to raise it?

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Sir, I want to know the rule under which a Member

has a right to create disorder in this House.

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV (Faizabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to say that the seriousness that should have been there on the question of Shilanyas is missing in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Come to the point.

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV: I want to submit that Vishwa Hindu Parishad had performed 'Shilanyas' on the 9th November last year. They are going to re-enact the ceremony on 7th May. The large scale violence, riots and lawlessness that took place in the meantime is a part of history now and Government is aware of all these facts. Shilanyas on 7th May is going to be performed by Shri Swaroopanand, the Shankaracharya of Dwarka. If this shilanyas is allowed to take place in Ayodhya (Faizabad) and if this ceremony is not banned, the entire state will be in flames and then it would be impossible to prevent the communal riots despite all use of force. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to give strict instructions to the State Government to ensure safety and security of the people in their houses. The State Government should also see to it that no disturbance is created in the State, especially in our district. If the Government allows the Shilanyas to take place on 7th May, the communal conflagration would become inevitable in the country. Therefore, the Government must make a statement in this regard.

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the last week or so, we have seen that in Delhi alone, over 8000 'jhuggis' have been burnt down. We have also reports here that the burning of these 'jhuggis' is not accidental, but in fact, could be a sabotage. The people who are the real estate mafias are involved in burning down of these 'jhuggis'. We would like the hon. Minister for Home Affairs to inquire in to this matter and make a statement in this House, since the life and property of the drown-trodden are involved in these incidents.

[Translation]

SHRI J. P. AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had risen to speak yesterday also, but you did not allow me. You do not want to listen to me.

MR. SPEAKER: What do you want to say? You can make your point ... (Interruptions)

SHRI J. P. AGARWAL: As stated by Shri Kumaramangalam just now, the fire incidents in the Jhuggis of Delhi have become a matter of daily occurrence. Yesterday, two persons were arrested in this connection. They have admitted that they are Bhartiya Janata Party workers and they had set the Jhuggis on fire... (Interruptions)....

MR. SPEAKER: I have not permitted you to speak. Please sit down.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Sir, sentiments are involved in this issue.... (Interruptions)...

13.02 hrs.

[English]

ASSENT TO BILLS

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the Code of Criminal Procedure

(Amendment) Bill, 1990 passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current Session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 6th April, 1990.

Sir, I also lay on the Table copies, duly authenticated by the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha, of the following two Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 6th April, 1990.

- (1) The Constitution (Sixty-fourth Amendment) Bill, 1990
- (2) The Criminal Law Amendment (Amending) Bill, 1990.

13.03 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have said that the relief money due to them has not been paid.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): This is not so. They have not been given money despite the statement by the Home Minister that relief has been given... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If speaking helps in solving your problem, then it is a different matter.... (Interruptions)...

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): They are maligning B. J. P. by setting jhuggis in Delhi on fire themselves... (Interruptions)....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Kalka Das, please sit down.

.. (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would like to tell you that there is a provision in the Rules about the course of action you can take in case Government's statement is inaccurate

or is not based on facts. The rules do not indicate what instructions the Presiding officer, who occupies the Chair on behalf of the Speaker, can issue to the Government in this regard. You have the right to take action, as per rules if a statement issued by the Government is incorrect. You can adopt that course. There is no use of telling the Speaker repeatedly to instruct the Government about it, as he is not authorised to do so. It will not serve your purpose. I would suggest you to go through the rules and act accordingly. You would be able to achieve your objective.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, notice for 'Privilege Motion' on this issue was given on Monday...*(Interruptions)*..A notice for raising the matter under Rule 377 has also been given...*(Interruptions)*...

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It will be decided by him. I can't say anything because I don't know.

.....*(Interruptions)*.....

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Then, you better expel me. What I am saying is correct. The Home Minister had said that relief has been paid and on that day also I had said that it has not been done. It was said repeatedly.....

MR. SPEAKER: Sit down, please. For your convenience, let me tell you the direction:-

[*English*]

direction 115 (1) says:-

"A member wishing to point out any mistake or inaccuracy in a statement made by a Minister or any other member shall, before referring to the matter in the House, write to the Speaker pointing out

the particulars of the mistake or the matter in the House."

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Please listen. I have been hankering after this for the last five days, I have met the hon. Speaker as well as the Home Minister. I have also given it in writing....

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): You have gone to the Press also.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Khuranaji, you have taken enough time on this issue. You should not feel so helpless. You have got every right, but if you do not know how to exercise that right, it is another thing.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I have already met the Speaker and given him in writing. I met the Home Minister also. I have talked to all but nobody is prepared to do anything. You tell me what else can I do?

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member is not so helpless.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMADAN LAL KHURANA: Nobody has given me an opportunity to explain my position fully. This gentleman is also trying to interrupt. I have something to say, what I want to say will take just one minute. I want to quote from the press report:-

[*English*]

It is reported in *The Hindustan Times* dated 21st April 1990:

"Despite Mr. Khurana's protests, the Home Minister asserted that Rs. 500 per family had been given to the refugees."

[*Translation*]

On 20th of this month, he again said that

every victim of fire incidents in Delhi had been given Rs. 500. Today it is 26th. On that day also I had protested in the House as I knew that what the Home Minister was saying was not correct. Later I confirmed it from Delhi Administration, they too admitted that they had not distributed even a single paisa. Thereafter, I met the Home Minister and the Hon. Speaker and gave it in writing. I had given in writing on Monday and 4 days have since passed. Nobody is prepared to listen. I would like to ask as to where should I go now?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Khurana, I am not going to allow you any more time as you have already taken enough time. I would like to tell you that if you have any objection...

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I have an objection, right from the beginning.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Listen to me first. If you have any objection, there can be a solution to it under the rules. If you have given Privilege Motion, you can talk to Hon. Speaker about it. But if you try to raise it repeatedly like this, it would not help in finding a solution. In a privilege motion, the reply of the concerned Minister is obtained in writing and after thorough consideration, the ruling is given whether consent to the Privilege Motion is to be given or not. Please meet Hon. Speaker in this connection.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I have met them all. The House is going to have a four day's break from tomorrow.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing of what you say further will go on record now....(Interruptions)....*

[Translation]

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT (East Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the incidents of fire in jhuggis in Delhi have become an every day

affair. The other day, fire incident took place in jhuggis of Jahangirpuri and Seelampur. Daulat Dairy has been the scene of fire twice. I am sure, a political conspiracy is behind all these incidents. There seems to be a calculated plan to drive out or to intimidate the jhuggi dwellers of Delhi. An enquiry should be ordered into it. The relief measures are inadequate and that too just for show off. Just now, my hon. brother, Shri Madan Lal was speaking for whom I have great regard. He gets the bread and milk supplied by the Red Cross distributed in the camps ...(Interruptions). in the name of his party, B. J. P.....(Interruptions).....

The allegation Congress is behind all that happened should be enquired into. Why this conspiracy is being hatched, who is hatching it and with what motives...(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not the position.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has come in the press that these fire incidents are a part of the massive drive of the Delhi Administration to eliminate Jhuggi-jhonpri.... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Ar. Agarwal. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions) .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Some hon. Members have alleged that a particular party is behind Ram Janma Bhoomi issue and some have alleged that a particular party has a hand in setting jhuggies on fire. These two points have been raised in the House. These points should be raised in the House or not, that is a different matter. But I on my part would like to say that incidents of fire taking place in Jhuggi-jhonpri clusters in Delhi continuously for 5-6 days is a serious matter. I would like the Government to

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fall in prices of*
[English]

please investigate into it, take it seriously and take appropriate action.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

SHRI KALKADAS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other day also I had pleaded that these incidents of fire should be enquired into. I have named a suspect also.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not mention any name.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU (VISAKHAPATNAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the threatening anonymous calls and letters that the Editor of 'Nai Duniya' has received. Now, I want to say that in the Indian democracy, this is a complete violation of freedom of the Press. An FIR has been filed in this regard. I would like the Home Minister, who is always silent or not present in the House, to enquire into the matter and see that the Press is allowed to work freely and give their opinion on A or B party freely. They should give them necessary security.

13.20 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Reported Fall in prices of Virginia Flue Cured tobacco resulting in distress to tobacco growers and steps taken by Government to mitigate their sufferings

[English]

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (Calcutta South): I call the attention of the Minister of

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Commerce to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:-

"Reported fall in the prices of Virginia Flue Cured tobacco resulting in distress to the tobacco growers and the steps taken by the Government to mitigate their sufferings."

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU) Sir, Virginia Flue Cured (VFC) tobacco is grown largely in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. To ensure reasonable prices to tobacco growers, the Tobacco Board holds open auctions at various centres. For 1989-90 crop, in Andhra Pradesh auctions commenced on 21.2.90. A quantity of 47.53 Million kgs. had been auctioned till 20.4.1990 at an average price of Rs. 15.11 per kg. as against an average price of Rs. 19.46 per kg. during the corresponding period last year. The prices at the auctions last year were initially high, but they went down subsequently and the average price for the entire season was Rs. 16.59 per kg.

The Minimum Support Price (MSP) for VFC tobacco is fixed by the Government on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), which takes into consideration relevant factors while fixing the MSP. The MSP is fixed every year for the two major grades, namely, F-2 grade, grown on black soils, and L-2 grade, grown on Northern Light Soils. For other grades, MSP is fixed by the Tobacco Board having regard to the MSP fixed for the two major grades and the usual price differential between various grades.

According to the Tobacco Board, the prices obtained at the auctions this year are low as compared to the previous year, but they are well above the MSP levels. Further, after the USSR firmed up its orders to the Indian suppliers, prices have started picking up marginally. The Commerce Ministry is holding a meeting with the trade and the manufacturers of tobacco in a bid to secure

Government is fully committed to securing to the farmers reasonable prices for their produce. However, it must be mentioned that the demand for tobacco is going down all over the world on account of the anti-smoking campaign. The Government is, therefore, considering formulating a long term strategy for production and marketing of tobacco so that the production is not far in excess of the demand and the farmers are able to realise remunerative process for their tobacco.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, a few days back, when I gave this calling-attention notice, the situation was slightly different. At that time, I was told by the kisans and the farmers that in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, the price which was prevailing in the market was very low and, in fact, lower than the minimum support price which has been declared by the Government. They also told me that the farmers were actually withdrawing the produce from the market. They were not selling it in the market. Only one-third of the total produce had been sold in the market. There was resistance on the part of the farmers to sell it at that low price. I also heard that the State Trading Corporation was not intervening at the level at which it was necessary for the STC to do in order to protect the farmers.

Now I find the situation is slightly different. By now, the resistance of the farmers has been completely broken. The farmers have been forced to make distress sales at a very large proportion of their produce at a price lower than the Minimum Support Price. The Minister said, the price ruling in the market is well above the Minimum Support Price. But there are different prices. The price that he is talking about is the price at which probably the Tobacco Board is purchasing those things by way of auction. But the price at which the farmer is parting with the produce at the village to the agent is much lower than the Minimum Support price. I also understand that now the benefit of minimum support price will go to the agent

and it will not go to the growers. Even the export rebate which is being given by the Government is appropriated by the agents and not by the growers or farmers for whom we are interested. This is a very alarming development because a very large number of people actually cultivate tobacco, particularly in the States like Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

I agree with the Minister that at the international market, the demand for tobacco has gone down largely because of the campaign against smoking. That is right. And the amount purchased the Soviet Union has also gone down. That is also true. At the same time, it is one thing to say that the farmers should switch from tobacco to some other crop and it is another thing to simply base one strategy on that. It is because, India is now the third largest tobacco producing country in the world. In any case, the farmers have made certain amount of adjustment in response to the lower price level. For example, if you compare the area of land under cultivation of tobacco now, as to what it was in 1982-83, there has been one-third fall already in the land which is under tobacco. There is also limit to the switch over because when you are switching from tobacco to something else, the other crop should be, if not wholly remunerative but equally remunerative. Given the agro-climatic conditions in those areas, it is not easy to find another crop which can be a good substitute and can take the place of tobacco and the farmers cannot be easily induced to get into it.

So, while I can see the long-term problem, I also see the short-term problem. I do not see there is easy solution in simply saying that the demand is going down and the farmers should switch from tobacco to something else.

I would also remind the House that in case of jute, for example, for the last so many years, we have been told that jute has no future. But this year, there is so much of demand for jute, that the Government is being forced to make import of raw jute from

Bangladesh and the price has gone up. So, the world market price fluctuates. The situation today might change tomorrow. There might be many other ways by which it can change. I would not base my policy entirely on that. I would also like to make the point that when one is dealing with a crop like tobacco, one is in a different situation from the one who is dealing with food crop. In case of food crop, the high price for the grower might mean that the consumers who are poor might suffer to a certain extent. So, one must be careful about the food price. When we deal with the prices of commercial crops, here is a different situation. We have, on the one hand, a multitude of small farmers scattered all over the country and they are facing a small number of very powerful corporate interests with enormous bargaining strength. This small number of businessmen, traders and companies which control the market also act in collusion with one another and they can control and manipulate the price effectively. The small farmer has no choice against the corporate interests in the market unless he is fully supported by the Government. When you come to the commercial crop, this difference has to be kept in mind because in a situation where the small number of oligopolistic buyers are working in collusion, it is a completely new situation where they can manipulate the prices and they can cheat both the workers and the growers at the same time and the high level of expertise already existing should be kept in mind. I find that the policy of the Government both during the previous Government and also during the present regime, is to appeal to the corporate interest and not to look at the interest of the growers. For example, the new textile policy has been declared; for modernisation of jute and industries other various things have been done. For tobacco also, more interest is given to the problems of tobacco manufacturers. But what about the growers? In fact, when I raised this issue, I addressed it to Shri Devi Lal. I thought that Shri Devi Lal was the appropriate Minister to answer this question. We are interested in the price which the

grower is getting. I am not unhappy that the Minister of Commerce is now replying to the Calling Attention Notice but the appropriate Minister for answering this question should have been Mr. Devi Lal and not Mr. Arun Nehru. Here we are concerned with a large number of cultivators who are very poor with very low bargaining strength and who are totally helpless when facing this enormously large chain of corporate interests and for which the intervention of the Government is so important.

It is true you have mentioned in this note about the role of CACP which fixes prices. Do they fix the price properly? This question has to be raised not only in case of tobacco but also in case of other crops. I know how they fix the price. I am in touch with the Commission for many years now. The Members of the Commission themselves will tell you in confidence that it is done very arbitrarily. There is no basis. The cost estimates which are available from different parts of the country do not match. The cost estimates are very arbitrary and unscientific. A few years back, in fact, the Commission itself gave a report where they said that their own estimates of cost were very doubtful and dubious and that a Committee should be appointed to ensure that the cost estimates were properly done. So, the prices they declare are actually based on very dubious cost estimates which do not reflect the reality on the ground. I would like to make very specific points. For example, the farmer is now making a major investment. He is not the old type of farmer who is getting some cowdung and relying on rain. This kind of farmer is now cultivating the tobacco and other commercial crops. The farmer is making enormous investment in a number of inputs. All these inputs must be covered by the price which he gets. Otherwise, his farming will be of no value. I would also make the point which has been made by the Prime Minister himself that the value of labour must be covered by the price. When I say the value of labour, the wage which he could have got if he worked for somebody else, should be taken into account. Not only the simple wage but the minimum wage declared by the

Government, should be taken into account, for declaring such a price. In case of tobacco, which it is a labour intensive crop, it is very very important, that labour element is given the right emphasis so that the value of labour is reflected in the price which the cultivator gets at the end of the day.

I would also like to make a point that since agriculture is also being run almost like an industry, where people are getting credit from the bank and the market and making investment, the return from the agriculture should be at par with the return from any other economic activity. The relative return from Agriculture should be taken into account for calculating the price. The farmer should get the return which is atleast at par with the return which one normally gets by investing money in other activities as well. If they do not get this for the borrowings from the bank, the farmer should have to face serious difficulties in paying back the loan.

Regarding tobacco or cotton, for all these crops once in a few years, there would be serious drought, and there would be serious natural calamity and the production would go down. So, the price which you declare for certain commodities has to take into account the possibility that once in 3, 4 or 5 years there will be a serious difficulty facing the farmer. So, in order to make him survive, it is necessary that the price of crop should have an insurance element built into it and he can face this calamity. If the prices are too low, he would not have sufficient savings to survive such calamity.

As I said, there should be a parity with the industrial price. The terms of trade have to be taken into account. It is not a question of fixing the price of tobacco to the extent what the farmer spends in terms of inputs, but it is also a question of what the tobacco farmer is paying for buying various industrial goods which come to him in the village market. So, unless the terms of trade are taken into account, unless parity is maintained between agriculture and industry, it would be very serious, very alarming for the agriculturists to make such a major invest-

ment. They are not getting proper return out of it in these years when they suffer enormous loss, some growers commit suicide. This kind of situation should not occur.

I would also like to make a point about the bodies which are supposed to purchase the crops. It is true that the CACP declares the price, or some other organisation declares the price. Now, somebody has to purchase that crop at that particular price from the farmer. What has been our experience? It does not happen. The question is whether it is the Tobacco Board or the JCI or the Cotton Corporation, they never go to the market on time. By the time they go to the market the farmer does not have the goods in his hands. It has already gone to the agents. In the case of tobacco, there is an argument given. The argument is that you require drying barns and all that. So they sell it to the agents because they only have the drying barns and others do not have it. If that is the case then the Government should take initiative to ensure that the others also can use drying barns on collective basis, so that farmers do not completely come under the control of the agents, the intermediaries, who appropriates most of the profits, and it is not the farmer who gets anything out of it and high prices sometimes rule the market. So, these are some of the points which I would like to strongly emphasise.

Then timings should be proper. When the companies intervene in the market, they should come with sufficient money in their hands. They should not run out of money in the middle of such purchase operation. Further, there should be adequate warehousing facilities. The infrastructure has to be built so that the farmer does not have to face helpless situation *vis-a-vis* the corporate interest and *vis-a-vis* the intermediaries.

Lastly, I would make the point about the waiver of loan. In my recent speech on the Budget I also mentioned that. The point is that such loan waivers should be linked with loan holdings. That is another point. You can do it once. You cannot do it every time. If you

would do it every time, there will be no banking system, no cooperative system. If you want the agriculture to develop, if you want rural development, you can waive loans only once. If you keep on doing it, there will be no rural development. Much more effective would be to ensure a proper remunerative price to the farmers and that is not going to hurt the consumers because in this case the consumers have the industrial interests. They will not be hurt. But the remunerative price would give a lot of benefit to the cultivators and it will build up the morale of the cultivators and it would make them invest in this important sector. Therefore, for this reason the price has to be very good, remunerative enough for them to make such a cultivation attractive. There should be a provision to provide more credit to the farmers. There should be a provision for insurance facilities to the farmers. So far, these things have not been adequately provided to them. What I find is a very alarming situation so far as the tobacco growers are concerned. Whatever you do is not going to benefit the growers..(Interruptions) I would request the hon. Minister to look into this matter and work out a strategy which helps the tobacco farmers. They are not to be left in a helpless condition as we find them to day.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have made good points. But to see that Call Attention Motions are properly treated in the House, I would like to read this portion for the benefit of the entire House:

"There shall be no debate on such statement at the time it is made but each member in whose name the item stands in the list of business may, with the permission of the Speaker, ask a clarificatory question and the Minister shall reply at the end to all such questions."

But we have been quite indulgent. Anyhow this should be within the limits.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: I have not

repeated anything.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You made good points. There is no doubt about it.

SHRI K. S. RAO (Machilipatnam): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is quite unfortunate that the tobacco growers are being exploited right from the beginning.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Rao, what I told to Mr. Dasgupta applies to you also. Please be within the limits.

