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LOK SABHA DEBATES
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Second Session
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday July 6, 1998/Asadha 15,1920 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Review of Power Situation in the Country

*282. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power situation in the country has been recently reviewed at the level of the Prime Minister;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the grim power scenario in the power starved states; and

(d) the action plan worked out for 1998-99 and the Ninth Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Review of Power Situation in the Country

(a) and (b) A presentation was made by the Ministry of Power to the Prime Minister on 23.4.1998. Power supply position, the strategy to augment power availability, the financial health of SEBs and the outlook for the 9th Plan were *inter-alia* discussed in the review meeting.

(c) The State-wise power supply position during the month of May, 1998 as compared to that during May, 1997 is given in Annexure-I enclosed. At all India level, the total energy availability during May, 1998 was 11.2% higher at 35620 million units as compared to 31968 million units in May, 1997. As a result, despite higher demand for power, the energy shortages have come down to 2748 million units in May, 1998 as compared to 4390 million units in May, 1997.

(d) Specific and time bound action plan have been drawn up for improving the power situation in the States. For the year 1998-99, State-wise details of various programmes is given in Annexure-II enclosed. Programme for the Ninth Plan has not been finalised. However, it is expected that about 40,000 MW of new capacity will be added during this period.

Ministry of Power has initiated several short-term and long-term measures to minimise power shortages and put the power sector on a self-sustaining path. These, *inter-alia*, include amendments in Electricity laws, restructuring of State Electricity Boards, higher budgetary allocations for central sector projects, interest subsidy for accelerated completion of State sector ongoing schemes, Renovation and Modernisation and system improvements, expediting counter guarantee projects, formulating a policy for mega projects at pit-heads and coastal locations, greater inter-regional transfer of power etc.

Annexure-I

Actual Power Supply Position

(All figures in MUs)

Region/ State/ System	May' 97				May' 98			
	Requi- rement	Avail- ability	Short- age	%	Requi- rement	Avail- ability	Shor- tage	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
NORTHERN REGION								
Chandigarh	83	83	0	0	100	99	1	1.0
Delhi	1305	1296	9	0.7	1505	1439	66	4.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Haryana	1110	1065	45	4.1	1285	1158	127	9.9
Him. Pradesh	292	292	0	0	239	239	0	0
J & K	425	411	14	3.3	440	430	10	2.3
Punjab	1810	1802	8	0.4	2560	2278	282	11.0
Rajasthan	1630	1601	29	1.8	1895	1745	150	7.9
Uttar Pradesh	3560	3061	499	14	3715	3306	409	11.0
Sub Total	10215	9611	604	5.9	11739	10694	1045	8.9
WESTERN REGION								
Gujarat	3650	3162	488	13.4	4185	3961	224	3.4
Madh. Pradesh	2850	2320	530	18.6	2820	2738	82	2.9
Maharashtra	5550	5130	420	7.6	5735	5673	62	6.1
Goa	117	117	0	0	119	119	0	0.0
Sub Total	12167	10729	1438	11.8	12859	12490	369	2.9
SOUTHERN REGION								
Andh. Pradesh	3200	2623	577	18	3440	3113	327	9.5
Karnataka	2260	1560	700	31	2180	1847	333	15.3
Kerala	985	733	252	25.6	1050	937	113	10.8
Tamilnadu	3370	2818	552	16.4	3178	2670	508	16.0
Sub Total	9815	7734	2081	21.2	9848	8570	1278	13.0
EASTERN REGION								
Bihar	795	638	157	19.7	715	644	71	9.9
D.V.C.	675	663	12	1.8	625	653	-28	-4.5
Orissa	915	904	11	1.2	845	854	-9	-1.1
West Bengal	1360	1341	19	1.4	1315	1328	-13	-1.0
Sub Total	3745	3546	199	5.3	3500	3479	21	0.6
NORTH EASTERN REGION								
Ar. Pradesh	13.0	6.9	6.1	46.9	12.6	10.0	2.6	20.6
Assam	238.7	218.7	20.0	8.4	2555.9	233.7	22.2	8.7
Manipur	45.5	31.6	13.9	30.5	42.5	38.5	4.0	0.4
Meghalaya	33.5	33.5	0.0	0	34.0	36.6	-2.0	-5.9
Mizoram	20.1	12.4	7.7	38.3	17.8	13.6	4.2	23.6
Nagaland	19.4	12.6	6.8	35.1	17.0	13.6	3.4	20.0
Tripura	45.8	32.3	13.5	29.5	42.2	41.8	0.6	1.4
Sub Total	416.0	348.0	68.0	16.3	422.0	387.0	35.0	0.3
Total All India	36358	31968	4390	12.1	71518	62781	8737	12.2

Annexure-II
Plan for 1998-99

State	Renovation & Modernisa- tion Schemes under progress (No.)**	Shunt Capacitors (MVAR)	Capacity Addition (MW)*	Inter-Regional Transfer of Power (MW)
1	2	3	4	5
Chandigarh	—	65	—	
Delhi	2	634	—	
Haryana	2	441	—	
H.P.	1	69	—	
J & K	2	160	51.5	
Punjab	7	209	360	
Rajasthan	1	475	250	
U.P.	5	421	6	
NORTHERN REGION	20	2544	667.5	100 (East-North)
Gujarat	4	2005	645	
M.P.	4	1085	—	
Maharashtra	8	1654	760	
Goa	—	—	—	
WESTERN REGION	16	4744	1405	150 (East-West)
A.P.	4	700	7.5	
Karnataka	2	400	440	
Kerala	2	200	151.3	
Tamil Nadu	7	700	207.5	
Pondicherry	—	—	32.5	
SOUTHERN REGION	15	2000	838.8	500 (East-South)
Bihar	3	—	—	
DVC	4	—	—	
Orissa	4	—	6	
West Bengal	3	—	265	
EASTERN REGION	14	—	271	
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	
Assam	5	—	56	
Manipur	—	—	36	

1	2	3	4	5
Meghalaya	1	—	—	
Mizoram	—	—	—	
Nagaland	—	—	25	
Tripura	—	—	—	
NORTH-EAST REGION	6	—	117	1000 (East-northeast)
All India	71	9288	3299.3	1750

** Benefits in form of higher energy availability would accrue as the respective schemes are completed during 1998-99 and beyond.

* Includes Central Sector projects.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : In response to my question, the Minister has given a very casual reply. As you know, Sir, we are all concerned about the power situation in the country. The fact is that instead of pious intentions and constant decline on the strong fundamentals of the economy, the power scenario is turning green in power-starved States with the widening of gap between demand and supply of power at an alarming rate.

In view of the above, may I ask the hon. Minister as to what specific steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to deal with the problems; such as structural and system reform for organisation at the Centre and State levels. slow pace of implementation and in many cases even resistance to the reforms, the problem of funding, particularly for external-aid-linked projects, inefficient and under-utilization of external aid and many other major problems based on the latest high-level review of the power sector?

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I agree with the hon. Member that the situation in the power sector is quite grim. We have today a shortage of 11.7 per cent between the demand and supply on a national level. We have an Action Plan for this year as well as medium-term and long-term plans. We have, in fact, a situation today where I could say with a certain amount of conviction that if one compares the generation figures between last May, that is May, 1997, and May, 1998, then it would be seen that there has been a substantial improvement. This is essentially because during the transition phase, by the time we bring in the additional capacities that are required, there is a short gestation period in the power sector. It does not happen overnight just like putting on a switch to get power, producing power takes time. We have concentrated on improving the Plant Load Factor. We have also taken up quite a number of, what is called, the short gestation period, liquid fuel projects. We have come out with a new liquid fuel policy wherein we have liberated in fact most of the restrictions which were there, excepting for the fuel Naphtha which is both volatile in price and volatile in every other form and is not a popular fuel for power generation. We have restrained that to the limit of 12,000 MW capacity.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : This is not the answer.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : He has asked me a

question which is sweeping right through...(*Interruptions*) When you are talking of short-term liquid fuel, short gestation projects, Naphtha is a major issue on which we have put limits. Let me make one thing clear. We hope to ensure that about 5000 MW of power is developed from the existing system merely by what we call, system improvement, on the one hand, on transmission and distribution and on the other hand improving the PLF within the next two years. Our shortage today is about 7800 MW. The situation is that the power projects which have been allotted, out of the total 16,705 MW, today we have 2,276 MW private generation capacity commission. With regard to the counter-guarantee projects, I am happy to inform the House that by the end of this month we should be issuing counter-guarantees to these projects.

We have planned an additional capacity of 40,000 MW for the Ninth Plan period...(*Interruptions*) The hon. Member has asked me a detailed question: he will expect a detailed answer. If he does not want a detailed answer, I can sit down.

With regard to reforms, I wish to assure the hon. Member that most of the States, in fact almost all the States, have indicated that they are moving to notify under the Act. Three States—Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Haryana have brought in their own legislations. The others have informed us that they are moving to notify. Even the Chief Minister of my home State Tamil Nadu, has said that they are seriously considering taking steps under the Act. I want to make it clear that I believe the reforms are welcome and would be gone through soon. I am more than certain that, with the support of this august House, at the end of the Ninth Plan we should have a far better situation than we have today and we should be able to meet the power demand in the country.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Sir, I have referred to the grave situation of availability of power in the country and wanted a specific answer from the hon. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very important question. Many hon. Members want to ask questions on this.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : The hon. Minister has not responded to my specific question. In this regard, hon. Member of Parliament Shri Krishna Lal Sharma has today declared that he would be going on a hunger strike. We will

have to prevent him from doing so. The situation is same in every State. The answer given by the Minister is that the Ninth Plan target of capacity addition is 40,000 MW.

In the international scenario following the nuclear explosions and in view of the uncertainty on external assistance in the form of loans from the World Bank and other agencies consequent upon economic sanctions imposed by the USA and other developed countries, have the Government formulated alternative plans of funding power projects in State sector as well as Central Public Sector? If so, what are the details thereof and what is the likely impact of sanctions on the power sector?

MR. SPEAKER : It is a good supplementary.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : The Minister has mentioned about the private sector also. I would like to know whether it is a fact that many independent power producers who have been awarded power projects, have blocked the capacity without being serious about implementation of the projects, contributing to delays. These power projects are on lockouts for parties interested in execution of the project on availing premium. If it is so, what is the reaction of the Minister to it?

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, if I may point out, the sanctions that have been imposed consequent upon our testing nuclear devices have had an impact to a certain extent, a very limited extent, at the initial stage because all the multilateral and bilateral agencies have taken a stand that with regard to projects which have already been sanctioned they will continue to give the assistance. With regard to projects which have not gone to the stage of being sanctioned, they have been deferring but not saying no specifically. However, it is important for me to point out that in the power sector, 23 per cent of our investment comes from external, multilateral and bilateral, aid. We are making alternative sources. This year, the existing schemes dependent on multilateral and bilateral external borrowings, are not affected. I am also happy to inform the august House that the power Finance Corporation had gone in for an ECB (External Commercial Borrowing) of 100 million dollars as a test to see as to what is the market like. I am happy to inform that we have been oversubscribed there. We received it at an extremely competitive rate of 1.15 per cent interest more than LIBR, which is in fact one of the lowest interest rates that we can get. But at the same time, it is not something which one can afford to be complacent about. We have plans for infrastructure bonds as announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget. We have securitised the dues that the SEBs have to our public sector corporations.

We are doing resource mobilisation, both of domestic commercial borrowings as well as external commercial borrowings. I am more than confident that we will be able to meet this 23 per cent gap if at all the sanctions do really become effective by the time new projects come on line.

With regard to the Independent Power Producers, I want to inform the hon. Member that it is true that there are many IPPs who have entered into MoUs or even gone to the stage of Detailed Project Reports but do not do financial closure

because their attempt was to make it a good paper document that has a premium.

In the case of coal-based project, we have selected, out of 18 projects for which DPRs have not been submitted, only six projects have been found to be effective. We have taken a decision that only those six projects would be permitted and all the others are not being given extension.

With regard to the liquid fuel short gestation project, they have been given time to complete financial closure by October, 1998. If they do not complete financial closure, their permission or MoUs will lapse. Therefore, I would like to say that we are taking effective steps to see that only serious parties are there in the field.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to urge the hon'ble Minister to evolve a coordination among the Centre and State Ministers to solve the electricity problem of national capital of our country. The figures produced here did not show any major difference between demand and supply. Is there any plan to install a plant in Government or Private sector with a view to making Delhi Self-sufficient in power generation? Secondly, it has been stated that 40 weeks time will be required to implement the scheme regarding privatization of distribution and transmission of power. I want to know whether hon'ble Minister has any plan to reduce this time span to ensure effective transmission, distribution and generation of power in Delhi?

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the real problem with the power situation in Delhi is not that much of availability of power as much as that of the system not able to distribute the power that is so required. This time due to excessive heat, there has been a sudden jump in demand. In fact, the difference in the amount of power that Delhi used last year *vis-a-vis* this year is almost over 14 per cent. The expected amount was supposed to be 13 per cent. So we are talking about an increase of nearly 25 per cent. Leaving that apart, the situation is that we have in Delhi, a revenue return of only 40 per cent on the total amount of power that is consumed. That puts the Delhi Vidyut Board in a very serious economic situation. The Delhi Vidyut Board has been keeping us informed about the strict actions that they have been taking to stop the theft of power. Since this question do not specifically deal with it, I have not brought the statistics. But the number of cases that they have taken up is substantial. So we are worried about the situation. We have called a meeting today. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Minister is not replying to what Mamataji has asked. He is saying that it is good...(Interruptions) Please reply to what she is asking.

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : We have been having

meetings. This evening also, another meeting is being taken. The Government of Delhi has taken a decision to go ahead and privatize two circles, the South and the East. They asked the ICICI, the Consultants, to take steps. Forty weeks' time was sought by the Consultants. This evening we are having a meeting to consider what the hon. Member has requested for shortening the time span that is required for this act. It is because we need an additional investment of nearly Rs. 1100 crore into the distribution system in Delhi in order to ensure that it can meet the load demand of Delhi.

Therefore, on the one hand we find that the DVB's commercial situation is so bad, its revenue recovery being limited to only 48 per cent of what it should get and on the other hand it is not having the commercial ability, the need for investment, and there is an increase in demand. The right decision that the DVB has taken is to go ahead and do some sample privatisation in certain areas and see if that could solve the problems or look at other alternatives. This evening, we are having a meeting with the Ministry of Power to discuss these matters and I can assure the hon. Members that we are paying immediate attention to the problem. I hope with their support, we will be able to solve the same.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister has mentioned about the reforms and action plan in his reply. I would like to ask a question which is not particularly related to the main question. Whether the Government is aware of the fact that an industrialist of a particular State has not paid electricity bill to the tune of Rs. 40 crores and still he is getting the normal supply of electricity? The hon. Minister is talking about the reforms. If a farmer does not deposit electricity bill for two months, the electricity supply is disconnected in the third month. However, that industrialist has to pay Rs. 40 crores as electricity bill but still electricity is being supplied to him. This case relates to Rajasthan from where I have been elected. Besides, there is a ashram at a distance of 3 kms. from Delhi whose outstanding electricity bills run into lakhs of rupees. I had been informed about it when I was Minister for internal security, but still his electricity has not been disconnected. So when the Government talks about reforms and action plan may I know whether any action will be taken in this regard? What steps will be taken by the Government if any industrialist does not pay the electricity bill of Rs. 40 crores...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : This is a specific question, so we want a specific reply...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will you please tell in whose tenure this bill of 40 crores was not paid?

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Member gives me some more details, I can assure him that I will write to the concerned State Government and ask

them to take immediate steps to recover the payments and if necessary, even disconnect the power...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : I am talking about an industrialist of Rajasthan, please enquire the same.

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I can assure the hon. Member that I will write to the Chief Minister as well as the Chairman of the State Electricity Board asking them to give the details and supply the hon. Member the latest information specifically asked for...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : It is a case of Rs. 40 crore. The hon. Minister should find it out...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I am constrained to say that the hon. Member did not hear what I said...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pilot, you can assist the hon. Minister in taking action in this particular case.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have told him that I will write to the Chief Minister as well as the Chairman of the SEB. Then, as soon as I get the details, I will write a letter to the hon. Member.

With regard to the *Ashram* case, I will find out the details. But I am sure the *Ashram* has bills due and it was during the time when my hon. friend was in the Council of Ministers...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : It doesn't matter, that bill has to be recovered.

[English]

SHRI T. R. BAALU : Mr. Speaker Sir, the demand in the State of Tamil Nadu is 500 million units of power. Considering the geographically advantageous position of the State of Tamil Nadu, will the Central Government come forward to establish barged mounted power units in Bay of Bengal so that it can make up the need of 508 million units? If yes, what is the cost of supply per unit and how long will the Central Government take up to establish such units?

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, the public sector corporations at the national level, the NTPC or the NHPC, have no experience in barged mounted projects. But there are three State Governments which specifically had sought barged mounted projects for their States. They are Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Goa.

But I may submit that if Tamil Nadu is really interested in barged mounted projects, they may write to us. We will definitely consider giving them permission. I think the hon. Member is aware that the method by which it is done today is, a competitive tender on tariff.

PROF. RITA VERMA : Sir, at least, one lady Member should be allowed to ask the question.

MR. SPEAKER : I am coming to you.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : If the State of Tamil Nadu takes a competitive tender on tariff and gets a reasonable tariff—I am sure they will—for barged mounted projects, we can definitely consider subject to, of course, environmental clearances.

SHRI T. R. BAALU : What is the cost of the project?

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : How do I know? It is only after you put the tender.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : It is learnt from the reply given by the hon. Minister that power generation has increased to the extent of 11.2 per cent in May, 1998 as compared to May, 1997. I would like to know whether new power plants were commissioned to generate more power for the existing power plants. If gearing up of the existing power plants results in increase in power generation, then, vigorous efforts on the part of the State Governments, State Electricity Boards are required. On the basis of this, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether they would depend on the capacity utilisation instead of depending upon the foreign firms which generate electricity.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make it clear that if there has been an improvement, it is because of two factors. The operational improvements in the PLF during April-May 1998 were in the order of 66.9 per cent nationally, as compared to 64.7 per cent during 1997-98. There is an increase of two per cent PLF this year.

Further, we have been supported by a capacity addition of over 3200 megawatts during 1997-98 as compared to 1624 megawatts during 1996-97. So it is a mix of both additional capacity added and better efficiency. So, with regard to dependence, I can assure the hon. Member that we are not depending on any multinational company. We are depending on power production being increased both in the public and private sector in the national interest.

[Translation]

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the question asked, hon'ble Minister has furnished some figures and information. With regard to power generation capacity, in May, 1997-98, there has been a shortage of 12.1% at all India level and in Uttar Pradesh which is the largest state of our country, the shortage is 14 and 11%. However, an increase of only 6 MW per annum has been shown in the scheme that has been mentioned. Similarly in his answer to Q. No. 288, he has stated that in Uttar Pradesh the villages that are being electrified are 2 to 3 times more than the target fixed. For example, 1358 villages have been shown as electrified though the target was 480 villages.

Part (a) of my question is that why there is an increase of only 6 MW in a year in a big state like Uttar Pradesh? Have the reasons for the same been found out and if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to increase the capacity of power generation?

Secondly, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards the problem of Uttaranchal. Every year a target of electrification of 120 villages is fixed for this area but in the middle of the year it is reduced to 60 and by the end of the year this number comes down to 15-20. I would like to know the names of the places in Uttar Pradesh where the number of villages electrified is 2 to 3 times more than the target fixed? Will the hon'ble Minister furnish the figures regarding Uttaranchal? If the figures are not readily available, the same may be furnished later on. Also it may be enquired as to why the target is continuously decreasing during the last five years?

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : With regard to the village electrification there is a specific question, namely, Qn. No. 7, in today's List of Questions.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Please reply to the first portion of the question.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I can definitely give an answer to that part of the question.

I wish to assure him that if he wants I will obtain the details with regard to the number of villages that have been electrified in the hills of Uttar Pradesh on the proposed State of Uttaranchal and I will give him the details.

With regard to the situation of U. P. power, additional capacity generation, there has been a little slow down. But I must inform this House that the present State Government of Uttar Pradesh has taken emergent steps to improve not only the Central sector additional power there but also the State sector. We are moving very quickly and I should hope that they will be one of the larger participants in the Ninth Plan for additional capacity generation.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : The hon. Minister has given us an optimistic picture of the future. But saying that there are so many PPAs and MoUs signed is not enough. The limiting factor in the implementation of all these PPAs and MoUs is going to be in the financing, the financing being limited by the ESCROW, amounts which will be sanctioned by the financial institutions.

Is the Minister aware that the financial institutions have put a ceiling on financing of power projects based on a cap put by ESCROW while a State like Madhya Pradesh can have many projects approved by the CEA, the clearance which the CEA has given for Madhya Pradesh runs into several thousand Megawatts. But the financial institutions are working at cross purposes and are putting a cap on this by almost 25 per cent. Is the Ministry of Power taking this up with the financial institutions that the ESCROW limitation should not be there? Because if we are going to be in the illusion that all PPAs and MoUs will be implemented then we will have the same scenario after ten years. The crucial thing here is to ensure this. We are worried about the world's financial institutions, but here our own financial institutions are putting a cap on what new power projects can be implemented. Along with that, preference will have to be given to pit-head stations.

So, my first part of the question is this: Is the Minister going to take up with the financial institutions? And the second part is this : Will the Minister ensure that pit-head stations are given priority over everybody else?

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I think I should clarify this.

MR. SPEAKER : I want the answer to be brief.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I will be very brief.

With regard to the cap on ESCROS there is no cap that has been put by the financial institutions on ESCROS. In fact, the cap is automatic due to the revenue stream of the SEBs. The capacity, for example, in Madhya Pradesh, the hon. Minister's home State is very clearly one of 2000 Megawatt as the capacity possible depending on the revenue flows that the SEB has got and I wish to inform the hon. Member that we have taken it up with ESCROS what is possible, let us find other methods of securitisation and we are having discussions in that. But with regard to pit-head power stations, I wish to inform my friend that I have written to the hon. Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh that it is advisable that he gives priority to pit-head power stations because the cost of power invariable works out to much less due to the cost of transportation of fuel not being there.

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY : In Tamil Nadu in the matter of power supply, the distribution is very bad. The present shortage of power supply has never been experienced in any previous period in Tamil Nadu. Our hon. Minister of Power is from Tamil Nadu.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask your supplementary.

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY : The Government is showing partiality in the matter of distribution of power in the rural areas. It is especially the Southern District of Tamil Nadu which is never receiving the electricity supply either in day time or in night time. Due to low voltage, more or less 99 per cent of the agricultural power pumps have been burnt.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sathiamoorthy, please put your supplementary.

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY : The agriculturists are suffering a lot. Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the situation prevailing in Tamil Nadu is bad? I would like to know whether any solution is suggested by the Central Government and also whether any remedy is sought by the State Government from the Central Government to reduce the worst situation in electricity supply.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : The situation in Tamil Nadu is grim but not as grim as in other States if one looks at it comparatively. But it is true that there seems to be some form of mild discrimination in terms of power, that is ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI T. R. BAALU : The hon. Minister should answer as to what sort of discrimination is there. He should not politicise the issue. It is too silly for him to politicise the matter in

Question Hour. The hon. Minister is politicising the issue. He should come forward with a categorical reply.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Baalu, please take your seat. This is not necessary. Please take your seat.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : We are taking steps.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, working group on power of Planning Commission has informed that in the Ninth Plan there will be a shortfall of 57,000 MW of electricity. A policy was accordingly formulated. Regarding Naphtha, it was stated in the beginning that it will help in power generation. Two months ago, a policy was formulated for decentralization of Naphtha. Now, the Government is centralising it. I have a circular with me which says that no unit of Naphtha will be transferred until a clearance is given by the Ministry. I can bring that circular tomorrow if required. Before conducting Nuclear Test Pokhran-II, negotiations were going on between an Indian hydro Power generation company and Pakistan to have additional capacity of power generation for Delhi. An M. O. U. was also to be signed in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shinde, please ask your supplementary.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Sir, this is very important. After Pokhran-II, what is the position? I would like to know whether the Government of India is having any negotiation with Pakistan or that particular party is having any negotiation or contract with Pakistan. If not, then there seems to be a grave danger to this country. From nearby countries we were getting power. It has been totally stopped because of this blast.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Firstly, 57,000 megawatts was a projection figure. The Ninth Plan has proposed 40,000 megawatts in consultation with the Planning Commission, keeping in mind growth figures, demand growth potentials.

Let me also point out that with regard to Naphtha, two months ago there was no policy announced changing the earlier liquid fuel policy which was there. The change has just taken place, a couple of days before we have announced a fuel policy. We are not Centralising it. On the contrary, all other fuels, other than Naphtha, have been pulled out of the liquid fuel policy, thereby giving a total freedom to liquid fuel units to choose their option. We have restricted only one fuel, that is, Naphtha, because of its volatile price and volatility in other forms. It is actually not considered to be a good fuel for generation projects world over. So, we are restraining that. But since commitments had been given in the past, we are permitting. In fact, we have increased it a bit—3,000 megawatts additionally for Naphtha.

With regard to other fuels, whether it is LSHS, whether it is condensed gas or emulsion, or whether it is FO, we have said that these are all that come from outside without any

restriction, thereby literally doing major act of liberalisation in this regard.

With regard to Pakistan power, I want to go on record to say that there have been no negotiations in the past. Some information came to us through some multilateral agencies that there is a possibility. Let me tell you that this came after the blast. We have shown interest but there has been no positive response. On the contrary, from whatever information we have received, Pakistan Government is not interested, at the moment, to sell their surplus power because they themselves believe that they do not have surplus power. That is the stand they have taken. I can assure you that the nuclear tests have, in no way, changed anything in this regard.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, very briefly I would like to say that in Visakhapatnam, after laying the foundation stone for the Hinduja power project, three Prime Ministers have changed and two Chief Ministers have changed. The foundation stone was laid by the then Prime Minister but till now nothing has happened. Of course, the Minister has been telling us, in response to our representations, that they have held meetings, they have made all the arrangements and they are going to start it. I want a categorical commitment and answer from the hon. Minister that with all his dynamic approach, when is he going to give to the people of Andhra Pradesh this 500 MW Hinduja power project. By solving all the teething problems, when is he going to put it into force?

Secondly, I want to know whether with the sanctions imposed by Japan, the Simadri project of Visakhapatnam also is going to be affected. The Minister has said that they need Rs. 2,80,000 crore to modernise the system of transmission in the country. Where is he going to get this money from? I want the Minister to give answer to these two parts of my question to this august House.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, with regard to the Simadri project, I wish to assure the hon. Member that we will...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Bihar is in India and is also facing the problem of electricity...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Sir, this is an important matter and we want to have a full discussion on this...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have no objection to having a Half-an-Hour discussion on this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, if they want to have a discussion on this, I am most willing for that...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 283.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, may I complete my reply?

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, I would like to go on record...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, let us come to Bihar also...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. If the Members are interested, I can allow Half-an-Hour discussion on this. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, considering the suggestion by some Members, I have no objection if a Half-an-Hour discussion or a full discussion is allowed on this.

MR. SPEAKER : Now Question No. 283.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, he has not given answer to my question.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, with regard to the Simadri project, I wish to inform the hon. Member that everything is ready with regard to that project and the Simadri project will come up on schedule.

With regard to the other project, the counter-guarantee would be issued definitely by the end of this month and the project will go on stream.

MR. SPEAKER : Now Question No. 283.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : I am saying that electricity is one of the reasons for backwardness of Bihar and Bihar is not being discussed...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Short Duration Discussion. The Minister has no objection to have a Short Duration Discussion. Please resume your seat now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter regarding Bihar should not be included in records.

[English]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : What is this, Sir? Every time you are not allowing me. You are discriminating against

me...(Interruptions). The answer was bigger than the question...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Bihar is also there in India. There is shortage of electricity in Bihar...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 283. Shri Jang Bahadur Singh Patel.

Nothing will go on record except what Shri Patel speaks.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Janardhana Reddy, that is why I have allowed a Short Duration Discussion. Please take your seat.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Every time ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed a Short Duration Discussion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Please listen to me, since long I have raised my hand.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chaubey, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Except what Shri Patel speaks, nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Janardhana Reddy, please take your seat. I have already allowed a Short Duration Discussion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Except what Shri Patel speaks, nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chaubey, this is too much. Please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except what Shri Patel speaks.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chaubey, please take your seat. This is not good. You are unnecessarily wasting time.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please have order in the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramdas Athawale, please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Please fix the time for it

MR. SPEAKER : I will do it. Shri Jang Bahadur Patel.

[English]

Budgetary Allocation to Education Programmes

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*283. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

SHRI A. F. GOLAM OSMANI :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the budgetary allocation for the operation Blackboard and Adult Education Programmes has been reduced in the 1998-99 Union Budget;

(b) if so, the allocation made for the said programmes in the last two years;

(c) the quantum of allocation not utilised out of these during this period;

(d) the reasons therefor, State-wise/Union Territory-wise;

(e) whether in this connection attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Crucial education programmes suffer reduction in budgetary allocation" appearing in the Times of India, dated June 8, 1998;

(f) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(g) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (d) For the scheme of operation Blackboard (OB),

the allocation for 1998-99 has been retained at the same level as for the previous year. The allocations and expenditure under the scheme of operation Blackboard in 1996-97 and 1997-98 are as follows:

Year	Allocation	Expenditure
(Figures in crore rupees)		
1996-97	279.00	291.47
1997-98	304.00	299.00

Expenditure during 1996-97 was Rs. 12.47 crore more than BE and in 1997-98 it was Rs. 5.00 crore less than BE. The revised estimates for 1997-98 was reduced to Rs. 301 crores of which Rs. 2 crore on media and publicity could not be utilised.

The budgetary allocation for adult education programmes in 1998-99 is Rs. 93.97 crores which is Rs. 33.03 crores less than previous year. The allocation and expenditure in Adult Education programmes in 1996-97 and 1997-98 are as follows :

	Allocation	Expenditure
1996-97	224.50	103.12
1997-98	127.00	79.74

The revised estimates for 1996-97 and 1997-98 were reduced to Rs. 112.16 and Rs. 81.42 crore respectively. These could not be fully utilised due to emphasis on consolidation instead of expansion of Total Literacy Campaigns, non-availability of State Governments' commitment to the Scheme of Continuing Education and the decision to transfer the Scheme of strengthening of Administrative Structures to State Governments.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g) While the position in regard to construction of classrooms and unspent balances with States under operation Blackboard is partially correct, the figures regarding expenditure in 1997-98 are incorrect. The remedial steps taken in this regard include regular review of different aspects of the programme, decentralisation and flexibility in procurement procedures of teaching learning equipment and better coordination with Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment in regard to flow of JRY funds for construction of classrooms. On the basis of clarification provided by this Department, the newspaper published an article on 22 June, 1998 giving the correct position in regard to budgetary allocation for OB in 1998-99 and utilisation of funds by States.

While the facts regarding budgetary allocation for Adult Education Programmes are correct, information relating to districts covered and learners is out dated. Currently, the Literacy Campaign cover 447 districts and 68.57 million persons have become literate, not 401 districts and 53.19 million as indicated in the article. The remedial measures in Adult Education include rigorous system of monitoring of

literacy campaigns, sensitising Panchayati Raj representatives to ensuring mass participation in literacy programmes, transparent and more effective evaluations, decentralisation of financial and administrative powers to State Literacy Mission Authorities.

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Mr. Sepaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister has not given any details regarding the budget allocation made for the year 1998-99. Rs. 304 crore were allocated for operation Blackboard in the year 1997-98, out of which Rs. 299 crore were spent. In 1998-99, only sixty lakh rupees have been allocated for this scheme, however this has not been mentioned in the budget for 1998-99. One of reasons given for the reduction in the allocation is that some States have not utilised the entire amount allocated earlier. Hence they already have funds. The States have adequate funds for arrangement of study material. I would like to know from Hon'ble Minister as to whether any action will be taken against the States which have not utilised the entire allocation and whether some more programmes are proposed to be formulated to ensure the success of this scheme.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, Hon'ble Member has asked as to whether the allocation made for the adult education programme for the last two years has been reduced now. The answer to that question is also clear in the reply given. Rs. 93.97 crore have been allocated for adult education in the year 1998-99.

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : I was enquiring about operation blackboard.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Operation Blackboard is a part of that. Your question pertains to both the programmes—Operation Blackboard and Adult education.

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : I shall put my supplementary regarding adult education later on.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : You have put a question regarding reduction of funds and you have given the reply yourself that many States have not fully utilised the funds. As regards operation blackboard..

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : You have stated that I should go through the newspaper dated 22nd of June. From where shall I get the newspaper dated 22nd June?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, I would like to inform the Hon'ble Member that the report given in the newspaper dated 22nd June is factual, whereas the report given in the newspaper dated 8th of June is incorrect. It is clearly mentioned in the newspaper dated 22nd June:

[English]

"The programme considered crucial for realising the Government's goal of universalisation of elementary education by 1999 is also languishing. A total of Rs. 135 crore was earmarked for it in the 1997-98 Budget, but less than Rs. One crore was spent. Consequently, only Rs. 60 lakh has been budgeted for this scheme in the 1998-99 proposals."

[Translation]

Further, it has been mentioned—

[English]

"The programme has provided enough money, Rs. 2,100 crore, in its decade long existence for the conversion of about 1.5 lakh single-room schools to dual-room and dual-teacher ones, with around 5.2 lakh schools given teacher and reading material.

With a high fund utilisation rate, by State Governments, of over 80 per cent, the programme has escaped the treasury's axe, with spending for the current year, in 1998-99, pegged at over Rs. 300 crore, a rise over last year's provision."

[Translation]

We have made adequate provision in the budget for all such programmes as Adult education, Operation Blackboard and continuing education. Some States which have not utilised the funds, have been instructed to utilise them properly. Arrangements have been made for monitoring and evaluation of the programmes and this work is being undertaken through the agencies outside the district. Apart from this, the data furnished by the State Government is being evaluated at national level through agencies. Thus proper arrangement will be made for running the programmes smoothly. The literacy programme and its components will not be diluted under any circumstances.

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Sir, adult education programme has been successful in some States such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Nothing has been achieved...(Interruptions)

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : The programme has been unsuccessful, in fact, it has been a total failure especially in Hindi Speaking States such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether any efforts are being made to bring these States at par with other States by launching a special campaign or providing more funds for them.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, Hon'ble member has drawn the attention towards a very important fact. These are the States which had a very low rate of literacy and the literacy rate among especially women was very low. Hence there is a need to make special effort with regard to these states. The Government has taken special steps to promote literacy and especially women literacy. You will be pleased to know that the rate of literacy among women is rising gradually. This time the government has made a provision to provide education to women free of cost upto graduation level. The government is fully attentive in this regard. I would also like to inform you that in some states, textbooks are provided to women and children free of cost so as to improve the literacy rate in these areas. Such areas as Bihar, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh lag behind in this regard. I am pleased that the government of Rajasthan has taken

special steps in this regard. The literacy rate is rising there. I hope that such steps will be taken in other states as well. The meeting of Ministers of Education from the states is scheduled to be held in the month of August. This issue will be taken up earnestly there.

SHRI A. F. GOLAM OSMANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to put a question to Hon'ble Minister. Under this scheme, the primary school should have five rooms and the schools providing education upto class VIII should have separate room for each class. Is it true that village Hudla, Jatwara and Khuri falling under District Kota of Rajasthan have such schools which have only one room. There are no rooms for seating the children. There are no educational aids. Jute mats are torn and the ceilings are damaged. Sir, the funds released under operation Blackboard for the last eight years have not been utilised properly. Will the Hon. Minister get a survey conducted in these backward areas? Village Hudla which is situated between two rivers does not have drinking water for children. Will the government provide resources in such areas after conducting the survey? It is clearly mentioned in your announcement regarding development of remote areas that resources will be provided there after conducting the survey and a separate room would be provided for each class. You can see the position under operation blackboard. I would like to know from Hon'ble Minister whether a survey will be got conducted in the rural areas to materialise such plans?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, under Operation Blackboard, the schools having only one room are given assistance by the government for building another room. Provision has been made for providing education, all the equipment and for achieving total literacy. The schools having only one teacher are given financial assistance by the government to recruit another teacher so as to educate the children properly. If the initiative is taken for recruiting the third teacher, the financial assistance is given for that purpose also. As regards the issue of villages mentioned by you, if you point out all the shortcomings in writing, I shall get an enquiry conducted through the government of Rajasthan and convey the factual position in this regard.

[English]

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA : Sir, the time is very short. The answer given by the hon. Minister presents a dismal picture so far as our literacy programme is concerned. The answer shows that in two years, namely, 1996-97 and 1997-98 Rs. 175 crore remained unspent. I want a straight answer from the hon. Minister. Which are the States responsible for doing this and who are the officers responsible for not spending Rs. 5 crore for Operation Blackboard and Rs. 170 crore for Adult Education? I also want to know what steps have been taken in this regard. The country's position is that 50 per cent of the population is illiterate. Will you answer quickly?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, the exact Statewise information about which States have not been able to spend the amount is also not available with me today. I will collect it and inform you. But you see that the programme of Adult

Education, Operation Blackboard and continuing education have shown enough incentive and momentum.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : This programme is a total failure.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : It may be a total failure in certain States or in certain pockets. But there are certain very good features of this scheme also. Till now, 5.23 lakh primary schools have been covered and 1.49 single teacher schools have been converted into dual teacher school.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA : I am sorry Mr. Minister. Please answer who are the officers responsible. The taxpayers money worth Rs. 175 crore was not spent for our education and for the education of our children in the villages.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: The schemes are implemented by the State Governments. In these areas, the officers are appointed by the State Governments. If you can give me a certain instance of any officer not doing his duty, I will inquire into it. Otherwise, this information will have to be collected...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: I am not working in your Department. Why should I give the information about any officer concerned. First, the answer should be given. This is very serious...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete.

(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Shri Panja, this scheme is running for the last so many years. I am responsible for what has happened in the last three months and odd days only...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except the Minister's statement.

Statement-I

Village Public Telephone Programme targets & achievements of VPT Programme from 1994-95 to 1997-98 since National Telecom Policy, 1994

Telecom Circles	Total Target from 1994-95 to 1997-98 after National Telecom Policy 94	Total Achievement from 1994-95 to 1997-98 after National Telecom Policy 94
1	2	3
Andaman & Nicobar	634	196
Andhra Pradesh	13400	8806
Assam	12900	8250
Bihar	39964	10069
Gujarat	9000	5182
Haryana	4220	3244

* Not recorded.

*(Interruptions)**

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: In these three months and odd days, the Government has taken very serious steps about it. About what happened for the last ten years, I would say that the responsibility lies on the Members sitting opposite side.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Mr. Minister, thank you.

Public Telephones

*284. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any targets have been fixed by the Government to provide public telephones in each and every village of the country, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made vis-a-vis these targets; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Department of Telecom has fixed targets to provide Village Public Telephone (VPT) in all villages of the country.

The State-wise target fixed and the achievements thereof from 1994-95 upto 1997-98 are given in the enclosed Statement—I.

The target for 1998-99 is shown in enclosed Statement—II.

1	2	3
Himachal	7000	4285
Jammu & Kashmir	4700	1926
Karnataka	16200	15833
Kerala	18	18
Madhya Pradesh	32949	21128
Maharashtra	21700	16213
North East	6300	2036
Orissa	27719	13344
Punjab	9140	5776
Rajasthan	23840	14537
Tamil Nadu	8869	7793
Uttar Pradesh (East)	61500	22637
Uttar Pradesh (West)	29800	6969
West Bengal	27700	10680
Delhi	47	22
Calcutta	400	421
Total	358000	179365

NE Circle comprises Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura and Nagaland States. MH Circle comprises Maharashtra and Goa States. WB Circle comprises WB and Sikkim States.

Statement-II

Village Public Telephone Programme revised reduced target for 1998-99

Circles		Revised Target Fixed on 1.7.1998	1	2	
1	2				
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	53	11.	Madhya Pradesh	4000
2.	Andhra Pradesh	400	12.	Maharashtra	2700
3.	Assam	2900	13.	North East	1000
4.	Bihar	6000	14.	Orissa	2400
5.	Gujarat	0	15.	Punjab	345
6.	Haryana	20	16.	Rajasthan	2540
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1000	17.	Tamil Nadu	142
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1000	18.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	7500
9.	Karnataka	2500	19.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	5500
10.	Kerala	0	20.	West Bengal	5000
			21.	Calcutta	0
			Total	45000	

NE Circle comprises Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura and Nagaland States.

MH Circle Comprises Maharashtra and Goa States.

WB Circle Comprises WB and Sikkim States.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: My question pertains to the target fixed under the first Telecom policy which was formulated in 1994 and according to it all the villages were to be provided with telephone facility by 1997. But I know that so far we have not been able to achieve the 50 per cent of the target. Targets have been revised now and there is a plan to achieve these targets by 1999. I would like to know as to what schemes have been formulated to achieve the targets by the Ninth Plan. What action has been taken in this regard. Secondly there was a plan to provide telephohe facility to 4700 villages of Jammu and Kashmir but so fat only 1500 villages could be provided with telephone facility. All the other means of communications have been cut off there due to insurgency. In view of insurgency prevalent in the region I would like to know as to whether the hon. Minister would give an assurance to provide telephone facility on priority basis in *Dakshin*, Madva and Vadban of Doda district and in border districts?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the questions raised by the hon. Member, I would like to say that previous Government could not achieve the targets fixed in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Osmani, please take your seat. This is not a good practice. This is not a discussion.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Sir, I am replying to the question raised by hon. Member. The hon. Member has asked whether the target would be achieved by the Ninth Plan? Sir, through you I would like to give an assurance in this House that we would definitely achieve this target by the Ninth Plan and all the villages would be provided with telephone facility. As far as question of according priority to Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, I would like to say that in last session also I had stated that in view of insurgency and militancy in Jammu and Kashmir telephone facility would be provided there on priority basis and Doda district would be given preference in it.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Sir, last time Telecom Commission has taken a decision that 60 per cent telephone connections would be given as per the new system. I would like to know as to why this decision has been reversed? At present 40 per cent telephone connections are being given under MARR and remaining under AAR system. In this regard, I would like to know as to why this policy has been revised?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member about the circumstances under which this decision was reversed? We have inherited those circumstances and under it earlier telephone connections were given as per the MARR system.

On 1st November 1997 under the Chairmanship of the then Prime Minister a meeting was convened and in which decision was taken to discard the 'MARR technology' and find out some new technology. When we took over the charge it was found that since 1st November all the orders

under the 'MARR Telecom were cancelled and a search for new technology started. As so new technology could not be found, therefore instead of giving a fictious figures on paper we tried to achieve the target and thus this decision was reversed.

SHRI RAJO SINGH: I was saying that...*(Interruptions)* You may adopt D. R. System...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: High Court has given stay on it...*(Interruptions)* I will tell you about it...*(Interruptions)*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Doordarshan's Channel to States to Telecast Regional Programmes

*285 **SHRI N. K. PREMCHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide the second channel of Doordarshan to the State Governments to telecast the regional programmes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS. (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Presently there is no such proposal under consideration, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Estimated Expenditure on Elementary Education

*286. **SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIYA:**

DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made an estimate of the amount likely to be spent for imparting education to children in the age group of 6 to 14 years for which they had already made a commitment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the percentage of children in this age group for whom educational facilities had been provided by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The working group of Elementary Education for IX Five Year Plan has recommended a tentative outlay of Rs. 79,260 crore in the Central sector and Rs. 46,393 crore in the State sector. Allocations for Ninth Five Year Plan have not been finalised by the Planning Commission.

(c) The Gross Enrolment Ratio of children in the age group of 6-14 Years has improved during the Eighth Five Year Plan as follows:

	1992-93	1996-97
Classes I—V	84.60	90.5
Classes VI—VIII	61.35	62.3

A statement indicating State-wise position of Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) during the Plan period is enclosed.

Statement

Gross enrolment ratio for the years 1992-93 and 1996-97 in primary (I-V) and upper primary (VI-VIII) classes

Sl. No	States/UTs.	1992-93		1996-97 (Provisional)	
		Classes I-V	Classes VI-VIII	Classes I-V	Classes VI-VIII
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	74.48	45.60	82.2	45.6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	96.20	55.77	96.5	64.9
3.	Assam	95.91	69.67	108.9	71.8
4.	Bihar	66.32	41.02	70.7	35.5
5.	Goa	109.80	102.12	87.1	82.2
6.	Gujarat	115.29	64.67	114.9	67.2
7.	Haryana	80.84	65.01	79.9	60.7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	105.42	91.25	95.0	79.3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	70.18	66.28	67.6	65.5
10.	Karnataka	101.42	63.75	106.1	61.1
11.	Kerala	102.41	104.12	90.7	93.9
12.	Madhya Pradesh	89.73	59.95	97.0	61.8
13.	Maharashtra	106.33	79.48	111.4	81.6
14.	Manipur	99.70	81.64	78.8	71.1
15.	Meghalaya	98.39	57.58	92.8	53.2
16.	Mizoram	124.33	70.74	113.4	67.9
17.	Nagaland	87.24	72.87	128.8	62.8
18.	Orissa	93.90	58.93	89.3	54.9
19.	Punjab	82.89	66.25	80.8	62.9
20.	Rajasthan	75.39	49.21	94.0	56.2
21.	Sikkim	128.00	56.62	120.8	56.2
22.	Tamil Nadu	125.05	96.11	106.2	91.2
23.	Tripura	98.53	62.72	80.5	54.8
24.	Uttar Pradesh	60.12	48.73	73.4	49.0
25.	West Bengal	84.86	53.76	103.6	87.1

1	2	3	4	5	6
26.	A & N Island	114.26	89.24	91.2	91.6
27.	Chandigarh	74.02	75.18	69.7	71.5
28.	D & N Haveli	88.47	53.84	98.1	53.2
29.	Daman & Diu	101.29	85.35	96.8	68.3
30.	Delhi	80.90	89.36	80.8	75.0
31.	Lakshadweep	128.72	92.86	112.6	119.9
32.	Pondicherry	113.86	106.76	93.8	96.4
	India	84.60	61.35	90.5	62.3

Removal of Illiteracy

*287 COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the literacy rate in the country at present with State-wise break-up;

(b) whether the literacy rate in the Barmer, Jalore and Jaisalmer districts of western Rajasthan is the lowest in the country;

(c) if so, whether the Government have decided to provide hundred per cent grant to these educationally backward desert districts;

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce any new schemes during 1998-99 for the removal of illiteracy in various States particularly in these districts of Rajasthan so that target of full literacy would be obtained by 2005 AD; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The State-wise percentage of literacy in the country, as per 1991 Census, is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. However, the literacy campaigns launched in these districts have been sanctioned per learner cost of approximately Rs. 100/- each which is sufficiently higher than the usual per learner cost of Rs. 65/-.

(d) and (e) The Government's approach has been to take a holistic rather than a segmented view towards the removal of illiteracy. A three-pronged approach has, therefore, been consistently followed. These include (i) efforts of National Literacy Mission; (ii) Universalisation of Elementary Education; and (iii) Non-Formal Education.

This approach encompasses the whole country including the three districts of Rajasthan, i.e., Barmer, Jalore and Jaisalmer.

Statement

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Literacy rate (%)		
		Persons	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5
	States			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44.09	55.13	32.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	41.59	51.45	29.69
3.	Assam	52.89	61.87	43.03
4.	Bihar	38.48	52.49	22.89
5.	Goa	75.51	83.64	67.09
6.	Gujarat	61.29	73.13	48.64
7.	Haryana	55.85	69.10	40.47

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	63.86	75.36	52.13
9.	Karnataka	56.04	67.26	44.34
10.	Kerala	89.81	93.62	86.13
11.	Madhya Pradesh	44.20	58.42	28.85
12.	Maharashtra	64.87	76.56	52.32
13.	Manipur	59.89	71.63	47.60
14.	Meghalaya	49.10	53.12	44.85
15.	Mizoram	82.27	85.61	78.60
16.	Nagaland	61.65	67.62	54.75
17.	Orissa	49.09	63.09	34.68
18.	Punjab	58.51	65.66	50.41
19.	Rajasthan	38.55	54.99	20.44
20.	Sikkim	56.94	65.74	46.69
21.	Tamil Nadu	62.66	73.75	51.33
22.	Tripura	60.44	70.58	49.65
23.	Uttar Pradesh	41.60	55.73	25.31
24.	West Bengal	57.70	67.81	46.56
Union Territories				
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	73.02	78.99	65.46
2.	Chandigarh	77.81	82.04	72.34
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	40.71	53.56	26.98
4.	Daman & Diu	71.20	82.66	59.40
5.	Delhi	75.29	82.01	66.99
6.	Lakshadweep	81.78	90.18	72.89
7.	Pondicherry	74.74	83.68	65.63

Excludes Jammu & Kashmir where 1991 Census was not held.

Rural Electrification Programme

*288. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

DR. Y. S. RAJASEKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rural electrification carried out in the country during the last three years, Year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the target fixed for this programme for each State during the year 1998-99;

(c) whether the Government propose to privatise the rural electrification system in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the electrification programme in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The state-wise and year-wise physical progress in rural electrification carried out under the schemes of Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) during the last three years in the country is given in enclosed statement-I.

(b) State-wise targets for rural electrification under the REC programme during the year 1998-99 are given in enclosed Statement-II.

(c) to (e) The rural electrification systems are under the operation and control of State Governments and State Electricity Boards and it is for them to decide on the question of privatisation.

(f) Rural Electrification systems are planned, controlled and operated by the State Governments/State Electricity Boards. The targets for rural electrification, for villages and pumpsets, are approved by the Planning Commission for various States, in the beginning of each year, in consultation, among others, with Rural Electrification Corporation, Central Electricity Authority and the concerned State Electricity Boards State Governments. These targets are decided on the basis of availability of resources, proposals of the States, willingness of the State Governments/State Electricity Boards to take up rural electrification schemes, past performance and

the status of rural electrification in each State.

The efforts of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) and State Governments are supplemented by financial assistance through REC. During 1998-99, under the REC Programmes it is proposed to cover electrification of 2,800 villages and energisation of 2.51 lakh pumpsets. Under the Kutir Jyoti Programme 4.45 lakh single point light connections are proposed to be provided through a grant of Rupees 40 crores for improving the quality of life of the weaker sections of society. In addition the REC Programme provides financial assistance to SEBs/State Governments for System Improvement Schemes to improve the quality of supply in rural areas. The outlay for all the REC Programmes for the year 1998-99 is of the order of Rs. 1,250 crore.

Statement—1

Progress of rural electrification under REC programmes during 1995-96

Sl. No.	States	Village Electrification		Pumpset Energisation	
		Annual Target	Achievement	Annual Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0		53000	37145
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	120	121	0	0
3.	Assam	510	222	0	0
4.	Bihar	400	42	1000	610
5.	Delhi	0	0	0	0
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	0	0	28000	15084
8.	Haryana	0	0	6000	2501
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	150	201
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	33	43	150	1012
11.	Karnataka	0	0	55000	38601
12.	Kerala	0	0	15000	12517
13.	Madhya Pradesh	350	503	12800	41855
14.	Maharashtra	0	0	47000	92395
15.	Manipur	73	163	0	0
16.	Meghalaya	60	0	0	0
17.	Mizoram	45	45	0	0
18.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
19.	Orissa	220	732	3500	2260

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Punjab	0	0	5000	11004
21.	Rajasthan	750	655	17530	17616
22.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0
23.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	40000	40649
24.	Tripura	20	15	100	26
25.	Uttar Pradesh	491	1104	14239	20963
26.	West Bengal	490	83	1910	1007
Total		3562	3728	300379	335446

(0) 100% electrified states (excluding those villages which are technically not feasible for electrification.)

Progress of rural electrification under REC programmes during 1996-97

Sl. No.	States	Village		Pumpset	
		Electrification		Energisation	
		Annual Target	Achievement	Annual Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	22500	44914
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	95	95	0	0
3.	Assam	280	130	0	0
4.	Bihar	325	22	1300	1639
5.	Delhi	0	0	0	0
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	0	0	17450	20370
8.	Haryana	0	0	4000	1849
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	150	254
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	30	12	150	305
11.	Karnataka	0	0	35000	30516
12.	Kerala	0	0	9000	11029
13.	Madhya Pradesh	470	400	32500	44882
14.	Maharashtra	0	0	53500	62655
15.	Manipur	74	140	0	0
16.	Meghalaya	41	60	0	0
17.	Mizoram	15	9	0	0
18.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
19.	Orissa	250	350	1600	702

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Punjab	@	@	7500	7552
21.	Rajasthan	550	641	15650	20779
22.	Sikkim	@	@	0	0
23.	Tamil Nadu	@	@	32000	37113
24.	Tripura	20	16	0	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	480	1358	16500	15846
26.	West Bengal	370	41	1200	337
Total		3000	3274	250000	300792

(@) 100% electrified states (excluding those villages which are technically not feasible for electrification.)

Progress of rural electrification under REC programmes during 1997-98

(Prov.)

Sl. No.	States	Village		Pumpset	
		Electrification		Energisation	
		Annual Target	Achievement	Annual Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	@	0	26000	3341
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	100	100	0	0
3.	Assam	230	20	0	0
4.	Bihar	330	2	1700	809
5.	Delhi	@	0	0	0
6.	Goa	@	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	0	3	18000	20146
8.	Harayana	@	0	4000	943
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	150	235
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	30	14	150	503
11.	Karnataka	@	0	37400	28000
12.	Kerala	@	0	11000	10348
13.	Madhya Pradesh	500	463	25000	52699
14.	Maharashtra	@	0	49000	60758
15.	Manipur	80	59	0	0
16.	Meghalaya	50	27	0	0
17.	Mizoram	15	10	0	0
18.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
19.	Orissa	250	800	2200	1524

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Punjab	0	0	6500	6521
21.	Rajasthan	480	680	16000	16000
22.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0
23.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	27100	40000
24.	Tripura	35	15	0	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	500	812	14100	9909
26.	West Bengal	400	5	1700	33
Total		3000	3010	240000	241819

(0) 100% electrified states (excluding those villages which are technically not feasible for electrification).

Statement-II

State-wise targets of village electrification and pumpset energisation under REC programme for the year 1998-99

Sl. No.	States	Electrification of villages	Energisation of Pumpsets
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	0	20000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	100	0
3.	Assam	50	0
4.	Bihar	500	2000
5.	Delhi*	0	0
6.	Goa*	0	0
7.	Gujarat*	0	23000
8.	Haryana*	0	1000
9.	Himachal Pradesh*	0	250
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	10	250
11.	Karnataka*	0	25000
12.	Kerala*	0	9000
13.	Madhya Pradesh	350	40000
14.	Maharashtra*	0	61000
15.	Manipur	40	0
16.	Meghalaya	40	0
17.	Mizoram	15	0
18.	Nagaland*	0	0
19.	Orissa	500	2500
20.	Punjab*	0	5000

1	2	3	4
21.	Rajasthan	500	16000
22.	Sikkim*	0	0
23.	Tamil Nadu*	0	30000
24.	Tripura	20	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	500	15000
26.	West Bengal	175	1500
Total (States)		2800	251500

States which have declared cent percent village electrification level.

Pollution in Yamuna River

*289. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Yamuna River continues to be highly polluted despite spending crores of rupees under the Yamuna Action Plan to cleanse it;

(b) if so, the total amount spent so far and the results achieved therefrom;

(c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board had admitted that the stretch of Yamuna between Delhi (Wazirabad) and Etawah in U. P. is heavily polluted and water quality does not conform to designate standard; and

(d) if so, the steps contemplated to make Yamuna water free from pollution?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have spent an amount of Rs. 251.74 crore upto 31.3.1998 for the pollution abatement of river Yamuna from domestic sewage under the Yamuna Action Plan against the approved cost of Rs. 479.56 crore. The physical progress of work as on 31.3.98 under this Plan which extends to 12 towns in Haryana and 8 towns in U. P. besides Delhi, was about 57%. Government have also released an amount of Rs. 22.50 crore for construction of 15 common effluent treatment plants against the approved cost of Rs. 90 crore to tackle the industrial pollution in Delhi. The process of invitation of tenders has started for this project. In addition, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have spent an amount of Rs. 326.25 crore till 31.3.1998 under their own Plan for construction of 13 sewage treatment plants and allied works against the approved cost of Rs. 471.20 crore. Of these, three sewage treatment plants have been completed and the remaining 10 are in advanced stages of

completion. Out of the remaining 10 units, one unit is targetted for completion by July, 1998, another one by September, 1998, another six units by December, 1998 and the remaining two units by June, 1999 and December, 1999 respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Action is also being taken against the defaulting industries discharging their effluents into the river by the respective State Pollution Control Boards under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The quality of water of river Yamuna will improve only when all the above works are completed, defaulting industries meet the stipulated standards and the necessary minimum flow of fresh water is allowed in the river to dilute the effect of the discharge of treated sewage and other effluents into it.

Barring Candidates with Criminal Background from Contesting Elections

*290. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commissioner of India has observed in the recent past to enact a suitable legislation for barring the candidates with criminal background from contesting elections; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) The Election Commission vide its letter dated 16th September, 1997 made certain proposals for restructuring and strengthening section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 which contains provisions for disqualifying a person on conviction of offences listed in that section. It was *inter alia* also suggested that whoever is convicted of an offence by a court of law and sentenced to imprisonment for six months or more should be barred from contesting elections from the date of conviction, for a period totalling the sentence imposed plus an additional six years.

(b) In case consensus emerges amongst political parties on making changes in the law as suggested by the Election Commission, Government would consider introducing a Bill to give effect to such proposals.

Losses to Doordarshan

*291. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

SHRI AJIT JOGI:

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

(a) whether the Doordarshan incurred heavy losses due to conversion of certain commissioned and news programmes into sponsored programmes and recategorisation of some of them during 1990-1996;

(b) if so, the total losses caused to Doordarshan thereby and the names of the T. V. companies involved therein;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the results thereof; and

(e) the total amount outstanding against each of the T. V. company and steps taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (e) In the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General for the year ended 31.3.95 it was inter-alia observed that due to recategorisation of one programme, namely, "The World This Week", Doordarshan suffered a loss of Rs. 352.30 lakh. The programme was produced by M/s. New Delhi Television.

The matter has been examined by the Public Accounts Committee also and in their 12th Report they directed the Government to conduct an inquiry by an appropriate Investigative Agency. Accordingly, the matter has been referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

[Translation]

Steps for Prompt Justice

*292. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken/propose to take any steps to ensure prompt justice to people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT : (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) (a) to (c) The Government have taken a series of steps to simplify procedures and speed up disposal of cases on the basis of the advice and recommen-

dations of expert bodies like the Law Commission. Conference of Law Ministers, Chief Ministers and Chief Justices and others concerned with the administration of Justice are held periodically and the recommendations and conclusions emerging from such exchanges and consultations are implemented and their progress is closely monitored. In continuing endeavour for providing prompt justice, the Government intend to simplify the judicial procedures, increase the number of posts of Judges, strengthen the existing infrastructure further by providing additional funds for the construction of court buildings and residential facilities, adopt Lok Adalats and other alternative modes of dispute resolution such as arbitration, mediation and negotiation.

[English]

Female Literacy

*293. SHRI N. DENNIS:

PROF. P. J. KURIEN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of female literacy in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any study has been conducted into the reasons of low female literacy in some States; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) (a) The State-wise percentage of female literacy in the country as per 1991 Census is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) No specific study has been commissioned by the Government in this area.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the State	Percentage of Female Literacy
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	29.69
3.	Assam	43.03
4.	Bihar	22.89
5.	Goa	67.09
6.	Gujarat	48.64
7.	Haryana	40.47
8.	Himachal Pradesh	52.13

1	2	3
9.	Karnataka	44.34
10.	Kerala	86.13
11.	Madhya Pradesh	28.85
12.	Maharashtra	52.32
13.	Manipur	47.60
14.	Meghalaya	44.85
15.	Mizoram	78.60
16.	Nagaland	54.75
17.	Orissa	34.68
18.	Punjab	50.41
19.	Rajasthan	20.44
20.	Sikkim	46.69
21.	Tamil Nadu	51.33
22.	Tripura	49.65
23.	Uttar Pradesh	25.31
24.	West Bengal	46.56
Union Territories		
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	65.46
2.	Chandigarh	72.34
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	26.98
4.	Daman & Diu	59.40
5.	Delhi	66.99
6.	Lakshadweep	72.89
7.	Pondicherry	65.63

*Excluding Jammu & Kashmir

Clearance to Projects

*294 SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of projects proposed to be implemented in Karnataka, Orissa and other States are pending for the forest/environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the period for which the projects particularly from Karnataka and Orissa are pending and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken to expedite clearance of these projects;

(d) whether the policy to entrust the State level bodies with clearing the project proposals has been framed so that the delay in according clearance to projects can be avoided; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) A total of 133 proposals are pending with the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, out of which 8 proposals pertain to Karnataka and 16 to Orissa. There are 81 proposals pending for environmental clearance with the Ministry out of which 7 pertain to Karnataka and 7 to Orissa.

(b) In respect of Karnataka and Orissa the proposals are mostly pending for the period between 1 month to 18 months. The main reason for pendency is unavailability of complete information in respect of the proposals and/or site inspection reports of the area involved.

(c) As and when complete details in respect of the proposals are received from the concerned State Government/Project proponent, these proposals are processed expeditiously for final decision.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Mal-Functioning of IGNOU

*295. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a substantial amount of funds allocated to the Indira Gandhi National Open University has been withheld recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the projects affected thereby;

(c) whether the outgoing Vice-Chancellor of the IGNOU has recently accused the Ministry of encroaching upon the autonomy of the University;

(d) if so, whether the Ministry have undertaken or asked the Central Vigilance Commission to inquire into the affairs of the University and its mal-functioning;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken to restore the normalcy and autonomy in the University; and

(g) the losses suffered by the University during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Out of the plan

provision of Rs. 22.00 crores fixed at Revised Estimates stage for the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) for 1997-98, the Department of Education had released Rs. 10.69 crores. In order to consider the release of balance amount, the University was asked to furnish the detailed utilisation plan and its approval by the competent authority. This was not made available. In March, 1998, the University had intimated that out of the release of Rs. 10.69 crores, the University had utilised only Rs. 3.30 crores up to the end of February, 1998. On the non-plan side, a sum of Rs. 5.83 crores was released against a provision of Rs. 5.83 crores as per Revised Estimates.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) had forwarded certain complaints against the then Vice-Chancellor and others of IGNOU alleging therein certain financial irregularities in respect of the purchases of computer hardware etc.

(f) and (g) A new Vice-Chancellor, who has recently taken over, has initiated steps to improve the utilisation of funds released and to follow the procedural requirements for release of funds. The University has not suffered any losses as such. However, as per the normal financial rules, there has been adjustment of unutilised funds from time to time at the time of release of grants.

Financial Assistance by UGC

*296. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total grants-in-aid/assistance provided to Universities and Colleges during 1995-96, 1996-97 by the UGC, State-wise and University-wise;

(b) whether the grants-in-aid/assistance thus provided is adequate to meet the expenses of the Universities and Colleges;

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to augment the grants-in-aid/assistance to the Universities and Colleges;

(d) whether there exists any monitoring mechanism to ensure the proper utilisation of grants-in-aid/assistance;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Statements showing the grants released by UGC to Universities and colleges during 1995-96 and 1996-97 are attached at Statement-I and II respectively.

(b) to (f) Central Universities are established by Acts of Parliament and their maintenance and development expenditure is met by the Central Government through UGC. State Universities are set up by Acts of State Legislatures and their maintenance and development expenditure is met by the respective State Governments. UGC provides only development grants to the eligible State Universities and Colleges, as per the prescribed norms, and that too, only for a part of their requirements. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/agencies concerned to provide reasonable level of Plan and Non-Plan grants to the universities/colleges established by them. UGC has liberalised the scale of Plan assistance to the universities in the 8th Plan. Non-Plan grants provided by the Government to UGC for disbursement to universities have also been steadily increasing over the years.

The grants paid by UGC are monitored by them through the Progress Reports of Expenditure and the Utilisation Certificates furnished by the Universities/Colleges.

Statement-I

Statement showing grants paid by University Grants Commission to various Universities during 1995-96 and 1996-97

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3
CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES		
1. Aligarh Muslim University	7733.79	7796.21
2. Banaras Hindu University	11608.91	8974.29
3. Delhi University	4910.53	5051.00
4. Hyderabad University	1549.16	1405.84
5. Indira Gandhi National Open University	0.27	3.44
6. Jamia Millia Islamia	1637.21	1869.08
7. Jawaharlal Nehru University	2811.11	2913.35

1	2	3
8. North East Hilly University	1785.81	2121.22
9. Pondicherry University	784.38	692.32
10. Viswa Bharti University	2150.83	2074.30
11. Assam University	544.07	502.55
12. Tezpur University	269.52	269.32
13. Nagaland University	668.25	663.03
14. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University	100.00	352.00
DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITIES		
1. Banasthali Vidyapeeth	138.13	31.81
2. Birla Institute of Techonology, Mersa, Ranchi	77.46	68.62
3. Bengal Engineering College, Howrah	—	41.60
4. Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani	57.18	83.07
5. Central Institue of English & Foreign Language, Hyderabad	423.54	459.08
6. Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies	0.60	2.84
7. Dayalbagh Educational Institute	168.40	168.93
8. Deccan College P. G. & Research Institute	18.97	28.84
9. Forest Research Institute, Dehradun	0.40	—
10. Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram, Tamil Nadu	385.98	360.11
11. Gokhale Institute of Pol. & Economic, Pune	11.15	73.05
12. Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad	354.47	361.05
13. Gurukul Kangri Viswa Vidyalyaya, Haridwar	220.86	219.25
14. Indian Agricultural Institute, New Delhi	2.54	3.45
15. Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	245.06	261.92
16. Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad	820.22	790.88
17. International Institute of Population Sciences, Bombay	—	1.00
18. J. V. Bharti Institute	44.48	22.50
19. Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi	372.73	429.05
20. National Museum Institute of the History of Art Conservation and Museology	4.23	4.87
21. National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Bangalore	4.50	4.00
22. National Dairy Research Institute	0.35	—
23. Rajasthan Vidyapith	20.65	12.57
24. R. Sanskrit Vidyapeeth	136.17	139.68
25. School of Planning & Architecture	—	1.95
26. Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri R. Sanskrit Vidyapeeth	210.25	205.26

1	2	3
27. Sri Chandrasekharandra Saraswathy Nyaya Shastra Mahavidyalaya, Kanchipuram	22.00	6.83
28. Sri Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women	222.99	242.10
29. Shri Satya Sai Institute of Higher Learning	29.97	0.30
30. Tata Institute of Social Science, Mumbai	453.53	380.35
31. Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth	8.70	21.33
32. Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology	79.05	53.70
STATE UNIVERSITIES		
Andhra Pradesh		
1. Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University	—	0.05
2. Andhra University	353.84	366.23
3. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University	0.14	—
4. Jawahar Lal Nehru Technology University	37.78	55.91
5. Kakatiya University	80.16	110.32
6. Nagarjuna University	34.50	55.47
7. Osmania University	447.21	460.57
8. Sri Krishna Devaraya University	89.45	107.79
9. Sri Venkateswara University	231.72	244.98
10. Sri Padmavathis Mahila Viswa Vidyalaya	85.53	17.15
11. Telugu University	9.61	21.48
Arunachal Pradesh		
1. Arunachal University	16.50	53.74
Assam		
1. Dibrugarh University	37.75	60.62
2. Gauhati University	108.20	65.71
Bihar		
1. Tilak Maghai Bhagalpur University	24.39	1.61
2. Babasaheb B. R. Ambedkar Bihar University	52.36	26.10
3. K. S. Darbhanga Sanskrit University	0.53	0.44
4. Magadh University	56.18	11.59
5. L. N. Mithila University	18.06	54.04
6. Patna University	71.82	112.85
7. Ranchi University	21.83	27.48

1	2	3
Haryana		
1. CCS Haryana Agricultural University	1.57	2.87
2. Kurukshetra University	173.02	63.67
3. Maharishi Dayanand University	47.62	51.50
Gujarat		
1. Bhavnagar University	32.23	72.60
2. Gujarat University	49.21	82.34
3. Gujarat Ayurveda University	—	0.96
4. M. S. University of Baroda	147.34	251.31
5. North Gujarat University	13.07	46.00
6. Sardar Patel University	76.74	88.53
7. Saurashtra University	107.39	81.93
8. South Gujarat University	40.58	46.58
9. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University	—	1.60
Goa		
1. Goa University	30.80	74.43
Himachal Pradesh		
1. Himachal Pradesh University	54.94	87.36
Jammu & Kashmir		
1. Jammu University	71.68	139.78
2. Kashmir University	68.41	67.07
Karnataka		
1. Bangalore University	63.95	186.68
2. Gulbarga University	49.25	81.76
3. Kannada University	0.10	—
4. Karnataka University	51.80	140.49
5. Kovempu University	6.88	78.65
6. Mangalore University	35.27	88.13
7. Mysore University	211.98	95.83
8. National Law Institute of India, Bangalore	33.35	22.78
9. University of Agricultural Science, Bangalore	1.28	0.03
10. S. S. C. University of Sanskrit	1.00	—
Kerala		
1. Calicut University	131.34	95.85
2. Cochin University of Science & Technology	78.46	134.16

1	2	3
3. Kerala University	127.31	103.30
4. Kerala Agricultural University	—	0.22
5. Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam	37.10	29.29
Manipur		
1. Manipur University, Imphal	93.18	109.42
Madhya Pradesh		
1. Avdesh P. Singh University	33.24	14.72
2. Barkatullah Vishwavidyalaya	78.99	84.25
3. Guru Ghasidas University, Bilaspur	38.52	22.47
4. Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyalaya	5.26	1.00
5. Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya	121.35	134.91
6. Rani Durgavati Vishwavidyalaya	95.88	48.27
7. Jiwaji Vishwavidyalaya	155.73	68.13
8. Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla Vishwavidyalaya	11.33	35.90
9. Dr. H. S. Gour University	86.77	184.05
10. Vikram University	44.71	55.54
11. Mahatma Gandhi Gramodyog University	—	28.00
Maharashtra		
1. Amravati University	30.71	18.22
2. Bombay University	465.80	378.85
3. Dr. B. A. Marathwada University	58.07	81.03
4. Nagpur University	66.23	55.51
5. North Maharashtra University	27.25	44.42
6. Poona University	196.67	220.48
7. S. N. D. T. Women's University	89.08	113.11
8. Shivaji University	87.56	71.63
Orissa		
1. Berhampur University	51.51	58.84
2. Orissa University of Agricultural & Technology	0.17	0.14
3. Sambalpur University	82.11	52.88
4. Shri Jaganath Sanskrit Vidyapith	12.00	1.00
5. Utkal University	110.69	128.22
Punjab		
1. Guru Nanak Dev University	127.07	131.19
2. Punjab University	344.90	258.45

1	2	3
3. Punjab Agricultural University	3.25	1.88
4. Punjabi University	61.03	31.32
Rajasthan		
1. J. N. Vyas University, Jodhpur	119.20	173.76
2. Kota Open University	3.60	0.95
3. M. D. S. University, Ajmer	18.25	47.51
4. M. L. Sukhadia Viswa Vidyalaya	40.75	66.60
5. Rajasthan University	203.88	226.88
Tamil Nadu		
1. Alagappa University	43.02	60.23
2. Annamalai University	83.49	22.76
3. Anna University	252.05	248.15
4. Bharathiar University, Coimbatore	59.58	82.93
5. Bharathidesan University	82.80	70.17
6. Dr. MGR Medical University	0.40	0.59
7. Madras University	208.06	195.62
8. Madurai Kamraj University	139.52	111.29
9. Mother Teresa University for Women	19.70	37.32
10. M. Sundamar University	50.61	34.58
11. Tamilnadu Agricultural University	0.06	0.58
12. Tamil University	22.21	72.63
Tripura		
1. Tripura University	22.43	63.92
Uttar Pradesh		
1. Allahabad University	245.07	227.62
2. Bundelkhand University	0.19	0.35
3. Ch. Charan Singh University, Meerut	50.25	17.42
4. Chandrasekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology	0.10	—
5. Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Agra	29.99	32.51
6. Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia (Avadh) University	13.88	49.62
7. G. B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology	4.44	3.40
8. Gorakhpur University	84.46	103.14
9. H. N. B. (Garwal) University	59.38	40.51
10. Kanpur University	28.30	18.06
11. Kumaon University	28.51	111.30

1	2	3
12. Lucknow University	132.84	139.19
13. Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith	63.13	19.20
14. M. J. P. Rohilkhand University, Bareilly	113.83	36.53
15. Roorkee University	281.91	388.23
16. Sampuranand Sanskrit Viswa Vidyalaya	26.48	31.12
West Bengal		
1. Burdwan University	177.26	82.22
2. B. C. Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya	0.40	0.04
3. Calcutta University	262.53	260.95
4. Jadavpur University	241.82	259.96
5. Kalyani University	34.54	39.08
6. North Bengal University	27.62	60.85
7. Rabindra Bharti	8.59	18.78
8. Vidya Sagar University	18.97	65.22

Statement-II

Statement showing grants released by University Grants Commission to the colleges affiliated to various universities 1995-96 and 1996-97.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the University	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4
CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES			
1.	Banaras Hindu University	186.95	137.25
2.	Delhi University	9117.05	1078.12
3.	North Eastern Hill University	22.87	49.40
4.	Pondicherry University	18.72	—
STATE UNIVERSITIES			
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	Andhra University	121.30	212.55
2.	Jawaharlal Nehru Technical University	—	4.12
3.	Kakatiya University	30.24	36.98
4.	Nagarjuna University	46.66	130.78
5.	Osmania University	56.58	81.85
6.	Sri Krishna Devaraya University	40.74	43.90
7.	Sri Venkateswara University	7.19	52.61

1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh			
1.	Arunachal University	4.74	14.15
Assam			
1.	Dibrugarh University	165.38	106.43
2.	Gauhati University	55.86	110.73
Bihar			
1.	Tilak Maghai Bhagalpur University	27.48	17.68
2.	Babasaheb B. R. A. Bihar University	20.31	40.20
3.	K. S. Dharbhanga Sanskrit University	—	1.00
4.	Magadh University	71.17	68.94
5.	Jai Prakash University, Chhapra	—	0.55
6.	L. N. Mithila University	29.55	58.17
7.	Patna University	1.92	13.72
8.	Ranchi University	87.69	81.10
9.	Vinoba Bhave University	—	15.52
10.	B. N. Mandal University	—	6.60
11.	Veer Kunwar Singh University	—	1.00
Haryana			
1.	Kurukshetra University	100.28	135.22
2.	Maharishi Dayanand University	36.85	108.41
Gujarat			
1.	Bhavnagar University	10.95	32.26
2.	Gujarat University	73.87	145.93
3.	North Gujarat University	18.52	66.92
4.	Sardar Patel University	24.87	35.33
5.	Saurashtra University	18.67	51.06
6.	South Gujarat University	15.10	56.26
Goa			
1.	Goa University	15.23	18.94
Himachal Pradesh			
1.	Himachal Pradesh University	64.77	91.79
2.	Himachal Pradesh Krishi University	—	0.09
Jammu & Kashmir			
1.	Jammu University	—	41.00
2.	Kashmir University	—	64.86

1	2	3	4
Karnataka			
1.	Bangalore University	—	120.43
2.	Gulbarga University	—	32.57
3.	Karnataka University	—	148.50
4.	Kovempu University	—	30.28
5.	Mangalore University	—	63.18
6.	Mysore University	—	51.83
Kerala			
1.	Calicut University	31.38	65.13
2.	Kerala University	14.16	38.15
3.	Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam	55.50	127.52
Manipur			
1.	Manipur University, Imphal	24.49	80.63
Madhya Pradesh			
1.	Avdesh P. Singh University	17.53	97.99
2.	Barkatullah V. Vidyalaya	63.23	113.98
3.	Indira Kala Sangeet University	2.30	5.57
4.	Devi Ahilya V. Vidyalaya	62.84	78.17
5.	Rani Durgavati V. Vidyalaya	71.95	86.44
6.	Jiwaji University	42.18	121.75
7.	Pandit Ravi Shankar Sukla University	21.09	59.86
8.	Dr. H. S. Gour University	34.39	40.05
9.	Vikram University	35.39	69.40
10.	Guru Ghasidas University, Bilaspur	46.97	124.85
Maharashtra			
1.	Amravati University	24.81	131.34
2.	Bombay University	103.55	146.46
3.	Dr. B. A. Marathwada University	107.80	161.37
4.	Nagpur University	47.56	114.30
5.	North Maharashtra University	28.05	81.27
6.	Poona University	145.38	225.04
7.	S. N. D. T. Women's University	15.79	45.46
8.	Shivaji University	74.16	134.56
9.	S. R. T. Marathwada University	3.07	47.72

1	2	3	4
Orissa			
1.	Berhampur University	12.40	31.87
2.	Sambalpur University	17.05	74.70
3.	Utkal University	119.84	147.17
Punjab			
1.	Guru Nanak Dev University	108.67	114.36
2.	Punjab University	107.09	148.08
3.	Punjabi University	13.67	49.78
Rajasthan			
1.	J. N. Vyas University, Jodhpur	3.34	6.04
2.	M. D. S. University, Ajmer	126.07	193.52
3.	M. L. Sukhadia Vishwavidyalaya	11.33	42.13
4.	Rajasthan University	94.35	158.81
Tamil Nadu			
1.	Bharathiar University, Coimbatore	15.76	99.03
2.	Bharathidesan University	74.95	93.41
3.	Madras University	88.56	171.42
4.	Madurai Kamraj University	115.41	138.23
5.	M. Sundamar University	29.37	100.37
Tripura			
1.	Tripura University	8.81	18.66
Uttar Pradesh			
1.	Allahabad University	15.14	33.70
2.	Bundelkhand University	17.10	15.83
3.	Ch. Charan Singh (Meerut) University	97.68	139.04
4.	Dr. Bhimrao A. (Agra) University	32.85	127.52
5.	Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia (Avadh) University	48.80	61.56
6.	Gorakhpur University	67.11	80.37
7.	H.N.B. (Garhwal) University	22.00	57.31
8.	Kanpur University	83.11	134.21
9.	Kumaon University	0.85	14.53
10.	Lucknow University	22.52	33.25
11.	M.J.P. Rohilkhand University, Bareilly	90.60	73.87
12.	Purvanchal University	0.06	38.37

1	2	3	4
West Bengal			
1.	Burdwan University	52.49	104.60
2.	Calcutta University	272.47	259.73
3.	Jadavpur University	—	3.30
4.	Kalyani University	2.20	7.29
5.	North Bengal University	28.88	79.34
6.	Vidya Sagar University	26.73	69.83

[*Translation*]

(c) If so, the details thereof ?