SHRI K. S. RAO: It will apply after my completion..(Interruptions) I now come to the subject. Sir, right from the beginning exploitation is made by the traders and the exporters. In the beginning it was so horrible that the traders and exporters never used to pay the money in time and there were occasions when they delayed the payments running into crores of rupees for more than a couple of years. Though this was cut down by bringing the system of auction still there is a lot to be done. Every year it has become a problem, created by the collusion of the traders in this regard. The exploitations by the traders and exporters invariably are: (i) by the collusion to under-quote because there was no regulation except the minimum support price which is not at all a price. It has no rationale behind it. In the matter of fixation of price there is no rationale. The second point is this: I understand the traders will try to get the order or stall the orders from either Russia or America or from any other importing country till the end of the season so that they can purchase the tobacco from the growers at a very cheap price. They will then get orders at higher prices. While the Government is very particular in fixing the minimum export price at which this commodity can be sold, it is not particular to fix up the minimum support price to the growers in a rationale way. Everyone of us will be surprised to know while the prices in the market are very high like about Rs. 19 or Rs. 23, the minimum support price is only Rs. 14/- If the hon. Minister tries to take shelter under the pretext that the prices that are being there in the market are more than the minimum

support price, that is no reason at all, there is no satisfaction at all as far as this issue is concerned. There can be satisfaction if the minimum support price is rationale. I would quote my own experience as a Member of the Tobacco Board last year. When we found that these traders are exploiting the growers very much, we called a meeting, discussed with the traders and the exporters as also the indigenous manufacturers. When we asked them to convince us as to how they could not pay more to the growers, they did not have an answer. Ultimately when we asked them that the minimum export price they are getting is so much and beyond that also they are going to get higher price—which they derive from the minimum export price—how much they are going to pay to the growers, they said they give the growers Rs. 20.60. They themselves have come forward to admit this in the presence of the hon. Minister, the Tobacco Board Chairman and many other officials connected with the Ministry of Commerce. But when they went back, they never kept up their promise. They once again resorted to the same type of exploitation. When they agreed to pay that minimum guarantee price, in the presence to the Ministry, which was less than the minimum export price, it was found reasonable, taking into account their expenditure and everything, they exported the commodity and they did not keep their promise purely to exploit the unfortunate growers, in spite of the fact that there is regulation, there is a Government to check them. This is the scant regard or the fear they have for the Government. In spite of all these things, the Government is giving them the cash compensatory support. We are not against it. But you are paying the cash compensatory support only after the entire tobacco is sold out in the market at the exploited price. To whom should this CCP go? Should it go to the grower or to the trader who has already exploited the grower? The Government must see that once they pay cash compensatory support, they must also ensure that it is shared by the growers at least. Otherwise, if the growers were not to get the remunerative price and if they stop producing the tobacco, where will this trade be? I can understand the Government's

theory. Their theory is, if this cash compensatory support were to be there for the traders, many more traders would come forward to earn more foreign exchange. All right. All this is possible only when the grower is paid the remunerative price. It is quite known to everyone of us that this MSP should not be uttered in Parliament because there is no rationale behind it. There is no rationale visible in it when it is twice the price prevailing in the market. What is the sanctity of the MSP when it is Rs. 10? It should not have been there. In the statement given by the Minister, it is said that price is more than the MSP: It can be when the MSP is appropriate. I request the hon. Minister not to once again harp upon the minimum support price. This matter was discussed in the Tobacco Board, time and again and the Tobacco Board is quite aware of the problems of the traders, exporters and the growers. We have decided rationally in many a meeting that minimum support price has to be increased substantially. And this recommendation of the Tobacco Board has come before the Ministry. But no action has been taken so far. The Minister may take shelter under the pretext that this minimum support price has to be fixed by the Agricultural Prices Commission and not by the Commerce Ministry. But when you are the person dealing with export, when you are the person dealing with tobacco growers as well as the tobacco exporters and the individual manufacturers, you must put your weight. You must impress upon the Ministry of Agriculture or you must call a meeting of the Agricultural Prices Commission and explain to them about the cost of producing this tobacco—whether there is any rationale, whether there is any formal or the technical strength in it. But nothing has been done in this regard. I request the Minister that this aspect must not be taken into account half-heartedly, not as if it is a gift to the tobacco growers but it must be taken into account seriously. What is happening is regard to the manufactured goods in this country? In every three months you are raising the price and there is *hulla gulla* everywhere in the country. You take any commodity, the same is the situation. Is it only the poor growers who should suffer at

the hands of the Government, at the hands of the exploiters? When we can consider taking precaution to secure the interest of the industrial manufacturers, why should we not take care of the poor farmers? All right. Let an expert commission consisting of farmers and your officers go into the details of the cost of producing the tobacco and then decide about it. Then, you may say that it cannot be decided on that rationale and it must be decided on the international price because we have to export it. All right. You take both these things account—the international price of the tobacco at which we are exporting and the manufacturing cost of the tobacco growers and then arrive at a decision. There is justification in it. When we can fix the minimum export price, why should we not fix the minimum support price? Please concentrate on that. I request the hon. Minister not to be guided by any such record or statement given by the officers concerned without going into the rationale behind that. Let not my hon. colleagues be carried away that the farmers are getting more than the MSP. The MSP has no value.

The second aspect is about the recommendations of the Tobacco Board. We have seen enough of it from our own experience and not just without having any knowledge. We have visited the offices and farms and we have calculated the working cost. We have convened a conference of the growers; we have convened a conference of the indigenous manufacturers of cigarette; we have convened a conference of the exporters and local traders. Then we have come to the conclusion that this problem will be a perennial problem unless we find a long-lasting solution. The one solution which we found during our discussions is that whenever the Tobacco Board, which is mainly meant to protect the interests of the tobacco growers as also regulate the production and marketing, finds that these growers are subject to exploitation by traders, then the Tobacco Board must immediately enter into the market.

The STC was hitherto entering into the market. Now when we ask the STC today, even the hon. Minister will say that the STC had entered earlier and lost about Rs. 10 or Rs. 20 crores in one year. Will you kindly analyse the situation as to why only the STC has lost and why the traders have not lost? I will tell you the reason. The STC has no facilities of grading tobacco. The STC enters into the market and purchase the tobacco at the price the Government asks it to purchase or at the minimum guaranteed price. Then it gives the tobacco to the same traders who are exploiting the growers. What they do is, they purchase the first quality and the second quality tobacco, in the guise of grading, from the STC and replace it by Nth rate tobacco with the connivance of the officers concerned. Then this Nth grade tobacco certainly will cause loss. Because of the mistakes committed by the officers, do you want to say that growers cannot be rescued? You check those tendencies; you curb those tendencies and ensure that this is done properly. You safeguard the interests of the growers.

Even if STC were not to be depended upon, if you have feeling that if you allow the STC to enter into the market once again they will make the exchequer lose about Rs. 10 crores, then think of the Tobacco Board. The Tobacco Board has got enough officers who are experienced and knowledgeable in this regard. It has got the acquaintance and association with the tobacco growers. If the Tobacco Board were to be given a stabilising fund of Rs. 10 crores—it is to stabilise and not to lose—it can enter into the market at such eventualities and come to the rescue of the farmers.

Don't forget that the tobacco that is being manufactured or produced by the tobacco growers is giving Rs. 2000 crores to the exchequer by way of excise by the cigarette manufacturers. 50% of the tobacco produced in this country is being consumed by the indigenous manufacturers. If you bring a statutory order that these indigenous manufacturers must purchase only through the tobacco auction platforms at a minimum

guaranteed price—even if 50% is assured—the growers will get the right price. The rest of the 50% can also be safeguarded by ensuring that the export orders are secured in time.

While this goes for a permanent solution, this year as my hon. colleague has already said, the growers have lost Rs. 4.50 on an average on 47.5 million kgs. which comes to more than Rs. 20 crores. Can farmers lose about Rs. 25 crores in one season? They are going to lose very much.

You have given in your statement that the prices are a little up and now it is satisfactory. No. They are satisfactory only today because a discussion is going on in the Parliament on a Calling Attention notice. You see from the 1st of May the prices are going to fall down abnormally. Then the average price will crumble down like anything and they will suffer very badly. We cannot come to their rescue at that point of time. They will only look to you. When we are prepared to spend thousands of crores of rupees for industrialists and hundreds of crores of rupees for industrialists and hundreds of crores of rupees for the General Insurance Corporation, can we not give Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 crores to them? Can you not spare it? If you are not able to give Rs. 20 crores, at least you give a deposit of Rs. 20 crores or Rs. 10 crores to the Tobacco Board, if not STC, which may immediately enter into the market and sell them. There are occasions when the tobacco growers had to sell their wives' *mangalasutra*. We cannot understand their position from here. We can understand from there only.

As my colleague has also said, I know that you are suggesting for a change of crop. This crop is not being raised in assured water facility area. This crop is being raised only in dry land, where there is no other facility to raise any other crop. It is found by the Government and also by the scientists that this particular area is suitable for tobacco only. Otherwise tobacco could have been grown anywhere in the country. Why is it not being raised in other parts of the

country? Several atmospheric conditions and soil conditions permitted the tobacco growers to grow only in specific areas namely, Ongole, Nellore, Guntur and other parts of Andhra Pradesh. These things must be taken into account by the hon. Minister. It is not too late. You please send the STC. They need not have to purchase the entire 50 million kg. It is enough if the traders come to know that the Government is sending the STC to purchase any amount of tobacco at MGP and automatically they will give. So, there is no need for the STC to purchase the full quantity. Our experience in the last several years tell us that it will be only 10 per cent or 5 per cent of the total production or even less. So, you should not fear that by your asking the STC, to enter into the market, immediately your exchequer will lose very heavily. Please understand this aspect and make the STC or the Tobacco Board to enter into the purchases immediately.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is too much. Please conclude.

SHRI K. S. RAO: I will make only one point.

Unfortunately, the growers have lost very heavily. I will request the hon. Minister to think in terms of providing at least three to four rupees per kg for all those unfortunate growers who have already sold their product of 47 million kg, either by getting it from the excise that you have collected two thousand crores or so—or from any other means which you feel fit. Thank you very much.

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, can you allow me to speak?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. It is not allowed. Now, the Minister.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Sir, some very important points have been made and I would like to deal with them at some length.

India today is the fourth largest producer and the sixth largest exporter, after USA, Brazil, Turkey, Greece, and Italy. But

the fact of the matter is that the exports which had touched its peak in 1981-82, that is, by over Rs. two hundred crores. We had exported nearly 114 million kg. It had dropped substantially since then and then in the current year, the exports are worth Rs. 136 crores and the figure is closer to 52 million kg. Similar situation is there on tobacco products also. I think we have to face the reality of the situation. The first thing is that the countries which were once large importers are now growing a lot of their own tobacco, for instance take China. It was growing a thousand million kg, it is now growing two thousand five hundred million kg. A country like Soviet Russia which was buying from us, 43 thousand tonnes has now dropped their purchase to 15 thousand tonnes. Now, whichever way we look at it, the reality of the situation is that the people are smoking less. For Virginia tobacco which is going into certain sophisticated markets in the Western Europe and UK, there is a very massive campaign against smoking. I think the sooner we take the reality into account, the better it would be. If you take for instance, the position for the last five years, your domestic consumption is between 45 and 50 million kg. There is not a very large variation in it. I mean, there is no growth. We are not seeing a drop in it. The exports constitute nearly fifty per cent. From 50 million kilograms in 1985, you are down to 35 million kilograms in 1989. So, it is a declining figure, if you see the prices, which both the hon. Members have referred to, the position is extremely erratic. In 1985-86, we had an average price of Rs. 10.30. For the various grades, I am taking the average. It improved in 1986-87 to Rs. 12.50. It crashed in 1987-88 to Rs. 8.20. In 1988-89, it went up again to Rs. 16.30. Then, it was Rs. 16.60. Now in this year, it has gone down again to Rs. 15.08. The Member very correctly said that as the lower quality has come in now, the price will dip further. We reckon that for this season, it will vary between Rs. 14 to Rs. 14.50.

I think, the important point here really is

that the Government can try to do its best in this area. But at the same time, these forces of supply and demand are something which you cannot regulate all through. The production has to be regulated. If we are talking of a fair and a good price to the farmer, then we have also to ensure that we do not produce far in excess of what the requirement is. I agree with you that it is not very easy to shift an already existing cropping pattern which is there. But at the moment, there is no alternative. I mean, we have to look at the hard realities. STC can intervene. In fact, they will intervene. We have got some orders. We have been trying to get fresh orders from new customers. But it is not enough. Even if you can tide over the problem in the current year, you will not get. You will have the same problem again in the next year.

SHRI K. S. RAO: You regulate it.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: It is very easy to say this. But I know in practical terms, it is very very difficult. You cannot penalise the farmer if he produces more. The fact is that the Tobacco Board today is supposed to regulate but is unable to do so. Since all the Members know the position in the field, know the position with the farmer, you will agree that it is very difficult to punish the farmer for producing more. At the same time, the farmer has also got to realise the reality of the situation that the market is shrinking.

Now, we intend to have more detailed discussions with the Ministry of Agriculture and also with the State Government because it is a very serious problem on our hands. I am very very clear about it that in the future years, the production will have to come down. We will have to divert the land to other uses. We have to see that the farmer does not lose. We have to get viable alternatives for him. The assistance that we can give from the Commerce Ministry, we will certainly give.

SHRI K. S. RAO: What about sending STC now?

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: I have

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fall in prices of*
said that they will go.

SHRI K. S. RAO: Immediately?

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Yes.

SHRI K. S. RAO: You make an announcement...

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: I am making the announcement now. They will intervene.

I do not want to go in great length about the auction system and the benefits of the auction system because you are well aware of it. I can repeat everything. But it will take more time.

In regard to the minimum support price also, there have been a lot of discussions. The point is, you have to have a basis somewhere. We can re-look on the whole issue. After all, this is not a static situation. The costs will keep varying. I think, we should have a mechanism whereby we can analyse the cost at a particular time because what is relevant in 1985 is not necessarily relevant in 1990. So, the hon Members had made some very valuable suggestions. We will take that into account.

On the export front, several steps have been taken to generate exports. We are in a very difficult position. I have personally spoken to many trade representatives. The USSR was very kind. They have felt the sort of a situation. As you know, the export duty on unmanufactured tobacco was abolished from April, 1986. Like that, several other measures have also been taken. We are also examining the possibility of getting new markets like Portugal, Iraq, North Korea, Madagascar, Indonesia and so on. I can give you the analysis of all the markets and I can say that whichever market we look into, we do not see the tobacco sales coming up in future. We feel that the anti-smoking campaign, in the West, is dominating. I know that the hon. Member here is very fond of good cigars. But I think that non-smokers are winning over the smokers. We have to take

VAISAKHA 6, 1912 (SAKA)

Virginia Flue Cured Tobacco 434

this aspect into account because 50 per cent of what we produce really goes out by export. So, in the current situation, we will certainly take necessary measures. STC will certainly intervene and I am sure we will be able to tide over the problem.

SHRI K. S. RAO: Will you give clear instructions to purchase at MCP and not at MSP as MSP has no value?

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur): STC is not coming into the market.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: You have come a little late. I have been speaking for the last fifteen minutes. You have not heard what I have said earlier. STC will be intervening, as I have said. We will try to do what we can. But, as I have said, the practical problem remains regarding the supplies and demands. We will try to see what best we can do. In the current year, I am sure that we will get over the problem. But the same problem will be reoccurring if we do not take effective and corrective action now, which we will do.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Is it true that there is a Russian order for huge quantity of tobacco and yet, neither the STC nor the Tobacco Board had not made adequate response to that order?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Ranga, you are a very very senior Member and you know that this is not allowed.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: I have no objection to reply.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can reply to him later on.

SHRI K. S. RAO: No Sir. This is a very important matter. Tobacco growers are awaiting his reply. He was asking about the Russian order. If he gives his reply now, the prices will be stabilised. If he does not announce, then it will have an impact on the growers once again. If he answers as to whether or not he is feeling that he is going to get some orders from Russia or else-

[Sh. K.S. Rao]

14.00 hrs.

where, that itself will have an impact on the price of tobacco.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Sir, I have already made the statement that USSR have been buying tobacco from us. What the hon. Member has said here is slightly different from what I have said.

MR, DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Matters under Rule 377.

13.59 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(I) **Need to set up satellite port at Visakhapatnam**

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, Visakhapatnam is known as the city of destiny and the destiny of this growing megapolis in Andhra Pradesh is linked to industrial growth and the steel plant. the Vizag Port has a capacity which economists have protected. It will be able to handle only that tonnage which is related to the Steel Plant activities when it goes into full production. There is an urgent need for setting up of petrochemical complex and the two Thermal Power Projects during the Eighth Plan. Both these Thermal Projects envisage transportation of coal from Orissa by sea. It is to meet this growing port capacity and to minimize pollution from the Steel Plant in the Vizag Port, a Satellite Port in Gangavaram was proposed. The future growth of Vizag is therefore inexorably linked with setting up of this Port within the Eighth Plan.

I request the Government of India to order setting up of second port there at the earliest.

(II) **Need to revive old fishing harbours and to set up a new fishing harbour at Chombala (district Calicut) in Kerala**

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the State of Kerala with its long coastal line contributes considerably to the marine wealth of the country. A good percentage of the population of the State depends directly or indirectly on fishing for their livelihood. Revival of the old harbour and also setting up of new fishing harbours will be extremely useful to promote fishing in these areas, especially the deep sea fishing.

It is, therefore, earnestly requested that the hon. Minister for Surface Transport may be pleased to initiate early steps for reviving old ports and harbours like Ashikkal port and Mapila Bay in Cannanore; and the Bey pore Port and Puthiappa Harbour in Calicut, and to set up a new fishing harbour at Chombala in Calicut, which is one of the best fish yielding beaches along Kerala's coast.

(iii) **Need to approve the agreement signed between the management and workers of FACT, Cochin**

PROF. K. V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, a draft agreement has been signed between the management of FACT, Cochin and employees unions in November, 1989 after a prolonged discussion on long term settlement and wage policy. FACT is one of the few public sector fertilizer companies that make a profit. Workers have contributed their sweat and blood for the record production and productivity in FACT. But the Government of India has not yet cleared this draft agreement even after a period of five months of signing the draft agreement. I request the Government to take immediate steps to approve the draft agreement.

(iv) Need to grant more pay to Anganwadi workers and to impart them proper training

[Translation]

SHRI SARJU PRASAD SAROJ (Mohanlalgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there has been a significant contribution of Anganwadi workers in effectively implementing the Child Development Programmes throughout the country.

Anganwadi workers have to perform a wide spectrum of duties which *inter-alia* include distribution of eatables like bread and biscuits etc. to the children besides taking care of their health and getting them vaccinated from time to time. Then they have to carry out periodical population surveys of their respective Anganwadi areas, teaching the children and educating womenfolk of their respective areas about the family planning methods etc.

Anganwadi Workers have to perform all these duties but they are paid a paltry amount of Rs. 275 per month as remuneration. In view of the prevailing high prices of all commodities, the Anganwadi workers are unable to meet their basic necessities with this amount.

Therefore, I strongly urge upon the Central Government to raise the remuneration of Anganwadi workers to Rs. 600 at least and also arrange for suitable training for them with a view to open avenues of promotion for them so that these workers work with more devotion and contribute more and more towards Child Development Programmes.

(v) Need to ensure that stainless steel utensil producers fulfill the norms laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTINAVINCHANDRA MEHTA (Bombay North East): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the stainless steel utensils are used both by the rich and the poor in India. Today's consumer wants to

use only such utensils as are durable, can be easily cleaned and not prone to be toxic.