Coverage by AIR/Doordarshan Network

*297. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the areas not covered by the AIR and Doordarshan Network in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more T.V. transmitters and AIR Stations in the country to cover the entire areas in the country; and

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Details of Statewise uncovered areas are given in statement-I.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. It has been the constant endeavour of the Govt. to increase and provide Radio/TV coverage in hitherto uncovered areas. Details of various new Radio/TV Transmitters, presently under implementation are in Statement-II. These are expected to improve Radio/TV coverage in uncovered areas.

Statement-I

State-wise details showing approximate radio and doordarshan uncovered areas

1	2	Doordarshan Area (%)	All India Radio Area (%)
1	2	3	4
I. States			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21.5	2.0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	86.1	2.0
3.	Assam	26.0	17.0
4.	Bihar	5.6	*
5.	Goa	0.1	*
6.	Gujarat	28.7	*
7.	Haryana	3.4	*
8.	Himachal Pradesh	59.0	45.0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	66.3	68.0
10.	Karnataka	31.8	5.0
11.	Kerala	13.1	4.0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	33.2	4.0
13.	Maharashtra	24.3	2.0

1	2	3	4
14.	Manipur	67.9	*
15.	Meghalaya	5.4	4.0
16.	Mizoram	32.4	11.0
17.	Nagaland	31.5	4.0
18.	Orissa	20.4	3.0
19.	Punjab	0.1	*
20.	Rajasthan	43.7	8.0
21.	Sikkim	22.6	30.0
22.	Tamil Nadu	8.8	*
23.	Tripura	6.5	*
24.	Uttar Pradesh	19.6	10.5
25.	West Bengal	4.6	*
II. Union Territories			
1.	A & N Islands	73.8	20.0
2.	Chandigarh	0.1	*
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	34.8	*
4.	Delhi	0.1	*
5.	Daman & Diu	0.1	*
6.	L & M Islands	1.0	*
7.	Pondicherry	0.1	*

Note: 1. Terrain conditions not taken into consideration.

* Coverage in these States can normally be taken as 100% i.e., without taking into consideration the special requirement of certain situations, i.e., favourable atmospheric conditions. Coverage in J&K and Sikkim is 98% and 95% by population respectively. This is because of concentrated population pockets in these hilly areas.

Statement-II

Statement indicating details of Radio/TV transmitters presently under implementation: State-wise

1	2	Doordarshan	All India Radio
1	2	3	4
I. States			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	—
3.	Assam	4	3
4.	Bihar	11	—
5.	Goa	0	—
6.	Gujarat	20	—

1	2	3	4
7.	Haryana	5	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	20	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	15	1
10.	Karnataka	22	1
11.	Kerala	10	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	27	—
13.	Maharashtra	36	—
14.	Manipur	3	—
15.	Meghalaya	2	1
16.	Mizoram	2	—
17.	Nagaland	3	1
18.	Orissa	28	3
19.	Punjab	2	—
20.	Rajasthan	28	1
21.	Sikkim	1	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	16	—
23.	Tripura	6	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	44	2
25.	West Bengal	10	—
II. Union Territories			
1.	A & N Islands	0	1
2.	Chandigarh	0	—
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	—
4.	Delhi	0	—
5.	Daman & Diu	0	—
6.	L & M Islands	0	—
7.	Pondicherry	1	—
Total		356	14

Sanskrit as Compulsory Language

*298 SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to make San-

skrit a compulsory language under the three language formula in the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOP-

MENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Loss of Power due to Transmission
and Distribution**

*299. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently estimated the loss of quantity of power due to transmission and distribution;

(b) If so, the total loss in comparison to the total generation of power;

(c) whether the loss of power varies from State to State;

(d) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(e) The steps being taken to minimise/eliminate the transmission loss?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Based on the information furnished by the State Electricity Boards, the quantum of power losses due to Transmission and Distribution is estimated by the Central Electricity Authority. The transmission and distribution losses for the year 1995-96 for each State/Union Territory is given in the Statement enclosed.

The transmission and Distribution losses depend largely on the pattern of loading of transmission and distribution lines, type of loads, design of lines number of distribution stages, installation of capacitors, meter reading errors, defective meter, theft and pilferage of energy, etc. These conditions vary from State to State, therefore, transmission and distribution losses vary from State to State.

(e) The responsibility for distribution of electricity vests with the State Governments/State Electricity Boards. In order to reduce the Transmission and Distribution losses, the

Central Electricity Authority has issued guidelines which, inter alia, provides for the following:

- Upgradation of operating voltages;
- reduction of length of LT lines;
- location of transformers near load centres;
- adoption of low capacity transformers at consumer's premises.
- installation of shunt capacitors.
- improvement in construction and operation techniques; and
- systematic and methodological approach for planning and design of distribution system on the long term basis.

The central Electricity Authority has also issued guidelines for conducting energy audit. These guidelines lays down the procedure for conducting energy audit studies and provide a methodology for segregating technical and commercial losses.

Necessary amendments have also been enacted to the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 to make the theft of electricity a cognizable offence.

In the Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power announced in December, 1996, after consultation with the State Governments, the following measures have been suggested for reduction of transmission and Distribution losses:

- (i) Compulsory metering at substations on all major feeders.
- (ii) Compulsory metering of all new electricity connections. Also connections to agricultural sector exceeding 10 HP should be completed within a period of two years.
- (iii) All electric supplies to be metered by 2002 A.D.
- (iv) Compulsory annual energy audit to be ensured in respect of large consumers of more than 100 KVA load.
- (v) Time of the day metering would be introduced for big power consumers for better load management.

Statement

Percentage transformation, transmission and distribution losses (including commercial losses such as pilferage etc.) in SEB/s EDs for the year 1995-96.

Region	State Elec Board/Elec. Department	1995-96
1	2	3
NORTHERN	1. Haryana	32.39
REGION2.	Himachal Pradesh	16.09
	3. Jammu & Kashmir	47.52
	4. Punjab	18.49
	5. Rajasthan	29.27
	6. Uttar Pradesh	21.84
	7. Chandigarh	33.72
	8. DESU	48.57
WESTERN	1. Gujarat	20.08
REGION2.	Madhya Pradesh	17.84
	3. Maharashtra	16.95
	4. D&N Haveli	9.31
	5. Goa	26.06
	6. Daman & Diu	12.80
SOUTHERN	1. Andhra Pradesh	19.34
REGION2.	Karnataka	19.06
	3. Kerala	21.12
	4. Tamil Nadu	16.19
	5. Lakshadweep	17.23
	6. Pondicherry	16.54
EASTERN	1. Bihar	15.91
REGION2.	Orissa 24.17	
	3. Sikkim	16.47
	4. West Bengal	19.26
	5. A&N Island	19.25
NORTH-	1. Assam	26.91
EASTERN	2. Manipur	24.85
REGION3.	Meghalaya	12.55
	4. Nagaland	35.17
	5. Tripura	30.86
	6. Arunachal Pradesh	37.12
	7. Mizoram	25.18
	All India Utilities	22.27

*[English]***Promotion of Distance Education**

*300 SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether steps have been taken to promote distance education in the country; and

(b) If so, the number of open universities established in the country so far?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indira Gandhi National Open University was established in 1985 with the objective, among others, of promoting the open University and Distance Education System in the educational pattern of the country. For the performance of this function, a Distance Education Council (DEC) has been established under the IGNOU Act in 1992. The DEC is engaged in the establishment and development of an Open University Network in the country linking IGNOU and all State Open Universities through sharing programme, facilities and materials. The DEC also provides financial support to State Open Universities for their development after they are declared fit by the UGC for such assistance as per provisions in the UGC Act.

(b) Establishment of Open Universities in the States is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. So far, the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and West Bengal have established Open Universities.

Increase in Intake in IITs/IIMs

*301 SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to double the number of seats in Indian Institutes of Technology and Indian Institutes of Management;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to set up more Indian Institutes of Management to cope with the increase in demand for management personnel in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) With a view to optimally utilising the resources available, the Government propose to increase the students intake in Indian Institutes of Technology at Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur, Kharagpur and Madras and Indian Institutes of Management at Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Calcutta. The scale of increase can, however, be decided only after considering various relevant factors.

(c) At present, there is no proposal to start more Indian Institutes of Management in the country.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of Power Project by APSEB and HPCL

2806. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 500 MW power project is being jointly set up at Visakhapatnam by the State Electricity Board and HPCL;

(b) If so, the details thereof inter alia indicating the time schedule of its completion, expenditure involved and progress achieved under the project; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The project is at a preliminary stage and firming up of the details such as cost and completion schedule, etc., would depend on the tying up of all the necessary inputs/clearances and finalisation of the detailed feasibility report.

*[Translation]***Narora Atomic Power Plant**

2807. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a serious environmental problem has arisen in the adjoining areas due to emitting of dust from Narora Atomic Power Plant situated in district Bulandshahar;

(b) if, so the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Union Government are contemplating to formulate any effective scheme to save from the pollution created by such type of establishments situated in Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) to (e) The Information is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the House.

*[English]***Separation of Judiciary from Executive**

2808. Dr. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation demanding steps to separate judiciary from executive in the hill districts of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to establish separate judiciary in the hill districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the Government of Assam and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Expeditions Undertaken by
National Institute of Oceanography**

2809. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of expeditions undertaken by the National Institute of Oceanography, Panaji, Goa so far;
- (b) the main objectives and achievements made by each expedition; and
- (c) the details of expeditions proposed to be undertaken with or without foreign collaboration, separately in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Goa, had organised the first Indian Expedition to Antarctica in the year 1981. Thereafter the Department of Ocean Development is organising the expeditions to Antarctica.

- (b) The main objectives of the first expedition were to: explore the ocean around antarctica - South of 40° S-in the Indian ocean sector; explore the possibility of landing on icy continent if climate favours and ship can search the landing through pack ice; establish a summer station on icy shelf; and initiate scientific work on climate, glaciology, biology, ionosphere and geomagnetism on the Antarctic continent.

The significant achievements of the first expedition were related to: setting up an unmanned station "Dakshin Gangotri"; setting up an Automatic Weather Monitoring system with indigenous solar panels to record data on magnetic tapes; carrying out work on oceanography, meteorology, geology, geomagnetism and glaciology of the area; collecting rock samples from the outcrops and conducting continuous echosounding magnetic field intensity and other geophysical studies. The whole exercise was carried out as "Operation Gangotri".

- (c) Presently there is no proposal for any expedition to be undertaken with or without foreign collaboration by NIO.

[Translation]

Setting up of the NTPC at Korba

2810. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of private land acquired for setting up of National Thermal Power Corporation at Korba;
- (b) the number of families displaced due to the acquisition of lands;

(c) whether the displaced persons have been given employment; and

- (d) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) acquired 2392.90 acres of private land for Korba Super Thermal Power Station.

- (b) 907 families were affected.

(c) and (d) 318 persons from the affected families of Korba have been provided employment in NTPC.

Power Plants involve limited direct employment opportunities. They create down-stream employment and productivity. NTPC has also been initiating self-income generating schemes for the affected populations of projects through award of petty contracts to land oustees co-operatives/groups, jobs with NTPC contractors, setting-up of ash brick plants for operation by land oustees, financing and engaging of 4 wheelers (jeeps/ambulances/tractor trolley) on hire with NTPC, dairy farming and shop allotment.

Uniformity in Education

2811. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government have any scheme to implement a uniform elementary, secondary and higher education in the country; and
- (b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) In terms of the existing National Educational Policy, the Government have accepted the concept of a National System of Education which implies that, up to a given level, all students, irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality. Under this common educational structure, the system of 10+2+3 has been accepted throughout the country. The National Curricular Framework also contains a common core alongwith other components that are flexible.

The policy also envisages inter-regional mobility in higher education in general and technical education in particular by providing equal access to every Indian of requisite merit, regardless of this origins.

[English]

Tissue Culture

2812. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent to which Tissue Culture has been

introduced in agriculture alongwith the increase registered in agriculture yield as a result thereof;

(b) the name of the laboratories, research centres and agriculture universities imparting training in Tissue culture and the number of students getting training in these institutions; and

(c) the benefits of Tissue Culture in comparison to the General techniques of cultivation alongwith its comparative cost?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Plant Tissue Culture technique has been used for generating novel varieties in different crop plants like oil seed brassicas, bengal gram, moong bean, groundnut etc. Regeneration protocol is also available for wheat varieties and indica rice. As a result, plants with high yield, with better nutritional value, disease-free and of superior quality have been obtained. The complete regeneration protocol has been perfected for production of horticultural and plantation crops such as Banana, Citrus, Potato, Sugarcane, Coffee and Pepper. The Department of Biotechnology has set up two Tissue Culture Pilot Plant Units for large scale production of elite tree species including agro-forestry. Nearly 40 lakh plantlets have been produced and planted over an area of 3,500 ha. Five times increase in yield and returns have been reported from tissue culture raised plants as compared to conventionally raised plants.

(b) A number of Universities/Research Institutions all over the country are engaged in Plant Tissue Culture activities. The Department of Biotechnology has supported M.Sc. Agricultural Biotechnology at 3 Universities — Assam Agriculture University, Jorhat; Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Coimbatore and G.B Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar. The students are provided training in plant tissue culture techniques. Nearly 30 students are admitted each year. Approx 300 students have been trained so far. In addition the Centres for Plant Molecular Biology and the Micropropagation Technology Parks set up by DBT also offer training on plant tissue culture.

(c) Plant Tissue Culture techniques help in producing large quantities of elite planting material which are true-to-type. The multiplication rate is much faster than the conventional technique. In addition, disease-free planting material is produced and it helps in overcoming fertilization barriers through somatic hybridization and embryo rescue techniques. Plant tissue culture technology is a good tool supplement to the conventional techniques.

Forestry Development in Karnataka

2813. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the financial grants provided to the Karnataka State for Forestry development during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98, project-wise;

(b) whether the utilisation of grants has been found to

be satisfactory;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the action proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) to (d) The central assistance to the Government of Karnataka under the major schemes of afforestation, in which grants are given to the State Governments, in the period 1995-96 to 1997-98 is as follows:

Scheme	Central Assistance Released (Rs in lakhs)		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Integration Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme	372.90	229.98	143.72
Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme	214.98	245.39	195.31
Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants	35.02	30.00	43.00
Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of the Degraded Forests on usufruct sharing basis.	24.88	11.41	5.70

The evaluations done so far of the projects of the Eighth Plan Period have found the utilisation of grants to be satisfactory.

Installation of Telephone Towers

2814. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Kerala Government for the installation of telephone towers in the State during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):
(a) No Sir.

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

[Translation]

Centrally Aided Projects in U.P.

2815. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally aided environmental projects launched in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the details of the achievements attained so far and

the amount provided for each of these projects; and

(c) the details of such projects proposed to be launched in the State in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Details of Centrally aided environmental projects launched in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years alongwith achievements attained so far and the amount provided by the Ministry for each of these projects, are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) All the ongoing projects are likely to be continued in the State in the near future.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Broad Objective	Status	Achievement during the last three years 1995-96, 96-97 & 97-98	
				Financial	Physical
1.	Paryavaran Vahini Scheme	Create environmental awareness through active participation of public	Ongoing	11.68	Constituted in 14 districts
2.	Biosphere Reserves	To set up Biosphere Reserves	Ongoing	113.72	1. Biosphere Reserve covered.
3.	Assistance to Botanic Gardens	To upgrade Botanic Gardens/Field Centres	Ongoing	22.05	5 Botanic Garden/Field Centres covered.
4.	Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP-World Bank Project on Industrial Pollution Control	Setting up of CETP, Laboratories and Training Programmes	Ongoing	95.75	2 CETP completed & commissioned
5.	Abatement of Pollution	Assistance for strengthening State Pollution Control Boards/ Departments of Environment	Ongoing	166.00	For construction of Laboratories in the State
6.	Eco Task Forces	To undertake ecological restoration in highly degraded and fragile areas	Ongoing	431.48	3000 ha. area covered
7.	Ganga Action Plan-I	Abatement of river water Pollution	Ongoing	1417.00	Out of total 106 sub schemes in UP 105 have been completed till 1.3.98
8.	Ganga Action Plan-II	Abatement of river water Pollution	Ongoing	498.17	15 sub schemes/DPRs at an estimated cost of Rs. 686 lakhs approved.
9.	Gomti Action Plan	Abatement of river water pollution	Ongoing	525.50	16 sub-schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 1410.24 lakhs approved.
10.	Yamuna Action Plan	Abatement of river water Pollution	Ongoing	7072.50	31 sub schemes at an estimated Cost of Rs. 15569.25 Lakhs approved.

[English]

Youth Hostels in the Country

2816. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI D.S. AHIRE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to State:

(a) the number of youth hostels at present operational in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government have cleared the proposals of Andhra Pradesh Government for setting up of three youth hostels in the State;

(c) if so, the places where these hostels would be set up; and

(d) whether Centre have also released Rs. 30 lakh assistance for the youth hostel at Visakhapatnam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) At present, 53 Youth Hostels have been completed and taken over by the State Governments. The State-wise details is given in the enclosed statement. Of these, except Padam Mapusa (Goa), Jabalpur (M.P.) and Vijayawada (A.P.) which have been completed recently, all others are operational.

(b) and (c) Central Government have so far cleared the proposals for setting up of Youth Hostels in six places in the State of Andhra Pradesh, viz. Secunderabad, Tirupati, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, Nagarjunasagar. Of these, two Hostels at Secunderabad and Tirupati are operational. Youth Hostel at Vijayawada has recently been completed and taken over by the State Government. The remaining three Youth Hostels are at various stages of construction.

(d) Rs. 39,86,034/- have so far been released for Youth Hostel, Visakhapatnam.

Statement

S.No.	Name of State/ UT	No. of Youth Hostels completed and taken over by State Govts.
1	2	3
01.	Andhra Pradesh	3
02.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
03.	Assam	3
04.	Bihar	1
05.	Gujarat	1
06.	Haryana	3
07.	Himachal Pradesh	2
08.	Jammu & Kashmir	1

1	2	3
09.	Karnataka	3
10.	Kerala	3
11.	Maharashtra	1
12.	Manipur	2
13.	Meghalaya	2
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2
15.	Nagaland	1
16.	Mizoram	1
17.	Punjab	3
18.	Rajasthan	2
19.	Tamil Nadu	4
20.	Uttar Pradesh	3
21.	A. & N. Island	1
22.	West Bengal	1
23.	Pondicherry	1
24.	Tripura	1
25.	Orissa	4
26.	Goa	2
27.	Sikkim	1
Total		53

CLB Decision in Respect of Non-Payment of Deposits

2817. SHRI K.P. NAIDU: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Company Law Board (CLB) Bench, Eastern Region Branch, Calcutta has taken any decision on February 16, 1998 in respect of non-payment of interest and principal amount taken as fixed deposit by M/s Helios Corporation Ltd., Patna;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT: (Dr. M. T. IAMBI DURAI): (a) to (c) The Company Law Board (CLB) Eastern Region Branch, Calcutta had issued a notice to M/s Helios Corporation Ltd., Patna to appear before it on 16.2.98 in connection with allegation of non-payment of interest and principal amount taken as deposit. However no one from the company appeared before it. The Board is now contemplating issuing notice to all the directors and the company for their reply to allegation of non-payment of deposit after ascertaining names and addresses of all the directors from Registrar of companies, Patna.

Simultaneously, the Reserve Bank of India, Department of Supervision (Financial Companies) Calcutta has also been kept informed.

Setting up of Super Thermal Power Plant in Bihar

2818. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the setting up of a super thermal power plant at Nabinagar in Bihar;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in conducting the feasibility studies and preparing the project report; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take for early completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Thermal Power Corporation Limited has initiated action for preparation of the feasibility report for Nabinagar mega power project and the tender for EIA studies package has been awarded. Tenders for other packages namely geo-technical investigation and topographical survey are in advanced stages for finalisation of award.

(c) Power Grid Corporation of India had issued the notice inviting tender for this project on 18th August, 1997 and due to inadequate response, the last date of sale for tender document was extended to 31st December, 1997. As the response continued to be poor even after the extension, it was decided not to pursue this tender.

[Translation]

Amount for Gujarat from Central Road Fund

2819. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for Gujarat out of the Central Road Fund during the last three years; and

(b) the details of the works carried out by Gujarat in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The amount allocated to Gujarat from Central Road Fund is as follows:

S.No.	Year	Amount allocated (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	1995-96	139.00
2.	1996-97	114.00
3.	1997-98	116.00

(b) During the last three years a total number of 4 works at an estimated cost of Rs. 340 lakhs and C.R.F. share of Rs. 329.70 lakhs have been sanctioned to the State of

Gujarat. The responsibility of execution of various works sanctioned under C.R.F. lies with the concerned State Govts.

Speed Post Facility

2820. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANA-BAD): Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the names of cities/towns where Speed Post facility is available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): The names of the cities/towns where Speed Post facility is available in the country are mentioned in the list enclosed as Statement-I On National Network and Statement-II Point to Point Service.

Statement-I

Speed Post Service available National Network

1. Agartala
2. Agra
3. Ajmer
4. Ahmedabad
5. Allahabad
6. Acomissionemritsar
7. Aluva (Alwaye)
8. Bangalore
9. Bhopal
10. Bhubaneswar
11. Calcutta
12. Calicut
13. Chandigarh
14. Coimbatore
15. Cuttack
16. Dehradun
17. Delhi
18. Dhanbad
19. Faridabad
20. Gangtok
21. Gandhinagar
22. Gorakhpur
23. Gurgaon
24. Guwahati

25. Gwalior
26. Hyderabad
27. Hubli-Dharwad
28. Howrah
29. Hosur
30. Imphal
31. Indore
32. Jaipur
33. Jalandhar
34. Jammu
35. Jamshedpur
36. Jodhpur
37. Kanchipuram
38. Kanpur
39. Kochi
40. Kollam
41. Kottayam
42. Lucknow
43. Ludhiana
44. Madras
45. Madurai
46. Mangalore
47. Meerut
48. Moradabad
49. Mumbai
50. Mysore
51. Nagpur
52. Nasik
53. Patna
54. Panaji
55. Pondicherry
56. Pune
57. Raipur
58. Rajpur
59. Ranchi
60. Salem
61. Shillong

62. Shimla
63. Silchar
64. Siliguri
65. Srinagar
66. Surat
67. Tirupati
68. Tirupur
69. Thiruvananthapuram
70. Trichi
71. Trissur
72. Udaipur
73. Udupi
74. Vadodara
75. Varanasi
76. Vijayawada
77. Visakhapatnam
78. 56 APO
79. 99 APO

Statement-II

Point to point Speed Post Service is available in the following cities and towns.

Sl.No.	Circle/State	Cities
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Anantapur
		2. Cudapah
		3. Eluru
		4. Guntur
		5. Kurnool
		6. Kakinada
		7. Khammam
		8. Kothagudem
		9. Karimnagar
		10. Machilipatnam

1	2	3	1	2	3
		11. Mahabubnagar			8. Girdih
		12. Mancherial			9. Gaya
		13. Neilore			10. Katihar
		14. Nizamabad			11. Jehanabad
		15. Nalgonda			12. Motihari
		16. Ongole			13. Munger
		17. Prashantilayam			14. Muzaffarpur
		18. Rajamundry			15. Purnea
		19. Tanku			16. Siwan
		20. Tenaly	4. Delhi		Nil
		21. Warangal	5. Gujarat		1. Anand
2. Assam	1.	Bongaigaon			2. Morbi
	2.	Diphu			3. Silvassa & Daman
	3.	Dhubri			4. V.V. Nagar
	4.	Dibrugarh			5. V.U. Nagar
	5.	Gargata	6. Haryana		1. Ambala Cantt.
	6.	Golaghat			2. Ambala
	7.	Hailakhandi			3. Bhiwani
	8.	Halfong			4. Hissar
	9.	Jorhat			5. Jind
	10.	Kokrajhar			6. Karnal
	11.	Karimganj			7. Kurushetra
	12.	Mangaldoi			8. Kaithal
	13.	Nalbari			9. Panchkula
	14.	North Lakhimpur			10. Panipat
	15.	Nowagaon			11. Rohtak
	16.	Tinsukia			12. Sonipat
	17.	Sibsagr	7. Himachal Pradesh		1. Baddi
3. Bihar	1.	Arah			2. Bllaspur
	2.	Begusarai			3. Chamba
	3.	Bettiah			4. Dalhousie
	4.	Bhagalpur			5. Dhramshala
	5.	Bokaro Steel City			6. Hamirpur
	6.	Bihar Sharif			7. Kasauli
	7.	Darbhanga			8. Kullu

1	2	3	1	2	3
		9. Mandi			4. Irinjalakuda
		10. Manali			5. Kannur
		11. Nahan			6. Manjeri
		12. Palampur			7. Palakkad
		13. Parwanoo			8. Pathanamthitta
		14. Rampur			9. Triuvalla
		15. Recong Peo	11. Madhya Pradesh	1. Jabalpur	
		16. Solan		2. Durg	
		17. Sundernagar		3. Bhilai	
		18. Theog		4. Bilaspur	
		19. Una		5. Raigarh	
8. J&K		1. Udhampur		6. Jagdalpur	
9. Karnataka		1. Ananthpur		7. Sagar	
		2. Belgaum		8. Ujjain	
		3. Bellary		9. Khajuraho	
		4. Bidar		10. Devas	
		5. Bijapur		11. Mhow	
		6. Chikmagalur		12. Dhar	
		7. Chitradurga		13. Pithampur	
		8. Davangere		14. Khandwa	
		9. Gulbarga		15. Ambikapur	
		10. Hassan		16. Vidisha	
		11. Karwar		17. Katni	
		12. Kolar		18. Rajnandgaon	
		13. Medikeri		19. Rewa	
		14. Mandya		20. Satna	
		15. Manipai		21. Seoni	
		16. Puttur		22. Mandla	
		17. Raichur		23. Balaghat	
		18. Shimoga		24. Sahdol	
		19. Tumkur		25. Sidhi	
		20. Shantiniketan		26. Chindwara	
10. Kerala		1. Agathy (Lakshadweep)		27. Betul	
		2. Alleppy		28. Birlagram Nagda	
		3. Chalakudy		29. Jaora	

1	2	3	1	2	3
		30. Khargone			30. Miraj
		31. Mandsour			31. Nanded
		32. Nephanager			32. Osmanabad
		33. Neemuch			33. Panvel
		34. Ratlam			34. Pen
		35. Mangalla			35. Panchgani
12. <i>Maharashtra</i>	1.	<i>Alibag</i>			36. Pandharpur
	2.	<i>Ahmednagar</i>			37. Parbhani
	3.	<i>Amravti</i>			38. Roha
	4.	<i>Aurangabad</i>			39. Ratnagiri
	5.	<i>Akola</i>			40. Satara
	6.	<i>Bhayandar</i>			41. Shirdi
	7.	<i>Bhandara</i>			42. Sholapur
	8.	<i>Beed</i>			43. Sangli
	9.	<i>Bhusaval</i>			44. Thane
	10.	<i>Chandrapur</i>			45. Vashi
	11.	<i>Chiplun</i>			46. Vasai
	12.	<i>Chakan</i>			47. Virar
	13.	<i>Dehu Road Cantt.</i>			48. Wardha
	14.	<i>Dhule</i>			49. Yeotmal
	15.	<i>Ichakaranji</i>	13. <i>North East</i>		
	16.	<i>Jejuri</i>		<i>Arunachal Pradesh</i>	1. <i>Itanagar</i>
	17.	<i>Jalna</i>			2. <i>Naharlaguin</i>
	18.	<i>Jalgaon</i>		<i>Meghalaya</i>	3. <i>Tura</i>
	19.	<i>Khandala</i>		<i>Mizoram</i>	4. <i>Aizawl</i>
	20.	<i>Karad</i>			5. <i>Lunglei</i>
	21.	<i>Kopergaon</i>			6. <i>Kolasib</i>
	22.	<i>Kolhapur</i>		<i>Nagaland</i>	7. <i>Kohima</i>
	23.	<i>Latur</i>			8. <i>Dimapur</i>
	24.	<i>Lote</i>	14. <i>Orissa</i>		1. <i>Angul</i>
	25.	<i>Lonavala</i>			2. <i>Bargarh</i>
	26.	<i>Mahad</i>			3. <i>Burla</i>
	27.	<i>Mira Road</i>			4. <i>Bhawanipatna</i>
	28.	<i>Mahabaleshwar</i>			5. <i>Bolangir</i>
	29.	<i>Malagaon</i>			6. <i>Belpahar</i>

1	2	3	1	2	3
		7. Bhadrak			8. Pali
		8. Berhampur			9. Sriganaganagar
		9. Belasore	17. Tamil Nadu		1. Annamalai Nagar
		10. Baripada			2. Bodinayakannur
		11. Chatrapur			3. Kuddalure
		12. Damonjodi			4. Dindigul
		13. Dhenkanal			5. Dharmapuri
		14. Dopalpur			6. Erode
		15. Jharsuguda			7. Krur
		16. Jeypure			8. Karaikudi
		17. Jatni			9. Kumbakonam
		18. J.K. Pur			10. Kovilpatti
		19. Korapur			11. Mayiladuthurai
		20. Khurda			12. Nayveli
		21. Kaniha			13. Nagapptinam
		22. Phulbani			14. Nagercoil
		23. Paradeep			15. Pudukottai
		24. Puri			16. Paramakudi
		25. Rayagada			17. Pollachi
		26. Rourkela			18. Pattukottai
		27. Sambhalpur			19. Rajaplayam
		28. Sunabeda			20. Ramanathapuram
15. Punjab		1. Bhatinda			21. Sivaganga
		2. Hoshiarpur			22. Sivakashi
		3. Kapurthala			23. Tiruvannamalai
		4. Pathankot			24. Thanjavur
		5. Patiala			25. Trunelveli
		6. Rajpura			26. Tuticorin
16. Rajasthan		1. Alwar			27. Theni
		2. Bharatpur			28. Vellore
		3. Bikaner			29. Villupuram
		4. Jaisalmer			30. Virudhunagar
		5. Kota	18. Uttar Pradesh		1. Aligarh
		6. Mount Abu			2. Azamgarh
		7. Pilani			3. Bahraich

1	2	3
		4. Balrampur
		5. Ballia
		6. Barabanki
		7. Bareilly
		8. Barhni
		9. Bhadohi
		10. Basti
		11. Deoria
		12. Faizabad
		13. Ferozabad
		14. Gonda
		15. Ghaziabad
		16. Haridwar
		17. Hardoi
		18. Haldwani
		19. Jhansi
		20. Kheri
		21. Khalilabad
		22. Kotdwar
		23. Mathura
		24. Modinagar
		25. Mau
		26. Manakpur
		27. Mussoorie
		28. Muzaffar Nagar
		29. Nainital
		30. Noida
		31. Pauri
		32. Pillbhit
		33. Pratapgarh
		34. Raibareli
		35. Rampur
		36. Roorkee
		37. Saharanpur
		38. Sahajahanpur

1	2	3
		39. Sitapur
19.	West Bengal	1. Asansol
		2. Berhampur
		3. Burdwan
		4. Chinsurah
		5. Darjeeling
		6. Durgapur
		7. Haldia
		8. Ichapur - Nababganj
		9. Jalpaiguri
		10. Kharagpur
		11. Port Blair (A&N Island)
		12. Shanti Niketan

[English]

**Increase in Telecast Time of
Regional Service on Doordarshan**

2821. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the telecast time of regional service on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati has already decided to extend the time for regional programmes from 1st April, 1998. Necessary instructions have also been issued to the Kendras in this regard. The regional Kendras can now start programmes in their respective languages from 2.30 p.m. instead of 4.30 p.m.

[Translation]

**Construction of Four Lane Roads and
Bypass on N.H. No. 17**

2822. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to change National Highway No. 17 connecting Goa with Mumbai in Maharashtra into four lane roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any by-pass is also being constructed on Mumbai-Goa Highway for the convenience of major cities like Panwale, Kolad, Mangaon; and

(d) if so, the time by which this proposal is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Facilities to Scientists

2823. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of scientists working at different places in CSIR;

(b) whether the service conditions in CSIR need improvement;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to make amendments in the service rule and provide better facilities for the scientists working in the CSIR; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) A statement showing the number of Scientists working in various National Laboratories/Institutes of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and its Headquarters is enclosed.

(b) to (d) CSIR has been a pioneer in devising career advancement Schemes for its Scientists. As career advancement is based on the system of flexible complementing, a person who joins at the entry level i.e. in Group IV (1) in the scale of Rs. 8000-12500 has ample opportunity, provided one fulfills the prescribed qualifications, to reach Group IV (7) i.e., the level of Director or equivalent in the scale of Rs. 18400-22400. Career advancement in CSIR is not linked with availability of vacancies, thus the avenues for advancement are not limited.

Statement

Name of the Lab./Instt.	No. of Scientists in Position
1	2
1. Central Building Research Instt. Roorkee	147
2. Centre for Biochemical Technology, Delhi	039
3. Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology, Hyd.	073
4. Central Drug Research Instt., Lucknow	172
5. Central Electrochemical Research Instt. Karaikudi.	190
6. Central Electronics Engineering Research Instt. Pilan	176
7. Central Fuel Research Institute, Dhanbad	148
8. Central Food Technological Research Instt. Mysore	252
9. Central Glass & Ceramic Research Instt., Calcutta	116
10. Central Institute of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants, Lucknow	106
11. Central Leather Research Institute, Chennai	127
12. Central Mechanical Engineering Research Instt. Durgapur	144
13. Central Mining Research Instt., Dhanbad	132
14. Central Road Research Instt., New Delhi	128
15. Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, Chandigarh	121
16. CSIR Madras Complex, Chennai	00
17. Central Salt & Marine Chemical Research Instt., Bhavnagar	102
18. Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Calcutta	117

1	2
19. Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyd.	222
20. Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun	146
21. Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre, New Delhi	044
22. Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow	101
23. Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, Palampur	023
24. Institute of Microbial Technology, Chandigarh	044
25. National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore	328
26. National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow	092
27. National Chemical Laboratory, Pune	327
28. National Environmental Engineering Research Instt., Nagpur	166
29. National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyd.	195
30. National Institute of Oceanography, Goa	208
31. National Institute of Science Communication, New Delhi	083
32. National Instt. of Science Technology & Dev. Studies, New Delhi	054
33. National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur	174
34. National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi	269
35. Regional Research Laboratory, Bhopal	049
36. Regional Research Laboratory, Bhubaneswar	128
37. Regional Research Laboratory, Jammu	113
38. Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat	102
39. Regional Research Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram	083
40. Structural Engineering Research Centre, Ghaziabad	036
41. Structural Engineering Research Centre, Chennai	085
42. CSIR Head Qtrs., New Delhi	075
Total	5437

Capital and Technology for Major Ports

2824. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted the major ports of the country to have bilateral arrangements with foreign Government to attract more capital and better technology; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Govt. has approved a proposal permitting major Port Trusts to enter into collaborations with foreign Governments, without tenders and in accordance with

the guidelines stipulated in the matter and with the approval of Central Government.

Power Projects in Kerala

2825. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the names of power projects pending with the Government submitted by the Government of Kerala with the details like their dates of submission and present status?.

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): Presently two projects in the private sector in Kerala are under examination in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for accord of Techno-economic Clearance (TEC). The details in this regard are given below:

Sl. Name of Projects No.	Capacity (MW)	Date of receipt in CEA	Present Status
1. Vypeen CCGT (LNG) M/s Saisin Energy Ltd.	679	Feb., 1997*	IPP has been asked to reduce the cost by Rs.150 crores. The same has not been agreed to by IPP.
2. Kannur CCGT M/s Kannur Power Projects Ltd.	513	Jan., 1997*	Scheme recommended for TEC subject to reduction of hard cost by Rs. 35 crores by the IPP.

The DPRs received on these dates were not complete in respect of various inputs/clearances essentially required for TEC of CEA.

Sanskrit Universities

2826. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- the number of Sanskrit Universities at present in the country, State-wise;
- whether there is any proposal to set up a Sanskrit University in Karnataka;
- If so, the details thereof including the assistance sought by the State from the Union Government for the purpose; and
- the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) At present, the following Sanskrit Universities exist in the country:

State Universities

- Kameshwara Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit University, Darbhanga, (Bihar).
- Sampurnanand Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi, (U.P.).
- Shri Jagannath Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Puri (Orissa).
- Sree Shankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady (Kerala).

Deemed to be Universities

- Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh).
- Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, New Delhi.

3. Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswathy Vishwavidyalaya Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Tenders for Delivery of Telephone Bills

2827. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have floated open tenders for delivery of telephone bills to the subscribers in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government have subsequently floated limited tenders from the selected and limited contractors already in the list of DOT;

(c) If so, the details thereof;

(d) the reasons for floating open tenders and subsequently limited tenders thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for quick delivery of telephone bills in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir. An open tender was invited by one of the telephone Districts of Andhra Pradesh Circle.

(b) No, Sir.

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

(e) The bills are bundled pin code-wise before handing over to the Postal Authorities for quick delivery.

Doordarshan Production Centre at Calicut

2828. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up a full-fledged Doordarshan Production Centre at Calicut in Kerala; and

(b) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It would take about two to three years to complete the project after the award of civil works subject to availability of resources, infrastructural facilities, requisite manpower and interse priorities.

[Translation]

Forest Land in Bihar

2829. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the area of forest land in Bihar, district-wise;

(b) whether the existing area of forest land conforms to the international standards;

(c) if not, the steps taken to increase forest land in Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the achievements made in this regard by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) As per the State of Forest Report, 1997, the recorded forest area in Bihar is 29,226 sq. km. which is 16.81% of the total geographical area of the State and the forest cover is 26,524 sq. km. which is 15.3% of the total geographical area. The district-wise forest cover in Bihar is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) There is no international standard on the extent of forest land. However, the National Forest Policy, 1988 envisages to have minimum of one-third of the land area of the country under forest/tree cover.

(c) The major steps taken to increase forest cover during the Eighth Five Year Plan are as under:-

- (i) Afforestation programmes were undertaken by the State Government from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India.
- (ii) Village communities were involved in protection and regeneration of degraded forests as per Joint Forest Management Guidelines
- (iii) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is being implemented to regulate the diversion of forest land.
- (iv) The network of protected areas has been established.

(d) During the Eighth Five Year Plan period, State Government has taken up plantations over an area of 86,145 ha. of public lands including forest lands and have distributed 642 lakhs seedlings for planting on private lands. The State Government has constituted 1652 village communities for production and regeneration of degraded forest as per Joint Forest Management Guidelines. An area of 5191.62 sq. km. has been brought under protected area network.

Statement

Forest Land in Bihar

District	Geographic Area	Forest Cover
1	2	3
Aurangabad	3305	126
Begusaral	1918	—

1	2	3
Bhagalpur	5589	202
Bhojpur	4098	—
Champanan	5228	806
Paschim		
Champanan Purbe	3968	—
Darbhanga	2279	—
Dhanbad	2996	102
Gaya	6545	623
Giridih	6892	1457
Gopalganj	2033	—
Hazaribagh	11165	4792
Katihar	3057	—
Madhubani	3501	—
Munger	7908	974
Muzaffarpur	3172	—
Nalanda	2367	28
Nawada	2494	470
Palamu	12749	4803
Patna	3202	—
Purnia	7943	19
Ranchi	18266	4511
Rohtas	7213	1584
Saharsa	5900	—
Samastipur	2904	—
Santhal Pargana	14206	1469
Saran	2641	—
Singhbhum	13440	4558
Siwan	2219	—
Sitamarhi	2643	—
Vaishali	2036	—
Total	173,877	26,524

Pollution by Denting and Painting of Vehicles

2830. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4858 on May 6, 1997 regarding "Pollution by denting and painting etc. of vehicles" and state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of number of such motor markets where sound pollution is being spread through denting and painting on motor vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not taking the action against such workshops;

(d) the scheme of Government to shift these illegal workshops to other places; and

(e) the action plan to control the pollution being spread by them till then?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Establishment of motor markets is under the purview of the local authorities. Denting and painting of vehicles may cause pollution, if adequate preventive measures are not taken.

(c) to (e) Action against defaulting units is taken under the provisions of the relevant Acts by the concerned authorities.

[English]

Shortage of Power in Orissa

2831. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any scheme to supply power to the tribal populated villages of Sundargarh district in Orissa; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Scheme for supply of power to the villages including villages with tribal population are formulated and implemented by the State Governments/ State Electricity Boards. The Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) provides loan assistance for rural electrification schemes sponsored by the State Electricity Boards.

Oriya Programmes Produced by AIR/Doordarshan Kendras in Orissa

2832. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of All India Radio Stations and Doordarshan Kendras in Orissa having the facilities of producing original programmes in Oriya language, location-wise;

(b) the details of such projects under implementation in the State;

(c) whether Oriya language is given adequate time for telecast on the National network and DD channels;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) All India Radio Stations in Orissa at Cuttack, Jeypore, Sambalpur, Keonjhar, Baripada, Berhampur, Bolangir, Bhawanipatna, Rourkela and Joranda are producing original programmes in Oriya. However, All India Radio, Puri relays programmes of All India Radio, Cuttack. Programme production facilities in respect of Doordarshan are at present available at Studio Centres in Bhubaneswar and Sambalpur.

(b) The projects of All India Radio and Doordarshan under implementation in the State are: (i) 1 KW MW Local Radio Station at Soro, (ii) 1 KW MW local Radio Station at Rairangpur, (iii) Additional Studio Facility at Cuttack, (iv) 100 KW MW transmitter at Sambalpur (replacement), (v) 2x3 KW FM stereo at Cuttack, (vi) 15 KW SW at Jeypore, (vii) Upgradation of existing programme production facilities of Doordarshan at Sambalpur, and (viii) Programme Production Centre of Doordarshan at Bhawanipatna.

(c) to (e) Regional language programmes including that in Oriya are not telecast on National Network. However, Oriya language programmes are telecast by Regional Doordarshan Kendra, Bhubaneswar. Also Oriya programmes are telecast in the Regional Satellite Channel-DD6 for 2 hours daily.

Billimoria Committee

2833. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Billimoria Committee had identified certain Companies for cheating the system;

(b) if so, the names of the Companies so identified; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to check such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The Central Government in the Department of Company Affairs are not aware of the Billimoria Committee and its report identifying certain companies for cheating the system.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Voting Rights to Indian Citizens Living in Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh

2834. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the matter of allowing Indian citizens living in Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh to cast their votes was pending with the Government:

- (b) if so, the period of its pendency;
- (c) whether the issue has not so far been decided by Government;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) to (e) India has, at present, no administrative control or access to the Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh and, hence, extension of voting rights to the inhabitants has not been possible. The exchange of these enclaves is directly linked to and will follow the demarcation of the boundary between India and Bangladesh. Government is hopeful of an early settlement of all boundary related issues with Bangladesh.

Setting up of Telecommunication Division

2835. SHRI UPENDRA NATH NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to set up a Telecommunication Division in the District Headquarter of Keonjhar in Orissa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to expand and modernise telephone exchanges in Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj district of Orissa; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Keonjhar is a part of Dhenkanal Secondary Switching Area headed by Telecom District Manager and therefore as per policy of the Department separate Telecom District in the District Headquarter of Keonjhar is not justified.
- (d) Yes, Sir.
- (e) During 1998-99 following are the plans:

Name of the District	Station	Type	Capacity
1	2	3	4
Mayurbhanj	Baripada	CDOT MAX-L	2000 (Expansion)
Mayurbhanj	Rairangpur	CDOT SBM	400 (Expansion)

1	2	3	4
Mayurbhanj	Udala	CDOT SBM	400 (Expansion)
Keonjhar	Keonjhar	CDOT MAX-L	3000 (Conversion)
Keonjhar	Joda	CDOT SBM	400 (Expansion)
Keonjhar	Champua	CDOT SBM	400 (Conversion)

Grievances of Paging Operators

2836. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received any representations from the paging operators to make this industry more competitive and attractive;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the paging operators are running in to heavy losses in some States; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Government to mitigate their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. In the Memorandum they have demanded moratorium on payment of licence fee and extension of licence period.

(c) The paging service industry has represented about poor financial viability of the projects.

(d) Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has been requested to carry out a techno-economic study of paging service industry. The report of the BICP is awaited.

Import By Power Grid Corporation

2837. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of items imported by the Power Grid Corporation during the last three years;
- (b) whether the clearance from the Union Government and Central Electricity Authority was sought before imports;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether multi crore scam is involved in the import of equipments by Power Grid Corporation; and
- (e) if so, the action, Government propose to take against the officials involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The details of items imported by Power Grid Coporation of India Ltd. during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (e) Power Grid is an autonomous Corporation registered under Companies Act, Projects are examined by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on techno-economic consideration. The procurement of equipments for projects funded by Multilateral/Bilateral funding agencies is done in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the agencies duly approved by the Government of India.

Statement*List of power equipments imported by power grid during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98*

Sl. No.	Power Station	Equipments	CIF Value	Source of financing	Country where from imported
1	2	3	4	5	6
1995-96					
1.	Kishenpur-Moga 800 KV(S/C) Transmission Line	Optical ground wire (OPGW) 30.905 Kms	US\$ 259,780.01	World Bank Loan No. 3237- IN	South Korea
2.	Kishenpur-Moga 800 KV (S/C) Transmission Line	210 KN Disc Insulators 217,025 Nos 120 KN Disc Insulators 97,600 Nos	US\$ 7,802,048.75 US\$ 1490644.80	World Bank Loan No. 3237- IN	Sediver France
3.	Kishenpur-Moga 800 KV (S/C) Transmission Line	210 KN Disc Insulators 217,025 Nos 120 KN Disc Insulators 97,600 Nos	US\$ 7,925,753.00 US\$ 1,514,752.00	World Bank Loan No. 3237- IN	Mitsui, Japan
4.	Northern Region Trans. Project	Thermovision Camera-4 nos.	PS 1,92,395.50	World Bank Loan No. 3237- IN	AGEM A, UK
5.	Rihand-Delhi HVDC Bipole	Long term spares	CHF 1,607,838.00	SEB Loan Sweden	Sweden
6.	Northern & Western Region Trans. System	TOD Meters	PS 99,213.00	World Bank Loan No. 3577- IN	U.K.
1996-97					
1.	2x500 MW HVDC B/B Project at Chandrapur	HVDC Terminal Equipments	PS 21,000,000.00 FF 9,000,000.00	ODA Grant + WMB Loan French Protocol + Export credit	U.K. French

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	1x5 MW HVDC B/B Project at Vizag	HVDC Terminal Equipments	PS 13,400,000.00	WMB Loan	U.K.
3.	400 KV Vinchyachal- Jabalpur & Jabalpur Itarsi Trans Line	Optical Fibre Ground wire (OPGW) Accessories, Testing & Measuring Instruments and stringing tools for OPGW	US\$ 4,023,648.10 US\$ 2,809,622.60	World Bank Loan No. 3577- IN World Bank Loan No. 3577- IN	Canada Australia & U.K.
4.	400 KVD/C Itarsi- Dhule & Ramagundam-Hyd. Trans. Lines	Optical Fibre Ground Wire (OPGW) Accessories, Testing & Measuring Instruments and stringing tools for OPGW	PS 3390,120.00 PS 653,957.00	World Bank Loan No. 3577- IN World Bank Loan No. 3577- IN	U.K. U.K.
5.	Jeypore-Gazuwaka T/L	All Aluminium Alloy Conductor (AAAC) Earthwire	US\$ 9,598,740.40 US\$ 82,402.17	ADB ADB	China China
6.	Consultancy Services for Transmission Planning	Salford Compiler	US\$ 4,120.00	World Bank Loan No. 3577- IN	USA
7.	800 KV Kishenpur Moga Trans. Line	Optical Fibre Ground wire (OPGW)-166 Kms.	US\$ 1,395,356.00	World Bank Loan No. 3237- IN	Goldstar Korea
8.	Northern Region Trans. system	Hot Line Maintenance Equipment	US\$ 384,632.00	World Bank Loan No. 3237- IN	AB Chance, USA
9.	Northern Region Trans. system	Testing Equipments	US\$ 188,917.00 + PS 60,825.00	World Bank Loan No. 3237- IN	AVO International, UK

1	2	3	4	5	6
1997-98					
1.	400 KV D/C Vinchyachal-Jabalpur & Jabalpur Itarsi Trans Line	Optical Fibre Ground wire (OPGW) Air Conditioner with Portable DG sets, scaffolding & all weather tent.	US\$ 8,63,572.80 US\$ 31,600.00	World Bank Loan No. 3577- IN World Bank Loan No. 3577- IN	Canada
2.	400 KV Itarsi Dhule & Ramagundam Hyd Tr. Lines	Air Conditioner with Portable DG sets, Scaffolding & all weather tent.	PS 11,732.00	World Bank Loan No. 3577- IN	
3.	Jeypore Gazuwaka T/L	All Aluminium Alloy conductor (AAAC) Earthwire	US\$ 3600,465.34 US\$ 38,133.27	ADB ADB	China China
4.	245 KV GIS Switchyard at Kayamkulam	GIS Sub-station equipments	US\$ 10,082,435.00	World Bank Loan No. 3577- IN	Korea, Turkey & Switzerland
5.	2x500 MW HVDC B/B Project at Chandrapur	HVDC Terminal Equipments	PS 1,000,000.00	WMB Loan	U.K.
6.	1x500 MW HVDC B/B Project at Vizag	HVDC Terminal Equipments	PS 11,800,000.00	WMB Loan	U.K.
7.	800 KV Kishenpur- Moga Trans. Line	Optical fibre Ground wire- 115 Kms (OPGW) OPGW Accessories	US\$ 966,652.00 US\$ 650,056.00	World Bank Loan No. 3237- IN World Bank Loan No. 3237- IN	Goldstar Korea Goldstar Korea
8.	Northern Region Trans. System	210 KN disc Insulators- 398,265 NOS	US\$ 9,272,195.00	World Bank Loan No. 3237- IN	LIMIE C, China

Olive Ridley Turtles

2838. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rare Olive-Ridley turtles are coming to the beaches of Bhitarkanika of Orissa to lay their eggs for the last two years;

(b) if not, the reasons for their not coming; and

(c) the steps, Government propose to take in order to bring these rare species back to their natural habitat for egg laying ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps taken by the Govt. are as follows:

1. Govt. of Orissa has decided that the mechanised boats with gill nets would not be allowed to fish in the area notified as Gahirmatha Sanctuary.
2. Forest Department has hired mechanised boats for effective patrolling of the area from land ward side. One Asstt. Conservator of Forests and a section of Police is being earmarked exclusively for the patrolling work.
3. Coast Guards have been directed to intensify the patrolling of the sanctuary from the Sea Ward side.

[Translation]

Objectives of Education

2839. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have accepted life-long education as its ideal and objective;
- (b) if so, whether the Government are considering to abolish the age limit for the general and technical education;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the funds provided for the development of

educational resources so as to achieve the said objective?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 as modified in 1992 which was laid in both the Houses of Parliament, contemplates life-long education as cherished goal of the educational process. In pursuance of this Policy, a system of open learning through National Open School and Indira Gandhi National Open University, Non-formal education for school drop-outs, non-formal, flexible and need based vocational programmes and the National Literacy Mission for Adult Education provide opportunities for education to different sections of the society at a pace suited to them.

(d) A provision of Rs. 4245.14 crores (Plan) has been made for the Department of Education (Central Sector) in the budget proposals for the year 1998-99.

[English]

Environmental Projects

2840. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the environmental projects taken up by the Government during the last three years; and
- (b) the progress achieved under these projects so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) Details of the environmental projects taken up by the Government during the last three years alongwith the progress achieved under these projects are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Rs. Crores

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/Project	Main Objectives	Exp. during last three yrs. 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98
1	2	3	4
1.	World Bank aided Industrial Pollution Control Projects including setting up of CETPs	To prevent and alleviate environmental degradation caused by industrial operations.	71.61
2.	Environmental Audit	To encourage environmental audit as a management tool towards abatement of pollution	0.32
3.	Environmental Statistics and mapping	To facilitate collection and integration of environmental data for monitoring the effects of pollution	0.23
4.	Adoption of clean technologies by small scale industries	To promote development and adoption of clean technology including waste reuse and recycling for small scale industries	0.18

1	2	3	4
5.	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).	To appraise development projects having significant impact on the environment and to suggest measures for the protection of the environment To undertake studies on impact assessment of development Development and promotion of cleaner technologies with the objective to promote use of cleaner technologies	8.57
6.	Biosphere Reserves	Intended to conserve representative ecosystems and to provide in-situ conservation of plants, animals and micro organisms	7.35
7.	Conservation of Mangroves	To assist State Governments to protect and regenerate their mangroves and coral reefs and to take appropriate policies and action programmes to ensure their conservation	2.75
8.	Conservation of Wetland	To assist State Governments to protect and regenerate the wetlands in their states and to prepare Management action plans for them	4.83
9.	Assistance to Botanic Gardens and centres for conservation and propagation of endemic, rare and endangered plants	To augment the activities of Botanic Garden and Field centres in different parts of the country for conservation of biodiversity and propagation of plant genetic resources, which are identified as rare and endangered in different biogeographical regions of the country	1.42
10.	Biological Diversity Conservation	To co-ordinate, review and monitor programmes for the conservation of biological diversity conducted by different organisations in the country	0.48
11.	Eco Task Forces	The scheme is a joint venture of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Ministry of Defence and the concerned State Govt. to undertake ecological restoration work in selected highly environmentally degraded areas	11.86
12.	Research & Development	To promote research in multi-disciplinary aspects in identified thrust areas, in collaboration with institutes, universities and non-governmental organisations throughout the country	10.89
13.	Integrated Action Oriented Projects for Himalayan Region	To promote research and evolve technology package for location specific environmental problems in the Himalayan region	1.24
14.	Paryavaran Sudhar Pariyojna Paryavaran Vahini	To create environmental awareness and to encourage involvement of people through active participation as well as to report illegal acts pertaining to forests, wildlife, pollution and environmental degradation	0.68

1	2	3	4
15.	Environmental Education Awareness and training	<p>— Development of educational/teaching material and aids in the formal education sector</p> <p>— to encourage NGOs, mass media and other concerned organisations for promoting environmental awareness, among the people, at all levels</p> <p>— to promote environmental education through existing educational/scientific/research institutions</p> <p>— to ensure training and manpower development in environmental education and</p> <p>— to mobilise people's awareness for preservation and conservation of environment.</p>	9.74
16.	Seminar/Symposia/Workshop	To provide financial assistance to various Non-Governmental organisations, educational institutions, professional bodies, Registered Societies for holding Seminars/Symposia/Workshops on environmental related topics of current scientific interest, so as to provide a common platform for sharing knowledge and experience among Scientists/ Environmentalists from various disciplines	0.63
17.	Grant-in-aid to Professional Societies and Institutions	To provide assistance to professional Societies and appropriate institutions, museums and science centres for developing activities and projects in the field of environment as well as to develop exhibition galleries and educational programmes relevant to ecology, wildlife and environment	0.8
18.	Environmental Information Systems (ENVIS)	Aims at developing a decentralised information System based on the concept of distributed network of data-bases to enable integration of national efforts in environmental information collection, collation, storage, retrieval and dissemination for a wide range of users	4.37
19.	National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS)	Utilisation of remote sensing technology in monitoring of natural resources for an optimal utilisation of country's natural resources availability	1.61

1	2	3	4
20.	Centres of Excellence	The scheme seeks to set up centres of indepth research development and training in core areas of environment	11.67
21.	Assistance for abatement of pollution	To implement the action points of the Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution, grants are make to State Pollution Control Boards, State Environmental Departments and Research Institutions to strengthen their technical capabilities	4.73
22.	Hazardous Substances Management	To provide assistance for strengthening Hazardous substances management structures, solid wastes management and management of chemical emergencies	7.17
23.	International Cooperation	(a) To function as nodal agency in the country for UNEP & SACEP and look after follow up action on UNCED, CSD, GEF etc. (b) To cooperate bilaterally with various countries on environmental programmes and follow-up various bilateral initiatives (c) To coordinate the India Canada - Environment Facility programme which involves commodity grants from the Canadian Govt. (d) To coordinate the World Bank Project on India Environment Management Capacity Building Technical Assistance Project	2.44 60.71 9.08
24.	Ganga Action Plan Phase-I	Pollution abatement of river Ganga and improving its water quality to bathing class	30.78
25.	Ganga Action Plan, Phase-II	Pollution abatement of (i) major polluted tributaries of Ganga, viz. Yamuna, Gomati and Damodar, (ii) Works in the towns of Ganga which could not be included in Phase-I (iii) Works in the other towns of Ganga which could not be taken up in phase -I and where the river is found polluted, and (iv) Other towns on river Ganga as per directives of Supreme Court	191.81
26.	National River Action Plan	Pollution abatement of major polluted river stretches all over the country	40.45

[Translation]

State Pollution Control Boards

2841. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to raise the quality of working of the State Pollution Control Boards with the World Bank assistance; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Under World Bank assistance, eight State Pollution Control Boards viz. Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh have been taken up for strengthening in order to enhance the monitoring and enforcement capabilities which include the following:

- (i) Acquisition of analytical and monitoring equipment and other laboratory facilities;
- (ii) Support for the provision for refurbishing of laboratory facilities including selected civil works and equipment to ensure adequate environmental control inside laboratories; and
- (iii) Training to the personnel of Pollution Control Boards in various disciplines of environment and its management.

[English]

Reforms in the Education System

2842. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that there is a lot of burden of syllabus and books on the school students;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to bring reforms in the present education system; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Advisory Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal made a number of recommendations regarding the reduction of the academic burden on school children. In the 50th meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Education held on 2.3.1994, State Governments expressed their broad agreement with the recommendations of the Yash Pal Committee. Since the role of the Central Government is recommendatory in nature, the State Governments have to adopt and adapt the recommendations of the Committee. The NCERT has already initiated a process of curriculum review in which one of the major parameters is for reduction of the burden of syllabus and books on the school students.

Model Higher Secondary Schools in Kerala

2843. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have received any proposal from Government of Kerala for the establishment of 11 Model Residential Higher Secondary Schools in eleven districts of State;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Anganwadies in the Country

2844. SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of anganwadies operating in the country, the number of workers and supervisors of different categories working therein and the total emoluments paid to them, State-wise;

(b) the policy of the Government behind introducing these anganwadies and whether the desired results are coming;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the any new scheme of the Government to make more improvement?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) 5,92,571 Anganwadi centres are operational in the country under integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme. State/UT-wise information regarding Anganwadi Centres is given in the enclosed statement. Information regarding number of workers and supervisors of different categories and total emoluments paid to them is being collected from the States/UTs.

(b) Anganwadi Centres set up under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme provide vital services such as supplementary nutrition, pre-school education, immunisation, health check-up, referral services and nutrition and health education. These services are provided to children below six years and pregnant and nursing women. Many studies have established that areas which are covered through Anganwadi Centres have better nutritional and school-enrollment levels than those areas where Anganwadi Centres are not present.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No new scheme is envisaged at present, however, the Government constantly makes effort to enrich the ICDS Scheme, through better inputs, training of workers and community involvement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State/ UT	No. of Operational ICDS Projects	Number of Anganwadi Centres
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	237	34764
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45	3341
3.	Assam	83	12795
4.	Bihar	323	42975
5.	Goa	11	1334
6.	Gujarat	227	38897
7.	Haryana	114	13977
8.	Himachal Pradesh	72	8935
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	113	12116
10.	Karnataka	185	39100
11.	Kerala	120	20123
12.	Madhya Pradesh	335	41879
13.	Maharashtra	274	49571
14.	Manipur	32	4015
15.	Meghalaya	30	2438
16.	Mizoram	21	1487
17.	Nagaland	35	3066
18.	Orissa	279	31364
19.	Punjab	90	11971
20.	Rajasthan	194	29006
21.	Sikkim	5	620
22.	Tamil Nadu	432	55263
23.	Tripura	23	3429
24.	Uttar Pradesh	580	76236
25.	West Bengal	294	47861
26.	A&N Islands	5	429
27.	Chandigarh	3	341

1	2	3	4
28.	Delhi	29	4099
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	152
30.	Daman & Diu	2	95
31.	Lakshadweep	1	73
32.	Pondicherry	5	819
Total		4200	592571

[English]

Identity Cards to Voters

2845. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether the task of issuing identity cards to the voters in the country has been completed;

(b) if so, the number of voters issued identity cards in the country so far, State-wise;

(c) whether in some States the identity cards have not been issued to voters as yet;

(d) if so, the number of voters to whom identity cards have not been issued, State-wise;

(e) the time by which the task of issuing identity cards to voters is likely to be accomplished;

(f) whether the Government propose to make possession of identity cards mandatory for elections in future; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The requisite information is given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) As new electors become eligible for inclusion in the Electoral Rolls every year, the process of issue of Photo Identity cards has to be a continuous process to cover new electors and no time limit for completion of the work can be fixed.

(f) At present, no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(g) Does not arise.

Statement*Status report on progress of electors photo I-cards as on 15-6-1998*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Electors as per G.E. of 1998 @	No of defect Free I-cards issued	As % of col (3)	Electors yet to be issued I-Cards
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh!	49133135	32291515	65.72	16841620
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	565621	359730	63.60	205891
3.	Assam \$	14277806	67479	0.47	14210327
4.	Bihar !	58766472	21681836	36.89	37084636
5.	Goa	880746	523789	59.47	356957
6.	Gujarat !	28770306	23133904	80.41	5636402
7.	Haryana^	11078895	9445947	85.26	1632948
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3625295	2627892	72.49	997403
9.	Jammu & Kashmir*	5021316		0.00	5021316
10.	Karnataka \$	33098338	23911833	72.24	9186505
11.	Kerala	21188712	6539493	30.86	14649219
12.	Madhya Pradesh !	44607368	27282132	61.16	17325236
13.	Maharashtra	56205250	44217300	78.67	11987950
14.	Manipur	1330209	1027748	77.26	302461
15.	Meghalaya #	1157482	641459	55.42	516023
16.	Mizoram	442457		0.00	442457
17.	Nagaland !	926569	566325	61.12	360244
18.	Orissa !	23393600	18257438	78.04	5136162
19.	Punjab^	15344540	10760904	70.13	4583636
20.	Rajasthan	29751400	18689036	62.82	11062364
21.	Sikkim \$	236494	200077	84.60	36417
22.	Tamil Nadu \$	45577788	5183442	11.37	40394346
23.	Tripura !	1727463	1164545	67.41	562918
24.	Uttar Pradesh^	101982480	51995000	50.98	49987480
25.	West Bengal \$	46880362	33587563	71.65	13292799
26.	A&N Islands^	232013	177000	76.29	55013
27.	Chandigarh +	531146	307181	57.83	223965
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli +	95832	57933	60.45	37899
29.	Daman & Diu^	71934	45645	63.45	26289
30.	NCT of Delhi &	8297622	5545000	66.83	2752622

1	2	3	4	5	6
31.	Lakshadweep^	36738	31032	84.47	5706
32.	Pondicherry^	665486	555675	83.50	109811
All India		605900875	340875853	56.26	265025022
@	Provisional figures	& 30.11.97		! 15.4.98	
*	In J&K the scheme is yet to be started	+ 15.12.97		# 30.4.98	
				\$ 15.5.98	
				^ 31.05.98	

Hydroelectric Power Projects in Maharashtra

2846. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of hydroelectric projects at the final stages of completion in Maharashtra;

(b) the likely power generation from these projects in terms of megawatt;

(c) the total amount proposed to be spent and the amount incurred thereon till-date; and

(d) the reasons for increase in the cost of the projects, if any?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (d) The number and names of hydro-electric projects under construction in Maharashtra, their installed capacity in MW, original/latest cost, expenditure till date, likely date of commissioning and reasons for increase in cost are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Installed Capacity (MW)	Original/ Latest cost (Rs. in Crs.)	Expenditure Till date (Rs. in Crs.)	Likely date of Commissioning	Reasons for increase in cost
1.	Koyna HFP Stage-IV	4x250 = 1000	378.76 1140.86	898.50 (12/97)	1999-2001	Delay in Ordering TG sets. Slow Progress of Civil Work
2.	Warna	2x8 = 16	15.10 28.48	25.66 (6/97)	Unit-1 spun in Sept. 97 and Unit-2 in April 1998	Delay in PH Civil works
3.	Dudhganga	2x12 = 24	26.80 49.108	40.63 (6/97)	1998-2000	Delay in PH Civil works
4.	Ghatghar	2x125 = 250	485.96 620.78	28.75 (6/97)	2002-03	Low Priority by State Govt. resulting in General price escalation
5.	Bhivpuri (Pvt.)	1x90 = 90	89.97 89.97	—	2001-02	No increase

Export of Light Trainer Aircraft

2847. SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA:

SHRI K.P. NAIDU:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the measures proposed to be taken to export Light Trainer Aircraft HANSA-3?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): A two seater light trainer aircraft - HANSA-3, designed and fabricated by National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), Bangalore, is presently undergoing certification flight testing, prior to its commercial production. All required measures for export of HANSA-3 will be taken at the appropriate time.

Internet Connections

2848. SHRI M. RAJAI AH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in Hyderabad and Secunderabad at present alongwith capacity thereof;

(b) the present status of waiting list in each exchanges under various categories of Hyderabad Telecom Circle;

(c) whether the new Internet connections and the student account for Internet Connections are stopped at present in Hyderabad;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which these are likely to be restored;

(e) whether there is any possibility to reduce the internet tariff; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) The details of Telephone Exchanges alongwith their capacity in Hyderabad and Secunderabad as on 30.4.1998 are given in enclosed Statement-I

(b) The details of Waiting List as on 30.4.1998 in each Exchange under various categories of Hyderabad Telecom District are given in enclosed Statement-II.

(c) Yes, Sir, the Waiting List is likely to be cleared after expansion of the equipment in near future. Equipment required for this propose is awaited.

(d) Yes, Sir, the Student Account is likely to be released after expansion of the equipment.

(e) and (f) TRAI has already agreed for reduction of internet tariff for leased lines and port charges for promoting internet service vide Gazette Notification dated 29.4.98. Usage charges were reduced from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 10,000 w.e.f. 1.1.1998.

Statement-I

Status of Telephone Exchanges in Hyderabad & Secunderabad as on 30.4.1998

Sl. No.	Ex. No.	Name of the Exchange	Capacity
1	2	3	4
1.		Adarshanagar	4000
1-A		Adarshnagar	8000
2.		Ameerpet	7000
2-A		Ameerpet	8600
3.		B.H.E.L.	5000
4.		Barkathpura	5100
5.		Balanagar	3000
6.		Bowinpally	5550
7.		Cantonment	6100
8.		Chandrayanagutta	6000
9.		Charminar	10000
9-A		Charminar	7000
9-B		Charminar	23700
10.		Doorsancharbhavan	4600
11.		Dwarakapuri	4500
12.		Erragadda	12500
12-A		Erragadda	5250
13.		Gachtbowli	1500
14.		Golkonda	9500
15.		Gowliguda	8000
15-A		Gowliguda	4000
15-B		Gowliguda	22000
15-C		Gowliguda	6000
16.		HYD Central University	1000
17.		Jubli Hills	9000
17-A		Jubli Hills	1000
18.		Jeedimetla	5850
19.		Kukatpally	4200
20.		Kukatpally	
		Housing Board	6000

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
21.		Kushaiguda	8560	37.		Secunderabad	10000
22.		Kavadiguda	6650	38.		Secunderabad	6000
23.		L.B. Nagar	4400	39.		Secunderabad	21400
24.		Lingampally	3300	40.		Secunderabad	4500
25.		Musheerabad	19500	40.A		Secunderabad	4000
25.A		Musheerabad	12000	41.		Saidabad	9000
25.B		Musheerabad	8100	42.		Salfabad	13800
26.		Mahendra Hills	3500	43.		Salfabad	8400
27.		Malkajgiri	7000	44		Salfabad	32050
28.		Malakpet	5000	44.A		Salfabad	4000
29.		Mehdipatnam	6000	45.		Santhoshnagar	5200
30.		Nasabiank	4400	46.		Sainikpuri	4000
31.		Miyapur	1000	47.		Saroonnagar	10700
32.		Wacharam	3000	47.A		Saroonnagar	9000
32.A		Nacharam	6000	48.		Tamaka	3000
33.		Prakashnagar	4750	49.		Vanastalipuram	8000
34.		Rajendranagar	4500	50.		Vasavinagar	4050
35.		Ramkoti	9000	51.		Vivekanandnagar	5000
36.		Ramanlhapur	5000			Total	487710

Statement-II

Waiting list of Hyderabad and Secunderabad exchanges in Hyderabad Telecom District as on 30.4.1998

Sr. No.	Ex. No.	Name of the Exchange	W/L OYT	W/L Special	W/L General	Total W/L
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.		Adarshanagar	0	0	0	0
1-A		Adarshnagar	0	0	0	0
2.		Ameerpet	0	0	212	212
2-A		Ameerpet	0	0	0	0
3.		B.H.E.L.	0	6	704	710
4.		Barkathpura	0	0	53	53
5.		Balanagar	0	6	81	87
6.		Bowinpally	7	2	180	189
7.		Cantonment	0	0	186	186

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.		Chandrayanagutta	0	2	398	400
9.		Charminar	0	4	3796	3800
9-A		Charminar	0	0	0	0
9-B		Charminar	0	0	0	0
10		Doorsanchar Bhavan	0	0	0	0
11.		Dwarakapuri	0	0	0	0
12.		Erragadda	0	12	416	428
12-A		Erragadda	0	0	0	0
13.		Gachibowli	0	2	106	108
14.		Golkonda	0	51	1443	1494
15.		Gowliguda	0	3	210	213
15-A		Gowliguda	0	0	0	0
15-B		Gowliguda	0	0	0	0
15-C		Gowliguda	0	0	0	0
16.		HYD. Central University	0	2	234	236
17.		Jubli Hills	0	0	158	158
17-A		Jubli Hills	0	0	0	0
18.		Jeedimeila	0	83	1352	1435
19.		Kukatpally	0	38	399	437
20.		Kukatpally Housing Board	0	65	2460	2525
21.		Kushaiguda	0	7	2580	2587
22.		Kavadiguda	0	2	79	81
23.		L.B. Nagar	0	3	109	112
24.		Lingampally	0	9	632	641
25.		Musheerabad	0	18	1591	1609
25-A		Musheerabad	0	0	0	0
25-B		Musheerabad	0	0	0	0
26.		Mahendra Hills	0	0	30	30
27.		Malkajgiri	8	15	2613	2636
28.		Malaxpet	0	2	103	105
29.		Mehdipatnam	0	3	269	272
30.		Masabane	0	0	0	0
31.		Miyapur	0	9	876	883
32.		Nacharam	8	25	2066	2099
32-A		Nacharam	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
33.		Prakashnagar	3	1	58	62
34.		Rajendranagar	0	5	1052	1057
35.		Ramkoti	0	4	54	58
36.		Ramanthapur	4	4	484	492
37.		Secunderabad	10	1	183	194
38.		Secunderabad	0	0	0	0
39.		Secunderabad	12	6	1844	1902
40.		Secunderabad	0	3	69	72
40-A		Secunderabad	0	0	0	0
41.		Saifabad	0	6	401	407
42.		Saifabad	0	0	101	101
43.		Saifabad	0	0	0	0
44.		Saifabad	0	0	225	225
44-A		Saifabad	0	0	0	0
45.		Santhoshnagar	0	0	80	80
46.		Sainikpuri	0	0	70	70
47.		Saroopnagar	0	7	293	300
47-A		Saroopnagar	0	0	0	0
48.		Tamaka	2	2	265	269
49.		Vanastalipuram	0	8	2683	2691
50.		Vasavinagar	0	0	73	73
51.		Vivekanandnagar	0	23	1120	1143
Total			54	439	32431	32924

Waiting list particulars of exchanges in Ranga Reddy District of Hyderabad Telecom District as on 30.4.98

S. No.	Ex. No.	Name of the Exchange	W/L OYT	W/L Special	W/L General	Total W/L
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.		Abdulapurmet	0	0	210	210
2.		Aziznagar	0	0	46	46
3.		Badangipet	0	0	155	155
4.		Basheerabad	0	0	72	72
5.		Basupalli	0	0	77	77
6.		Chevella	0	0	115	115

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.		Chinnagolconda	0	0	73	73
8.		Dandumailaram	0	0	18	18
9.		Devarayamjal	0	0	52	52
10.		Dharoor	0	0	3	3
11.		Doma	0	0	11	11
12.		Dubbacheria	0	0	22	22
13.		Dundigal	0	0	383	383
14.		Ennaram	0	0	0	0
15.		Gadisingapur	0	0	7	7
16.		Ghatkesar	0	0	372	372
17.		Ibrahimpattam	0	0	446	446
17-A		Ibrahimpattam	0	0	0	0
18.		Jaggamguda	0	0	84	84
19.		Kanekal	0	0	30	30
20.		Karankote	0	0	67	67
21.		Kessaragotta	0	0	96	96
22.		Khanapur	0	0	7	7
23.		Kompally	0	0	93	93
24.		Kongraraviryal	0	0	31	31
25.		Kulakacheria	0	0	48	48
26.		Madireddypalli	0	0	0	0
27.		Maharajpet	0	0	0	0
28.		Maheshwaram	0	0	153	153
29.		Maitwar	0	0	0	0
30.		Mall V. Nagar	0	0	45	45
31.		Mamidipally	0	0	18	18
32.		Manachala	0	0	87	87
33.		Mankhal	0	0	118	118
34.		Manneguda	0	0	0	0
35.		Marpally	0	0	1	1
36.		Marripalli	0	0	14	14
37.		Medchal	0	0	493	493
38.		Medicity	0	0	33	33
39.		Meerkhanpet	0	0	21	21
40.		Mohammadabad	0	0	12	12

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
41.		Moinabad	0	0	121	121
42-A		Moinabad	0	0	0	0
42.		Mominpet	0	0	15	15
43.		Narapally	0	0	46	46
44.		Narsinghi	0	0	288	288
44-A		Narsinghi	0	0	0	0
45.		Nedunoor	0	0	79	79
46.		Palgutta	0	0	14	14
47.		Pargi	0	0	228	228
48.		Patelguda	0	0	36	36
49.		Peddumul	0	0	34	34
50		Ponnala	0	0	12	12
51.		Rachaluru	0	0	19	19
52.		Raipole	0	0	0	0
53.		Sanghinagar	0	0	335	335
54.		Sardamagar	0	0	4	4
55.		Shabad	0	0	1	1
56.		Shamirpet	0	0	177	177
57.		Shamshabad	0	0	495	495
58.		Shankarpally	0	0	171	171
59.		Shapur	0	0	87	87
60.		Tandur	0	0	1304	1304
61.		Turkapally	0	0	48	48
62.		Turkayamjal	0	0	95	95
63.		Turmamidi	0	0	14	14
64.		Venkatapur	0	0	1	1
65.		Vikarabad	0	0	236	236
66.		Yacharam	0	0	90	90
67.		Yalal	0	0	26	26
68.		Yeliminedu	0	0	12	12
69.		Yellampeta	0	0	21	21
Total			0	0	7522	7522

Shortage of Stamps and Postal Order

2849. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether postal stamps, revenue stamps and postal order are hardly available in the post offices located in and around Amethi, Uttar Pradesh;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
 (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes Sir, there was a shortage of Indian Postal Orders of denomination of Rs. 7/- in Amethi and Gauriganj Post Office, of Re. 1/- Rs. 2/- and Rs. 7/- in Bashesherganj Post Office, of Rs. 2/- and Rs. 7/- in Shahgarh Post Office and of Re. 1/- and Rs. 7/- in Tikermati Post Office. There was a shortage of Public postage stamp of 10 P and 25 P in Amethi Post Office.

(b) Shortage occurred on account of Interruption in supply line of Indian Postal Orders and Public Postage Stamps from Sultanpour Head Post Office.

(c) Necessary remedial actions have been taken and full supply of the requisite denominations of Indian Postal Orders and Public Postage stamps have been made to these offices.

Tenure of Lok Sabha

2850. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to amend rules to make the tenure of every Lok Sabha mandatory for five years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

2851. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal of the Government to amend section 2 and 11 of the Prevention of cruelty to animals act 1960 (Central Act 1959 of 1960):

(b) whether Dhirio, a traditional game of trial of strength among bulls organised in the State of Goa are allowed; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to amend some of the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 (59 of 1960).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) A writ petition No. 347 of 1996 was filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (59 of 1960) for stopping of

Dhirio in the State of Goa as the same amounts to cruelty to animals. The Panaji Bench of the said Court vide order dated 20.12.96 had directed the State Government to take immediate steps to ban all types of animals fight including Dhirio organised in the State of Goa.

Teaching of Children with Special Needs

2852. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

SHRI BHIM DAHAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan have decided to teach children with special needs in its schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether teachers, instruments required in this connection have been made available to such schools;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken to meet their special requirements?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A beginning has been made in 1997-98 by identifying two Vidyalayas in each of the 19 regions for admission of a maximum of three children in Class-I who have hearing visual impairment or are physically handicapped.

(c) to (e) The primary teacher of these selected Kendriya Vidyalayas have been given training in collaboration with National Council of Educational Research & Training during May, 98. A provision for resource room also exists.

[Translation]

Rural Electrification in Rajasthan

2853. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for rural electrification in Rajasthan during 1996-97 and 1997-98; .

(b) whether the said target have been achieved;

(c) if so, the number of villages in Churu and Nagaur districts which have not been electrified so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) For the years, 1996-97 and 1997-98, targets of electrification of 550 and 480 villages respectively, were fixed for Rajasthan under schemes of the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).

(b) Yes, Sir, the targets were achieved. 654 villages (including 641 villages under REC (Programme) were electrified

during 1996-97 and 724 villages (including 680 villages under REC Programme) were electrified in 1997-98.

(c) Out of 965 inhabited revenue villages of District Churu, 887 villages have been reported electrified by March, 1998 leaving a balance of 78 villages yet to be electrified. Similarly, in District Nagaur, out of 1376 inhabited revenue villages 1384 villages have been reported electrified by March, 1998 leaving a balance of 12 villages yet to be electrified.

(d) District-wise targets for electrification of villages are allocated by the State Government, and rural electrification is being completed in a phased manner by the State Governments/State Electricity Board with the assistance of the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).

Sports as Compulsory Subject

2854. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make sports compulsory in schools and colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the commissions set-up earlier to make sports education compulsory in schools and colleges had also recommended the same to the Government;

(d) if so, the names of the commissions alongwith the dates, which gave advice to this effect and the action taken by the Government in this regard so far;

(e) whether in line with the said recommendations the Government propose to set up sports schools in various States;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

the Hill Areas of U.P. State are as under:

Districts	Existing	Under Implementation
1	2	3
Dehradun	HPT, Mussoorie Transposer Mussoorie VLPT, Saahiya	LPT, Dak Pathar* HPT, Mussoorie (DD-II)@
GARWAL	LPT, Pauri LPT, Kotdwar Transposer, Srinagar	VLPT, Dugadda @ VLPT, Naugaonkhal @ VLPT, Rudraprayag @

(g) the amount estimated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) Central Advisory Board of Education set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K.P. Singh Dev to suggest ways and means to integrate Physical Education and Sports with learning process. This Committee has recommended in October, 1993 that Sports and Physical Education be made a compulsory subject in schools and colleges. The Department of Youth Affairs and Sports has accordingly advised all the States/U.Ts. to make Sports and Physical Education a compulsory subject in schools and colleges. A Monitoring Committee has been constituted on 2nd June, 1995 under the Chairmanship of Shri A.K. Pandya, Retired Secretary and Director General, Sports Authority of India to look into the progress of implementation of the recommendations of CABE Sub-Committee on Sports and Physical Education. 12 meetings of this Monitoring Committee have been held so far.

(e) to (g) A group of senior officers has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Education) with Director, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti as Secretary to consider the question of opening of sports schools in various States.

Setting up of TV Transmitters in Uttaranchal, U.P.

2855. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in Uttaranchal region of Uttar Pradesh where the Government propose to set up new TV transmitters during the next financial year;

(b) whether some new places are also proposed to be covered in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Whereas no official description of boundary of Uttaranchal is available, TV transmitters in

1	2	3
	VLPT, Kaljikkhal LPT, Naini Danda VLPT, Ghanoyal	LPT, Kalagarh*
Tehri		
Garwal	LPT, New Tehri VLPT, Devprayag VLPT, Gajja VLPT, Pratapnagar	VLPT, Khaib Parbat⊙
Chamoli	VLPT, Gopeshwar VLPT, Karanprayag VLPT, Joshimath VLPT, Tharali	LPT, Gopeshwar* VLPT, Gauri Kund ⊙ VLPT, Pokhri ⊙ VLPT, Chamoli ⊙ VLPT, Nandprayag⊙ VLPT, Kedarnath ⊙ VLPT, Badrinath ⊙
Uttarkashi	VLPT, Uttarkashi VLPT, Bhatlari	VLPT, Rajgarhi (R) VLPT, Fateh Parbat ⊙
Nainital	LPT, Nainital LPT, Kashipur LPT, Tanakpur VLPT, Haldwani	LPT, Haldwani (R)
Almora	VLPT, Almora VLPT, Kausani VLPT, Ranikhet	LPT, Almora ⊙ VLPT, Binsar ⊙ VLPT, Sirakota (Vaikunthdham) ⊙ VLPT, Manila ⊙
	VLPT, Bageshwar VLPT, Chaukhatia VLPT, Basot	
Pithoraga	LPT, Pithoraga LPT, Champawat VLPT, Dharchula VLPT, Munsiri VLPT, Didihat	LPT, Dhunaghat⊙ LPT, Barakot⊙ LPT, Khetikhan⊙ VLPT, Maneshwar ⊙

R Technically Ready

⊙ Expected to be completed during 1998-99.

* Expected to be completed during 1999-2000.

Scheme of LPTs at Gopeshwar, Dak Pathar and Kalagarh have been sanctioned recently.

Implementation of above projects would depend upon the availability of resources, infrastructural facilities, requisite manpower and interse-priorities.

Telephone Rent

2856. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hike the rate of local calls and telephone rent and also reduce the number of free calls;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :

(a) Sir, there is no such proposal at present.

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

Satellite Telephones in M.P.

2857. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the villages in rural areas of Satna district in Madhya Pradesh where the telephone facility through satellite system has been provided;

(b) whether a large number of satellite telephones are not functioning due to some technological disorder or breakdown of battery; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to maintain satellite telephone facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) No such case in Satna district.

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

[English]

Ganga Action Plan

2858. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of expenditure spent on Ganga Action Plan;

(b) the reasons for high level of pollution of Ganga even after spending crores of Rupees on this plan;

(c) whether the Environment Ministry commissioned review as early as 1989-90 had warned that peoples participation—the vital input had been 'sadly neglected';

(d) if so, whether despite this, nothing has been done by the Government to involve the masses in the clean up programme;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government has evolved any plan to keep the river suitable for human use; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) The Ganga Action Plan has been taken up in two phases. Under the first phase started in June, 1985, an amount of about Rs. 450 crore has been spent so far. In addition, an amount of Rs. 11 crore has been spent on the second phase on works relating to the main stem of the river Ganga.

(b) Under the first phase of the Ganga Action Plan which is now nearing completion, only about 35% of the pollution presently generated in towns along the river has been tackled. The remaining pollution abatement works have been taken up under the second phase. Wherever such works have been completed, the water quality of the river has improved. Further improvement in the river water quality can be expected only after the completion of the second phase of the Action Plan.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. To encourage people's participation and public awareness under the Ganga Action Plan, a number of programmes have been initiated. These include public information and awareness campaigns utilising electronic media, direct public participation through 'shramdams' 'padayatras', tree planting, river-ghat cleaning, exhibitions, slogan and essay writing competitions and water quality testing by students. Citizens' Monitoring Committees have also been constituted.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. The Ganga Action Plan in its two phases covers pollution abatement works in 74 towns along the Ganga with a view to improving the water quality of the river to make it suitable for human use.

District Primary Education Programme

2859. SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI BHASKAR RAO PATIL:

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNESCO and other international agencies are assisting the Government in the implementation of District Primary Education Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to cover more districts in the country under the said programme in the coming years;

- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
 (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
 (f) the names of the districts in Maharashtra where the District Primary Education Programme is being run?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Various multilateral/bilateral agencies, namely, World Bank, European Community, Department for International Development (formerly Overseas Development Agency), U.K. UNICEF and the Government of Netherland are presently assisting in the implementation of the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP). However, UNESCO is not

providing any financial assistance for DPEP. Position of external assistance tied up with the various agencies for DPEP is indicated in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) to (f) At present 149 districts in 14 States are covered under DPEP. This includes 9 districts in Maharashtra, namely; Aurangabad, Latur, Nanded, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Beed, Dhule, Gadchiroli and Jalna. No additional district in Maharashtra is as yet proposed to be covered under the programme during the current year. However, further expansion of the programme to 3 additional districts in Uttar Pradesh and extension of the programme to 19 districts in Rajasthan (10 districts to be covered in the first phase and 9 districts subsequently) is in the pipeline. Names of these additional districts are given in enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Funding Agency	Amount	Period	States and No. of Districts Covered
1	2	3	4
World Bank (IDA) (Soft Loan)	US \$ 260.3 million (Rs. 806 crores)	1994-95 to 2001-02	DPEP Phase-I Assam (4) Haryana (4) Karnataka (4) Kerala (3) Maharashtra (5) Tamil Nadu (3)
European Commission (EC) (Grant)	ECU 150 Million (Rs. 585 crores)	1994-1995 to 1998-1999	DPEP - Madhya Pradesh (19)
World Bank (Soft Loan) +	US \$ 425.2 million (Rs. 1480 crores)	1996-97 to 2001-02	DPEP Phase-II Gujarat (3) — Dutch funded Himachal Pradesh (4) Orissa (5)
Co-financing by Govt. of Netherlands (Grant)	US \$ 25.8 million (Rs. 90 crores)		Expansion in DPEP States already covered (43) U.P. (15)
DFID (formerly ODA), UK (Grant)	£ 42.5 million (Rs. 220 crores) £ 37.71 million (Rs. 207 crores)	1996-1997 to 2002-03	DPEP Phase-II Andhra Pradesh (5) West Bengal (5)

1	2	3	4
World Bank (Soft Loan)	US \$ 152.4 million (Rs. 530 crores)	1997-98 to 2001-02	DPEP Phase-III 27 Districts of Bihar
+	+		
UNICEF (Grant)	US \$ 10 Million (Rs. 36 crores)		
Total 149 districts			

Statement-II

Names of additional districts in the pipeline proposed to be covered under DPEP

Sl. No.	Names of the State	Name of districts
1.	Uttar Pradesh	(1) Bahraich (2) Barabanki and (3) Rampur
2.	Rajasthan	Phase-I Districts (1) Alwar; (2) Bhilwara, (3) Jhalawar, (4) Jhunjhunu, (5) Kota, (6) Nagaur, (7) Sikar, (8) Sirohi, (9) Sriganganagar, (10) Tonk Phase-II Districts (11) Bharatpur, (12) Bundi, (13) Churu, (14) Dausa, (15) Dholpur, (16) Hanumangarh, (17) Jaipur, (18) Karauli, (19) Sawai Madhopur

Free Rice under Mid-day Meal Scheme

2860. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL: Will the MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned quota of free rice supplied to Maharashtra under the Mid-day Meal Scheme for 1996-97, 1997-98;

(b) the quantity despatched and the quantity lifted by the State Government from FCI godowns during the current year so far;

(c) whether the State Government has failed to lift the full monthly quota from time to time during this period; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The allocation of rice to Maharashtra under the Mid-day Meal Scheme was 1.29 lakh metric tonnes (MTs) and 2.52 lakh MTs for 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively.

(b) to (d) Lifting figures for 1998-99 are not available. As against an allocation of 1.51 Lakh MTs of rice for the

period July to December 1997, the State Government has reported lifting of 1.28 lakh MTs. This is 85% of the total allocation which is higher than the national average of 70%. Reasons for non-lifting of full quota of allocated rice include the eligibility criterion of 80% attendance for children for distribution of foodgrains and other operational difficulties.

Parvati H.E. Project

2861. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Himachal Pradesh is backing from the Memorandum of Understanding dated October 20, 1992 for Parvati H.E. Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Rajasthan has requested to the Union Government to intervene into the matter;

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter;

(e) whether the Government have any plan to take up this project as a joint venture; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) to (f) A Memorandum of Understanding dated 20.10.1992 was signed by the Governments of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat and National Capital Territory of Delhi for investigation and execution of Parvati Hydroelectric Power Project (2051 MW) in three stages. The Project is located in Parvati Valley (Kullu District) in Himachal Pradesh. The equity contribution as mutually agreed by the State Governments will be as under:

1. Rajasthan	:	40%
2. Haryana		25%
3. Gujarat		15%
4. Delhi		15%
5. Himachal Pradesh	:	5%

The MOU also provides that 12 per cent of energy generated from the project shall be given to Himachal Pradesh free of cost. The remaining 88 per cent of energy generated from the project shall be apportioned amongst the States, including Himachal Pradesh in the ratio of their equity participation.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh had requested for enhancement of their share in equity from 5 per cent to 25 per cent by effecting the reduction in the share of other partner States. However, this is not acceptable to the Government of Rajasthan and a request has been made to this Ministry to persuade the Government of Himachal Pradesh to honour the principle of sharing of power as incorporated in the MOU.

Government of Himachal Pradesh has now suggested that the project may be executed by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (HNPC) or any other agencies of the Union Government. The modalities for project funding, execution and sharing of cost and benefits have to be firmed up in consultation with the beneficiary states.

[Translation]

Complaints Against Chairman and Director of NBT

2862. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received against the present Chairman and Director of National Book Trust in respect of their way of working; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Some complaints were received about the working of the Chairman and Director, National Book Trust in 1997. While

the complaints received from outsiders were general in nature, those from within the organisation contained allegations and counter allegations. The officers concerned were advised to keep restraint. The Director resigned from his post and a new officer has been appointed as Director in the National Book Trust. Since then no complaints have been received by the Government against the Chairman or the Director of the NBT.

[English]

F.M. Radio Station and HPTV Station at Junagarh, Gujarat

2863. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:

SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN:

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

(a) Whether any decision has been taken on the request of Government of Gujarat about setting up of a F.M. Radio station and a High Power T.V. Station at Junagarh so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Schemes for setting up of High Power TV Transmitter and 5 KW FM Transmitter alongwith Multi-Purpose Studios, Staff Quarters, etc. at Junagarh have been included in the draft 9th Five Year Plan.

Construction of Bridges and National Highways

2864. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI:

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

SHRI ADITYANATH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals sent by the State Governments regarding construction of National Highways and Bridges with Central Assistance during each of the last three years and current financial year, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) the number of the National Highways and Bridges proposed to be constructed during Ninth Five Year Plan State-wise;

(d) the number of Bridges being repaired during the current financial year, State-wise; and

(e) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) State-wise details are given in enclosed Statement-I.

- (c) The Ninth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised. (d) and (e) State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I

Statewise list showing number of proposals received and cleared

S. No.	Name of State	No. of Proposals received				No of Proposal cleared			
		97-98	96-97	95-96	Total	97-98	96-97	95-96	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	41	17	37	95	41	17	37	95
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	81	23	23	127	41	21	7	69
4.	Bihar	48	34	47	129	43	27	34	104
5.	Chandigarh	3	2	1	6	2	—	—	2
6.	Delhi	3	2	16	21	2	—	9	11
7.	Goa	17	—	1	18	17	—	1	18
8.	Gujarat	76	52	73	201	38	13	27	78
9.	Haryana	39	12	19	70	17	10	11	38
10.	Himachal Pradesh	21	36	31	88	19	12	25	56
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	2	3	7	2	1	3	6
12.	Karnataka	19	11	19	49	19	11	19	49
13.	Kerala	29	11	13	53	29	11	13	53
14.	Madhya Pradesh	45	27	21	93	45	27	21	93
15.	Maharashtra	84	37	53	174	84	37	53	174
16.	Manipur	44	23	31	98	41	23	6	70
17.	Meghalaya	31	37	38	106	27	12	15	54
18.	Nagaland	4	3	4	11	4	3	3	10
19.	Orissa	49	9	21	79	44	9	21	74
20.	Pondicherry	1	—	1	2	1	—	1	2
21.	Punjab	36	21	30	87	26	9	14	49
22.	Rajasthan	72	36	38	146	39	9	23	71
23.	Tamil Nadu	22	—	35	57	22	—	35	57
24.	Uttar Pradesh	59	25	61	145	30	15	26	71
25.	West Bengal	38	1	12	51	38	1	12	51

Statement-II

State-wise list showing number of bridges being repaired and likely expenditure thereon

S.No.	State	Nos.	Approx. Expenditure (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Repairs are carried out as and when necessary.	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—

1	2	3	4
3.	Assam	14	92
4.	Bihar	1	26
5.	Chandigarh	—	—
6.	Delhi	—	—
7.	Goa	4	90
8.	Gujarat	5	86
9.	Haryana	—	—
10.	Himachal Pradesh	8	400
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—
12.	Karnataka	Repairs are carried out as and when necessary.	
13.	Kerala	1	—Repair work is still to be taken up.
14.	Madhya Pradesh	8	48
15.	Maharashtra	2	45
16.	Manipur	1	4
17.	Meghalaya	1	500
18.	Nagaland	—	—
19.	Orissa	10	500
20.	Pondicherry	Repairs are carried out as and when necessary.	
21.	Punjab	4	60
22.	Rajasthan	1	13
23.	Tamil Nadu	Repairs are carried out as and when necessary.	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Repairs are carried out as and when necessary.	
25.	West Bengal	1	1800

[Translation]

Forest Development in Rajasthan

2865. SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of forest development has been undertaken in the country especially in Rajasthan by sanctioning grants under various schemes;

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the scheme-wise sanctioned amount during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to appoint a team to assess the progress made under various schemes; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) to (d) The major schemes of afforestation under which grants are given to the State Governments are:

1. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme;
2. Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme;
3. Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants; and,
4. Association of Schedule Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of the Degraded Forests on usufruct sharing basis.

The central assistance released to the Government of

Rajasthan under each of the schemes in the period 1995-96 to 1997-1998 is as follows:

Scheme	Central Assistance Released (Rs. in Lakhs)
Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme	938.51
Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme	781.56
Conservation and Development of Non-timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of the Degraded Forests on usufruct sharing basis	222.79 5.93

The progress of projects sanctioned under these schemes is evaluated both by the State/Central Governments and by independent agencies appointed for the purpose from time to time.

[*English*]

Noise Pollution

2866. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI:

SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the level of urban noise acceptable under International Standards and the levels of noise observed in major towns and cities in India;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has sought explanations from the Government on steps taken against noise pollution in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(e) whether the noise pollution increases many times during Diwali festival;

(f) whether the matter was taken to the courts; and

(g) if so, the action taken to ban the high density noise and air polluting fireworks and crackers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) The urban noise levels recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO) are as under:

Noise - exposure limits recommended by WHO

	Recommended maximum level
Industrial/Occupational	75 decibels
Community/Urban	
— Day-time	55 decibels
— Night-time	45 decibels
Indoor/Domestic	
— Day-time	45 decibels
— Night-time	35 decibels

The levels of noise observed in major cities and towns in India are depicted in the table given below:

Ambient noise levels in cities [All values expressed in decibels]

Cities	Residential		Commercial		Sensitive		Industrial	
	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night	Day	Night
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bhopal	60	44	75	57	73	42	68	47
Bangalore	59-75	37-59	68-81	46-64	58-74	—	63-86	42-65
Calcutta	76-86	58-76	70-90	57-78	69-89	65-70	75-82	53-70
Chennai	57-84	45-50	74-80	69-71	46-70	47-50	69-76	63-69
Delhi	53-71	—	63-75	—	62-68	—	65-81	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Dehradun	50	38	70	50	58	42	50	45
Hyderabad	56-73	40-50	67-84	58-73	62-78	51-67	44-77	42-70
Jaipur	46-82	43-78	64-88	51-80	60-75	55-66	59-81	48-78
Kanpur	49-69	39-59	68-82	57-76	47-61	35-57	63-78	57-63
Kochi	70	51	85	56	72	51	70	61
Lucknow	55	50	70	58	50	40	60	58
Mumbai	45-81	45-68	63-81	60-75	58-77	46-66	73-79	56-72
Varanasi	50	40	70	50	55	40	50	50
Vizag	74	59	85	70	75	57	75	51

(Source: Surveys conducted by CPCB)

(b) The increasing trend of noise observed in these cities may be attributed to increase in commercial activities and vehicular traffic.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir. The bursting of crackers and fire works during Diwali festival leads to sporadic rise in levels of noise.

(f) Yes, Sir. A writ petition was filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta by Barra Bazar Fire Dealers Association and others Versus Commissioner of Police, Calcutta and others.

(g) The action taken/proposed to be taken to check pollution from fireworks include the following:

- (i) State Governments and State Pollution Control Boards were advised to impose restrictions on the use of fire crackers which produce noise of more than 100 decibels at the distance of 4 metres.
- (ii) Banning of bursting of fire crackers during night time.
- (iii) Bursting of fire crackers to be permitted only during public festivals and at the designated places.
- (iv) Banning of manufacture and bursting of joined fire crackers.

Coastal Regulation Zone Regulations

2867. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating scrapping of CRZ Regulation of 1991 framed under the Environment Protection Act of 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Father Saldanha Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Procedure to Recover Dues from SEBs

2868. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the state-wise break up of the dues of the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry from the State Electricity Boards as on December 31, 1997; and

(b) the details of the dues of the electricity to be collected by SEBs from major consumers and agriculturists as on March 31, 1997, SEB-wise; and

(c) the procedure being adopted to recover these outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The State-wise details of the outstanding dues of the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power as on 31st December, 1997 are given in the attached Statement-I.

(b) The details of the receivables by SEBs as on 31st March, 1997 (cumulative) are in the attached Statement-II

(c) The outstanding dues as on December, 1996 of State Governments/SEBs are also requested, from time to time, for opening of irrevocable Letters of Credit with the Public Sector Undertakings of the Ministry of Power are being deducted upto a maximum of 15% of the Central Plan Corporations and also for early clearance of the dues. Assistance payable to the State Governments per annum.

Statement-I

State-wise details of the outstanding dues of public sector undertakings under the Ministry of Power as on 31.12.1997

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	SEBs States	REC 12/97	NTPC 12/97	NEEPCO 12/97	DVC 12/97	NHPC 12/97	PFC 12/97	PGC 12/97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	214.87	232.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	119.02	36.49
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	3.68	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.56
3.	Assam	79.37	1.59	149.52	1.70	31.29	0.00	15.84
4.	Bihar	313.97	1018.82	0.00	344.45	29.66	0.67	12.91
5.	Gujarat	0.00	205.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.58
6.	Goa	0.00	8.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24
7.	Haryana	40.70	246.88	0.00	0.00	659.62	0.00	20.10
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	28.93	0.00	0.00	64.26	0.00	0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	373.98	0.00	0.00	125.80	0.00	16.41
10.	Karnataka	0.00	88.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	15.86
11.	Kerala	0.00	50.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.99
12.	Madhya Pradesh	429.21	405.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.25	1.80
13.	Maharashtra	0.00	227.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.18
14.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	18.77	0.00	13.92	0.65	2.74
15.	Meghalaya	8.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.76	0.00	0.71
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	3.33	0.00	0.63	3.59	1.27
17.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	12.18	0.00	2.23	4.68	1.64
18.	Orissa (Gridco)	92.27	243.72	0.00	0.00	12.00	15.65	3.68
19.	Punjab	0.00	33.62	0.00	0.00	179.27	0.00	9.31
20.	Rajasthan	0.00	84.82	0.00	0.00	36.08	0.00	24.74
21.	Sikkim	0.00	7.43	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	2.86
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	73.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.98
23.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	1.44	0.00	1.26	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
24.	Uttar Pradesh	556.18	1295.32	0.00	0.00	576.60	0.00	250.32
25.	West Bengal	297.06	411.06	0.00	167.24	16.92	21.50	26.95
26.	DVB (DESU)	0.00	1267.25	0.00	0.00	246.18	0.00	35.06
27.	UTC	0.00	1.36	0.00	0.00	7.06	0.00	0.00
28.	Daman & Diu	0.00	2.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02
29.	Pondicherry	0.00	3.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.15
30.	DNH	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		2031.95	6312.98	188.92	513.39	2000.11	181.02	500.37

Cumulative as on 31st December, 1997 : Rs. 11,728.74 Crores.

Statement-II

Details of the receivables by SEBs as on 31.3.1997

Sl. No.	Name of SEBs	Amount
1.	APSEB (A)	999.90
2.	ASEB (U)	403.54
3.	BSEB (P)	1209.44
4.	GEB (A)	1065.25
5.	HSEB (A)	514.38
6.	HPSEB (A)	59.47
7.	KEB (U)	1090.13
8.	KSEB (U)	301.75
9.	MPEB (U)	1778.54
10.	MSEB (A)	2534.50
11.	MESEB (A)	79.87
12.	OSEB (P)	301.04
13.	PSEB (A)	418.92
14.	RSEB (A)	794.51
15.	TNEB (A)	746.32
16.	UPSEB (A)	3956.04
17.	WBSEB (A)	828.44
Total		17082.04

A - Audited
U - Unaudited
P - Provisional

[Translation]

Ownership Rights for Forest Land in M.P.

2869. SHRI GAURI SHANKER CHATURBHUIJ BISEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal have been received by the Union Government from the State Governments after the enforcement of the Forest Conservation Act to give ownership rights to those persons who have forest land under their possession;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the dates on which the proposals were sent by the Madhya Pradesh Government alongwith the amount of land sought to be freed from this Act;

(d) whether the proposals sent by the Government of Madya Pradesh have been cleared by the Union Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) So far 17 proposals from eight different State/UT Governments namely; Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Andaman & Nicobar Island have been received for regularisation of encroachments over forest land. Out of these, five proposals have been formally approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 by the Ministry as per following details:

Andaman & Nicobar Island	1,367 ha.
Gujarat	10,900.47 ha.
Karnataka	17,848.83 ha.
Kerala	28,588.159 ha.
Madhya Pradesh	1.03 lakh ha. (approximately)

(c) to (f) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had earlier submitted proposals for diversion of approximately 2.73 lakh hectares of forest land for regularisation of encroachments in different districts of the State vide letter dated 23.5.1989. Formal approval in respect of approximately 1.03 lakh hectares of forest land out of the above has already been accorded by the Ministry in July 1990. Subsequently, the State Government has submitted proposals for regularisation of encroachments over approximately 1.81 lakh hectares of additional forest area vide letter dated 5th December, 1995. In respect of this proposal, the State Government has been asked to furnish a status report on compliance of the conditions stipulated while approving earlier proposal for regularisation of encroachments in July 1990. This issue has been taken up at the level of Chief Secretary, Madhya Pradesh recently. In the absence of such details from the State Government it could not be possible for the Ministry to take any final decision on this proposal.

Declaration of Roads as National Highways in M.P.

2870. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those roads in Madhya Pradesh which were recommended to be declared as National Highways by the National Transport Committee in 1984 and the names of the highways on which work has already been started; and

(b) the time by which the work is likely to be started and completed for remaining highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) The remaining proposals would be considered for declaration as National Highways in the subsequent plans subject to availability of adequate funds.

Statement

Routes proposed by National Transport Policy Committee (NTPC) for declaration as National Highways in Madhya Pradesh

S. No.	Route	Approx. Length (KM) in M.P.	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Gwallor-Jhansi-Khajuraho-Rewa	285	Yet to be declared
2.	Nagpur-Obaidullaganj	295	Since declared as a NH
3.	Jabalpur-Shahadol-Ambikapur-Gumbra	512	Yet to be declared
4.	Raipur-Varanasi	425	Yet to be declared

1	2	3	4
5.	Ahmedabad-Indore-Dewas-Bhopal	299	Indore-Ahmedabad declared. Dewas Bhopal is yet to be declared as a NH.
6.	Nizamabad-Jagdalpur	210	Since declared as a NH
7.	Rajamundry-Jagdalpur	180	Yet to be declared
8.	Behrampur-Raipur	90	Yet to be declared
9.	Jaipur-Kota-Baiora	66	Since declared as a NH
		2362	

[English]

Multi Access Rural Radio Solar System

2871. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether almost all the MARR solar system of telephones installed in the villages under TDM Balasore (Orissa) are out of order;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the total number of village public telephones installed/working under the TDM, Balasore; and

(d) the total amounts incurred by the government of such installations during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) No. Sir. As on 30.6.98 out of 880 MARR PTs 125 are faulty.

(b) Out of 125, majority are faulty because of hardware faults in base station units. The faulty BSUs are being repaired by the manufacturers under Annual Maintenance Contract.

(c)	Installed	Working
MARR PTs	880	755
O/H PTs	705	582
	1585	1337

(d) Total amount incurred by the Government for such installation for last three years is Rs. 6,73,60,400/-.

[Translation]

Upgradation of Girls Schools

2872. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade the girls schools on priority basis in the country keeping in view the need of making girls more educated; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The upgradation of Schools for girls is undertaken by State Governments and Union Territories according to their norms. In the Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas run by Central Government due importance is given to girls keeping in view priorities underlined by the National Policy on Education. There are also a number of other schemes such as those for Non-Formal Education, District Primary Education Programme, Mahila Samakhya which have an edge for the education of girls. In the budget proposals for 1998-99, Rs. 100 crores has been earmarked for the education of girls.

[English]

Improvement in Inland Water Transport System

2873. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL:

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have directed the concerned Ministries and the Departments to utilise three National Waterways for the movement of Government goods to boost the instability of the Inland waterways system;

(b) if so, whether the Government have also decided to transport at least 5% of various Departments and PSUs to 2000 AD through waterways;

(c) whether the Prime Minister's office has asked various Ministries and Departments to make assessment of the annual movement requirements of their goods for the next two years;

(d) if so, whether the confederation of Indian Industries, CII had also urged the Government to improve the Inland Water Transport system; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Ministries of Railways, Steel, Heavy Industries, Fertilizers and Coal have formed their respective Working Groups to assess the quantum of cargo that can be moved by IWT.

Further, enunciation of IWT Policy including incentives for private sector involvement in IWT infrastructure and operation of vessels is also under process.

Clearance to Power Projects

2874. Dr. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA:

SHRI BHIM DAHAL:

SHRI T. GOVINDAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of power projects are pending with the Government for the environment clearance;

(b) if so, the details of these projects, State-wise and the time from which these projects are pending;

(c) whether any meetings of the Environment Committees were held during 1997 and current year for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite clearance to these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI):

(a) Five Hydro-Electric and Twelve Thermal Power Projects are awaiting environmental clearance as on 30th June, 1998.

(b) A Statement is attached;

(d) to (e) Six meetings of the Expert Committee for River Valley and Hydro-Electric Projects were held during 1997 and one during 1998. Similarly, eight meetings of the Expert Committee for Thermal Power Projects were held during 1997 and one during 1998.

(f) Final decision is usually taken within 90 days of the receipt of complete information from Project Authorities. Regular meetings of the Expert Committees are held for ensuring expeditious decisions.

Statement*(b) List of pending Hydel and thermal power projects is as follows:*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Pending since
1	2	3
I. HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECTS		
Himachal Pradesh		
1.	Dhamwari Sunda Hydro-Electric Project	January 1998
2.	UHL Hydro Electric Project (2x50 MW), Ballarpur industries Ltd.	June, 1998
Maharashtra		
3.	Malshej Ghat Pumped Storage Scheme (600 MW), Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corporation, Pune	May, 1998
Sikkim		
4.	Teesta H.E. Project Stage V, National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation	March, 1998
Tamilnadu		
5.	Moyar Ultimate Stage Hydro-electric Project, Tamilnadu State Electricity Board (50 MW)	November, 1996
II. THERMAL POWER PROJECTS		
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	330 MW Naphtha Based CCP at Peddapuram, by M/s Gautami Power Ltd.	November, 1997
2.	220 MW CCPP at Samalkot East Godavari, by M/s Snehlata Power Ltd.	December, 1997
Bihar		
3.	Maithon Right Bank TPS (4 x 250 MW) of Damodar Valley Corpn. at River Barker in Nirsacum-Chirkaunda CD Bank of Dhanbad	June, 1997
Delhi		
4.	300 MW Coal based TPP at Narela, Delhi by M/s Apollo Energy Company Ltd.	April, 1997
Haryana		
5.	300 MW Vaccum Residue based Panipat Thermal Power Project Near Village Balljatan at Panipat, by M/s Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	June, 1998

1	2	3
Karnataka		
6.	4x250 MW Mysore TPS at Chamalpura, Mysore Distt. by M/s Mysore, Power Generation Ltd.	August, 1997
7.	200 MW CCPP at Tanir Bavi Dist. Dakshina Kanada near Mangalore by M/s Tanir Bavi Power Company	April, 1997
8.	65 MW DG based power plant near Bellary by M/s Sree Rayalaseema Alkalies and Allied Chemicals Ltd.	June, 1998
Madhya Pradesh		
9.	Sipat Thermal Power Project Stage-I (2000 MW) at Bilaspur, by M/s National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd., (NTPC)	June, 1998
Rajasthan		
10.	650 MW Anta gas based CCPP Stage-II of Anta Distt. Saran by M/s NTPC	December, 1997
Tamilnadu		
11.	3x25 MW MALCO Captive Power Plant at Mettur Dam, Salem Distt., by M/s Madras Aluminium Co. Ltd.	June, 1998
Uttar Pradesh		
12.	650 MW CCPP Stage-II at Auriya by M/s National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd.	January, 1998

*[Translation]***SC Decision on Industries Spreading Pollution**

2875. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court have given any decision in regard to the Industries spreading pollution in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its various orders in respect of industries in Maharashtra has given a number of directions, including the following:

- Closure of one Industrial unit located in Ahmednagar District of Maharashtra;
- Direction to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to inspect 351 industries;
- Direction to State of Maharashtra not to grant further permission/consent for setting up or operation of any industry in Dahanu area till further order;
- Direction that no construction of any kind shall be permitted within 500 mts of high-tide line as required under the CRZ notification issued by the Government of India;
- Direction that no construction or tampering of any type so far as the wet land/Khajan area is concerned shall be done till further orders;
- CPCB shall examine the working of excavation of

sand/mining operation specifically from the point of pollution control and ecology preservation;

- Direction to Maharashtra Government to comply with two Notifications dated January 19, 1991 and June 20, 1991.
 - Court requested the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) to have the Master Plan examined in conformity with the two notifications;
 - Direction to the Central Government to constitute an authority for Dahanu and Thane respectively in the State of Maharashtra under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (c) The action taken by the Government include the following:
- An industrial unit located in District Ahmednagar, Maharashtra has been closed down as per the Supreme Court order.
 - Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has closed about 12 industrial units and also issued notices for closure of about 414 industrial units.
 - The Government have constituted an Authority for Dahanu area under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
 - The Government had constituted an Authority for Thane under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The Authority has submitted its report which has been filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

[*English*]

Development of Kandla Port Trust

2876. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Kandla Port Trust has taken steps for developing the port in respect of shortage of water and creating more infrastructure there;
- (b) whether the government have drawn any action programme for the purpose;
- (c) if so, the details; thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) Gujarat Water Supply Board is responsible for providing water to Kandla Port. Because Water Supply Board has not been able to supply adequate quantity of water to port, the Port Trust has taken up one scheme each at Gopalpuri and Gandhidham costing Rs. 58.62 lakhs and Rs. 67.08 lakhs respectively, for creating infrastructure for water supply in the Port area.

[*Translations*]

Global Tiger Patrol

2877. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a foreign agency called Global Tiger Patrols is providing financial assistance to sanctuaries;
- (b) if so, the date on which the Union Government permitted it and the amount of assistance provided by it;
- (c) if not, the reasons for not having any information about the activities of the Global Tiger Patrol;
- (d) whether the Government are aware that the representatives of this agency had stayed in Raipur forest range in Madhya Pradesh; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) No financial assistance have been provided to any Sanctuary by Global Tiger Patrol. However, assistance in kind have been provided to a number of Sanctuaries.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir, the representative of Global Tiger Patrol visited Raipur Forest Rest House on 7.5.98 and left on 8.5.98.

[*English*]

Private Participation in the Telecom Sector

2878. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the telecom Commission propose to bring about radical changes in the existing policy for ensuring increased private participation in the telecom sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the hardships faced by the private telecom operators on account of existing policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS: (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) No major change in the National Telecom Policy, 1994 is proposed for the present. However, an Inter-ministerial National Task Force on Information Technology and Software Development which has been appointed by the Government to recommend steps that are necessary for making India a super power in information technology, is considering a comprehensive package which as a telecommunication component as well.

(c) The hardship faced by the private telecom operators are not on account of the existing policy. Some constraints have been experienced by them in course of implementing their network roll out plans, both in physical and financial terms.

[Translation]

Shortage of Power in Gujarat

2879. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where power projects were set up during the period from January 1, 1996 to May 15, 1998 in the country particularly in Gujarat, State-wise;

(b) the number of projects in the public and private sectors separately; and

(c) the details of the schemes formulated for the years 1998, 1999 and 2000 to improve the power situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) State-wise details of power projects which were set up during the period from 1.1.1996 to 15.05.1998 in the country are given in the attached statement-I. Seventy One hydel and thermal units of the power projects stated in the annexure were added in the Central and State Sector. Twenty two thermal units were added in the private sector.

(c) Programme for the Ninth Plan period has not been finalised. However, for 1998-99, the capacity addition of 3299.3 MW is envisaged from 31 projects already under construction. The details are in the attached Statement-II.

Statement-I

Project	Unit	Type	Sector	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh				
Jegurupadu	4	T	Private	234.4
Kothagudam	2	T	State	500
Vijjeswaram	1	T	Private	59.8
Godavari	4	T	Private	208
Arunachal Pradesh				
Nuranang	3	H	State	6
Assam				
Adamtilla	3	T	Private	9
Kathalguri	4	T	Central	127
Banaskhandi	3	T	Private	10.5
Koplll Extn.	2	H	Central	100
Bihar				
Tenughat	1	T	State	210
Eastern Gandak Canal	2	H	State	10
Sone Western				
Canal	2	H	State	3.3
Kahalgao	1	T	Central	210
Delhi				
DESU WHRU	1	T	State	34
Gujarat				
Kutch Lignite	1	T	State	75

1	2	3	4	5
Gandhi Nagar	1	T	State	210
Hazira	1	T	Private	185
Kadana	1	H	State	60
Paguthan	3	T	Private	405
Baroda	2	T	Private	167
Himachal Pradesh				
Baner	3	H	State	12
Gaj	3	H	State	10.5
Jammu & Kashmir				
Uni	4	H	Central	480
Karnataka				
Kalinadi	1	H	State	50
Bhadra RBC	1	H	State	6
Kerala				
Brahmpuram	4	T	State	80
Lower Periyar	3	H	State	180
Maharashtra				
Bhandardhara	1	H	State	34
Chandrapur	1	T	State	500
Warna	2	H	State	16
Surya	1	H	State	6
Dimbhe	1	H	State	5
Orissa				
Talcher	1	T	Central	500
Punjab				
Bhatinda	1	T	State	210
Rajasthan				
Suratgarh	1	T	State	250
Ramgarh GT	1	T	State	33.5
Tamil Nadu				
Basin Bridge	4	T	State	120
North Madras	1	T	State	210
Lower Bhawani	2	H	State	8
Tripura				
Rokhia	2	T	State	16

1	2	3	4	5
Agartala	3	T	Central	63
Uttar Pradesh				
Tanda	1	T	State	110
West Bengal				
Mejia	2	T	Central	420
Budge Budge	1	T	Private	250
Rammam St. II	2	H	State	25
Teesta Canal Falls	4	H	State	30

Statement-II

Project	Type	Sector	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3	4
Kathlaguri ST	T	Assam/ NEEPCO	30
Agartala GT 4	T	Tripura/NEEPCO	21
Kayamkulam GT 1	T	Kerala/NTPC	115.3
GHTP Bhatinda	T	Punjab	210
Wanakbori U-7	T	Gujarat	210
Brahmpuram U-5	T	Kerala	20
Suratgarh TPS U-1	T	Rajasthan	210
Leimakhong U-1 to 6	T	Manipur	36
Karaikal CCGT	T	Pondicherry	32.5
Paguthan ST	T	Gujarat/Pvt.	250
Surat Lignite U-1	T	Gujarat/Pvt.	125
Dabhol Ph. I	T	Maharashtra/Pvt.	740
Torangallu U - 1&2	T	Karnataka/Pvt.	260
Basin Bridge DG 1-4	T	Tamil Nadu/Pvt.	200
Budge-Budge U-2	T	W. Bengal CESC	250
Banasikhandi	T	Assam/Pvt.	5
Doyang U-1	H	Nagaland/NEEPCO	25
Sobla	H	Uttar Pradesh	6
Upper Sindh II	H	Jammu & Kashmir	35
Sewa St. III	H	Jammu & Kashmir	9
Chenani St. III	H	Jammu & Kashmir	7.5
Ranjit Sagar U-4	H	Punjab	150
Warna U-2	H	Maharashtra	8

1	2	3	4
Dudhaganga U-1	H	Maharashtra	12
Kadana Ext.	H	Gujarat	60
Singur	H	Andhra Pradesh	7.5
Kalinadi U-2&3 and Kadra Porinoalk	H	Karnataka	180
Porinoalkuthu	H	Kerala	16
Sathnur Dam	H	Tamil Nadu	7.5
Potteru	H	Orissa	6
Teesta Canal Fall	H	West Bengal	115
Total			3299.3

T- Thermal

H- Hydel

[English]

Working Conditions of Teachers in Unaided Schools

2880. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the task force appointed to study the working conditions of teachers in unaided schools has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The highlights of the recommendations made are as under:

1. Adequate provisions must be made in the recruitment rules for teachers' promotion to the higher posts or placement in the next higher scale. Promotion of internal candidates should be made on merit-cum-seniority basis. However, a teacher must get higher scale of pay after 12 years of service and still higher pay-scale after another 12 years while remaining in the same post.
2. A teacher should be entitled to salary for the period of summer vacation, if he/she has worked for six months in an academic session even if his/her services are terminated before summer vacation.

3. It should be ensured that scales of pay and allowances, medical facilities, pension, gratuity, provident fund and other benefits to the teachers of the recognised school shall not be less than those of the employees of the corresponding status in schools run by the Govt.

4. Teachers' attendance at in-service education programmes of a suitable duration should be made a condition for promotion or/and award of senior and selection scales.

5. Teachers should be granted two years study leave with full pay once in their service period. They may also be granted travel concessions for attending educational programmes.

(c) The recommendations of the Task Force have been sent to State/UT Governments for their comments.

[Translation]

Central Power Authority

2881. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have dissolved or propose to dissolve the Central Power Authority;

(b) whether all the powers of the Central Power Authority would be delegated to the State Governments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Policy of Advertisements on Doordarshan**

2882. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state;

(a) the policy of the Government to telecast advertisements on primetime slots on Doordarshan; and

(b) the average number and frequency of such advertisements telecast per day?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Advertisements on Doordarshan, both on prime time and non prime time slots, are governed by the 'Code for Commercial Advertisements on Doordarshan' and their duration/frequency depends upon various factors such as minimum guarantee offered for a programme, sharing pattern of commercial revenue, popularity of the programme etc.

(b) On DD I, on an average 130 to 180 advertisements are telecast everyday with commercial time being in the range of 2800-3400 seconds. On DD II, it is 150 to 230 advertisements with 3000-4600 seconds of commercial time. Regarding frequency of advertisements, no such study has been conducted/record maintained.

*[Translation]***Construction of Power Project on Narmada Valley**

2883. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received by the Government for the construction of Power Project on Narmada Valley in Radhopur in Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been approved by Central Water Commission; and

(c) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) to (c) No such proposal has been received by the Government for the construction of power project on Narmada Valley in Radhopur in Mandla District of Madhya Pradesh. However, a hydel project titled Raghavpur hydroelectric project (1x20 MW) is proposed in the upper reaches of the river Narmada in Mandla District of Madhya Pradesh. It is estimated that 5 MW of firm power can be generated by constructing a reservoir. The scheme is under investigation stage.

Setting up of Private Universities

2884. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY:

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to allow setting up of private Universities is under consideration of the Government:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in the matter; and

(d) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to develop Human Resources in the absence of allowing private investment in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Bill to provide for setting up of private Universities has been prepared and is being legally examined.

(c) It is expected that a final decision will be taken soon.

(d) Does not arise.

*[English]***National Highways in Bihar**

2885. SHRI BIJOY KUMAR "BIJOY" : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the length of National Highways in Bihar;

(b) the Central assistance provided for the maintenance of National Highways during the last three years and proposed for 1998-99; and

(c) the future programme for converting the National Highways in the State into four lane?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) 2547 kms.

(b)

Sl. No.	Year	Amount allocated (Rs. in crores)
1.	1995-96	17.64
2.	1996-97	21.94
3.	1997-98	34.11
4.	1998-99	Demands for Grants awaiting approval of the Parliament

(c)

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Remarks
1.	Survey/investigation for 4-laning of (a) U.P. Border- Muzaffarpur Section on NH-28 (b) Purnea - Dalkola Section on NH-31	Included in Annual Plan 1998-99
2.	Survey/investigation for 4-laning of Karmanasa- Aurangabad Section on NH-2	Work in progress with the National Highway Authority of India

Technical Terminology

[Translation]

2886. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BAINDA:

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH:

SHRI ADITYANATH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether two top institutions engaged in imparting school education i.e. Central Board for Secondary Education, New Delhi and National Council for Educational Research and Training, New Delhi are not using the terminology prepared and approved by the Scientific and Technical Terminology Commission in their text books, publications and question papers;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard in order to ensure the compliance of Government's policy with regard to the use of standard terminology and the proper utilisation of Government's grants;

(c) the name of the department to which these two institutions are accountable in case of violation of Government policies;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaint or information regarding violation of this policy by any Hindi Granth Academy; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir. As a general policy, the National Council for Educational Research and Training use the terminology prepared by the Commission for

Scientific and Technical Terminology in the text Books, Publications and Question papers. As far as the Central Board of Secondary Education is concerned, its publications are confined to English text Books, Hindi Grammar and Punjabi Books.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Both these institutions are autonomous organisations under the administrative control of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(d) No, Sir. No such complaint or information has been received by the Central Government.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

T.V. Relay Centres in Gujarat

2887. SHRI C.D. GAMIT:

SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN:

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

(a) the criteria fixed for setting up Doordarshan towers in the country;

(b) whether Government of Gujarat has urged the Central Government to set up some more TV Relay Stations in the State; and

(c) if so, the plan of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The broad criteria for setting up of TV transmitter projects include various factors such as coverage to hitherto uncovered areas, particularly the hilly, backward, tribal, remote, sensitive and border areas, availability of basic infrastructural facilities and extent of resultant coverage.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Besides, High Power Transmitter (HPT) Bhuj (permanent set up) on 300 M. tower, scheme for setting up of 2 High Power Transmitters (HPTs) and 17 Low Power Transmitters (LPTs) are under various stages of implementation in the State of Gujarat.

[Translation]

Poor Post and Telecommunication Services

2888. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecommunication, postal and telegraph services are functioning properly in Uttar Pradesh,

Madhya Pradesh and Bihar particularly hilly areas of U.P. and Khargaon district of M.P.

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The telecommunication, postal and telegraph services are functioning properly in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar including hilly areas of U.P. and Khargaon District of M.P.

However, for further improvement of telecom services the following steps have been taken:

1. Laying of cables in ducts.
2. Upgradation of out-door plant by replacing the old and worn-out equipment.
3. Computerisation of fault repair and commercial services.
4. Replacement of electromechanical exchanger by electronic type exchanges in a phased manner.
5. Replacement of long spans of drop wires with underground cables.

[English]

Development of Bangalore and Tumkur NH-4

2889. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA:

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highway No. 4 between Bangalore and Tumkur is high density traffic route in Kanataka;

(b) if so, whether highest number of accidents take place on the said route;

(c) if so, whether the Government have received some representations/suggestions regarding doubling/four laning of National Highway No. 4;

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(e) the funds allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a); Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of accidents reported are varying from 239 to about 580.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Out of a total length of 70 km. of Bangalore-Tumkur National Highway No. 4, 30 km. is already four laned.

For the remaining stretch from Nelamangala to Tumkur National Highways Authority of India has sanctioned an estimate amounting to Rs.10.76 Crore for acquisition of land.

Increase of Range of Cuttack Radio Station

2890. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme aired by Cuttack Radio Station are not audible in many districts of coastal Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken to increase the range of the Cuttack Radio Station; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Hydel Power Project in H.P.

2891. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hydro power projects under construction at present in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the action the Government propose to take for early completion of these projects;

(c) the total capacity of power, generation from these projects in Himachal Pradesh;

(d) the total power being generated at present; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government for exploiting maximum hydro power generation potential?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) and (b) At present, eight hydro power projects are under construction in Himachal Pradesh namely Ghanvi HEP (22.5 MW), Larji HEP (126 MW), Gumma HEP (3 MW), Padamshri Kailash Chand Mahajan HEP (2 MW), Holi HEP (3 MW), Baha Augmentation Power House (3 MW), Baspa Stage-II HEP (300 MW) and Nathpa Jhakri HEP (1500 MW). Extensive monitoring is done at various levels to ensure timely completion of these projects.

(c) The total capacity of power generation from the projects is 1959.5 MW.

(d) About 220 MW of power is being generated at present.

(e) A perspective plan has been prepared for undertaking intensive survey and investigation of hydel schemes. These projects will be taken up for execution in the State Sector/Central Sector and Private Sector after the Detailed Project Report has been prepared and necessary clearances are obtained.

Vacant Posts in Damodar Valley Corporation

2892. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to State:

(a) whether the total staff provided in the Damodar Valley Corporation is as per the sanctioned strength;

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to fill up the vacant posts;

(c) the total number of sanctioned posts lying vacant as on March 31, 1998 in each category;

(d) the details of the total number of vacancies as against each category during the last three years;

(e) whether all the vacant posts have since been filled up;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (e) In Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), the man-megawatt ratio in respect of its various thermal power stations is above the national norm. DVC has taken up a review exercise for rationalisation of manpower and personnel policy.

The posts required for running and maintenance of power stations are being filled except in cases where court in junctions have been ordered on recruitment/promotion. In other cases, the posts will be filled after the completion of the manpower rationalisation review.

(c) and (d): The total number of sanctioned posts lying vacant as on 31.3.1998 are as follows:

Group "A"	:	357
Group "B"	:	1074
Group "C" & "D"	:	1013

(f) and (g) Do not arise in view of information furnished at (b) and (e) above.

[English]

Low Rate of Literacy

2893. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the states having low rate of literacy as compared to the national literacy rate;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any study to identify the reasons for the low rate of literacy; and

(c) If so, the details thereof including the action proposed to be taken by the Government for the rapid spread of literacy in States bearing the stigma of being low on the literacy front?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) As per 1991 census, the States/Union Territories where literacy rate is below the National Literacy Rate of 52.21% are Bihar, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

(b) and (c) No Study has been conducted to identify the reasons for the low rate of literacy. The Steps taken to strengthen the programme include greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions, community and voluntary organisations; reinforcement of linkages between Literacy programmes and other development programmes, greater decentralisation with delegation of financial and administrative powers to States, strengthening of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms etc.

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges

2894. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHAN-JHARPUR): Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of telephone exchanges in Bihar have not been functioning satisfactorily;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to remove the deficiencies;

(d) whether any scheme to expand and modernise these telephone exchanges is under consideration of the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Generally the telephone exchanges in Bihar are functioning satisfactorily. Some times, though exchanges become non-functional due to prolonged power failure and lightning.

(c) (i) The Engine alternators are being provided to all exchanges and kept in working condition.

(ii) Faulty cards of exchanges are expeditiously repaired.

(d) Yes, Sir. All the exchanges in Bihar Telecom Circles are already Electronic. These are planned to be progressively expanded as per the demand for new telephone connections.

(e) Details are given in the statement attached.

(f) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Statement

S. No.	Name of SSA	Name of the Distt.	No. of electronic exchange to be expanded
1	2	3	4
1.	Arrah	Bhojpur	17
2.		Buxer	12
3.	Bhagalpur	Bhagalpur	26
4.		Banka	11
5.	Chapra	Chapra	23
6.		Siwan	20
7.		Gopal Ganj	05
8.	Darbhanga	Darbhanga	37
9.		Samastipur	22
10.		Begusarai	23
11.		Madhubani	28
12.		Khagaria	16
13.	Daltonganj	Palamu	15
14.		Garhwa	09
15.	Dumka	Dumka	14
16.		Deoghar	08
17.		Godda	11
18.		Sahebganj	09
19.		Pakur	03
20.	Dhanbad	Dhanbad	20
21.		Bokaro	14
22.	Gaya	Gaya	19
23.		Nawada	08
24.		Jehanabad	08
25.		Aurangabad	17
26.	Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh	28
27.		Girdih	15
28.		Chatra	03
29.		Kodarma	10
30.	Jamshedpur	East Singhbhum	18
31.		West Singhbhum	20

1	2	3	4
32.	Katihar	Katihar	12
33.		Purnia	15
34.		Araria	09
35.		Kishanganj	08
36.	Motihari	East Champaran	30
37.		West Champaran	14
38.	Munger	Munger	13
39.		Lakhisarai	07
40.		Shekhpura	04
41.		Jamui	08
42.	Muzaffarpur	Muzaffarpur	21
43.		Vaishali	17
44.		Sitamarhi	13
45.		Sheohar	10
46.	Patna	Patna	32
47.		Nalanada	29
48.	Ranchi	Ranchi	28
49.		Lohardagga	07
50.		Gumla	10
51.	Saharsa	Saharsa	22
52.		Supaul	15
53.		Madhepura	10
54.	Sasaram	Rohtas	19
55.		Kaimur (Bhabhua)	09
Total			851

[Translation]

Courses in Hindi Medium

2895. SHRI ADITYANATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Universities where education is imparted through English medium only and not through Hindi;

(b) whether courses run by the University of Delhi and Central Board of Secondary Education for various standards are still not available in Hindi;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which Hindi version of these courses is likely to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of Power Trading Corporation

2896. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA:

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI:

SHRI BHIM DAHAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Power Trading Corporation for trading of Power in the country;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken in this direction;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the Government are likely to set up the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) to (d) A number of complex organisational, institutional, legal, commercial and contractual issues have to be resolved before establishing the Power Trading Corporation. At present inter-regional and intra-regional power transfers are taking place through the aegis of Regional Electricity Boards. The issue whether the creation of separate Power Trading Corporation is necessary or not will arise only when sufficient experience is gained in the matter.

[English]

Shortage of Power in Karnataka

2897. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH:

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortage of power is causing problems to farmers in the backward regions of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to mitigate the problems of farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Karnataka Government requested to the Government for additional two million units of power from the Central Grid to tide over the severe power shortage in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) to (d) The supply and distribution of electricity in a State is primarily the responsibility of the State Government/State Electricity Board. The regulation of power supply in the State to various sectors, including agriculture, is decided by the State Government/State Electricity Board keeping in view the priorities as well as demand and availability of power. However, the agricultural sector is given due priority by the State Governments. The average power supply to agriculture in Karnataka during January, 1998 to May, 1998 has been as under:

Month	Hours per day
January, 98	14
February, 98	14
March, 98	14 (upto 11.3.98)
	10 (w.e.f. 12.3.98)
April, 98	10
May, 98	14

(e) and (f) Karnataka Government had requested additional power of 2 MU per day from the unallocated quota to mitigate power shortage in the State during the month of April, 1998. After reviewing the demand and availability of power in the southern region, Karnataka's share was enhanced from 20% to 25% with effect from 1.4.1998 from the unallocated quota of Central Power Stations of the southern region. In addition, the State is also getting an assistance of about 85 MW from Maharashtra in the Western region during off peak hours.

[Translation]

Power Projects in Bihar

2898. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV

(JAHANABAD):

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in the production capacity of each power project in Bihar during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the formalities for generating 2800 megawatt electricity under Major Power Projects in Kahalgaon in Bihar had been completed;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to convert the aforesaid project into a small project;

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

(f) whether four units of 840 megawatt have been closed down after their inception; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) The production capacity of power projects in Bihar during the last three years is as follows:

Station	Agency	Type	Capacity as on 31.3.96	Capacity as on 31.3.97	Capacity as on 31.3.98
1	2	3	4	5	6
Subernekha	BSEB	Hydel	130	130	130
Kosi	BSEB	Hydel	20	20	20
Sone West Canal	BSEB	Hydel	6.6	6.6	6.6
Sone East Canal	BSEB	Hydel	3.3	3.3	3.3
E. Gandak Canal	BSEB	Hydel	5	10	15
Patna	BSEB	Steam	13.5	13.5	13.5
Barauni	BSEB	Steam	320	320	320
Patratu	BSEB	Steam	840	840	840
Muzaffarpur	BSEB	Steam	220	220	220
Panchet Hill	DVC	Hydel	80	80	80
Tilaya	DVC	Hydel	4	4	4
Tenughat	TVNL	Steam	210	420	420
Bokaro	DVC	Steam	877.5	877.5	877.5
Chandarpur	DVC	Steam	780	780	780
Kahalgaon	NTPC	Steam	840	840	840
Maithon	DVC	Gas	90	90	90
Total			4439.90	4654.90	4659.90

(b) to (g) Kahalgaon Thermal project of NTPC with an installed capacity of 840 MW was fully commissioned in 1995-96 and has been generating electricity since then. There is at present no proposal to increase its capacity to 2800 MW.

[English]

Irregularities in Niscom

2899. SHRI SURESH KURUP:

SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had constituted a one man fact finding committee in February 1997 to look into various irregularities at National Institute of Science Communication, a constituent establishment of CSIR;

(b) if so, whether the committee has since submitted its report to the Government;

(c) if so, the findings thereof and the steps the Government propose to take thereon;

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in submitting the report;

(e) whether the Government have assured in the Delhi High Court that the report would be implemented within a short period; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The report submitted by the One Man Fact Finding Committee (OMFFC) is required to be supplemented with the versions of the concerned officials and as such the

process of obtaining the versions is in hand, Competent Authority will then take appropriate decision.

- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Satellite T.V. Network in Uttar Pradesh

2900. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all the districts of Uttar Pradesh have been connected with satellite television relay network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which all the districts of Uttar Pradesh are likely to be connected with this network?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Doordarshan Programmes are available via satellite in all the districts of Uttar Pradesh with the use of appropriate dish antenna system.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

National Children's Fund

2901. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have set up the national children's fund;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent some proposals to the Union Government seeking grant from this fund; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the likely time by which it would be approved?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Children's fund was created by the Government of India in the International Year of the Child 1979 with a view to augment resources from the community and to utilise the interest thereof for assistance to voluntary organisations engaged in the field of child welfare/development for undertaking innovative projects specially designed to meet

the needs of poor families in backward areas particularly Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Five proposals have been received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding imparting training in fashion design and tailoring, TV Repairs, typing and shorthand, in Computers, and trainings for rag picking children. The guidelines for providing assistance under the National Children's Fund are under revision. The proposals sent by Government of Madhya Pradesh will be considered as soon as the revised guidelines are finalised.

[English]

Registered Newspapers

2902. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of newspapers and periodicals registered with the Registrar of newspapers which are actually being published, State-wise and category-wise as on March 31, 1998;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a large chunk of the papers so registered are actually not in existence/do not bring out the newspaper/periodical regularly;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposed to look into the problem of the healthy growth of print media in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The number of newspapers and periodicals registered with the RNI as on 31.3.1998, State-wise and category-wise, are given in statement-I and II respectively.

(b) and (c) The office of RNI does not have this information as the publishers of newspapers/periodicals are not required, under and provision of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1967, to intimate the office of Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) about the closure of newspapers/periodicals.