Salem Steel Plant, a public sector undertaking has been producing stainless steel till now. A.I.S.I. 304 grade steel had been in use for manufacturing the utensils, the A.I.S.I.E. 304 grade has become very costly now as a result of the increase in the price of 'Nickle' in the international market. Consequently, due to the decrease in the percentage of Nickle in these utensils the present stainless steel is of 202 quality and the drawbacks of such utensils are that they are not durable and are prone to rusting and food-poisoning. This stainless steel is not totally secure. We have been receiving complaints from our consumers for about two and a half years now. Thus:

1. The manufacturers of stainless steel should obtain a certificate from Bureau of Indian Standards about the steel of this grade in regard to its purity.
2. the consumers should be acquainted with the new products through the ads of audio-visual media besides the English, Hindi and other regional language newspapers.
3. An effective mechanism is needed to ensure that the consumers are not deceived.

I urge the hon. Minister to take afore-mentioned steps.

(vi) Need to look into the grievances of the Workers of Khadi Ashramas in the country

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (Faizabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the whole time stipendiary employees of Khadi Ashram and

[Sh. Mitrasen Yadav]

14.05 hrs.

other allied Khadi Institutions are agitated for the past few years. They have from time to time been demonstrating against their exploitation. As a result of inaction on the part of the management as well as the Government, deep discontentment has gripped lakhs of such employees. They demand that the whole-time employees of Gandhi Ashrams and other Khadi Institutes should be given proper pay-scales and other facilities as are enjoyed by those of Khadi Commission. In Public interest, the Khadi Institutions should be nationalised. There should be an increase in the wages of weavers and spinners. A commission should be set up to look in to the aspects of employees' appointments and promotion. Misappropriation of funds in the Khadi Institution should be checked and the payment of salaries to the employees should be made through Banks and the employees should be brought under the purview of the Labour laws.

(vii) Need to take steps to repair the breaches in Sone Canal

SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD (Arrah): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the 15 year old Sone Canal that irrigates approximately 23 lakh acres of land in six districts of Bhojpur, Rohtas, Patna, Jehanabad, Gaya and Aurangabad of Bihar State has undergone many breaches at several places. Its waters often damage the standing crops after rupturing the barrage and crossing over to the fields. Consequently, there is a large scale wastage of water which makes adequate irrigation of the area impossible. If such a situation continues, this rice-rich area of Bihar will soon go dry.

Thus, there is a need to repair and modernise this canal without delay. The Central Government should immediately take steps in this direction.

MEMBER SWORN

Shrimati Bimal Kaur (Ropar)

14.06 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes-*CONTD.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will now take up discussion under Rule 193. Yes, Mr. Sultanpuri.

[Translation]

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me time to express my view. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI (Rewa): Kindly permit me to raise matter under Rule 377. Owing to certain reasons, I was not able to be present in the House in time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can permit you to participate in the discussion under Rule 193, if you are willing to. Time to raise matter under Rule 377, is over. We have gone ahead by 2-3 items.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the atrocities on *Harijans* is not a recent development, they are its victim right from their birth. Eminent leaders of this country like Mahatma Gandhiji, Jawaharlal Nehru and others contributed a lot for their upliftment but efforts in this direction have continuously met with various impediments. This is the reason that they were always pushed to the lowest rung of the ladder.

Dr. Ambedkar framed the Constitution of the country and made provisions for their representation in Assembly, Parliament and Metropolitan Council. Not only this, he reserved posts for them in Services. Our country became independent on 15th August, 1947 and the new constitution was enforced on 26th January, 1950. Even after 42 years of independence the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are leading a very troublesome life. In the far flung areas of the country their condition is highly deplorable and the schemes that were planned for their upliftment have failed miserably.

As far as Congress is concerned, they took appropriate steps in this direction. Previously for them, the barber's shop in market place used to be located in a separate place, they were forbidden to draw drinking water from the wells, in the villages there were separate roads for them, they could not take part in celebrations, but our Congress Party removed all the restrictions that were imposed on them in the past. Today, in the regime of the present Government, the Harijan women are stripped and compelled to dance and thus they are being insulted, and disrespected in society. I would like to say that there have been many occasions and even today it has been brought to the notice of the present Government also. The issue of Shivpuri was raised Mr. Malhotra made an excellent proposal and said that the atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in our Society is not a secret. The huts and houses that are set ablaze, mostly belong to Harijans and most of the atrocities are committed on them. Ever since this Government assumed power, it has not taken any concrete step in the direction of their upliftment. Only step taken is to set up a Commission under the Chairmanship of Shri Ramdhan. Shri Ramdhan was the General-Secretary of Congress (I) and was in Congress. Thereafter he was the leader of Jan Morcha and now he is a leader of Janata Dal. He has been nominated as its Chairman. He is a Chairman without any real power in his hands. The Government has not given him any power to take action against a

Deputy Collector or a Judge who indulges in an act of high handedness. I understand that the Committee of S.C. and S.T. of Parliament submits its report to the House but its recommendations have neither been implemented nor they have been discussed in this House. Thus, we have to decide whether we are prepared to take steps in the direction of their upliftment and curb the atrocities being committed on them? Progress in this direction can be made, only when all the hon. members of this august House realize that the poor have to be uplifted. If you say emphatically that the Harijans are being uplifted, then it will be a wrong statement. Today if we go to Connaught Place, we find that they do not have any property there, if we go to a village there too they have no property and the ownership right that was given to them by Government, by Indiraji or in other words by the Congress Party, could not be fully claimed by them till date. The cultivation that they do is in the name of others. In business too they stand no-where. The present Government has decided to waive loans worth Rs. 10 thousands in the case of farmers. In this regard, I would like to say that if the Government have decided to bring *Harijans* above the poverty line then they should tell us the extent of waiving the loans in the entire country. If the Government does not take any step in the direction of waiving their loans and at the same time gives them assurances that loans worth Rs. 500 to Rs. 1000 would be waived, I think it would be an act of injustice towards them. It is necessary for the Government to take similar steps while dealing with the *Harijans*. In the case of farmers you can waive loans worth Rs. 10 thousand then in the case of *Harijans* you should make similar provisions for doing away with loan upto Rs. 20 thousand so that there appears to be no difference between your commitments and its fulfilment because your aim is to uplift the backward and poor people of the Society.

Another thing, I would like to say is that at present, there are 6000 public undertakings in our country and all have backlogs. In these undertakings injustice is being done with the *Harijans*. They do not get appoint-

[Sh. K.D. Sultanpuri]

ments there. Even those who are competent, are deprived of adequate facilities. I, therefore, request the Government to issue proper instructions and orders to the State Governments to abide by the legislation framed for the Harijans and clear the backlog and a machinery should be set to keep a watch on it. Harijans are ignored both in the interview of Public Service Commission and U.P.S.C. examinations in the Centre. I would like to say that unless you fill the gap between your commitments and their fulfilment, you cannot solve the issue. Today, *Harijans* are being burnt. Yesterday a news regarding a Harijan burnt alive in the Prime Minister's constituency was reported. I think there are many places where the Government has to make efforts for the upliftment of *Harijans*.

I hail from a hilly region. It is a tribal area devoid of adequate educational facilities. where people are not able to study despite a will to do so and they are even unable to qualify the Matriculation examination because it is difficult to get admission in the schools situated in the far flung areas as in there are no schools in their area. Good education facilities are not available for them and they remain most backward. We have no expectations from this Government as we know by now that they will not be able to do anything. We find that our Home Minister Shri Mufti Mohammad Sahib who is supposed to be the topmost protector, has failed in his duties. I think that it would be virtuous if he does something for the *Harijans*, *Adivasis* and people belonging to the minority communities. But this Government is synonym of bullet and lathis. I would like to appeal that the Government should take appropriate steps to curb the atrocities being committed on Harijans.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would finish my submission within two minutes. the capital of Himachal Pradesh is Shimla. On account of a fire, 50 shops and 35 houses were gutted there. In other places, the Govern-

ment gave crores of Rupees as compensation. I would demand from the Prime Minister that against the loss of Rs. 20 crores, he should grant a relief of at least Rs. 15 crores so that the poor people in that area could be provided some relief. I have already made a mention of the fact that I have no expectations that this Government would do anything for the *Harijans*. If this Government really does something, I would be very grateful to them. I do not hope that this Government will do anything for them because it is a Government sailing on two boats. A faint hope is still there on account of the fact that they have gone from this side to that side and that is why they may have some sympathy in their heart towards Harijans. I want to tell the Government through you that if the Government really wants to do something for the Harijans and they have some sympathy towards them, they should do something for them. You have recently installed a portrait of Baba Saheb Ambedkar in the Central Hall and in order to respect and honour him you talk about the upliftment of Harijans, which is very good. I wish to reiterate that efforts should be made to uplift people below the poverty line and bring them in the National mainstream.

With these words, I thank you for having given me time to express my views.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shrimati Bimal Kaur has come to speak on this topic for the first time after taking oath. I call her to speak.

*SHRIMATI BIMAL KAUR (Ropar): Sir, Harijans are facing a lot of hardship and therefore we expect from the Government that food, clothing and shelter should be provided to them. The reservation remains only on paper. Actually they do not get the benefits of reservation. Therefore their legitimate right should be given to them. The Government should take steps to bring down the rising prices which are crushing the Harijans. Only then their economic condition will improve.

Secondly I would like to inform the Hon. Speaker that there is an atmosphere of violence in Punjab. Youth are being killed in police encounters every day. The relatives of those people who have deserted their homes are harassed by the police. A large number of youth have been kept in illegal confinement. Police does not tell us anything about them. I would like to request the Hon. Speaker that we should be informed whether they are actually in police custody or have they been killed in fake police encounters, or else what are their whereabouts. They should either be released or produced in the Court. All these fake police encounters should be immediately stopped. The President of Akali Dal Sardar Simranjit Singh Mann and Shri Dhyan Singh Mand had come twice earlier to the Parliament House to take oath. We say that we should abide by the Constitution. Under Article 25 of the Constitution, every person, every sikh, has the right to wear and carry the sword. You can go through Article 25. It is written that every sikh can carry and wear *Kirpan* and the size is not mentioned here. When we had come to take the oath earlier we had written to the Speaker that this is our Constitutional right and it should be given to us. But I am sorry to say that we have not yet received any replay to that letter. After that two months have already elapsed.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can not make a mention about Hon. Speaker here.

SHRIMATI BIMAL KAUR: Shri Mann had also written twice. Two months ago Shri Mann wrote these letters.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We do not refer to the Hon. Speaker's actions on the Floor.

SHRIMATI BIMAL KAUR: This is our Constitutional right and therefore we hope that you will definitely grant him permission.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA

(Dhandhuka): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to brief you about the charitable work being done by Bhartiya Janata Party for the welfare of the 'Harijans'. On the occasion of the birthday of Deen Dayal Upadhyay, Rs. 2/- per person are collected as donation for the 'Daridra Narain Kosh' which is used for the upliftment of the Harijans and for running a 'Vanvasikendra'. All the Harijans and Tribals are given economic aid for their studies.

In my view, there are three reasons for atrocities that are being committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes: (1) long drawn land disputes in respect of the allotment of Government land and surplus land to the landless belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, (2) the tension and resentment arising out of the non-payment of minimum wages by the State Governments, (3) resentment against the consciousness of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes regarding their rights as provided through different legislative and executive measures under the constitutional provisions. These are the three reasons why the harijans are being oppressed.

One fourth of the total population of our country constitutes Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. However, the standard of living of these people is still pitiable and miserable. They are suffering the atrocities in their villages. At the behest of family members of a former Minister of State belonging to the Congress Party in our State atrocities were committed on Harijans in their village Sambhalda in district Mehsana, as a result of which they were forced to leave the village. They have not returned to the village as yet.

There is another former Congress Minister. An eighteen year old youth was murdered in his village Kavita in district Ahmedabad. He was striped naked before being killed and now it is being treated as a case of suicide. Another youth was burnt alive. Such atrocities are being committed on Harijans in their villages.

Their reservation quota in the Govern-

[Sh. Ratilal Kalidas Varma]

ment services is also not being filled. Both social and mental atrocities are being committed on these people. Reserved quota for these categories in the Government services must be filled. Their 'confidential reports' are spoiled at the time of their promotion, and, thus, their promotion is withheld. This causes great mental tension for these people. They have not been given any of the benefits that were envisaged by the architects of our constitution, even after 40 years of independence.

The people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being deprived of even their normal professions. It is being done by the people who have received technical education. Small weavers are being deprived of their livelihood as big textile mills have snatched away their work. Their houses are burnt. There is a village 'Bhocka' in 'Limdi' Taluka where a Harijan, who had gone to the rationshop, was refused supply of ration and was asked to lie down on the ground and his waist was cleaved with a knife. Thus, such incidents are increasing day by day.

As regards the compensation which is paid after their killings, I want to say that the value of human lives cannot be assessed in rupees. Parents of a raped girl are given a compensation of Rs. 5000/-. Can this amount in any way compensate the insult inflicted on the victim or can it restore the lost respect of the parents of the victim? Such incidents must be checked with heavy hand. Some people are getting only Rs. 2000 in lieu of their property. This is too meagre an amount. I request the Government to check these atrocities and, for this purpose, a healthy atmosphere is required to be created in the country.

Lastly, I would like to draw your attention towards the depleting wealth of our forests. Rights of tribals to forest property are being taken away. Forests are gradually becoming the monopoly of capitalists. The rights of the tribals are being curtailed in the

name of development by some State Governments and they are being ousted from their native places. But the facilities which are made available to the austeas are not being extended to them.

I have with me the crime figures for the period 1981-1986 which show that the incidents of atrocities including murders committed on Harijans have been increasing instead of showing a downward trend, particularly in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat and Maharashtra. When this is the condition of Harijans in big states, their plight in small states can be easily imagined.

I am grateful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak on this subject.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. members, I would like to tell you that we discussed this issue yesterday and are continuing the discussion today also. All the parties have expressed their views. But still I have so many names to be called. I am trying to call all the remaining members. You are requested to be as brief as possible in putting forward your views, so that everybody is given a chance. I think, we shall be able to conclude the discussion on this subject in a short while from now. After that we shall take up for discussion the Demands of Irrigation department. I shall be much obliged if you could express your views in as short a time as possible.

SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOMABHAI CHAVDA (Patan): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to thank hon. Malhotraji for having initiated the discussion on the issue of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under Rule 193.

All of you know it very well that this is a question of national importance. But it was not proper on the part of Shri Rakesh not to have said anything about atrocities on Harijans and Adivasis. Whatever he said against the hon. Prime Minister is not correct.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know that it is

not possible to do in four months what we could not do in 40 years. However, during this period, the National Front Government made a Harijan to contest from a general seat from Orissa in the 9th Lok Sabha elections who won after defeating two heavy-weight princes. Whatever Shri Rakesh said about the hon. Prime Minister was intended to tarnish his image.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Why are you repeating that?

[English]

SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOMABHAI CHAVDA: Sorry, Sir. I am very sorry. I will not do it.

[Translation]

Is not he aware of the announcement made by the Prime Minister in his press conference that the reservation will continue till the social and economic status of the Harijans and the Tribals does not come at par with others? We have also passed the legislation to this effect.

He must be knowing the things that the Prime Minister did in the memory of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar.

14.30 hrs.

[SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE *in the Chair*]

A portrait of Dr. Ambedkar was installed in the Central Hall, the intentions of our Prime Minister are good and you will see that his deeds will also be good. But, after all, what is the actual reasons behind the cruelties? Certainly, the untouchability is the root-cause of all these evils and it is disgrace to the Hindi religion. If we want to abolish the practice of untouchability from India, we should see to it that of the four Shankaracharyas who are supposed to be the custodian of Hindu religion, one should be a Harijan. I make an appeal to you to contact the 'Shankaracharya' who is going to visit Delhi and seek

his support in removing all these hurdles in the way of abolishing the casteism, so that this evil could be removed from our society. You should make a declaration to the effect that of the four Shankaracharyas, one will be a Harijan. When I was studying the Constitution during my L.L.B. course. I found that it was Sardar Ballabhbhai Patel who had suggested to the Fundamental Rights Committee to make a provision in the Constitution to abolish untouchability and, thus, Article 70 of the Constitution was framed. Fundamental Rights Committee earned worldwide fame for this progressive step. Hindus in India, too, will gain worldwide popularity if they make such an effort to root out evil of untouchability. The Congress Party calls these people Harijans, the followers of Dr. Ambedkar called them 'downtrodden' and the Constitution recognises them by the name of Scheduled Castes. My sister Mayawati should not mind it.

We have to remove the evil of untouchability. During the Rule of Janata Party, Shri Morarji Desai was the Prime Minister, Shri Jagjivan Ram a Cabinet Minister and Shri Devi Lal was the Chief Minister. At that time, a meeting of all the Chief Ministers was called and measures were suggested to remove untouchability. The Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai had set a deadline for this purpose and said that untouchability would be removed from the country within 10 years. Thereafter, the Janta Government fell. What did these people do then? Yesterday I was listening to Shri Rakesh. Cobblers in Gujarat were not untouchables. But they were included in the list of Harijans in 1976. As to this effect was introduced in the House within 5 minutes waiving all rules and the cobblers in Gujarat who were not untouchables earlier, were converted into Harijans.

[English]

They wanted to retain untouchability in the country. I am giving you one example.

[Translation]

Why was it done? A few cobblers live in

[Sh. Khemchandbhai Somabhai Chavda]

Umargaon Taluka of Gujarat which is adjacent to Maharashtra. Instead of eradicating untouchability from the locality, the Government made all the cobblers untouchables in whole in Gujarat. It has created a lot of resentment among the Harijans in Gujarat. It is an injustice to them. I had brought forward a Private Member's Bill for these purposes, but it is not known when it will come up for consideration. When my Bill is brought forward, I shall ask as to what Government proposed to do in this regard. But the intentions of the Government were not clear. If at all they wanted to eradicate untouchability, they could have done so in Umargaon Taluka only. But they did not do that and took an anti-Harijan measure.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is not much time. I shall submit more points in this regard when the Demand for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Welfare are taken up for discussion. There should be no difference between one's utterances and deeds. While speaking on the current Budget also I had made a similar observation. Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to make a submission to the Government that it should fix a time limit in regard to reservation, say 5 years or 10 years or extend the provisions of reservation upto 26 January, 2000 and after the completion of this period, reservation should be scrapped in the Assemblies and the Lok Sabha and with that untouchability will have to be totally eradicated from the country. If the Government devises a time bound programme for this purpose and implements the decision, it will earn world-wide acclamation. We talk about apartheid prevailing in the world particularly, in South Africa. But the same thing is also prevalent in our country and we are least concerned with that. If the Government does not look into it, we the 130 MPs belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will take up the issue. I may remind you that when a discussion was taking place under Rule 193 on communal riots, most of the hon. Members had left the House. It appears that the hon. Members from the Congress Party are

not interested in this discussion. They are more interested in the political repercussion of these incidents. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a national issue and it should be viewed with a national outlook. I would like to request the National Front Government to chalkout a time bound programme for this. We do not want that reservation should continue for ever. We are the citizens of India and not the second class citizens. we are a part of the electorate enjoying the right of one person one vote. Then what should be done? The main question is to devise a time bound programme, for the eradication of untouchability. Secondly, some steps are to be taken positively in economic matters. Though provisions of reservation exist in our country, it is not implemented in practice. After the fall of Janata Government at the Centre, candidates with higher marks percentage were not taken in service. It happened in Gujarat when the Congress Party was in power in the State at that time. I wrote to Giani Zail Singh, the then President pointing out the irregularities that 300 vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes were filled up by appointing candidates, from the general category. I got the reply that my charges were true and it had happened in Gujarat. At that time the Congress Party was in power. I would like to request that reserved vacancies in various services and posts in the States and the Centre should be filled up fully. It should not take much time, because we get a bad name for this lapse. It is being said that Scheduled Castes want to continue the provisions of reservation because they get facilities. Even now one can go to villages and see.