(d) and (e) The Government is committed to creating a policy environment conducive to the healthy growth of print media. Steps taken by the Government in this direction include, among other things, the postal and telecom concession give to bonafide newspapers and newspaper organisations, duty exemption extended for import of visual media equipment and computers accreditation given to media representatives/organisations at Delhi to provide access to gather information from Government sources duty concession given in the recent Budget for import of newsprint, etc.

Statement-I

The number of Newspapers/periodicals registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (State-wise) as on 31st March, 1998

Name of the State/UT	Number of Registered Newspapers/Periodicals
1	3
01. Andman & Nicobar Islands	43
02. Andhra Pradesh	2029
03. Arunachal Pradesh	15
04. Assam	404
05. Bihar	1612
06. Chandigarh	327
07. Delhi	6367
08. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
09. Daman & Diu	1
10. Goa	84
11. Gujarat	1425
12. Haryana	957
13. Himachal Pradesh	157
14. Jammu & Kashmir	333
15. Karnataka	2076
16. Kerala	1726
17. Lakshadweep Islands	3
18. Madhya Pradesh	3390
19. Maharashtra	4970
20. Manipur	167
21. Meghalaya	72
22. Mizoram	108
23. Nagaland	14
24. Orissa	891
25. Pondicherry	65
26. Punjab	1228
27. Rajasthan	3027
28. Sikkim	16
29. Tamil Nadu	2492

1	2	3
30. Tripura		99
31. Uttar Pradesh		7867
32. West Bengal		3686

Statement-II

The number of Newspapers/periodicals registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (Category-wise) as on 31st March, 1998

Periodicity	Number of Newspapers
Dailies	4895
Weeklies	15221
Bi-Weeklies etc.	421
Fortnightlies	5863
Monthlies	12788
Bi-monthlies etc.	1722
Quarterlies	3509
Annuals	1230
Others	3

Postal Services in Gujarat

2903. SHRI JAYASINHJI CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in rural areas and JJ colonies in urban areas served by Post Offices in the country as a whole and Gujarat in particular as on April 30, 1998;

(b) whether there is any plan to improve the existing quality and quantity of the postal services in Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) There are 146861 villages through out the country which have a post office. However, so far as delivery of mails is concerned, all the villages and the areas of the country are covered by postal network. There are 16240 post offices in urban areas of the country. J.J. Colonies wherever they exist, are served by post offices in urban areas.

There are 7899 villages in Gujarat which have a post office. No J.J. Colonies are defined in Gujarat.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details given in the enclosed statement.

(d) Question does not arise.

Statement-I*Details of the improvements in the existing quality and quantity of the postal services in Gujarat Circle*

The following achievements have been made to improve the quality of service.

- | | |
|---|------|
| 1. Number of Post Offices modernized | —97 |
| 2. Number of very small aperture terminal (VSAT)/ extended satellite money order (ESMO) installed | —24 |
| 3. Number of multi purpose counter machines installed | —231 |
| 4. Savings Bank Local Area Network Installed | —7 |
| 5. Savings Bank Ctrl. Orgn. computerized | —8 |
| 6. Pay Roll Savings Scheme Computerized | —13 |
| 7. Periodical review of establishment is being carried out regularly to improve quality of service by providing additional staff where justified. | |
| 8. 18 EDBOS and 3 ESOS opened during the year 1997-98. A target of opening of 2 more Departmental Sub Offices and 40 more Extra Departmental Branch Offices fixed for the year 1998-99. | |
| 9. 330 EDBOS have been supplied with upgraded infrastructural equipments during the year 1997-98. 120 more EDBOS will be supplied with infrastructural equipments during the year 1998-99 subject to the availability of funds. | |

Transfer of Valuable Data Base

2904. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a data base containing valuable information on decinal plants, animal and mineral resources of India collected and compiled by a group of scientists and technical staff of National Institute of Science Communications (NISCOM), CSIR, has been transferred to a society called Asian Health and Environment Allied Database (AHEAD);

(b) if so, the reason therefor and the guidelines laid down for transferring the data; and

(c) the constituents and the bye-laws of AHEAD?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Asian Health and Allied Database (AHEAD) is a consortium of 9 organisations of which 8 are Governmental and 1 is a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO). These organisations belong to 7 Asian

countries viz. Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, and Mongolia. AHEAD is registered under the Indian Societies' Registration Act. The consortium seeks to bring out and market Asian Health and other related information in modern electronic format based on inputs received from participating members. Member organisations contribute to AHEAD, information and database inputs over which they hold copyright. AHEAD prepares the CD-ROM of the data and holds copyright ownership of it, for which it pays royalties to the contributing organisation. National Institute of Science Communication (NISCOM) contributes two database to AHEAD ie. Wealth of India and Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Abstracts. The AHEAD is supported by funds from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Canada and NISCOM as lead organisation member has committed to provide infrastructural and a limited technical manpower support.

Construction of Exchange Buildings and Staff Quarters

2905. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the rural exchanges are functioning in a private rented building, not suitable for future expansion and modernisation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to construct exchange buildings and staff quarters;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASHA): (a) and (b) Most of the rural exchanges are functioning in private rented buildings. In most cases these are suitable for future expansion and modernisation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) At present there are proposals to construct 1254 exchange buildings and 9311 staff quarters both in rural and urban areas, at various locations, all over the country in phased manner.

(e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

Out of Turn Allotment of Telephone Booths

2906. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether STD/ISD Telephone booths have been allotted out of turn in the country during the last three years till-date;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the criteria fixed by the Government for the out of turn allotment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 3117 PCOs have been sanctioned on out of turn during the last three years i.e. 1995, 1996 and 1997. During 1997, 16 PCOs have been sanctioned on out of turn basis only to the army authorities in J&K on security considerations.

(c) Prior to 18.7.96, the discretionary powers to sanction PCOs on out of turn basis were vested with the Hon'ble Minister of Communications. With effect from 18.7.96, the Govt. had decided to abolish all discretionary quotas enjoyed by the Ministers. It was also decided by the Government that in areas where it is considered absolutely necessary to make a small number of out of turn allotments, a committee should be constituted to make such allotments under clear rules and guidelines. Pursuant to this decision of the Government, a Committee of Senior Officers have been constituted in the department of telecoms to consider and recommend the requests from the following categories of persons for allotment of STD PCOs for consideration and approval of Minister Communication. However, the number of out of turn allotment of PCOs shall not exceed ten sanctions per month.

The category of the persons is:

- (a) One of dependents of Freedom fighters.
- (b) Handicapped including blind persons.
- (c) Ex-servicemen/war widows.
- (d) Retired DOT employees or their dependents.
- (e) Charitable Institutions/Hospitals.
- (f) Army cantonments and other security sensitive places.
- (g) Persons with special or extraordinary circumstances deserving compassionate consideration and deemed fit by the committee.

Generation of Power in Rajasthan

2907. Er. SHANKAR PANNU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantum of power generation in Rajasthan;
- (b) whether the Government have proposed to invite private sector for power production in the State;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the power likely to be produced as a result of this;
- (d) the amount proposed to be invested by the Union Government in the construction of Suratgarh Thermal Power Plant; and
- (e) the time by which the production is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) As per the information available, the total quantum of energy produced during 1997-98 in Rajasthan is 11157 million units.

(b) and (c) The policy on widening the scope of private sector participation in power generation, supply and distribution announced in 1991 is continuing for development of power projects in all the States of the country. As on date two Independent Power thermal power projects—Dholpur Power Project of 702.7 MW and Barsingsar Lignite Power Project of 500 MW have been techno-economically cleared by Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

(d) and (e) The Government of India is not proposing to make any investment in the Suratgarh Thermal Power Project which is a state sector project. Phase-I of the project is expected to commence generation of power in 1998-99 and the project is expected to be fully commissioned in 1999-2000.

Shahtoosh Shawls

2908. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Wildlife Act fails to curb trade in Shahtoosh" appearing in the Indian Express, dated July 7, 1998.

(b) whether despite the ban in India, Shahtoosh shawls are still available in private and Government outlets throughout the country; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government to prevent this trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, a certain amount of clandestine trade in Shahtoosh shawls exists. The enforcement agencies of the Central and State Govts. regularly carry out raids against the traders and action is taken as per the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

[Translation]

By-pass Scheme on National Highway No. 7 and 27

2909. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had sanctioned a by-pass scheme on the National Highways No.7 and 27 passing through the Rewa town;

(b) the time fixed for completion of the said scheme;

(c) the reasons for non execution of the scheme even after acquisition of land; and

(d) the likely time by which the aforesaid scheme would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As a first step, an estimate amounting to Rs. 154.39 lakhs, towards acquisition of land for the by-pass, has been sanctioned. On account of technical considerations, the alignment already approved required re-alignment. Construction of the by-pass may be taken up after completion of acquisition of land therefor, depending upon its interse priority vis a vis other proposals as well as availability of funds. Alternatively, it may be taken up as a Build Operate and Transfer project depending on its viability.

Appointment of Telephone Mechanics

2910. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees working under Bihar and Maharashtra circle who have qualified the telephone-mechanic examination and got training have not been posted so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the Government are likely to appoint all such employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) to (c) Sir, it is submitted that out of the qualified and trained candidates for the posts of Phone Mechanics in Maharashtra and Bihar Circles, 5559 and 2294 candidates respectively have already been posted as Phone Mechanics. The remaining 2801 and 293 candidates, in Maharashtra and Bihar Circle respectively, whose induction as Phone Mechanics is held up for want of vacancies, would be posted as Phone Mechanics after the required no. of posts in the grade are created as per norms.

[English]

Wooden and Steel Bridges on NH 53

2911. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether at a number of places many wooden and steel bridges have been constructed on National Highway No.53 from Jiribam to Imphal and Moreh (Myanmar Border);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be converted into pucca bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. There are 33 such bridges between Jiribam and Moreh on National Highway 53 (Jiribam to Imphal) and National Highway 39 (Imphal to Moreh).

(b) These are various types of Bailey and Hamilton bridges of load classification from class 12 to 40 R.

(c) These are being taken up in phased manner depending on the availability of funds.

[Translation]

By-pass on G.T. Road between Fatehpur-Allahabad

2912. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the accidents occurred due to the traffic jam on the road upto the fatehpur-Allahabad Highway (G.T.) Road in Uttar Pradesh which is the largest State of the country;

(b) whether any proposal of Uttar Pradesh Government is under consideration of the Union Government for constructing by pass on this Highway; and

(c) If so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Statistics in respect of road accidents are maintained State-wise and not National Highway-wise. The construction of a by-pass at Allahabad is at the stage of feasibility study.

Utilisation of Funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes

2913. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated to different States during the Eighth Five Year Plan for the Centrally sponsored schemes of computer literacy and studies in school, educational technology, scheme of environmental orientation to school education and improvement of science have been utilised;

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

(c) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURALI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The details of Grants released to 25 States and 7 Union Territories under the said Schemes during Eighth Plan Period (1992-97) along with utilisation details, as per the reports available from the respective States/Union Territories, are given below:

Scheme	Amount released	Amount utilised
Computer literacy and studies in schools	9027.89	3491.42
Educational Technology	5448.87	1285.53
Environmental Orientation	201.95	Not reported by the State Govts. and UTs.
Improvement of Science	10567.77	4771.31

Major portions of the above mentioned grants relate to procurement of goods and services including hardware and equipments by the State Governments involving lengthy and time consuming procedures. However, utilisation of the grants by the State Governments/Union Territories is at various stages and the State Governments/Union Territories have been seeking necessary carry forward permission.

Continuous efforts are being made to impress upon the State Governments/Union Territories for early utilisation of unspent balances to facilitate release of fresh grants under the said Schemes.

Kendriya Vidyalayas in U.P.

2914. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Kendriya Vidyalaya in the North-East areas in Uttar Pradesh at present, district-wise,

(b) the amount spent each year on the maintenance of these schools; and

(c) the basis on which admission is given to the students at the time of opening of these schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURALI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The total number of Kendriya Vidyalayas in Uttar Pradesh is 121 as per Statement-I attached. It is not possible to specifically identify North-East areas in U.P. in the absence of precise delimitation.

(b) Expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the above mentioned schools during the last 3 years is, as per in the Statement-II attached.

(c) Subject to the child qualifying in the admission test, wherever considered necessary, the admissions are guided by the criteria and priority laid down in the 'Guidelines for

Admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas'. Essentially, the children of Central Government employees including Defence personnel and those of the employees of public sector undertakings are admitted on the basis of transferability. Other categories are also eligible but are accorded lower priority.

Statement-I

District-wise no. of Kendriya Vidyalayas in Uttar Pradesh

1	2
Agra	4
Allahabad	7
Aligarh	1
Almora	2
Sultanpur	1
Bareilly	6
Azamgarh	1
Mathura	3
Jhansi	5
Ghaziabad	7
Balla	1
Nainital	5
Barabanki	1
Meerut	4
Fatehpur	1
Bath	1
Bulandshahar	1
Chopan	1
Dehradun	13
Itawa	1
Faizabad	1
Fatehgarh	1
Ghazipur	1
Gonda	2
Gorakhpur	1
Hardwar	3
Jagdishpur	1
Chamoli	1
Kanpur	9

1	2	1	2
Sonbhadra	1	Rampur	1
Pauri Garhwal	1	Mirzapur	2
Lucknow	9	Roorkee	1
Mau	1	Saharanpur	1
Muradabad	1	Shajahanpur	2
Varanasi	4	Sitapur	1
Mussoorie	1	Garhwal	1
Tehri Garhwal	1	Lalitpur	1
Pithoragarh	1	Unnao	1
Rai Bareilly	2	Uttarkashi	1
		Gautam Budh Nagar	1
		Total	121

Statement-II*Amount sanctioned by KVS for maintenance & repair of school building in (U.P.)*

S.No.	Name of K.V.	Amount Sanctioned during		
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Shahjhanpur (OCF)	—	1,56,500	—
2.	AFS Memaura	—	1,36,100	1,28,100
3.	Aliganj Lucknow	91,750	1,01,200	1,63,000
4.	AMC Lucknow	—	1,74,900	5,28,000
5.	Gomti Nagar Lucknow	—	1,01,200	1,46,400
6.	AF Manauri, Allahabad	—	1,67,700	93,200
7.	Air Port Sultanpur	2,23,000	8,000	1,18,400
8.	No.1 Raibarell	—	1,01,200	1,18,400
9.	AFS Bamrauli, Allahabad	—	1,11,700	1,46,500
10.	No.1, Chankeri, Kanpur	—	1,99,300	1,87,300
11.	No.1, Armanpur, Kanpur	—	1,11,700	—
12.	Kanpur Cantt.	—	1,74,900	1,87,300
13.	Gorakhpur	1,99,900	12,000	1,76,100
14.	Azamgarh	—	3,26,100	1,18,400
15.	MAU Natha Bhanjan	—	1,43,300	1,33,400
16.	Fatehgarh	—	1,43,300	—

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Shahjhanpur Cantt.	—	—	1,57,700
18.	Dehradun, Birpur	—	1,43,300	1,57,700
19.	Dehradun Cantt. (M.T. Lines)	—	1,11,700	1,03,700
20.	No.1, H.B.K. Dehradun	70,450	1,85,200	4,17,800
21.	IMA Dehradun	—	1,11,700	1,03,700
22.	Dehradun Raipur	—	1,11,700	1,57,700
23.	Ralwala, Dehradun	—	1,24,900	1,16,900
24.	Landsdowne	—	1,99,300	1,54,354
25.	Roorkee	—	1,67,700	1,57,700
26.	Ranikhet	—	1,36,100	1,57,700
27.	Pithoragarh	—	1,67,700	1,57,700
28.	SL Meerut	1,65,000	8,000	1,76,100
29.	DL Meerut	—	1,11,700	2,68,200
30.	PL Meerut	1,84,410	1,11,700	1,76,100
31.	AFS Bareilly	—	1,67,700	1,57,700
32.	ASC Bareilly	—	1,11,700	1,33,300
33.	Babina Cantt.	—	1,67,700	1,57,700
34.	No.1, Jhansi	—	8,87,500	1,46,500
35.	No.1, Agra	—	1,11,700	6,00,900
36.	No.2, Agra	3,86,100	1,11,700	2,23,100
37.	No.1, Mathura	—	1,99,300	1,87,300
38.	Talbahat	93,000	—	1,03,700
39.	VKV Ghaziabad	1,50,181	3,03,913	4,29,653
40.	No.1, Hindon	78,727	1,01,200	93,200
41.	Murad Nagar	—	1,31,000	93,200
42.	Noida	3,24,324	1,83,000	1,71,600
43.	No. 2, Hindon	17,000	—	—
44.	AFS Dadri	—	16,000	—
45.	Bulandshahar	—	2,53,000	—
46.	IIT, Kanpur	—	—	54,750
47.	Mussoorie	—	—	39,800

[English]

Shortage of Power in Gujarat

2915. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present annual installed power generation capacity and the actual power generation in Gujarat during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the peak demand and supply of power in the State; and

(c) the manner in which it is proposed to meet the short fall of power in the State?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-

MANGALAM): (a) The figures for installed generating capacity as on 31st March, 1998, and the actual power generation in all power stations located in Gujarat State, in the last three years are given below:

Category	Installed Capacity	Generating (MW)	Total	Energy 95-96	Generation (MU)	
					State/	Central
					Private	Sector
Thermal	6010	1292	7302	30715	31815	36301
Nuclear	—	440	440	2251	3147	2119
Hydro	487	—	487	738	840	1291
Total	6497	1732	8229	33706	35802	39711

Gujarat's share of power in Central sector stations in the western region is 1290 MW plus 29.5% (198 MW during peak period and 169 MW during off-peak period) out of the unallocated quota in central sector stations in Western Region.

(b) The peak demand of Gujarat State during 1997-98 was 6367 MW against which 5961 MW was met. There was a shortfall of 6.4%

(c) In order to meet the shortage, the Government of Gujarat has planned to add 916 MW new generating capacity during 1998-99. Besides its existing share from Central sector power stations in the Western region, Gujarat has been allocated 60 MW power from central power stations in the eastern region. Assistance is also being provided from the northern region as and when required.

Doordarshan Kendra at Chandigarh

2916. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Doordarshan Kendra at Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a decision is likely to be taken;

(c) whether the Government propose to consider the starting of the Kendra from the building of AIR in Chandigarh till a regular TV Centre starts from there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Civil works have already commenced.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Sanctuary in Kandhamala District of Orissa

2917. SHRI PADMA NAVA BEHERA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal submitted by the Government of Orissa for the sanction of a sanctuary in Kandhamala district;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Apprentices Act

2918. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted any request to transfer the responsibility of implementation of Apprentices Act in respect of +2 vocational courses to the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the duration of the pendency of the request; and

(d) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In pursuance of the recommendation of 27th meeting of Central Apprenticeship Council (CAC) held on 17.12.1996, a Working Group has been constituted to suggest changes in the Apprentices Act, 1961 and rules framed thereunder in the light of new economic policy, in respect of

graduate engineer, technician and technician (vocational) apprentices. The Working Group constituted is looking into the various aspects of the scheme in respect of graduate engineer, technician and technician (vocational) apprentices as per the terms of reference and guidelines suggested to the Working Group.

Loss to Kandla Port

2919. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

DR. SANJAY SINH:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have estimated loss suffered to Kandla Port due to recent cyclone in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of equipments damaged and the number of persons who lost their lives in the mishap;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to resume operations at Kandla Port; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The total loss to the Port's infrastructural facilities due to cyclone have been estimated at Rs. 132.25 crores. Loss of operational income during the period from 9th June to 24th June, 1998 (till partial restoration of port

operations) is about Rs. 6.00 crores. The Port's civil, mechanical and electrical structures suffered severe damages. Five Wharf Cranes and the Marine Unloader sustained severe damages. Five Port employees lost their lives in the mishap.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Port operations have been resumed. The crude and POL handling have commenced during the 3rd week of June and the General cargo operations have commenced from 24th June, 1998. The Port has drawn up an action plan for restoration of various port facilities.

Telecom Facility in North-Eastern States

2920. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had decided in October, 1996 to give full coverage of North-Eastern States through telecommunication media;

(b) if so, the extent to which these States have so far been covered; and

(c) the time by which the remaining areas in these States are likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Extent to which the North Eastern States have been covered with telecommunication media is furnished in the Statement attached. Full coverage of telecommunication media is planned by the end of the 9th Five Year Plan.

Statement

*Extent of coverage of telecommunication facility in north eastern states
status of telecom facilities in north east region (State/Circle-wise) as on 31-05-98*

Sl. No.	Item	AP	MNP	MEG	MZR	NLD	TRP	Total NE Circle	ASSAM	Total NE Region
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Telephone Exchs.	72	30	45	41	35	50	273	319	592
2.	Telephone Connections	15678	18097	24214	20524	14650	25832	118995	164152	283147
3.	Villages with Telephone facility (out of)	557	592	842	575	516	547	3629	10524	14153
4.	STD Coverage	(3599)	(2394)	(5629)	(770)	(1192)	(862)	(14446)	(22224)	(36670)
	(i) Distt. Headquarters	13	8	7	3	7	4	42	23	65
	(out of)	(13)	(8)	(7)	(3)	(7)	(4)	(42)	(23)	(65)
	(ii) Sub-Divisional Hqrs.	18	13	15	9	5	11	71	48	119
	(out of)	(28)	(30)	(15)	(9)	(22)	(11)	(115)	(48)	(163)

AP — Arunachal Pradesh MZR — Mizoram
MNP — Manipur NLD — Nagaland
MEG — Meghalaya TRP — Tripura

Reporting by UNI Urdu Section

2921. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Urdu Section of the UNI has been directed to stop its own news gathering and to depend for reports on the English and Hindi sections;

(b) if so, the date on which it has been so directed;

(c) whether it is realised that any such direction is against the objectives and functions of the UNI Section which had been commenced with the assurance of at least 60 per cent of its own original reporting; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to withdraw the unjustified prohibition to enable the Urdu Section of the UNI to cover adequately the reporting of the social groups and interests of great concern to Urdu press and its readers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The Government have not issued any such directions to UNI.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Telephone Exchanges

2922. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH:

SHRI MAGANTI BABU:

SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone system in Punjab is very deplorable and telephone connections are not provided to the applicants applying for the same for many years;

(b) if so the reasons therefor;

(c) the capacity of the telephone exchanges at present functioning in Punjab and Andhra Pradesh exchange-wise;

(d) whether there is any proposal to increase the capacity of the existing exchanges and opening up of the new exchanges in these states; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The telecom services in Punjab are generally working satisfactorily and new connections are being released regularly barring a few pockets which are delayed being technically non feasible.

(c) The details are given in the Statement-I and II attached for Andhra Pradesh and Punjab Circles respectively.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) (i) There is a proposal to increase the capacity of the existing exchanges during 1998-99 by 379418 lines in Andhra Pradesh and 324500 lines in Punjab.

(ii) There is a proposal to open 30 new telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh and 73 new telephone exchanges in Punjab during 1998-99.

Statement—I*Capacity of Telephones Exchange Exchange-wise in Andhra Pradesh*

S. No.	Ex. No.	Name of the Exchange	Capacity
1	2	3	4
**Adilabad			
1.		Adilabad	4040
2.		Asifabad	488
3.		Basar	96
4.		Bazarhathnur	96
5.		Beeravalli	56
6.		Bela	96
7.		Bellampalli	1400
8.		Bhainsa	1112
9.		Bhimaram	25
10.		Boath	184
11.		Bopparam	152
12.		CC Complex	1400
12.A		CC Complex (New Sri Rampur)	360
13.		Chinnur	544
14.		Dahegon	56
15.		Dandepalli	152
16.		Devapur	456
17.		Devapur (T)	56
18.		Dilawarpur	56
19.		Dowdepally	80
20.		Echoda	328
21.		Golletti	304
22.		Gudihathnur	56
23.		Hazipur	56
24.		Indravelly	152

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
25.	Jainad		96	57.A	Sirpurkhagznagar		152
26.	Jainoor		152	58.	Sunkidi		152
27.	Jaipur		56	59.	Tallapeta		152
28.	Jannaram		456	60.	Vinoor		536
29.	Kalyanikhani		384	61.	Wankidi		96
29.A	Kalyanikhani		1032	**	Anantapur		
30.	Kapparala		56	62.	A. Kondapuram		56
31.	Karanji		56	63.	Agall		88
32.	Kautala		56	64.	Amadaguru		56
33.	Kerameri		56	65.	Amarapuram		184
34.	Khanapur		456	66.	Amidyala		88
35.	Koritikal		88	67.	Anantapur		11000
36.	Kubeer		88	68.	Aimakur		88
37.	Kuniala		80	69.	B.M.K. Palli		56
38.	Laxmanchanda		80	70.	Baithalapalli		152
39.	Loheshwara		80	71.	Beluguppa		184
40.	Luxetipet		400	72.	Bommanahal		152
40.A	Luxetipet		96	73.	Budili		56
41.	Madaram		368	74.	Bugga		336
42.	Madhapur		56	75.	Bukkapatnam		184
43.	Mancherial		3512	76.	Chalkur		56
44.	Mudhole		184	77.	Challapalli		56
45.	Namoor		96	78.	Cheekatimanipalli		56
46.	Narsapur		152	79.	Chennekothapalli		56
47.	Neredigonda		96	80.	Chigicherla		56
48.	Niguva		56	81.	Chilanathur		56
49.	Nirmal		2504	82.	Chinnayakkolur		56
50.	Peddure		96	83.	D. Cherlopalli		56
51.	Pipparawada		56	84.	D. Hirehal		56
52.	Ramakrishnapur		1000	85.	Dharmavaram		2400
53.	Rebbena		80	86.	Gadikal		56
54.	Repallewada		96	87.	Gandlapenta		88
55.	Sarangapur		88	88.	Gangavaram		56
56.	Sirpur Town		80	89.	Ganjivaripalli		56
57.	Sirpurkhagazanagar		1512	90.	Garladinne		304

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
91.	Gooty		1000	123.	Madlapalli		88
92.	Gorantla		384	124.	Malameedapalli		56
93.	Gownipalli		56	125.	Mallepalli		56
94.	Gudiselapalli		56	126.	Maluguru		56
95.	Gugudu		56	127.	Mamillapalli		56
96.	Gunipalli		56	128.	Mandalahalli		56
97.	Guntakal		2500	129.	Marrimakulapalli		88
98.	Guttur		88	130.	Medapuram		56
99.	Hindupur		1500	131.	Mohammadabad		56
99.A.	Hindupur		2000	132.	Mudigubba		304
99.B.	Hindupur		1000	133.	Nagasamudram		56
100.	Honnuru		56	134.	Nallacheruvu		56
101.	Jallipalli		56	135.	Nallamada		56
102.	Kadamalakunta		25	136.	Nalluru		88
103.	Kadiri		1200	137.	Nambulpulikunia		56
103.A	Kadiri		368	138.	Narpala		320
104.	Kalyandurg		600	139.	Neelakaniapuram		88
105.	Kambadur		56	140.	Nuthimadugu		56
106.	Kanaganapalli		88	141.	Obuladevacheruvu		88
107.	Kanekal		152	142.	Palasamudram		56
108.	Kanekal-Cross		56	143.	Pamidi		552
109.	Kodikonda		56	144.	Pamudurthy		56
110.	Kogira		56	145.	Parigi		184
111.	Kokkanti		56	146.	Parnapally		88
112.	Konakondla		56	147.	Pathakothacheruvu		56
113.	Kondakamerla		56	148.	Patnam		56
114.	Kotanka		88	149.	Pedaballi		56
115.	Kothacheruvu		304	150.	Peddappappuru		56
116.	Krishnapuram		88	151.	Peddavaddugurv		56
117.	Kuchivaripalli		56	152.	Penukonda		384
118.	Kuderu		152	153.	Perur		56
119.	Kundurpi		56	154.	Prasanihinilayam		1000
120.	Lepakshi		152	155.	Pulagampalli		56
121.	M.P.R. Dame		56	156.	Pullalarevu		56
122.	Madakkasira		448	157.	Puttur		56

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
158.	R. Venkatapuram		56	**Chittoor			
159.	Ramagiri		88	192.	Alathur		56
160.	Ramalingayapalli		56	193.	Annur		56
161.	Rapihapu		56	194.	Aragonda		336
162.	Ratnalapalli		56	195.	Avanihi		56
163.	Rayadurg		1000	196.	B. Korhakora		520
164.	Rayalacheruvu		184	197.	B.N. Kandriga		152
165.	Reddipalli		56	198.	Baireddipalli		184
166.	Roddam		88	199.	Bakarapeta		56
167.	Rolla		88	200.	Baljakandriga		56
168.	Rotarypuram		56	201.	Bangarupalem		336
169.	S.V. Puram		184	202.	Bathalavallam		56
170.	Salakamcheruvu		56	203.	Beerakuppam		56
171.	Settur		56	204.	Bommasamudram		336
172.	Singanamala		56	205.	Brahmanapalle		56
173.	Somalapuram		56	206.	Bugga Agraharam		152
174.	Somandepalli		162	207.	Burakayalakota		56
175.	Tadimarri		184	208.	C. Ippasamudram		152
176.	Tadpatri		3000	209.	Chandragiri		320
177.	Talaharia		88	209.A	Chandragiri		88
178.	Talupula		60	210.	Chembakur		56
179.	Tanakallu		152	211.	Cherlopalli		56
180.	Tarimala		56	212.	Chigurukunta		56
181.	Thimmampalli		56	213.	Chillakuru		56
182.	Thumakunta		184	214.	Chinagottigallu		152
183.	Uravakonda		152	215.	Chintalapalem		56
183.A	Uravakonda		192	216.	Chintaparthi		152
184.	Vajrakarur		184	217.	Chittoor		4000
185.	Vanavolu		56	217.A	Chittoor		3500
186.	Venkatapuram		56	218.	Chowdasamudram		56
187.	Vidapanakal		56	219.	Chowdepalli		184
188.	Yadiki		184	220.	Damalcheruvu		152
189.	Yeddulapalli		56	221.	Devalampeta		56
190.	Yellanur		184	222.	Durgasamudram		152
191.	Yerraguntla		56	223.	Ekambarakuppam		1200

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
223.A.		Ekambarakuppam	152	256.		Mapakshi	152
224.		Empedu	56	257.		Medikurthi	56
225.		Gajjalavaripalli	56	258.		Molakalacheruvu	152
226.		Gangadharanellore	184	259.		Muchivolu	25
227.		Gundlakattamanchi	152	260.		Muthukur	56
228.		Gurramkonda	152	261.		Nagalapuram	336
229.		Horsely Hills	56	262.		Naliavenganapalli	56
230.		Irala	152	263.		Naraharipet	184
231.		K.V.B. Puram	56	264.		Narasingarayani Peta	56
232.		Kalakada	184	265.		Nethakuppam	56
233.		Kalavakur	56	266.		Nimmanapalli	56
234.		Kaicheria	152	267.		Nuthankalya	56
235.		Kalikiri	184	268.		P. Kothakota	56
235.A		Kalkiri	88	269.		Pachikapalem	56
236.		Kallupalli	56	270.		Pakala	1000
237.		Kallur	152	270.A		Pakala	336
238.		Kalrodipalle	56	271.		Palamaner	1400
239.		Kambhamvaripalli	56	272.		Palamangalam	88
240.		Kammapalli	160	273.		Panduru	88
241.		Kandulavaripalli	152	274.		Papanaidupeta	160
242.		Kandur	56	275.		Pathlkonda	184
243.		Kanipakam	336	276.		Peddaupparapalli	88
244.		Karani	56	277.		Penumuru	184
245.		Karvetinagaram	152	278.		Pichatur	336
246.		Kayam	56	279.		Prier	768
247.		Kona	56	280.		Pulakala	152
248.		Krishnapuram	56	281.		Pudi	56
249.		Kuppam	808	282.		Pulicheria	56
250.		Kuppambadur	56	283.		Punganur	384
251.		Kurabalakuta	184	283.A		Punganur	452
252.		Madanapalli	1632	284.		Puthalapattu	152
252.A		Madanapalli	1200	285.		Puttur	1048
253.		Maddiledu	56	285.A.		Puttur	384
254.		Mahal	88	286.		R.R. Puram	152
255.		Mangalampeta	152	287.		Ramakuppam	96

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
288.	Ramasamudram		152	321.	Yadamarri		336
289.	Renigunia		1000	322.	Yalamanda		56
290.	Rompicherla		152	323.	Yerpedu		152
291.	Rayalpeta		152	324.	Yerravaripalem		56
292.	S.Randapalli		56	**Cuddapah			
293.	S.S.S. Konda		56	325.	Agadur		56
294.	Sanihavellore		56	326.	Annavaram		88
295.	Satyavedu		336	327.	Atlur		88
296.	Shantipuram		152	328.	B. Kodur		40
297.	Siddampalli		56	329.	Bodvel		192
298.	Suddam		152	329.A	Badvel		208
299.	Somala		88	330.	Bidanamcherla		56
300.	Sorakayalapeta		56	331.	Brahmangarimattam		56
301.	Srikalahasti		1312	332.	Chakrapet		56
301.A	Srikalahasti		184	333.	Chapadu		120
302.	Tadukupeta		56	334.	Chennur		256
303.	Talupula		56	335.	Cheyzeru Project		56
304.	Tarigonda		88	336.	Chilamakur		344
305.	Thamnallapalli		152	337.	Chinnakomerla		32
306.	Thondamanadu		88	338.	Chinnamandem		96
307.	Thumbakuppam		88	339.	Chintakommadinne		96
308.	Thungundram		56	340.	Chintakunta		88
309.	Trp. Tirumala		2000	341.	Chitvel		120
310.	Trp Tirupathi		5000	342.	Chowduru		88
310.A	Trp. Tirupathi		10000	343.	Ckn.Pet		56
311.	Ugranampalli		52	344.	Cuddapah		8000
312.	Vadamalapeta		152	345.	Duvvur		160
313.	Vallivedu		56	346.	Eruvapalem		88
314.	Vanamaladinhe		56	347.	G.V. Satara		88
315.	Varadaiahpalem		192	348.	Galiveedu		88
316.	Yayalpadu		520	349.	Guttapalli		25
317.	Vengalarajakuppam		56	350.	Indluru		168
318.	Venkatagirikota		344	351.	Jammalamadugu		384
319.	Vijayapuram		56	351.A	Jammalamadugu		192
320.	Y. Snathagate		152	352.	Kalamala		336

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
353.		Kalasapadu	56	386.		Rachayapet	32
354.		Kamalapuram	256	387.		Rajampet	1400
355.		Kanagudur	56	387.A		Rajampet	232
356.		Khajipet	184	388.		Ramapuram (N.K. Pet)	32
357.		Kodur	192	389.		Rayachoty	768
357.A		Kodur	808	389.A		Rayachoty	152
358.		Kondapuram	136	389.B		Rayachoty	88
359.		Koraguntapalli	56	390.		Rayavaram	25
360.		Kukkaladoddi	58	391.		Sambepalli	56
361.		Lakkireddipalli	152	392.		Settigunta	56
362.		Lingala	56	393.		Settipalli	56
363.		Mangampet	56	394.		Siddavatam	88
364.		Muddanur	216	395.		Simhadripuram	168
365.		Muthukur	56	396.		T. Sakibanda	25
366.		Mydukur	432	397.		T. Sundupalli	152
367.		Mylavaram	56	398.		T. Velamvaripalli	88
368.		Nallapureddipalli	56	399.		Talla Proddatur	56
369.		Nandalli	344	400.		Tallapaka	56
370.		Nandimandalam	56	401.		Thondur	56
371.		Narsapuram	40	402.		Uppalur	56
372.		New Madhavaram	264	403.		V.R. Palli	56
373.		Nossam	32	404.		Vaddirala	32
374.		Nuliveedu	88	405.		Vainpalli	344
375.		Obulavaripalli	80	406.		Valur	56
376.		Onipenta	56	407.		Vaeraballi	56
377.		Partapadu	48	408.		Verapunayanipalli	80
378.		Payasampalli	48	409.		Vemula	88
379.		Peddacheppalli	40	410.		Vontimitta	88
380.		Peddamudlum	336	411.		Yellatur	56
381.		Peddapasupula	40	412.		Yerragunila-Rax	296
382.		Purumamilla	356	**East Godavari			
383.		Proddatur	5500	413.		A. Mallavaram	184
384.		Pulivendula	384	414.		Addateegala	184
384.A		Pulivendula	192	415.		Alamuru	368
385.		Pullampat	248	416.		Alavaram	336

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
417.		Amalapuram	3048	450.		Kadiyam	384
418.		Ambajipet	1000	451.		Kajuluru	184
419.		Anaparthi	1472	452.		Kakinada	7500
420.		Anathavaram	184	452.A		Kakinada	8000
420.A		Anathavaram	88	452.B		Kakinada	9000
421.		Angara	344	453.		Kamarajupeta	184
422.		Annavaram	368	454.		Kandikuppa	160
423.		Anthervedi	160	454.A		Kandikuppa	88
424.		Atchutapuram	112	455.		Karapa	184
425.		Atreyapuram	200	456.		Katnipudi	184
426.		Biccavulu	312	457.		Katravulapalli	184
427.		C.S.K. Pudi	56	458.		Katrenikona	184
428.		Challapalli	184	459.		Kesanakurupalem	168
429.		Chebrolu	184	459.A		Kesanakurupalem	64
430.		D. Gannavaram	328	460.		Kesavaram	184
431.		Dangeru	152	461.		Kiriampudi	344
432.		Devipatnam	56	462.		Komaragiripatnam	184
433.		Divili	184	463.		Korukonda	336
434.		Dowlaiswaram	1000	464.		Kotananduru	112
435.		Draksharama	360	465.		Kothapeta	384
436.		Dulla	184	465.A		Kothapeta	320
437.		Gadala	184	466.		Kotipalli	184
438.		Gandepalli	184	467.		Machavaram	320
439.		Gantipedapudi	112	468.		Malkipuram	1384
440.		Gokavaram	344	469.		Mallam	152
441.		Gollalamamidada	376	470.		Mallisala	152
442.		Gollapalem	184	471.		Mandapeta	2000
443.		Gopalpuram	184	472.		Marudumilli	56
444.		Gurazanapalli	112	473.		Mirhipadu	184
445.		Guttinadeevi	184	474.		Mukkamala	336
446.		Hamsavaram	112	475.		Mukteswaram	360
447.		I. Polavaram	160	476.		Mummidivaram	768
448.		Jagannadhagiri	112	477.		Muramalla	176
449.		Jaggampeta	336	477.A		Muramalla	88
449.A		Jaggampeta	184	478.		Nagulapalli	184

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
479.	Nandarada		184	510.	Tuni		1698
480.	Narendrapuram		180	510.A	Tuni		88
481.	Pamaru		184	511.	Uppada		336
482.	Pasariapudi		352	512.	Uppalodptam		184
483.	Peddapuram		1400	513.	Vanapalli		112
484.	Peravaram		112	514.	Velangi		184
485.	Pithapuram		1400	515.	Vetlapalem		184
486.	Ponnamanda		352	516.	Vommangi		56
487.	Purushothapatham		112	517.	Yanam		768
488.	Raghudevapuram		336	517.A	Yanam		184
489.	Rajahmundry		9500	518.	Yeleswaram		768
489.A	Rajahmundry		80	519.	Yerravaram		184
489.B	Rajahmundry (Pr. Estates)		3500	**Guntur			
489.C	Rajahmundry		4000	520.	A.G. Talem		160
489.D	Rajahmundry		1000	521.	Adavuladeevi		184
490.	Rajangaram		336	522.	Adigoppula		128
491.	Rajavommangi		88	523.	Amravathi		344
492.	Ramachandrapuram		1400	524.	Amruthalur		336
493.	Rampachodavaram		336	525.	Anantavaram		184
494.	Rangampeta		184	526.	Appikatla		184
495.	Ravulapalem		1464	527.	Atchampet		184
496.	Rayayaram		1408	528.	Bandlamothu		184
497.	Razole		704	529.	Bapatla		1384
498.	Rowthurapudi		56	530.	Battiprolu		368
499.	Sakhinetipali		720	531.	Bellamkonda		88
500.	Samalkot		1000	532.	Bhrughubanda		88
501.	Sanavaram		112	533.	Bodipalem		184
502.	Sanrapalem		112	534.	Brahamanpalli		56
503.	Srikrishnapatnam		152	535.	Chandolu		192
504.	Srirampuram		56	536.	Chebrolu		352
505.	Tallarevu		184	537.	Cherukupalli		368
506.	Tamarada		152	538.	Chilakaluripet		2288
507.	Tatipaka		1064	539.	Chinalingayapalem		120
508.	Thondangi		112	540.	Dachavaram		80
509.	Timmapuram		184	541.	Dachepalli		1000

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
542.	Dhullpudi		160	572.	Kunchanapalli		336
543.	Dodleru		88	573.	Kunkalagunta		88
544.	Donepudi		184	574.	Lamella		200
545.	Duggirala		384	575.	Machavaram		184
546.	Durgi		184	576.	Macherla		832
547.	Edlapadu		344	577.	Mandadam		304
548.	Edlapalli		176	578.	Mandapadu		336
549.	Epurilanka		88	579.	Mangalagiri		1600
550.	Ganapavaram		88	580.	Medikonduru		184
551.	Gir/A. Nagar		6000	581.	Mupalla VKD		136
551.A	Gir/A. Nagar		7500	582.	Muppalla SAP		160
551.B	Gir/A. Nagar		5500	583.	Murikpudi		56
552.	Gir/A.Peta		2500	584.	Nagaram		184
552.A	Gir/A. Peta		1000	585.	Nagulavaram		88
553.	Gir/K. Peta		4600	586.	Nambur		368
553.A	Gir/K. Peta		3000	587.	Nandivelugu		336
554.	Gir/P. Bazar		2000	588.	Narakoduru		336
554.A	Gir/P.Bazar		4100	589.	Narasayapalem		232
555.	Gudavalli		184	590.	Narsaraopet		4512
556.	Gurazala		368	591.	Nekarikallu		184
557.	Intur		88	592.	Nizampatnam		240
558.	Ipur		88	593.	Nutakki		384
559.	K.N. Vari Palem		88	594.	Palapadu		88
560.	Kakumanu		184	595.	Pamidipadu		88
561.	Kankatapalem		184	596.	Patibandla		88
562.	Karampudi		272	597.	Pedakodamagundla		184
563.	Kariapalem		208	598.	Pedakurapadu		184
564.	Karumanchi		64	599.	Pedanandipadu		368
565.	Kollipara		352	600.	Pedapalem		184
566.	Kolluru		336	601.	Pedapulvaru		184
567.	Komerapudi		88	602.	Peravali		184
568.	Kondrupadu		184	603.	Perecherla		352
569.	Krosuru		336	604.	Phirangipuram		192
570.	Kuchinapudi		184	605.	Piduguralla		1272
571.	Kuchipudi		184	606.	Pittalvanipalem		336

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
607.	Ponnekallu		184	640.	HD, BLN/377		3000
608.	Ponnuru		1400	641.	HD, BWNP/775		5550
609.	Prathipadu		344	642.	HD, CANTT/860&863		6100
610.	Palladigunia		304	643.	HD, CGT/444		6000
611.	Reniachintala		264	644.	HD, CMR/52		10000
612.	Repalle		1400	644.A	HD, CMR/441		7000
613.	Returu		88	644.B	HD, CMR/456 & 457		23700
614.	Rompicherla		152	645.	HD, DEB/320		4600
615.	S.J. Modi		184	646.	HD, DWP/335		4500
616.	Santhamaguluru		56	647.	HD, EGD/26&371		12500
617.	Satamapalli		1250	647.A	HD, EGD/381		5250
618.	Sasuluri		184	648.	HD, SCBL/300		1500
619.	Savalyapuram		184	649.	HD, GOL/351		9500
620.	Singupalem		120	650.	HD, GWD/473		8000
621.	Srinagar		184	650.A	HD, GWD/		4000
622.	Stuvaripuram		176	650.B	HD, GWD/461&465		22000
623.	T. Sanduru		184	650.C	HD, GWD/59		6000
624.	Tadikonda		368	651.	HD, HCU/301		1000
625.	Tenali		7560	652.	HD, J.H./238&248		9000
626.	Tullur		335	652.A	HD, J.H./		1000
627.	Turagavaripalem		88	653.	HD, JDBL/309		5850
628.	Uppalapadu CKT		56	654.	HD, KKP/307		4200
629.	Uppalapadu GT		352	655.	HD, KPHB/88		7000
630.	Vallabhapuram		336	656.	HD, KSG/712		8560
631.	Vatticherukuru		240	657.	HD, KVDG/753		6650
632.	Veldurthy		88	658.	HD, LBN/403		4400
633.	Vemuru		336	659.	HD, LGPL/303		3300
634.	Vijaypuri (South)		184	660.	HD, MBD/6760&761		19500
635.	Vinudonda		1400	660.A	HD, MBD/763&764		12000
::Hyderabad				660.B	HD, MBD/766		8100
636.	HD, ADN		8000	661.	HD, HM/773		3500
637.	HD, AR/29		7000	662.	HD, MLKJ/705		9000
637.A	HD, AR/374		8600	663.	HD, MLKP/548		5000
638.	HD, BHEL/302		5000	664.	HD, MRM/353		6000
639.	HD, BKP/756		5100	665.	HD, MTS/334		4400

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
666.	HD, MYPA/304		1000	696.	Dharmapuri		336
667.	HD, NCH/715		3000	697.	Dhamaram		304
667.A	HD, NCH/717		6000	698.	Dongadurthi		25
668.	HD, PRKN/776		4750	699.	Dontapur		25
669.	HD, RJN/401		4500	700.	Durshed		152
670.	HD, RMKT/475		9000	701.	Eigth Incline		1000
671.	HD, RMPR/703		5000	702.	Elkathurthi		56
672.	HD, SD/770&771		10000	703.	Ellgaid		56
673.	HD, SD/780		6000	704.	Ellanthankunta		152
674.	HD, SD/81&84		21400	705.	Fertilizer City		1000
675.	HD,SD/82		3300	705.A	Fertilizer City		384
675.A	HD, SD/83		2800	706.	Gamniraopet		184
676.	HD, SDB/406		9000	707.	Gangadhara		304
677.	HD, SFD/21, 23&24		13800	708.	Gangaram		25
678.	HD, SFD/22		5000	709.	Gangipalli		152
679.	HD, SFD/331&339		32050	710.	Garrepaly		56
679.A	HD, SFD/596		4000	711.	Godavarikhani		2500
680.	HD, STNR/453		5200	712.	Gollapalli		152
681.	HD, SNKP/711		4000	713.	Gopalaraopet		184
682.	HD, SRN/404		10700	714.	Gopulapur		25
682.A	HD, SRN/87		9000	715.	Gundampalli		25
683.	HD, TNK/701		3000	716.	Gunjapadugu		50
684.	HD, VSPM/402		8000	717.	Husnabad		336
685.	HD, VSV/774		4050	718.	Huzurabaj		1000
686.	HD, VVK/306		6500	719.	Ibrahmnagar		25
¶Karimnagar				720.	Ibrahmpatnam		152
687.	Asifnagar		152	721.	Jagtial		3700
688.	Basantnagar		424	722.	Jammikunta		1000
689.	Begumpet		25	723.	Julapalli		152
690.	Bejjanki		152	724.	Jyothinagar		2000
691.	Boinpalli		152	725.	Kachapur		56
692.	Centenary Colony		336	726.	Kalvasrampur		152
693.	Cheerlavancha		25	727.	Kamalapur		152
694.	Chegyam		25	728.	Kamanpur		152
695.	Choppadandi		368	729.	Karimnagar		10000

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
730.	Kasimpet		80	763.	Paidimadugu		25
731.	Kataram		152	764.	Partapalli		152
732.	Kathalapur		56	765.	Peddapalli		1200
733.	Kesavapatnam		152	765.A	Peddapalli		768
734.	Kodimial		152	766.	Pegadapalli		152
735.	Koheda		88	767.	Poodur		152
736.	Kolanur		56	768.	Pothakapalli		152
737.	Koonaraopet		25	769.	Potyal		25
738.	Koratla		768	770.	Raikal		336
738.A	Koratla		152	771.	Ramadugu		152
739.	Kothapalli		304	772.	Ramagundam		336
740.	L.M.D Colony		304	773.	Renikunta		56
741.	Laxmpur		25	774.	Rudrangl		50
742.	Mahadevapur		152	775.	Saidapur		56
743.	Mallapoor		56	776.	Sanigaram		56
744.	Mallaram		25	777.	Sarangpur		56
745.	Mallal		336	778.	Sircilla		1400
746.	Mamidalapalli		152	779.	Sultanabad		304
747.	Manakondur		152	780.	Tadicherla		25
748.	Mannegudem		25	781.	Thakkapalli		25
749.	Manthani		192	782.	Thandrial		25
749.A	Manthani		152	783.	Thimmapur		50
750.	Marrigadda		45	784.	Thogarrai		56
751.	Medipalli		152	785.	Uppal		56
752.	Metpalli		1000	786.	V. VenkataraoPET		45
753.	Milkanoor		184	787.	Vangara		56
754.	Mustabad		336	788.	Varshakonda		25
755.	Mutharam		25	789.	Vav#ala		56
756.	Mutyampet (NSF)		58	790.	Veenavanka		56
757.	Nagnoor		152	791.	Velgatoor		56
758.	Narisingapur		25	792.	Vemulavada		384
759.	Narella		58	792.A	Vemulavada		56
760.	Nimmapalli		25	793.	Vinkatapur		25
761.	Nizamabada		25	794.	Vennampalli		56
762.	Nustulapur		56	795.	Yellareddipet		184

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
**Khammam				829.		Kunavaram	184
796.		Ammapureddipalli	56	830.		Kusimanchi	184
797.		Aswapuram	392	831.		Lankapalli	56
798.		Aswaraopet	344	832.		Laxminagaram	184
799.		Bachoda	56	833.		M.P. Banjara	56
800.		Banigandlapadu	56	834.		M.V. Palem	56
801.		Bayyaram (M)	56	835.		Madharam	184
802.		Bayyaram (Y)	184	836.		Madhira	384
803.		Beerapalli	56	836.A		Madhira	184
804.		Bhadrachalam	2500	837.		Mannegudem	56
805.		Banakal	152	838.		Manuguru	384
806.		Burgampahad	184	838.A		Manuguru	1000
807.		Chandrugonda	184	839.		Marripeda	336
808.		Charla	184	840.		Mondikunia	56
809.		Chennuru	56	841.		Madigonda	184
810.		Chintakani	152	842.		Malakalapalli	56
811.		Chintoor	152	843.		Nagulavancha	152
812.		Dammapeta	184	844.		Nagupalli	56
813.		Domakal	336	845.		Naikangudem	56
814.		Enkoor	152	846.		Nelakondapalli	336
815.		Erragunta	56	847.		Nemali	184
816.		Gangavaram	152	848.		Palvoncha	1400
817.		Garla	184	849.		Pandithapuram	184
818.		Gollapudi	184	850.		Peddagopathy	152
819.		Jagannadhapuram	56	851.		Penuballi	184
820.		Jallepalli	56	852.		Penugdlanu	56
821.		Janampeta	88	853.		Produtur	56
822.		Julurpahad	184	854.		Rajesharapuram	56
823.		Kalluru	336	855.		Rudrampur	424
824.		Kandukur	56	856.		S.N. Puram	152
825.		Karepalli	152	857.		Sathupalli	768
826.		Khammam	9800	857.A		Sathupalli	328
827.		Kothagudem	1392	858.		Stripuram	56
827.A		Kothagudem	1400	859.		Sujathnagar	184
828.		Koyachilaka	56	860.		Tallada	336

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
861.		Tallampadu	56	895.		Edara	152
862.		Thnikella	152	896.		Elamarru	160
863.		Tekulapalli	56	897.		Eilmoga	56
864.		Thimmarapeta	56	898.		G. Kondur	384
865.		Thotapalli	152	899.		Gamoalagudem	336
866.		Tirumalayapalem	152	900.		Gandrai	152
867.		V.R. Puram	152	901.		Gannavaram	1750
868.		Vallabhi	56	902.		Garikapadu	152
869.		Vanamalakistapuram	56	903.		Ghantasala	304
870.		Vemsoor	184	904.		Gopavaram	152
871.		Venkatapuram	184	905.		Gosavidu	56
872.		Vutukur	56	906.		Gudipadu	88
873.		Wyra	1000	907.		Gudivada	4000
874.		Yellandu	788	908.		Gudlavalledu	520
875.		Yerrupalem	152	909.		Guduru	152
::Krishna				910.		Hanumanjunction	768
876.		Agaripalli	336	911.		Ibrahimpattam	1400
877.		Akkireddigudem	152	912.		Jaggayyapeta	1432
878.		Angaluru	160	913.		Jayanthi	152
879.		Agulolu	56	914.		Jujjuru	152
880.		Avanigadda	768	915.		K.T. Palli	320
881.		Bandipalem	152	916.		Kaikaluru	1000
882.		Bantumilli	520	916.A		Kaikaluru	768
883.		Bhaskarraopet	152	917.		Kalidindi	552
884.		Bhujabalapatnam	336	918.		Kanchikacherla	424
885.		Challapalli	768	919.		Kankipadu	1400
886.		Chandralapadu	152	920.		Kanumuru	152
887.		Chatrai	168	921.		Katuru	344
888.		Chennur (KRI)	56	922.		Khambhampadu	168
889.		Chevitikallu	152	923.		Kodali	168
890.		Chimalapadu	88	924.		Kodur	304
891.		Chinnapuram	152	925.		Kolletikota	56
892.		Chintalapadu	96	926.		Kondapalli	520
893.		Devarapalli	184	927.		Korukollu	168
894.		Dondapadu	152	928.		Kosuru	168

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
929.		Kruthivenu	152	964.		Polavaram (NZV)	56
930.		Kuchipudi	768	965.		Poranki	1340
931.		Lankapalli	88	966.		Potumeeda	56
932.		Laxmipuram	152	967.		Putrela	168
933.		Leelanagar	56	968.		Ramavarappadu	1500
934.		Machilipatnam	6000	969.		Ramireddipalli	88
935.		Makkapet	336	970.		Reddigudem	168
936.		Mandavalli	336	971.		Rudrapaka	152
937.		Manikonda	345	972.		Srikakulam	152
938.		Mirzapuram	88	973.		T. Sanubanda	168
939.		Mopidevi	152	974.		Tadimada	176
940.		Moturu	152	975.		Tallapalem	88
941.		Mudinepalli	656	976.		Tamirisa	152
942.		Mukkolu	56	977.		Telaprolu	304
943.		Mulapadu	384	978.		Thotlavalluru	152
944.		Munjuluru	152	978.A		Thotlavalluru	88
945.		Mustabad	320	979.		Tiruvuru	766
946.		Mylavaram	736	980.		Unguturu	168
947.		Nagayalanka	368	981.		Vadlamannadu	56
948.		Nandigama	832	982.		Vatsavai	168
949.		Nandivada	56	983.		Veerankilock	344
950.		Nidumolu	80	984.		Vellanki	88
951.		Nimmakur	152	985.		Vellatur	184
952.		Nunna	424	986.		Ventrapragada	152
953.		Nuzvidu	2000	987.		Vishwanadhapalli	56
954.		Pallerlamudi	56	988.		Vissannapet	368
955.		Pamaru	952	989.		VJ. Autonagar-SMNS	5444
956.		Pedagonnuru	56	990.		VJ, Bandar Road,	14800
957.		Pedakallepalli	152	990.A		VJ, Bandar Road (Ind, EST)	2000
958.		Pedana	352	991.		VJ, CTX RLU	10000
959.		Pendyala	152	992.		VJ, MCM-RLU	9000
960.		Penuganchiprolu	336	993.		VJ, Satyanarayanapuram	4728
961.		Penumalli	56	994.		VJ, Vijayawada (Gov. Pey)	4000
962.		Periseipalli	152	994.A		VJ, Krishnalanka	2000
963.		Polayaram (MPM)	152	995.		Vuyyuru	600

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
995.A	Vuyyuru		1000	1027.		Gadivemula	56
996.	Zamigolvepalli		152	1028.		Gani	56
**Kurnool				1029.		Gazulapalli	184
997.	A. Kodur		88	1030.		Gonegandla	56
998.	Adoni		3640	1031.		Gospadu	184
999.	Ahonilum		56	1032.		Gudur. K.	192
1000.	Akumalla		56	1033.		Gulyam	56
1001.	Alamur		56	1034.		Halaharvi	56
1002.	Allagadda		1076	1035.		Halvi	56
1003.	Allur		256	1036.		Harivanam (P)	56
1004.	Aspari		80	1037.		Harivaram	56
1005.	Atmakur		368	1038.		Holagonda	56
1006.	Banaganapalli		192	1039.		Hussainapuram	56
1006.A	Banaganapalli		152	1040.		Ingaladhahal	56
1007.	Bandi Atmakur		184	1041.		Jaladurgam	56
1008.	Bannur		56	1042.		Joharapuram	56
1009.	Bapuram		56	1043.		Jonnagiri	56
1010.	Basarakodur		56	1044.		Kalugotla	40
1011.	Bethamcherla		848	1045.		Kamnalapadu	56
1012.	Brahmagiri		368	1046.		Kanakadripalli	56
1013.	Brahmanakotkur		152	1047.		Kanala	184
1014.	C. Belgai		88	1048.		Kandukur	56
1015.	Cement Nagar		184	1049.		KNL, Krishna Nagar	4000
1016.	Chagalamarri		336	1050.		KNL, Kurnool	9000
1017.	Chinnatekur		56	1050.A		KNL, Kurnool (DTO)	2500
1018.	Chippagiri		56	1051.		Kodumur	336
1019.	Devanakonda		56	1052.		Koilkuntla	200
1020.	Diguvapadu		56	1052.A		Koilkuntla	152
1021.	Dinnedevarapadu		184	1053.		Kollmigundla	56
1022.	Domipadu		184	1054.		Konidela	56
1023.	Dronachalam		768.	1055.		Kosigi	184
1023.A	Dronachalam		296	1056.		Jothakota	56
1024.	Erigeri		56	1057.		Kowthalam	56
1025.	G. Singavaram		56	1058.		Kunthanahal	56
1026.	Godigarevula		56	1059.		Laddagiri	56

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1060.	Maddikera		184	1095.	Polur		56
1061.	Maddur		56	1096.	Puliakurthy		56
1062.	Mahanandi		152	1097.	Pyalakurthy		56
1063.	Malkapuram		88	1098.	Racheria		56
1064.	Mallapalli		56	1099.	Ramallakota		56
1065.	Mantralayam		184	1100.	Ramapuram		56
1066.	Midthur		88	1101.	Rampuram		184
1067.	Molagavalli		56	1102.	Rangapuram		184
1068.	Muthyalapadu		56	1103.	Rudravaram		152
1069.	Nagaladinne		56	1104.	Sanjamala		56
1070.	Nagalapuram K.		56	1105.	Sirvella		336
1071.	Nagaradona		56	1106.	Śrisailam (D)		368
1072.	Nagarur		56	1107.	Srisailam (P)		384
1073.	Nandavaram		56	1107.A	Srisailam (P)		304
1074.	Nandikotkur		688	1108.	Tangutur		56
1075.	Nandivargam		56	1109.	Thimmapuram		56
1076.	Nandyal		5500	1110.	Thuggali		56
1077.	Namoor		88	1111.	Ulindakonda		88
1078.	Orvakal		56	1112.	Uppalapadu		56
1079.	Owk		184	1113.	Uyyalawada		56
1080.	P.R. Palli		56	1114.	Veldurthy		184
1081.	Pagidyala		152	1115.	Velgode		336
1082.	Palkur		56	1116.	Velpanur		56
1083.	Pamulapadu		56	1117.	Vempenta		56
1084.	Panyam		184	1118.	Vyalawada		56
1085.	Pattikonda		368	1119.	Yallur		336
1086.	Peapully		336	1120.	Yemmiganur		1128
1087.	Peddakadubur		56	1121.	Yerraguntla		184
1088.	Peddapadu		56	**Mahabubnagar			
1089.	Peddathumbalam		56	1122.	Achampet		520
1090.	Pendekallu		56	1123.	Addakal		88
1091.	Peravali		56	1124.	Alampur		184
1092.	Perusomula		56	1125.	Amanagallu		336
1093.	Pesaravai		56	1126.	Amarchinia		184
1094.	Polakal		56	1127.	Amrabad		56

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1128.		Apparala	56	1163.		Kothakota	296
1129.		Atmakur	336	1164.		Kothalabad	56
1130.		Avancha	56	1165.		Kothapally	56
1131.		Balamoor	56	1166.		Kothur Ida	360
1132.		Balanagar	184	1167.		Koukuntla	56
1133.		Beehpally	56	1168.		Krishna	88
1134.		Bhuthpur	80	1169.		Lalkota	56
1135.		Bijwar	56	1170.		Lingal	152
1136.		Bomraspet	56	1171.		Lingampet	56
1137.		Charakonda	56	1172.		Madanapuram	96
1138.		Chinachintakunia	88	1173.		Maddur	56
1139.		Damaragidda	56	1174.		Madgul	56
1140.		Devarakadra	352	1175.		Magandor	56
1141.		Dhanwada	152	1176.		Mahabubnagar	5500
1142.		Gadwal	1400	1177.		Makthal	336
1143.		Ghattu	56	1178.		Maldakal	88
1144.		Gopalpet	88	1179.		Manopad	88
1145.		Hanwada	56	1180.		Marikal	184
1146.		leeja	368	1181.		Midjil	152
1147.		Irwyn	25	1182.		Mogalgidda	56
1148.		Jadcherla	1400	1183.		Moosapet	152
1149.		Kadthal	160	1184.		Nagarkurnool	768
1150.		Kahwakurthy	520	1184.A		Nagarkurnool	184
1151.		Keshampet	184	1185.		Narayanpet	1000
1152.		Kethepally	56	1186.		Nawalpet	152
1153.		Khilaghanapur	56	1187.		Padkal	56
1154.		Kodandapur	56	1188.		Palem	768
1155.		Kodangal	304	1189.		Panagal	88
1156.		Kolkonda	88	1190.		Pebbair	184
1157.		Kolapur	336	1191.		Pedakothapally	152
1158.		Koilur	56	1192.		Peddmandadi	56
1159.		Kondurg	120	1193.		Pentalavally	152
1160.		Koagi	192	1194.		Polepally	56
1161.		Koiakapra	56	1195.		Pulimzmidl	56
1162.		Koiakonda	56	1196.		Raghupathipet	25

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1197.	Raikal		56	1231.	Chiragpally		152
1198.	Rajapur		152	1232.	Digwal		184
1199.	Rajoli		184	1233.	Dommaia		25
1200.	Ravulapalli		184	1234.	Doulatabad-I		184
1201.	Shadnagar		80	1235.	Doulatabad-II		152
1202.	Shantinagar		1800	1236.	Dubbax		336
1203.	Sirsawara		184	1237.	Duddeda		88
1204.	Srinagar		56	1238.	Gadipeddapur		56
1205.	Tadur		88	1239.	Gajwel		1088
1206.	Talakondapally		80	1240.	Ganeshpally		56
1207.	Telkapally		56	1241.	Gowraram		184
1208.	Thimmaipet		200	1242.	Gummadidala		184
1209.	Thoodkurthy		56	1243.	Hadnoor		56
1210.	Udithyal		56	1244.	Hainoora		88
1211.	Undavally		56	1245.	Ismalkhanpet		152
1212.	Uppunuthala		88	1246.	Isnapur		640
1213.	Urukonda		56	1247.	Jagadevapur		336
1214.	Utkur		184	1248.	Jarasangam		56
1215.	Vangoor		56	1249.	Jinnaram		152
1216.	Varna		88	1250.	Jogipet		384
1217.	Veepangandla		56	1251.	Kalher		56
1218.	Veldanda		56	1252.	Kandi		184
1219.	Veljal		56	1253.	Kangli		56
1220.	Wanaparthi		1400	1254.	Khazipally		152
1221.	Yedula		25	1255.	Kodakandla		184
Medak				1256.	Kohir		336
1222.	Alladurg		152	1257.	Kolur		56
1223.	Antharam		56	1258.	Kondapur		152
1224.	Aimakur		56	1259.	Kothapally		184
1225.	Bachepally		56	1260.	Kothur. B.		56
1226.	Bhanur		792	1261.	Kowdipally		152
1227.	Bollaram		384	1262.	Kulcharam		56
1228.	Budhera X Road		152	1263.	Mallepally		56
1229.	Chegunja		192	1264.	Manayarpalli		65
1230.	Chinakodur		152	1265.	Mandharabad		152

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1266.	Manur		56	1300.	Tekmal		184
1267.	Masaipet		152	1301.	Togutta		88
1268.	Medak		1248	1302.	Toopran		352
1269.	Mirdoddi		88	1302.A	Toopran		192
1270.	Mogadampalli		56	1303.	Tunkikhalsa		56
1271.	Munipally		56	1304.	Vadegepally		56
1272.	Narayankhed		456	1305.	Velkala		56
1273.	Narsapur		440	1306.	Yeddumallaram		1128
1274.	Narsingi		152	1307.	Yeldurthy		184
1275.	Nizampet-I		45	1308.	Zaheerabad		1400
1276.	Nizampet-II		56	1308.A	Zaheerabad		184
1277.	Nyalkal		56	::Nalgonda			
1278.	Ontimamidi		152	1309.	Adavuladeevulapalli		80
1279.	Papannapet		184	1310.	Alair		336
1280.	Patancheru		3512	1311.	Appajipet		56
1281.	Pedakanjerla		88	1312.	Aravapally		56
1282.	Pulkal		56	1313.	Aimakur		112
1283.	Ralkode		56	1314.	B. Vellumala		80
1284.	Ramayampet		424	1315.	Bethavolu		184
1285.	Ramayapally		56	1316.	Bhavanipuram		184
1286.	Rangampet		152	1317.	Bhuyanagiri		1200
1287.	Regode		56	1318.	Bibinagar		424
1288.	Rudram		184	1318.A	Bibinagar		152
1289.	Sabashpally		56	1319.	Bomalaramaram		184
1290.	Sadasipet		384	1320.	Chada		25
1290.A	Sadasipet		184	1321.	Chandampet		56
1291.	Sangareddy		2840	1322.	Chandoor		384
1292.	Sanjivaraopet		56	1323.	Cherukupally		56
1293.	Sardhana		56	1324.	Chinnipally		190
1294.	Shankampet-I		336	1325.	Chityal		424
1295.	Shankampeta-II		184	1326.	Choutuppal		808
1296.	Shivampet		152	1327.	Damarcherla		184
1297.	Siddipet		3512	1328.	Devarakonda		1000
1298.	Sirgapur		56	1329.	Dindi		112
1299.	Suraram		56	1330.	Edulur		80

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1331.		Gaddipally	152	1364.		Narayanapuram	56
1332.		Garakunilapalem	56	1365.		Narketpally	304
1333.		Gudipally	56	1366.		Nemmikal	56
1334.		Gundrampally	56	1367.		Neredcherla	368
1335.		Gurrampode	80	1368.		Nidamanddor	336
1336.		Halia	368	1369.		Nuthanakal	80
1337.		Hill Colony	360	1370.		Padamatapally	56
1337.A		Hill Colony	160	1371.		Pedavoorra	56
1338.		Huzurnagar	1000	1372.		Penpahad	56
1339.		Kanagal	80	1373.		Pochampally	424
1340.		Kattangur	184	1373.A		Pochampally	152
1341.		Kothepally	56	1374.		Put tapaka	360
1342.		Kodad	1400	1375.		Raghunadhapuram	50
1343.		Koyalagudem	184	1376.		Rajapet	96
1344.		Lenkalapally	80	1377.		Ramannapet	184
1345.		M. Thurkapally	80	1377.A		Ramannapet	80
1346.		Madhapur	56	1378.		Ramapuram X Road	184
1347.		Madhavaram	56	1379.		Shaligowraram	56
1348.		Mallepally	360	1380.		Suryapet	2400
1349.		Marriguda	180	1381.		Tadakamalla	80
1350.		Mattampally	88	1382.		Thipparthy	184
1351.		Mattapally	112	1383.		Thripuraram	160
1352.		Mellacheruvu	184	1384.		Thungathurthy	112
1353.		Miryalaguda	4000	1385.		Tirumalagiri (MYG)	56
1354.		Mothkur	368	1386.		Tirumalagiri (SRT)	304
1355.		Munagala	184	1387.		V.K. Pahad	56
1356.		Munugode	180	1388.		Vallgonda	368
1357.		Madigudem	56	1389.		Velisala	56
1358.		Nagireddipally	184	1390.		Vemulapally	88
1359.		Nakrekal	992	1391.		Vishnupuram	360
1360.		Nalgonda	2800	1392.		Wardhananukota	56
1360.A		Nalgonda	2500	1393.		Yadagirigutta	184
1361.		Namavaram	56	1393.A		Yadagirigutta	83
1362.		Nampally	184	1394.		Yellanki	152
1363.		Narayanapur	152	1395.		Yerravaram	56

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
::Nellore				1428.		Jaladanki	56
1396.	A.S. Peta		152	1429.		Jauampu	56
1397.	Allur		368	1430.		Kadivedu	56
1398.	Anantasagaram		56	1431.		Kaligiri	152
1399.	Anikepalli (Kallurpalle)		184	1432.		Kalluri	56
1400.	Annamedu		56	1433.		Kaluvoya	88
1401.	Armenipadu		56	1434.		Kandaleru	56
1402.	Almakur		336	1435.		Kavali	2400
1402.A	Almakur		88	1436.		Kodavalur	336
1403.	B. V. Palem		56	1437.		Kota	352
1404.	Balayapalli		152	1438.		Kovur	424
1405.	Balireddipalem		56	1438.A		Kovur	184
1406.	Ballavolu		56	1439.		Krishnapuram	56
1407.	Blragunta		336	1440.		Kurugonda	56
1408.	Buchireddipalem		1000	1441.		Lebur	152
1409.	Chaganam		56	1442.		Madirajagudur	152
1410.	Chejerla		152	1443.		Manubolu	184
1411.	Chennur		184	1444.		Marripadu	56
1412.	Chinnacherukuru		184	1445.		Mohamadapuram	56
1413.	Chintaladeevi		56	1446.		Momidi	56
1414.	Chintavaram		66	1447.		Mudivarihi	56
1415.	Chittamur		80	1448.		Mungamur	56
1416.	D.C. Palli		56	1449.		Mypad	184
1417.	Dachur		56	1450.		Naidupet	808
1418.	Dagadarthi		56	1451.		Narwada	56
1419.	Dakkili		184	1452.		Nidigallu	56
1420.	Damaramadugu		152	1453.		Nl. Nellore	13688
1421.	Duttalur		184	1454.		Nl. Nellore (Mltry Clony.)	2900
1422.	G.V. Palem		56	1454.A		Nl. Nellore	80
1423.	Gandipalem		56	1455.		Ojili	56
1424.	Gudur		1400	1456.		Podalekur	336
1425.	Indukurpet		152	1457.		Potitapudi	88
1425.A	Indukurpet		88	1458.		Pudiparthy	152
1426.	Iekapalem		56	1459.		Rapur	184
1427.	Iekapalli		56	1460.		S.R. Puram	56

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1461.	Salpet		56	1493.	Banswada		56
1462.	Sangam		56	1493.A	Banswada		360
1463.	Shar (Srinarikota)		424	1494.	Bardipur		56
1464.	Siddankondur		184	1495.	Bhavanipeta		152
1465.	Siddipuram		56	1496.	Bhæmgal		360
1466.	Somasila		56	1497.	Bhicknoor		304
1467.	South Mopur		56	1498.	Bibipet		152
1468.	Sullurpet		1000	1499.	Bichkonda		208
1468.A	Sullurpet		768	1500.	Birkoor		56
1469.	Sydapuram		56	1501.	Bodhan		768
1470.	I.P. Gudur		184	1501.A	Bodhan		64
1471.	Tada		184	1502.	Bussapur		134
1472.	Talamanchi		56	1503.	Chandur		25
1473.	Talpur		56	1504.	Choutpally		25
1474.	Tikkavaram		80	1505.	Dharmaram		304
1475.	Turimeria		184	1506.	Dharpally		368
1476.	Udayagiri		336	1507.	Dichpally		160
1477.	V.C. Satram		152	1508.	Domakonda		200
1478.	Vadicherta		56	1509.	Dongli		25
1479.	Vakapu		184	1510.	Donkeswar		152
1480.	Vallur		336	1511.	Dubbak		25
1481.	Varikuntapadu		56	1512.	Errapahad		56
1482.	Vavilla		56	1513.	Gandhari		88
1483.	Veerampalli		56	1514.	Gandivet		25
1484.	Venkatagiri		1000	1515.	Hegdoli		56
1485.	Vidavalur		184	1516.	Indalwai		45
1486.	Vinjamur		336	1517.	Jakranpally		368
1487.	Yellayapalem		56	1518.	Jangampally		184
**Nizamabad				1519.	Jannepally		152
1488.	Aloor		368	1520.	Jukkal		56
1489.	Andhranagar		152	1521.	Kamareddy		2400
1490.	Armoor		1500	1522.	Kammarapalli		45
1490.A	Armoor		1000	1523.	Kissannagar		352
1491.	Atmakur		56	1524.	Kondapur		25
1492.	Bandapally		25	1525.	Kotgiri		336

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1526.	Kothabad		25	1560.	Sumriyal		152
1527.	Kothapally		56	1561.	Thanakalan		56
1528.	Lingampet		152	1562.	Vanne-B		184
1529.	Machareddy		25	1563.	Vanne-K		184
1530.	Madakapalli		25	1564.	Varni		184
1531.	Madnoor		304	1565.	Velpur		90
1532.	Makloor		184	1566.	Yedapally		152
1533.	Mamidipaty		25	1567.	Yellareddy		336
1534.	Mendora		45	1568.	Yirgalla		45
1535.	Morthad		336	::Prakasam			
1536.	Mosra		45	1569.	A.B. Palem		56
1537.	Nagireddypet		88	1570.	Addanki		1000
1538.	Nandipet		336	1570.A	Addanki		384
1539.	Nasullaba		25	1571.	Ammanabrolu		160
1540.	Navipet		336	1572.	Arthaveedu		56
1541.	Neela		56	1573.	Ballikurava		56
1542.	Nizamabad		10500	1574.	C.S. Puram		56
1542.A	Nizamabad		2500	1575.	Chimakurthy		366
1543.	Nizamsagar		56	1576.	Chinaganjam		336
1544.	Pachalanadikuda		56	1577.	Chirala		5000
1545.	Padigal		25	1578.	Cumbum		336
1546.	Pitlam		336	1578.A	Cumbum		272
1547.	Pochampad		336	1579.	Darsi		368
1548.	Pothangal		200	1580.	Donakonda		184
1549.	Rajampet		184	1581.	Eddanapudi		56
1550.	Ramadugu		45	1582.	Ethamukkala		184
1551.	Ramareddy		25	1583.	Giddalur		384
1552.	Ranjai		152	1583.A	Giddalur		184
1553.	Ranjeria		152	1584.	Gollapalli		56
1554.	Reddypet		25	1585.	Gudluru		56
1555.	Rudrur		336	1586.	Idupulapadu		368
1556.	Sadasivnagar		45	1587.	Inkollu		368
1557.	Salooru		56	1588.	K. Uppalapadu		184
1558.	Sarangapur		336	1589.	Kaluzupalapadu		56
1559.	Sirikonda		56	1590.	Kandukuru		800

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1591.	Kanigiri		368	1625.	Pothalapadu		56
1592.	Karamehbdur		336	1626.	Punuru		56
1593.	Karavidi		56	1627.	Ramayapatnam		56
1594.	Karedu		56	1628.	Ravinuthala		184
1595.	Karumanchi		56	1629.	S.N. Padu		184
1596.	Komarole		152	1630.	Şingarayakonda		424
1597.	Kondepi		184	1631.	Swarna		184
1598.	Kothapatnam		184	1632.	T. Naidupalem		56
1599.	Kunduru		184	1633.	Tallur		184
1600.	Kunkalamarru		184	1634.	Tanguturu		800
1601.	Kurichedu		184	1635.	Tarlupadu		56
1602.	Lingassmudram		184	1636.	Thimmasamudram		184
1603.	Machavaram		56	1637.	Thotavaripalem		56
1604.	Maddipadu		336	1638.	Tripuram		152
1605.	Maddiralapadu		184	1639.	Turimella		56
1606.	Manduvaripalem		184	1640.	Ulavapadu		184
1607.	Marella		56	1641.	Uppugunduru		336
1608.	Markapur		1200	1642.	Valaparla		184
1608.A	Markapur		184	1643.	Velgandla (Mogalluru)		56
1609.	Marturu		336	1644.	Vetapalem		520
1610.	Medarametta		200	1645.	Vodartvu		56
1611.	Mundlamuru		56	1646.	Voletivaripalem		56
1612.	Muppavaram		56	1647.	Yerragondapalem		336
1613.	Naguluppalapadu		184	:::Rangareddy			
1614.	Ongole		7500	1648.	Abdullapurmet		336
1615.	Pakala (W. Palem)		56	1649.	Aziznagar		336
1616.	Pamaru		336	1650.	Badangipet		384
1617.	Pamidipadu		56	1651.	Basheerabad		336
1618.	Panguluru		56	1652.	Basupalli		152
1619.	Parchur		368	1653.	Chevella		184
1620.	Peddadomala		152	1654.	Chinnagolconda		152
1621.	Pernamitta		184	1655.	Dandumailaram		56
1622.	Podili		1000	1656.	Devarayamjal		232
1623.	Pokuru		56	1657.	Dharoor		152
1624.	Ponnaluru		56	1658.	Doma		56

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1659.	Dubbacherla		160	1692.	Nedunoor		160
1660.	Dundigal		184	1693.	Palgutta		88
1661.	Ennaram		152	1694.	Pargi		184
1662.	Gadisingapur		56	1695.	Pateiguda		152
1663.	Ghatkesar		1000	1696.	Peddamul		152
1664.	Ibrahimpattanam		632	1697.	Ponnala		56
1664.A	Ibrahimpattanam		384	1698.	Rachaluru		56
1665.	Jaggamguda		152	1699.	Raipole		56
1666.	Kanekal		56	1700.	Sanghinagar		184
1667.	Karankote		424	1701.	Sardamagar		56
1668.	Kesaragulla		336	1702.	Shabad		152
1669.	Khanapur		152	1703.	Shamirpet		336
1670.	Kompally		384	1704.	Shamshabad		1000
1671.	Kongraviryal		56	1705.	Shankarpally		432
1672.	Kulakacherla		152	1706.	Shapur		336
1673.	Madireddypalli		152	1707.	Tandur		1400
1674.	Maharajpet		152	1708.	Tukkappally		152
1675.	Meheshwaram		336	1709.	Turkayamjal		384
1676.	Mallwar		56	1710.	Turmamidi		56
1677.	Mall V. Nagar		152	1711.	Venkatapur		56
1678.	Mamidipally		336	1712.	Vikarabad		1448
1679.	Manchala		152	1713.	Yacharam		152
1680.	Mankhal		336	1714.	Yalal		56
1681.	Manneguda		152	1715.	Yelliminedu		56
1682.	Marpally		184	1716.	Yellampeta		152
1683.	Marripalli		152	::Srikakulam			
1684.	Medchal		900	1717.	Allada		56
1685.	Meerkhanpet		56	1718.	Allinagaram		192
1686.	Medicity		56	1719.	Amadalacalasa		768
1687.	Mohammadabad		160	1720.	AML. Nagaram		152
1688.	Moinabad		336	1721.	B.S.Puram		152
1689.	Momibpet		152	1722.	Baruva		160
1690.	Narapally		384	1723.	Bathill		56
1691.	Narsinghi		184	1724.	Bhamini		56
1691.A	Narsinghi		192	1725.	Bitiwada		56

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1726.	Budithi		184	1758.	Ranastalam		152
1727.	Burja		56	1759.	Santakaviti		184
1728.	Calingapatnam		368	1760.	Saravakota		152
1729.	Dusipeta		56	1761.	Seethampeta		56
1730.	G. Sigadam		56	1762.	Sompeta		360
1731.	Gara		152	1763.	Srikakulam		3750
1732.	Hiramandalam		336	1764.	Srikurmam		152
1733.	Ichapuram		352	1765.	Tekkali		184
1733.A	Ichapuram		304	1766.	Urlam		56
1734.	K.M. Valasa		56	1767.	Veeraghattam		184
1735.	Kaviti		336	**Visakhapatnam			
1736.	Kotabommali		184	1768.	A. Kodur		152
1737.	Kothapalli		56	1769.	Adivivaram		512
1738.	Kothuru		184	1770.	Anakapalle		3500
1739.	Kurigam		56	1771.	Anandapuram		328
1740.	Mandasa		192	1772.	Ananthagiri		56
1741.	Meliaputti		184	1773.	Araku		160
1742.	Mobagam		56	1774.	Bheemili (B. Plm)		602
1743.	Nandigaom		56	1775.	Chiniapalli		180
1744.	Narasannapeta		368	1776.	Chodavaram		384
1745.	Naupada		152	1776.A	Chodavaram		176
1746.	Nimmada		184	1777.	D. Yerravaram		56
1747.	Palakonda		336	1778.	Devarapalli		88
1748.	Palasa		1000	1779.	Dumbriguda		56
1748.A	Palasa		152	1780.	Etikoppaka		168
1749.	Pathapatnam		336	1781.	G. Madugula		56
1750.	Pathatekkall		152	1782.	Golugonda		56
1751.	Pinnintipet		184	1783.	Gudivada		56
1752.	Polaki		184	1784.	Hukumpeta		56
1753.	Ponduru		336	1785.	Jamadevpeta		56
1754.	Pundigally		56	1786.	K.D. Peta		160
1755.	Purushottapuram		56	1787.	K.J. Puram		56
1756.	Pydibhimavaram		184	1788.	Kotavaratla		160
1757.	Rajam		344	1789.	Kothakota		160
1757A	Rajam		336	1790.	Koyyuru		56

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1791.	L. Kodur		56	1823.A	Vm. CRR Nagar		2832
1792.	Lankelapalem		240	1823.B	Vm. CRR Nagar		1968
1793.	Lothugadda Jh.		56	1824.	Vm. Dabagardens		3672
1794.	Madhurawada		1796	1824.A	Vm. Dabagardens		3516
1795.	Madugula		160	1824.B	Vm. Dabagardens		2128
1796.	Makavaripalem		160	1825.	Vm. Gopalapatnam		1288
1797.	Managapaka		160	1826.	Vm. Ind. Estate		3896
1798.	Munchingerpui		56	1826.A	Vm. Ind. Estate		1752
1799.	Nakkapalli		176	1827.	Vm. Kurmannapalem		384
1800.	Narsipatnam		384	1828.	Vm. M.V.P. Colony		1020
1800.A	Narsipatnam		284	1828.A	Vm. M.V.P. Colony		4912
1800.B	Narsipatnam		120	1829.	Vm. Malkapuram		2848
1801.	Nathavaram		160	1830.	Vm. MIndi		5906
1802.	Paderu		336	1830.A	Vm. MIndi		992
1803.	Parawada		160	1830.B	Vm MIndi		1008
1804.	Pedabylu		56	1831.	Vm. Pandurangapuram		1024
1805.	Pendurthi		1128	1831.A	Vm. Pandurangapuram		2514
1806.	R.V. Nagar		56	1832.	Vm. Seet Hammadhara		5436
1807.	Rambilli		160	1832.A	Vm. Seethammadhara		1275
1808.	Ravikamatham		160	1833.	Vm. Velampeta		6000
1809.	Reddyoakku		80	1833.A	Vm. Velampeta		2760
1810.	Revidi		56	1833.A	Vm. Velampeta		4895
1811.	S. Rayavaram		184	1834.	Yelamanchili		240
1812.	Sabbavaram		168	1834.A	Yelamanchili		512
1813.	Sagarnagar		416	Vizianagaram			
1814.	Seethayyapeta		56	1835.	Alamanda		56
1815.	Tagarapavalasa		320	1836.	Badangi		184
1816.	TAllapalem		152	1837.	Balijipeta		184
1817.	Vadachepurupalli		56	1838.	Bhogapuram		152
1818.	Vaddadi		160	1839.	Bobbili		786
1819.	Varahapuram		160	1839.A	Bobbili		152
1820.	Vemulapudi		56	1840.	Chinialavalasa		336
1821.	Vm. Balacheruvu		2000	1841.	Chintapalli		56
1822.	Vm. Steelplani		1008	1842.	Chinihada		152
1823.	Vm. CRR Nagar		3578	1843.	Chipurupalli		520

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1844.		Denkada	56	1878.		Salur	808
1845.		Dharmavaram	152	1879.		Seethanagaram	184
1846.		Donkinavalasa	56	1880.		Srirampur	56
1847.		G.L. Puram	192	1881.		Srungavarapukota	520
1849.		G.R. Valasa	96	1882.		Therlam	184
1850.		Gajapathinagaram	488	1883.		Vepada	56
1851.		Gantiyada	152	1884.		Vizianagaram	6000
1852.		Garbham	152		Warangal		
1853.		Garividi	384	1885.		Amangal	56
1853.A		Garividi	304	1886.		Apparajupalli	56
1854.		Jami	56	1887.		Arepally	25
1855.		Jonnaivalasa	56	1888.		Ashoknagar	25
1856.		Kasipatnam	56	1889.		Atmakur	50
1857.		Komarada	56	1890.		Bachannapet	184
1858.		Konda	56	1891.		Bhupalapalli	336
1859.		Korukonda	152	1892.		Chelpur	25
1860.		Kotagandredu	56	1893.		Chennaraopet	56
1861.		Kothavalasa	488	1894.		Cherial	336
1862.		Kurupam	304	1895.		Chinnagudur	56
1863.		L. Kota	152	1896.		Chityal	184
1864.		Makkuva	152	1897.		Danthaipalli	152
1865.		Mamidipalli	56	1898.		Devaruppala	56
1866.		Mentada	56	1899.		Dharmasagar	184
1867.		Nellimaria	152	1900.		Etumagaram	152
1868.		Pachipenta	56	1901.		Geesukonda	184
1869.		Parvathipuram	1000	1902.		Ghanpur-M	88
1969.A		Parvathipuram	768	1903.		Ghapur-STN	176
1870.		Pedamanapuram	152	1904.		Gimibai	25
1871.		Perumali	56	1905.		Govindraopet	88
1872.		Pinapenki	56	1906.		Gudur	152
1873.		Piridi	184	1907.		Haripirala	56
1874.		Polipalli	152	1908.		Hasanparthy	336
1875.		Pusapatirega	152	1909.		Ingurthy	56
1876.		Ramabhadrapuram	184	1910.		Janagoan	1152
1877.		Ravivalasa	152	1911.		Kamatapur	336

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1912.	Kambelapally		56	1946.	Teegalaveni		25
1913.	Karunapuram		88	1947.	Thimmapur (H)		184
1914.	Kasimdevpet		56	1948.	Thorrur		336
1915.	Kesamudram		336	1949.	Uppargudem		56
1916.	Kodakandla		184	1950.	Vavilala		25
1917.	Konkapaka		56	1951.	Wanaparthi		25
1918.	Kurvi		184	1952.	Wardhannapet		336
1919.	Labarthy		25	1953.	WL, Hanamkonda		11200
1920.	Laxmiddevpet		25	1954.	WL, Kazipet		1600
1921.	Maddur		56	1955.	WL, Warangal		4000
1922.	Madikonda		100	1955.A	WL, Warangal		6000
1923.	Madipalli		25	1956.	Yelizerla		56
1924.	Mahabubabad		1400	1957.	Yelkurthy (H)		25
1925.	Mulugu		336	1958.	Zafargadh		25
1926.	Munagalayeedu		56	West Godavari			
1927.	Nallaballi		96	1959.	Achanta		424
1928.	Nandanam		25	1960.	Agadalalanka		152
1929.	Narmetta		56	1961.	Akiveedu		1400
1930.	Narsampet		1000	1962.	Alampuram		336
1931.	Narsimhulupet		56	1963.	Alamuru		152
1932.	Nekkonda		184	1964.	Anakoderu		152
1933.	Nellikuduru		184	1965.	Anenthapalli		336
1934.	Palakurthy		184	1966.	Aravalli		152
1935.	Panthini		184	1966.A	Aravalli		80
1936.	Parkal		424	1967.	Attili		900
1936.A	Parkal		56	1968.	Badampudi		152
1937.	Parwathagiri		184	1969.	Bayyanagudem		152
1938.	Peddapendyal		25	1970.	Bhimadole		392
1939.	Pegadapally		56	1971.	Bhimavaram		7000
1940.	Penugonda		56	1972.	Bondada		152
1941.	Rogallapally		25	1972.A	Bondada		88
1942.	Raghunathapalli		88	1973.	Borrampalem		152
1943.	Ralparthy		25	1974.	Butayagudem		184
1944.	Reddypuram		56	1975.	Ch. Chintalapudi		152
1945.	Sangam		184	1976.	Ch. Pothepally		56

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1977.		Chagallu	304	2010.		Kadiyadda	152
1978.		Chebrolu	368	2011.		Kalavalapalli	152
1979.		Chinagollapalem	184	2012.		Kalavapudi	152
1980.		Chinnayyagudem	168	2013.		Kalpatnam	152
1981.		Chinialapudi	768	2014.		Kamavarapukota	184
1982.		Chiniapalli	152	2015.		Kamayyapalem	88
1983.		Dagguluru	304	2016.		Kannapuram	184
1984.		Darbhagudem	88	2017.		Kenuru	152
1985.		Denduluru	200	2018.		Khandavalli	152
1986.		Devarapalli	312	2018.A		Khandavalli	80
1987.		Dharmajigudem	184	2019.		Kokkirapadu	56
1988		Duddipatia	152	2020.		Kolamuru	152
1988.A		Doddipatia	88	2021.		Kommuchikkala	160
1989.		Doramamidi	88	2022.		Kondalaoapalem	88
1990.		Dubacherla	152	2023.		Konithiwada	152
1991.		Duvva	336	2023.A		Konithiwada	88
1992.		Dwarakatirumala	336	2024.		Koppaka (Pinaka)	184
1993.		Eastvipparu	152	2025.		Kopparu	152
1994.		Eluru	6000	2026.		Kothapadu	336
1994.A		Eluru	11000	2027.		Kovvalli	200
1995.		Erraguntapalli	88	2028.		Kovvuru	1400
1996.		Errampalli	88	2028.A		Kovvuru	304
1997.		Ganapavaram	1400	2029.		Koyyalagudem	680
1998.		Gogunta	56	2030.		Lakkavaram	152
1999.		Gollavanithippa	336	2031.		Lakshmiapuram	152
2000.		Gopalapuram	304	2032.		Madhavaram	152
2001.		Gowripatnam	160	2033.		Mahadevapatnam	152
2002.		Gudivakalanka	184	2034.		Makkinavarigudem	88
2003.		Gummuluru	160	2035.		Malakapalli	168
2004.		Gundugolanu	512	2036.		Mallavaram	152
2005.		Hukumpet	88	2037.		Mogaltur	336
2006.		Jangareddigudem	768	2038.		Munduru	152
2006.A		Jangareddigudem	1500	2039.		Nagidipalem	152
2007.		Jeelugumilli	152	2040.		Nallajerla	336
2008.		Jettipalem	152	2041.		Nandamuru	56
2009.		Juvvalapalem	336				

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
2042.	Narsapur		1400	2074.	T. Narsapuram		152
2042.A	Narsapur		768	2075.	Tadepalligudem		4256
2043.	Nidadavole		1688	2076.	Tadikalapudi		184
2044.	Palakole		3000	2077.	Tadimella		152
2045.	Parimella		152	2078.	Taduvai		152
2046.	Pattempalem		152	2079.	Tanuku		3500
2047.	Pavulurivarigudem		184	2080.	Tedlam		88
2048.	Pedaninadrakolanu		336	2081.	Undi		336
2049.	Pedapadu		336	2082.	Undrajavaram		384
2050.	Pedavegi		184	2083.	V. R. Gudem		152
2051.	Penugonda		1384	2084.	Vadapalli		152
2052.	Penumantra		336	2085.	Valluru		304
2053.	Perevalli		336	2086.	Vatluru		152
2054.	Perupalem		152	2087.	Veeravasaram		184
2054.A	Perupalem		88	2087.A	Veeravasaram		96
2055.	Pippara		368	2088.	Vegeswarapuram		360
2056.	Poduru		152	2089.	Velivenu		184
2056.A	Poduru		88	2090.	Velpur		336
2057.	Polasagudem		56	2091.	Vempa		184
2058.	Polavaram		336	2092.	Vendra		336
2059.	Pothavaram		152	2093.	Vijayarai		184
2060.	Pragadavaram		152	2094.	Yelamanchili		336
2061.	Puchikapadu		56	2095.	Yendagandi		152
2062.	Pulla		336	2095.A	Yendagandi		88
2063.	Pydichinipadu		56	2096.	Yemagudem		152
2064.	R. Ganapavaram		152	Statement-II			
2065.	Rachuru		88	<i>Exchanges and their capacities in Amritsar SSA</i>			
2066.	Raghavapuram		152	Record	Exchange		Capacity
2067.	Rajavaram		152	1	2		3
2068.	Rangapuram		152	1.	Ajnala		1200
2069.	Rayakuduru		152	2.	Algon kothi		152
2070.	Seethanagaram		88	3.	Amarkot		152
2071.	Siddantham		152	4.	AR. AL Rd (D-Tax)		2000
2072.	Singagudem		88	5.	AR Batala RD		8000
2073.	Sreeparru		88				

1	2	3	1	2	3
6.	AR Chheharta	5000	41.	Gehri Mandi	152
7.	AR Ranjit AVE	7000	42.	Gharyala	152
8.	AR Taran Tam RD	5000	43.	Goindwal	1000
9.	AR verka RD	2000	44.	Harike Patan	152
10.	AR AL Road	4800	45.	Hoshiar Nagar	88
11.	AR AL Road	13120	46.	Ibbankalan	152
12.	AR Bhagtanwala	5000	47.	Jabowal	88
13.	AR E.M. Nagar	9000	48.	Jasdev-Kalan	96
14.	AR K.S.S.—I	3000	49.	Jahangir	152
15.	AR K.S.S.—II	3000	50.	Jalalabad	56
16.	Attari	844	51.	Jandiala Guru	2000
17.	Baba Bakala*	152	52.	Jantipur	96
18.	Beas	384	53.	Kachapacca	152
19.	Bhikhiwind	1000	54.	Kairon	192
20.	Bhilaipur*	88	55.	Kallah	56
21.	Bhorsi Rajputan	152	56.	Kathunangal*	336
22.	Bundala	152	57.	Khadaur Sahib*	384
23.	Butala*	152	58.	Khalra	180
24.	Buttersavian*	152	59.	Khasa	152
25.	Chabal	1000	60.	Khemkaran—I	152
26.	Chavinda Devi*	152	61.	Kherdin	56
27.	Chosawan—I	192	62.	Khilchian	152
28.	Chosawan—II	152	63.	Kirtowal	56
29.	Chola Sahib	152	64.	Kot Budha	80
30.	D.B.J. Singh	1000	65.	Majitha	1032
31.	Daburji—I	80	66.	Manawala	160
32.	Daburji—II	152	67.	Mari Mesha	56
33.	Dashmeshnagar	88	68.	Mehta Chowk	296
34.	Dayalpur	152	69.	Naushera Pannu—I	96
35.	Dehriwal	88	70.	Nausherapannu—II	160
36.	Dhand Kasel	56	71.	Nawanpind—I	80
37.	Dhota	152	72.	Nawanpind—II	160
38.	Dhotian	152	73.	Pandorisidwan	152
39.	Fatehbad	424	74.	Patti	1470
40.	Gago Mahal	80	75.	Rajasansi	336

1	2	3	1	2	3
76.	Ramdass	152	9.	Duraj Mehma	304
77.	Rayya	1000	10.	Chak Ruldu Singhw	152
78.	Saidpur	152	11.	Ganga Ablu	80
79.	Saralamanatkhan	56	12.	Ghudda	176
80.	Sathiala	152	13.	Goniana	1400
81.	Sheron	192	14.	Jeeda	184
82.	Sohian Khurd	152	15.	Kalyan Sukha	152
83.	Subhraon	88	16.	Karamgarh Satran	176
84.	Sursingh	152	17.	Kot Fatta	152
85.	Tangra	152	18.	Kot Shamir	208
86.	Tarsikka	384	19.	Lehra Mohabat	328
87.	Tarn Taran	4000	20.	Mehma Sarja	176
88.	Verpal	152	21.	Mehta	152
89.	Waraich	152	22.	Nathana	304
90.	KKN-II	56	23.	Sangat	184
91.	Khasa-II	56	24.	Tungwali	88
92.	Manawala	72	25.	Atla Kalan	88
93.	Jeowala	152	26.	Bareta	1200
94.	Cheema	56	27.	Bhaini Bagha	208
95.	Kaleke	88	28.	Bhikhi	1000
96.	Bagga	0	29.	Boha	512
97.	Matewal	0	30.	Budhladha	1640
<i>Exchanges and their capacities in Bathinda SSA</i>					
Record	Exchange	Capacity	31.	Buraj Harike	88
1	2	3	32.	Danewas	152
1.	Bambiha	256	33.	Joga	344
2.	Bandi	152	34.	Khiala Kalan	88
3.	Behman Dewana	176	35.	Kotli Kalan	88
4.	Bhuchhu	1296	36.	Mansa-1	2600
5.	BT-E10B Main	9000	37.	Mansa-2	2000
6.	BT-ALU-Gole Diggi	11000	38.	Mohar Singh Wala	184
7.	BT-RLU-Carrier	2000	39.	Moosa	208
8.	BT-RLU-Rose Garde	3000	40.	Nangal Kalan	240
			41.	Narinder Pura	152
			42.	Phapre Bhai Key	152
			43.	Balanwall	152

1	2	3
44.	Bhagta	1200
45.	Bhairupa	1000
46.	Bhodipura	88
47.	Chauke	208
48.	Dhapali	152
49.	Dhingar	80
50.	Dyal Pur Mirja	96
51.	Jalal	208
52.	Jethuke	176
53.	Kangar	152
54.	Maluka	184
55.	Mandi Kalan	264
56.	Mehraj	152
57.	Phul Mandi	2400
58.	Phul Village	264
59.	Pir Kot	56
60.	Bangikalan	208
61.	Jodhpur Pakhar	176
62.	Kutiwal Kalan	88
63.	Laleana	176
64.	Mai Sar Khana	184
65.	Maur	1400
66.	Pacca Kalan	152
67.	Rajgarh Kubbe	152
68.	Raman	1000
69.	Sekhu	152
70.	Shekhpura	208
71.	Talwandi Sabo	768
72.	Taona Pajaria	152
73.	Bhagwanpura Hingh	176
74.	Jatana Kalan	88
75.	Jhande Kalan	88
76.	Jhanduke	88
77.	Jhunir	240
78.	Sardulgarh	1000
79.	Sangha	88

Exchanges and their capacities in Chandigarh SSA

Record	Exchange	Capacity
1	2	3
1.	Behlana	152
2.	Chandigarh, I-Area	2000
3.	Chandigarh, I-Area	8480
4.	Sec.-4, Chandigarh	4000
5.	E10, Sec.-17 Chandigarh	21000
6.	EF-150, Sec.-17 Chandigarh	16800
7.	E10, Sec.-34 Chandigarh	12000
8.	EF-150, Sec.-34 Chandigarh	16800
9.	Sec.-37, Chandigarh	4000
10.	Sec.-37, Chandigarh	5000
11.	Derabassi	2896
12.	Kharar	4000
13.	Khuda Alisher	456
14.	Khuda Lahora	312
15.	Batta & Landran	152
16.	Maloya	320
17.	Manauli	320
18.	Mani Majra	5000
19.	Mohali	10000
20.	Mohali	5000
21.	Mohali	4000
22.	Mullanpur	3004
23.	Panchkula	5000
24.	Panchkula	18000
25.	Sohana	1000
26.	Zirakpur	1256

Exchanges and their capacities in Ferozepur SSA

Record	Exchange	Capacity
1	2	3
1.	Abohar	9000
2.	Achariki	56
3.	Ajitwal	184

1	2	3	1	2	3
4.	Akumaste KE	152	39.	Chak Sherrewala	184
5.	Alamgarh	96	40.	Chakdamal	152
6.	Alamwala	152	41.	Chameli	56
7.	Amiwala	152	42.	Chand Nawan	88
8.	Aspal	56	43.	Charik	184
9.	Badal	152	44.	Chhatiana	56
10.	Badhni Kalan	1000	45.	Chogawan	184
11.	Baghapurana	1400	46.	Chugatte Wala	152
12.	Baghewala	152	47.	Dabri Khana	56
13.	Bahadurkhera	152	48.	Dabwali Dhab	56
14.	Baharwali	56	49.	Dala	384
15.	Bajakhana	184	50.	Daroli Bhai	184
16.	Bajeke	88	51.	Daudhar	152
17.	Bakain Wala	56	52.	Deviwala	56
18.	Balkhandi	56	53.	Dhaipal	152
19.	Balluana	96	54.	Dharamkot	1000
20.	Bandiwala	152	55.	Dharangwala	152
21.	Bargari	272	56.	Dhok	56
22.	Bariwala	384	57.	Dholewala	56
23.	Bazidpur Bhoma	112	58.	Dhudke	272
24.	Beganwali	56	59.	Doda	184
25.	Behakpachharian	112	60.	Dotaranwali	184
26.	Bhagoke	80	61.	Fakarsar	192
27.	Bhagsar	152	62.	Fardkot	5000
28.	Bhai Ka Khera	192	63.	Fatehgarhkarotana	96
29.	Bhalaiana	56	64.	Fatehgarhpanjtoor	152
30.	Bhangchari	152	65.	Fathepur Manianwa	88
31.	Bharana	88	66.	Fattanwala	152
32.	Bhinder Kalan	152	67.	Fazilka	3000
33.	Bhoenpur	152	68.	Ferozepur Cantt	4756
34.	Bilaspur	184	69.	Ferozepur City	1496
35.	Blehandi	56	70.	Ghal Kalan	152
36.	Bodiwala	184	71.	Ghall Khurd	56
37.	Chak Gilzewala	56	72.	Ghariana	96
38.	Chak Pakki	56	73.	Gholian Khurd	152

1	2	3	1	2	3
74.	Gidderbaha	1500	109.	Khirkianwall	56
75.	Golewala	152	110.	Khuban	56
76.	Guddar Dhandi	88	111.	Khunankalan	88
77.	Guru Har Sahai	1448	112.	Khunde Hālai	88
78.	Gurusar	88	113.	Killian Wall	152
79.	Hari Ke kalan	152	114.	Kishan Pura	152
80.	Himmatpura	88	115.	Kokri Butteran	152
81.	Izzatwala	56	116.	Kot Bhai	88
82.	Jaitu	1400	117.	Kot Ise Khan	384
83.	Jalalabad	3000	118.	Kotkapura	5000
84.	Janer	96	119.	Kotli Sangher	56
85.	Jhandiana (West)	56	120.	Kular	56
86.	Jhandiana Sharki	184	121.	Ladhuka	184
87.	Jhok Sarkari	56	122.	Lakhewali	184
88.	Johke Harihar	112	123.	Lakho Ke Behram	280
89.	Jhoke Tehal Singh	152	124.	Laibhai	192
90.	Jhumianwali	184	125.	Lambi	384
91.	Jiwanwala	152	126.	Lambi Dhab	152
92.	Kahan Singh Wala	88	127.	Lamochar Kalan	56
93.	Kaler	152	128.	Longodeva	32
94.	Kalianwala	184	129.	Lopon	184
95.	Kandhwala Amarkot	88	130.	Lubanian Wali	152
96.	Kanianwali	56	131.	Machaki Kalan	152
97.	Karmu Wala	88	132.	Machaki Malsingh	56
98.	Kassuana	152	133.	Maha Badar	88
99.	Katehra	96	134.	Mahuana Bodla	96
100.	Kauni	56	135.	Makhu	1000
101.	Khani PHEME KI	152	136.	Malkatora	88
102.	Khāre Ke Uttar	56	137.	Mallan	152
103.	Khanwala	56	138.	Mallanwala	400
104.	Khappianwali	88	139.	Mallewala	56
105.	Khara	56	140.	Mallianwala	56
106.	Khatwan	96	141.	Malookpur	112
107.	Kheowali Dhab	184	142.	Malout	3000
108.	Khippanwali	184	143.	Maiwal	56

1	2	3	1	2	3
144.	Mamdot	270	179.	Saide Ka Rohella	56
145.	Manawan	56	180.	Saidoke	56
146.	Mandi Amin Ganj	184	181.	Samadhbhai	152
147.	Manuke	88	182.	Sandhe Hasham	152
148.	Mari Mustafa	184	183.	Sappanwall	152
149.	Maujgarh	184	184.	Sarawan	56
150.	Maur	56	185.	Sarawan Bodla	192
151.	Mehna	152	186.	Sayian wala	56
152.	Mehraj Wala	56	187.	Shehzadi	152
153.	Moga	11920	188.	Sherkhanwala	152
154.	Moga Dana Mandi	1200	189.	Sibian	88
155.	Mohallam	88	190.	Sikhawala	56
156.	Moranwala	56	191.	Sikhwala	184
157.	Mudhki	152	192.	Simera Wala	56
158.	Mukatsar	3512	193.	Singhan Wala	152
159.	Nathuwala	56	194.	Sito Gunno	96
160.	Nihal Singh Wala	1200	195.	Smalsar	184
161.	Nihalkhera	152	196.	Sukhanand	80
162.	Pakki	88	197.	Oukhanwala	56
163.	Pakki Kalewala	88	198.	Tahlwala Bodla	56
164.	Panje Ke Uttar	152	199.	Tahliqala Jattan	184
165.	Panjgrain Kalan	184	200.	Talwandi Bhai	1000
166.	Panikosi	152	201.	Talwandi Bhagerian	152
167.	Peori	56	202.	Tappakhera	272
168.	Pindi Balochan	56	203.	Tarkhanwala	240
169.	Quadarwala	56	204.	Tarmala	56
170.	Ramgarh	88	205.	Thatha	152
171.	Ramgarh Chugan	152	206.	Thehka!ander	56
172.	Ramlana	88	207.	Tibhi Khurd	88
173.	Ramnagar	184	208.	Urang	56
174.	Ramsara	96	209.	Usman Khera	56
175.	Ratta Khera	232	210.	Virk Khera	88
176.	Romana Ajit Singh	56	211.	Waklanwala	56
177.	Rupana	184	212.	Wander Jattana	152
178.	Sadiq	152	213.	Waryam Khera	184
			214.	Zira	1400

Exchanges and their capacities in Hoshairpur SSA.

Record	Exchange	Capacity
1	2	3
1.	Amroh	56
2.	Bachauri	184
3.	Baddon	304
4.	Badla	80
5.	Baghpur Sataur	304
6.	Bajachak	152
7.	Balachaur	1400
8.	Barian Kalan	304
9.	Bassikalan	1000
10.	Bhambotar	96
11.	Bhansala	176
12.	Bhanowal	80
13.	Bhunga	152
14.	Binewal	152
15.	Bohan	304
16.	Borra	152
17.	Budhawar	80
18.	Bullowal	384
19.	Chak Bamon	184
20.	Cholang	160
21.	Dasuya	2400
22.	Datarpur	56
23.	Garhdhwala	440
24.	Garhshankar	1400
25.	Gardna Sahib	184
26.	Ghogra	152
27.	Hariana	704
28.	Hazipur	304
29.	Hoshiarpur	17000
30.	Jahan Khelan	160
31.	Jaijon Doab	80
32.	Jalalpur	304
33.	Jallowal	152

1	2	3
34.	Janauri	96
35.	Johal	152
36.	Kamahidevl	56
37.	Kandhala Jattan	176
38.	Kathgarh	184
39.	Khudda	96
40.	Kot Fatuhi	304
41.	Kotla Nodh Singh	152
42.	Makhupur	80
43.	Mahilpur	1000
44.	Mansoor Pur	304
45.	Mehmowal	88
46.	Mehtiana	160
47.	Mehatpur Oladni	152
48.	Miani	568
49.	Mona Kalan Davida	80
50.	Moranwali	88
51.	Mukerian	1136
52.	Nangal Kalan	152
53.	Nasrala	1000
54.	Naushehrapattan	152
55.	Panam	184
56.	Pajjoditta	96
57.	Pojewal	152
58.	Rajpur Bhaian	160
59.	Rakkar Dhaha	304
60.	Rampur Billron	80
61.	Rampur Jhanjowal	152
62.	Sahiba	304
63.	Sallakhurd	232
64.	Sakrala	152
65.	Sandhra	152
66.	Sarhala Kalan	304
67.	Saroya	448
68.	Shamchaurasi	232

1	2	3	1	2	3
69.	Takaria	80	26.	Goraya	1260
70.	Talwandi Jattan	96	27.	Haŕipur	88
71.	Talwandi Sallan	304	28.	Haripur Khalsa	176
72.	Talwara	1400	29.	Hazara	178
73.	Tanda Ram Sahai	176	30.	Heller	178
74.	Urmar Tanda	2500	31.	Hadla	98
<i>Exchanges and their capacities in Jalandher SSA.</i>					
Record	Exchange	Capacity	32.	Jandiala	1000
1	2	3	33.	Jandu Singha	192
1.	Adampur	1000	34.	JI GPO RLU	5000
2.	Alawalpur	296	35.	JL GOP SIEM.	5000
3.	Apra	424	36.	JL JP NGR. SIEM. I	5000
4.	Athola	98	37.	JL JP NGR SIEM. II	9000
5.	Aur	1000	38.	JL JP NGR. RLU	4900
6.	Bal	384	39.	JL MTS NGR. STEM.	10000
7.	Balerkhan Pur	152	40.	JL MTS NGR. E-10B2	8000
8.	Banga	1400	41.	JL. MTS NGR. E-10B5	5000
9.	Begowal	88	42.	JL 1/D AREA	8000
10.	Behram	240	43.	JL Model Town RLU	8000
11.	Bhandalbet	88	44.	JL Model Town RSU	0
12.	Bhaura	88	45.	JL Cantt.	0
13.	Bhogpur	1400	46.	Kahma	96
14.	Bholath	192	47.	Kala Bakra	96
15.	Bliga	96	48.	Kala Sanghian	296
16.	Boolpur	88	49.	Kaira	176
17.	Bundala	296	50.	Kang Khurd	96
18.	Chakdana	96	51.	Kangjagir	184
19.	Chania	96	52.	Kapurthala	8000
20.	Dhitwan	176	53.	Karana	96
21.	Dhogri	88	54.	Kartarpur	1000
22.	Dosanjh Kalan	298	55.	Kathar	176
23.	Dyalpur	88	56.	Khera Dona	88
24.	Rattu Dhinga	88	57.	Khojewal	88
25.	Ghuman	88	58.	Kot B. Khan	96
			59.	Kuka	88
			60.	Kular	96

1	2	3	1	2	3
61.	Lakhpur	88	96.	Sarih	152
62.	Lambra	1000	97.	Shahkot	1400
63.	Langroya	96	98.	Shahpur	96
64.	Lasara	152	99.	Shammipur	176
65.	Lodhipur	88	100.	Shankar	384
66.	Lohian Khas	384	101.	Sidhwan Dona	88
67.	Malian Kalan	152	102.	Sohal Jagir	96
68.	Malsian	176	103.	Taiwan	96
69.	Mehatpur	1000	104.	Taiwandi Churia	88
70.	Mothanwala	88	105.	Uggi	152
71.	Mukandpur	1000	106.	Usmanpur	88
72.	Muthida Khurd	152	107.	Uamsher	0
73.	Nadala	1000	108.	Dadwindi	0
74.	Nabar	184	109.	Paramjit pur	0
75.	Nakodar	4000	110.	Kang Sabod	0
76.	Nangal Fidda	176	111.	Bajidpur	0
77.	Nawanshahr	5000	<i>Exchanges and their capacities in Ludhiana SSA</i>		
78.	Nurmahal	1400	Record	Exchange Name	Capacity
79.	Panchhat	88	Sl. No.		
80.	Parjian	96	1	2	3
81.	Patara	288	1.	Acharwal	240
82.	Pattar Kalan	176	2.	Alamgir	384
83.	Phagwara	9000	3.	Andlu	240
84.	Phillaur	1060	4.	Ayali Kalan	232
85.	Punian	88	5.	Ayali Khurd	184
86.	Rahimpur	176	6.	Baddowal	1000
87.	Rahon	1000	7.	Ballianwal	176
88.	Raipur Phi.	176	8.	Barundj	88
89.	Ramgarh	152	9.	Bassi Gujran	88
90.	Ranipur	96	10.	Bassian	184
91.	Rasulpur	96	11.	Bhadla	96
92.	Rehana Jattan	96	12.	Bhaini Sahib	1000
93.	Rurkakalan	88	13.	Bhari	384
94.	Sul. pur Lodhi	1000			
95.	Sarhali	88			

1	2	3	1	2	3
14.	Bhundri	96	47.	Khamano	472
15.	Bhutta	296	48.	Khanna	6865
16.	Bija	458	49.	Khanpūr	272
17.	Birk	96	50.	Kheri Nd Singh	272
18.	Birmi	96	51.	Khirnian	96
19.	Boparai Kalan	192	52.	Kilarai Pur	184
20.	Butehri	88	53.	Kohara	2000
21.	Chaunta	96	54.	Koom Kalan	384
22.	Chowkman	96	55.	Lalton Kalan	1000
23.	Dad	184	56.	Lalton Khurd	88
24.	Dehlon	192	57.	Latala	184
25.	Dhamot	284	58.	Lehal	184
26.	Dhanoor	88	59.	Ludhiana	10000
27.	Doraha	1528	60.	Ludhiana BN	14000
28.	Ghalib Kalan	248	61.	Ludhiana BN	10000
29.	Gill	3000	62.	Ludhiana BN	10000
30.	Gujjarwal	1400	63.	Ludhiana BN	14000
31.	Gurusar Sudhar	1000	64.	Ludhiana BRS	15000
32.	Halwara	240	65.	Ludhiana DWL	15000
33.	Hans Kalan	192	66.	Ludhiana FP	8000
34.	Hathoor	184	67.	Ludhiana Jugiana	2000
35.	Humbran	1000	68.	Ludhiana MR	20000
36.	Issewal	284	69.	Ludhiana MR-1	9000
37.	Issru	376	70.	Ludhiana MW	11000
38.	Jagraon	5800	71.	Ludhiana RBN	10000
39.	Jarg	160	72.	Ludhiana SBS	5000
40.	Jaspalon	184	73.	Ludhiana TPT	10000
41.	Jassian	1000	74.	Ludhiana TPT Main	11000
42.	Jhande	88	75.	Ludhiana TPT RSU	5000
43.	Jodhan	1000	76.	Machhiwara	1400
44.	Kalakh	96	77.	Madpur	1000
45.	Kasabad	88	78.	Mai Majra	152
46.	Kaunke Kalan	96	79.	Malaud	1000

1	2	3	1	2	3
80.	Mallah	96	113.	Threoke	160
81.	Manki	184	114.	Tihara	88
82.	Manuke	336	<i>Exchanges and their capacities in Patiala SSA.</i>		
83.	Manupur	152	Record	Exchange Name	Capacity
84.	Matewara	192	Sl. No.		
85.	Meharban	2000	1	2	3
86.	Mohanpur	184	1.	Ajnoda Kalan	56
87.	Mohie	192	2.	Arno	88
88.	Mullanpur	3512	3.	Ajrawar	184
89.	Narangwal	96	4.	Amloh	1400
90.	Naulari	152	5.	Badali Ala Sing	184
91.	Nurpur Bet	88	6.	Badshahpur	56
92.	Pakhawal	1000	7.	Bakshiwala	152
93.	Payal	1000	8.	Balbera	184
94.	Powat	152	9.	Banur	1000
95.	Raikot	2128	10.	Basantpura	376
96.	Rajewal	96	11.	BSSP	1528
97.	Ramgarh Bhullar	152	12.	Babarpur	152
98.	Rara Sahib	1528	13.	Bathonia	184
99.	Rauni	96	14.	Bhadson	1000
100.	Razoor	176	15.	Bhamarsi	184
101.	Roomi	184	16.	Bhankar	184
102.	Sahnawal	3000	17.	Bhunerheri	184
103.	Samrala	1400	18.	Chehal	88
104.	Sanghol	240	19.	Chinathal	88
105.	Sarabha	96	20.	Chorwala	184
106.	Sarinh	176	21.	Chintawala	56
107.	Sehaura	160	22.	Dhablan	352
108.	Sidhwan Bet	272	23.	Dakala	184
109.	Sidhwan Kalan	96	24.	Denthal	152
110.	Sihar	1000	25.	Devigarh	336
111.	Swaddi	184	26.	Dhanetha	88
112.	Tajpur	96			

1	2	3	1	2	3
27.	Dittupur	384	60.	Rajpura	7250
28.	Daunkalan	184	61.	Rakhra	184
29.	Ftgh. Sahib	296	62.	Ramprur Nobad	184
30.	Fathpur Rajputan	184	63.	Salana	88
31.	Gajjukhera	184	64.	Shatrana	88
32.	Gajewas	152	65.	Samana	2800
33.	Gakwati	152	66.	Sanour	152
34.	Ghagga	88	67.	Shambo	184
35.	Ghanour	184	68.	Sehra Sehri	56
36.	Gandakheri	88	69.	Sirhind	2800
37.	Hussainpura	184	70.	Thaska	88
38.	Harpalpur	88	71.	Thua	384
39.	Jakhwali	152	72.	Urban Estate	3000
40.	Jogipur	184	73.	Bibipur	184
41.	Kaidopur	184	74.	Budenpur	184
42.	Kaulgarh	56	75.	Chapper	88
43.	Kauli	184	76.	Harai Na. Kherki	152
44.	Khanewal	56	77.	Kulburchha	152
45.	Mandigobindgarh	10000	78.	Nalas	184
46.	Nabha	4744	79.	Rajgarh	56
47.	Narmana	88	80.	Mallewal	184
48.	Nabipur	88	81.	Pabri	152
49.	Nogawan	88	82.	Gharam	184
50.	Naina Khurd	184	<i>Exchanges and their capacities in Pathankot SSA.</i>		
51.	Nandpur Kalour	88	Record	Exchange Name	Capacity
52.	Nandpur Kesho	152	S. No.		
53.	Patiala	40000	1	2	3
54.	Patiala	0	1.	Bamial	56
55.	Pa-tripri	0	2.	Kala Afbana	56
56.	Passiana	184	3.	Sarropwali	184
57.	Patran	1000	4.	Dayal Garh	88
58.	Pakki Khanuri	336	5.	Batala	12500
59.	Pipal Mangoli	88	6.	Fatehgarh Churian	480

1	2	3	1	2	3
7.	Bhagowal	184	40.	Madhopur	184
8.	Wadala Bangar	56	41.	Dhar Kalan	88
9.	Panjgraian	88	42.	Dunera	152
10.	Wadala Granthia	56	43.	Jugial	1400
11.	Parowal	88	44.	CHO	88
12.	Shikar	88	45.	Kandrori	192
13.	Jaito Sarja	56	46.	Narot Mehra	160
14.	Kotlisuratmalhi	88	47.	Mirithal	152
15.	Aliwal	152	48.	Pathankot	16000
16.	Dera Baba Nanak	1000	49.	Kotle	160
17.	Dina Nagar	1400	50.	Narot J.Singh	88
18.	Dehrampur	184	51.	Sujanpur	1000
19.	Gharota	184	52.	Sunderchak	152
20.	Taragarh	368	53.	Dhobra	88
21.	Bianpur	88	54.	Qadian	1400
22.	Lahrigujran	88	55.	Jogi Cheema	184
23.	Gurdasnangal	184	56.	Kandila	56
24.	Gurdaspur	2800	57.	Ghuman	480
25.	Dorangla	184	58.	Sri Har Gobindpur	336
26.	Dhariwal	1400	59.	Kahnuwan	384
27.	Jaura Chittran	88	60.	Harchowal	184
28.	Gazikot	56	61.	Bhaini Mian Khan	56
29.	Kalanour	184	62.	Bhumbli	184
30.	Nawanshalla	184	63.	Warsola	88
31.	Sahari	88	64.	Udhanwal	184
32.	Allowal	88	65.	Malewal	152
33.	Sahowal	184	66.	Marara	184
34.	Sekhwan	56	67.	Niko Sarai	88
35.	Purana Shalla	56	68.	Sherpur	184
36.	Tibber	184	69.	Chone	184
37.	Nausheramajasingh	384	70.	Ghorewah	88
38.	Karoli	56	71.	Kalizpur	152
39.	Haryal	152	72.	Guman Kalan	184

Exchanges and their capacities in Ropar SSA.

Record	Exchange Name	Capacity
SI. No.		

1	2	3
1.	Abiana	152
2.	Anandpur Sahib	1000
3.	Aaron	88
4.	Banah	88
5.	Behrampur BET	152
6.	Bela	184
7.	Bhanupalli	152
8.	Bharatgarh	232
9.	Chamakaur Sahib	1000
10.	Chaunta Jhallian	208
11.	Chuni Kalan	208
12.	Ganguwal	88
13.	Ghanauli	296
14.	Gharuan	56
15.	Jhallian Kalan	208
16.	Kalnaur	208
17.	Kalwan	80
18.	Kiratpur Sahib	184
19.	Kurahi	920
20.	Lutheri	304
21.	Mianpur	56
22.	Morinda	1400
23.	Nangal	1528
24.	Maya Nangal	1400
25.	Nangran	208
26.	Nurpur Bedi	1000
27.	Purkhali	152
28.	Ropar	2888
29.	RTP	1000
30.	Sialba Majri	240

1	2	3
31.	Sukhsal	208
32.	Takhatgarh Bains	384

Exchanges and their capacities in Sangrur SSA.

Record	Exchange Name	Capacity
SI.No.		

1	2	3
1.	Ahmedgarh	3104
2.	Amargarh	1400
3.	Akbarpur	56
4.	Badbar	240
5.	Badrukhan	264
6.	Balian	168
7.	Banbaura	192
8.	Barnala	8344
9.	Bhadalwad	304
10.	Bhadaur	825
11.	Bhasaur	240
12.	Bhawanigarh	1528
13.	Bhotna	240
14.	Bhudan	184
15.	Bhulleheri	240
16.	Bhutaikalan	56
17.	Balian Kattu	208
18.	C. Nanhera	248
19.	Channo	152
20.	Chananwai	304
21.	Chounda	208
22.	Cheema	360
23.	C. Jodhpur	368
24.	Chhajli	192
25.	Chhapa	240
26.	Dhaura	240

1	2	3	1	2	3
27.	Dhanoula	952	60.	Mehal Kalan	336
28.	Duggan	176	61.	Mohali Khurd	184
29.	Dhuri	4000	62.	Moḍnak	360
30.	Dhurkot	56	63.	Mullowal	208
31.	Dirba	1400	64.	Mour Nabha	240
32.	D.S. Wala	240	65.	Nadampur	176
33.	Fatehgarh	184	66.	Narlike	184
34.	F.P. Grian	152	67.	Nathu Majra	200
35.	Gehal	56	68.	Naiwala	152
36.	Ghanouri	336	69.	Pakho Kalan	184
37.	Gharachon	240	70.	Palasaur	240
38.	Handiaya	536	71.	Pandoori	240
39.	Harkishanpura	176	72.	Raisor	56
40.	Hathan	184	73.	Rajomajra	336
41.	Jabbo Majra	208	74.	Rohira	200
42.	Jakhupal	184	75.	Rookie	648
43.	Jalaldiwal	248	76.	Sakrodi	152
44.	Jaloor	56	77.	Sandhaur	336
45.	Kamalpur	56	78.	Sangala	192
46.	Kanganwal	312	79.	Sangrur	8000
47.	Kanjla	208	80.	Sehna	288
48.	Kattu	56	81.	Sekha	240
49.	Kheri	240	82.	S.G. Cheema	360
50.	Kotduna	248	83.	Seeron	184
51.	Kup Kalan	840	84.	Sherpur	376
52.	Kaleke	240	85.	Sulargharata	320
53.	Kohrian	152	86.	Sunam	3048
54.	Lehragaga	1528	87.	Sahoke	88
55.	Longowal	1000	88.	Tapa	1400
56.	Malerkotla	6664	89.	Tibba	112
57.	Mandian	184	90.	Thikriwal	304
58.	Mazi	56	91.	Thuliwal	240
59.	Meemsa	240	92.	Uehewal	176

1	2	3
93.	Uppll	176
94.	Chotian	56
95.	Herike	112
96.	Kanakwal	152
97.	Kalia	88
98.	Ladbanjara	56
99.	Lohat Baddi	192
100.	Mehlan	192
101.	Mandvi	184
102.	Ratta Khera	56
103.	Dhaner	152
104.	Naralngarh	56
105.	Ramgarh	88
106.	Jangiana	56
107.	Sandhu Kalan	152
108.	Khokhar	152
109.	Raidharana	56

[English]

Election Fund by Tatas

2923. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the Election Fund set up by the Tatas to fund the political parties;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government propose to give formal approval to the scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) Government has not received any formal intimation in this regard.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Generation of Hydel Power in A.P.

2924. SHRI RAJKUMAR WANGCHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the unlimited

potential for generation of hydel power (50,000 MW) and above in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have considered to harness this potential for the benefit of the entire region of North Eastern States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) and (b) According to the re-assessment of hydro-electrical potential of major and medium schemes carried by Central Electricity Authority between 1978-87, hydro-electrical potential of Arunachal Pradesh has been assessed as 26756 MW at 60% load factor for a total of 102 identified schemes. The sub basin-wise details of the assessed potential of Arunachal Pradesh is given below:

Sl. No.	Sub-Basin	No. of Schemes	Potential at 60% Load factor (MW)
1.	Dihang Dibang	28	13615.33
2.	Luhit	11	4152.00
3.	Subansiri	25	6892.49
4.	Upper Brahmaputra	4	113.50
5.	Kameng	34	1982.33
Total		102	26755.65

(c) to (e) The harnessing of hydro-electrical potential of Arunachal Pradesh will benefit the entire North-Eastern Region. At present, hydro-electric projects with potential 124.83 MW at 60% load factor which is 0.46% of the assessed potential of Arunachal Pradesh has either been harnessed or is under construction. The Ranganadi scheme with an installed capacity of 405 MW is under execution in Arunachal Pradesh. This scheme is scheduled to be commissioned in September 2002.

The two projects which are proposed to be developed in Arunachal Pradesh include Kameng (600 MW) and Ranganadi State-II (180 MW). There are complex environmental issues arising from the need to rehabilitate families who would be displaced due to submergence resulting from the other major projects to be taken up. These projects include Dihang Project (20,000 MW), Subansiri (4800 MW) and Demwe Project (520 MW). The survey and investigation of 15 schemes has also been taken up by various agencies like Brahmaputra Board, North Eastern Electric Power Corporation, State Government and Central Water Commission.

Safety Measures for Workers in Ports

2925. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the inadequate safety measures undertaken in the ports for the workers;

(b) whether there is a need to adopt safety standards for the port workers particularly who are handling hazardous cargo;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this direction; and

(d) the specific safety measures adopted in Paradeep Port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Adequate Safety measures are undertaken for safety of workers in the Major Ports as per the provisions of Dock Workers. (Safety, Health & Welfare) Act, 1986 and the regulations framed thereunder. Due care and safety precautions are taken while handling hazardous cargo and whenever any shortcoming is noticed, corrective steps are taken.

(d) The specific safety measures adopted in Paradip Port inter-alia include:

(i) Periodical maintenance of Roads, proper illumination of work place, dust suppression by sprinkling water, regular cleaning of spillage, checking of Road worthiness of Transport equipments, deployment of fire fighting equipments, supply of personal protective equipments etc.

(ii) Organising safety training programme for Port and Dock Workers.

(iii) Generating safety awareness and undertaking safety motivational programmes.

(iv) All fatal and major accidents are investigated and remedial measures are taken to prevent recurrence.

(v) Safety studies and surveys are undertaken.

At present, a Safety Audit is also being conducted in Paradip Port by the specialists from Directorate General of Factory Advice Service and Labour Institute, Mumbai to assess the present Safety, Health and Welfare situation with a view to improve their standards further.

Four Laning Project for Chennai-Trichy N.H.

2926. SHRI T.R. BAALU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any project for four laning the Chennai-Trichy National Highway;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the physical works completed so far;

(c) whether there has been inordinate delay in taking up the works under the said project in the Maduranthagam-Villupuram-Trichy section;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have any plans to commence four laning project works from Trichy also simultaneously to ensure the expeditious completion of the project; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (f) The work of four laning of National Highway-45, from Chennai Bypass to Tindivanam, Km.-68 to Km.-122, is to be taken up under Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT). The project preparation work for four laning of National Highway-45, from Tindivanam to Trichy Bypass and, Km. 122 to Km. 325, is to be taken up with assistance from the World Bank. Physical works, in the stretch, would be taken up in a phased manner in convenient number of packages after completion of the feasibility studies and the detailed project preparation.

[Translation]

Progress of G.T. Road Between Mohan Sarai and Mughal Sarai

2927. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of G.T. Road between Mohan Sarai and Mughal Sarai alongwith the construction over Ganga river in Varanasi (U.P.);

(b) the date on which this project was started and the stipulated targeted date for its completion;

(c) the total initial estimated cost of this project and the amount spent thereon so far;

(d) the total amount likely to be spent on its completion; and

(e) the targeted date finally fixed for the completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Out of a total length of 30.14 km. of Varanasi-Ramnagar-Mughalsarai by pass between Mohan Sarai and Mughal Sarai, the work of major bridge over river Ganga (1470 metres long) is complete. The progress in the remaining 28.67 km. length is about 80%.

(b) Date of start 1.11.87

Stipulated target date of completion 30.12.94

(c) Original estimated cost was Rs. 49.92 crores, which is under revision. A sum of Rs. 123.39 crores has been spent upto March, 1998.

(d) Rs. 136.39 crores approximately.

(e) February, 1999.

Non-Publication of Manuscripts

2928. SHRI KARIYA MUNDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of manuscripts to be published originally in Hindi by the National Book Trust lying pending alongwith the period and reasons for their pendency; and

(b) the number of manuscripts out of these regarding sports and adventurous expeditions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Ten manuscripts to be published in Hindi which have been received in the National

Book Trust since November, 1996 are pending for publication. These are at various stages of preparation like finalisation of agreement with author, preparation of illustrations, copyright clearance and first or second proof stage. One of these pending manuscripts is relating to sports and adventurous expeditions.

Details of the manuscripts alongwith date of receipt, including their present status, are given in the statement attached.

Statement

S. No.	Title	Author	Commissioned or Unsolicited	Date of receipt of manuscript	Date of approval for publication	Date on which sent to press	Present Status
1.	Jainendra Kumar Ki Chunhuyi Khaniya	Pradeep Kumar (Compiler)	Commissioned	22.11.96	18.5.97	28.5.97	Second proof stage
2.	Khel Khel Mein	B.B. Agarwal & Bindu Agarwal	Unsolicited	May 1997	Sept. 1997	—	Illustrations to be got prepared
3.	Balgeetham	Shashipal Sharma 'Balmtra'	Unsolicited	Aug. 1997	Nov. 1997	—	Manuscript is under editing. Illustrations are to be got prepared
4.	Manorog; Galat Dharanayen Aur Sahi Pehlu	Dr. Manjeet Singh Bhatia	Unsolicited	Feb. 1998	May 1998	—	Contract with author to be signed
5.	Anand Panchi Niharan Ka	Vishwa Mohan Tiwari	Unsolicited	2.4.96	23.12.97	28.1.98	Second proof stage
6.	Ramavatar Sharma: Pratinidhi Sankalan	Nand Kishore Naval (Compiler)	Commissioned	18.2.98	9.3.98	31.3.98	Second proof stage
7.	Tofo Azad Hal	Kamalesh Mohindra	Workshop Product	March, 1997	May, 1998	—	Contract to be signed
8.	Kaun Bada Kaun Chhota	Rekha Jain	Unsolicited	Nov, 1996	May, 1998	—	Manuscript is to be edited illustrations to be got prepared. Contract to be signed
9.	Meri Bahan Neha	Madhu B. Joshi product	Workshop	March, 1997	May, 1998	—	-do-
Sports Field							
10.	Azad Bharat Main Cricket.	Suryaprakash Chaturvedi	Unsolicited	Nov. 1997	June 1998	—	Manuscript sent to author for some suggested revision

T.V. Serial 'Shaktiman'

2929. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether T.V. Serial 'Shaktiman' is full of entertainment and effectively explains to the children how to keep away from bad habits like chewing pan, tobacco and gutka;

(b) if so, whether the serial is being telecast from all Kendras of Doordarshan in the country;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to give any incentive for telecast of this serial; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The serial 'Shaktiman' is an entertaining serial specially produced for the children. In one of its episodes, the serial educates the children to avoid use of tobacco and chewing pan and gutka.

(c) and (d) The serial has been categorised in the children's category and Doordarshan is charging only 50% telecast fee in this case. Besides this, Doordarshan has extended further concessions to the serial by allotting more Free Commercial Time.

[English]

Grants for Nelamangala and Tumkur Road

2930. SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grants have been sanctioned for the formation of double roads between Nelamangala and Tumkur in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Rs. 10.70 crores have been sanctioned by National Highway Authority of India for land acquisition.

(c) Does not arise.

Project Tiger

2931. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Project Tiger is under implementation in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the amount spent on the said project so far;

(c) whether "Tiger Cell" has been constituted by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF);

(d) if so, the amount to be provided to Karnataka from the above Fund to conserve tiger population; and

(e) the total number of Tigers in Karnataka as per latest census?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI):

(a) Yes, Sir. Project Tiger is being implemented in Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Karnataka since 1973.

(b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, an amount of Rs. 458.18 lakhs has been spent so far in Bandipur Tiger Reserve.

(c) No, Sir. However, a Unit of Tiger Conservation Programme (TCP) has been established by the WWF.

(d) The WWF Tiger. Conservation Programme has proposed a financial support of Rs. 13.87 lakhs for Biligiri Rangayyan Temple Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka for the conservation of its wildlife including tiger population.

(e) According to All India Tiger Estimation - 1993, the population of tiger in Karnataka is 305.

[Translation]

Achievement of Full Literacy

2932. SHRI VITHAL TUPE:

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes being run to achieve full literacy and the allocation made to the States under these schemes, State-wise;

(b) the amount spent so far on the literacy schemes; and

(c) the time by which full literacy would be achieved in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The National Literacy Mission aims at achieving Total Literacy in the country through various schemes as follow:

(i) Special Projects for Eradication of Illiteracy

(ii) Voluntary Agencies

(iii) Directorate of Adult Education

(iv) Shramik Vidyapeeth

(v) Strengthening of Administrative Structure

(vi) Rural Functional Literacy Project

(vii) Post Literacy & Continuing Education

(viii) National Institute of Adult Education

State-wise allocations made during the Eighth Plan are given the attached statement.

(c) The National Agenda for Governance does not lay down any specific time-frame.

(b)	(Rs. in crores)		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
	143.936	103.12	79.74

Statement

Funds released to states for adult education during 8th plan period

(Rs. in lakhs)

State/UT	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	Grand Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	839.64	1846.70	1370.68	884.21	1081.06	6022.29
Arunachal Pradesh	8.59	28.73	71.56	25.63	20.72	155.23
Assam	111.50	125.21	1159.04	361.09	194.29	1951.13
Bihar	299.67	1109.93	1628.87	1977.84	1062.52	6078.83
Goa	5.29	15.37	11.59	5.95	3.32	41.52
Gujarat	659.44	1079.70	884.50	262.98	458.78	3345.40
Haryana	426.79	181.05	243.01	175.31	57.12	1083.28
Himachal Pradesh	214.69	80.07	109.15	26.43	49.18	479.52
Jammu & Kashmir	—	84.47	190.40	132.70	50.47	458.04
Karnataka	698.32	1683.64	1041.84	319.58	350.16	4093.54
Kerala	21.46	122.71	57.32	7.00	537.97	746.46
Madhya Pradesh	289.45	1455.12	2821.52	977.67	548.58	6092.34
Maharashtra	838.71	1453.16	1024.55	1153.63	432.83	4902.88
Manipur	7.55	28.18	72.67	17.62	20.63	146.65
Meghalaya	14.16	19.47	29.08	127.74	112.45	302.90
Mizoram	1.66	2.66	16.42	2.29	0.57	23.60
Nagaland	16.37	26.31	39.73	47.81	56.90	187.12
Orissa	589.51	614.12	606.36	801.36	310.13	2921.48
Punjab	5.29	25.00	277.61	370.34	135.00	813.24
Rajasthan	501.90	784.58	1745.00	1681.76	1304.62	6017.86
Sikkim	—	5.25	11.22	—	11.22	27.69
Tamil Nadu	1232.01	1200.00	1594.58	1212.48	261.21	5500.28
Tripura	—	224.18	6.77	0.10	4.73	235.78
Uttar Pradesh	897.09	2555.48	2805.58	1888.01	943.27	9089.43
West Bengal	1094.58	719.86	1583.69	308.40	728.11	4434.64

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chandigarh	28.11	28.66	25.62	20.12	41.37	143.88
Delhi	50.42	117.17	120.77	322.58	158.57	769.51
Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daman & Diu	—	1.96	0.56	0.50	—	3.02
Andaman & Nicobar	5.82	9.81	12.15	8.12	12.56	48.46
Dadra & Nagar Havell	0.58	0.84	0.83	—	—	2.25
Lakshadweep	2.57	1.57	7.41	1.62	4.32	17.49
Total	8861.17	15630.96	19570.08	13120.87	8952.66	66135.74

[English]

Construction of TV Studio at Vijayawada

2933. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a TV studio is under construction at Vijayawada; and

(b) if so, the time by which construction work is likely to be completed and TV studio starts functioning?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The installation work of the TV Studio at Vijayawada is likely to be completed during this year. However, commissioning of the project would depend upon deployment of administrative staff for its operation and maintenance which is promised to be put in position by the end of September by Prasar Bharati.

[Translation]

Bareilly Bypass

2934. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bareilly bypass (Uttar Pradesh) was sanctioned in the recent past;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The feasibility study for the bypass has been completed. However, due to paucity of funds it has not been possible to take up the work.

Achievements in the Field of Science & Technology

2935. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the details of the achievements made so far in the field of Science & Technology during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): In the field of Science & Technology, India has made considerable achievements during the last three years. These achievements relate to various disciplines of Science & Technology like Atomic Energy, Space, Bio-technology, Ocean Science, Industrial Research and other areas like Biomedical Research, Agriculture, Computer Science etc. Some of the salient achievements in the field of Science & Technology are the following:

- There has been a significant increase in food grains production.
- Launch of Indian National Satellite - 2C (INSAT-2C) and INSAT-2D satellites which have increased the outreach of Indian television and Indian Communications beyond the National boundaries from middle-east to south-east Asia and also Indian Remote Sensing Satellite - 1C (IRS-1C) and IRS -1D. The other major milestone is the operationalisation of the Polar satellite launch vehicle that launched IRS-1D.
- Parallel computing system (Pace plus), and pilot plant facility to process GaAs wafers and 1-12 GHz MMIC utilizing 0.7 micrometer optical lithography technology.
- Besides the testing of nuclear devices and delivery systems, peaceful application of nuclear energy including establishment of pressurized heavy water technology, demonstration of fast breeder technology and utilization of thorium, indigenously designed mini reactor (Kamini) utilizing uranium-233 and establishment of Giant Meter-wave Radio Telescope (GMRT).
- Plant tissue culture industries, aquaculture, drugs and Pharmaceuticals and immunodiagnostics industries have come up and also new Centre for DNA finger printing has been established.
- Annual Scientific expeditions to Antarctica covering new areas of research continued and National Institute of Ocean Technology has been established.

- Development and commercialisation of large number of technologies in the fields of industrial catalyst, chemicals, food processing, leather processing and products, construction materials, drugs and pharmaceuticals and bio-medical devices, country's first all composite trainer aircraft (Hansa). Considerable progress has also been achieved in the Technology Mission Projects in the areas of Sugar production, Advanced composites, fly ash utilisation and leather technology.
- Fellowship amounts for all categories of research personnel have been doubled; setting-up of a Technology Development Board to accelerate Technology Development and application; institution of Swarnajayanti Fellowships in Basic Research for outstanding young scientists between the age of 30-40 years; a new scheme "Fund for improvement of S&T infrastructure (FIST)" in universities and related institutions; a patent facilitating mechanism to provide support to all scientists on aspects of patenting; bringing out the Technology Vision-2020 perspective; and establishment of sophisticated meteorological and seismological facilities in the country.

Relaying Capacity of AIR Station, Amravati

2936. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the relaying capacity of Akashwani station in Amravati District of Maharashtra;
- (b) the total amount allocated for the development of Akashwani Kendra in Amravati during the last three years, year-wise;
- (c) the reasons for keeping it as a relay kendra only;
- (d) whether required infrastructural and equipments for the transmission of Vividh Bharti and other programmes are available in this kendra; and
- (e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be made full fledged Akashwani Kendra?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) There is no All India Radio Station in Amravati district of Maharashtra.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Financial Institution for Film Industry

2937. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up financial institution for funding of production of films; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Purchase Policy

2938. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has issued an order in 1980-81 asking the Government Department to make purchases of Stationery and other items from the Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar/NCCF only;
- (b) if so, whether the said order is not being followed by MTNL;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that MTNL make purchases from Kendriya Bhandar etc. only?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) No, Sir. To the extent possible purchases of stationery are made from Kendriya Bhandar/Apna Bazar/NCCF.
- (c) Not applicable in view of (b) above.
- (d) Not applicable in view of (b) above.

Coal Based Power Project in A.P.

2939. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the GVK Group have decided to bring in foreign equity worth Rs. 670.60 Crore to finance its 500 MW coal based power project at Krishnapatnam in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the capital cost of this project;
- (c) whether the GVK Pvt. Ltd. has been issued a Letter of Intent for Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board for implementing the 500 MW coal based project;
- (d) the extent to which it will be helpful in achieving the power target; and
- (e) the time by which the project is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) M/s GVK (Krishnapatnam) Ltd. have proposed to bring in foreign equity amounting to Rs. 670.62 crores in their 500 MW Krishnapatnam Power Project in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

- (b) The estimated project cost could be known only after the project is accorded Techno-economic Clearance by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).
- (c) In July, 1994, the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity

Board had issued a letter of intent to M/s GVK Industries for implementing the Krishnapatnam project.

(d) and (e) Commissioning of the project depends on the company's tying up of all the necessary inputs/clearances and achieving financial closure. As and when the project, is fully commissioned, it is expected to increase the installed capacity in the State by 500 MW.