[*English*]

They are living in the outskirts of the villages.

[*Translation*]

While Hindus, Muslims and Christians could live together, but our Harijans brothers cannot live with other people. The position is same in the cities also. They live in slums.

Though they are Hindus, the barbers refuse to do shavings of those people who belong to Scheduled Castes. The Harijans cannot enter the temples. They cannot draw water from the wells. But now such a position will not longer be allowed. Now it will have wider repercussions. A question may be asked as to how long the provisions of reservation should continue. In response to that I would like to plead that until they are economically and socially strong and come at par with others, the provisions of reservation should continue. What will happen if reservation is scrapped? When the law fails terrorism takes birth, I do not say that they will recourse to terrorism. But this the logical conclusion. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are other speakers also from your party. Please try to conclude now so that others get a chance.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOMABHAI CHAVDA: If you start ringing the bell, I shall resume my seat. I am disciplined. When the Hon. Speaker does not provide me time, I do not rise to speak. People who have long power, they get time, whereas I do not have that. As such as per your orders I resume my seat.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, even after 43 years of independence atrocities on Harijans still continue. As per Government figures Harijans and Adivasis account for 14 per cent and 8 per cent respectively of our population. Both of them taken together constitute 22 per cent of the total population. No other community so large so as to constitute 22 per cent of the total population, of the country. Even then these people lead a miserable life. After the attainment of independence several provisions have been added to the Constitution, but the provisions have been confined to books only. The Harijans did not get any benefit from these provisions. Policy of reservation was adopted, but reservation

was not implemented fully. As per Government records, reserved vacancies earmarked for these categories have not been filled up. In their place candidates belonging to other categories have been recruited against a number of reserved vacancies. That means those reserved vacancies are still vacant. Requisite data for the years from 1984 to 1988 has been published by the Government. The data reveals that none of the reserved vacancies which were lying vacant during these years have been filled up. Had these vacancies been filled up by the Harijans, they could have been benefited economically. But that was not done. In a number of States reserved vacancies mean for Harijans and Adivasis have been filled up by people who belong to upper castes. After independence they have not been given their due share, not only in Government service but also in the Government. When there was Congress regime, only Babu Jagjiwan Ram was given a berth in the Cabinet from among the Harijans. Even after the departure of the Congress regime the above practice continues. Despite their population constituting 22 percent of the total population of the country, alone Harijans is made a Minister and even then it is claimed that several Harijans have been given berths in the Cabinet. But it is not correct. I have got the list of Council of Ministers with me. The present Government is following the same practice which was hitherto followed by the Congress Party in the matter of giving representation to Harijans in the Cabinet. I have seen the list. Only Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has been given a berth in the Cabinet and his is a lone case of a Harijan being made a Cabinet Minister. There might be other holding offices of State Ministers and Deputy Ministers. But there is only one Cabinet Minister from among the Harijans. In terms of population no other community accounts for 22 percent of the total population of the country. In case berths in the Cabinet are provided in proportion to their number could have been at least 4-5 or even more. Today atrocities on Harijans still continue. People belonging to the Congress Party made a false propaganda of providing reservation. This is what the other quoted

[Sh. Tej Narayan Singh]

proverb says that beads about the neck and devil in heart. I agree that Harijans will continue to receive the benefits of reservation, but when the time of appointing Ministers comes, only one Harijan is made a Minister. Not only that, the Constitution also provides that if somebody calls someone untouchable, he will be imprisoned for 6 months. So far as I know, this is what has been laid down in the Constitution. Babu Jagjivan Ram was a great Harijan leader and I also accepted him as a leader. Once while on a visit to Varanasi, he touched a deity. The next day, one of the so called great Pandit washed the deity with the Ganga water saying that it was touched by a Harijan. They said the deity became unholy with the touch of a Harijan. Did the Government prosecute him? At that time, the Congress Party was in power. Today, the same people are making tall claims that had their Government been there the Harijans would have been protected. I would like to ask my congress brethren as to why did they not prosecute the Brahmin who called Babu Jagjivan Ram a Harijan and washed the deity on being touched upon by him when their Government was in power in the State. They did not do so. Yesterday, one of the Congress brethren was Speaking and making tall claims that had Shrimati Indira Gandhi been alive, she would have enacted laws in favour of the Harijans. I do agree that she enacted such laws when she was alive. But I would like to know as to why did she fail to prosecute the Brahmin under the I.P.C. when he called a leader of Babu Jagjivan Ram's stature as untouchable? I cannot say as to how long this state of affairs will continue. But I would like to call upon the Harijans to rise and fight for their rights if they are not given their due rights. There is no other way out for them. This is not an isolated incident. Incidents of atrocities on Harijans are very large in number and if one goes on counting them more and more cases will come to his notice. There is also no end to atrocities on Harijans by the police. If we look at the overall figures recorded in the country, it will be noticed that the case under section 395 of the I.P.C. on charges of theft and

dacoity is firstly made against a Harijan only. The S.P. advises his staff that if they are unable to nab the real culprits, they should arrest the Harijans and put them behind the bars. The Zamindars, Rajas and the Maharajas are big people who move about with lathis in their hands in the day as well as in the night. Besides, their own men become Ministers in the State. Then how can the police put such influential people behind the bars. Hence the weakest ones in the village i.e. the domes or the musahar who are also landless are being apprehended under sections 395, 402 and 399 of the I.P.C. and sent to jail. The Judicial Magistrate asks the Police to produce memo of evidence and says as to why it has not been produced. The memo of evidence is produced after keeping him in police custody for 15 days and after 15 days, another date is fixed. The Police wants that the Harijans should come to them, pay them some money, then they would produce their evidences. Any wise Magistrate can release them on bail after giving one or two dates but reactionary persons are holding the posts of Judicial Magistrate and they keep the Harijans in Jail for 3-4 months till final charge sheet is not submitted. Nobody, listens to their grievances. Not only this they are arrested on suspicion under section 395. I would like to tell you that Harijan women were raped in Tehri village under Gahapur Police Station in Buxar. Next morning when the women went to Police Station to lodge complaint, the Police did not register the case. When a large crowd of Harijans gathered there, the S.P. himself came there and registered their complaint. Since then, proceedings of a rape case are going on there against the Police. Had the Harijans not fought, the case would not have been registered against the Police. It is not the low instance of rape. The Police commits so many atrocities including rape on the poor and Harijans. I would like to say one more thing. In the event of a dacoity or any other crime committed against the rich, the Police leaves no stone unturned to apprehend the culprits. If a son of a rich person is kidnapped all Police officers from SP to DIG or I.G. come in action. I want to tell you about an incident of Nagpur from where a girl named

Pramila was kidnapped a year back. The parents told the Police the name of the person. Who was involved in kidnapping their daughter but no action has been taken by the Police against them so far. Some reports also appeared in the newspapers that whereabouts of Pramila were not known, but the Police turned deaf ears to these reports also. Had the kidnapped girl belonged to a rich family, the Central Government as well as the State Government would have made their utmost efforts to trace out the girl, but one year has since passed and no case has been registered against the person involved. I would therefore, draw the attention of the Government, through this House that the Government should issue orders to the effect that if any Police officer who is investigating the case fails to find any clue to the crime, he will be dismissed from the service. Then only the people will feel that something is being done for the Harijans. These are several such instances but due to shortage of time, I am not able to narrate them all.

The Government have enacted land Ceiling Act for benefiting the Harijans which is a right step. Be it Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana or Bihar, land Ceiling Act has been enacted in all the state, but it has not been implemented. Under the land Ceiling Act, surplus land is distributed among the Harijans. In this regard I would like to state that 200 acres of land belonging to a Mahant of Kachenia village in Bhojpur district was declared surplus. He filed a writ against it but lost the case in the High Court. Then the surplus land was distributed among 99 poor people and the ownership was also transferred in their names on the papers, but the said Mahant still holds the possession of the said land on the strength of his muscle power. The previous Government of Bihar under the Chief Ministership of Shri Jagannath Mishra did not take any action. Today cases under Section 107 are pending against these 99 persons. If any one has violated the law, action should have been taken against him, but in this case 99 persons are being

harassed. If they are the land owners, why possession is not being given to them. But the Police does not file court cases under Section 107 against any Mahant or an influential person, but it files cases against Harijans only who abide by the law. Even today, several atrocities are being committed on Harijans and Adivasis. Thousands of such cases of atrocities are taking place. A person named Bachcha Lal Goun under Semri Police Station in Bhojpur district was given land ownership papers as privileged person under the Tenancy Act. The District collector and SDM gave him the ownership papers of that land. But when he went to the land, the landlord of the village did not allow him to enter the fields and said that he did not know any collector or S.P. Till today the poor Bachcha Lal Gaun could not get the physical possession of the land though land allotment papers are with him. Therefore, I would like to say that if the Government sincerely wants to help the poor, it should itself distribute the surplus land to the poor and give them physical possession of the land too. If Government does not do so, may enact any number of laws in this regard, they will be of no use to the poor. Not only this, the Harijans do not get any protection from the Government and they are compelled to go to the persons who play the politics of votes. They make attempt on their lives the Government is saying that the influence of Naxalites is increasing in the country and that they should be checked, but I would like to make it clear that this is not happening due to the Naxalites, because no Naxalite is there. They are doing it to get there rights. I would like to say that the atrocities committed on Harijans in any part of the country should be dealt with by the Government. The Government should make arrangement to check atrocities on Harijans and the poor. If it is not done the situation will go from bad to worse. With these words I thank you, Sir, for giving me time to speak.

*SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN (Tirunelveli): Hon. Chairman, Sir, for the first time I wish to speak in my mother tongue Tamil. The frequent succession with

[Sh. Kadambur M.R. Janardhanan]

which the subject matter of atrocities on scheduled castes and scheduled tribes is being discussed in this House clearly indicates the fact that we are yet to achieve the required maturity for maintaining communal amity amongst ourselves. All the members who participated in this discussion initiated by Prof. Malhotra lamented the condition in which we are still finding ourselves even after 42 years of independence. When Hon. Member Kunari Mayavathi spoke yesterday, she thankfully mentioned the name of E.V. Ramasamy Naicker from Tamil Nadu.

[English]

He was not a Chief Minister. He was not a President. He has made the minds of the Tamilians matured in such a way that we live peacefully in Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

*Why I say this is only in Tamil Nadu communal clashes were scarce in number. I am a member from Tirunelveli parliamentary constituency. In 1967, one Harijan Christian was elected from this general constituency to the 4th Lok Sabha. He was not a great political leader. He was only an ordinary worker. That is our pride. Perarignar (the Enlightened) Anna, Periyar (The Elder, Shri E.V. Ramasamy Naicker) and Puratchi Thalaivar (Leader Revolutionary) Dr. MGR are not reversed by the people because they were political leaders of eminence but because they educated the masses how to peacefully coexist. That is our pride. There lies our prestige.

[English]

Hon. Home Minister is sitting here. I am a member of Parliament elected by the people.

15.00 hrs.

[Translation]

*I would like to submit one thing. This

must be noted. In my constituency, in Ottapidaram Assembly constituency till today Harijans are being prevented from exercising their franchise by a section belonging to the upper castes. This time I talked to not to ordinary police officials but to senior IPS officials and told them that I am a candidate this time and I am going to that area at a great risk to my life. I can readily give the statistical details in this regard. More than 95% of Harijans in Tirumalapuram, Panneerapuram and Ottapidaram near Kadambur had not turned up for voting at the elections. This is the pathetic condition of the civic rights of Harijans under the present administration of the DMK. Since the time is very short...

[English]

I give a suggestion to the House.

[Translation]

*If you want to ameliorate the conditions of the Harijans, you must take a statistical account of Harijans living in the rural areas unemployed and provide them employment within a time frame. Those persons who marry Harijans boys and girls that is who underage inter-caste marriages should be given priority in employment. This would really help to realise the dreams cherished by our Mahatma Gandhi. It is because of the services of Mahatma Gandhi and his follower Periyar, persons like us are here standing in this august House as members. Communal classes which were very scarce in Tamil Nadu have now increased.

[English]

The Hon. Minister should take note of it.

[Translation]

*Bodinayakanur is a constituency in Tamil Nadu. It returned my leader Puratchi Thalaivi (Leader Revolutionary) Jayalalitha.

[English]

To be frank with you. She is a Brahmin

*Translation of speech originally delivered in Tamil.

lady. The most minority community has won in that constituency because of the party principle. Nothing else. Because of M.G.R. Nothing else.

[Translation]

*But since she has won from Bodinayakanur, the present Government in Tamil Nadu with the connivance of officials, engineered a serious communal clash in Bodi. Don't think the communal flare has been completely extinguished. It has only been contained. The State Government is misusing the IPS officials. IPS officials are under your Government. That's why I am saying this.

In nearby Sattur, some 10 days ago, a serious communal clash has occurred. There is a temple called Irukkiravankudi Mariamman Kali Temple. It is just like Satta Mata temple here. The pujari in the temple is a Harijan. The shops around the temple are owned by Harijans. A few persons belonging to upper castes have taken 10 caps from a Harijan shop without paying the money. That provided basis for a clash. 10 to 12 murders have taken place.

On April 14th, on the first day of the Tamil Month Chittirai, on the Tamil New Year Day, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu presides over a Kavi Sammelan. A verse is recited with the following line:

"Caste conflict contained in a cap"

Can a Chief Minister attempt to incite the people to violence? Will not these these lines inflame the mind of the Harijan from whose shop the caps were lifted? Will it not evoke communal passion? Will it not hurt the communal sentiments?

[English]

Political leaders must have the will power not to induce the Harijans.

[Translation]

*One Hon. Member was speaking with great agitation in mind. Therefore I say...

[English]

Discussion on the continued atrocities on SCs and STs will continue in this country unless our minds are matured. There is not use of any amendment of law.

[Translation]

*The day our minds are mature, we will be able to bring communal amity in the country. Tamil Nadu was free from communal clashes. But today, the incidents of communal clashes in certain areas of Tamil Nadu between Harijans and Vann yas, between Harijans and Maravas are on the increase.

Hon. Mufti Mohammad mentioned a beautiful slogan. Violence as a slogan should be given up.

But I would like to recite one slogan for the Hon. Minister. He must take note.

[English]

Murder the Marava and Marry the Marava girl. This was the slogan. Of course, a violent slogan. Why that Harijan raised this slogan? Because there was oppression in that area.

[Translation]

*This gives rise to communal clashes. This one slogan is enough to trigger off a communal riot. While we discuss the Punjab and Kashmir situation, we honestly commit ourselves to give up violence as a slogan.

But the communal clashes are raising their ugly heads in Tamil Nadu, and you must take adequate steps to nip them in the bud. When Hon. Sayeed spoke yesterday, he

[Sh. Kadambur M.R. Janardhanan]

asked about SC Governors and S.P.s etc. But let me state with pride in this august House that the honour of appointing a Har-ijan as the Chief Secretary goes singly to our MGR.

[English]

He was there for 3 years. That is our Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

*But today, Tamil Nadu is being turned into a place of communal clashes. That should be stopped. You must issue sincere warning to the IPS officers under you and to your partner Mr. Karunanidhi.

[English]

Gandhiji was born in North. But he lives in Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

*With these words, I conclude.

SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar): Sir, the discussion on atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is going on since yesterday and today the discussion is coming to a close whereas the discussion on communal disturbances lasted several hours for three days. It is an important matter and, therefore, more time should be allotted for its discussion with the consent of the Home. If it is not possible today, two-three hours can be allotted for discussion. On Monday. All Members are interested in it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It can be decided at the BAC meeting. Because of lack of quorum, at one stage it was decided that since the Home Ministry Grants were being discussed and communal situation also was discussed and, therefore, a common reply

will be given by the Minister and he has given the reply. In that sense, take it that it has concluded. Let us proceed with this Discussion. Before that, Shri Upendra Nath Verma will make a statement regarding enhanced subsidy for Scheduled Castes under IRDP.

15.09 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Enhanced Subsidy for Scheduled Castes under Rural Development Programme

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): The House is no doubt aware of the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) which is one of the major poverty alleviation programmes with the objective of assisting families below the poverty line in rural areas to acquire income generating assets through a mix of subsidy and credit. At present, subsidy is provided at 25% for small farmers, 33-1/3% for marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, rural artisans and others. Scheduled Tribes families are eligible to draw 50% subsidy. The monetary limit for subsidy is Rs. 3,000 in normal areas, Rs. 4,000 in DPAP/DDP areas and Rs. 5,000 for tribals. Scheduled Caste families are eligible to draw subsidy limited to Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000 and 25% or 33-3/3% of the total investments.

I have great pleasure in informing the House that the Government has taken a decision to enhance subsidy available to Scheduled Caste families under IRDP to 50% of the sanctioned project. The monetary ceiling of subsidy for Scheduled Caste families identified under IRDP has also been raised to Rs. 5,000. This, in effect, brings the benefits for Scheduled Caste families at par

*Translation of speech originally delivered in Tamil.

with the benefits enjoyed by the Scheduled Tribe families under IRDP.

This decision will help increase the subsidy benefit under IRDP to about 8.5 lakh Scheduled Caste families in the current year itself. We hope that this step will go a long way to enable the Scheduled Caste families to avail of IRDP programme benefits so that they can increase their income levels and ultimately cross the poverty line.

15.10 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes—Contd.

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): Sir, I rise to participate in this debate regarding the atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I thank Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra who piloted this discussion and he termed it as "the continued atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country". Really, it is not a question of today only. In the past also even when the Britishers were there, there were atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people. For the last 42 years, there have been continued atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people. So, it is not a new thing. These poor people, downtrodden people like the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes try to resist the oppression that was going to be made against them. At that time, the *Jagirdars*, the *Zamindars* and the landholders including the Police and the people who were in the Administration were coming together and taking part in the atrocities committed on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people.

Sir, we speak loudly about the condition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people. We speak here and outside

the House also. We speak so many things. We speak about what Mahatma Gandhi said on this. We speak what Swami Vivekananda said in this regard. He said: "You Indians should not forget that these cobblers and scavengers are your brothers and sisters, they are your bloods, your brothers." Sometimes, we refer to Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore. Sir, you know it very well that it was in his poem, it was stated very clearly:

"Whom you like to keep behind
he is pulling you behind more and more"

In reality, the atrocities are increasing day-by-day. Mere discussion will not help much. For the last 42 years, we have been discussing this issue so many times in this august House. What is the outcome? Today, my friends in the Opposition—my Congress friends there—are very vocal. But why was there so much of a backlog in Government services? I would like to put this question to them.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): That is not the *alibi*. Better you pull up your friends there. First you pull them up.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: I will do that. Coming to my point, just before the Lok Sabha elections were slated, the previous Government announced that 36,000 posts, which were the backlogs kept for so many years, would be filled up. Our hon. Finance Minister is sitting here. he may remember it. The backlog is still there. These posts must be filled up immediately. I have got the detailed report. I would like to remind the hon. Finance Minister that even in his Department i.e. the Reserve Bank of India, the other Nationalised Banks, the Life Insurance Corporation etc., even the four per cent scheduled castes people are not there in respect of Class-I and Class-II categories. As far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, not even 2 per cent of them are there in those categories while the reservation made in this regard is 15 per cent and 7 1/2 per cent respectively. The attitude of the Government must be changed. The bureauc-

[Sh. Amar Roypradhan]

racy is still going very strong.

I want to take a little time about the advertisements. In yesterday's Hindustan Times, there was an advertisement. The Steel Authority of India had given advertisement for senior level positions. There were many posts. But what are the categories to which it has been divided? How many posts among these are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes? It has been clearly stated that reservation may be provided as per the Presidential directives and other things being equal, preference will be given to SC and ST candidates. By this advertisement, the Steel Authority of India Limited and so also the Government have violated the very norms of the constitutional provisions that have been provided for to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Posts should be known to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes persons that which are the posts reserved for the Scheduled Castes and which are the posts reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. And what is the percentage of reservation available for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes? But nothing has been written here in the advertisement. If this is the way, the Government moves, if the present National Front Government also follows the path of the Congress Government, then the problem of backlog will not be solved.

I want to mention here about the most important point, that is, about the land reforms. If we go through the Report of the Commissioner of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for the last three years, what do we find there? We find that the main reason for the atrocities is the land reforms, that is, clash and conflict regarding the land and also about the actual possessor of land. Whenever a *patta* was given to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribes person, just now my friend referred to it, the Zamindars and the Jagirdars came out with the help of police, opposing it. It was very much prevalent in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and in some other parts of the country. But actually, what

have we done to solve the problem of land reforms for the last 42 years? Of course, it is true that on paper and in planning, we have adopted so many resolutions and proposals. What have we done in the 6th Five Year Plan? In the Preface to it, it has been stated that land reforms would be completed within 1985 and this surplus land would be distributed among the poor people, most of whom are the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, even the *pattas* would be provided to them and the land record would be completed during 1986. Now from 1986-89 it was the Congress Government which ruled the country. Now it is the National Front Government.

15.16 hrs.

[MR. THAMBI DURAI *in the Chair*]

If you do not solve this land reforms problem, if the lands are not given properly, if the surplus land is not distributed properly, if the *pattas* are not given to the down-trodden people, the poor people, then the conflict will be more and more in the rural areas and the problem of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes will continue and the atrocities on Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes will be more and more. It will do nothing if it remains in paper only. Of course, it is true that the previous Government said so many things during the Seventh Five Year Plan. They said that during the Seventh Five Year Plan, the problem of Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes would be solved with the help of programmes like NREP, RLEGP and IRDP.

Today, it is very interesting to note that Mr. Verma spoke about some concessions and subsidies given to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes under IRDP programme. I would like to say that with these programmes, whether they are IRDP, NREP or RLEGP, you cannot solve this problem because it is a socio-economic problem. So you must have to come forward with appropriate programmes to deal with the problems of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people.

We are speaking so much about untouchability. But what happened in Bihar? When a Brahmin boy Shri Khilanand Jha, a clerk or an assistant, married a Harijan girl, what happened to him? The Bihar Government sacked him from the job. What a tragedy? On the one hand you are welcoming all this, but on the other hand the Government is very much cruel to these people as though it wants that there should be no mixing up or mingling among the people of different communities.

At this present juncture I only request the National Front Government not to follow the path of the previous Government with NREP, RLEGP and other programmes and make some rules and regulations on paper only but they must have to act and act seriously in favour of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me chance to participate in the discussion. I am participating in the discussion in this House for the first time and I hope that you will not ring the bell before I conclude.

I have seen in the last six months of my experience as a Member of Parliament, as a silent spectator, that whenever there is a discussion on Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people, most of the speakers are non-tribals. You just see the difference. Between a person who is associated to a tribal or a Harijan and a person who is born as a Harijan or Adivasi, it makes a big difference. Of course these backward people may not have that much capacity and they are not at par with other communities; but in the days to come when we will have such important discussions I hope you will not do any injustice by giving more time to the non-tribals.

I am telling this because last time when we were going to amend the Constitution extending the reservation for SC and ST by ten more years, I wanted to participate in the discussions, but I did not get time. On the

Demands for Grants of the Home Ministry I wanted to highlight certain important points of my State and wanted to draw the attention of the Home Minister towards them, but I was not allowed to speak due to lack of time.

MR. SPEAKER: Now you can speak on them. Now also the time is limited because we have to take up the Private Members' business.

SHRILAETA UMBREY: Whenever you form any Committee or Commission to study the problems of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people or other down trodden people, I hope you will fully justify it by appointing all the Members of the Committee from among these deprived groups.

For the protection of SC, ST and other backward communities whatever is done is only because of Dr. Ambedkar who was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution. Much has been awaited and much has been thought about their welfare but our achievement is too poor. Now, here most of the Members are charging the Congress. I think it is not good. No single person or any single party is responsible for the atrocities on certain communities. It is, we who are all responsible for it. See my case. I am in the Congress; my party affiliation is Congress; but I am a hundred per cent Scheduled Tribe. I invite those people, those Members who are alleging the Congress to visit my Constituency and to see the condition of my family and see my background. Had it not been the Congress, I would not have become a Member of Parliament. So, we are all responsible for the atrocities. What we now required to do is that—irrespective of our caste and creed, irrespective of party affiliation—we should all in one voice, send the message to those downtrodden people, the deprived people that there will not be any further atrocities on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Harijans and Adivasis. We have to say like this. And this is what the people are expecting from us. I would like to submit certain things in the form of suggestion. The tribals who are feeling discontentment, who are feeling that

atrocities are meted on them daily, are demanding Statehood. For example, they are demanding Jharkand land and Karbiang long land. Like this, there are so many places where Scheduled Tribe people are demanding. I think this is justified. Please see the example of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland where Scheduled Tribes are living. The development has taken and you cannot deny this. We will have to see certain things before we say something about the upliftment of the downtrodden societies. In order to stop further atrocity on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes it is imperative that the demands of these people are fully met. These Scheduled Tribes—originally do not belong to any religious community. Most of them do not belong to the linguistic communities—the languages which are in the Eighth Schedule. There should not be any imposition on them or exploitation on them an imposition. I heard that Hindi is being imposed as a compulsory official language in Uttar Pradesh, then followed by Madhya Pradesh. There are so many Scheduled Tribe people in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh whose mother-tongue is not Hindi. I am very much aware of their welfare. That is why I suggest that wherever there are Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the schools of those areas should be under the Central Board of Secondary Education syllabus. This is prevailing in my State also. There, in CBSC syllabus equal importance is given to both Hindi and English. I do not require to mention the utility of English you know better about it.

The original culture and tradition of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are on the verge of extinction. This will have to be protected. Here also I would like to quote the example of my State, Arunachal Pradesh, where it is well protected. Whether it is the State Government or the Central Government, I think they will have to protect it fully. Now, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Shri V.P. Singh or whosoever the Prime Minister may be, are unnecessarily blamed. They are not to be blamed. We are all responsible for it. (Interruptions) Those people who are dealing with the scheduled castes and the sched-

uled tribes, they are responsible for it. They are exploiting the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe people. They are taking full advantage of their ignorance, illiteracy and their poor economic conditions. So, let us arrive at a consensus. Let us send a message to these scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes and other backward communities that from now onwards, there will not be any atrocities on them.

I think, I could not make out properly. Still I hope the hon. Minister, who is young and energetic, will answer all my points.

Lastly, I am a new Member. I do not know how many Members belonging to scheduled tribes have been inducted into the Cabinet. I want to know about this also. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up Private Members' Business. Shri Rameshwar Prasad.

[Translation]

SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY (Gaya): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have not been given time to speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is time for Private Members' Business. We cannot take up anything else now. When we take up discussion under Rule 193 next time, then you can speak. Now, Shri Rameshwar Prasad.

15.32 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTION

Third Report

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD (Arrah): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Third Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 25th April, 1990."

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Third Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 25th April, 1990."

The motion was adopted

15.33 hrs.

EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE BILL*

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGEN DRAJHA (Madhubani): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for employment or for means and resources for self-employment to all adult citizens of the country.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for employment or for means and resources for self-employment to all adult citizens of the country."

The motion was adopted

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGEN DRA JHA: I introduce the Bill.

15.34 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 57)

[Translation]

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI (Rewa): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

[Translation]

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED CASTES)

ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL*

Omission of Paragraph 3, etc.

[English]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950."

The motion was adopted

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: I introduce the Bill.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I introduce the Bill.

13.35 1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of article 171)

[English]

SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY (Cuddapah): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: I introduce the Bill.

15.36 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Insertion of new Article 15A etc.)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

15.37 hrs.

FOREST (CONSERVATION) AMENDMENT BILL

(Amendment of Section 2, etc.)

—*CONTD.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before further discussion on the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 1990 moved by Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale is resumed, I would like to mention that 2 hours and 26 minutes have already been taken out of 2 hours and 30 minutes allotted by the House for its discussion. The House has now to extend the time for further discussion on the Bill.

Is it the pleasure of the House that the time for this Bill be further extended by one hour?

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, before you put it to the vote of the House, I would like to clarify one point. We are allotting a certain prescribed time for each Bill. In this case, two and half hours were allotted and two hours and 26 minutes are over. Only four minutes are remaining. Subsequently, there are three Bills in today's agenda, and for each Bill, two hours are allotted. We will close this particular Business at 6 PM. All these three Bills have come through the ballot. If all the Bills are to be taken for discussion, it will take six hours and the work will not be over. My Bill has secured the third place in the ballot. Since my Bill has got the third place, so much time is not available for it to be discussed. Yet, the BAC has allotted the time like this. I want to know as to whether or not this ballot will hold good next

time. If it is not going to be held good for the next time, we would like that the time of every Bill should be restricted for the time allotted for it. The business should be arranged in such a way that all the three Bills will be passed in one day. Otherwise, there is no point in taking all the three Bills in the ballot.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can understand your concern. I want to bring to the notice of the House that generally, we allot only two hours for each Bill. Sometimes, because of the enthusiasm and interest shown by the Members, we may not be able to finish it within the allotted time. In such a case, generally, we extend the time by one or two hours so that hon. Members can express their views. This is what happens normally. Your point is a valid one. We have to complete this Bill and then proceed with the next Bill. It is true that when we take the ballot the next time, you may not get a chance. But the House has to follow the time allotted strictly.

SHRI RAM NAIK: That is why, I wanted to clarify before you give the ruling. We would not like our chance to go to another person. We may not get our chance in the next ballot. I can understand that even the Private Members' Resolution moved by Advaniji about the electoral reforms was an important one. But then, we other Private Members' Resolutions or Bills are side-tracked.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is supreme and it has to decide. The Minister has yet to intervene and the Member who introduced the Bill has also to reply. For that consideration alone, you have to allow some time.

SHRI RAM NAIK: At least for future, this time limit should be strictly adhered to, otherwise the Members who take all the trouble in introducing their bills lose their chance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the question of extension time is left to the House.

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): Sir, it is the pleasure of the House to extend time

for this. We want the time to be extended.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not pressurising you in any way.

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Kindly extend the time by one and a half hours more.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are many Members who want to speak. I do not think, it would be possible to accommodate all of them within that time.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Kindly extend it by half an hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has to intervene and the Member who introduced the Bill has also to reply. Can we extend the time for this by one hour. I would allow a few Members and after that the Minister will intervene and then the Member incharge of the Bill can reply.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Two hours have been allotted for the next Bill which will come up for discussion today. At least that must be completed today, otherwise again next time the same Bill will be taken up and the other Members will not get a chance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is that possible? But if all of you agree, I have no objection. Anyway, when the time comes. We will see.

Now, is it the pleasure of the House that time for this Bill be further extended by one hour?

MANY HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time is extended by one hour more. We will try to finish it as early as possible.

Now, Prof. N. Tombi Singh.

PROF. N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for affording me this opportunity to participate on this Forest (Conversation) Amend-ment Bill. It is a very important amending Bill

[Prof. N. Tombi Singh]

and I support it. However, while doing so, I would like to make a few observations.

The main objective of this amendment is that the Central Government shall not withhold its approval for deforestation if the forest land acquired is for public development works such as construction of roads, drinking water schemes, laying of telegraph or telephone lines etc. In answer to a question on this subject by Prof. Kurien some days back, the Government has made a very important announcement. We know that a number of proposals are pending before the Government for clearance. I would not have any objection if that is to be done for the development of different regions and States. We do not mind if a certain portion of forests is cut for the purpose of development works specifically.

Leaving apart that, in our country more important thing is to have the afforestation programme in its real term. In our country we have a large cover of forest area. We have a large number of such forest areas, of course, varying in the degree of afforestation. We also have such forest areas where no trees or no forest content is to be seen. It is because they have been denuded or deforested by man. So, I would say that the Government should give priority to the Afforestation Programme. In many States so many development schemes are pending and sometimes for the implementation of such schemes, we have to reduce the forest area. So, I would like to emphasise that we should take up a realistic programme of afforestation at the earliest.

I belong to an area which is largely covered by forests but hardly one can see the forest content there. I belong to the State of Manipur. I am giving you a very concrete example. One-tenth area of the Manipur State is supposed to be inhabited by human beings and the rest is supposed to be the forest area. But the actual position is that we don't even see one-third of the so called

forest area covered with the forest content. It will take hundred and hundred of years to bring this forest area back to its earlier position. It is easy to cut down a tree but it takes years and years to replace a grown up tree.

Second world war has affected the entire North-eastern States particularly the Manipur which was the headquarter of the South-East Asian Command. It destroyed a large part of the forest area there. Similarly, a large part of the forest area was destroyed in Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh. And this loss was not at all substituted by a good programme of afforestation. I am not speaking keeping in view the interest of our Party. I would like to say, whichever party is in power today, we are not taking up afforestation programme seriously. We spend so much of money on these programmes every year. But still we don't have a good afforestation programme to make up the loss or deficiency. The losses suffered during the Second World War still remain uncompensated.

Now, if we see from the high level, from the aeroplane we see that all the hills are denuded and they just look like the desert areas. They are contributing to the change of environment and to the change of the climate which will naturally lead to unpredictable floods and droughts. This is something which requires our attention.

While giving due consideration to the clearance of the projects for the interest of national development, the important problem that we have to solve first is the afforestation of already denuded areas which are still retaining the name of the forest lands. This is my observation. I would like to draw a pointed attention of the hon. Minister who is a dedicated person to environment, who is a dedicated person to the preservation and conservation of forests, that she should take up realistic programme of afforestation so that we can bring about a change to our forest areas which will give its positive chain reaction to the environment or preservation of environment, etc. In this regard, I would like to make another suggestion. We must

lay emphasis on the preservation of forests for fuelwood and for making furniture, in our areas. For making furniture, timber is needed. But the more important aspect in this regard—for timber, wood is acquiring woods for the purpose of fuel. It is very important. It is because coal is not available. In order to replace or in order to subsidise those areas and in order to reduce cutting down of trees for the sake of fuel, we have to increase the allotment of coal to these areas, like Manipur and so on, where coal is not available easily. This will help reduction in the cutting down of forests for fuel.

With these few words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: As suggested by all you which the House has also accepted, at 4 O'clock, I am going to call the Minister to intervene. It is because she was telling that she needs at least forty five minutes for her reply. Then the Member who had introduced this Bill, as to reply. So, up to 4 o'clock, I can adjust the hon. members who want to speak and afterwards, I cannot allow. Shri Ishwar Chaudhary.

[Translation]

SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY (Gaya): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today, the role played by forests in our life is as important as that of other necessities. These day environment throughout the world is getting polluted. In view of the increasing pollution, it has become necessary to protect our forests. The hon. Minister is quite concerned over this issue and wants that pollution should be checked. The hon. Minister is making sincere efforts towards finding a solution to this problem. The Government should do its best in this direction. The task of forest conservation can be divided into two parts—firstly to increase the afforestation process and secondly to prevent deforestation. Till now afforestation has been virtually non-existent while deforestation has been done on a large-scale. India has always been a land of forests and hills but today this country has become devoid of this natural wealth. Forests are not merely a show-piece for the

country, they contribute in large measure towards national prosperity. Good monsoons depend on the existence of forests and agriculture is also greatly benefited by them. The previous Government had a slightly casual attitude towards afforestation. The State Governments were not granted adequate funds for this purpose. Due to this, the process of afforestation become slow. On the other hand, denudation of forests has reached unimaginable proportions. I come from Bihar and it would not be wrong to say that Bihar has the maximum area under forests. But today, the Chhota Nagpur region is completely depleted of its forest wealth. I live in Gaya. Forests are there to maintain the ecological balance. It is for this reason that a tree plantation drive was launched on the banks of the Falgu river. But now 5-10 tractors full of wood is being cut over there. This cutting down of trees is being done in connivance with Forest Conservation Officials. Not only this, complaints have been received that D.F.O. (Gaya) is responsible for cutting down trees worth crores of rupees. How will we conserve our forests, how will we maintain the ecological balance and how will this country prosper?

Sir, it is understandable that forest land must be cleared to construct a canal or to grow crops, but at the same time forest conservation is also very necessary and for that we must plant maximum number of trees. By planting more trees we add to the number of good deeds we do in our lives. I am proud to say that I had personally planted three saplings which have not grown into trees. The basic objective underlining this effort was to awaken people to the call of the environment and make them active participants in tree plantation drives. Denudation of forests is most evident in places where forest conservation is of utmost importance. People guilty of cutting down of trees at such places should be give stringent punishment.

[English]

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): I welcome this Bill, because it seeks to remove an important difficulty in the way of economic

[Sh. Y.S. Mahajan]

development. Since we started protecting forests under the Forests Protection Act of 1980, people have complained in this House, and for years it has come in the way of construction of roads, drinking water schemes, laying of telegraph and telephone lines and river projects. In Maharashtra, there are many river projects which were undertaking 15 or 20 years ago. They have not been cleared from the forest angle, or from the point of view of environment. As a result, the well-being of lakhs of people has been seriously affected.

What is happening today is that there is destruction of forests. In the preserved forests, there are no trees. Forests are not developing. On the other hand, economic development does not take place, because some little forest here and there is threatened because of development schemes. So, there is neither afforestation, nor economic development. So, the Forest Conservation Act is coming seriously in the way of economic development of this country. I am of the view that the area under forests should be increased; but the way we are enforcing that Act is coming in the way of the well-being of the people.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, actually there is need for some changes in the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill introduced by the hon. Member in this august House. There are a number of purposes for which exemption must be given under this Bill. But there are some anomalies towards which I would like to draw attention of the Hon. Minister. Today, there is no restriction on the cutting of trees within city limits, but no tree is allowed to be felled in rural areas. Why is it so? I request the hon. Minister to pay attention in this direction and take special measures to remove this discrimination between cities and villages. No permission is given to villagers even if they want to cut even one tree for their genuine need. But in

urban areas, I have seen dozens of trees being felled. When this is brought to the notice of the concerned officials, they say that they do not have any power within city limits. Pollution is a global phenomenon and protection of environment is an issue that concerns all countries. These days eucalyptus trees are being planted in large numbers. I request the hon. Minister to look into the efficacy of the eucalyptus tree as a protection of environment. I think these trees are rendering the land infertile and also not useful from the environmental point of view. Will such trees be useful to us in future is a question which the hon. Minister must look into.