[Translation]

LPTs in Uttar Pradesh

2940. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of low power Doordarshan Relay Centre in Uttar Pradesh which are not functioning satisfactorily at present;

(b) the details of the capacity and coverage area of these Doordarshan Centres;

(c) whether the Government contemplate to increase the relay capacity of these Doordarshan centres; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) All the Low Power Transmitters in Uttar Pradesh are reported to be functioning normally. However, technical faults/power supply break down in such transmitters do take place from time to time and are attended to promptly.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Judgement Reserved in Delhi High Court Cases

2941. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are a number of cases in Delhi High Court wherein judgement have been reserved after completion of the hearing;

(b) if so, the details of the cases where judgement have not been delivered even after the lapse of six months, one year, two years and more after completion of hearing, separately; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to expedite the delivery of judgement in these cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI: (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the Registry of Delhi High Court and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Running of Open Schools

2942. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a good number of Kendriya Vidyalayas of Delhi, National Open Schools Centres have been functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of amount released by the National Open School organisation in each of the previous three years to these Kendriya Vidyalayas, Vidyalaya-wise;

(d) the manner in which these amounts are utilized by the respective Vidyalayas;

(e) whether there have been any complaints of irregularities in some of these Vidyalayas on this count; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The information furnished by the National Open School (NOS) regarding the names of Kendriya Vidyalayas of Delhi associated with NOS as its study centres and the amount released to each of them during the previous three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(d) The amount released to the study centres is utilised by them as per the norms and rates prescribed by the NOS.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

List of Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) of Delhi associated with the National Open School (NOS) as its study centre and the amount released to them during the last 3 years.

S. No.	Name of the Kendriya Vidyalaya	Amount released by the NOS (Rupees)		
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	A.I. No. 2768 Kendriya Vidyalaya TP Block, Pitampura	39,270/-	59,500/-	96,400/-

1	2	3	4	5
2.	A.I. No. 2769 Kendriya Vidyalaya Sector IV, RK Puram	29,580/-	32,810/-	45,000/-
3.	A.I.No. 2771 Kendriya Vidyalaya AN Block, Shalimar Bagh	30,600/-	59,160/-	31,000/-
4.	A.I. No. 2772 Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 3 Ring Road (Naraina), Delhi Cantt.	46,410/-	84,320/-	84,600/-
5.	A.I.No. 2773 Kendriya Vidyalaya AFS, Tughlakabad.	85,000/-	77,350/-	1,00,000/-
6.	A.I. No. 2774 Kendriya Vidyalaya AGCR Colony, Karkarduma.	57,970/-	54,060/-	68,400/-
7.	A.I. No. 2775 Kendriya Vidyalaya No.2 Gurgaon Road, Delhi Cantt.	26,180/-	77,010/-	1,00,000/-
8.	A.I. No. 7707 Kendriya Vidyalaya No.1 Sadar Bazar Road, Delhi Cantt.	39,780/-	49,810/-	49,000/-
9.	A.I. No. 7708 Kendriya Vidyalaya C-2 Area, Janak Puri	80,240/-	71,910/-	94,600/-
10.	A.I. No. 7725 Kendriya Vidyalaya New Friends Centre, Vigyan Vihar	8,500/-	40,970/-	11,200/-
11.	A.I. No. 7728 Kendriya Vidyalaya Vikaspuri, Village Hastal (Started functioning as NOS Study Centre w.e.f. 1996-97 admissions)	Nil	27,540/-	57,800

**Indian Council of Forestry Research and
Education, Dehradun**

2943. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE), was established for increasing forest productivity to meet the national needs:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the policy of Council to start new Forest Research Institutes/Centres;

(d) the evaluation result of Forest Research Institute, Dehradun; and

(e) whether Government would constitute a Technical Committee to examine all the issues relating to starting of Institutes in Orissa, Maharashtra and Gujarat State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) The Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education was established to organise, direct and manage research and education in forestry and allied sciences in India. Forest productivity enhancement is one of the primary activities of ICFRE.

(b) The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) is focusing in a systematic manner on the issue of increasing forest productivity through a comprehensive programme of "Planting Stock improvement". Under this, ICFRE Scientists are coordinating with the State Forest Departments for establishment of Seed Production Areas (SPAs), Clonal Seed Orchards (CSO), Seedling Seed Production Areas (SSPAs), and Vegetative Multiplication Gardens (VMG). In addition to this, five Model Research Nurseries are also being developed in different Institutes of the ICFRE.

(c) To cater the research needs of forestry sector of various eco regions, eleven Institutes/Centres are functioning in the country.

(d) A team of national and international scientists, drawn from various forestry related research disciplines, had evaluated the work of Forest Research Institute in 1997. The review team among other things suggested strengthening of research in natural forest and ecosystem dynamics, management, forest policy, history and forestry related social science.

(e) The research needs of forestry sector, pertaining to State of Orissa and Maharashtra are being catered by Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur and State of Gujarat is being catered by Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur.

Setting up of Separate Educational T.V. Channel

2944. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH :

SHRI ASHOK ARGAL:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a separate educational television channel; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) A working group has been constituted in the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development to recommend measures for operationalisation of educational satellite TV Channel. Prasar Bharati has also set up a sub-committee for the purpose. Further action will be taken on receipt of reports of the Committee/Working Group. No time frame can, however, be fixed for the purpose at this stage.

Dismantling and Restructuring of Temples

2945. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has been entrusted with the task of dismantling and restructuring of certain historically important temples which are in a dilapidated condition and cannot be repaired; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Dismantling and reconstruction of the monuments including temples are taken up only when other means of repair is not applicable.

(b) The Archaeological Survey of India, in the past, has undertaken dismantling and resetting of a number of protected monuments, which were either in most dilapidated condition, beyond repairs, or were threatened by the construction of dams, etc. as per statement attached.

Statement

Name of the State	Name of the temples
1	2
1. Gujarat	1. Gokeshwar Mahadev Temple Lowrali
	2. Nav Lakha Temple, Sejakpur
	3. Veni Madhav Temple Dwarka
2. Karnataka	1. Kalyan Mandapa of Ananth Sayana Temple-Ananth Sayana Gudi

1	2
	2. Veniyar Gudi (Group of Temples) Aihole
3. Madhya Pradesh	1. North West Miniature Shrine of Laxman Temple, Khajuraho
4. Orissa	1. Mahakal Temple, Retnagiri
5. Uttar Pradesh	1. Bandeo Temple, Dwarahat

Quality of Roads

2946. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the quality of road building in India has suffered because the State Public Works Departments have not utilised the road research carried out by the Central Road Research Institute;
- (b) whether the Indian roads including the National Highways are not upto the mark;
- (c) whether Government propose to improve the quality of roads in India; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The National Highways are being maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources.

(c) and (d) The improvement programmes have not kept pace with the growth in traffic due to inadequate budgetary funds. However, the Govt. has decided to allow the private sector to take up development and maintenance of National Highways from their own funds and to service such investments through tolls collected from the users.

Funds for Development of Roads in A.P.

2947. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has prepared number of proposals for laying roads;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether State Government has asked the Union Government and the World Bank to provide funds for development of roads in the State; and
- (d) if so, the total amount sanctioned by the Union Government and World Bank for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) This Ministry is responsible for the development of National Highways only and the development of all other roads falls within the purview of the respective State Government. Annual Plan 1998-99, provides for the development of existing National Highways at a cost Rs. 79.90 crores in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) and (d) (i) A World Bank loan amounting to US \$ 485.5 million, for improvement of approximately 1400 kms of State roads in Andhra Pradesh, is under implementation by the State Government.

(ii) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been allocated sums of Rs. 2943.83 lakhs for National Highways (original works) and Rs. 3898.00 lakhs for Maintenance and Repairs for the year 1997-98 respectively.

LPT at Sundergarh, Orissa

2948. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Orissa for establishment of new LPTs in Sundergarh region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the same is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Requests from the Minister of State for Welfare, Govt. of Orissa were received in 1995 for establishment of Low Power Transmitters at Kinjirkella, Sagbahal (Balisankara Block) Konika (Hemgir Block) and at Hemgir in Sundergarh District of Orissa.

(c) At present, there is no approved scheme to establish LPTs at above mentioned places.

Idols of Jain Tirthankars

2949. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in the process of repair work done at Qutab Minar complex in Delhi, scores of Idols of Jain Tirthankars were found in seventies and thereafter;
- (b) if so, whether these items have been documented and put for display in the national Museum or elsewhere;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which this work will be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) One architectural fragment of a lintel depicting sitting Adinatha image in the

centre and flanked on either side with standing image of Tirthankars was found in the vicinity of Qutab archaeological area in 1965. The architectural member has been documented and kept in safe custody.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise.

Telephone Exchanges in Haryana

2950. SHRI S.S. OWAIISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to set up a new electronic telephone exchange in Gari Harsru, District Gurgaon, Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken to clear the proposal;

(d) the number of telephone exchanges functioning at present in the State, District-wise;

(e) whether there is any proposal to provide STD facilities at all the exchanges in the State;

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

(g) the total revenue earned by the Government during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) to (c) Presently 2 units of C-Dot RAXs with equipped capacity of 160 lines, are working at Gari Harsru. A new telephone exchange of 1000 lines is planned to be commissioned during 1998-99, in replacement of these 2 units of C-Dot RAXs, so that more connections can be given.

(d) As given in the Statement attached.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Out of 792 exchanges, STD facility has already been provided at 443 exchanges. In the remaining 349 exchanges, this facility is planned to be provided by March 2000 progressively.

(g) The total revenue earned by Haryana Telecom Circle during the last 3 years is as under:

Year	Revenue in thousands of Rupees
1995-96	2134395
1996-97	2676094
1997-98	3237416

Statement

No. of Telephone Exchanges functioning at present in Haryana, District-wise.

Name of the District	No. of exchanges functioning as on date
Ambala	67
Yamuna Nagar	45
Panchkula	21
Faridabad	35
Gurgaon	40
Karnal	42
Panipat	21
Kurukshetra	45
Kaithal	36
Hissar	48
Sirsa	63
Fatehabad	40
Rohtak	35
Jhajjar	20
Bhiwani	62
Jind	77
Sonepat	43
Rewari	28
Narnaul	24
Total	792

[Translation]

Power Generation

2951. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN:

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total power generation capacity of the country upto March, 1998;

(b) whether any assessment has been made by the Government for the optimum utilisation of this capacity;

(c) if so, the estimated percentage of the installed capacity being utilised; and

(d) the extent to which the capacity utilisation is less than the average capacity utilisation of power in the World?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) The total installed capacity in the country as on March, 1998 was 89090 MW.

(b) to (d) The Plant Load Factor of thermal power stations during 1997-98 was 64.7%. The capacity utilisation of power stations depends upon various factors such as load demand, hydel thermal mix, technical and commercial feasibility of transfer of power from surplus State/Region to deficit areas, availability of water for hydel stations etc. The international comparisons are therefore not appropriate. However, continuous efforts are being made to improve the plant load factor by a series of measures such as renovation and modernisation, improving the hydel share as renovation and modernisation, improving the hydel share, demand management measures etc.

[English]

Power Grid Corporation

2952. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of States where Power Grid Corporation is functioning;
- (b) whether the economic sanctions imposed by USA, Japan and Australia are likely to have any impact on the functioning of the Power Grid Corporation;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure smooth functioning of the Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. is entrusted with the construction of associated transmission lines from central generating stations which supply bulk power to State Electricity Boards. It operates throughout the country.

(b) to (d) The sanctions do not affect ongoing projects of Powergrid & it is continuing to implement its ongoing projects as programmed.

[Translation]

Transfer of Telephone Connections

2953. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

- (a) the number of applications received for transfer of telephone connections in Bhopal city during 1997-98;
- (b) the number of applications considered out of them and the number of applications lying pending;
- (c) whether a long time is taken to transfer the telephones;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Sir, 616 applications were received during 1997-98 in Bhopal City for transfer of telephone connections.

(b) Transfer action has been taken on 611 applications and only five (5) are pending due to subscriber reasons.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

[English]

Re-evaluation of English Answer Sheets

2954. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Forum for Academic Values has urged the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to revaluation the English answer books of genuine cases of Class XII students;
- (b) if so, the details of the representations made by the forum and the basis thereof;
- (c) whether the English paper valuation has caused a lot of unrest among the student community and some of them have sought intervention of courts in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Principals of some of the prominent institutions have supported the demand of re-evaluation of English Paper of Class XII; and
- (f) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the CBSE authorities in the aforesaid demand?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) No formal request for re-evaluation of English answer scripts of Class XII candidates has been received so far by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) from the National Forum for Academic Values.

(c) and (d) The CBSE has informed that a Group of Advocates has filed a Writ Petition in the High Court of Delhi praying for re-evaluation of answer scripts of students on demand.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The CBSE has already clarified that scrutinies done after the receipt of complaints have not revealed any aberrations in the marking of the English language paper.

Visits of NTPC Officials Abroad

2955. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the officials of National Thermal Power Corporation who visited abroad during the last three

years; alongwith the purpose of their visits and expenditure incurred by the Government on these visits;

- (b) whether any results have been achieved from these visits;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid wasteful expenditure by sending officials abroad?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (d) The details of the officials of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) who visited abroad during the last three years and the expenditure incurred thereon by NTPC are as under:

Year	No. of Officers	Expenditure (Rs. in lacs)
1995-96	81	99.86
1996-97	84	100.18
1997-98	60	77.92

The purposes for which these visits were undertaken include:

- (i) Discussions with multilateral funding agencies etc.
- (ii) Inspection of equipment to be installed in NTPC projects.
- (iii) Business development — consultancy.
- (iv) Training/seminars/conferences/study tours/presenting papers.

NTPC has confirmed that the intended objectives were fully achieved by these visits.

These visits by NTPC officials were need-based and were kept to the minimum so as to avoid any wasteful expenditure and were undertaken with the prior approval of the competent authority.

Basic Telecom Services in Karnataka

2956. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

- (a) whether there is any delay in the signing of licence agreement for the basic telecom services in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of private companies who have submitted the application for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) M/s Hughes Ispat Ltd. who bid successfully for getting the basic service licence both in Maharashtra and Karnataka circles have requested the Government that the

licence for Karnataka circle be issued in the name of another legal entity, M/s Hughes Ispat Communications Ltd. as it would be easier for them to arrange finances for Karnataka circle if a separate legal entity is created for executing the project in that circle. The Government are considering the request and have asked the company to guarantee that M/s Hughes Ispat Ltd., which is the original bidder, stands guarantee for adherence of the terms and conditions of the licence agreement by Hughes Ispat Communications Ltd. and also take overall responsibility in case Hughes Ispat Communications defaults. The response of the company is awaited.

- (c) Eight companies had submitted bids for this circle.

Global Environment Facility

2957. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a three day meeting of the Global Environment Facility was held in New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the main observations and suggestions made in the meeting and the decisions taken and conventions, if any, adopted at the GEF meet;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in the light thereof;
- (d) whether funds have been made available to the NGOs under Global Environment Facility to undertake some projects during the last three years;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the progress made in implementation of these projects;
- (f) whether the Government have finalised the action plan for 1998-99 corresponding to the overall strategy for the country; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A copy of the New Delhi Statement of the First GEF Assembly adopted on 3rd April, 1998 is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

- (c) The New Delhi Statement adopted in the GEF Meeting does not warrant any specific steps to be taken by the Government. However, to take maximum advantage of this funding facility, efforts are on to develop more projects.
- (d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The details of the GEF projects being undertaken by the NGOs alongwith the progress made in implementation of these projects and the funds released to the NGOs during the last three years are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(f) and (g) No, Sir. GEF addresses management of global problems in the focal areas of Climate Change, Biodiversity and International waters and Ozone layer. Based on the

national priorities set out in the Environment Action Programme of this Ministry, published in 1993, project proposals are invited from the Ministries, Departments, State Governments, NGOs, Industry Associations and the private sector keeping in view the focal areas. Projects found eligible in consultation with the implementing agencies namely, UNEP, UNDP and World Bank are then posed to GEF for approval. Thus the projects for GEF are taken up on case to case basis.

Statement-I

GEF Assembly New Delhi 1998 April 3, 1998

The New Delhi Statement of the first GEF Assembly

The Assembly of the Global Environment Facility,

Having met for the first time in New Delhi from April 1-3, 1998,

Expressing its utmost appreciation to the Government and people of India for hosting the Assembly and for their generosity, hospitality and the excellent arrangements made available to all participants,

Taking note of the views expressed by Representatives of GEF Participant states at this Assembly,

Recognising that the GEF is the multilateral funding mechanism dedicated to promoting global environmental protection within a framework of sustainable development by providing new and additional grant and concessional funding.

Recognizing also that its beneficiaries are all people of the globe, and that the need for the GEF is even greater as we enter the new millennium given the state of the global environment and of underdevelopment,

Stressing that the GEF is a unique and successful example of international cooperation that offers lessons for other endeavours.

Affirming the significant role of the GEF in supporting the objectives of agreed global environmental conventions and protocols, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification.

Acknowledging the significant progress that has been made by the GEF, its Implementing Agencies (UNDP, UNEP and the World Bank), and the Secretariat, in the four years since its restructuring in its organisation and management, in establishing its institutional and operational framework, and in supporting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts for global environmental improvements and in implementing the Rio conventions.

Acknowledging further the excellent work of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) in providing strategic advice and in reviewing projects,

Welcoming the Second Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund of \$2.75 billion which will enable the GEF to continue

its successful efforts to promote global environment goals and sustainable development.

Taking note of Council's decisions and drawing, as appropriate, upon analyses and recommendations from the *Study of GEF's Overall Performance, the Study of GEF Project Lessons, the GEF Project Implementation Review, and the CEO's Report on the Policies, Operations and Future Development of the GEF,*

Agrees that for the GEF to meet its deepening potential and fulfill its multiple missions:

1. GEF should remain a facility to the cutting edge, innovative, flexible and responsive to the needs of its recipient countries, as well as a catalyst for other institutions and efforts.
2. GEF activities should be country-driven and efforts should be strengthened to achieve country ownership of GEF projects. To achieve this.
 - (a) GEF activities should be based on *national priorities* designed to support sustainable development and the global environment,
 - (b) GEF should develop and implement a *strategy for greater outreach and communication* which targets GEFs multiple constituencies, with a view to enhancing global awareness of the global environment and the GEF, and should increase consultations with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and *local communities* concerning GEF activities,
 - (c) GEF should develop and implement an action plan to *strengthen country-level coordination* and to promote genuine country ownership of GEF-financed activities, including the active involvement of local and regional experts and community groups in project design and implementation.
3. GEF should increase efforts towards ensuring the sustainability of the global environment benefits generated by GEF-financing and should act as a catalyst to bring about longer-term coordinated efforts with other funders for capacity building and training.
4. GEF should streamline its *project cycle with a view to making project preparation simpler, transparent and more nationally-driven.*
5. GEF should undertake longer-term planning and multi-year support programmes with a view to maximizing global environmental benefits.
6. While recognizing the importance of the principle of incremental costs for the GEF, *its definition should be made more understandable.* GEF should make the process of determining incremental costs *more transparent and its application more pragmatic.*
7. GEF should be a learning entity and should strengthen its monitoring and evaluation functions and increase

efforts to disseminate lessons learned from its experience in implementing its portfolio of projects and to stimulate the transfer to and adoption of new technologies by, recipient countries.

8. In consultation with the Secretariat of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, GEF should seek to better define the linkages between land degradation, particularly desertification and deforestation, and its focal areas and to increase GEF support for land degradation activities as they relate to the GEF focal areas.

9. GEF implementing Agencies should promote measures to achieve global environmental benefits within the context of their regular programmes and consistent with the global environmental conventions while respecting the authority of the governing bodies of the Implementing Agencies.

10. GEF should build strong relationships and networks with the global scientific community, especially with national scientists and scientific institutions in recipient countries.

11. GEF should promote greater coordination and co-financing of its activities by other sources, including bilateral funding organisations, and should expand opportunities for execution of activities by those entities referred to in paragraph 28 of the Instrument, in particular the Regional Development Banks and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

12. GEF should strive to mobilize additional resources from both public and private sources. The GEF, as a platform for technological change, should also explore new opportunities for private sector partnerships as well as private-public joint ventures.

Statement-II

Details of the GEF Projects being undertaken by NGOs and the funds released during the last three years

1. Optimizing Development of Small Hydel Resources in the Hilly Region

The following NGOs have been associated in the above project :

- Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI) for their involvement in survey and assessment and water mills. Contract value : US \$ 45,558.
- The Himalayan Ecology and Treatment of Natural Agriculture Samiti for their involvement in load development and people's motivation. Contract Value: US \$ 3,226. Fund so far released Rs. 80,990/-.
- Ladakh Ecological Development Group, Leh for their involvement in load development and people's motivation. Contract value: US \$ 3,191. Fund so far released Rs. 45,953.
- Society for Rural Industrialisation, Ranchi for their involvement in load development and people's motivation. Contract value : US \$ 3,305. Fund so far released Rs. 47,600/-

Status of Implementation

The project envisages setting up 20 demonstration projects, upgrade 100 watermills (50 in the Northern and 50 in the North-eastern States), develop a national strategy and master plan, zonal plans and to develop institutional and human resource capabilities from local to national levels to execute/ implement small hydro projects and for sustainable development of the mini-micro hydel sector in hilly regions.

Progress

(i) After carrying out the preliminary activities, all 20 sites have been finalised for the demonstration projects. In the Northern States, 20 watermills have already been upgraded/ installed and the remaining 30 will be upgraded by end 1998.

(ii) While the zonal plans are ready, the National Master Plan would be finalised once all the 20 demonstration sites are commissioned as well as 100 watermills are installed.

(iii) Since the preliminary activities took more time than envisaged, the initial 42 month duration of the project is being extended to 60 months *i.e.* through December, 1999.

2. Development of High Rate Biomethanation Processes as a Means of Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Details of NGOs Involvement :

The NGO involvement in this project so far has been mainly in the preparation of a national master plan. Tata Energy Research institute has been contracted for a fee of US \$ 1,471 to prepare a National Master Plan for Bio-energy Generation. In addition to their participation in the project-related workshops, once all the 16 sub-projects to convert waste in vegetable market, leather industry, municipal waste, cattle manure, and paper and pulp industry are commissioned, a number of NGOs are likely to be involved in the dissemination of the information in order to replicate the efforts in other parts of the country.

Status of Implementation

- (i) As against the envisaged 16 sub-projects, four have been completed. The implementation of the remaining sub-projects is at various stages viz. Contracts for executing some of them are being awarded, while in other cases, evaluation is under way, and DPRs are preparation. MOUs are also under finalisation.
- (ii) Evaluation of global bids for pre-qualification of consultants to prepare National Master Plan (NMP), has been completed. Consultants are likely to be engaged by July 1998.
- (iii) Under the Capacity Building component, 59 officials have so far been trained/availed fellowship/study-tour under the project.
- (iv) Information Dissemination is being achieved through organisation of and workshops and seminars, and by publishing a quarterly newsletter on bioenergy processes development in the country.

Funds released to NGOs

Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi for consultancy assignment on status of Biomethnation Technologies in India.

Amount released Rs.50,000/-

Technology informatics Design Endeavour (TIDE), Bangalore for :

- (i) Publication of Bio-Energy News Letter on quarterly basis. So far 5 issues have been published. Amount released Rs. 12,10,000/-
- (ii) Preparation of "Waste to Energy" directory Amount released Rs. 1,75,000/-
- (iii) Meet on "NGOs participation in conversion of "Waste Energy" organised on 15th November, 1996 at Bangalore. Amount released Rs. 85,55/-

Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi for workshop on "Waste to Energy as an Industry in India" organised on 25th February, 98. Amount released Rs. 1,00,000/-.

Nodal Research Centre, Calcutta for national workshop on "Waste to Energy" organised in December 1995. Amount released Rs. 8550/-

3. India's First National Report to Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

A sub-contract has been awarded to M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation for a fee of US \$ 10,000 to assist the Ministry of Environment and Forests in preparing the National Report to the CBD. An amount equivalent to US \$ 3750 (approximately Rs. 1,42,500) has been released to M S Swaminathan Research Foundation.

The interim National Report has already been prepared and submitted to the CBD.

4. Regional Project: Asia Least-Cost Greenhouse Gas Abatement Strategy (ALGAS)

Under this regional project, a sub-contract was awarded

to TERI for an amount of US \$ 326,000 to identify GHG mitigation options and to develop the GHG least-cost abatement strategy.

The project report has been finalised.

5. Strengthening the Management of the Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve

PDF B project: US \$ 194,000/- M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, an NGO based in Chennai is implementing this preparatory phase project.

Status of implementation:

The Ministry of Environment and Forests has established a National Steering Committee (NSC) to oversee the implementation of the project. The NSC comprising of members drawn from various line ministries and departments, participating institutions, and co-operating partners, have met twice to approve the budget as well as the work plan, recruitment of consultants and review field activities. The Project team has been constituted, and the field activities under this project such as gathering of information on threats, consultations with the stake holders and local communities, and visits of international and national consultants have been completed. PDF phase expected to be completed by September 1998.

6. UNDP/GEF-Small Grant Programme

Under the Small Grant Programme-Phase-I, 24 projects were approved with funding commitment of US \$ 300,000. These projects in terms of thematic and focal areas were - 20 in Biodiversity and 4 in Climate Change focal areas covering 12 States in India. Development Alternatives, a national level NGO based in New Delhi acts as the National Host Institution to various other NGOs implementing projects in the field. Details of projects are enclosed.

The Small Grant Programme Phase II has been launched in 1998 with an outlay US \$ 500,000 from GEF and \$ 700,000 from CCF I resources.

S.No.	Name of Organisation	Project Name/Title	Project Cost
1	2	3	4
1.	Women for Sustainable Development, C/o. ADATS Campus Bagepalli-561207. Dt. Kolar, Kamataka.	"Land improvement and Production of indigo"	4,06,260.00
2.	Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology & Natural History (SACON) Kalampalayam P.O. Coimbatore-641010. Tamil Nadu	People's Participatory approach for conservation of wildlife corridors- Sujakluttai-Bannari corridor in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, Southern India.	4,25,270.00

1	2	3	4
3.	Environmental Resources Research Centre C.P. ix/434, Pumallioorkonam, Peroorkada, Thiruvananthapuram - 695005. Kerala. (Dr. P.K.K. Nair, Director)	Technology Upgradation of wood and environmental awareness education for biodiversity protection of coconut from root to wilt disease.	4,05,490.00
	The project emphasizes the operating of disease coconut trees (root wilt disease) and laying a foundation for a coconut wood industry in the State. The project also envisages setting up of a vocational training school and would require additional funding support to consolidate the gains of the current project.		
4.	Karunya Trust-Centre for Social Action, 5/49, Ambathurai Colony Ambathurai R.S. Post-624309 Dindigul (MT) Dt. Tamil Nadu.	Awareness compaigns, preserving biodiversity of Lower Palani Hills, strengthening the capacities of local community.	3,79,000.00
	As its name suggests, the project created an awareness of the need to protect the bio-diversity of the area.		
5.	Centre for Research on New International Economic Order 1, First Street, Haddows Road Madras-600006 Tamil Nadu.	Artificial reefs to sustain fishing and regenerate coastal biodiversity in India.	3,66,850.00
6.	Project Swarajya, Moti Bhawan, Kesharpur Road, Buxi Bazar, Cuttack-753001 Orissa.	Protection of Olive Ridley Sea Turtles by use of Turtle excluder device (TED) off Orissa sea coast.	4,19,395.00
	The Ridley Turtles are being threatened due to large scale production of turtle eggpits and fishing. The projects aims to protect the turtles by use of the Turtles Excluders Device (TED).		
	In order to generate local opinion awareness programmes for the protection of turtles were carried out, surveys of trutle egg pits, interviews of officials of the forest deptt. were also carried out and public meetings were held.		
	Impact has been sensitizing the country and turtle lovers in particular about the need to protect the turtles. Due to the project a feeling has been created in favour of legislation for TED for the entire country.		
	Tasks are still to be completed which include a powerful national networking to be organized for sea turtles and the building up of a complete scientific data base of geomorphological profile of major coasts, floral and faunal resources and the adverse factors responsible for their depletion to be developed to guide the coastal ecologist in his effort for conservation.		
7.	Bosco Reach Out Don Bosco Guwahati-781001. Assam.	Restoration of Biodiversity-Umden Area.	4,66,600.00

This project was developed based on the problems caused zhum cultivation and the need to educate people against the ecological and environmental protections which would destroy jungles. The project aimed at reaching out to 20 schools in the area to raise nurseries of useful trees, plant medicinal herbal gardens and train the people to look after the nurseries. The awareness compaigns consisted of village level meeting to educate the tribals of the degradation caused by zhum cultivation.

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8.	NB Institute for Rural Technology 52, Sakuntala Road, Agartala - 799001 Tripura.	Renewable energy based micro- level Entrepreneurship programme.	4,02,000.00
	The project envisages technical evaluation of solar home lighting system installed under the UNDP/GEF programme. It includes creating an awareness about the importance of renewable energy and its relation with the environment, training of young entrepreneurs from the local villages on installation and maintenance of home lighting systems.		
	The project has potential for duplication in other parts of the country.		
9.	National Youth Service Action & Social Development Research Institute, P.O. Santhapur - 749016 via gondia Dt. Dhenkanal Orissa.	Conservation of rare species in indigenous medicinal plants through community participation for better health and environment.	4,19,450.00
	In order to conserve the rare species of medicinal plants nurseries were established, plants raised and volunteer recruited to take care of the nurseries and also to preserve the village forests.		
10.	Society for Energy Environment & Development, Plot 30, Road 5 Jubilee Hills Society Hyderabad - 500033 Andhra Pradesh.	Solar drying of forest produce in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh.	4,05,950.00
	The project covers solar drying of Karaya forest produce. The prototypes which were fabricated were meant to be used during the non sunny days to dry the gum. This would facilitate collections by the tribals even during the rainy season.		
11.	Rural and Environmental/Development Centre, 280, Valluvar Nagar, Oddappatty Collectorate Post - 636705. Dharmapuri - 636705 Tamil Nadu.	Participatory and women biodiversity conservation programme.	3,54,500.00
	This project envisages setting up of a nursery scheme to distribute herbal medicinal plants to the local populace.		
12.	Vivekananda Adivasi Kalayan Samithi Vill. & P.O. Chamtagara-722137 Dt. Bankura West Bengal.	Involving the People in Raising their own Forests	4,40,360.00
	The programme covered the raising of nurseries and educating the villagers and the students on the need to protect the bio-diversity of the area.		
13.	Irula Tribal Women's Welfare society, P.B. No. 23	Conservation of traditional knowledge of medicinal plants by Irulas.	4,72,490.00

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	Thandara-603001 Dt. Chinglepet Tamil Nadu.		
	The project set up nurseries distributed seedlings and created a general awareness amongst the local population about sharing of knowledge on medicinal plants.		
14.	Peermade Development Society P.B. No. 11, Peermade – 685531 Dt. Idukki, Kerala.	Promotion of sustainable Lemon grass cultivation for oil extraction for the development of marginalized farmers.	4,00,000.00
	The project covered procurement of seeds, establishment of nurseries, distribution of seedlings to identified farmers. Once the lemon grass was harvested the same was pressed for oil. The project aimed at creating an awareness among farmers with regard to the monitoring benefits accruing from the cultivation of lemon grass.		
15.	District Development Society, Ajmer M-7, Ana Sagar Link Rd., Ajmer - 305001 Rajasthan.	Distribution behaviour & conservation of the endangered Gangetic dolphin & awareness programme for its protection.	1,00,000.00
	The main objectives of the project are to study the dolphin profile area and habitat utilisation with an assessment and evaluation of the present status of the threatened habitat. The project also aims to create public awareness on the need to protect the Ganges dolphin as an endangered species. The project has involved plantation as also development of a water harvesting structure. These agriculture development measures would ensure retention of moisture thereby protecting the habitat.		
16.	Waste Wise, Mythri Sarva Sewa Samithi, 373, Hundred Feet Road, HAL II Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore - 560008 Karnataka.	To design a local information network for implementation of decentralized solid waste management at a municipal ward level of Bangalore city.	4,10,000.00
	The aim of the project is to prepare a geographic information system of a ward so that it can be used for planning and management of solid waste. The system would contain both maps and data of roads, relevant road elements. The system would be useful as it can be used for solid waste management in other towns.		
17.	Gram Niyojan Kendra Adhyatmik Nagar, Dasna, Ghaziabad - 201302 Uttar Pradesh.	Popularization and construction of of improved fuel efficient crematoria.	4,19,000.00
	The project seeks to popularize the construction of improved full efficient crematoriums in 10 areas of UP, Bihar and Rajasthan. The project proponents held opinion building camps, training programmes for construction of the new improved crematoriums. This project has faced cost escalations due to an increase in the cost of cement, transportation of cast iron bars, political considerations in UP, loss of interest by the local religious trust group in Bharatpur.		

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18.	DIPS Communication Centre 142, Saheed Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007. Orissa.	Promotion of participatory approaches for forest Management.	3,90,000.00
	The project involved training programmes with local village communities encouraging them to participate in joint forest management.		
19.	Deccan Development Society A-6, Meera Apts., Basheerbagh, Hyderabad-500029 Andhra Pradesh.	National environment awareness compaign in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka and year-round networking with grassroot NGOs.	3,99,000.00
	The project involves networking with grass root NGOs of Karnataka for developing environmental awareness programme. The awareness camps focussed on the area like biodiversity, joint forest management and non-conventional energy source. The compaigns have created awareness reviving the traditional knowledge of medicinal plants, their usages and undocumenting information on the medicinal plants. Village Committees have been formed thereby ensuring community participation.		
20.	Centre for Environment Education Southern Regional Cell Kamala Mansion 143, Infantry Road, Bangalore-560001 Karnataka.	Sustainable biodiversity conservation in indigenous systems	3,98,900.00
	The objectives of this project were to identify suitable settlements and villages for the study to find out the socio-economic pattern of the society and to study the habitat, diversity and the bio-diversity of the area. The knowledge gained would be documented. The knowledge gained would help in educating the people about practices to be adopted for a more sustainable development of the area.		
21.	Bharati Vidyapeeth Institute of Environment, Education & Research, College of Architecture Building Bharati Vidyapeeth Educational Complex Katraj, Dhankawadi, Pune-411043 Maharashtra.	Nurseries for indigenous plant species of the Western Ghats through local initiatives in schools.	3,90,500.00
	This project is concerned with involving school children in plantation activities and the role of teachers in initiating love for nature in students. It is meant to enhance an appreciation of biological diversity of plant communities of the western ghats which are the hot spots of biological diversity. Nursery beds were prepared by the teachers in their respective schools. The project also ensures community participation and has created an awareness of plant diversity in the western ghats and inculcated a sense of pride in the students of the nurseries set up by them focussing on the conservation of the rare trees climbers and herbs.		
22.	Gangotri Conservation Project "Legend Inn" E-4, East of Kailash, New Delhi - 110065	Conservation of indigenous Species, reduction in global warming and propagation of Bhojpatra.	4,58,243.00
	Development of nurseries for carrying out plantation of Bhojpatra for propagation.		

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23.	Krishi Awam Parishthitiki Vikas Sansthan, Bakhtpura P.O. 301001 Slliserh Lake Dt. Alwar Rajasthan.	Re-establishment of sustainable system of natural community participation in Bhaktpura village of North Aravalli Hills bioregion in Alwar district, Rajasthan.	3,92,550.00
24.	BAIF Development Research Foundation, BAIF Bhawan, Dr. Manibhai Desai Road, Warje, Pune - 411 016. Maharashtra.	Promotion of agroforestry among small farmers by establishing agroforestry units.	3,95,000.00

The project was meant to rehabilitate area which had been degraded due to over grazing and soil erosion. Protection and conservation work was taken up which included construction of water harvesting structure, field building, gali pleging and charagah development. The project also established a natural resources management committee in the Gram Panchayat thereby ensuring community participation.

The project involved setting up of units for agro-forestry so that the selected beneficiaries would realize the importance of agro-forestry and serve as demonstration for other farmers.

[*Translation*]

Education for Economically Weaker Section

2958. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the children belonging to the backward areas of Rajasthan are far behind the children of other parts of the country in the field of education due to their poor economic condition; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) According to the 1991 Census, the literacy rate of State of Rajasthan was 38.55% against the national literacy rate of 52.21%. The Government has taken several initiatives to upgrade the standard of education in the State of Rajasthan. Some of the important centrally sponsored schemes launched by the Department of Education viz. Operation Blackboard, Non-Formal Education, Teacher Education, Total Literacy Campaign, Post Literacy Campaign, Vocationalisation of Secondary Education and Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities also cover the State of Rajasthan. Lok Jumbish and Shiksha Karmi Projects which are Community based non-formal education projects have a specific focus on the State of Rajasthan. An amount of Rs. 343 crores has been released to the State of Rajasthan under the various centrally sponsored schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan period and an amount of Rs. 58 crores was released under these schemes during the period 1997-98.

Irregularities in Telephone Connections

2959. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding irregularities in providing telephones connections in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last two years, about 550 such complaints of delay in provision of telephones/demand of bribe therefor were received. After preliminary investigations, regular Departmental disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against 42 GOs and 55 NGOs. Warnings have been issued to 23 officials. Three Officers have been placed under suspension.

(c) Besides CBI Units set up in 4 metro districts, special squads have been set up in each SSA to look into all such complaints. Surprise checks are also undertaken by vigilance teams of telecom circles to unearth and check such cases/complaints.

Complaint Against Telephone Disconnection

2960. SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone of the subscribers are dis-

connected by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd., in Delhi on assigning any reason even after the payment of the bill and this practice continues for the months;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any effective steps to check this evil practice; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) to (c) No Sir, normally telephones are disconnected due to non payment of dues. However, a telephone may also be disconnected despite payment of dues, due to late receipt of information about payment or due to non payment or dues on account of other services/telephones provided to the subscriber, etc.

[English]

Forest Land for Non-Forest Purposes

2961. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total area of forest land diverted for non forest purposes during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government has drawn any action plan to develop alternate forest in lieu of this; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) During the last three years 86,810 hectare of forest land has been diverted for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) While approving a proposal for diversion of forest land, the Ministry stipulates the condition of compensatory afforestation on non-forest area or on degraded forest land at the cost of the project proponent in order to compensate loss of forest land due to diversion.

(c) After enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, so far compensatory afforestation has been stipulated over 5,35,227 hectare, out of which it has been done over 3,10,079 hectare.

Cogentrix Power Project

2962. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the proposed 1000 MW Cogentrix Power Project near Mangalore;

(b) whether this project has received counter guarantee from the Union Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) to (c) The 1000 MW Mangalore power project promoted by M/s Cogentrix has obtained most of the

required inputs/clearances including the techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority. The project has not yet received the counter guarantee from the Government of India. Further steps for the issuance of the counter guarantee will be taken up after the verdict of the Supreme Court, on an appeal filed by the Government of Karnataka, against the Judgement of High Court of Karnataka, on the Public Interest Writ Petition No. 10696/97 is available.

Jaisalmer Fort

2963. Col. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) have made any action plan to save Jaisalmer Fort which is 850 years old;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether unauthorised construction is coming up in the Jaisalmer Fort;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Jaisalmer Fort has been declared as a National Monument; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Archaeological Survey of India has plans to undertake repairs to lower fortification wall on the north and east, restoration of collapsed portion of the lower fortification wall on the north, repairs to bastion, parapet and the damaged portion of upper fortification wall, and repairs to fort wall between Surajpole and Ganeshprole.

(c) and (d) There exists modern habitation within the fort area. Efforts are continuously being made through the local authorities to contain unauthorised modern constructions and additions and alterations to the existing structures being carried out by the people. The Archaeological Survey of India has issued showcause notices to the people violating the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959 thereof. Some of these people have challenged the action of the Archaeological Survey of India in the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan. The matter is, therefore, sub-judice.

(e) The upper and lower fortifications of the Jaisalmer Fort are declared as of national importance.

(f) Question does not arise.

Ganga Action Plan

2964. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the news-item appearing in Telegraph dated May 16, 1998 captioned 'Centre Grounds Ganga Plan in State';

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the full justification for abandoning the scheme of cleaning Ganga halfway;

(c) whether this decision will adversely affect the State of West Bengal alone keeping U.P. and Bihar untouched; and

(d) if so, the reasons for this discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have not abandoned the Ganga Action Plan in West Bengal.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Counter Guarantee for Lignite Based Power Projects

2965. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have recently cleared the counter-guarantee for the lignite-based power project at Neyveli in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also approved standardised guidelines, prerequisites and terms and conditions for the Chairperson and members of all regulatory authorities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have recently approved extension of counter-guarantee in the case of the 250 MW single unit lignite based Neyveli Thermal Power Project of M/s ST-CMS Electric Company In Tamil Nadu, through a revised procedure. It has, inter-alia, been decided that counter-guarantee will be given only for the event of termination and will be limited to the outstanding foreign debt only.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Details are given in the Statement attached.

Statement

Prerequisites and some other important terms and for the conditions Chairperson and Members of the Regulatory Authorities and allied matters-Policy regarding.

The Department of Personnel and Training vide their O.M. No. 3/6/97 Estt. (Pay-II) dated 29th January, 1998 have issued guidelines governing the terms and conditions for the Chairperson and Members of the Regulatory Authorities, which are as under:

(a) Tenure : A uniform period of five years or till the age of 65 years (in the case of Chairperson) or 62 years (in the case of Members) whichever is earlier.

(b) Eligibility for Reemployment: The Chairperson or Members would be ineligible for reemployment under Central

Government or any body/authority substantially financed by the Central Government for a period of 2 years from the date of he ceases to hold office. A Member would however be eligible for appointment as Chairperson of the same authority.

(c) Pay: The Chairperson - not exceeding Rs. 26,000 per month (fixed) and Members - not exceeding Rs. 22,400 -525-24,500.

(d) GPF/CPF, Pension and Gratuity: The Chairperson and Member would be Governed by Contributory Provident Funds (CPF). No option to subscribe under GPF Rules.

(e) DA & CCA: At the rate admissible to officers of equivalent pay in the Government.

(f) LTC, TA and DA: as applicable to Government servants drawing that basic pay.

(g) Visits abroad: In accordance with Government orders as applicable to officers of equal grade in Government of India. In regard to official delegations abroad in which both the Administrative Secretary and Chairperson or Member of the Regulatory Authority are included, the Secretary would lead the delegation. For domestic tours, the Chairperson would keep the Secretary of the Administrative Ministry/ Department informed.

(h) Accommodation: The Chairperson and Members of the Authority located or in one of its satellite towns would be given option of claiming HRA at the rate of 30% of the Basic Pay. Outside Delhi, Members and the Chairperson would be entitled to rented unfurnished accommodation with built up area measuring around 300 Sq. Mts. for members and 350 Sq. Mts. for Chairperson.

(i) Sumptuary Allowance: The Chairperson and Members of the Authority would not be entitled to Sumptuary Allowance which is admissible only to the serving Supreme Court and High Court Judges.

(j) Medical Facilities: Entitlement to Medical treatment and hospital facilities as provided in the CGHS Scheme for retired Government Servants. At places where the CGHS scheme is not in operation, the Chairperson and Members who are not Government servants shall be entitled to the facilities as provided in the CS (Medical Attendance) Rules.

(k) Transport: No Regulatory Authority shall purchase any passenger vehicle. Instead a Chairperson and Member would be eligible for fixed reimbursement between Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 5000 per month. This would include the salary of a Driver who would not be a Government Servant.

(l) Status: No Chairperson or Member would be accorded Ministerial Status and the previous Status of the Appointee shall not be treated as a precedent for determining his status accorded to the Chairperson/Member.

(m) Leave: 30 days of Earned Leave for every year of Service would be entitled to encashment of 50% of Earned Leave to his credit at any time.

(n) Administrative and other residuary matters: Relating

to operations of the Regulatory Authority with respect to which no express provision has been made in these instructions, shall be referred to the Central Government whose decision shall be binding on the Regulatory Authority.

National Media Policy

2966. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN:

SHRI AJIT JOGI:

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to formulate and announce a new national media policy; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be announced and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The Government feels that there is a need to evolve a National Media Policy with a view to integrating the advances in various fields of media in order to bring a cohesiveness of purpose, keeping in view our societal needs and cultural values.

In this connection a Working Paper on National Media Policy had been prepared by a Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee of MPs attached to this Ministry. The paper was under consideration of the Consultative Committee for taking a view in this regard.

As the matter remains under consideration, no definitive indication regarding the time is possible.

Loans from Power Production Development Fund

2967. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIYA:

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether loans from Power Production Development Fund were advanced to major industrial houses in the private sector engaged in power production during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details of the loans outstanding at the end of March, 1998;
- (c) whether the Government have prescribed any time limit for the payment of loan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the amount of loan made available by the Government from the Power Production Development Fund for the research and development work in the field of power production under the private sector during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) There is no fund called the Power Production Development fund.

- (b) to (e) Do not arise.

Grant to I.C.H.R.

2968. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total grant provided to the Indian Council of Historical Research (I.C.H.R.) during the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) the details of the activities of the Council including Research Papers/Study Reports brought out by it during the said period;
- (c) the number of senior Administrative and Research Officers employed by the Council;
- (d) whether some historians have recently been appointed to the Council; and
- (e) if so, their names, qualifications and the reasons for their appointments?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The total grant provided to the Indian Council of Historical Research during the last 5 years is as below:

Year	Rs. in lakhs
1993-94	173.99
1994-95	180.37
1995-96	186.53
1996-97	194.55
1997-98	218.69

(b) The I.C.H.R. sponsors historical research programmes and projects and assists institutions engaged in historical research. It also awards fellowships and provides publication subsidy to scholars to publish their findings. The Council also acts as a nodal point for implementation of Cultural Exchange Programmes in the field of research of History between India and other countries. The Council has brought out 44 publications including journals during the period 1993-94 to 1997-98.

(c) The number of Senior Administrative and Research Officer currently in the Council is 19, which comprise Member-Secretary, Director, Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors.

(d) and (e) Rule 3 of the Rules of ICHR empowers the

Government to nominate *inter alia* 18 historians to the Council. On the expiry of the term of the previous Council, the following historians have been nominated to the Council under the said Rule:-

1. Prof. Amitabh Mukherjee
2. Prof. Dhampal
3. Prof. B.R. Kamble
4. Prof. Chandrasekhar
5. Prof. M.G.S. Narayanan
6. Prof. B.B. Lal
7. Prof. K.S. Lal
8. Prof. B.P. Sinha
9. Prof. A.R. Khan
10. Prof. B.R. Grover
11. Prof. Satish Mittal
12. Prof. (Mrs.) Mani Kamerkar
13. Dr. M.L.K. Murthy
14. Prof. S.S. Hans
15. Prof. Hari Om
16. Prof. H.K. Barapujari
17. Prof. Pritpal Bhatia
18. Prof. D.N. Tripathi

Electronic Telephone Exchange

2969. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of manual and electronic telephone exchanges functioning at present in the country, State-wise and U.T.-wise;

(b) the number of manual telephone exchanges proposed to be converted into electronic telephone exchanges during 1998-99, State-wise and U.T.-wise;

(c) the estimated expenditure involved in conversion of these exchanges; and

(d) the time by which all the telephone exchanges are likely to be electrified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) There is no manual exchange functioning in the Country.

The details of electronic exchanges functioning in the country at present, State-wise and U.T.-wise are given in the Statement attached.

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

(d) All the electro-mechanical telephone exchanges are likely to be electrified by March 2000 subject to availability of equipment, funds and other resources.

Statement

Number of Electronic Telephone Exchanges functioning in the country

	No. of Electronic Exchanges	No. of Manual Exchanges
	1	2
A. States		
1. Andhra Pradesh	2004	Nil
2. Arunachal Pradesh	70	Nil
3. Assam	319	Nil
4. Bihar	851	Nil
5. Gujarat	1692	Nil
6. Haryana	788	Nil
7. Himachal Pradesh	611	Nil
8. J&K	246	Nil
9. Kerala	800	Nil
10. Karnataka	2164	Nil
11. Madhya Pradesh	2725	Nil
12. Maharashtra	2763	Nil
13. Manipur	30	Nil
14. Meghalaya	45	Nil
15. Mizoram	41	Nil
16. Nagaland	35	Nil
17. Orissa	759	Nil
18. Punjab	1001	Nil
19. Rajasthan	1623	Nil
20. Sikkim	25	Nil
21. Tamil Nadu	1487	Nil
22. Tripura	50	Nil
23. Uttar Pradesh	2083	Nil
24. West Bengal	832	Nil

	1	2
25. Goa	69	Nil
26. Delhi	148	Nil
B. Union Territories:		
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	26	—
2. Chandigarh	8	—
3. Dadra & Nagar Haveli Daman & Diu	12	—
4. Lakshadweep	10	—
5. Pondicherry	19	—

Inland Water Transport System

2970. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- whether there is any policy of the Government for development of Inland Water Transport System in the country;
- whether the Government have any plan for developing the inland Water Transport System in Bihar; and
- if so, the details thereof and the amount earmarked for this purpose during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Formulation of the IWT Policy is under consideration.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) National Waterway No. 1 (the Ganga) flows through Bihar and its stretch between Buxer and upstream Farakka for an approx. length of 575 Kms. falls in Bihar. This stretch alongwith other parts of the NW-1 is being developed for shipping and navigation by undertaking works such as deepening of shallow portions of navigational channel by bandalling and dredging, erection and maintenance of channel marking, setting up and maintenance of floating terminals at Karagola, Munghyr, Bhagalpur and Patna etc. A scheme for construction of permanent RCC terminal at Patna is under implementation.

During current financial year, an amount of Rs. 15.85 crores is earmarked for development of NW-1, out of which approx. Rs. 9.00 crores is for the development works in Bihar.

Voting Rights to Family Members of Soldiers

2971. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- whether the Chief of the Army Staff has urged the Government to allow proxy voting to the family members of soldiers during the elections;

(b) if so, whether Armed Forces Personnel areas not able to exercise their votes during the elections both of Parliament and Assembly;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to amend the law and allow the Armed Forces with their families to exercise the vote through postal ballot; and

(d) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 4,32,518 persons registered as service voters, 3,23,985 exercised their franchise through postal ballot at the General Elections to the House of the People held in 1998. Armed Forces personnel are included under the category of 'service voters' but no separate figures regarding number of Armed Forces personnel who exercised their right of franchise in an election is maintained.

(c) Under the existing law, the members of Armed Forces are permitted to exercise their right of franchise through postal ballot but no decision has yet been taken to replace the present system of postal ballot with system of 'proxy voting' for members of Armed Forces.

(d) It is not possible to indicate the time by which a decision in the matter is likely to be taken.

Deforestation in Satpura Range

2972. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Satpura Range of forest along the Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh border has been deforested and the life of tribals and adivasis has become miserable;

(b) if so, whether Government has any specific programme for afforestation of Satpura Range;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other steps being taken by the Government to improve the conditions of Tribals and Adivasis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

National Highways

2973. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for keeping up the National Highways in traffic worthy condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): Although traffic on National Highways is increasing constantly, yet the National Highways are kept in traffic worthy condition within available resources. The Government is also encouraging

the development of National Highways on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis with private sector funds.

Brain-Drain

2974. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of brain-drain during the last five years, year-wise, discipline-wise, country-wise;
- (b) whether the Government have tried to find out the reasons, other than economic reason, for the brain drain;
- (c) the steps being taken to prevent the same; and
- (d) the cost involved to train a specialist and the extent of losses the country is incurring annually on this count?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) Some Indian Scientists, Engineers and Doctors do go to other countries for jobs and higher studies. However, no specific record about the numbers is maintained in this regard. In the present situation of global inter-dependence, inter-action of institutions in one country with institutions and academies in another country is inevitable. Several steps have been taken from time to time by the Government to minimise the outflow as also to attract Scientists and Technologists settled abroad to return to India. Some of these are:

- Creation of new Scientific Departments Organisations;
- Setting up of more centres of excellence/advanced studies in Universities and academic institutions;
- Creation of core groups of professionals with necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science;
- S&T based training from Entrepreneurship Development Board (Department of Science and Technology);
- Manpower development training/retraining programmes through associateships/fellowships/courses;
- Provisions for temporary placement of Scientists' and Technocrats under the scheme of scientists' pool;
- Invitation to distinguished men and women of Indian origin settled abroad for short term technical assignments to assist in frontier and emerging areas of S&T.

The range of specialists trained being very wide, the cost of training varies from institute to institute and also from one discipline to the other. There is no specific study available for all the institutes or disciplines. However as per the analysis made in 1989-90 in respects of IITs the cost per student per year is approximately Rs. 52,000/- for B.Tech. Rs. 77,000/- for post-graduate and Rs. 98,000/- for PhD.

[*Translation*]

Appointment of Correspondent of AIR/Doordarshan

2975. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to appoint atleast one correspondent of AIR and Doordarshan in each district of the country; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken and progress achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir. AIR and Doordarshan are now part of an autonomous Corporation called Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India).

- (b) Does not arise.

Tehri Dam

2976. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state;

- (a) the expenditure incurred so far on the construction of Tehri Dam upto April, 1998;
- (b) the total amount of expenditure estimated at the time of starting the project;
- (c) the total amount likely to be spent now;
- (d) the time schedule to complete the work;
- (e) whether it is a fact that it is not possible to complete this project in schedule time; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMRA-MANGALAM): (a) to (f) The Tehri Dam and Hydroelectric Project Stage-I (1000 MW) was accorded approval by the Government in March, 1994 for implementation by Tehri Hydro Development Corporation at an estimated cost of Rs. 2963.66 crores (March 1993 price level) excluding associated transmission system. Upto the end of April 1998, an expenditure of Rs. 1664.79 crores (Prov.) has been incurred on the project.

The revised cost estimates of the project at December, 1997 price level are about Rs. 4657 crores. The construction activities at the project site are proceeding satisfactorily and the project is scheduled for commissioning by March, 2002.

*[English]***Recognition of Political Parties**

2977. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

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

(a) the names of political parties recognised by the Election Commission as National level parties;

(b) whether these parties also include those parties which have not secured even the minimum stipulated percentage of votes out of the total required for granting such recognition during the last two Lok Sabha general election;

(c) if so, the names of such political parties; and

(d) the reasons for not derecognising such parties?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) Bahujan Samaj Party, Bhartiya Janata Party, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxist), Indian National Congress, Janata Dal and Samata Party are the seven parties recognised as national political parties by the Election Commission of India.

(b) to (d) The recognition of political parties is governed by the provisions of paras 6 and 7 of the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968 as amended by the Commission's Notification No. 56/97/J.S. III, dated 15.12.1997. All the aforesaid seven parties were recognised on the basis of their performance in the 1996 general elections to the Lok Sabha after those parties were found to have fulfilled the conditions for such recognition. The review of poll performance of various parties in the 1998 general elections is being carried out by the Election Commission and the list of recognised national parties may undergo a change as a result of such review.

*[Translation]***Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra**

2978. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning at present in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) the number of telephone exchanges functioning under Mahanagar Telephone Nlgam Ltd., and Maharashtra Telecom Circle;

(c) the number of district not yet having independent telephone exchanges in the State alongwith reasons therefor;

(d) the time by which these exchanges are likely to be set up;

(e) whether Government propose to set up a district circle office in each district; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) The number of telephone exchanges functioning as on 31.5.98 are:

(i) Country	23641
(ii) Maharashtra State: (including Mumbai)	2896

(b) The number of telephone exchanges functioning under MTNL and Maharashtra telecom circle are as under:

MTNL Delhi	157
MTNL Mumbai	132
Total	289
Maharashtra telecom. circle (including Goa)	2832

(c) Nil, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise in view of (e) above.

*[English]***Establishment of Kendriya Vidyalayas**

2979. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA':

SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI:

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:

SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH:

SHRI INDRAJEET MISHRA:

SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI:

SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH:

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:

SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR:

DR. SANJAY SINGH:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of opening Kendriya Vidyalayas

lying pending with the Union Government for approval, State-wise, Location-wise; and

(b) the time by which approval is likely to be granted to them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The details of the proposals received in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan from sponsoring agencies for opening of Vidyalayas are given in the Statement attached.

(b) Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened keeping in view the availability of physical facilities fulfilment of the approved terms and conditions by the sponsoring agencies and availability of funds. Due to financial constraint new Kendriya Vidyalayas are not being opened at present.

Statement

State-wise list of proposals pending for opening of New Kendriya Vidyalayas

01.	Assam	2
	1. Dibrugarh	
	2. Sibsagar	
02.	Andhra Pradesh	1
	3. CISF Hakimpet	
03.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil
04.	Bihar	3
	4. BRC Danapur	
	5. Forbasganj, Araria	
	6. Sahebganj	
05.	Gujarat	Nil
06.	Goa	Nil
07.	Haryana	1
	7. Kosli	
08.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil
09.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
	8. Samba	
	9. Garhi, Vidhanpur	
10.	Kerala	2
	10. Kanhangad	
	11. Waddakkamcherry	
11.	Karnataka	2
	12. Gadag	
	13. Uttar Kannada	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil

13.	Maharashtra	1
	14. Bhatkoper	
14.	Manipur	Nil
15.	Meghalaya	Nil
16.	Mizoram	Nil
17.	Orissa	1
	15. Kutra	
18.	Nagaland	Nil
19.	Punjab	1
	16. Bhikiwind	
20.	Rajasthan	Nil
21.	Sikkim	Nil
22.	Tamil Nadu	Nil
23.	Tripura	2
	17. Ambassa	
	18. Salbagam	
24.	U.P.	3
	19. Roorkee	
	20. ITBP Gaucher	
	21. Muzzafamagar	
25.	West Bengal	3
	22. Bolpur	
	23. Durgapur	
	24. Nadia	
26.	Union Territory	1
	25. Vasant Kunj (Delhi)	
Total		25

[Translation]

ICDS

2980. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA':

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have expanded the Integrated Children Development Schemes (ICDS) in various States;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the Anganbadi centres set up under ICDS in those States;
- (c) whether there is any special provision for the Anganbadi schools/projects being run in the hilly areas;
- (e) if so, details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken for the effective implementation of ICDS in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has operationalised 4,200 projects under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme in the Community Development Blocks and Major Urban Slums in States and Union Territories.

(b) and (c) The State-wise details of ICDS Projects and Anganwadi Centres are attached.

(d) and (e) Anganwadi Centres in Tribal and Rural areas are sanctioned on the basis of population of 700 to 1000. However, in hilly and desert areas Anganwadi Centres are sanctioned in small villages and hamlets having a population of even 300 only.

(f) Effective monitoring system of the implementation is in-built under the ICDS Scheme. At the Central level the Monitoring Cell of ICDS regularly monitors the implementation of ICDS scheme through Monthly Progress Reports and Quarterly Progress Reports received from the Projects. The District Cell and the Head Quarter Cell in the States/Union Territories regularly monitor the implementation of the ICDS Scheme. Apart from this, regular visits are made by the officers of Central and State Governments to monitor the implementation of the Scheme.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State/ UT	No. of Operational ICDS Projects	Number of Anganwadi Centres
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	237	34764
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45	3341
3.	Assam	83	12795
4.	Bihar	323	42975
5.	Goa	11	1334
6.	Gujarat	227	38897
7.	Haryana	114	13977
8.	Himachal Pradesh	72	8935
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	113	12116

	1	2	3	4
10.	Karnataka		185	39100
11.	Kerala		120	20123
12.	Madhya Pradesh		335	41879
13.	Maharashtra		274	49571
14.	Manipur		32	4015
15.	Meghalaya		30	2438
16.	Mizoram		21	1487
17.	Nagaland		35	3066
18.	Orissa		279	31364
19.	Punjab		90	11971
20.	Rajasthan		194	29006
21.	Sikkim		5	620
22.	Tamil Nadu		432	55263
23.	Tripura		23	3429
24.	Uttar Pradesh		580	76236
25.	West Bengal		294	47861
26.	A&N Islands		5	429
27.	Chandigarh		3	341
28.	Delhi		29	4099
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli		1	152
30.	Daman & Diu		2	95
31.	Lakshadweep		1	73
32.	Pondichery		5	819
	Total		4200	592571

Private Educational Institutes

2981. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed private individuals/institutes to open job-oriented higher educational institutes (Technical/Non-Technical) in various States of the country;

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

(c) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh has accorded permission to the private individuals to open engineering and medical colleges at certain places during the years 1996-97 and 1997-98; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) In accordance with the Schemes, Rules and Regulations under the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Act, and Indian Medical Council (IMC) Act, private individuals are not permitted to open engineering or medical college in the country. However, proposals from Trusts, Societies, Universities, State Govts. etc. are considered.

[English]

Amount Spent in Goa National Highway

2982. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated/spent on Goa National Highway during the years 1996-98, year-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the amount; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The total allocation for National Highways in Goa is as follows:

Year	NH(O)	Maintenance
1996-97	700.00	325.36
1997-98	900.00	450.39

(Rupees lakhs)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Fund for R and D

2983. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a fund to strengthen Research and Development in the Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said fund is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In addition to the normal grants released for research and development by the University Grants Commission and several other agencies, Government has proposed to start a new 'Scheme of Upgradation of Libraries and Laboratories in the selected Colleges and Universities' for further strengthening the Research and Development in the Universities. An amount of Rs. 10.00 crores has been allocated for the scheme during 1998-99.

[English]

Condition of Animals in Zoo

2984. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

SHRI KAMAL NATH:

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any study on the conditions of animals in different zoos of the country;

(b) the steps taken by the Government for improving the living conditions of the animals in zoos;

(c) the details of allocation of funds made available to the zoos for the purpose during the last three years and their utilisation;

(d) whether a large number of animals and birds of rare species died during the last three years in various zoological parks;

(e) if so, the details thereof, zoo-wise; and

(f) the action taken against the persons responsible for such negligence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI): (a) The Central Zoo authority, an autonomous organisation, constituted by the Central Government under the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has taken up evaluation of living conditions of animals of various zoos in the country through knowledgeable persons in zoo management.

(b) the steps taken for improving the living conditions of the animals in zoos are as follows:-

(i) Zoos have been asked to improve animal housing, upkeep and health care of animals within a prescribed time frame.

(ii) The Central Government has prescribed mandatory standards and norms for housing, upkeep and health care of the animals.

(iii) Technical and Financial Assistance is provided to zoos in implementing the recommendation of the Authority. The works are to be done on 50:50 sharing basis between the Central Zoo authority and the Zoos.

(iv) Zoos which do not have potential to come up to the prescribed standards are asked to close down.

(c) The details of allocation of funds made available to the zoos for the purpose during the last three years and their utilisation are given below:

Year	Funds Released	Funds Utilised
1995-96	248.96 lakhs	123.88 lakhs
1996-97	220.08 lakhs	85.15 lakhs
1997-98	321.50 lakhs	

(d) and (e) The details of the animals and birds of rare species died during the last three years in various zoological parks are given in the statement attached.

(f) Question does not arise since, no case, where the animals have died due to negligence of zoo officials, have been reported to the Central Zoo Authority.

Statement

Details of the rare species of animals and birds died during the last three years in various zoological parks

FELINES

A. Clouded Leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*)

1. Assam State Zoo, Guwahati 2 (1:1)

B. Leopard Cat (*Felis bengalensis*)

1. Assam State Zoo, Guwahati 9 (5:4)

2. Itanagar Zoological Park, Itanagar 2 (1:1)

3. Nandankanan Biological Park, 2 (2:0)

Bhubaneswar

C. Asiatic Lion (*Panthera Leo Persica*)

1. Sakkarbaug Zoo, Junagarh 23 (10:13)

2. Veermata Jijabai Udyan Zoo, Mumbai 5 (2:3)

3. Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad 3 (1:2)

D. Bengal Tiger (*Panthera tigris tigris*)

1. National Zoological Park, Delhi 5 (3:2)

2. Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park, Ranchi 3 (1:2)

3. Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Park, 5 (4:1)

Karnataka.

4. Nandankanan Biological Park, 11 (5:5:1)

Karnataka

5. Matri Bagh Zool, Bhillai 6 (5:0:1)

E. Leopard (*Panthera Pardus*)

1. Sakkarbaug Zoo, Junagarh 7 (5:2)

2. Nandankanan Biological Park 7 (2:5)

3. Prince of Wales Zoological Park, 6 (2:4)

Lucknow

4. Maitribagh Zoo, Bhillai 4 (2:2)

5. Jawaharlal Nehru Biological Park, Bokaro 3 (2:1)

6. Van Vihar, Bhopal 3 (0:3)

Primates

A. Slow loris (*Nycticebus coucang*)

1. Assam State Zoo, Guwahati 11 (5:6)

2. Itanagar Zoological Park, Itanagar 3 (0:3)

B. Golden Langur (*Presbytis geei*)

1. Nandankanan Biological Park, 2 (1:1)

Bhubaneswar

2. Seopahijala Zoological Park, Tripura 2 (1:1)

C. Lion tailed Macaque (*Macaca silenus*)

1. National zoological Park, Delhi 2 (1:1)

2. Sayaji Bag Zoo, Baroda 2 (1:1)

D. Nilgiri Langur (*Presbytis Johnii*)

1. Nandankanan Biological Park, 2 (0:2)

Bhubaneswar, Orissa.

UNGULATES

A. Chinkara (*Gazella Gazella bennetti*)

1. Zoological Park, Bikaner, Rajasthan 13 (5:8)

2. M.C. Zoological Park, Chatbir, Punjab 5 (3:2)

3. National Zoological Park, Delhi 8 (0:1:7)

4. Gandhi Zoological Park, Gwalior 8 (2:3:3)

B. Mouse deer (*Tragulus meminna*)

1. Kamla Nehru Zoological Park, Ahmedabad 4 (2:1:1)

2. Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad. 3 (2:1)

C. Four horned antelope (*Tetracerus quadricornis*)

1. Nandankanan Biological Park, Bhubaneswar 4 (2:2)

2. Veermata Jijabai Udyan Zoo, Bombay 4 (3:1)

D. Indian one horned Rhino (*Rhinoceros Unicornis*)

1. Assam State Zoo, Guwahati 2 (2:0)

E. Brow antlered deer - Sangai (*Cervus eldi eldi*)

1. Alipore Zoological Garden, W.B. 11 (8:3)

2. Thiruvananthapuram Zoo, Kerala 3 (1:2)

3. M.C. Zoological Park, Chatbir 3 (1:1:1)

F. Swamp Deer (*Cervus duvauceli dubauceli*)

1. Kanpur Zoological Park, Kanpur 3 (1:2)

2. Prince of Wales Zoological Park, Lucknow	7 (1:3:3)
3. National Zoological Park, Delhi	2 (0:2)
Others	
A. Sloth Bear (<i>Melursus ursinus</i>)	
1. Bannerghatta National Park, Bangalore	4 (3:1)
2. Gandhi Zoological Park, Gwalior	2 (1:1)
3. Nandankanan Biological Park,	2 (2:0)
8. Indian Wolf (<i>Canis lupus pallipes</i>)	
1. Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur Tamil Nadu.	2 (0:2)
2. Kanpur Zoological Park, Kanpur	2 (0:2)
3. Sakkarbag Zoological Garden, Junagarh	3 (2:1)
C. Grizzled Gian Squirrel (<i>Ratufa macroura</i>)	
1. Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Visakhapatnam.	4 (0:2:2)
D. Wild dog (<i>cuon alpinus</i>)	
1. Arignar Anna Zoological Park, T.N.	10 (3:0:7)
BIRDS	
A. Pigeon Nicobar (<i>Calonas nicobarica pelewensis</i>)	
1. Sayaji Baug Zoo, Vadodara, Gujarat	1 (0:0:1)
B. Hornhill, Indian Pied (<i>Anthraceros malabaricus</i>)	
1. Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Visakhapatnam (AP)	1 (0:0:1)
zoological Garden, Allpore, W.B.	1 (0:0:1)
2. Hornbill Great Indian (<i>Buceros bicornis</i>)	
1. Zoological Park, Itanagar, Aru. Pradesh	1(1:0)
2. Aizawl Zoo, Aizawl, Mizoram	1(0:1)
3. Zoological Garden, Alipore, W.B.	1(0:1)
D. Pheasant, Cheer (<i>Catreus Wallichi</i>)	
1. Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur	1(0:0:1)

**Inter Regional Transmission Links
with Power Stations**

2985. SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE:
DR. SAROJA V.:
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. have successfully initiated the World Bank loan worth 450 million to strengthen the inter-regional transmission links and upgrade its data-base system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of States where the power projects are likely to be installed with the World Bank assistance?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A loan of US \$ 450 million from the World Bank was negotiated in April, 1998. Formal approval by the World Bank for the loan has not been accorded. The loan is proposed to be utilised for execution of Northern-Eastern Region HVDC interconnection; construction of Eastern-Southern HVDC interconnection, providing Unified Load Despatch and Communication facilities for Western Region and the Eastern Region and associated transmission system for Hirna Thermal Power Station. This investment will facilitate inter regional transfer of power.

TV Studios

2986. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:

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

(a) the details of TV studios presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the country, state-wise and location-wise;

(b) the time from which these studios are under implementation;

(c) the normal lead time involve in the implementation thereof and the reasons for delay in their implementation; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) A statement showing details of TV studios under implementation state-wise and location-wise, time of commencement and expected date of completion of each project is enclosed. Lead time involved in completion of studio project is 3-4 years after the sanction of the scheme, subject to availability of infrastructure facilities and resources, availability of sites without any encroachments, timely completion of civil works. The main reasons for delay in implementation of certain projects are as under:

- (1) The delay in availability of infrastructural facilities.
- (2) Expenditure having exceeded the amount originally provided, necessitating revision of cost estimates (RCE).
- (3) Difficult working conditions in certain areas due to climatic conditions and law and order problems.

- (4) Delay in availability of sites and approval of building plans by local authorities. (5) Delay on account of problems with civil contractors.

Statement*TV Studios under Implementation*

State	Location of Studio	Date of sanction	Expected date of completion
Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	September '94	1998-99
Bihar	Ranchi (Aug.)	November '94	1998-99
Gujarat	Rajkot (Aug.)	November '90	1998-99
Kerala	Trichur	August '94	1998-99
Maharashtra	Mumbai (Exp.)	March '89	1998-99
	Pune	September '94	1998-99
Orissa	Sambalpur (Pmt.)	October '93	1998-99
	Bhawanipatna	August '94	1998-99
Punjab	Patiala	January '95	1998-99
Sikkim	Gangtok	January '87	1999-2000
U.P.	Allahabad	August '94	1998-99
	Mathura	May '95	1998-99
	Varanasi	August '94	1998-99
West Bengal	Shantiniketan (Pmt)	April '95	1998-99
Delhi	Mandi House (Aug.)	April '87	1999-2000
	Phase-II		
Chandigarh	Chandigarh	March '86	1999-2000

*[Translation]***Hindi Granth Academy**

2987. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the aim of setting up Hindi Granth Academy and its present working system;
- (b) whether several Hindi writers of the Bihar Hindi Granth Academy have neither been paid remuneration for the last so many years nor their revised manuscripts have been published;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) In pursuance of the decision

to promote Indian Languages as the medium of instruction at the University Level, some of the Hindi speaking States have set up Hindi Granth Academies. These are autonomous bodies working under administrative control of the respective State Governments.