With these words, I express my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale has already introduced this Bill in this House. Two minutes is too less a time to speak, so some more time should be given. The Forest (Conservation) Act has proved to be an impediment in the way of implementation of a large number of schemes in rural and backward tribal areas. I had asked a question regarding irrigation in Maharashtra to which I received a written reply on 19th March. the reply states that 190 irrigation schemes in Maharashtra were closed only because the Maharashtra Government did not give any reply. At least that's what we have been told. The Forest Department issues fresh circulars everyday. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra even went to the extent of saying that he sends an ultimatum to the Minister of State of Forests every week. I don't know whether he is speaking the truth or not. But the fact is that all schemes are pending because of this. For example schools, hospitals and other development schemes in rural areas are lying pending. I had written a letter to the hon. Minister of State. Previously Vidarbha was under the jurisdiction of the Madhya Pradesh Government but after the reconstitution of the State, Vidarbha was merged into Maharashtra. The Jhurni Forest Vidarbha region land belonged to the Revenue Department. But the Central

Government considers it forest land and has enforced the Forest (Conservation) Act on it. As a result several schemes have been held up. Jhumanka Projects, Zamindari Project and hundreds of such other projects have been held up. I want Jhurni Forest to be exempted from the purview of the Forest (Conservation) Act and placed under 'Maurusi' land. The hon. Minister of State and the hon. Minister of Forest should meet the State Legislators to discuss the developments in the districts of Bhardana and Chandrapur. I invite them to come to Chandrapur to understand the nature of the problems there which we are facing with a view to solving them. With these words I support this Bill.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): Before I begin, I want just to clarify one thing to Mr. Mahajan-about my letter to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra. I do not write only to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra; I write to every Chief Minister, to every source of authority, because my concern for India does not extend only to a Union Territory or to a particular State. I believe that the time has come when we have to work together to ensure that this nation progresses ahead with green technology and all that. I issue no ultimatums; I merely make suggestions. Since I have become Minister, there have been a great number of new policy initiatives; and that is the reason why I have been burdened with this.

I am overwhelmed to see the response from the members on the Bill given by Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale for amendment of the Forest (Conservation) Act. I can understand that the members are genuinely concerned about the problems of forest conservation and the Welfare of tribals. Before attempting to answer the points raised by the members, I would like to mention some facts and figures about the forests of the country. Out of a total geographical areas of 329 million hectares, forest area in the country is only 75 million hectares. Out of this, tree

cover is available on 64 million hectares only giving a percentage of 19 of the total forest area in the country. This is far less than the targetted forest area of 33 per cent as envisaged in the National Forest Policy.

The National Forest Policy which was enunciated in 1988 has as its principal aim, the maintenance of environmental stability and ecological balance including atmospheric equilibrium which are vital for sustenance of all lifeforms human, animal and plant.

This is proposed to be achieved among others, by protection and conservation of forests. Conservation of forests was being neglected before 1980 and good forest land was being diverted for non forest uses. The main reasons for diversion of forest land for non-forest uses have been the following:

1. Construction of Multi-purpose projects
2. Setting up of industries
3. Agriculture
4. Human settlements.

The situation becomes so alarming that between the period 1952 and 1980, 4.328 million hectares area of forest land was diverted for non-forest use. The States were asked through guidelines not to divert this forest land but no heed was paid to the instructions of Government of India. We were left with no option but to save our forests by resorting to legal measures. As a result, the Forest (Conservation) Act was enacted in 1980. The advantages of passing of the Act were soon evident. The annual rate of diversion of forest land for non-forest use which was 1.5 lakhs hectares came down to 15,400 hectares between 19890 and 1989. Even after the passage of this Act, the States tried to circumvent the spirit of the Act by diverting forest land for raising plantations like tea, coffee, rubber, etc., on the pretext that these activities were forest activities. In order to check this practice, the amendment to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was passed

[Shrimati Maneka Gandhi]

in 1988, which excluded such plantations being taken on forest land by treating these as non-forestry activities.

I would like to talk about forests now. Bio-diversity of forest ecosystems acts as an insurance against possible crisis in food supply which depends on a few selected species which are susceptible to disease and pests. The protective and productive role of forests in the national economy has been summarised in the National Forest policy, 1952 which states, "the role of forests in the national economy, both protective and productive, entitles forests to lay claim to an adequate share of land. The importance of tree lands in the rural economy of this region where agriculture constitutes the mainstay of the vast bulk of population can scarcely be overemphasized." In view of these facts, it would not be proper to dilute the provisions of the Act as they stand today by adopting the amendment, as suggested by Shri Mahaleji.

I would now like to refer to the points raised by the members in support of the amendment that is proposed by Mahaleji. The main points that have been mentioned are:

1. Delay in clearance of forest conservation cases by Government of India.
2. Hindrances to the developmental activities specially laying of telephone, telegraphic lines, village schools, panchayats, etc.
3. The Act is against the interests of the tribals.
4. Special problems faced by the people living in hills.
5. Nexus between forest officials and contractors for plundering of forests.

I would now like to take up these points and then refer to some specific points raised by the members.

1. The question of delay in clearance of Forest Conservation cases has been debated for the last so many years. There are divergent view held by the Central Government and the State Governments. The State Governments feel that the delay is on the part of the Central Government and the Central Government feels that the delay is caused due to non submission of proposals by the State Governments in proper format and with complete information.

The hon. Member talked about one hundred and sixty odd cases which had been rejected due to non furnishing of information. I want to tell you what kind of information we ask. We ask very basic, very relevant information. If we do not ask for this information, then a lot of projects may be good, but along with those good projects, a project which will not be so good would also sneak in. For instance, somebody will get a petrol pump allotted to him. Then, he wants to put the petrol pump in the middle of his own area, next to it is a forest. Now he wants a path to his petrol pump. This case has just now come to me. But that petrol pump passes through my forest area. Now we have to guard that kind a thing. That is why we ask for this information. When we ask for this information, we are not trying to delay the project, we are trying to understand whether it is the best for the country. The State Government does not reply. The original proposal is of a cursory nature-one page.

[Translation]

It may be sanctioned. We ask why it should be sanctioned?

[English]

If we do not get all the information, then we are struck up with one time proposal. You

must admit that it is in the best interests of everybody that we have to ask a complete information before we allow any project.

The pendency of cases in the Government of India is minimal.

As far as the Ministry of Environment and Forests is concerned, as soon as proposals are received for clearance, these are examined and whenever information gaps are noticed, the project proponent agencies are addressed immediately for furnishing the necessary information. A review of the pending cases revealed that a majority of them were pending for want of complete information. It was felt that the project proponents would expedite submission of wanting information if they were told categorically that cases would be treated as rejected if the required information was not given within stipulated time. Accordingly it has now been stipulated that cases where full information has been made available, will be disposed off within six weeks of the receipt of the proposal. Where such complete information is not furnished the project proponents should be advised to furnish the wanting information within one month. If the information is not received within the stipulated period these cases should be treated as rejected for want of information.

Since the promulgation of the Act 4023 proposals were received from various States and Union Territories till 31st March 1990 for according clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Out of these proposals approval has been accorded to 1967 cases. 547 cases have been rejected on merits, not for lack of information but on merits. State Governments have withdrawn 107 cases and 1268 cases have been rejected conditionally for non-furnishing of information by the concerned State Governments. In my Ministry, there are only 134 cases now pending which have come in the last one year and two months.

We have tried to streamline the procedure in the Government of India to see that

delays do not take place. Instructions have been issued to officials in the Government of India to clear each case within six weeks of its receipt. This is the minimum period required as the meeting of the Advisory Committee set up for the purpose takes place once a month and based on its recommendation, the case is cleared or rejected. It would not be possible to reduce this period to 15 days as suggested by Mahaleji. In order further to hasten early clearances, powers have been delegated to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests located in Bhopal, Lucknow, Bhubaneswar, Bangalore, Shillong and Chandigarh for cases upto less than 1 hectare. I am surprised to learn that most of the complaints about small clearance have been raised by members from Uttar Pradesh. In their case, the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests is located at Lucknow and there should be no difficulty in the State Government officials discussing their small schemes with him and getting the clearance. The Regional Chief Conservator of forests are located in those places where the forest areas are large and from which States the maximum number of proposals are received. This delegation of powers to the Regional Chief Conservators of Forests will facilitate the State Governments from seeking their clearances early. From 1 to 10 hectares, the powers have been given to the Ministry and the case is not required to be put up to the Advisory Committee. In such cases, the clearance can be given even before the six weeks' period.

The delay usually occurs in the case of the State Governments because whenever a back reference is made to them for seeking clarification, the reply is not received for up to one year. It would not be correct to lay the blame on the Central Government for delays in such cases.

Since June 1989, we have relaxed guidelines in respect of use of forest land for construction. Exceptions have now been

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made for diversion of forest land for construction works like schools, dispensaries, hospitals, community halls, small industrial sheds under Government control, whenever these requires forest land less than one hectare. As already referred to in earlier part in my speech, powers have been delegated to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests to decide cases involving forest land upto one hactre. Similarly cases involving forest land up to 10 hactares are not referred to the Advisory Committee and are decided in my Ministry directly.

It has been our endeavour to clear the cases within a period of six weeks of the complete information being made available to us. The State Governments have ben advised, through guidelines, to ensure that the cases are disposed of at the level of the State Government within a maximum period of two months. We have requested the State Governments—this is one of the directions I have sent to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra to open separate cells for dealing with the cases under the Act. I do not see why he take legitimate objection to my trying to speed up the cases. For this purpose, they have been requested to appoint a full-time senior officer, not below the rank of a Conservator of Forests, as head of such Cells.

Some of the hon. Member had referred to the problems of the tribals. I am in full agreement with them that the forests and the tribals should co-exist in complete harmony. Indeed, the National Forest Policy 1988 upholds the symbiotic relationship between the tribals and the forests. Meeting the requirements of fuelwood, fodder, minor forests produce, small timber of the rural and tribal population has been listed as one of the main objective of this policy. The rights and concessions enjoyed by the tribals and

other poor people living in and around forests are to be treated as the first charge on forest produce. These considerations further reinforce our conviction that forest resources which are the life-line of the tribals and other weaker sections of the society, should not be diverted for other uses in an indiscrete way. Forest and other public lands which have hitherto been used for collective purposes are shrinking at an alarming rate. Nearly one-sixth of the population and one-fifth of live-stock population is directly dependent on such lands. diversion of such lands, particularly good forests is bound to cause further hardship to such poor people.

As stated earlier, we have relaxed the guidelines so that developmental works directly beneficial to the local people are not delayed. Some of the Members had also referred to the cases of forest villages. We are seized of this issue. Indeed the National Forest Policy, 1988 states that the forest villages should be developed at parr with the revenue villages. We are examining as to how best this could be achieved. For this purpose various options including conversion of such villages into revenue villages are already being considered. Efforts are also being made to sort out issues relating to occupation of forest land by tribals.

I have already had a meeting with the Minister of Welfare, Shri Paswanji, and we have decided upon principles to be followed for regularisation of encroachments prior to 1980 when the Forest (Conversation) Act was enacted.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please take your seat? Do not interrupt in between. Nothing will go on record.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Some

*Not recorded.

of the Members specially Shri Rawat and Shri Mohinder Pal have highlighted the problems of hilly areas. They would agree with me that forest have especial significance for such areas. Much of our agricultural production in the plains depends on the vegetative cover in the hilly and mountainous areas. Protection of such hydrological systems is of paramount importance to save the flat plains from siltation and floods. It is for this reason that the forest policy envisages that at least 2/3rd of hills and mountainous regions should be maintained under forest and tree cover. Schemes and projects which interfere with forests that clothe steep slopes, catchment of rivers lakes and reservoirs, geologically unstable terrain and other such ecologically sensitive areas should be severely restricted. Despite these considerations, since June 1989 we have been treating hill districts and other districts having forest land more than 50% of total geographical area on special footing. In such areas compensatory afforestation on non-forest land is not insisted upon and it is allowed on forest land, twice in extent of the area diversified provided that forest land involved is less than 5 hectares and the purpose of diversion is for construction of link roads, small water works, minor irrigation works, hospitals, tiny rural industrial sheds of the Government or any other similar works which directly benefits the people of the area. I am confident that a fairly good number of developmental projects in hilly areas would be covered in this category thereby facilitating the clearance of such projects.

A number of Members of the House including Shri Y.S. Mahajan have expressed their anxiety about developmental projects on account of rigorous enforcement of the Act. Paradoxically, sometimes, the very process of economic development and poverty eradication programmes prove counter-productive marginalising the poorest of the poor and aggravating environmental degradation. This environmental

degradation which we are faced with today, has been compounded by poverty and under development as well as the negative effects of some of the developmental programme. Often the attempts directed at development lead to the unintended side effects which owing to consequential large scaled afforestation or diversion of forest land, should be dispassionately considered not only at the State but also at the National level taking into account the social and environmental aspects in totality.

Many members have spoken about the nexus between the contractors, politicians and the Forest Department regarding the felling of trees. In this connection, I would like to mention that for the last two decades the Government policy has been to eliminate contractors from forest area for which purpose a large number of State Forest Department Corporations had been set up. It is these Corporations which work the forests as per management plans. Forest Labour Cooperatives and tribal cooperatives are encouraged and should be encouraged further. We are also taking steps to regulate the working of saw mills in the Country so that there is less of timber harvesting. I would like to mention a few words about the forest officials also. The Forest Department throughout is that of a policing nature and the man has to work against the various odds in far flung territories. He has to stay away from his family and friends. He has no medical facilities, he has no educational facilities and facilities available to any other Government servant. There is generally no concern at all for his plight and he is all the time being blamed for deforestation. His role of checking it is not liked by the people who try to smuggle wood and that is why more often than not he is being maligned. I want to share with you my experience. We have one Forest Officer for so many 100 hectares or for a distance as 20 kms 30 kms. The man has a cycle, he has a hands and that is all he has. The chap who goes to the forest to smuggle

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the goods he has jeeps, he has guns. He comes with a group of outlaws and the question before the lonely Forest Officer whether he should stay and get killed or he should make a run for it(Interruptions).

Now, we have got heroes. We have got poor people trying to earn their livelihood. They may do but the point that we have created the circumstances in which collaboration become a part of life. I would like-I am not making a policy statement here-better equipment for the Forest Department. I would like to have jeeps, I would like to have better guns, I would like to have night vision glasses. We had a situation where a man called Veerappan in South India which you know I have taken up - got away with killing elephants, smuggling sandal-wood, creating mayhem. Only because he has killed so many Forest Officers. So, they all left the forest. I do not mean to say that Forest Officers are without blemish; I am just saying that if you have a specific incident, you bring it to my notice. I am more concerned regarding forests and Forest Officers. I would like you to bring specific incidents to my notice and all action would be taken against specific culprits.

Shri Mahaleji had mentioned that no roads, no schools, no telephone lines are allowed for development work of the tribals. As I had mentioned earlier, a special concessions are given to tribal areas for construction activities inside the forest areas. It is not possible for us to permit the Conservator of Forests to clear project proposals, as then there will be no control on the land to be diverted for forest clearance. It is also not possible to agree to the proposal that cases not cleared within one month should be presumed as cleared.

Regarding the problem of regularisation of encroachment in Maharashtra State,

the State Government has not yet submitted information for obtaining approval under the Forest Act...(Interruptions).

SHRIUTTAMRATHOD (Hingoli): These are old cases, Madam. These lands were given in 1978-79, before the Act was passed. 1980 came afterwards. Before that, the lands were allotted. They were members of the cooperative society. They have taken loan. At least, you regularise those cases.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Well, let me look deeper into this. I think we should be having information about this. Let me look deeper into it. I cannot make a commitment just now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (SHRI THAMBI DURAL): Madam, you conclude first. Afterwards you can reply to their points.

MR. Y.S. MAHAJAN: There are cases of river dam schemes which were taken up before the Act was passed.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: You cannot apply that case generally. When a dam schemes is taken up, or any other schemes is taken up, or any other scheme is taken up, they originally ask for two hectares or five hectares but when the time goes on, they want ten acres, they want fifty hectares, they want hundred hectares they want thousand hectares. When you say the scheme was cleared before the Act was passed, it does not work that way, you know.

Sir, Shri Mahaleji's suggestion for giving LPG agency to villagers can only be considered by the Petroleum Ministry. As far as our Ministry is concerned, we are trying very hard to encourage alternate sources of energy like gobar gas plants, solar cookers or anything else which the villagers feel and which we feel. We will protect our forests and get sustained development in the villages. We are in touch with other Ministries in this

regard.

cooperate with our efforts.

It is incorrect to say that the enforcement of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has not added to the increase in forest cover. The assessment made by the Lands imagery indicates that the extent of dense forest cover has increased by 16,456 sq. kms. This indicates that our conservation efforts have borne some fruits...*(Interruptions)*. Well, Landsat—imagery does not belong to parties...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: But how much has been destroyed?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: I agree. But I am just saying that this Act has also caused conservation of forests...*(Interruptions)*.

AN HON. MEMBER: It was done during our period.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let her finish first.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Whatever be the period, forests belong to the nation. They do not belong to you, me or anybody else. I am quite happy that you took credit for it.

Moreover, Sir, the aim of the Forest (Conservation) Act was to restrict diversion of forest land for non-forest use. This has been achieved fully and, as I mentioned earlier, the annual rate of diversion of forest land for non-forests use has become one-tenth now. Regarding forest fires, as the hon. Member knows, a Modern Forest Fire Control Project is under implementation in Uttar Pradesh and it has helped in extinguishing fires by restricting their area. If Government tries to help the people by taking over some of their burden, I think the people also should

Mr. Rawat also wanted guidelines to be issued to the States for speedier clearance of Forest (Conservation) Act. These have already been issued in June, 1988. However, it would not be possible to dilute the provisions of the Act by allowing Forest clearance up to five hectares to be done by the State Government.

As I said earlier, for hill areas, we have already done it upto 5 hectares provided that this project itself brings relief to the hill people. The matter was considered by the Government earlier and it was felt that large areas would be split up into a small areas and thus, there would be no control on diversion of forest land.

Shri Rawat has also alleged that the Ministry of Environment and Forests do not listen to MPs but only to Environmental groups. This is extremely an unfair comment to make. I don't think that you could state a single case in which the Ministry or me have not listened to them. I listen to what India needs. However, if you think I am going to listen to one side or another side, I don't think it is like that. I listen to every side; sometimes the groups of MPs, somebody who will study the subject, who is knowledgeable, who is completely out of this sphere and ofcourse those agitators and Government people I try to listen to them and do what is best. I don't think that in the coming month, you will be able to sustain that kind of allegation. We will take the views of all concerned and then take decision.

It was also pointed out that approximately 3200 proposals from Uttar Pradesh are pending clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 at some stage or other. It is stated that as on 31-3-1990 a total number of 932 proposals were received from Uttar Pradesh, out of which 653 were approved, 69 proposals were not approved,

184 proposals were rejected for non-furnishing of information, 15 proposals are pending and 11 proposals were withdrawn by the State Government. I think the figure of 3200 happens to be misinformation.

Shri Mohinder Singh Pal had mentioned that clearance of roads, telephone rail lines for Birla factory was not given. If the State Government can give proposals in the proper format, this could be considered. Regarding railway line between Rampur and New Haldwani, an area of 122.7 hectares is required for diversion. Commissioner, Hill division, had sent this proposal directly to us and not through the State Government. We have requested him to route it in the normal logical manner which is through the State Government. The member also mentioned that a proposal for construction of Railway line is pending since 1971. Without going into issues with the member, I would like to mention that forest conservation Act came into being only 1980. In any case, the latest position on the subject has been stated by me.

Shri Lakshmi Narayan Pandey had mentioned about given forest villages to the people living in forest areas. He also mentioned that many projects were pending for five years. In this connection, I would like to mention that this proposal which the Hon'ble Member referred to was regarding Bodhghata Multipurpose Hydro Electric project in Bastar District. The position is that the State government has set up five study groups to consider environmental clearance at the State level. After their clearance, the case would be submitted to Central Government. At the moment, the case is still being studied by the State. It has not yet come to us. As soon as the proposal is received by us, we shall consider the same. The question of conversion of forest villages into revenue villages is being considered by the Govern-

ment. Regarding projects not being cleared for five years, I would request the Members to give the details so that the same can be checked up. Regarding saw mills, I would like to mention that the instruction issued to State Governments to regulate the licensing of saw mills in future so that indiscriminate setting of saw mills is avoided.

Shri K.D. Sultanpuri had mentioned about the construction of Raha Hotel at Simla. The matter will be referred to the State Government and their views solicited. I agree with the member that new factories should be set up only if adequate raw material is available. I also agree that more funds should be allocated to plantations specially in hill areas and we have been able to successfully get more funds in the overall forestry sector this year.

Sir, I am trying for Himalaya Greening Fund. If that comes true, obviously the development of hill areas of our country can go a long way.

Shri Ram Chandra Dome mentioned that forest should be used for building modern society and alternative should be seen before utilising forest land. He also wanted that all pros and cons should be studied before amending the Forest Conservation Act. I thank the Member for supporting the present Act and would like to assure him that no hasty step will be taken which would dilute the provisions of the Forest Conservation Act.

Shri Cheddi Paswan mentioned that the Ganges is polluted with mud and there are floods in Bihar. Every year a lot of money is spent for this. As I mentioned earlier forest help in reducing the incidence of floods, drought, soil erosion etc., and it is only with this aim in view that we should conserve forests and not dilute the provisions of the present Act. You cannot on the one hand tell me to have less cost on forests and give it to

the developmental activity and on the other hand say that we should conserve the forests.

Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh mentioned that development projects should not be stopped as they increase the cost over-run. I would like to mention that if forest clearance is taken before starting the project, it would be much better rather than approaching for forest clearance at a later date. He also mentioned that the Ministers should sit down and work out a solution. This matter has already been discussed in the meeting of the Forest Ministers in May, 1989 when all issues regarding implementation of the Forest Policy and the Forest Conservation Act were thrashed out. We will have another meeting to review any lacunae in this regard. I am not clear about the case in which 8 years delay has occurred, as has been mentioned here. I would like the Member to let us know specific cases so that these could be enquired into. The Member also mentioned that people should be allowed to be settled on degraded forest land. Human settlement on forest land is a major cause of concerns for us and it would not be proper to use forest land for setting human beings. This is against the National Forest Policy. I only emphasise the fact that if you keep taking it away, we are going to observe that we will not be able to conserve anything. We may not be conserving it because it is beautiful, but because we have to settle human beings. And when you settle somebody, you don't get the trees, you don't get the water and what is point is providing this kind of India for our children? We have asked the State Governments that they should earmark sufficient revenue land for the purpose.

Shri Piyush Tiraky mentioned that advisis were not consulted while declaring any area as reserve forest and while passing the Forest Conservation Act. As he is aware, a due notice is given when an area is declared as reserve forest and the rights of the people

living in these areas are determined as part of the settlement procedure. Regarding Forest Conservation Act, I would like to say that when the Act was passed by the Parliament, representatives of all sections of society were present. Regarding harassment of tribals for taking firewood, I would like to mention that our policy, is, and the previous Government's policy has been and for that matter every Government policy has been, that the traditional rights of the tribals are respected and no harassment is given to them while they enjoy those rights.

Shri Uttam Rathod mentioned about the cooperative societies who were given land by Government and are being deprived of their land. I would again request the member to give a specific case, as such instances have not come to our notice.

Shri Prahlad Patel mentioned that the system of afforestation is not good and teak is planted which is not good environment. No form of monoculture whether teak or anything you collect, is good. You cannot think of monoculture, no monoculture is good. There has not be a mixture of trees for natural forests to grow.

Shri Pratap Singh mentioned that only those trees should be planted which can give sustenance to men and animals all the year round. I agree with him and we are laying emphasis on plantation of species which are indigenous to the locality and which help the people in their day-to-day life.

Shri Narasimha Reddy pointed out that the left bank of Nagarjunasagar dam comprising an area of 150 acres is under forests and because of this, more than 1.00 lakh acres of land cannot be irrigated. In this connection, I would like to mention that we received only five proposals for construction of canal involving forest areas which were cleared in October, 1988. We are not aware of any other difficulties which the State

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also in it.

Government is facing in this regard. If the State Government forwards any other proposals, we would allow certainly consider them. Regarding Shriram Sagar project, three proposals have been received amounting to 171.98 hectares of forest land. The same has been referred to the State Government seeking some clarifications. Regarding widening of national Highway No. 7 in Adilabad areas, the proposal has not been received from the State government. It will be considered as soon as it is received. I agree with the Member that mango trees which were planted on forest land should not have been cut off on the plea of their being unauthorised. In fact, I would like to mention something here. Yesterday, we all sat together and reviewed the Forest Policy. This year, we are thinking of giving the users the right to enjoy the fruits. I cannot plant on the wasteland area. Therefore, the NGOs do not come forward to plant because there is no land.

SHRI K.S. RAO (Machilipatnam): Are you going to give free pattas?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: No, it is not free *pattas*. The land will continue to belong to the Forest Department. But if you plant the tree, you are entitled to the fruits, leaves and everything. This is a new policy which has been formulated.

SHRI RAGHAVJI (Vidisha): A person who is planting a tree is entitled to the fruit only and not to the tree.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: No, he is entitled to the tree also when it is matured. Otherwise, you will have only unplanted Eucalyptus plantations. They can plant the trees which are approved by the Forest Department and do farm forestry.

SHRI K.S. RAO: You can add fruit trees

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: The emphasis is on fruit trees. When it is matured after 10 or 20 years depending on the tree, the Forest Department is entitled to the timber as well. But in the interim period, nobody can cut it.

SHRI K.S. RAO: It is the Government that had cut 3,000 trees in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Based on your complaint, this is being looked into.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHANDEV (Tripura West): To what category does the pineapple tree belong to?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: I think it is a shrub, but I do not know to what category it belongs. I think it is a low-lying tree.

Shri Prem Kumar Dhumal mentioned about the problem of pollution due to Punjab National Fertilizers and Punjab Alkalies. I would like to mention to him that the attention of the State Government has been drawn to the points raised by the Member and their response is awaited. WE are continuously pursuing with them on this matter.

Shri Nand Kumar Sahay had mentioned about filming for extension activities. The Ministry is supporting making of films on afforestation, wildlife, environment etc. and even financial assistance is given in some cases.

Shri Tej Narain Singh had mentioned that trees are cut for development purposes. I would like to mention again that growth of trees and letting them remain green and providing green cover is also a form of development. It would be wrong to transfer the forest land to tribals as suggested by Shri Singh. However, their rights would be protected.

Shri Ramakrishna Yadav mentioned that the fault is not in the Act but in the implementation machinery. The reason for the Act remaining on paper is that we do not have enough funds to carry them out. But we have issued guidelines from time to time to see that the Act is more relevant to our country. The latest suggestion given by the Ministry is that we have ensured more and more participation of the people for better implementation of the Act. Regarding Shri Tombi Singh's contention about afforestation, I would like to assure him that this ministry has taken afforestation very seriously and we have taken several steps in the National Wasteland Development Board which will show results in a year or so. I greatly appreciate his intention to plant more and more trees. I would like more people like him to realise the importance of forests and actively help us in planting more trees in their constituencies.

In view of the clarifications given by me, I would request the Members not to press with the proposed amendment and request Shri Mahaleji to withdraw his proposal. I can assure the House that speedier action would be taken by the Ministry in regard to disposal of Forest Conservation cases and other related matters. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.S. RAO: While giving free *patas* to the people without giving the right of land and leaving it to the forest Department, there is a problem of implementation. As you were telling, will you kindly take steps for effective implementation? Will you pass on this policy decision immediately to the concerned Departments and the State Governments so that they can allocate the plots where bushes are there?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Actually, it comes under the National Wasteland Development Board. Yesterday, we had a meeting of all the NGOs. The policy is being worked out and formulated. As soon as it has been finalised, I would certainly send to the

State Governments. Actual implementation is at the State level. Now that the new policy guidelines are there, the State Governments can implement them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Already the time allotted for this Bill is over. If the House feels, we can extend the time till Shri Haribhau Mahale completes his reply.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was surprised to listen to the hon. Minister that it is nothing but a creation of our imagination. In fact it is the creation of the officers. I have said earlier also that these people are just harping about environment. They are not fully aware of their irrigation system in our country. I would like to cite an example of Maharashtra. 12 percent of the total land is under irrigation out of which 6 percent is managed by the farmers on their own and the other 6 percent is looked after by the Government. Now, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, through you, the total number of trees that have been planted by the farmers? You talk of protecting the forests but merely talking would not serve the purpose. In Maharashtra, alone one official used to head the forest department, when 33 per cent of the area was under forests but now when the number of officials looking after this department has gone up to seven, ironically the forests have reduced to mere 8 per cent. I want to know why these forest laws were formulated in such a manner that it became an easy job for the corrupt officials to twist them. One cannot ignore how these officials throw dust into our eyes.

I would like to raise one more point. Recently the portrait of the great Constitution maker was installed in the Central Hall. These days we are watching the serial

[Sh. Haribhau Shankar Mahale]

'Mahabharata' on TV and Kauravas have refused to give even one inch land to the Pandavas. How do you think would this Act serve the interests of the tribals whose total population is five crôres and they face a large number of problem in their day-to-day life. besides there is dispute about forest land. I have already said that I am a lover of trees and I prefer plantation of more and more trees rather the irrigation facilities in my district. We must realise the significance of forests because these play a vital role in creating good environment. But this forest Act would be a hurdle in it.

In 1962, Shri Yashwantrao Chavan enacted the Zila Parishad Act in Maharashtra which created red-tapism as it provided for ten or more than ten villages to be handled by a single secretary. It was obvious to happen. Therefore, I insist that provision should be made to settle the dispute bout of 5 to 10 acres of forest land should be considered at a higher level say at the Minister's level. It is a good thing that you have full confidence in all your officials but at the same time we must be a little practical also. The Government of Maharashtra has openly criticised your policy on this and and they have outrightly refused to send any cases to you for consideration. Therefore, my suggestion to you is that those cases which do not involve big stretches of land should be dealt with some leniency. But this does not imply that I am criticising your policy to protect the forest from being destroyed. My second demand is that you should specify certain time limit to dispose off he cases. I have come to know that some cases are pending with your Ministry for the last ten to twelve years and no decision has been taken so far regarding those pending cases. Even if reply is sent it is in negative. Although I am a member of Janata Dal but I feel that it is my utmost duty to speak for those people who have sent me to the House with some expect-

tations. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister through you, to reconsider his decisions and bring such a Bill in the Parliament which is in the wider interests of the public. I am ready to withdraw my Bill, but you should give me some assurance first.

[English]

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: He has asked me to clear it in three months. I have already said that I will clear it in six weeks. He said that 10 acres have to come to the Government. In fact, 10 hectares have come to us.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: I would like to know that is the plant population you expect per hectare.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: I will look into it and give it to you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does the hon. member have the leave of the House to withdraw his Bill?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Although I wanted to seek a few more clarifications but now I withdraw my Bill.

16.54 hrs.

YOUTH BILLS

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for a comprehensive policy for the development of

the youth in the country be taken into consideration."

Mr. Chairman, I am happy that you have permitted me to move this Bill and the House has taken up the Bill for consideration as I am working in the interest of the youth. We are demanding all those on which we have concentrated in this Bill. As you are aware, for any country or nation, students and youth community are very important. The future of a nation or a State depends upon the development of this section of the society. The human resource is superior to all other resources. And that is why planned investment for human resource is necessary because it can utilise the other resources in a better way. Therefore, it is essential for any country to have a comprehensive understanding of the questions related to the youth and students of the country.

Sir, in the past, the former colonial rulers used the Indian youth either as cannon fodder or as pen-pushers. But, during the freedom struggle this section of society played a glorious role and created a powerful movement against the imperialist forces. In the process they bravely faced extreme forms of inhuman suppression tortures and they made supreme sacrifices. So, it was the natural expectation that this most valuable sections of this society should be fully developed and utilised without negligence, discrimination and delay. But since Independence apart from scattered and vague pronouncements no clearcut youth policy has been prepared. The Directive Principles of our Constitution give some guidelines regarding questions relating to the unemployment, education, social justice, equal rights for women etc. But even now a comprehensive youth policy has not emerged to transform these guidelines into action or put them into practice. Even for a statement we have to work for a centenary. When the Centenary of the first Prime Minister was observed, then a statement of policy was made. We have to wait for

the Centenary of our first Prime Minister to get the statement. This is unfortunate. But the so called youth policy of 1988 did not serve any purpose. One statement was made. These are just some high-sounding words put in the form of a statement. It was never discussed in the Parliament nor by the people of the whole country. It ignored the youth movement, those who are working in this field. Just one statement was made that is all. The point is that only by making statement alone we cannot solve the problems. It will serve no purpose. There should be a comprehensive Act. There is no Act for implementing all these policies. It is just a statement. That is all. In many countries, there are Youth Acts. All the issues concerning the youth activity are collected and there is a single Act and the legal authority has been given and the Government and the various other Departments implement it. We have even created a Department of Youth Affairs. They have yet to implement the programmes. Only some decisions of the Government are implemented. They spend some money and distribute it here and there. But no comprehensive Act is there for the betterment of the youth of our country.

Sir, in the post-Independence period, a huge monopoly capitalism has developed and the foreign multinational capitalists occupied important part of our economy. The real land reform was not implemented. In spite of discussions, debates and declarations it was not implemented as there was no political will to do so. As a result of this, whatever development has taken place during the last 43 years, the fruits are concerned by only a small section of the people of this country.

17.00 hrs.

And most of the hopes of these people of our country who sacrificed their lives for the independence struggle, were belied. You know, what is the situation today in the

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country. Every fifth unemployed person in the world is the Indian. Every second illiterate in the world is an Indian. A large number of them are young people. This is the direct result of not having a correct youth policy.

You know, in the field of sports, at the world level, our role is very insignificant. We can get big prize for poverty, illiteracy and all these things. But where do we stand in the field of sports? Only a small percentage of our population is there in the field of sports. Even Surinam can get a gold in Olympics; it has a population less than the population of a resettlement colony in Delhi. But we can't manage a gold. In the cultural arena also, it is dominated by just feudal obscurantism, decadence and degeneration. This is what we have given to the younger generation of our country in spite of all the promises and sacrifices. Social justice is the worst victim in the evil hands of casteism, communalism, regionalism linguistic chauvinism, sex discrimination under which young people of our country are suffering. Backward sections of people are still far-behind economically.

17.02 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Only a minor section of the upper classes are benefited by some special concessions. Youths belonging to workers, peasants and other toiling sections are not provided what they want and, thus, a wide frustration among the younger generation has been created. Divisive and reactionary forces are utilising these teenagers. And the young minds are the play-ground of the enemies of our country—the anti-national forces, communal forces and the casteist forces. Divisive and divisive tactics of the ruling classes in the country have created this serious situation, even after 434 years of Independence.

About 35 per cent of our population can be accepted as the youth of your country. Even sixty per cent of our voters are youth. They can play an important role. They do play their role. But they are befooled and misled and their hopes are belied. This is the normal thing happening even after 43 years of our Independence.

We have heard many wrong slogans like "no ideology." But correct ideological understanding can raise their consciousness. Patriotism and love for the mother land, anti-imperialist heritage, peace and unity and integrity of the country. All these high ideals could be generated in their thinking and in their mind. But because they are misled, they fall victims to lot of degeneration. When we establish the culture of degeneration, we establish the culture of communalism, casteism and the culture of corruption. If we establish this culture before the younger generation, we cannot expect them to develop evenly in this country. So this situation has been created and our younger generations are the victims of this onslaught.

In this context it is utmost important to start a powerful, united reform movement. A comprehensive youth policy is needed for the whole country and to implement them we want an all embracing youth law. In the beginning we have to free the minds of our youth completely from the colonial legacy to wean them from the backward feudal ideology of the colonial era. We have to fight against the religious obscurantism, superstition, fanaticism, fundamentalism separatism and unscientific thinking. That should be the guiding principle to formulate the youth policy in the country. Sometimes we mention these things here and there but that is not translated into action.

The real national pride is our genuine feeling of internationalism, independent,

scientific and logical thinking, the spirit of secularism, patriotism, anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism, respect for labour and women, firm optimism, fresh ideas and new values, a sense of unity and integrity and respect for elders. We should inculcate all these things in them. But how can we do this? If we place examples before our younger generation they will follow them. But if we place before them the examples of corruption and degeneration, they will follow only those examples. So we have to take this responsibility. What those who are responsible for running the system, the country and those who have the power have done to the younger generation is one of the important questions.

You take the question of education. It should be a right and not a privilege. What we have given is that we have made it a privilege. We are debating and fighting against the commercialisation of education. But we have seen how in the name of the so called new education policy—which is a scrap, which is a total war against education, which is to destroy the approach of mass education, which only creates an elitist section in upper strata, which only acts true to Britishers—the masses are not involved. A large section of these people are illiterate. In spite of our constitutional directives, nothing happened.

Now we can say this when we talk of the right of education as a fundamental right. Why? Because the Directive Principle has failed. We should be courageous enough to speak that a certain area of our Constitution has failed in spite of the ideals propagated by our great forefathers. They thought we will be better human elements, we will remember them and their guidance. But we are not such great creatures. The Directive Principles have failed. We could not stand up because the Directive Principle has failed and that is why we are demanding that the right to education should be made a fundamental

right. Nobody bothers about the Directive Principles. Our national character is degenerated to such an extent that we do not follow the directives of our Constitution. We have to accept that it is a failure of one chapter of our Constitution. Now we are fighting for the inclusion of that chapter into the fundamental rights so that we cannot run away and we have to do it. Simply the directives alone will not do because it does not fit in to our nature; at least those who are running the affairs.

The youth policy should be linked with the production process. If they had a chance to be linked to the production process, they cannot continue with what they are doing today. Then there is the disparity between the urban and rural youth. When we formulate the youth policy, that should also be kept in mind. There is desperation among the youth. If better benefit is available somewhere, they are running after that. It should be eliminated gradually with proper policy directions which is one of the major questions.

Then, we have reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. We stand by the reservation policy. It should continue. But mere reservation will not serve the purpose. We should have the political will to bring them up. Only when the entire backward section of the society develops, we can say that it is developed fully. Those people who are deprived of the benefits for thousand of years should get priority. Only a small section of the younger generation among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is getting the benefit. The benefit does not percolate to the vast section of the youth among the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the downtrodden. We have to keep this also in mind in formulating the youth policy. The deprivation is creating frustration. We have seen what damage frustration has done. We are playing with blood in Kashmir, in Punjab, in Assam and in many other parts of the country. It is also due

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to the frustration of the extremist forces, that people are becoming victims. Youth are joining hands with the anti-social elements. In some cases and they themselves are becoming anti-social elements. In some other cases, they are becoming drug-peddlers. A large section of the youth today, are becoming drug addicts, destroying their health and their future. We have to see how they can be saved from such disasters, which is the direct result of the non-direction or non-existence of a correct youth policy in our country since Independence.

Besides this, other problems are also there. We should have a comprehensive health policy. The problems of health and housing are there, but we cannot discuss all these. When the young people want to start a new family, they do not know actually as to where to live. Housing problem is one of the major problems which the younger generation is facing today.

There is lack of proper sports and cultural facilities in the country which have to be looked into.

Then let us come to the question of the democratic rights. Without proper democratic rights we cannot train the younger generation. We have to train the younger generation properly in a proper democratic direction. We have to generate tolerance among them. When we ourselves are not tolerant, how can we expect the younger generation to be tolerant. If we inculcate the true spirit of democracy, then only we can expect a better future.