(b) No complaint has been received by Central Government in the matter. Government of Bihar has been addressed in this regard.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

*[English]***Satellite Money Order and Hybrid Mail Services**

2988. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Department of posts have introduced satellite Money Order Service, Hybrid Mail Service and Corporate Money Order Service through Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSAT) in the country;

(b) if so, the details of post offices in the North-East where these services have been provided;

(c) whether Government propose to expand these services in other remote areas of the North-East particularly in Assam;

(d) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the North East, the Department has established 8 Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs) at Guwahati, Tezpur, Dibrugarh, Silchar, Shillong, Agartala, Aizawl and Kohima for transmission of money orders, Hybrid Mail and Corporate Money Orders through Satellite network. In addition to this, 14 more Post Offices namely, Tinsukia HO, Jorhat HO, Sibsagar HO, Golaghat HO, Silchar Medical College SO, Nalbari HO, Naogaon HO, Dhubri HO, Bogaigaon SO, Karimganj HO, Hailakandi SO, Haflong SO, Mangaldoi HO and Panchgram PO have been connected to the four VSATs in Assam Circle for transmitting/receiving Satellite Money Orders, Hybrid Mail and Corporate Money Orders. In North-East Circle, 4 Post Offices namely, Imphal HO, Laitmukhra SO (Shillong), Tura HO and Dimapur HO have been connected to the VSAT network.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As a part of further expansion of VSAT network, the Department has supplied equipment at 10 additional post offices under Guwahati VSAT namely, Barpeta HO, Golapara SO, Marigaon SO, Dephu SO, Hojai SO, Lumding SO, Gosaigaon SO, Dudhmoi SO, Baihata SO and Jaklabhanda SO.

(e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

Pollution of Drinking Water

2989. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether industries situated on the banks of the rivers are polluting the drinking water;

(b) whether the water treatment plants installed by the industries are not working properly;

(c) whether many of the High Courts have registered cases against such industries; and

(d) if so, the concrete action the Government propose to take to check the pollution of drinking water by the industries, to ensure proper working of the treatment plants and to order closure of all such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards are monitoring 17-

categories of industries considered to be highly polluting in nature and discharging their effluents into drains and water bodies including rivers for compliance of discharge standards and protection of drinking water resources. As on 15.6.1998 the number of defaulting industries not complying with the discharge standards is 574.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Punitive actions are being taken against the defaulting industries by the respective State Pollution Control Boards under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The Central Pollution Control Board has issued directions under Section 18(l) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, to all the State Pollution Control Boards to ensure that the defaulting industries take necessary action for complying with the prescribed standards within a stipulated time, failing which closure notices may be issued against such industries. The Central Pollution Control Board has also appointed Regional Committees to monitor the implementation of these directions.

New Mumbai in CRZ-II

2990. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire Brihan Mumbai including new Mumbai is covered by category CRZ (Coastal Regulation Zone)-II as per the Coastal Regulation Zone and approved by Coastal zone Management Plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether seaward side of the existing roads like in Juhu etc. are treated as CRZ-II and construction activity is allowed there;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) The Central Government have approved the coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) of Maharashtra on 27.9.96 with certain conditions. As per Condition No. B.20 of the approval letter the State Government of Maharashtra has to constitute a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to examine categorisation of the proposed CRZ-II areas and send a copy of the final categorisation for the record of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The State Government informed this Ministry that they were taking necessary action in this regard.

(c) to (e) As per the guidelines under the CRZ Notification of 1991, CRZ-II has been defined as the areas that have already been developed upto or close to the shore line.

Construction of buildings is permitted only on the landward side of the existing road (s) (or road (s) proposed in the approved CZMP of the area) or on the landward side of the existing authorised structures.

[Translation]

Target for Development of Communication Network

2991. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed in regard to communication network by the end of this century;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any amount has been fixed for the said purpose; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) proposals of the Department of Telecom including MTNL submitted to Planning Commission for approval envisages addition of 230 lakhs of Net switching capacity, 185 lakh new telephone connections, 18 lakhs long distance switching lines, 2,30,000 Rkms of long distance transmission media. Private participation is also envisaged for providing new telephone connections in the plan proposals.

(c) and (d) The anticipated plan outlay for the 9th five year plan proposals submitted to the Planning Commission for approval is Rupees 83250 crores including MTNL.

Delay in Release of Funds

2992. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned for total literacy programme for Rajnandgaon district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the financial assistance to be received in this regard from National Literacy Mission for second phase has not been released till date;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be released and the reasons for the delay in releasing the same, if any;

(d) whether the National Literacy Mission sanctioned rupees 2,27,00,000 for basic education and vocational training for Rajnandgaon district but only 50,00,000 rupees have been made available till date; and

(e) if so, the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be made available and the reasons for delay in releasing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) An amount of Rs. 107.51 lakhs have been sanctioned to Rajnandgaon District for its TLC Programme. Rs. 20.00 lakhs ad-hoc grant was sanctioned and released for Total Literacy Campaign (TLC) Phase-I for 2 blocks. For remaining 10 blocks, TLC Phase-II was sanctioned with a total cost of Rs. 140.54 lakhs, out of which Rs. 87.51 lakhs have been released.

(b) National Literacy Mission has released grants of Rs. 87.51 lakhs out of its share of Rs. 93.69 lakhs for TLC (Phase-II). The balance grant can be released after the receipt of audited accounts of TLC Phase-I & II from the Rajnandgaon district till the year 1997-98 if the Zilla Saksharata Samiti (ZSS) Rajnandgaon, in view of the progress of the campaign, justifiably requires more funds.

(c) Does not arise in view of position explained against part (b).

(d) The basic education and vocational training programmes are part of the Post Literacy Campaign (PLC). The National Literacy Mission and approved the PLC for the District with a total cost of Rs. 226.27 lakhs. Out of this amount, NLM share at the rate of 2/3rd of project cost amount works out to Rs. 150.85 lakhs. An ad-hoc grant of Rs. 50.00 lakhs was released to the district on 26.3.97. Against this the ZSS has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 36.19 lakhs by March, 1998. The State Government had not released its share till March, 1998. For release of the balance grant from National Literacy Mission, the ZSS has been requested to furnish additional information which is awaited.

(e) On receipt of the relevant information from the ZSS, which is necessary to finalise its budget, further release of the National Literacy Mission's share with respect to PLC would be examined and sanctioned expeditiously.

[English]

Telephone Exchanges

2993. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning at present in Orissa;

(b) whether Government propose to set up new telephone exchanges in the particularly in Rajnigiri region during 1998-99;

(c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) 761 telephone exchanges are functioning at present, in Orissa.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details are given in the Statement attached.

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

Statement

List of New Telephone Exchanges planned to be opened in Orissa during 1998-99.

Mayurbhanj District

1. Merda-Aunla—Haripur

2. Bhanjakia

3. Badamtalia

Sundergarh District

1. Rourkela (FCI)

2. Mahulpali

Sambhalpur District

1. Sambhalpur DTO

Puri District

1. Bhogasalada

2. Tadas

Khurda District

1. Keranga

2. Kendupatna

3. Satyanagar

Ganjam District

1. Sindurpur

2. Paiuru

3. Barida

Balasore District

1. Khaprapada

2. Nampo

3. Barikpur

4. Santaragadia	} These three location lie in Rajnigiri region
5. Raj Berhampur	
6. Ayodhya	

Smuggling of Tiger Bones

2994. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA:

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Tiger bones are being

smuggled out" appearing in the Sunday Times (Mumbai Edition) dated June 7, 1998;

(b) if so, the number of persons/poachers booked and prosecuted;

(c) the number of leopards and tigers killed during the last three years; and

(d) the remedial steps contemplated by the Government to save the leopards and tigers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

(c) According to the reports received from the State Governments, the number of tiger and leopard killing incidents, detected during the last three years is as under:

Year	Tiger	Leopard
1995	5	29
1996	6	31
1997	4	27

(d) The steps taken/contemplated by the Government are given in the statement attached.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to protect tiger and leopard

- (i) Hunting of wild animals included in Scheduled-I to IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by Law.
- (ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger, leopard and their habitat are being implemented.
- (iii) A network of 441 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 80 National Parks covering 1,48,000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna.
- (iv) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever information of illegal trading wildlife animals reaches them.
- (v) International Trade In Endangered Species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention on international Trade in Endangered species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The trade in Ivory is totally banned.
- (vi) Regional and sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.
- (vii) Interdepartmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisations like Police, BSF,

Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programmes on wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organisations at New Delhi and Dehradun during, 1995.

- (viii) A "Tiger Crisis Cell" has been set up in the Ministry to suggest improvement in the management of tiger bearing areas of the country.
- (ix) The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling.
- (x) Steps are being initiated to set up "Special Strike Force" in the Project Tiger areas;
- (xi) A Protocol has been signed with the Govt. of peoples' Republic of China to coordinate bilateral issues concerning tiger conservation and to check smuggling and the illegal trade of tiger bones and other parts of its body; and
- (xii) Steps have been initiated by the Government to establish the 'Global Tiger Forum' for strengthening international cooperation to curb poaching of tiger and to coordinate efforts for the conservation of tiger and its habitat through out the tiger range countries.

[Translation]

Revenue Earned Through Toll Tax

2995. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the total amount of revenue earned through toll tax on the bridges of the National Highways in the country during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): A statement is attached.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Fee Collected 1995-96	Fee Collected 1996-97	Fee Collected 1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	726.76	587.36	505.00
2.	Assam	51.03	39.80	61.10
3.	Bihar	26.93	0.00	12.04
4.	Goa	165.91	71.56	0.00
5.	Gujarat	593.40	647.42	1281.58
6.	Haryana	304.61	0.00	0.00
7.	Karnataka	171.03	136.78	209.01

	1	2	3	4	5
8.	Kerala		251.93	282.47	335.70
9.	Madhya Pradesh		563.91	657.06	624.73
10.	Maharashtra		868.50	812.43	571.00
11.	Manipur		2.65	2.19	0.30
12.	Meghalaya		77.08	59.50	60.50
13.	Orissa		187.62	225.20	226.82
14.	Punjab		92.95	178.87	79.23
15.	Rajasthan		455.96	495.83	605.81
16.	Tamil Nadu		124.94	67.92	147.44
17.	Uttar Pradesh		539.65	597.27	721.21
	Total		5204.86	4861.66	5441.47

[English]

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya

2996. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in the country; State-wise;

(b) the number of students studying in these schools till April, 1998 and per capita expenditure incurred on them during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the number of such Vidyalayas proposed to be set up in the next five years, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The number of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas sanctioned and districts yet to be covered State-wise is given in the statement attached. During next five years the Samiti proposes to open on an average, one Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in each of the districts as envisaged in the scheme subject to availability of funds and concerned State Government/Union Territory providing suitable land free of cost and temporary accommodation to run the Vidyalayas till the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti constructs its own buildings.

A total of 1,16,063 students were enrolled in these Vidyalayas till April, 1998. A statement showing the average per capita expenditure excluding cost of construction incurred on students during the last three years is given below:

1995-96	Rs.	11,278.00
1996-97	Rs.	12,237.00
1997-98	Rs.	14,879.00

Statement

State-wise details of JNVs sanctioned and uncovered districts as on April, 1998

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	JNVs Sanctioned	Uncovered Districts
01.	Andhra Pradesh	22	01
02.	Arunachal Pradesh	08	03
03.	Bihar	48	03
04.	Gujarat	12	07
05.	Haryana	14	02
06.	Himachal Pradesh	10	02
07.	Kerala	12	02
08.	Maharashtra	28	05
09.	Sikkim	03	01
10.	Nagaland	04	03
11.	Uttar Pradesh	47	16
12.	Delhi	02	02
13.	Assam	18	05
14.	Andaman & Nicobar	02	
15.	Chandigarh	01	
16.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	01	
17.	Daman & Diu	02	
18.	Goa	02	
19.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	
20.	Karnataka	20	
21.	Lakshadweep	01	
22.	Madhya Pradesh	45	
23.	Manipur	08	
24.	Meghalaya	06	
25.	Mizoram	03	
26.	Orissa	16	
27.	Pondicherry	04	
28.	Punjab	12	
29.	Rajasthan	29	
30.	Tripura	03	
Total		397*	52*

* Targets as per number of districts at the commencement of VII Plan.

New Telephone Exchanges in Kerala

2997. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:

SHRI A.C. JOS:

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open any new telephone exchanges in Kerala during 1998-99;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of telephone exchanges expanded in the State during the last three years;

(d) the progress made so far in the expansion work of the Vagamon Telephone Exchange at the Ernakulam District and Telephone exchanges in Ponnani region of Kerala;

(e) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of any telephone exchange during the current financial year;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYSTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 56 New telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened in Kerala during 1998-99 subject to the availability of funds, equipments and infrastructure. Details are in the statement-I attached.

(c) 1129 telephone exchanges were expanded in the state during the last three years.

(d) Vagamon telephone exchange in Ernakulam SSA was expanded from 56 lines MILT to 88 lines C-DOT RAX on 9/2/98. Details of exchanges expanded in Ponnani region of Kerala during 1997-98 are in the statement-II attached.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Expansion of the existing telephone systems is proposed at several places during the current financial year subject to the availability of funds, equipments and infrastructure. Details are in the statement-III attached.

(g) Does not arise.

Statement-I

New Telephone exchanges proposed to be during the year 1998-99 in Kerala

Sl. No.	Name of the SSA	No. of exchanges	Capacity
1.	Alleppey	1	552
2.	Calicut	20	8994
3.	Cannanore	5	920
4.	Kasargod	4	920
5.	Ernakulam	12	3312
6.	Kottayam	1	2500
7.	Paiakkad	2	368
8.	Pathanamthitta	2	552
9.	Qullon	4	1472
10.	Trichur	2	368
11.	Trivandrum	3	3152
		56	23110

Statement-II

Telephone exchanges expanded in Ponnani region during the year 1997-98 in Kerala

Sl. No.	Name of the exchange	Capacity as on 31-03-97	Exchange done during 97-98
1.	Anagangad	256	64
2.	Chelari	1400	100
3.	Edapal	652	848
4.	Elamkulam	272	48
5.	Kalpakanacherry	1080	60
6.	Mankada	1100	128
7.	Marancherry	444	1056
8.	Malathur	272	1128
9.	Moorkanad (CLT)	88	72
10.	Pulananthole	272	728
11.	Tirurangadi	2528	250
12.	Tanalur	240	760
13.	Tanur	1200	300

Statement-III

Expansion of existing telephone systems proposed during the current financial year in Kerala

S. No.	Name of the SSA	No. of Exchanges	Capacity
1.	Alleppey	19	17444
2.	Calicut	91	134836
3.	Cannanore	60	64036
4.	Ernakulam	67	76524
5.	Kottayam	31	38646
6.	Lakshadweep	2	1176
7.	Palakkad	29	25064
8.	Pathanamthitta	14	13316
9.	Quilon	22	34889
10.	Trichur	30	55730
11.	Trivandrum	29	46940
		394	508601

Augmentation of Staff Strength at**IGNOU Regional Centre**

2998. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether no staff has been posted under different assistant Regional Directors of IGNOU at Delhi regional Centre; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to augment the staff strength at this centre adequately?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University, each Regional Centre of the University is headed by a Regional Director. He/She is assisted by at least three Assistant Regional Directors, one Assistant Registrar/Section Officer and a small number of supporting staff. The services of the supporting staff are shared by the Regional Directors/Assistant Regional Directors. The present staff strength in position at Delhi Regional Centre is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement**DD-3**

S.No.	Name of Post	Approved	Filled
1.	Asstt. Registrar	1	1
2.	Section Officer	1	Vacant
3.	Sr. Personal Assistant	1	1
4.	Sr. Assistant	1	3
5.	Assistant	2	1
6.	Personal Assistant Grade-II	1	1
7.	Stenographer	1	1
8.	Technical Assistant	1	Vacant
9.	Semi Professional Assistant	1	1
10.	Computer Operator Grade-I	1	1 Asstt. Programmer
11.	Computer Operator Grade-II	1	1
12.	Jr. Asstt.-cum-Typist	3	4
13.	Driver	1	1
14.	Group-D	2	2

Liquid Fuel to Power Projects in Gujarat

2999. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat Government's proposals for allocation of liquid fuel to various power projects have been sanctioned;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the allocated capacity was lower than the State's demand; and

(d) if so, the steps the Union Government propose to take to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) to (d) In order to bridge the energy shortage in the short run, a liquid fuel based power capacity of about 12000 MW for the country as a whole was planned as a one time measure in view of their short gestation period and lack of alternative fuels. Out of this, Gujarat was allotted a capacity of 1230 MW and further a barge mounted capacity of 520 MW. Based on the Gujarat Government's recommendations so far, linkages for 13 projects of 561.70 MW capacity have been issued.

As per the modifications in the liquid fuel policy, the 12,000 MW celling would only apply to naphtha and the States could contract new power projects based on FO, condensate and orimulsion, etc.

3000. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons of DD-3 having been hooked off air;

(b) whether the Government propose to restore it;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) DD-3 Channel of Doordarshan was started with a view to cater to a selective, target audience as also for opinion leaders in different fields. The programming on this channel was include a wide range of serious entertainment, tele-films, plays discussions etc. In due course of time, this channel became a Movie Channel showing 3 films per day. Thus the purpose for which it was started was not being served. Besides this, the Channel was also incurring financial losses. In view of this, it was decided to close down the Channel.

(b) to (d) No proposal for restoring the DD-3 Channel is under consideration at present due to reasons given in reply part (a) above.

[*Translation*]

Broadcasting of Programmes from**AIR, Distt. Mandla, M.P.**

3001. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the All India Radio Station of Distt. Mandla in Madhya Pradesh is likely to start broadcasting programmes; and

(b) the reasons for delay in starting broadcasting of the programmes from that station?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Station is expected to be technically ready the December, 1999. Broadcasts will commence soon thereafter.

(b) Project has been delayed due to contractual problems in civil works.

[*English*]

Illegal Construction in the Prohibited and**Regulated Zones**

3002. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether many buildings including multi-storied apartments are being constructed within the prohibited and regulated areas around the famous protected sites like Rajarani Temple, Sun Temple, Mukteswar Temple, Botal Temple and Lingaraj Temple of Bhubaneswar (Orissa), violating the Central Act regarding Archaeological sites;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Bhubaneswar Development Authority took the clearance of the Archaeological Department before rendering permission to owners to those buildings; and

(d) if not, the action taken against violators of law and the steps taken to remove those illegal structures?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A few modern constructions have come up in the prohibited and regulated areas in violation of the relevant provisions of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules thereof, which also include market complex, toilet block and open air auditorium near Sun Temple, Konark and a housing complex near Mukteshvara temple at Bhubaneswar.

(c) and (d) In some of the cases the Bhubaneswar Development Authority have directed the applicants to obtain 'No Objection Certificate' from the Archaeological Survey of India. The Government of Orissa have been approached to remove unauthorised constructions, which have come up in violation of the Ancient Monuments, Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules thereof.

Construction of Roads/Bridges in

Haryana and Rajasthan

3003. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BAINDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals sent by the Government of Haryana and Rajasthan for construction of roads/bridges in these States with Central assistance;

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the present status of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) One and three number of proposals have been received from the Governments of Haryana and Rajasthan respectively, under Inter-State or Economic Importance (E&I) during the 9th Plan.

(b) and (c) The same would be considered subject to their inter-se priority with other proposals and availability of funds therefor, after the finalisation of the 9th Plan.

Cellular Mobile Telephone Sector

3004. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued for issuance of licences in the Cellular Mobile Telephone Sector for operation of Cellular Mobile Telephones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of companies given licences in the country, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have anticipated to raise revenue of Rs. 1,000 crores a year from this venture;

(e) if so, whether the Government have succeeded in raising the said resources, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the reasons for not collecting the desired revenue and the steps taken to redress the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) The Government had invited tenders for franchise of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service on a non-exclusive licence basis in two phases. In the first phase, the tenders were invited for four metro cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai. In the second phase, the tenders were invited for the 20 Telecom Territorial Circles covering the rest of the country. Broad terms and conditions are given in the statement-I attached.

(c) The names of the licensee companies, service area wise are given in the statement-II attached.

(d) to (f) The year-wise projections as well as realisations are furnished below:

Year	Projection (Rs. in crores)	Realisation
1995-96	1829.54	1326.84
1996-97	1348.76	1054.56
1997-98	1509.79	1280.79

The Cellular Operators Association of India has represented that most of the projects are non-viable with reference to the present terms and condition, as their original projections with regard to demand, number of subscribers have not proved to be correct. The Association has demanded extension of the licence period as well as moratorium on payment of licence fees for two years. In some cases bank guarantees to recover the outstanding licence fee payment could not be encashed on account of stay granted by Courts/TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India).

Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) have been entrusted to conduct a detailed techno-economic study of the Cellular Industry, in view of the representation from Cellular operators and Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) referred to above. Pending the BICP's study, ICICI (Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited) were also requested to undertake a quick study of operational performance of the Cellular Service Industry.

Statement-I

The main operative and financial investment conditions

1. The licensee companies must be Indian registered companies.
2. The initial period of the licence shall be 10 years, which may be extended by the Government.
3. The licensee shall provide the service within 12 months of the effective date of the licence.
4. The service shall conform to Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) Standard.
5. The service shall be provided within the ceiling tariffs fixed in the Licence Agreement.
6. The licensee shall pay a licence fee to the Telecom Authority in addition to access and junction charges as applicable.
7. The licensee will also pay wireless licence fee, WPC royalty, GSM MOU (Global System for Mobile communication-Memo-randum of Understanding) charges etc.
8. The licences are issued on a non-exclusive basis.
9. The licensees shall provide facility for monitoring of calls in accordance with the provision of Section 5 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.
10. Direct foreign equity in the licensee companies must not be more than 49% of the equity.
11. The local and external commercial borrowing will be governed by guidelines issued by Finance Ministry, Reserve Bank of India and other Regulatory Bodies.

Statement-II

Details of Service Areas (Metro cities and Telecom circles) and Licensee Companies

Service Area	Name of the Company
1	2
A. Metro Cities	
Bombay	1. BPL Mobile Communications Ltd. 2. Hutchison Max Telecom. Ltd.
Calcutta	1. Modi Telstra Pvt. Ltd. 2. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd.
Delhi	1. Bharti Cellular Ltd. 2. Sterling Cellular Ltd.
Madras	1. RPG Cellular Ltd. 2. Skycell Communications Pvt. Ltd.

	1	2
B. Territorial Telecom Circles		
Assam	1.	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Andhra		
Pradesh	1.	J.T. Mobiles Ltd.
	2.	Tata Communications Pvt. Ltd.
Bihar	1.	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
	2.	Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.
Gujarat	1.	Birla AT & T Communication Ltd.
	2.	Fascel Ltd.
Haryana	1.	Escotel Mobile Comm. Pvt. Ltd.
	2.	Aircel Digilink India Ltd.
Himachal Pradesh	1.	Bharti Talenet Ltd.
	2.	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Karnataka	1.	Modicom Network Pvt. Ltd.
	2.	J.T. Mobiles Ltd.
Kerala	1.	Escotel Mobile Comm. Pvt. Ltd.
	2.	BPL US West Cellular Telecom Svcs. Pvt. Ltd.
Madhya Pradesh	1.	RPG Cellcom Ltd.
	2.	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Maharashtra	1.	Birla AT&T Communication Ltd.
	2.	BPL US West Cellular Telecom Svcs. Pvt. Ltd.
North East	1.	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
	2.	Hexacom India Ltd.
Orissa	1.	Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.
	2.	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Punjab	1.	J.T. Mobiles Ltd.
	2.	Modicom Network Pvt Ltd.
Rajasthan	1.	Hexacom India Ltd.
	2.	Aircel Digilink India Ltd.

1	2
Tamil Nadu	
1.	BPL US West Cellular Telecom Svcs Pvt. Ltd.
2.	Srinivas Cellcom Ltd.
UP (West)	
1.	Escotel Mobile Communication Ltd.
2.	Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.
UP (East)	
1.	Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.
2.	Aircel Digilink India Ltd.
West Bengal	
1.	Reliance Telecom Ltd.

Note: The Telecom Circles are generally co-terminus with the States barring few exceptions.

Operation Black Board Programme

3005. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- the duration of the period of Operation Blackboard Programme and the reasons to discontinue the same;
- whether the target fixed under it has been achieved in Orissa;
- if so, whether this programme was successful in tribal areas of Orissa; and
- if not, the reasons of therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The scheme of Operation Blackboard was launched in 1987-88 and revised in 1993-94. According to present indications the scheme is likely to continue during the Ninth Plan.

(b) According to information furnished by the State Govt., all 34,178 targetted Primary schools have been provided with teaching learning equipment and all 14,112 single teacher primary schools have been provided with two teachers under the scheme of Operation Blackboard in Orissa.

Similarly a third teacher has been provided in all 5,258 Primary schools with enrolment exceeding 100 under expanded operation Blackboard scheme in the State. However, the pace of construction of class rooms has been slow.

(c) and (d) The scheme has been extended to the entire

State, including tribal areas. However, no separate evaluation of the scheme in tribal areas of Orissa has been undertaken.

[Translation]

Shimla Doordarshan Kendra

3006. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- the date on which Shimla Doordarshan Kendra was set up and the total amount spent by the Government so far on its building and machinery;
- the number of officers/staff required for the smooth functioning of this Kendra and total strength as well as the break up of posts;
- the total duration of the programmes prepared by this Kendra itself so far and the duration of the telecast time daily; and
- the steps being taken by the Government to ensure the smooth functioning of the said Kendra?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The studio set up at Shimla was commissioned on 7.6.95 and an amount of Rs. 1637.81 lakhs has so far been spent on its building and machinery.

- While the total number of officers/staff proposed in the studio set up was 284,17 posts (one Assistant Station Engineer, three Assistant Engineer, four Senior Engineering Assistant, six Engineering Assistant, one Senior Technician and two Technicians) have been sanctioned for the studio.
- Total duration of telecast of programmes prepared by the Kendra so far is 9178 minutes and the Kendra is putting out 30 minutes transmission of their own programme from 6.30 pm to 7.00 pm for five days in a week.
- Prasar Bharati is now required to take necessary steps for the smooth functioning of the Kendra.

Government Accommodation to P&T Employees

3007. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- whether the Government have not provided accommodation to all the employees of Department of P&T;
- whether the quarters for the senior officers are more than their numbers whereas the quarters for the employees are less in ratio;
- if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government in this regards;
- whether Class-I officers in P&T Department get their accommodation from Directorate of Estates as well as from P&T pool whereas general employees do not get this facility; and

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to remove this dual policy and the steps being taken by the Government to construct quarters for the officers and employees in consonance with their number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :

(a) **Department of Post**—Yes, Sir.

Department of Telecom—Yes, Sir.

(b) **Department of Post**: Some Stations accommodate more Snior Officers because their number is negligible in relation to non-gazetted staff.

Department of Telecom: No, Sir.

(c) **Department of Post**: Same as (b) above.

Department of Telecom: Not applicable in view of at (b) above.

(d) **Department of Post**: No, Sir, but in places where the entitled accommodation for the officer is not available in the Postal Pool, accommodation is provided from the Directorate of Estates.

Department of Telecom: No, Sir.

(e) **Department of Post**: Does not arise in view of (d) above. However, construction of quarters is being done in phased manner all over the country depending upon the availability of funds.

Department of Telecom: Not applicable in view of reply at (b) and (d) above.

[English]

Iridium System

3008. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Giant Metre Wave Radio Telescope at the National Centre for Radio Astronomy faces a threat from the Iridium system; and

(b) if so, the steps Government plans to initiate to provide protection for radio astronomy frequencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Frequency bands of operation planned to be used by the Giant Meterwave Radio Telescope (GMRT) of National Centre for Radio Astronomy (NCRA) and the Iridium system are 1610.6-1613.8 MHz and 1621.35-1626.5 MHz respectively which are not overlapping and are in accordance with the International Radio Regulation. As regards potentiality of harmful interference to GMRT from spurious emissions of Iridium system, the matter was taken up by the Indian Administration with the Iridium LLC and appropriate operational provisions have been incorporated in the coordination agreement between the NCRA and Iridium LLC so that spurious emissions of the Iridium system do not produce harmful interference to the GMRT.

[Translation]

Hindi Edition of Science Books

3009. SHRI ADITYANATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the students studying science through Hindi medium have been facing inconvenience because English edition of text books published by NCERT becomes available on time but Hindi editions are not available even after the start of the session;

(b) if so, the regions from which such complaints have been received, the time of their receipt and the steps taken to remedy the situation; and

(c) whether it has been ensured this year that the Hindi text books of science related subjects are provided by the NCERT before the start of the session or in time?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir. All the Science text books published by the NCERT in Hindi for classes III to XI are available for the use of students who are studying these subjects through Hindi medium. However, in the current academic session four titles are either in print or are under process.

(b) The NCERT has not received any complaint from any region for non-availability of Science text books in Hindi.

(c) The Hindi editions of all the Science text books are available for use by the students except four titles about which position is explained in part (a) above.

[English]

Performance of Navodaya Vidyalayas

3010. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI:

SHRI ABDUL HAMID:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether performance of the Navodaya Vidyalayas in the country has been evaluated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the name of the districts where such Vidyalayas have not been established so far, State-wise and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It has been proposed in the Programme of Action,

1992 on National Policy of Education, 1986, that a comprehensive review of the Scheme of Navodaya Vidyalaya will be required after Navodaya Vidyalayas have been established and consolidated in all districts of the country. The process of establishing and consolidating Vidyalayas is going on.

(d) The scheme of Navoday Vidyalayas envisages establishment of Navodaya Vidyalayas, on an average, one in each district of the country. Opening of Navodaya Vidyalayas is contingent on availability of funds and the State Government Union Territory Administration providing 30 acres of suitable land free of cost and adequate accommodation and other infrastructure free of rent until Samiti constructs its own building at permanent site. A statement showing the details of districts yet to be covered State-wise is in the statement attached.

Statement

The name of the districts in existence State-wise at the commencement of 8th plan which are still without Navodaya Vidyalayas

Sl. No.	Name of State & Uncovered Districts	Balance to be covered
1	2	3
**	Andhra Pradesh Hyderabad	01
**	Arunachal Pradesh East Siang West Kameng West Siang	03
**	Assam Bongaigaon Dhubri Dhemaji North Cachar Hills Nagaon	05
**	Bihar Dhanbad Purbi Singhbhum Rohtas	03
**	Delhi Delhi South Delhi East	02

1	2	3
**	Gujarat Ahmednagar Bhavnagar Banaskantha Gandhinagar The Dangs Vadodara Valsad	07
**	Haryana Yamunanagar Panipat	02
**	Himachal Pradesh Kullu Lahaul & Spiti	02
**	Kerala Thiruvananthapuram Wayand	02
**	Maharashtra Bombay Bombay Bombay Greater Bombay Pune	05
**	Nagaland Mon Mokokchung Zonhabto	03
**	Sikkim East Sikkim	01
**	Uttar Pradesh Banda Dehradun Fatehpur Jalaun Lakhimpur Kheri Lucknow	16

1	2	3
	Moradabad	
	Paurl Garhwal	
	Pratapgarh	
	Pillbhit	
	Rampur	
	Saharanpur	
	Shajahanpur	
	Sonbhadra	
	Kanpur Dehat	
	Maharajganj	

Visakhapatnam Port Trust

3011. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Port Trust proposes to launch an aggressive campaign to project the port as a favourite destination for its container cargo;

(b) the target set up to handle cargo and container traffic during the current fiscal year; and

(c) the progress of construction of multipurpose berth in this regard in the outer harbour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) The Port has plans to develop container handling facilities.

(b) Cargo Traffic Target of 36.00 Million Tonnes has been fixed which includes 1.50 lakh Tonnes of containerised cargo for the year 1998-99.

(c) The construction of multipurpose Berth in the outer harbour is in progress and is likely to be ready by 1999-2000.

Kannada Programmes on Bangalore Doordarshan

3012. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Television programme producers, artistes and technicians have represented to the Government to give more time to them for Kannada programmes on Bangalore Doordarshan on prime time;

(b) if so, the action, if any, taken to increase the duration of Kannada programmes;

(c) whether the time given for Kannada programmes on prime time was being reduced; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) For Kannada programmes Doordarshan has increased the duration for two hours from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Thus, the regional timings for DDK, Bangalore is now from 2.30 p.m. to 8.40 p.m. (earlier it was from 4.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Review of Anti Defection Law

3013. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

SHRI P. UPENDRA :

SHRI A.C. JOS :

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

(a) whether several experts have suggested review of the Anti Defection Law;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to bring any Bill for amendment in the said Act or impose a ban on defection;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The proposals relating to amendment to the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, popularly known as Anti Defection Law, was one of the agenda items in the meeting of political parties held on 22nd May, 1998 but the discussion on the issue was deferred. In case consensus emerges amongst political parties on amendments to be made in the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, Government would consider introducing a Bill for making necessary amendments in the law.

[English]

Pay Revision of Employees in AIR/Doordarshan

3014. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prasar Bharati Board has proposed the pay revision of certain categories of employees in All India Radio and Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps initiated by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Prasar Bharati Board had proposed pay revision of certain categories of

Engineering and programme staff. The Prasar Bharati has the powers to make regulations providing for the remuneration and other service conditions of its employees which are not inconsistent with the Prasar Bharati Act and the rules made thereunder. The employees of All India Radio and Doordarshan will be governed by such regulations only after transfer of their services to the Corporation after their exercising the requisite option in this regard. The proposals pertain to the question of bringing parity in the pay scales of subordinate Engineering staff and Programme staff of Prasar Bharati.

[Translation]

Protection of Interests of Small Share Holders

3015. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the provisions made by the Government

to protect the interest of small share holders;

(b) whether the Government have received any information of cases against these provisions;

(c) if so, the details of such cases received during the last three years; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTERS OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) Provisions have been made under sections 113, 81, 84(3), 205 and 73 of the Companies Act, 1956 to protect the interest of small share holders.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Details regarding number of complaints received in this regard are indicated in the Statement attached.

Statement

Complaint Description	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98	
	No. of complaints		No. of complaints		No. of complaints	
	Received	Redressed	Received	Redressed	Received	Redressed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Non-receipt of duplicate share certificate (Under Section 84(3) and rules thereunder)	0706	0454	0370	0309	0395	0196
2. Non registration of transfer of shares (Under Section 113)	8693	5422	5456	3245	4476	1829
3. Non issue of share certificates (Under Section 113)	2489	2019	1349	1274	1174	544
4. Non refund of application money (Under Section 73)	9115	7901	1550	2628	863	581
5. Non receipt of debenture certificates (Under Section 113)	389	389	162	178	127	60
6. Non receipt of right applications; Right/Bonus shares (Under Section 81)	490	439	254	219	125	87
7. Non receipt of dividend (Under Section 205)	1877	1474	2480	1377	3093	1443
8. Non receipt of shares on conversion of debenture (Under Section 113)	524	530	175	214	86	75

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9. Non-receipt of share certificate after endorsement; stickers (Under Section 113)		2750	2331	491	701	346	282
10. Non-receipt of allotment/Call money notice (Under Section 73)		341	134	148	132	110	76
Total		27374	21093	12435	10277	10795	5173

Note: In addition to redressal of complaints as above, prosecutions against the errant companies were also ordered in 16, 114 and 64 cases during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively.

Shortage of Power in U.P.

3016. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of power particularly in industrial area of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the total demand and supply of power in the State at present;

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government for additional allocation of power in the State; and

(d) the likely time taken by the State to become self reliant in the power sector?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The power supply position in Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) including the industrial sector, during 1997-98 and May 1998 is given below:

Energy	1997-98 (Figures in MU)	
		May, 1998
Requirement	41157	3715
Availability	36105	3306
Deficit	5052	409
Percentage Deficit	12.3%	11.0%

The notified power cuts on industries in Uttar Pradesh as in May, 1998 are as under:

(i) 20 hours supply to arc/induction furnaces and rolling/re-rolling mills from 2200 hours to 1800 hours (next day).

(ii) One day weekly off and peak period restriction (1800 hours to 2200 hours) on non-continuous process industries.

(c) Uttar Pradesh has been allocated 2670 MW from the central sector power stations in the northern region and an additional 17% (138 MW) out of unallocated quota from these central sector stations. However, UPSEB is unable at

present to utilise 554 MW out of its share owing to financial constraints.

(d) Various measures are being taken to improve the availability of power in Uttar Pradesh which include maximising generation from existing capacity, renovation and modernisation of power stations, better demand management, reduction in Transmission and Distribution losses and assistance from neighbouring States/Systems. In addition new power plants having capacity of 3264 MW are planned/ Under execution in Central/State/Private Sector in Uttar Pradesh. This will improve the power availability in the State.

[English]

Time Bound Power Sector Reforms

3017. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has written to the Government for time bound power sector reforms to be executed by the State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, the details of recent communication addressed to the State particularly Maharashtra State by the World Bank recently;

(c) the details of review of major reforms programme undertaken by the State Electricity Boards, State-wise; and

(d) the extent to which it satisfies the World Bank expectations?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra and the World Bank are in correspondence over the Second Maharashtra Power Project Loan 3498-IN. The World Bank has asked the Government of Maharashtra to expand its reform package and take measures which would inter alia include implementing the recommendations of the Rajadhyaksha Committee set up by the State Government.

(c) and (d) By enacting the Orissa Electricity Reforms Act 1995, Orissa State has initiated steps for reforming and restructuring the Power Sector, which *inter-alia* include setting up of Electricity Regulatory Commission, unbundling the State

Electricity Board etc. Through the Haryana Electricity Reforms Act 1997, Haryana State has taken significant steps towards reform and restructuring of their power sector. The Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission is also being set up. These reform measures are in line with the agreement reached between the World Bank and these two States. The Reform Bill has been passed by the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly envisaging unbundling of generation, transmission and distribution. The Uttar Pradesh Government proposes to set up a Regulatory Commission shortly. The Government of Karnataka has also enacted a legislation for facilitating private sector participation in transmission. Madhya Pradesh Government has finalised proposal for facilitating private sector participation in transmission and other reforms in the power sector.

Forest Area

3018. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN:

SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forest areas in the country have decreased;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons for the decline; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken or likely to be taken by the Government to increase the forest area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) As per the State of Forest Report, 1997, the forest cover of the country has decreased from 638,879 sq.km

to 633,397 sq. km as compared to 1995 assessment, showing a net loss of forest cover of 5482 sq.km.

(b) The state-wise details of forest cover as per 1997 assessment is given in the statement attached. The main reasons for reduction of forest cover in the country are ever increasing demand of forest produce for increasing human and cattle population, shifting cultivation, fire, grazing, illicit cutting, encroachment and lack of required investment in the forestry sector.

(c) The Ministry has requested the concerned State/UT Governments to take serious note of the depletion of forest cover and to make an in-depth analysis of the factors contributing to the depletion of forest cover, to evolve effective strategy and action programme for arresting the trend so as to increase the forest cover in the coming years. Ministry has also requested Planning Commission and all States/UT Governments for increasing the allocation for forestry sector.

The major steps taken by the Government to increase the forest cover are:

- (i) Afforestation programmes are undertaken by State/UT Governments from their own resources as well as with financial assistance from Government of India.
- (ii) Externally aided projects are being implemented for development and preservation of forests.
- (iii) Guidelines to all State/UT Governments to involve village communities in protection and regeneration of degraded forests.
- (iv) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to regulate the diversion of forest lands.
- (v) A net work of protected areas has been established.

Statement

Forest cover in various states as per state of Forest Report 1997

In sq. km.

State/UTs	Recorded forest Area	Recorded Forest area % of Geographical Area	Forest cover 1997 Assessment	Change in comparison to 1995 Assessments	Forest cover 1997 % of Geographical Area
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	63814	23.2	43290	-3822	15.74
Arunachal Pradesh	51540	61.54	68602	-19	81.9
Assam	30708	39.15	23824	-237	30.4
Bihar	29226	16.81	26524	-37	15.3
Delhi	42	2.83	26	-	1.7
Goa	1424	38.46	1252	+5	33.9

1	2	3	4	5	6
Gujarat	19393	9.89	12578	+258	6.4
Haryana	1673	3.78	604	+1	1.4
Himachal Pradesh	35407	63.6	12521	+20	22.5
Jammu & Kashmir	20182	9.08	20440	+7	9.2
Karnataka	38724	20.19	32403	+21	16.9
Kerala	11221	28.87	10334	-2	26.6
Madhya Pradesh	154497	34.84	131195	-3969	29.6
Maharashtra	63842	20.75	46143	-2300	15
Manipur	15154	67.87	17418	-140	78
Meghalaya	9496	42.34	15657	-57	69.8
Mizoram	15935	75.59	18775	-199	89.1
Nagaland	8629	52.04	14221	-70	85.8
Orissa	57184	36.73	46941	-166	30.1
Punjab	2901	5.76	1387	-45	2.8
Sikkim	2650	37.34	3129	+2	44.1
Tamil Nadu	22628	17.4	17064	+19	13.1
Tripura	6292	60.01	5546	+8	52.9
Uttar Pradesh	51663	17.54	33994	+8	11.5
West Bengal	11879	13.38	8349	+ 73	9.4
A&N Islands	7171	86.93	7613	-2	92.3
Chandigarh	31	27.19	7	-	6.1
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	203	41.34	204	-	41.5
Daman & Diu	NA	NA	3	-	2.7
Total	765210	23.28	633397	-5482	19.27

Sharing of Monies with CSIR Staff

3019. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has notified the decision to share Monies realised from licensing of intellectual property and fee from contract R&D and S&T services with CSIR staff w.e.f. April 1, 1994;

(b) if so, the amounts accounted under the heads- External Cash Flow, Lab Service Fund and the money distributed to scientific, technical and administrative staff of each laboratory/Institute of CSIR, including the Headquarters of CSIR for the period of 1994-95 to 1996-97, year-wise;

(c) whether Lab Reserve Fund of Individual Laboratory/

Institute is subjected to the auditing of the comptroller and Auditor General of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Detailed information is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The transactions under Laboratory Reserve Fund (LRF) form part of the Lab's activities and are subject to audit by Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) Audit Team whenever they conduct audit of the individual laboratory/Institute.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
39.	SERC (M)	125.177	180.288	202.981	48.557	117.785	133.785	7.010	2.347	1.217	10.574	7.402	2.319	1.207	10.928	8.025	2.336	1.323	11.684
40.	SERC (GH)	79.725	65.242	71.724	29.981	106.484	54.471	4.654	1.647	0.478	6.779	6.587	2.266	0.867	9.520	4.066	1.173	0.340	5.579
Total Labs.		13173.955	16382.083	18592.085	2847.867	4210.523	5380.213	125.027	51.512	23.066	198.605	155.769	63.201	32.553	251.523	204.624	96.264	41.980	342.868
41.	CSIR H.QRS	543.229	309.258	433.833															
G. Total		13717.184	16701.351	19025.92	2847.867	4210.523	5380.213	125.027	51.512	23.066	198.605	155.769	63.201	32.553	251.523	204.624	96.264	41.980	342.868

Telephone and STD Facility in Karnataka

3020. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU:

SHRI H.G. RAMULU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Karnataka provided with telephone and STD facility particularly in Chamrajanagar and Koppal regions;

(b) the number of villages yet to be provided with the said facility; and

(c) the number of villages proposed to be provided with telephone and STD facility in Karnataka particularly in Chamrajanagar and Koppal regions during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) The number of villages with telephone and STD facility in Karnataka, particularly in Chamrajanagar and Koppal regions are as under:

Particulars	VPTs	VPTs with STD
Karnataka Circle	20894	230
Chamrajanagar	310	3
Koppal	784	20

(b) and (c) The number of villages proposed to be covered with telephone and STD facility in Karnataka, particularly, Chamrajanagar and Koppal regions for 1998-99 are as under:

Particulars	Total Villages	Villages with VPTs	Balance	To be covered during 1998-99
Karnataka	27066	20894	6172	2500
Chamrajanagar	446	310	136	136
Koppal	850	784	66	66

The STD facilities shall be provided on receipt of the firm request from VPT franchises, provided it is technically feasible.

MARR System

3021. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHOUDHARY:

SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) the number of Multi Access Rural Radio system of telephones installed by DOT so far, state-wise;

(b) the amount incurred thereon during the last three years;

(c) whether most of the village PCO's installed on MARR system are not functioning in the country particularly in Bihar;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the vendors approved by the Telecom

Department for the supply of MARR equipment do not provide service after supply of the equipment; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) to (f) Information is being collected from field units and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Construction Work of Ahmedabad-Barooda

Express Highway

3022. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the possibility to complete the construction work of Ahmedabad-Barooda Express Highway has been explored;

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

(c) the efforts made to complete work on the said Express Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The bridge works are being completed through support from the budget. For the balance road works, alternate methods of financing are being explored.

Telephone Exchange in Rajasthan

3023. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity of telephone exchanges at present functioning in the district of Bharatpur, Rajasthan, Exchange-wise;

(b) whether there is any plan to increase the capacity of the existing exchange;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide telephone connections to the persons of Khedli Gadasian

Village who are waiting telephone connections for many years from Lakhanpur exchange;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) The details are given in the statement attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details are given in the statement attached.

(d) Yes, Sir. There is a plan to provide telephone connections to the residents of village Khedli Gadasian from Barkheda telephone exchange and not from Lakhanpur exchange during 1998-99.

(e) and (f) Village Khedli Gadasian falls under the local area of telephone exchange Barkheda and it is 2.5 km. from Barkheda exchange. Total four persons are in waiting in Khedli Gadasian and there is a plan to provide telephone connections to them from Barkheda telephone exchange during 1998-99.

Statement

Present capacity/increase in capacity of Telephone Exchanges functioning in the district of Bharatpur

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Capacity	Planned expansion of capacity during 1998-99
1	2	3	4
1.	Bandbaretha	152	—
2.	Bansi-Pharapur	56	—
3.	Barulichhar	56	—
4.	Barkheda	56	—
5.	Bayana	1400	152
6.	Bharatpur	7500	2000
7.	Bhusawar	320	152
8.	Chokarwara	152	—
9.	Deeg	1136	264
10.	Dehra	192	—
11.	Dhadren	88	64
12.	Gadauli	56	—
13.	Gopalgarh	80	64
14.	Halena	192	—
15.	Jaluki	152	—
16.	Januthar	88	64

1	2	3	4
17.	Jurehra	296	—
18.	Kaithwara	40	64
19.	Kaman	472	528
20.	Khoh	192	64
21.	Korer	192	—
22.	Kama	192	—
23.	Kumher	384	296
24.	Lakhanpur	192	144
25.	Mahua	64	64
26.	Nadhahi	1000	—
27.	Nagar	1000	—
28.	Nither	64	64
29.	Pahavi	197	—
30.	Paprera	64	64
31.	Pathana	56	—
32.	Rarah	152	—
33.	Rasua	80	64
34.	Rudawal	200	152
35.	Rupbas	168	296
36.	Sikri	424	576
37.	Sinaini	80	64
38.	Uchchain	200	296
39.	Weir	208	61
Total		17588	5560

Telephone Exchanges in Bihar

3024. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- the existing norms for opening of new telephone exchanges in rural areas of the country;
- whether the Government propose to open new telephone exchanges for the villages of District Muzaffarpur, Bihar;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) A new telephone exchange is planned to be opened at

place when the Registered Demand for telephone connections reaches 10 or more, provided this does not fall in the local area or other exchanges.

- Yes, Sir.
- During 1998-99, 4 new telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened in Muzaffarpur District.
- Does not arise.

National Technology Mission

3025. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- whether National Technology Mission which was introduced in the year 1986 has achieved its target;

(b) If so, the number of digital trunk and automatic exchanges modernised;

(c) the number of public telephones set up with STD/ISD facilities in the urban areas; and

(d) the number of directory enquiry services and fault repair services computerised in main cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are furnished as under:

(i) No. of digital/SPC trunk automatic exchanges: 379 (as on 31.3.1998).

(ii) No. of automatic exchanges modernised : 8668 (from 1.4.1992 to 31.5.1998).

(c) Public Telephone with STD/ISD facility: 2,13,385 (as on 31.3.1998).

(d) As on 31.3.1998, total number of towns having computerised directory inquiry services are 1124 and total number of towns having computerised fault repair services are 1064.

[English]

Funds for the Development of Highways/Ports

3026. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have evolved any strategy to raise additional funds for roads, highways, bridges and ports development; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) To raise additional funds for development of National Highways and Major Ports, guidelines for attracting private sector funds under Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis have been issued. It has also been decided to enter into bilateral agreements with Foreign Governments and approach International Funding Organisations like World Bank, Asian Development Bank, etc. for getting loans to fund the development of National Highways.

[Translation]

Stadium/Sports Training Centre in Bihar and Maharashtra

3027. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals of Bihar and Maharashtra Government regarding construction of stadium and

sports training centre are lying pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the proposed grant-in-aid therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Heavy Fuel Power Project in Manipur

3028. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 36 MW Heavy Fuel Power Project has been approved for Manipur;

(b) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be completed on this project;

(c) whether any funds have been allocated for the project during the current year and for the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) and (b) Techno-Economic clearance for 36 MW Heavy Fuel Power Project in Manipur has been given by the Central Electricity Authority in October, 1997. The project is expected to be completed in the year 1999.

(c) and (d) Annual Plan 1998-99 is not yet formulated. The Ninth Five Year Plan also, is still to be finalised.

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Foundation

3029. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foundation created by the Government in the country and abroad in the name of our religious leaders and national leaders since 1947;

(b) whether any foundation in the memory of late Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose has been included in the foundations created by the Government so far;

(c) if so, the details of the work done by this foundation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) This information is not maintained and, therefore, not readily available.

- (b) There is a proposal to set up a Netaji Foundation.
 (c) and (d) Do not arise.

Creation of Industrial Zone

3030. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed creation of industrial Zone in North Eastern Region in consultation with Ministry of Environment and Forests for the wood based industry;

(b) if so, the details of the criteria for setting up of such zones for respective States taking into account proximity to nearest Reserve Forest Inter-State boundary disputes or other significant factors;

(c) if not, whether the Government would consider these aspects in furtherance of the objectives in the orders of the Court; and

(d) if so, the time by which the same would be considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Supreme Court has directed the North-Eastern States for notification of industrial estates in consultation with the Ministry of Environment and Forest for locating wood based industrial units.

(b) to (d) Expert Committees have been constituted by each State Government of North-East region pursuant to the order of the Court for identification and development of industrial estates which are taking into account all important aspects impinging upon conservation of forests.

Modernisation of Power Plants

3031. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

SHRI DINSHAW PATEL:

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a final decision for taking up the renovation and modernisation works of the existing power plants on a massive scale;

(b) if so, whether a number of bottlenecks in this regard have since been removed;

(c) the number of plants which are likely to be renovated and modernised, State-wise;

(d) the extent to which their capacity will be increased as a result thereof; and

(e) the total additional budgetary support provided for modernising of these power plants?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) In order to improve the performance of the existing thermal power stations, a renovation and modernisation (R&M) programme (Phase-I) was launched by the Government of India in 1984. The programme covered 163 thermal units in 34 selected stations. The total sanctioned cost of various schemes was Rs. 1165.00 crores. Benefits by way of additional generation of more than 10,000 MUs/Year has been achieved against the targeted benefit of 7000 MUs/Year.

Phase-II programme for R&M for thermal power stations was taken up in the year 1990-91 for implementation during the 8th plan. Under this programme, 44 thermal power stations comprising 198 thermal units aggregating to a total capacity of 20869.435 MW were covered at a total sanctioned cost of Rs. 2383.03 crores.

The programme for renovation, modernisation and uprating of hydel power stations was also formulated in which 55 schemes were identified with an aggregate capacity of 9653 MW (210 generating units). The total estimated cost of these schemes is Rs. 1493.00 crores.

(b) Various constraints experienced during implementation of the programme include inadequate funds with many State Electricity Boards, and their non-eligibility for Power Finance Corporation loan owing to non-fulfilment of conditionalities.

Various steps taken to remove bottlenecks in this regard include encouraging private sector participation, and subsidy in interest rates by Government of India, in 1997-98 to Power Finance Corporation for concessional lending for their programmes.

(c) The number of plants State-wise to be renovated and modernised are in the statement attached.

(d) After Completion of R&M Phase-II (Thermal) programme, the benefits expected are:

- (i) Additional generation of 7864 MUs/year;
- (ii) Increase of 100 MW peaking capacity; and
- (iii) life extension of 24 thermal units by 15-20 years.

The expected benefits of R&M programme of hydel power stations are 2531 MW/7180 MUs.

(e) At present there is no budgetary support for modernisation of power plants of State Electricity Boards. However, a provision of Rs. 370.00 crores has been made in the budget of 1998-99 for interest subsidy to Power Finance Corporation under the Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme. This programme, besides funding schemes of

generation and transmission also covers R&M of power plants.

Statement

No. of Power Stations under R&M (State-wise)

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of Thermal Power Stations	No. of Hydro Power Stations
1	2	3	4
1.	Delhi	2	—
2.	Haryana	2	—
3.	Punjab	2	5
4.	Rajasthan	1	-
5.	Uttar Pradesh	4	7
6.	Madhya Pradesh	4	—
7.	Gujarat	4	1
8.	Maharashtra	6	2
9.	Tamil Nadu	4	7
10.	Andhra Pradesh	2	4
11.	West Bengal	3	2
12.	Bihar	5	2
13.	Orissa	—	5
14.	Himachal Pradesh	—	3
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	3
16.	Karnataka	—	5
17.	Kerala	—	4
18.	Assam	5	1
19.	Meghalaya	—	2
20.	Tripura	—	1
21.	Manipur	—	1
Total		44 Nos.	55 Nos.

Fake Universities

3032. SHRI ANUP LAL YADAV :

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN :

SHRI SITA RAM YADAV :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the functioning of fake universities in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such institutions detected by the University Grants Commission alongwith action taken in each case;

(c) whether there is any move to delete word 'university' from all such institutions not being recognised as such by the UGC;

(d) if so, the time by which suitable amendments will be made in the relevant provisions of the Act; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, there are 18 fake universities which have come ot their notice. A list of such fake Universities is in the Statement-I attached. The Association of Indian Universities have, however, informed that there are 10 more such universities operating in the country (Statement-II).

The UGC, the AIU and the Monopolies & Restrictive Trade Practices Commission keep a watch on the existence of fake universities functioning in contravention of the UGC Act, 1956. The existence of fake universities is brought to the notice of the UGC by members of public, students and their parents or any other agency. Relevant provisions of the UGC Act are brought to the notice of hte promoters/office bearers of such self-styled/fake universities. They are also advised to desist from using expression "University" and also to stop awarding degrees/diplomas. The concerned State Governments are requested to conduct enquiries regarding the existence/ functioning of such fake universities. In addition, the UGC gives wide publicity to the list of fake universities every year cautioning students and parents about such institutions.

The UGC has set up a Special Cell to deal with the matters relating to the existence/functioning of fake universities in the country, which collects information through print media and disseminates information about them. UGC also lialises with different agencies of the Central Government and the State Governments and take such measures as necessary for checking the menace of fake institutions. Central Government has also requested State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to keep a strict vigil and to prosecute such institutions for violating UGC Act, 1956 and other penal laws.

(c) Under Section 23 of the UGC Act, 1956, the word university or its regional synonym can be associated with the name of only those universities which have been set up through an Act of Central/State legislature.

(d) and (e) A Bill titled "The University Grants Commission (Amendment) Bill 1995" was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in June, 1995 to amend Section 23 and 24 of the UGC Act

so as to curb the growth of fake universities and enhance the penalty for those who contravened Section 22 of the Act. Modifications suggested in the Bill in the Report of the Standing Committee of Parliament have been examined and it was decided to drop the bill and introduce a fresh bill. The Bill has since been withdrawn and it is proposed to introduce a fresh Bill in the Parliament.

Statement-I

1. Maithili University/Vishwavidyalaya, Darbhanga, Bihar.
2. Mahila Gram Vidyapith/ Vishwavidyalaya, (Women's University) Prayag, Allahabad (U.P.).
3. Varanaseya Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi (U.P.) Jagat Puri, Delhi.
4. Commercial University Ltd., Darya Ganj, Delhi
5. Indian Education Council of U.P., Lucknow (U.P.)
6. Gandhi Hindi Vidyapith, Prayag, Allahabad (U.P.)
7. National University of Electro Complex Homeopathy, Kanpur.
8. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose University (Open University), Achaltal, Aligarh (U.P.).
9. DDB Sanskrit University, Puttur, Trichi, Tamil Nadu.
10. Bharatiya Shiksha Parishad (U.P) Open Vishwavidyalaya, Lucknow (U.P).
11. St. Johns' University, Kishanattam Kerala 1.
12. National University, Nagpur.
13. United Nations University, Delhi.
14. Vocational University, Delhi.
15. Uttar Pradesh Vishwavidyalaya, Kosi Kalan, Mathura (U.P.),
16. Maharana Pratap Shiksha Niketan Vishwavidyalaya, Pratapgarh, (U.P).
17. Raja Arabic University, Nagpur.
18. Urdu University, Motia Park, Bhopal.
2. Bible University, Ambur, (North Arcot).
3. Eastern Orthodox University, Ambur, (North Arcot).
4. Globe University of Science, Kumakonem, Tamil Nadu.
5. Mahatma Gandhi Nisargopchar Vidyapeeth Gandhi Bhavan, Kothrud, Pune — 411029.
6. Self-Culture University, Kichanttam, (Kerala).
7. St. Ravidas Vishwavidyalaya Mumrajpur, Bulendshahar, (U.P.).
8. Testator Research University, Bodinayakanur, Tamil Nadu.
9. University of Newjerusalem, Kuthuperabma, Cannore, Kerala.
10. World Social Work University, Perugzhi, Kerala.

Allocation of Funds for Educational Schemes

3033. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise utilisation of funds during the last three years under Operation Blackboard and District Primary Education Programmes;

(b) the allocation of funds under these programmes during the above period, State-wise; and

(c) the criteria adopted in the selection of districts for the said programmes?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) A Statement giving details of State-wise funds released and utilised during the last three years in respect of Operation Blackboard scheme and District Primary Education Programme is enclosed.

(c) Under District Primary Education Programme, the existing criteria for selection of districts is as follows:

(i) Educationally backward districts with female literacy below the national average; and

(ii) Districts where Total Literacy Campaigns (TLCs) have been successful, leading to enhanced demand for elementary education.

The Operation Blackboard scheme is being implemented in all districts.

Statement—II

1. Akhil Bhartiya Gandhi Nisargopchar Vidyapeeth, Vijayanagar, Nanded Housing Society, Nanded—431602.

Statement

State-wise funds released and utilised under Operation Blackboard Scheme (OB) and District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) from 1995-96 to 1997-98.

Sl. No.	State/UT	O.B. Scheme		D.P.E.P.	
		Released	Utilised	Released	Utilised
(Rs. in lakhs)					
1	2	3	4	5	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6362.04	2514.82	4669.00	2594.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	288.39	227.14	—	—
3.	Assam	7463.02	4770.03	5966.00	4496.00
4.	Bihar	6043.78	896.45	1802.00	440.00
5.	Goa	84.20	84.20	—	—
6.	Gujarat	5261.12	491.95	1575.00	1227.00
7.	Haryana	221.11	196.21	6588.00	4977.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2418.97	1822.04	2653.00	1652.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3307.86	2314.75	—	—
10.	Karnataka	7480.86	3393.52	9733.00	9301.00
11.	Kerala	1078.32	767.48	5490.00	4400.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3837.89	837.84	26888.00	21641.00
13.	Maharashtra	17940.44	15952.49	8557.00	7616.00
14.	Manipur	180.20	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	1941.89	1941.89	—	—
16.	Mizoram	79.38	39.86	—	—
17.	Nagaland	188.11	7.01	—	—
18.	Orissa	8994.40	7989.68	3037.00	1284.00
19.	Punjab	933.38	799.78	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	6793.47	5491.41	50.00	—
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	725.00	73.72	7653.00	5695.00
23.	Tripura	344.49	159.59	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3132.84	1008.84	5500.00	1653.00
25.	West Bengal	203.82	203.82	1900.00	542.00
26.	A&N Islands	18.00	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—
28.	D&N Haveli	18.50	—	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	20.25	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	4
30.	Delhi	286.44	113.60	—	—
31.	Lakshadweep	2.00	—	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	29.20	16.70	—	—
33.	National Component	—	—	2423.00	1872.00
Total		85679.37	52114.82	94484.00	69390.00

Development of National Power Grid

3034. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank loan aggregating \$ 580 million, meant to support India's renewable energy programme and to develop the National Power Grid into a national grid operation and transmission service company, have been shelved at the last minute;

(b) whether such unprecedented postponement of project loans reflect upon the sorry state of affairs prevailing in SFRs; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to prevail upon the World Bank to reconsider its decision?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) Negotiations were held by Powergrid for a World Bank Loan of US \$ 450 million. The proceeds were to be utilised for construction of Unified Load Despatch Centres in the Western and the Eastern Regions. HVDC inter-connection between Eastern Region and Northern Region and construction of High Voltage inter-connection from Talcher in Orissa to the Southern Region and construction of Associated Transmission system for evacuation of power from Hirma Thermal Power station at Orissa. The meeting of the World Bank Board which was scheduled to be held on 26.5.1998 to consider the above loan has been deferred.

(b) and (c) The postponement of the above loan will not affect the State Electricity Boards.

World Bank Aid to Technical/Professional Institutions

3035. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance given by the World Bank/ other International Organisations for establishing technical/ professional institutions in Karnataka and Maharashtra, project-wise;

(b) the progress achieved in respect of ongoing projects in each State;

(c) the new projects proposed by the State Governments for financial assistance by the World Bank or other International Organisations;

(d) the present status of proposals;

(e) whether the State Governments have sought funds from Union Government for purchase of equipments for internet facility; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The World Bank Assisted Project for Strengthening of Technician Education includes establishment of three new Polytechnics in Karnataka and three Polytechnics in Maharashtra. The total outlay under the Project for Karnataka is Rs. 88.70 crores and Rs. 230 crores for Maharashtra.

(b) All the new Polytechnics in Karnataka and Maharashtra have been established.

(c) State Government of Maharashtra has sent proposal for setting up centres of excellence in ten existing Polytechnics in the State.

(d) The proposals received from Maharashtra Government can be considered only when the World Bank Assistance for new projects is finalised.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(I) **Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the Working of Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi for the year 1996-97**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions)

by the Government of the working of the Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No LT. 882/98]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Research Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Research Development Corporation New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 883/98]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Central Electronics Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Central Electronics Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 884/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding review by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 885/98]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding review by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, for the year 1996-97.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 886-96]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bose Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding review by the Government of the working of the Bose Institute Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 887/98]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, for the year 1996-97.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 888/98]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, for the year 1996-97.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 889/98]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, for the year, 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, for the year, 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 890/98]
- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian National Academy of Engineering, New Delhi, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian National Academy of Engineering, New Delhi, for the year, 1996-97.
- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 891/98]
- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, for the year, 1996-97.
- (20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 892/98]
- (21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Science Congress Association, Calcutta, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Science Congress Association, Calcutta, for the year, 1996-97.
- (22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 893/98]
- (23) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, for the years 1996-97.
- (24) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (23) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 894/98]
- (25) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, for the year, 1996-97.
- (26) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (25) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 895/98]
- (27) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year, 1996-97.
- (28) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (27) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 896/98]
- (29) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year, 1996-97.
- (30) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (29) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 897/98]
- (31) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Vigyan Prasar, New Delhi, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Vigyan Prasar, New Delhi, for the year, 1996-97.
- (32) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (31) above.

sons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (31) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 898/98]

- (33) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials, Hyderabad, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the International Advanced Research Center for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials, Hyderabad, for the year, 1996-97.
- (34) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (33) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 899/98]

(ii) Notification under Cost Accounting Records (Cycles) Amendment Rules, 1998

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956:
- (i) The cost Accounting Records (Cycles) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 326(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd June, 1998.
- (ii) The Cost Accounting Records (Caustic Soda) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No.G.S.R. 327(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd June, 1998.
- (iii) The Cost Accounting Records (Motor Vehicles) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R 328 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd June, 1998.
- (iv) The Cost Accounting Records (Tractors) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R 329 (E) In Gazette of India dated the 3rd June, 1998.

[Placed In Library. See No. LT 900/98]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for the Training of Highway Engineers, New Delhi, for the year, 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions)

by the Government of the working of the National Institute for the Training of Highway Engineers, New Delhi, for the year, 1996-97.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 901/98]

- (iii) **Annual Report Audited Accounts of Press Council of India etc. for the year 1996-97 alongwith explanatory statement**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Press Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 902/98]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Film Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Film Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 903/98]

- (iv) **Notification under Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): On behalf of Shrimati Maneka Gandhi. I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Rehabilitation Council of India, (Conditions of Service of the Member, Secretary, Officers and other employees) Regulations, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 5-62/93-RCI in Gazette of India dated the 22nd April, 1998 under section 30 of the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992.

[Placed Library. See No. LT 904/98]

- (v) **Annual Report Audited Accounts and Review of Working of National School of Drama etc. for the Year 1996-97**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National School of Drama, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National School of Drama, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 905/98]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Rural Institutes, Hyderabad, for the year 1995-96 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council of Rural Institutes, Hyderabad, for the year 1995-96.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 906/98]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Primary Education Development Society of Kerala, Trivandrum, for the 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Primary Education Development Society of Kerala, Trivandrum, for the year 1996-97.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 907/98]

(7) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Open School, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95 together with Audit Report thereon.

(8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 908/98]

(9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the District Primary Education

Programme, Shimla, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the District Primary Education Programme, Shimla, for the year 1996-97.

(10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 909/98]

(11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 910/98]

(vi) **Annual Report Audited Accounts and Review of the Working of C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre Channel etc. for the year 1996-97**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI): I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre, Chennai, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre, Chennai, for the year 1996-97.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 911/98]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad, for the year 1996-97.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 912/98]

- (5) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
- [Placed In Library. See No. LT 913/98]
- (vii) **Notification under Merchant Shipping Rules 1997-98.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958:
- (i) The Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Rules, 1997 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 289 in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 1997.
- (ii) The Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 1997 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 421 in Gazette of India dated the 27th December, 1997.
- (iii) The Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 191 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 1998.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 914/98]
- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trust Act, 1963:
- (i) G.S.R. 227(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th April, 1998 approving the New Mangalore Port Trust Employees (General Provident Fund) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (ii) G.S.R. 238(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th May, 1998 approving the Calcutta Port Trust (Haldia Dock Complex) Employees (Welfare Fund) Regulations, 1998.
- (iii) G.S.R. 278(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1998 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Employees (Retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (iv) G.S.R. 279(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1998 approving the Tuticorin Port Employees (Retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (v) G.S.R. 280(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1998 approving the Madras Port Employees (Retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (vi) G.S.R. 281(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1998 approving the Cochin Port Employees (Retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (vii) G.S.R. 285(E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1998 approving the Kandla Port Employees (Retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (viii) G.S.R. 312(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th June, 1997 approving the Tuticorin Port Trust Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1997.
- (ix) G.S.R. 169(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd April, 1998 approving the Calcutta Port Trust Employees (Medical Attendance and Treatment) Regulations, 1998.
- (x) G.S.R. 182(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th April 1998 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Trust Employees (Recruitment of Heads of Department) Regulations, 1998.
- (xi) G.S.R. 187(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th April, 1998 approving the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Employees (Classification, Control and Appeal) Regulations, 1998.
- (xii) G.S.R. 282(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1998 approving the New Mangalore Port Trust Employees (Retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1998.
- (xiii) G.S.R. 80(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th February, 1998 containing the Corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 398(E) dated the 2nd September, 1996.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 915/98]
- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 916/98]
- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the

- Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (4) Two Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 917/98]
- (5) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Cochin Shipyard Limited, and the Ministry of Surface Transport for the year 1998-99.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 918/98]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Delhi Transport Corporation, New Delhi, for the year, 1995-96 under sub-section (3) of section 35 of the Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Delhi Transport Corporation, New Delhi for the year 1995-96.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 919/98]
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of Delhi Transport Corporation, New Delhi, for the year, 1995-96 together with Audit Report thereon under sub-section (4) of section 33 of the Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the Audited Accounts of the Delhi Transport Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 920/98]
- (10) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 5E of the Dock Workers (Regulations of Employment) Act, 1948 :
- (a) (i) Annual Report of the Ex. Bombay Dock Labour Board for the year 1995-96 together with Audited Accounts.
(ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Ex. Bombay Dock Labour Board for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 921/98]
- (b) (i) Annual Report of the Ex. Bombay Dock Labour Board, for the year 1996-97 together with Audited Accounts.
(ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Ex. Bombay Dock Labour Board, for the year 1996-97.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 922/98]
- (c) (i) Annual Report of the Mormugao Dock Labour Board, for the year 1996-97 together with Audited Accounts.
(ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Mormugao Dock Labour Board, for the year 1996-97.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 923/98]
- (d) (i) Annual Report of the Chennai Dock Labour Board, Chennai, for the year 1996-97 together with Audited Accounts.
(ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Chennai Dock Labour Board, Chennai, for the year 1996-97.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 924/98]
- (e) (i) Annual Administrative Report of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board, for the year 1996-97 together with Audited Accounts.
(ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board, for the year 1996-97.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 925/98]
- (f) (i) Annual Report of the Kandla Dock Labour Board, for the year 1996-97 together with Audited Accounts.
(ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Kandla Dock Labour Board, for the year 1996-97.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 926/98]
- (g) (i) Annual Report of the Cochin Dock Labour Board, Kochi, for the year 1996-97 together with Audited Accounts.
(ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Cochin Dock Labour Board, Kochi, for the year 1996-97.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 927/98]
- (h) (i) Annual Administration Report of the Calcutta

- Dock Labour Board, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97 together with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.
- (11) Eight Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at 10 above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 928/98]

12.01 hrs.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEES — A REVIEW

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, Hindi and English versions of, the "Financial Committees (1997) — A Review".

12.01 ½ hrs.

[English]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Reports

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture:

- (1) First Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the First Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1996-97) relating to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation).
- (2) Second Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98) relating to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation).
- (3) Third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Tenth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98) relating to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture Research and Education).

- (4) Fourth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98) relating to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying).
- (5) Fifth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Twelfth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98) relating to the Ministry of Water Resources.
- (6) Sixth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Thirteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98) relating to the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

12.02 hrs.

[English]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

First Report

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH (BHARATPUR): Sir, I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on External Affairs on Demands for Grants of Ministry of External Affairs for the year 1998-98.

12.02 ½ hrs.

[English]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS

First Report

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (CALCUTTA SOUTH): Sir, I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Railways on 'Demands for Grants (1998-99)' of the Ministry of Railways.

12.03 hrs.

[English]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Sixty-eighth, Sixty-ninth and Seventieth Reports

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (INDORE): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of

the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development:

- (1) Sixty-eighth Report on Demands for Grants 1998-99 of the Department of Family Welfare (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare);
- (2) Sixty-ninth Report on Demands for Grants 1998-99 of the Department of Health (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare); and
- (3) Seventieth Report on Demands for Grants 1998-99 of the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy. (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare).

12.03 ½ hrs.

[English]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT
AND TOURISM

Thirty-First, Thirty-Second and Thirty Third Reports

SHRI P.M. SAYEED (LAKSHADWEEP): Sir, I beg to lay the Thirty-First, Thirty-Second and Thirty-Third Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism on Demands for Grants (1998-99), of the Department of Tourism, Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of Surface Transport respectively.

12.04 hrs.

[English]

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(i) Court of University of Delhi

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Statute 2 (1) (xix) of the Statutes of the University of Delhi, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Court of the University of Delhi, subject to other provisions of the Statutes. The members so elected shall not be the employees of the University of Delhi of a recognised College or Institution of that University."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Statute 2(1) (xix) of the Statutes of the University of Delhi, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Court of the University of Delhi, subject to other provisions of the Statutes. The

members so elected shall not be the employees of the University of Delhi of a recognised College or Institution of that University."