Now, let us see the problems of the young women. The position is that they can be burnt; they can be thrown out of their houses and that they should not ask for compensation also. We know how the young women are suffering in the society. We have

seen the sati case. We have discussed the sufferings of the young women in this House. It is due to the old, obscurantist practice, they are suffering. Their education is minimum. The rate of education is only 36 per cent in the country. For women, that is much less and in certain regions that is almost negligible. If it is so, how can we expect the younger generation to develop? We are keeping half of the young people, the women like this. They are suffering from all sorts of deficiencies and difficulties. The young women are facing special problems, like social discrimination, economic injustice, sexual harassment, dowry, bride-burning, etc. To overcome all these things, our main concern is how to properly develop all the youth in the country physically and mentally. Keeping that in view, I want to pilot this Bill.

We have been fighting for rights for the younger people for many decades. but nobody is there to listen. They formulated a policy statement in which it was said: A national youth policy is being launched in the year of birth centenary of Jawaharlal Nehru. They will form a committee and invite all the national youth and students organisations. And we will help to implement the policy.

We have never heard about it. The then Government has never bothered to discuss it and have interaction regarding this policy. We have seen how the younger people have been treated. We are fighting for right to work to be treated as a fundamental right. That is one of the major demands of the younger generation. We remember that the biggest ever rally took place here in 1981 in which lakhs of young people participated. They demanded that the right to work should be included in the fundamental rights. But the then Government categorically said that it was not possible all through. But because of continuous movement of the youth and the students in the country, we have found that most of the political parties have included it in their manifestos. We are happy that for the

first time, the National Front Government formed at the Centre, have accepted it in their manifesto. After formation of the Government, they have repeatedly agreed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have spoken for 20 minutes. Don't you want others to say anything on this?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I will not unnecessarily take extra time. We are demanding right to work from this Government. They have promised about it. We have to see that the Government does not go back from that promise. But we do not share the view when certain people say that it is not possible. *(Interruptions)*

We demand that right to work should be a fundamental right. When we raise this demand, we do not raise it irresponsibly. We are responsible people. When the younger generation raised the demand, they raised it with a sense of responsibility and not just for the sake of raising it.

When we include the right to work in the fundamental rights, we have to define clearly what is 'work'. You can instigate the people to work. What work? Clerical work! That concept is that. We do not share that idea. We are fighting for that demand for years together and also sacrificing for that. We raised the demand with a sense of responsibility. We think that right to work should be properly defined. But in that definition, certain things should be there. It should be mentioned that work is not only a right but is also a duty about which everybody in the country forgets.

At the same time, dignity of labour should be recognised. Those who work less, they get honour. Those who work more, dignity is less for them. Because of that, we cannot come out of this problem. We have to generate a right concept and not a colonial concept. The dignity of labour and earning should also be included in that concept.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Would you like to go into the details of right to education, right to work, right to housing right to health and other things. Are you going to cover all the Fundamental Rights?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: No Sir. I am referring only to right to work. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If so, then do not be very extensive.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, that is the commitment of the Government.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, he is exercising his right over the Bill. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, I will not take much time of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have already taken much of the time of the House. Please restrict your comments only to the subject. If you want to cover all the Fundamental Rights, it will take much more time...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Right to work is little different. Having made a reference to this, please pass on to education.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Sir, right to work and right to education is still not the Fundamental Rights.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is more than enough. You need not go into the details of it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: There should

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be a proper definition of dignity of labour and earning. When you formulate the Youth Policy, you should define the right to work properly. Education aspect should also be there when you formulate that policy. Sports and health aspects should also be taken into consideration. Culture is the major field where youngsters are involved. But there is diversity of culture also. Tribals have their own culture. The cultural aspects should get a proper reflection in the Policy which you are going to formulate. When you formulate the Youth Policy, a correct understanding of the history should be inculcated among youths. Merely formulating the Youth Policy will not serve the purpose. We have to achieve the great ideas which we are talking of. For this, we require laws and I have mentioned these laws in the draft which I have made. I think the Government will accept these laws. If this Bill is passed or accepted by the Government, then it will be a *Magna Carta* for the youth of our country. Since 43 years of Independence, India has not seen any Youth Policy. Making a statement here and there will not be accepted by us. We want a comprehensive Youth Act and I have suggested some provisions for this also. Educational facilities should be incorporated in the Bill in a legal pattern so that nobody can escape after committing mistakes. The Directive Principles of our Constitution have not been taken care of properly. Those who are at the helm of affairs have to implement it. Participation of youth in the management, administration, educational institutions should also be considered. Sports facilities, which I have mentioned in one article, should also be included and defined properly. Then, there is the question of promotion of health awareness. The provision of nutrient meals in the schools for the younger people needs to be there. I have also included the need for medical facilities for them. The training of the youth including that in the vocational fields

need to be taken care of. Then, I have discussed in one section about the appropriate training for students. I have already given an idea with regard to the employment provision. That needs to be incorporated suitably.

Further, there is the question of representation of the youths in the employment exchanges. You know the situation in respect of employment exchanges. You know the situation in respect of employment exchanges. That is the den of corrupt people. That organization needs to be properly reorganized and youths should be represented there. The working conditions of the youth should be humane and all these provisions should be implemented in a proper manner.

The participation of the youth in the offices and factories and everywhere should be meaningful and that should be ensured. There is need to provide in law young talent movement in the various fields so that we can catch them young and develop them and use them ultimately for the betterment of the country and the nation. That needs to be provided in the law so that such a provision can be implemented in the right earnest.

I have also suggested in the Bill for an apex body of the youth at the national level, as also at the State and district levels, so that they can be consulted for taking any decision affecting the youth. In fact, we have seen for the first time after independence that the National Front Government and invited the youth organizations. The Prime Minister sat with them for the whole day.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Not all.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: All the important organizations were invited.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: All the youth organizations have met and have chalked out a policy. They have discussed it for days

together and they have draft guidelines for a proper youth policy and that will be submitted to the Government so that they can consider that and evolve a correct policy and follow that.

Then, whatever programmes you have, you should modify them in the best interests of the youth. You have the Nehru Youth Kendras and some other institutions. There is a lot of misuse there. There is a need of suitable reorganization. Then, in the youth organizations, apart from the representatives of the State Government, representative of the young people should be involved for the management of such bodies. I have included provisions for all these aspects in the Bill.

I would request the Government that in order to evolve a correct policy for the youths, my Bill should be accepted and passed by the House. This Youth Bill will cover various aspects concerning youths of our country. Only then, we will correctly reflect the desire of the nation to develop and flourish in an atmosphere of fraternity, rationality, and secularism and in an atmosphere of fellow feeling and patriotism. In order to achieve this, I have moved my Bill. I hope, the Government will consider it and accept it, so that we have a correct policy in respect of the youth as well as we have the legal sanction for implementing all these provisions.

I am sure, this Bill will be discussed in the House with all seriousness and a number of valuable suggestions will come and that this Bill will be passed. As I said, for the first time in our country, we will have one Youth law and that will be a Magna Carta for the entire country. With these words, I recommend the Bill for consideration.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for a compre-

hensive policy for the development of the youth in the country, be taken into consideration."

[*Translation*]

SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar): I beg to move:

- (i) That the Bill be circulated to elicit opinion thereon by 31st July, 1990,
- (ii) That the Bill to provide for a comprehensive policy for the development of the youth in the country be referred to a Select Committee of seven members, namely

- (1) Shri Sukhdev Paswan
- (2) Shri Taslimudin
- (3) Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav
- (4) Dr. S.P. Yadav
- (5) Shri Surya Narayan Yadav
- (6) Shri Bhakta Charan Das
- (7) Shri Yuvraj

and it may be instructed to give the report by the last day of the first week of the coming session.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Bill whole heartedly.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Rawat, let us distinguish between the philosophy,

policy and the Bill itself.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Certainly, I will support all the three angles of the Bill, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will you speak on the philosophy, policy or on the Bill itself?

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Sir, I will speak something about the Bill, something about the policy and I would like to tell about its philosophy also.

[*Translation*]

The main objective of this Bill is to bring under an Act all the policy decisions and announcements in regard to youth activities so that the Central Government and all the State Governments are bound to implement those decisions. I fully agree that during the last forty years, we lacked uniformity in our policies for development of youth which were prepared from time to time, as and when required. That is the reason why the youth movement failed to develop into a strong political and social movement.

In fact, it is necessary to have a concrete policy for our youth just as we have the industrial policy and the agricultural policy. So far, we have not been able to decide as to who is to be identified as youth.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As per this document, the age is given as 45 years.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I also wanted to say the same. I thought that I was no more a youth, but as per this norm, I have started considering myself a youngman. I had thought to begin my speech by saying that an ex-youth supports the matters raised by a present youth; but I had to refrain from doing so when I saw that the upper age limit has been raised to 45 years.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY (Katwa): The people die in this country at the age of 45.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The average age is 56 years.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I have had the opportunity of witnessing the youth activities in some communist countries very closely. An Act has been passed there regarding youth. Clear directions are given there regarding their education, health, employment and cultural involvement. Unfortunately, we have not been able to take any such decision and have divided them in various political ideologies. The communist countries have only one political ideology and countries like Soviet Russia and others have a distinct political set up. They have tried to train their youths in one particular political ideology. The results were mixed, good as well as bad. Ours is a democratic set up and we cannot train our youth in a particular ideology. Therefore, we have to explore the areas and programmes suitable for the youths so as to give them a direction. My friend has tried to identify many such areas in this regard. He has stressed the need for making education compulsory but forgot to mention the level upto secondary level. We would have to ponder over as to how to give a right direction to his future life after he completes secondary education so that he could be engaged in constructive work and nation building by tapping all his potentialities.

I would like to submit that the previous Government had also framed a policy in this regard which was discussed threadbare. We would welcome if you implement it after making some improvements without involving politics. My friend, Shri Hannan Mollah has tried to view it from a political angle. He said that the National Front Government has

called a meeting of youth soon after assuming office. But only a selected band of youths who had their political links with them were called. It would have been much better if they had called the youth representatives of various areas and political ideologies and elected representatives at University and village level. You cannot frame a youth policy in this way, as it would give rise to doubts. I am of the view that the earlier attempt was more healthy as it made no distinction between congress and non-congress youths and representatives from every forum were invited. At that time, an attempt was made to link various Government, non-Government and sports organisation and youth organisations like Nehru Yuvak Kendra with it.

I would like to request hon. Minister to specify the age limit of the youth. We should also endeavour to teach the youth as to how they could reduce their dependence or burden on their families till they get employment. The nation should own their burden. We have to identify the field for which their talents are best suited. If a youth is talented in sports, he could be trained in that field to become a good sportsman. More than once, it has been suggested in the house that the children with sports talent should be identified at a very young age and should be nursed in the particular fields. Similarly, if a child inclined towards Government job, he should be given further education and moulded in that cast so that he could become an efficient organ of our Government machinery in future. Likewise, we can train and educate a child in cultural and vocational fields, if he shows inclination in respective fields. But all this cannot be possible unless there is an active cooperation from Government. I have stated in the beginning that we have treated the problem in piecemeal manner. For example, when the question of unemployment arose, we started different employment programmes for the youth, be it Employment Guarantee Programme or other programmes. As a result, these programmes

could not produce desired results. This could be possible only when Government takes over their responsibility instead of the family sharing the burden. We see that most of the talented youths lose their creativity due to poor economic conditions and lack of financial support. They want to rise in life but do not find a conducive atmosphere. The Government and society can create such an atmosphere. It has been said that 'right to work' will be made a fundamental right. It is a good step and we should support it when a bill to this effect is introduced. But merely passing a legislation and making it a fundamental right in the Constitution would not solve the problem. Already, we have a number of fundamental rights on the statute book, but they do not ensure a better future for the people. If the surety of future is to be ensured, the Government must initiate a comprehensive programme to do this, otherwise it would result in even greater frustration. Unfortunately, no person associated with National Front Government, has come forward with such a programme which could open new avenues and create new opportunities for the youths. It is just possible that some powerful youths may drag the Government to the supreme court to get work but ultimately it will offer nothing but disappointment to the common man and the rural youth. All this would have been understandable had the Government announced payment of unemployment allowance to those who are not provided with jobs. Something must be done and for those who are under employed or semi-employed. They too should get full employment. I know that many youths working in private firms are removed after 3-4 months service and then they are forced to roam about aimlessly and their life virtually comes to an end. Attention must be paid to them also. If something like it is already being done, then it is very good if not the Government must evolve a comprehensive programme in this regard. Mere propaganda that 'right to work' has been made a fundamental right would not do as it will cause only

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disappointment. If you really wish to do something for them, you must supplement it with a comprehensive programme under which work round the year to the semi-employed should be ensured and legal provision for the payment of unemployment allowance to the unemployed should be made. I would suggest that N.C.C. should be made compulsory in schools and colleges, as it inculcates a sense of disciplined life in students. Personally speaking, it was N.C.C. which taught me the sense of disciplined life while at school. but since N.C.C. is not compulsory these days, some educational institutions do have this course and not all. As it would not entail much expenditure, it should be made compulsory right from the junior level, say from the 6th standard to graduate level. Arrangement must be made for it irrespective of the expenditure involved. Apart from it, N.S.S. has done a lot of work despite paucity of funds in universities and colleges. I would like to request you to provide funds for this purpose. Moreover, the youth exchange programme, under which the youths of one state go to an other state and mix up with each other promotes national integration. Such creative programmes should be encouraged and Nehru Clubs should be constituted in all parts of the country. I have seen the work of such clubs in my constituency and I congratulate the organisers who conceived this scheme. Such clubs should be provided with sports goods and financial help. This would help them a lot. Similarly, the youths should be lined with Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and other such programmes. A solid foundation can be laid by linking the youth organisations like P.R.D. (their names may vary from state to state) which would give them a base and opportunity to earn a livelihood as well. with these words, I support the bill brought forward by Shri Hannan Mollah with a view to framing a youth policy and bringing all these programmes under one Act.

SHRI YADAVENDRA DATTA (Jaunpur): I would like to submit that since we have framed our bills after putting a lot of labour, I request that they should not be allowed to lapse. Therefore, they should be taken up next time. For this, we shall be grateful to you.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will treat them as per the rules and see how we can help the members.

[Translation]

SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given some amendments to the 'Youth Bill, 1990-' brought forward by hon. Shri Hannan Mollah because it is a very comprehensive bill and has several clauses. Therefore, I want that the bill be circulated to the hon. Members to elicit opinion by 31st July, 1990 and a Select Committee be constructed for this purpose with Sarva Shri Sukhdeo Paswan, Taslimuddin, Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav, Prof. S.P. Yadav and Shiv Narayan Yadav as members. The committee should submit its report by the last day of the first week of the next session. In this context, I would like to submit that in all the changes and revolutions that took place the world over, the role played by the youth has been very important, but when the changes do not come up to their expectation, an inevitable reaction and disappointment follow and they engage themselves in destructive activities. All this coils back on the ruling party. Therefore, I do not want to criticise the bill relating to 'right to work' proposed by the Government as I understand that it may solve many problems if it is put into practice sincerely. Besides, Government owes a big responsibility to society. If Government bans sale of liquor by enforcing prohibition, it would be doing a great service to the youth all over the country, as they are

victims of this vice. There is hardly any state where prohibition has been enforced fully. Seven the States where prohibition was in force earlier are now relaxing it. You would recall that the former Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai had ordered prohibition through-out the country and tried to enforce it fully. Whenever, we went to our constituencies, we saw a great despondency as well as anger as there was no work available for the rural poor and youth. Even those who did get work did not get their wages regularly. There were no means even to educate them. As a result, they fell victims to the vice of drinking and consequently to other vices as well. In a sense, liquor is the root cause of many vices. I would like to tell the Government that the bill has been brought at an appropriate time. In recent years, the prices of all other things except liquor have gone up. There has been no fresh taxation on liquor. Had the Central Government been imbued with a sense of responsibility toward the village and will to effect a peaceful transformation of social system, it would have surely taken such measures. But no such initiatives were taken. In my view, youths can be induced to participate in nation-building only if a change is effected in entire social-system by taking the youths in confidence. The youths have a major role in education, development, agriculture, industry and many other occupations and means of production. But no one has taken care of their ownership in such areas. Today, the entire power as well as wealth is concentrated in the hands of chosen few. You can see that no elections for Panchayat bodies have been held in the past 12 years. This had brewed rebellious feelings in the villages against those who run the Panchayats. The youth had a vital role in the installation of the Janata Dal Government and making the previous rulers sit in the Opposition. Therefore the bill brought by hon. Hannan Mollah should act as an eye-opener for us. We have not only to pass the bill of 'Right to work', but also to root out the social evils stemming from our social system by

reforming this system. This can be accomplished only through a greater cooperation among the Government and different political parties sitting on either side of House. We people, who sit in the committees to discuss various subjects and go to villages as well, owe a responsibility to fight for them and to provide for proper education for them so that their attitude towards society and the nation could undergo a change. We should come forward and guide them at any cost. Without going into detail, I would like to brief you about the activities of Nehru Yuvak Kendra, a mention of which was made by hon. Shri Harish Rawat. We have seen such Nehru Yuvak clubs, whenever we went to the villages. When we visited the villages during elections, we were told by the villagers that these kendras/clubs had been engaged in no club like activities and, in fact, they have been working for a particular person and party. Therefore, these clubs have not done anything concrete in moulding the outlook of youths and in educating and humanizing them despite all the expenditure incurred on their establishment. They simply carried the flags of a particular party on their shoulders and indulged in propaganda for a political party. They were told to resort to booth capturing if the party comes to power. Therefore, we have to think about their mode of functioning. The bill brought by the hon. member has various clauses and he has expressed his views on many of them. I would like to bill to be referred to a select committee for consideration. Besides, the bill should be publicised in order to elicit public opinion on it.

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this bill. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that this bill incorporates the same concept and feelings which were expressed by the Hon. Prime Minister and the Labour Minister on 21st January, 1990 in the conference of the youth organisations of the parties which

[Sh. Radha Mohan Singh]

constituted the National Front Government. The country needs a comprehensive youth policy as there is no legislation regarding youths despite the fact that we have a Ministry for the youth. The condition of the youths after 43 years of independence is before all of us to see. We are still nostalgic of the times when inspired by the great leaders, the youth held the banner of Nation in pre-independence era and did India proud inside as well as outside the country. For example, Vivekananda had done India proud in America. But the situation has changed altogether after independence. You perhaps remember that sometimes ago, during their visit to North Korea, our youth behaved in a manner that we had to hang our heads in shame. Therefore, India needs a comprehensive youth policy. Therefore, I support the bill as I am of the view that the drivers of nation's wheel from which the youths draw inspiration have been responsible for all the problems of youths. If Indian youth are misguided today, it is due to lack of any policy, planning or legislation for them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, just now a mention was made about Nehru Yuvak Kendras and it was said that when these Kendras were set up, nobody thought that these centres could be used for political purposes. But during the last elections, it was found that they were used for political purposes. These Yuvak Kendras were established for the organisation and development of rural youth. But during the last elections, the workers of these organisations worked for a particular political party. There are allegations that the top most office bearer of this

organisation worked as election incharge of a top leader of a particular political party. Therefore, I feel that uniform policy and legislation should be evolved for the youths in the country so that they are not misused by anyone in future.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the points raised by the hon. member through this bill are valid. For instance, he has raised the issue of illiteracy. Youths constitute one third of the total illiterates in the country. So far as the question of totally unemployed person is concerned.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Radha Mohanji, you can continue when the bill comes up for discussion the next time. It is already six 'O' clock now. So, please sit down.

17.59-1/2 hrs.

RESIGNATION BY MEMBER

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is an announcement to be made. I have to inform the House that the Speaker has received today a letter dated 26th April, 1990 from Shri Lalu Prasad, an elected Member from Chhapra constituency of Bihar resigning his seat in Lok Sabha. Speaker has accepted his resignation with effect from today i.e. 26th April, 1990.

18.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, April 30, 1990/Vaisakha 10, 1912 (Saka)