The motion was adopted.

(ii) Council of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of clause 9(1) (e) of the Scheme for the Administration and Management of the Properties and Funds of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, read with Regulation 3.1 and 3.1.1 of the Regulations of the Institute, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, subject to other provisions of the scheme and Regulations."

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is :

"That in pursuance of clause 9(1)(e) of the Scheme for the Administration and Management of the Properties and Funds of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, read with Regulation 3.1 and 3.1.1 of the Regulations of the Institute, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Council of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, subject to other provisions of the scheme and Regulations."

The motion was adopted.

(iii) Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 5(j) read with Section 6(2) of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram Act, 1980, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 5(j) read with Section 6(2) of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram Act, 1980, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and

Technology, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

(iv) **Council of Indian Institutes of Technology**

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 31(2)(k) of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Council of Indian Institutes of Technology, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 31(2)(k) of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Council of Indian Institutes of Technology, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

(v) **Court of Aligarh Muslim University**

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-clause (xxiv) of clause (1) of Statutes 14 of the Statutes of Aligarh Muslim University, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, six Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Court of Aligarh Muslim University, subject to other provisions of the Statutes. The members so elected shall not be the employees of the University."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-clause (xxiv) of clause (1) of Statutes 14 of the Statutes of Aligarh Muslim University, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, six Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Court of Aligarh Muslim University, subject to other provisions of the Statutes. The members so elected shall not be the employees of the University."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI (RAIGARH): Sir, I have given a notice about the price rise.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the prices of potato, onion and tomato are sky rocketting ...*(Interruptions)* You may be aware of the rates of potato, onion and tomato ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ajit Jogi, please sit down. Now, I have called Shri Prabhunath Singh to raise his issue. I will allow you also.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please understand. There are as many as 35 Members in the list who have given notices to raise their issues' during today's 'Zero Hour'. I will allow all of them, one by one.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is very important issue ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have called the name of Shri Prabhunath Singh. Let him speak.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL (HINGOLI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, common man survive with chapati and salt but prices of salt have also increased...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Prabhunath Singh says.

(Interruptions)

[Translations]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir the situation in Bihar is discussed in the House every other day ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to price rise... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you, please take your seat. I will allow you also, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, if you are not going to make your submission, I will call the next Member.

*Not Recorded.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand, I will allow all the Members. Please take your seat. Madam, the Leader of the Opposition is on his legs. Please take your seat.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (BARAMATI): Shrimati Suryakanta Patil would like to raise an important issue which concerns everybody in the country, that is, rise in prices. Our request is, please give her an opportunity to say what exactly she wants to say. We have no objection if immediately afterwards you call other Members.

MR. SPEAKER : Immediately after Shri Prabhunath Singh, I will call her.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, eventhough the members of Bihar are not given the opportunity to speak on the issue of power but the situation in Bihar is discussed in the House every other day and mostly the law and order situation in Bihar is discussed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell that we have to face the music in our constituency for speaking against Government of Bihar in this House. On 3.7.98 three persons in plain clothes went to my Patna residence and introduced themselves as CID officials. They threatened the people there and asked them about my whereabouts. After creating panic they left that place. As on 4.7.1998 Saturday, the session of Lok Sabha was in progress, I did not go to Patna and came here. Same day five policemen went to my Patna residence and insulted the people living there. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask that if we have to suffer retribution in our constituency if we speak against Government of Bihar and have to suffer in the capital if we speak against the Central Government, then how we shall feel secure? In this connection I had written three letters to Hon'ble Home Minister and have informed you also about the factual position. A confrontation with State Government is on for the last four years and State Government has made attempts thrice to kill me.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, after becoming M.P. when I went to my constituency on 11.4.98 I was attacked. One person was arrested in this connection. Mr. Speaker, Sir, under such circumstances we do not find ourselves safe. At present one special system is prevailing in Bihar. The S.P. informs the Member over telephone or by letter that he is not safe so he should make arrangement for his security. My friend Shri Sushil Kumar Singh has been informed by S.P. of Aurangabad that his life is in danger so he should make arrangement for his security. Similar calls are coming from the S.P. of Chhapra and Seewan. I would like to know that when our lives are in danger then why Government of Bihar is not realising this. It simply sends letters advising us to make security arrangements at our own. Why should we keep arms illegally for our protection. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from this House as to what arrangement should we make for our protection. We have also written to you in this regard enclosing a letter from the S.P. We are showing this letter to you. In Bihar, S.P. used to send letters to members. I am laying these letters on the Table of the House. You can see yourself what

type of letters are being written to us. I read out these orders...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is a matter relating to the security of an Hon'ble Member. Is there any response from the Government side?

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the letter written to Hon'ble Sushil Kumar Singh it was mentioned that "in the light of information received, you are informed that you are the target of M.C.C. reactionary forces and therefore, you are requested to pay special attention towards your security and we expect you to inform us about the requirement of additional force." ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR (KATIHAR) : What is wrong in this ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (CHANDIGARH): You please listen and speak afterwards. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Do not shout like this ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI (SAIDPUR) : Such incident is taking place and you are saying what is wrong in it? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: This matter should be referred to Privilege Committee. The Committee should examine this ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government that the situations of Bihar should be closely watched. The members who are against the State Government of Bihar should be provided foolproof security arrangements. In Bihar neither the public nor the representatives of public are safe. In Bihar State Government has established Jungle Raj...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I would like to request you to direct the Minister of Home Affairs to provide Security to those MPs from Bihar. I only want to submit this ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Sir, I would simply like to know as to what arrangement he has made for our protection on the basis of information given by the hon'ble Minister. We are fulfilling our responsibility by giving this letter to you...*(Interruptions)*

*No recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: I am advised not to visit my constituency...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Member, please take your seat. I have not allowed you.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : There is no arrangement for my protection.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It has already been mentioned by Shri Prabhunath Singh. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

DR. BIJAY SONKAR SHASTRI : His life is in danger so you please listen what he wants to say.

[English]

Mr. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. Please sit down.

(Interruption)*

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Someone wants to kill us and there is no arrangement for our security...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. When I am on my legs, you have to sit down...(Interruptions)

Mr. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, please take your seat. When I am on my legs, you have to sit down. Please take your seat. It is not good. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit...(Interruptions). Someone's life is in danger ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. Nothing goes on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that two MLAs were murdered in Bihar and only a condolence was observed in the Legislative Assembly. Whether this House will also observe condolence in case members of this House are also murdered. All ministers of Central Government are present here. I want that Central Government should intervene in this matter and take necessary action in this regard...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats. Please hear me.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present here. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (CALCUTTA SOUTH): Hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister is present here; let him please take note of it and say something about this. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Please resume your seat...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA (BILHAUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Husband of an Hon'ble Member has been murdered and after that attempts are being made to murder one Hon'ble Member of this House...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You please, sit down.

[English]

Hon. Members, I have received three letters including one from Shri Prabhunath Singh with regard to the security of the Hon. Members. I had referred them to the Hon. Home Minister. I turn, I had got the replies from the Hon. Home Minister. The State Government of Bihar had been asked to provide the Member with requisite security. With regard to the other Member's cases also, I have got the replies.

It is a serious matter concerning the security of the hon. Members. So, apart from whatever I said, if the Government side wants to say something, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister can do so.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, what has been said here I will certainly ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Let him say what he wants to.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I will talk to hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs with regard to the sentiments expressed by Hon'ble Member Shri Prabhunath Singh.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete, please do not disturb him.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I will talk to Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs to provide security to both Hon'ble Members Shri Sushil Kumar Singh and Shri Prabhunath Singh. But as regards, the second question which you have raised that some CID persons entered your premises, it is upto you to decide whether you want to refer this matter to privilege committee or not...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Sir, this should be referred to the Privileges Committee...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA) : Sir, we have the case of the Andhra Pradesh Member of Parliament here, Shri Raja Sekara Reddy. So, let him talk to all the States; the Members of Parliament and their families should be looked after ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: It is absolutely correct ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Suryakanta Patil. Please allow other hon. Members also to speak.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Please do not suppress the women to such an extent...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much. Please take your seats. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Army and

Police were sent there and the matter was referred to the Privilege Committee...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed Shrimati Suryakanta Patil to speak.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the situation after the Lok Sabha elections held in February is before the country. The present Government supported by 20 allies had committed to control the price rise ...(Interruptions) Please have patience to listen...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not disturb her please.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: The life of common man and Jhugi-Jhonpari dwellers has become miserable in this country. Earlier labour community used to eat chapati with common salt and drink water. But now-a-days even drinking water is not available for them. The prices of common salt are sky rocketing. Potatoes and tomatoes with the seasoning of onion were the part of common man's meal but due to the increased price, tomatoes and onions being sold at the rate of Rs. 40 and 15 per Kg respectively. Now the prices of 'arhar' and edible oil have raised to Rs. 35/kg and Rs. 45/kg respectively. Millet and wheat is not available to common man. The goods which were made available to poor man in Fair Price Shops have now been stopped. The poor man is finding himself helpless to live the life....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed her. Please do not disturb her.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Some people may not like it but after the Pokhran Test, economic aid from foreign countries has been stopped...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, not like this. I have allowed her. Please let her complete.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : You may feel offended but the common man is finding himself helpless. He is feeling helpless after stoppage of economic assistance from other countries and increase in inflation.

12.27 hrs.

(SHRI P.M. SAYEED in the Chair)

I request you to give an opportunity to all the members to the House to participate in the discussions and there should be a wide discussion in this regard...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS (MUKUNDAPURAM): Sir, this is a very important matter...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, not like this. I am on my legs. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs wants to react to this matter. He wants to say something on this.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Government wants to react.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am on my legs.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. What is going on here?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the matter regarding the price rise has been raised here.. (Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BENERJEE: Sir, we have also given notice. He may reply after we have spoken. Sir, let him listen to other Members also...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I call Kumari Mamata Banerjee to speak. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to her. I have called Mamataji to speak on the same matter.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: We are also a part of the Government. Please do not raise objections...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, it is an issue which we have raised and we are asking the Government to reply. We are part of the Opposition and as Opposition Members, we have raised this issue. She is not part of the Opposition. She is part of the Government and she wants to raise the issue herself. This is not correct....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : She wants to make a submission.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already called her.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Government is going to react.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I have yielded. ... (interruptions).

(English)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : We have to oppose.. (Interruptions) It is not a democracy... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please cooperate with me. I have called her.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri A.C. Jos, this is 'Zero Hour'. I have permitted her to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (BARAMULLA) : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order during Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already called her. You cannot question it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have raised a matter. The Government wants to react.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called her.

(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Sir, I am on a point of order... (Interruptions). This is not about Zero Hour. This is regarding business of the House under Rule 376. ... (Interruptions) You kindly listen to me. If you give a ruling, I will accept it ... (Interruptions) Actually, this is a point of order. You have to listen to me. I am quoting the rule. You please do care for the rule.... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly resume your seat.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under what rule?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Under Rule 376. Whenever the Chair asks a Member from the House to speak, that becomes the business of the House. You called Shri Madan Lal Khurana to answer a point raised by Shrimati Patil. Therefore, Shri Khurana was on his legs. That is the business of the House... (Interruptions) Let Kumari Mamata Banerjee speak afterwards.... (Interruptions) Shri Khurana was on his legs.... (Interruptions) Shri Khurana will respond to Shrimati Patil... (Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : During Zero Hour, there is no point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to give the ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has raised a point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan, will you please allow me to give the ruling?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not asking for your cooperation.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I want to give the ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Pramothas Mukherjee, please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: They also are responsible ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please resume your seat?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I am on a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Radhakrishnan, I am on my legs, please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, I am on a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can raise it only if I allow you. You please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please hear my ruling now.

This is not happening for the first time. During the intervention by a Minister if an hon. Member wants to ask a question on the same issue, then the Minister can reply later on. I have called her name. Kumari Mamata Banerjee will now ask a question and then the hon. Minister will reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Sir, I am not objecting to your ruling. But I would like to submit a point...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already given my ruling.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (BERHAMPORE) (WB): Sir, you have called the hon. Minister...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called Mamataji. I have given her permission to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE: No, Sir. You have called the hon. Minister...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you questioning my authority?

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, I am only placing a suggestion for your consideration and further action. This is a burning issue of the day. The people are fed up with this crisis. They are very much worried and upset as to what is happening in the country. So, it is our primary duty to bring it to the notice of the Government.

Sir, the Members of the ruling party have the opportunity to meet the Ministers at any point of time but we can raise it only on the floor of the House. The Government has to reply only when we raise it. So, I would like to request the Chair to give opportunity to all those Members who want to raise it and then only the Hon. Minister should reply to it ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I am doing. Kumari Mamata Banerjee also wants to ask a question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, the only point is that Kumari Mamata Banerjee is a part of the Government and she cannot eat the cake and have it too...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: As a Member of this House she can ask any question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS: Sir, she is supporting the Government from outside...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Jos, you were the Speaker of the Kerala Assembly and you know that whether or not she is a part of the Government, in the first place she is a Member of this House.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, let us hear Mamataji.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, let Shrimati Suryakanta Patil complete her submission...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kumari Mamata Banerjee is already on her legs.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Sir, I want to say something regarding your ruling. I am not disturbing her ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You already have made your submissions.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Please listen to me for a minute. I would like to state one thing. First listen to all those members who have to speak after Mamataji. Then ask Shri Khurana to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I am doing. The matter jumbled up here. I had stated that I will also call them.

[English]

Please cooperate now.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I am very grateful to you, Sir...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you give her a patient hearing?

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak as a member. I am not a Cabinet Member but I am a member of the House. I felt hurt when a very senior member like Shri Rajesh Pilot has stopped me from speaking...*(Interruptions)* When Shri Rajiv Gandhi was P.M. he allowed me to speak when ever raised a matter.

[English]

I was then the Member of the ruling Congress Party.

[Translation]

I would like to submit that I have not come here on behalf of the Government. I would like to talk about the common people. You are stating another thing, it should not be happened.

It is true that Price rise is taking place and there are many reasons for it. It is the desire of the people that Central and State Governments should meet together and formulate a Plan of action to solve this problem. Prices differ from one state to another. These differ from one locality to another.

[English]

There is no control in the overall situation.

[Translation]

The prices of onion and tomatoes are Rs. 14/-kg and 42/- kg, respectively. Green Chilly is being sold at Rs. 35 per kg in Delhi and Rs 110/- in Calcutta. I would like to speak on behalf of the common man...*(Interruptions)* The price of edible oil has also been raised. Prices of vegetable have also shot up. How a common man will eat only boiled potatoes ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please cooperate with the Chair. Let us hear her.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Essential Commodities Act did not become successful due to the black-marketeers and hoarders.

[English]

The Prime Minister should make a statement on price rise, stating the actual position in different States. Why the State Government is not taking action on the Essential Commodities Act? He should call a meeting with all the Chief Ministers of the States. Secondly, the Prime Minister should make a statement so that a message goes to the people that the prices are under control and they will not be allowed to go out of control. The Minister should take a strong note of it. This is my submission.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA): Nobody can deny the fact that the prices of essential commodities have gone beyond the reach of not only the poor but even the upper middle class. This has never happened in the past. Not only that, we should also remember that the present Government has done away with all kinds of rationing, including what was agreed upon during the UJ Government, that is to supply essential commodities at half the price to the people living below the poverty line. The excise duty on a number of essential commodities has been scrapped. All this has given rise to the present situation.

We cannot go on like this. We must resort to rationing system. We must distribute essential commodities through ration shops. That is number-one priority in the country now and not the nuclear tests. Let the Minister make it clear whether the Government is going to ration the sale of essential commodities till the prices do not come down.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I come from the State of Kerala which is deficit in all essential commodities. Prices of vegetables in the market have shot up beyond imagination. Adding fuel to the fire, the Government has issued a notification to the effect that common salt should not be stored in the markets. Sale of common salt is completely banned by the Union Government. The price of common salt was less than Re. 1 per kg in the market. Following the ban, the poor man is compelled to purchase iodised salt at about Rs. 6 or Rs. 7 a kg. Even the medical opinion is differing on whether common salt should not be consumed at all and whether iodised salt alone should be consumed. These issues have not been decided upon as yet. The High Court also intervened in the matter. By this decision of the Government, the poor man is put to a lot of hardship. It is not just the prices of vegetables in the market going up even the common salt is not available in the market now. The poor man is forced to purchase iodised salt which is distributed to those travelling in the aircraft. This has created a very difficult situation in the State of Kerala. I would request the Government to withdraw the notification banning the sale of common salt, especially

so in the light of the soaring prices of vegetables, and save the poor man the hardship.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the concern expressed by the Members from both the sides regarding the price rise is natural. The Government also want to state the reasons for it, whether prices have increased now or these were rising since long. You have just now stated about the common salt which Government is responsible to take the decision regarding the salt to be iodised. ...*(Interruptions)* Let me complete first.

I would like this matter to be discussed in the House under any rule. It is upto the Chairman. I would like the Government to present its views also when the whole House in very much concerned about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Business Advisory Committee should decide about it.

[English]

Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN (BAHRAICH): I am on a point of order.

Sir, you have given the direction to the hon. Minister to respond to the sentiments which have been expressed by the hon. Members from both the sides, not to seek his opinion as to whether the matter should be discussed in this House or not. Basically, what the House is concerned is about the steps the Government proposes to take to bring down the prices of the commodities which have gone totally beyond the reach not only of the common man but even the people belonging to the middle classes. Today it is being said that a man goes to the shop and says, I will buy a particular vegetable only if the doctor prescribes it. Prices of commodities have gone beyond the purchasing power and beyond the reach of the common man.

Basically the hon. Minister needs to give confidence to the entire House and to the whole country that the Government has not favoured the middlemen who are earning the profits and that the Government would try to bring down the prices.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Arif Khan, the Government is prepared to have a discussion under any Rule. Therefore, as a whole, the House will discuss it and the Government will come out with the steps as to how to tackle this problem. *(Interruptions)* That will be decided by the Business Advisory Committee.

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir through you, I would like to inform the whole House and

specially the Government about a matter of serious concern. Our country is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its independence. Every Political Party and all sections of the society have celebrated. A function was held in Delhi in Speaker hall on 2nd July. In that function, freedom fighter and ex-vice-Prime Minister Shri Devi Lal was honoured by Delhi Freedom Fighter Forum. Ex-President Shri Shankar Dayal Sharma and Ex-Prime Minister Shri Chandrasekhar were present these.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a special mention and not a speech. Other members have to speak.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN. Shri Madan Lal Khurana and Chief Minister of Delhi Shri Sahib Singh Verma and freedom fighters from Delhi, Punjab and Haryana were also present there. Press people from all over the country and officials from 'Doordarshan' were also there. However, it is a sorry state a affairs that a person who fought for the freedom of the country was not shown on television under some conspiracy. It is an insult of a freedom fighter. Hon'ble Shri Devi Lal has been the Member of the House and also the other House. Injustice has been done to him. It is not the insult of only Shri Devi Lal but the insult of all the freedom fighters and the House.

Today Doordarshan has become commercial. There is nothing like freedom there. I would like to ask the Government through you as to what is the conspiracy behind it. This matter should be enquired as there is malafied intention behind it.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH (BANKA): It is a very serious matter. Government should reply to it.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, many unimportant news are covered by Doordarshan and vulgar films are shown on television...*(Interruptions)* Doordarshan has become commercial *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Government will take note of it.

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN : This news has been published in all the newspapers but Doordarshan has not telecast it. Such types of incidents should not take place in future.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. It should not take place.

(Interruption)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister may kindly note it and bring it to the notice of the concerned Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN : It is an insult to all the freedom fighters of the country...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, since when Prasar Bharti Board has been constituted, television and Radio are working as an autonomous body. Such type

of complaints have been received earlier also. I will ask the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to look into the matter.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN : The matter will not be solved only by this way. It is a conspiracy...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister has already taken note of it. Now please be seated.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please resume your seat? I have called Shrimati Abha Mahto.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI (KURUKSHETRA) : We will not let this matter be suppressed. The Minister of the Government whom we supported unconditionally has done this...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except what Shrimati Abha Mahto says.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI ABHA MAHTO (JAMSHEDPUR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this matter is related to country's security and it is also related to my parliamentary constituency. It is being mentioned in the newspaper for the last few days that uranium is being stolen from Jadugoda and then smuggled from there. Two smugglers have also been arrested in Ansol. They have admitted that uranium is being stolen from that place. That uranium is sent to Kathmandu via Muzaffarpur and after that it is sent to Pakistan. Recently in Muzaffarpur uranium worth Rs. 1 crore was seized from the cement godown of one Congress leader. Uranium which is very vital commodity is being smuggled to Pakistan. My request is that an enquiry into it should be conducted through C.B.I. as we have a doubt that Management is also involved in this case.

PROF. RITA VERMA (DHANBAD) : An enquiry should be conducted into it through CBI.

SHRIMATI ABHA MAHTO : This is an anti-national activity. My demand is that an enquiry into it should be conducted through C.B.I. immediately.

13.00 hrs.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (BARAMULLA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as you and other Members of this august House know, Delhi is a polluted city. There have been surveys that show

that Delhi is one of the four most polluted cities of the world. When I was there in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, we consulted experts, NGOs, prominent citizens and the Delhi Administration, including the Chief Minister and the then Lt. Governor, and produced a White Paper and an Action Plan, and the Union Government had approved that. Now, instead of implementing those recommendations, the Lt. Governor of Delhi and the Health Minister of Delhi gave a statement twice that air pollution has no relation to the disease of lungs and other parts of the body. This is misleading. Therefore, there is a hue and cry in Delhi and elsewhere raised by environmentalists and NGOs, particularly by the centre of Science and Environment.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now please conclude.

MR. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : This is a very important question, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want from the Government on this?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, instead of implementing the Action Plan produced by the Ministry at that time, the Delhi Administration is now dragging its feet and misleading the citizens that there is no danger of pollution and that there is no question of pollution impairing the health of the citizens. So, I want through you, Sir, that the Delhi Administration must be cautioned on implementation of the Action Plan that had been approved by previous Government and the Lt. Governor and the Health Minister of Delhi should not make these misleading statements. We must fight pollution not only in Delhi but in all major cities of India and in all villages throughout the country. We must fight against this menace and these people who hold very important position, should not mislead the citizens of Delhi because there are so many people lying in the hospital fighting a battle for life. There are respiratory problems. So, the pollution is a menace and we must fight against it and we must caution the Lt. Governor to withdraw that statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Prof. Kurien.

[Translation]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (FAIZABAD) : Mr. Chairman, Sir I have given notice as per rules. Is our notice not considered a notice?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please resume your seat? I have to conduct this House. I am calling the Members from all sides. You will have to withdraw that remark.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : What does this mean?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : If at all your name is there and if the Speaker has included your name, you will get a chance, but not like this. You are passing some remarks.

[Translation]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: We have given notice with discipline. Why our notices are not being taken up?

[English]

AN HON. MEMBER : The Members are feeling hungry, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you are feeling hungry, then you go home. I am also feeling hungry.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (MAVELIKARA): Sir, I would like to bring a very important matter to the notice of the Government.

AN HON. MEMBER : Nobody from the Government is hearing you.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, someone from the Government should listen to me. The Ministers are talking amongst themselves.

Sir, the devastating floods have caused a lot of damage in the State of Kerala. Thousands of people have been rendered homeless. A number of cattle have died. The standing crops have been damaged. The State Government of Kerala has opened some shelters. This has happened mostly in my district and the suburban district. I understand that there are some casualties also. But I am sorry to say that the Government of India has not taken any steps in this regard. I do not know why. Usually, when such floods occur, the Government comes forward with some statement and gives some assistance to the State Government to give relief to the affected people. This has not happened so far. This is unusual as far as the functioning of the Government of India is concerned. I do not know why they are keeping quiet.

I would request the Government to immediately ask the Agriculture Minister to get a report from the State of Kerala, come to this House and give a statement on the damage, loss of human lives and other things, and also give assistance to the State of Kerala in order to meet relief operations.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY (MOHANLALGANJ): Mr. Chairman, Sir, when I provided the list to Chief Development Officer* regarding the works to be done with funds released under MPLADS and after one month when I asked about the progress of work done....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should not mention the name of the officer. The name should be expunged from the record.

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: He replied that since he was answerable to the people, he would give reply and that I was not concerned with this. This is how he had talked to me. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to know whether the funds released under MPLADS can be spent after consulting MPs or has the Chief Development Officer full powers to spend that fund arbitrarily....(Interruptions) In this way he has

misbehaved with me. I want that action should be taken against him(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I would also like to tell that this work is not being done properly....(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : This is a serious matter(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister will take note of it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow her to say something. Please be seated.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister will take note of it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Kalyan Singh has said that officers should not accept what MPs and MLAs are saying. Since then officers are working arbitrarily. No one is paying attention towards what MPs and MLAs are saying. This situation has arisen as a result of Hon'ble Chief Minister's order and if the funds released under MPLADS have to be spent with the permission of the Chief Development Officer then it should be allocated in his name. We don't want that fund.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seats. The Minister is reacting to what she said.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to clear one thing that as far as M.P. Development Fund is concerned, what members say only that work will be done. The Officers or the machinery whether it is P.W.D. or Irrigation Department or Corporation, all these agencies should only implement their decisions. Therefore her saying that these funds should be released in the name of Development Officers is not correct. It is your right and it will be released as per your order. If you give your complaint to me in writing then I will certainly write letter to the concerned Minister about that Officer ... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY : This matter should be referred to Privilege Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You give this in writing. He will take action.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I have already said that you give this in writing. I will take action on it.

[English]

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (KASARGOD): Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of the Railway Minister towards the....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramdas Athawale, I have called Shri Govindan. Kindly resume your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (CHAIL) : It is related to this matter only....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If one member raises related issue then all members will raise related issues. The House will not run on one issue only.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: It has been said that Chief Development Officer convenes meeting during session also. He should be given instructions that no meeting should be convened during session. District Magistrates are working arbitrarily. They are not calling representative of people by convening meeting during session....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Just now Hon'ble Minister has responded to it.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, our presence is essential in the meeting convened by District Magistrate and Chief Development Officer but that meeting is convened during session.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Did you listen to what Hon'ble Minister has said just now?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Shri Govindan.

(Interruptions)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You do not have patience to hear even the Chair.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Railway Minister towards the warlike condition developing between the passengers and the railway authorities in Kerala. There were reports in newspapers in Kerala that the passengers trespassing the railway station have abused and attacked the railway staff. I hope that the hon. Railway Minister will find out what are the reasons for the trouble between the passengers and the railway staff.

*Not Recorded.

Sir, as you are aware, trains are running late by five to six hours in the State of Kerala and some trains are reaching only the next day. During the debate on the Railway Budget, we explained the position very clearly in this House. But the same situation is still continuing and it is worsening day-by-day. So, I would request the hon. Railway Minister to increase the number of trains and also the number of coaches in the trains. I would also request the Minister to introduce a new train from Mangalore to Shoranur. I would once again request the hon. Railway Minister to take necessary steps immediately.

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (BASIRHAT): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this august House towards a serious matter involving public interest also. Everyday, through the Indo-Bangladesh border in West Bengal, particularly in the North 24 Pargana district of West Bengal, all the essential commodities including all kinds of vegetables, spices and edible oils which are necessary for the livelihood of the common people....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chakraborty, this matter had come up here earlier. Everybody has spoken and the Hon. Minister has given an assurance. We are going to have a discussion on this matter and you will have ample opportunity to speak on this matter during that discussion.

13.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Ten Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Seventeen Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.

(SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASHAD SINGH in the Chair)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to Take Steps for all Round Development of Bundelkhand Region in U.P.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (JHANSI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, twelve backward districts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh which constitute the Bundelkhand Region are facing acute water shortage and there are no employment opportunities in the area. The Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh Government have not taken any concrete measures for the all round development of the region. Unless the youths of this region get employment till then unemployment cannot be removed and if unemployment is not removed, it will result in starvation.

I request the Union Government to :

1. Set up industrial growth centre in the area for the industrial development of the region. Besides, heavy industries should be set up and the same should be given power at cheap rates. Concession should be given to them in taxes. They should be provided bank

loan facility at lower rate of interest and grant should be provided to them for setting up industries.

2. Cultivable land should be levelled, wasteland should be made cultivable and irrigation should be done through small dams and ponds.
3. Power houses should be set up to remove shortage of power in area.
4. Central Government should accept its responsibility that it will offer an economic package to provide drinking water to every village and city of Bundelkhand Region during the next 3 years.

(ii) Need to Open LPG Outlets in Important Towns of Amethi Parliamentary Constituency, U.P.

DR. SANJAY SINGH (AMETHI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in Amethi Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh fuel is not available in sufficient quantity. Keeping in view the need of environment, trees are not allowed to be cut. Therefore, to overcome fuel shortage in this area, there is a need to provide extra cooking gas. The consumers are facing great difficulty and people are forced to buy cooking gas in the blackmarket.

Therefore, I request the Government to open new gas agencies in Bhadoi, Musafirkhana, Jagdisphpur, Shukla Bazar areas of Amethi Parliamentary constituency and to provide mobile van for supply of cooking gas in rural areas of this Parliamentary constituency.

(iii) Need to Declare Siddarth Nagar District in U.P. as Industrially Backward District and set up Industries There

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH (DOMARIAGANJ): My Parliamentary Constituency Siddarth Nagar is very backward. There is no industry there as a result of which the people have to leave their homes to earn their livelihood. In 1991 permission for setting up a sugar mill was given, but till now it has not been set up. With the result that sugarcane goes to other districts's sugarmill, which results in loss of time and money. This district is located near Nepal's border as a result of which smuggling takes place and in the absence of work, young people are forced to take to wrong path.

Therefore, I demand from the Central Government that this district should be declared as no industry district and all facilities including concession in taxes should be given to this district so that industries are set up in order to remove poverty and unemployment in the district.

(iv) Need to Issue Caste Certificate to SC's and ST's Living in Chandigarh Irrespective of Their Time of Settlement There.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (CHANDIGARH) : Chandigarh is a union territory. People belonging to SCs and STs live there in large number. As Chandigarh is the capital of Punjab and Haryana transfers of employees from other States to Chandigarh take place. Besides this during last 20-30 years people from other States and their families have settled there. These people need 'Scheduled Caste Certificate' for their

children's employment, for admission in schools and colleges and for other matters, but the administration there is issuing Scheduled Caste Certificates according to a Central Government's circular under which Scheduled Caste Certificates are issued to only those families who are living there on or before 1st Nov., 1966.

These certificates are not being issued to persons who came and settled there after that date.

For this reason there is great resentment and anger among the people there. The people belonging to scheduled caste do not get scheduled caste certificate even after running from pillar to post. They feel that the rights given to them under Constitution are being taken away indirectly as a result of this circular. Almost all political parties of Chandigarh and different associations of scheduled castes have already demanded withdrawal of this circular.

I demand from Central Government to withdraw this circular immediately and to issue instructions to Chandigarh administration to issue scheduled caste certificate to all people belonging to scheduled caste irrespective of the time from which they have settled in Chandigarh.

(V) Need to Clear Schemes of Maharashtra Government Submitted under Accelerated Urban Water Supply Scheme

[English]

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL (KHED) : Sir, the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted about thirty schemes under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Scheme about five years ago. Out of these, only nine schemes have so far been approved by the Union Government. This scheme is made applicable to the towns having 20,000 population as per 1991 census. But these towns are selected by the State Level Committee of this scheme. Expenditure on this scheme is equally shared by both Government of India and the State Government. Owing to rapid urbanisation, the population of many towns has gone beyond 20,000. Hence, in order to give the benefit of this scheme to more towns, the State Government has requested to increase population limit from 20,000 to 50,000. The State Government has also demanded to increase the rate of water supply in urban areas from 70 lpcd to 100 lpcd. But the Union Government have not approved any of the two demands. Further the State Government has also requested the Union Government to sanction the remaining twenty-one schemes submitted by the State Government.

14.24 hrs.

(SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*)

So, I request the Government to take immediate steps to clear the remaining schemes and to increase the population limit and rate of water supply at the earliest.

(vi) Need to Continue Existing Policy for Distribution of Sugar Through Public Distribution System and Enhance Allocation of Foodgrains to Kerala State

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (KASARGOD): Sir, In Kerala, a well-

maintained rationing system is continuing for the last 30 years. Kerala being a highly food-deficit State, almost every family depends on the PDS rice and wheat for their daily requirements.

The State has been getting an annual allocation of 24,00,000 MTs of foodgrains for the past several years. However, with the implementation of the Targetted Public Distribution System (TDPs) from June 1997, the allotment to the State was reduced to 17.76 lakh tonnes (14.76 lakhs tonnes of rice and 3 lakh tonnes of wheat). The above allocation being not sufficient to meet the requirements of the State, Kerala Government took up the matter at various levels and consequently Government of India increased the allocation. For the last several months, Kerala has been getting about 1,48,000 MTs of rice and about 37,720 MTs of wheat only.

Unless the present level of allocation is sustained, it will be difficult to manage the public distribution system efficiently. Therefore, I urge the Union Government to at least maintain the present level of allocation.

Another important matter of concern is the proposal of Government of India to de-control and exclude sugar from the PDS within two years. The above policy of the Government will no doubt, cause immense harm to Kerala, which is largely dependent on the PDS sugar. De-control of sugar will lead to exorbitant price rise of sugar and will create undue hardships to the people. So, I request the Government of India to continue the existing policy as far as sugar distribution is concerned and also maintain the food allocation to Kerala State.

(vii) Need to Send a Central Team to Look into the Reasons for Jhumka Disease Found in Mangoes in Fruit Belt to Malhabad in U.P.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY (MOHANLALGANJ) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, not only Malhabad Assembly segment but the entire fruit belt comes under my parliamentary constituency, Mohanlalganj. But there is no train stoppage for trains to and from Delhi. Hence, there is a problem for the transportation of mangoes.

For the the last 15 years mangoes of Malhabad fruit belt are affected by a disease called 'Jhumka disease' and as a result, mango does not increase in size due to non-formation of stone in them and falls prematurely. Till now the causes of this disease are not known and, therefore, the problem persists.

Therefore, a team from the Centre should be sent to go into it. Central Mango Research Centre at Rehman Kheda is not working. Therefore, attention towards it should be paid and some action should be taken as early as possible.

(viii) Need to Provide Funds for Early Execution of Sethusamudram Canal Project in Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI VAIKO (SIVAKASI) : Sir, I rise to bring to the notice of the Government the need to execute Sethusamudram

Canal Project in Tamil Nadu immediately. Sethusamudram Project involves excavation of a canal in Rameswaram Island and connect Palk Strait with the Gulf of Mannar through this Canal. This Project has been pending for the last 135 years. Several Committees appointed by the State and Central Governments had recommended the Project. The estimated cost of the Project which was Rs. 37.34 crore in 1968 has escalated to Rs. 282 crore in 1984 and must have escalated further. The Project is very important in many ways.

If this Project is completed, the distance of sea route between the ports on the West coast and the ports on the East Coast could be reduced by over 360 nautical miles besides saving precious fuel and time. At present, the coal required for Tuticorin Thermal Power Plant is being transported by ship from Haldia through a circuitous route. If this Project is executed, the Shipping Corporation alone will save over Rs. 20 crore per year by way of saving fuel and time. This in turn will help Tamil Nadu Electricity Board to reduce the cost of generation of electricity. World container operators will also use this route since Tuticorin is the container transshipment centre between the United States and the Indian ports on the East Coast. This will earn considerable foreign exchange.

I urge the Government to execute this Sethusamudram Project at the earliest.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (MADRAS SOUTH) : I also associate myself with his views.

(ix) Need to Provide Better Facilities at Sirsa Railway Station, Haryana

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL-INDORA (SIRSA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Sirsa Railway station poses a danger to the life of passengers instead of providing facilities to them. At Sirsa station, platform has been built in opposite direction of the city. Therefore the passengers get down in the opposite direction to the platform instead of getting down at the platform because that suits them to reach their destinations. When the passengers alight, some stationary trains are there on the other tracks and movement of trains is also there. Thus, the passengers put their life in danger while crossing the tracks.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to close the direction of platform without delay so that likelihood of any accident is avoided. Besides the new platform should be four times larger than the present platform so that passengers can protect themselves from the sun, rain and cold and the entire train could also be accommodated at the platform.

(x) Need to Take Policy Decisions to Resolve the Long Pending Problems of Weavers in Nagpur Region

[English]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the serious problems and miserable conditions of Halba Kosti (weavers) community in Nagpur Region. Nearly 20 lakh weavers in Vidarbha are seriously hit by Government's casual attitude towards the problems of weavers in supply of yarn, credit

support and other related facilities. As a result, a large chunk of weavers are on the brink of starvation. The continued neglect of their basic problems has witnessed growing frustrations and mounting tensions and the situation which is turning explosive.

It is a pity that Vidarbha Region which enjoyed the glorious reputation of Manchester of India in early days stands nearly diminished and neglected. Most of the textile units in this region have either closed down or gone sick rendering thousands of Mill hands unemployed and in desperate conditions. Nagpur Sahakari Soot Gimi, a cooperative venture of Halba Kosti community employing 1,400 workers is closed down for the last two years and attempts for its revival have turned futile due to rigid policy of the State Government. All the workers engaged in this unit and their family members are badly hit and the education of their children is severely affected. This calls for Union Government's intervention.

It is most unfortunate that in spite of Government's declaration and resolve for the economic emancipation of weavers, there is hardly anything done to address their problems seriously. May I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take appropriate policy decisions to resolve the long pending problems of weavers in Nagpur region immediately before it is too late?

14.33 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF
ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE
AND

ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) Bill—Contd.

[English]

Mr. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up item nos. 21 and 22. Shri Surjit Singh Barnala to move that the Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 be taken into consideration.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 be taken into consideration."

As you are aware, the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 provides for the control of production, supply, distribution of, and trade and commerce in essential commodities to ensure their availability to the consumers at reasonable prices. The said Act was enacted 43 years ago. The Government has now reviewed all the provisions of the Act to make them more effective and responsible while harmonizing them with the existing climate of economic liberalisation. It is considered necessary to make certain amendments to the said Act to achieve the above objectives.

Sir, as you know, in spite of liberalisation of economic policies and improvement in production and supply of a

number of essential commodities in the recent past, consumers continue to suffer due to artificial scarcity of essential commodities. Anti-social elements are still indulging in malpractices in supply and distribution of essential commodities thus causing severe suffering to people, especially vulnerable sections of society.

In order to deal effectively with the persons indulging in hoarding and blackmarketing and profiteering in essential commodities and to facilitate expeditious disposal of cases, it is proposed to try all offences under this Act in summary manner and make them triable by the Special Courts.

As regards penalty, a reduction in the maximum period of imprisonment from seven years to two years has been proposed in the light of the fact that the offences will be tried in a summary manner, a minimum of fine has also been provided in some cases.

On the other hand there are complaints that small shop keepers and traders are harassed by the lower functionaries who misuse their powers which is termed as Inspector Raj. In order to curb such misuse, amendment has been proposed to the effect that lower field functionaries will be required to seek prior permission of an officer not below the rank of Executive Magistrate before making entry, examination or seizure of essential commodities. Also, no officer below the rank of Sub-inspector of Police shall arrest any person accused under the Act. It is further proposed to provide for certain allowance for difference between physical stock and stock on record due to climatic conditions or handling.

To keep pace with the process of liberalisation, it is proposed to delete the item "component parts and accessories of automobiles" declared as essential item under the Act. The automotive components have been delicensed and the automotive industry is now producing a wide range of components.

The Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981 lapsed on 31.8.1997. The provisions of this Act were thereafter promulgated as the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Ordinance, 1997 and again as the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Second Ordinance, 1998. These have been repealed.

As the hon. Members are aware, the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1998 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 29.5.1998. The Hon. Speaker had kindly referred the Bill to the Standing Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution for examination on 8.6.1998. The Standing Committee has examined and its report has been submitted to Lok Sabha. The Committee has recommended two amendments and the Government accepts these amendments.

This Bill is in the interest of the general public, hence I am confident that the House will extend its full support to this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motions moved:

"That this House disapproves of the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 (No. 13 of 1998), promulgated by the President on 25 April, 1998."

"That the Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (BEGUSARAI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1998 which has been presented in the House. As the Hon. Minister has informed just now that this bill was passed in 1955 and an amendment was made in it in 1981. Later on for the last 15 years amendments have been made in it after an interval of every 5 years.

Just now, the hon. Minister has stated in his statement that this amendment has been brought here to benefit the poor people of the country. But I can prove that this Amendment Bill has been brought here for benefit of traders. Presently there are three provisions in it. Earlier there was a provision of imprisonment for 10 years and a fine of Rs. 25000 for the offenders but through this amendment this imprisonment has been reduced to 2 years and the amount of fine has been left on discretion of the court. Earlier, the supply inspector and higher officials could file a case against a trader if they found any discrepancy or malpractice in the shop. But now through the second amendment this power has been vested in the SHO of police and no person of lesser rank can arrest the offenders. The third benefit that traders have been given is that no stock checking can be done without the permission of a first class magistrate. In the objectives of the bill it has been written that this Bill has been brought to dispose of the cases relating to hoarding, black-marketing and profiteering. This Bill has been brought to ensure smooth availability of essential commodities to consumers. But the period of imprisonment has been reduced from 7 years to two years because now trial of offences would be conducted in summary manner. Now they will not allow even trial in this regard and offenders would be punished after ordinary inquiry. An ordinance was brought to this affect earlier also but now it has lapsed. Later on it was referred to committee. After its lapse BJP Government with alliance parties came to bring. They all are influenced by this Bill. The objectives of this bill was to achieve smooth distribution of essential commodities like sugar, wheat, edible oil, dalda and other items through the outlets of Public Distribution System but all these food items have become expensive after issuance of this ordinance. Just now madam has told that now-a-days peas are being sold at Rs. 40 per kg. Cauliflower Rs. 45 per kg. Potato Rs. 18 per kg. Salt Rs. 7 per kg. rotten wheat at a rate of Rs. 18 per kg and rice at Rs. 25 per kg. Food items used by poor people are being sold at higher prices through outlets under PDS. Edible oil is being sold for Rs. 54 per kg, dalda for Rs. 55 per kg and tomato for Rs. 35 per kg. He may be knowing the price of headache tablet. Barnalaji had been Chief Minister of a State, he may be aware of this fact that except one-two States, Chief Ministers of all the States have given a written recommendation that no amendments should be made in its clause '7', whether it was West Bengal Government or the Government of his own party. The Chief Minister of BJP, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat has also given in writing that there is no need to make an amendment in Clause 7 but it was ignored for the benefit of traders.

Why this provisions was not made in it in 1955 when this Bill was passed. What is the need to make an amendment in it now. What resources do you have today. You have only 500 godowns in the country. There is a provision that an official can check the stock of godown but is it possible to check it? I would like to tell Hon. Minister that he may sent any committee or official to check the actual stock or count the sacks. But will they actually succeed in doing so? A circular was issued by the Government of India that sacks should be kept in such a manner that these could be counted and verified by stock register maintained for it by the State Committee, D.M. are officials appointed to do so.

Just now Hon. Minister has stated in his speech that relaxation is given if goods stocked in godowns get wet. I would like to say that water is sprinkled on sacks in godowns of civil supplies. Officials take 5 or 7 rupee per sack when foodgrain is supplied for outlets of Public Distribution. Wet sugar is supplied to them. The better quality of wheat sold in open market and inferior quality wheat is sold through outlets under the Public Distribution System. You proclaim to benefit poor people but I would like to say as to whether hon. Barnala has ever conducted a surprise check of any outlet under Public Distribution System during his chief Ministership. We MPs have been receiving complaints that inferior quality commodities are supplied through outlets of PDS. They cannot get good commodities because wet sugar is supplied to them. Selected people are engaged in transporting of goods through floating tenders. I would like to know as to whether the Government wants to facilitate transporters. Earlier, it was the policy of the Central Government that godowns would be set up in every district so that shopkeepers could take these items easily to their shops but presently their distance is 70, 80 or 85 kilometers. How much amount is spent every year on transportation? I would like to say that hon. Minister should furnish State-wise details in this regard. Goods are not transported to a nearby area. If some goods are required in Haryana than in place of Delhi it is transported from Gujarat and when another item is required in Gujarat then it is supplied from Haryana. By this system traders are benefited. I am surprised that Barnalaji is well aware of this problem and despite that such an amendment has been brought here.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to know as to why a comprehensive view was not taken before bringing this bill. It would have been better if the bill is brought after due consideration. It is a proof that this amendment has been circulated in a hurry and not studied properly. It seems that you depended on your officials and acted as per their suggestions. It is not a good practice.

You want to give relief to the poor people. But since the enforcement of this ordinance on 25th April the prices of essential commodities have increased. A provision has been made in it that district Collector will fix the rates of food items. I would like to say that vegetables are grown in one part of Uttar Pradesh and jurisdiction of collector differs when it is transported to some other part of the State. Peas are grown in plenty in Ranchi area of Bihar and it is transported to Madhubani and Darbhanga. What can be done by collectors

in this regard. Who will fix the rate—the collector of Ranchi or Darbhanga. I request the hon. Chairman to refer it to select committee and Government should make a request for it.

This is not an ordinary issue but sheer harassment of poor. You are supplying rotten wheat, wet sugar and that also in less quantity. Officials collect money illegally and even then goods are not supplied on time. There is a circular of the Government that C.W.C. should transport these goods to outlets under PDS but you may not find a single example of it. Whether in Punjab, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh or Orissa these goods are transported by C.W.C. to Fair Price Shops. The shopkeepers take the goods on their own and pay transportation charges for it and therefore these essential commodities are sold in black market and people have to pay more for it. This system should be improved.

With these words, Sir, through you I would like to say to hon. Minister that he should not be satisfied with the present form of this Bill. It was to be introduced day after tomorrow. You got an opportunity to introduce it today and circulated here for an amendment. It proves that a comprehensive view has not been taken in this regard. A select committee should be set up to review this bill. The session of Lok Sabha is going on. Select Committee will return it after incorporating necessary amendments in it. Then this bill may be presented here to facilitate the people of this country. With these words while opposing the bill I conclude.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA (BILHAUR): Hon'ble Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and the Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs, Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJO SINGH : Hon'ble Member is our friend. It should not be seen as an allegation levelled by one colleague against another. The Hon. Member is also associated with a Union but he should make his submission keeping in mind the interest of the people rather than that of the Union.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA : I shall keep in mind the interests of the people while speaking and I shall make submission also regarding the points made by you.

I would like to thank the Hon'ble Minister for having repealed the Essential Commodities Act (Special Provisions), 1981. The Essential Commodities Act (Special Provisions), 1981 was enforced when the country was in the grip of drought. Under those circumstances foodgrains were not available to the common man and the then Government which comprised the Members now in the opposition, stated that the amendment was proposed to be enforced for only five years and accordingly it was enforced for five years. Had they been of the view that there was a need to enforce it for a longer duration, they could have done so at that time. Just now an Hon'ble Member was saying that we should pay more attention towards the Consumers. The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 was enforced with the objective of paying more attentions towards the consumers. Essential Commodities Act, 1955 provides for the distribution and storage of all commodities and the commodities mentioned therein...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI AJIT JOGI (RAIGARH): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under what rule are you raising this point of order?

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Sir, I am raising this point of order under rule 376.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Sir the tradition of this House has been that an hon. Member who is a Member of the Standing Committee relating to the Bill which has already been considered by the Standing Committee and is being discussed in the House normally does not speak on it. It is because the Member concerned has had an opportunity to speak on the subject at length in the Standing Committee. That has been the tradition of this House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (CHANDIGARH): Sir, this issue was raised on the 4th of this month and the Chairman ruled that the concerned Member, who has been a Member of that concerned Standing Committee, also continues to be a Member of this House and so he can raise it. That was the ruling given by the Chair...*(Interruptions)* That was the ruling given by the Chair...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: I have seen the ruling that was given on that day It say that 'normally' it should not be done ...*(Interruptions)* It should not be done as a matter of routine ...*(Interruptions)* It should not become a regular affairs ...*(Interruptions)* We are serving in various Standing Committees...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU (ARAMBAGH): Sir, the Members who have been the Members of the Standing Committee concerning this Bill should not speak in the House again...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : There is no bar...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Sir, the BJP has always been reminding the Chair about the traditions of this House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, the Members of the concerned Standing Committees do not speak in the House ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (AKOLA): There is a convention also that the Members of the concerned Standing Committee do not speak on the subject in the House ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. CHAIRMAN: No, there is no such convention.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Sir, there is a convention and that should be followed ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.S. RAO (MACHILIPATNAM): Sir, on 4th July, Shri P.M. Sayeed, who was on the Chair then, ruled that 'normally' it cannot be a routine affair. Somebody spoke yesterday; somebody is speaking today and somebody will speak tomorrow, then how could it be a normal affair? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not a routine affair.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, he should not be allowed to speak
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order. Shri Mishra,
please continue.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA : Hon Mr. Chairman, Sir,
I had raised several points in the meeting of the Standing
Committee. The Chairman of the Committee is present here.
He had stated quite openly in the meeting that I should raise
these points in the House. I am proceeding accordingly. I was
saying that the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 was enforced
to provide protection to consumers and it is still in force. I
would also like to inform you that the Essential Commodities
Act, 1955 was enacted with the objective to protect the
consumers. Besides prevention of Blackmarketing and
Hoarding of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 was also meant
for the protection of consumers.

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Sir, he cannot
quote anything from the deliberations of the Standing
Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is not quoting. He is referring to the
Report.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : It has never
been quoted in the House...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not quoting from the Report.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, what is meant by 'normally'?
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu, please take your seat. Shri
Mishra, please continue.

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA: In this connection, I would
like to tell you that the Union Government has already
enforced 76 control orders for protection of the consumers.
Besides, the State Governments have also enforced many
licensing orders and storage control orders for regulating the
trading activities. These orders are in force already and they
were in force earlier also and under these laws, were protecting
the interests of the consumers. Amendment was made therein.
As you can see, Preventions of Blackmarketing and Hoarding
of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 is already in force. Under
this act, there is a provision for punishing the blackmarketeers
and hoarders.

15.00 hrs.

Sir, the Central Government has enforced 76 control
orders. There is a provision of seizing goods under the control
and licensing orders issued by the State Government. Provision
is there for punishing the traders and people found guilty of
this offence.

I would also like to submit that PDS outlets meet only 10%
requirement of the nation and 90% requirement is met by
shopkeepers having free sale outlets. These shopkeepers
supply provisions to the citizens and such shops exist in all
the villages and virtually at all the street corners. Six
amendments have been made in the laws governing them and
due to this Inspector Raj has spread throughout the country.
Money is being extracted illegally from these shopkeepers
serving the nation. The entire trading community is made to
cough up money.

Then these amendments were brought in force. First
amendment provided for summary trial. After the second
amendment, two years imprisonment was made mandatory.
Third amendment provided for the seizure of entire stock. If
someone stocks jaggery, sugar, grain, oil and difference is
found in respect of even one item, the entire stock would be
seized. If the entire stock of the trader is seized, what is the
provision in this regard? The provision is that the shopkeeper
will be arrested and sent to jail. Since it is a non-bailable
offence, it means that the concerned person cannot be
released on bail.

Sir, I am not talking about the shopkeepers managing PDS
outlets. I am talking about the 90% traders who sell free sale
goods. When checking was done, stocks of 90% of the
shopkeepers were seized. The stock register did not carry
signature or the records of stocks did not tally with the actual
stock for a particular day. There was no bungling as such and
there was no case of hoarding, still the inspector sent the
shopkeeper to jail and his entire stock was seized. That trader
had taken loans from the bank and the private money lender.
He had borrowed from the market as well, but his entire stock
was seized and the goods meant for free sale were sold
through fair price shops. In such a situation, the trader had
no other alternative except committing suicide or living in
disgrace.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to give some figures in this
regard. Since 1981, i.e. ever since this law has been
enforced, raids have been conducted and an atmosphere of
fear has been created by Inspector Raj. The traders are
terrorized that their entire stock will be seized; they will be
imprisoned and will not be released on bail. In this way, 5000
to 50,000 rupees were extracted from the traders illegally.
Traders are also citizens of this country. The figures I am
going to furnish will reveal as to how the traders of this country
were terrorized, their shops were raided and money was
extracted from them. The traders are serving the consumers.
They are patriots. This act was enforced in 1981. 2,69,386
raids were conducted in 1984. 8660 persons were arrested
and after arresting so many people, cases were filed against
1094 persons and none was found guilty. Similarly 2,35,769
raids were conducted in 1985. These are official figures. I am

furnishing the data supplied by the Government. 2,35,769 raids were conducted, 8286 persons were arrested. Cases were filed against 1198 persons and none was found guilty. Thereafter, 1,59,673 raids were conducted in 1986, 6430 persons were arrested, 830 cases were filed and none was convicted. 99,877 raids were conducted in 1994, 2,483 persons were arrested, cases were filed against 4291 persons and trial was conducted against 3746 persons. The same practice is being continued in 1998 as well. A long list has been formed from 1981 till date. 45,500 raids were conducted in 1996. 2465 persons were arrested and cases were filed against 2176 persons.

It is there in the Constitution of India that no innocent person should be convicted. However there is such a long list of innocent people sent to jail and denied bail. They were not released on bail and were forced to live in jail. Later on, no charges were proved against them and they were acquitted.

Through you, I would like to make one more point. I have given the number of raids conducted and persons apprehended under Essential Commodities Act, 1981 through these figures. Some Hon'ble Members have asked me to take into account the interests of the consumers rather than that of the traders. I give supreme importance to consumers. Consumers are like deities for the traders. If the trader does not serve consumers by supplying provisions in time, at reasonable rates and of correct weight, the consumers will no longer come to his shop. If the consumers do not patronise his shop, he will have to close it down. That is why the trader of this country considers his customers as his duties and serves them in a befitting manner. The average has been worked out in this book. Only .5, .60, .80 and at the most, only 2% traders were found guilty. Some or the other shortcoming can be found in each class of society. Hence I do not find it appropriate to harass 98% traders for the wrong practices adopted by just 2% traders. You may take into account the position in Uttar Pradesh or any other Pradesh.

If we take the case of the Union Government, a subsidy of Rs. 7500 crore is given by the Union Government. Even after giving such a huge subsidy, the Government is providing food for just five days. Only five days' provision is being supplied through PDS outlets across the country and the traders are supplying provisions for twenty five days in a month. The position regarding PDS outlets is all too evident that the sugar meant for Holi and Eid is distributed after the celebration of these festivals. Whenever the consumer goes to the PDS outlet, he finds a board outside the shop that "the stock is finished and the shopkeeper has gone to get the stock.

This is the service provided by the Government and in this regard, it is being stated that the interests of Consumers and not the interests of the traders should be taken into account. At 12 O'clock in the night in the month of January - February, when it is extremely cold, a rickshaw-puller reaches home and is informed by his wife that she has not prepared food because there was no flour in the house. He awakens the retail shopkeeper of his colony at twelve in the night and buys 2 kilogram of flour. If he does not have the money, he takes the required items on credit. Should we not think about the people

of such community who keep their shops open at 12 O'clock in the noon in the month of May-June in the desert of Rajasthan where it is extremely hot and sell the required goods? Should we not be concerned about such people? Should we not think about the community which helps in running the Government by paying taxes? Should we not feel concerned about the trading community which gets the Temple, Mosques, Gurudwaras, Ghats of rivers, orphanages and hospitals constructed. If a survey is conducted throughout the country, all the temples, mosques, Gurudwaras, ghats, orphanages would be found to have the names of traders engraved on the stones. The names of leaders or officers won't be found. Even if the name of a leader is found engraved in the stone, it will be there because he might have inaugurated it and not because he has got it constructed. I would also like to submit that if a destitute dies and money is required for his funeral, the leaders and the officers won't contribute even a single rupee for the funeral and the arrangements will be made ultimately by a trader living in that area. Now it is being said that we should not think about their interests and leave the trading community at the mercy of Inspector.

Our Present Government as well as the previous Governments promised to abolish Inspector Raj. Was Inspector Raj not imposed in the country by making special provision in the Essential Commodities Act? Was Inspector Raj not allowed a free rein in the country? We are progressing towards liberalisation. Foreign countries are pressuring us to do away with the licensing system. We are accepting their terms and punishing the traders of our country. We will have to think about it and reflect over it. We will have to take into consideration the interests of the trading community which gets constructed the Temples, Mosques, Gurudwaras, Ghats, orphanages and hospitals. We will have to protect the rights of honest traders. There are provisions for dealing with the dishonest. Act is already in force to punish those involved in underweighing. Prevention of Food Adulterations Act provides for seven years' imprisonment for those found guilty of adulteration. We do not want any amendment in this regard. If we wish to protect the interests of Consumers, there are already so many laws for the protection of the consumers.

At present, 76 Control Orders issued by the Union Government and the State Governments are in force. Nobody is asking for making amendments in these orders. The 1955 Act provides for punishment for the traders found guilty of malpractices. We are not asking for making any amendment therein. Essential Commodities Act Special Provisions Act, 1981 has been abolished and I have congratulated the Minister just now in this respect, but some of the provisions of that very Act have been included in this amendment in their original form which will be used for harassing the trading community. Inspector Raj will continue in the country. There will be no liberalisation in the real sense of the term. It will be grave injustice to the trading community and that is why there is need to reflect on this aspect.

There are 2-4% bad people in each and every community. We can't say for sure that the number of such persons is 2% or 4% whereas the average official figures reveal that it is only 0.5%, 0.1% and at the most 0.8% traders have been found

[Shri Shyam Bhari Mishra]

guilty. What about the 98% traders who are serving the society; supplying provisions at 12 in the night and providing goods at the top of the Himalayas to their fellow-citizens? Should we be indifferent to the plight of the 98% honest traders and leave them to their fate just as a goat is left at the mercy of the lion and the lion is free to kill it. Similarly, through this law, the traders serving the country honestly are left at the mercy of the inspectors who are free to Act at will.

Hence there is a need to think over it and we are not saying that it should not be enforced. We have proposed an amendment. There is a provision for fine of fifty thousand rupees. The big traders can pay fifty thousand rupees but the small traders and the retailers will not able to pay fifty thousand rupees. I would like to give some examples of the cases filed against the traders after 1981 alongwith the case numbers from 1981 to 1984... (*Interruptions*) This is the paper. I am giving you the figures as well as the case numbers. In the case number DCR 36/82 filed in District Dinajpur, a shopkeeper, Shri Narendra Singh was arrested. He was found to have 20 kg. extra rice in his stock. He was imprisoned and not released on bail. Later on he was acquitted.

The second case—8/33 is that of Shri Gopal Prasad Gupta, a shopkeeper. His shop was raided and he was found to have 10 kg. extra flour and 10 kg. extra refined flour in his stock and he had not displayed his stock list as well. He was jailed. Later on, he was also acquitted but he had to spend 13 days in jail since it is a non-bailable offence. Similarly, in the case number 12/83, the shopkeeper Mohammad Suleman was found to have 16 Kg. extra mustard oil and 40 kg. extra flour in his stock. He was sentenced to one month's imprisonment. It reveals the extent of hoarding and profiteering these people had indulged in and also the volume of stock seized from their shops. Similarly, in the case number 17/83 filed against the shopkeeper Shri Pito, the said person was found to have an excess quantity of 50 kg. masoor dal and 50 kg. sugar. He was also arrested and imprisoned and was acquitted later on. All these cases are that of District Dinajpur of West Bengal. There are 43 such cases. Some big shopkeepers have also been arrested and they had three to five bagful of excess stock. However one should take a look at the offence committed by them and the extent of hoarding they indulged in. Similarly in the case number 16/84, Shri Suresh Chand was found to have ten extra packets of bread in his stock. He was arrested and jailed as this is a non-bailable offence. I am citing all these instances because you are asking me to talk about protecting the interests of Consumers and not that of the traders but we should keep in mind the interests of traders as well. Hence, I speak in favour of both. Essential Commodities Act, 1955 has been enforced for the protection of the consumers. Prevention of Blackmarketing and Hoarding of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 has been enforced to safeguard the interests of the consumers. The Central

Government has enforced 76 control orders for the protection of consumers and the State Governments have enforced dozens of control orders, price control orders and licensing control orders for the same purpose. I am not asking you to abolish any of them. I seek the protection of such persons who are sent to prison for having an additional stock of ten packets of bread.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mishraji, please conclude now.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA : I shall conclude shortly. I am telling you about the suffering underwent by the traders ...(*Interruptions*)

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD (MADHUBANI) : You have dwelt at length about the excess committed on the traders but you should also give the details about the excesses committed on the consumers.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA : You have remained in power for quite a long time and you are well aware of it. I have got a list of 31 more cases. There are thousands of such cases of all those persons who have been apprehended by the inspectors and put behind the bars. I would like to make a request that if such a trader wishes to conduct his business honestly, a case of non-bailable offence should not be made against him. One can notice this trend throughout the world that the trial of the traitors is held in special courts. Have we forgotten the contribution made by Bhamashah, Seth ji, Sahu ji and Lala ji in the freedom struggle of our country? Can we ever forget Dadabhai Nauroji, Yamuna Prasad Bajaj, Ramdas Gurwale from Barabanki and Kamlapati Singhani who made an immense contribution in the freedom struggle? Did they strive for it so that when our Government takes over, it curbs free trade and sends people to jail for having 10 extra loafs of bread. Should we be seen as offenders who should not be freed on bail and is it such a big crime to keep ten loafs of bread, 25 kg. rice, five Kg. Jaggerly, three kg. wheat more than the prescribed limit, that one is denied bail? Whereas even the criminals are being released on bail.

Such people are being released on bail who have misappropriated the money of our country but the traders are denied bail. The traders, who were known as Sahukar, Sethji, Lalaji and Bhamashah in old times, are not granted bail. We are not even prepared to listen to the woes of the trading community. I am in favour of the protection of the consumers. I would like to tell you that if one happens to visit Uttar Pradesh, he will find a signboard displayed at the shops saying - "*Upbhokta hamara aradhya devata.*" (Consumer is our reserved diety)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mishraji, please conclude.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA : Hon'ble Mr. Chairman, Sir, the suggestions given by me should be taken into consideration. Small traders can not pay a fine of fifty thousand rupees. They should be fined but not to that extent.

I would like to draw your attention towards another provisions. Under the license orders; if any shortcoming is detected in the course of investigation, the license of the trader is cancelled. Cancellation of license itself is a big punishment for the

traders, because his business comes to a standstill. The shopkeeper has to pay the rent of the shop, the telephone bill and the electricity bills. Besides, he has to pay interest to the bank, the moneylenders, the interest on the money borrowed from the market as well as the pay of the employees. If his license remains cancelled for one year, it brings him to verge of insolvency. The Government punishes him by cancelling his license. The second punishment is awarded by implementation of provisions of the Act and the third punishment is that the trader is required to keep the Inspector happy so as to avoid challans. Hence I would like to request you to make amendment therein and convert it into a bailable offence because the Inspector use this very provision to harass the traders. We are prepared to protect the interests of the consumers but we should not be forced to bow to the Inspector Raj. The previous Governments have been raising the slogan of abolishing the Inspector Raj and the present Government has also raised this slogan. If you wish to abolish the Inspector Raj and protect the interests of the consumers of the country and also want to protect the small traders, I would suggest and I have moved an amendment also that the non-bailable warrant issued under this Act should be converted into bailable warrants. The small shopkeepers do not have a capital investment of even fifty thousand rupees and we are thinking of imposing a fine of fifty thousand rupees or twenty five thousand rupees. I have moved an amendment in this regard also that a fine of five thousand rupees should be imposed instead of ten thousand rupees. Besides, five thousand rupees are deposited as security and in case the license is cancelled, that amount stands forfeited as well. In this way if five thousand rupees are collected as fine and the security of five thousand rupees is forfeited, the total amount comes to ten thousand rupees. A fine of twenty-five thousand rupees should be reduced to ten thousand rupees and the proposed fine of fifty thousand rupees should be reduced to twenty thousand rupees. This is the main reason, due to which corruption is increasing and the small traders are being harassed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I request Shri Barnala to convert this non-bailable offence into bailable one so that the interests of the trading community are protected. We are not seeking exemption from the laws framed by the Government.

Sir, in fact the interests of the Consumers are also not being protected. When small farmers carry the produce by tractors, the officers apprehend them under Section 3/7. I have got the records regarding the number of farmers apprehended under this section and if you wish, I can lay the list of such cases on the Table of the House.

In the end, I hope that the Hon'ble Minister would consider converting the non-bailable warrants issued under this Act in to bailable warrants in the interest of the farmers, consumers and the trading community. With this, I support the Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, a statement by the Minister of Finance regarding constitution of the Eleventh Finance Commission.

15.24 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

CONSTITUTION OF ELEVENTH FINANCE COMMISSION

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Hon. President of India has constituted the Eleventh Finance Commission on 3rd July 1998. Prof. A.M. Khusro has been appointed the Chairman of the Commission. Shri N.C. Jain, Shri J.C. Jetly and Dr. Amaresh Bagchi have been appointed Members and Shri T.N. Srivastava has been appointed the Member Secretary of the Commission.

The recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission which had submitted its Report in November, 1994 are valid up to March, 2000. The Eleventh Finance Commission has been mandated to give its Report by 31st December, 1999 so that Government's decision on its recommendations may be made effective from 1st April, 2000.

Terms of Reference of the Commission include, as prescribed under article 280 of the Constitution, the sharing of proceedings of Central taxes and grants-in-aid to the States. For the first time, the Finance Commission has been mandated, in terms of 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution, to recommend the measures needed to augment the Consolidated Fund of a State to supplement the resources of the Panchayats and municipalities in the State.

The Commission has been mandated to review the state of the finances of the Union and the States and suggest ways and means by which the Governments, collectively and severally, may bring about a restructuring of the public finances so as to restore budgetary balance and maintain macro-economic stability.

In addition, the Commission has been asked to look into a number of issues concerning the States' Finances, such as, State's indebtedness, calamity relief, requirements for upgradation of standards and pay revision of State Government employees, etc.

The Terms of Reference of the Commission have been finalised after ascertaining the views of the State Governments.

The Gazette Notification regarding the Presidential Order shall be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

15.26 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE

AND

ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL—Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bikram Sarkar.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL) : Sir, what about the Tenth Finance Commission's recommendations? The Tenth Finance Commission has specifically recommended certain things.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No clarification is allowed, Shri Radhakrishnan.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I know, Sir, but here the question is that there was the Tenth Finance Commission and they have recommended certain things regarding the sharing of taxes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan, in this House you cannot ask for any clarification. Please take your seat. I have called Shri Bikram Sarkar.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat, Shri Radhakrishnan.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : Mr. Chairman Sir, the Pay Commission is not applicable to the States. But in this, they have also included this Pay Commission. This is a good thing. The amendments of 1973 and 1974 have also been included...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mohan Singh, please be seated.

[English]

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR (HOWRAH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for having given me this opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Essential Commodities Bill, 1998.

I would like to make a few observations before I go further. This original Act was passed 43 years ago in 1955 and since then so many changes have taken place in the socio-economic-political situation in the Country. Even though certain amendments have been made in bits and pieces and one was made in 1981, I feel that the very basic object of this Act has not been fulfilled. The basic object, if I may say, is to maintain the supply of essential commodities and make them available to the people at reasonable rates. But over the years, the list of essential commodities has been expanded from time to time. I, therefore, feel that it is necessary to go in for a comprehensive Bill on essential commodities which will take care of a complete list of essential commodities. And when we say that this is a question of maintaining the supply of essential commodities to the people, we have in mind the poor people of our country.

The hon. Member who spoke before me was mentioning and expressing his concern about the traders. While I agree that innocent traders should not be penalised or harassed, our major concern in the supply of essential commodities is the poor people. And that being so, as Members, as representatives of the people, we must take care of the sentiments of the common people. In today's situation we find that the prices

of vegetables, as has been discussed in the morning, have gone totally beyond the reach of the common people.

What to say of common people, it has gone beyond the reach of even upper middle class people. So, this has to be taken care of.

Well, it is a fact of life that the hoarders, black-marketeers and profiteers are playing havoc with the life of the common people. We have been discussing it day in and day out, outside this House and inside the House, but it seems as if all of us are standing absolutely helpless to rectify the situation. It is, therefore, essential that we must take a comprehensive view not only of the essential commodities but also of the legal aspects, as to what legal provisions should be there. I find certain provisions in this Amendment Bill. I have no conflict with this. As a matter of fact, I would support this, but the point is that only this would not take care of the totality of the situation obtaining in our country today.

I also feel that there are a large number of cases pending all over the country, starting from the Munsifs, Courts. I can say from my experience long back as District Collector in West Bengal that these cases go on pending and create an atmosphere where people, these innocent traders also feel harassed. That is not the intention, but at the same time it is very much essential to take care of the situation by providing an atmosphere where the common people would feel that the Government is in a position to take care of their interests.

Sometimes, it is said that checking should be done by prior information. From my experience, I feel that an element of surprise in inspection or inquiry and surprise visits are essential. But at the same time, it should not be allowed to be an instrument of exploitation in the hands of the lower level inspectors. It is quite supportable that way. As I was saying about small cases pending for a long time creating an atmosphere of harassment, we feel that these cases have to be completed in a summary manner, say within three months. We also find that while discussing the essential commodities, we tend to forget from time to time as to what are the essential things or what are the basic things for human consumption, consumption of poor people. It is, therefore, necessary, as I suggested, that we should go in for a comprehensive Bill to take care of the complete list of essential commodities as it constitutes today, on the basis of the perception of the common people in our country today.

At the same time, so far as the legal provisions are concerned regarding punishment, inspection, inquiry or enforcement, these are also to be streamlined. There should be a proper management and supervision on these lines.

Today, if we look at the situation obtaining, we find that people are very much agitated about the price rise of commodities. What is the reason behind this? One of the most important reasons is that the hoarders, black-marketeers and profiteers are having a free play and our legal provisions are not adequate to take care of them. All of us are responsible for this. As a matter of fact, even when two per cent of the people are involved—we need not go by the number—this is creating a situation where a large number of rich people have

been supplying this money or fund and this is being used by the poor traders at the level where the common people meet them. Therefore, we have to go in a very systematic way to find out where from the money is coming and who is actually helping in the hoarding and black-marketing.

As you know, black money is playing havoc with the system and a big portion of it is going into all these things. Therefore, while bringing a comprehensive Bill on essential commodities this aspect also has to be touched upon and keeping in view the social, political and economic conditions we should go in for an Act which will take care of all these situations obtaining in our country.

With these few words, and with the kind of reservations that I have expressed, I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE (RAIGANJ): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this amendment which has been brought, is dated 25 April, 1998. Was it that necessary to amend an Act which had been in force for years, that an ordinance had to be brought through the President. This ordinance came into force with effect from 25th April, 1998, while our Budget Session was due to start one month later on 27th May. Could it not be delayed for one month? To use the President's power by ignoring the House and not viewing the abilities of the Members of Parliament correctly is an old practice. This practice should be done away with. I vehemently oppose the arrangements being made to bring it back with a new method.

Shri Shyam Bihari has dragged the whole trading community to mislead this House and the people of the country. The whole trading community is not involved, only the traders dealing in essential commodities are being discussed. But he has involved the whole trading community. You may term it as justice or injustice, but the fact is that the whole trading community is not involved with this subject. I vehemently oppose the relief being given to them through this ordinance. It has been said in it that a minor mistake can happen. All right, mistakes can be committed, but there should be some limit to such mistakes which may be committed due to certain physical conditions or climatic conditions. That limit is not mentioned here. All this means that if a mistake takes place, then some relaxation will be given. If it is so, then it is not proper. By this, we will not be able to deliver the essential commodities to the people. Therefore, I would recommend that it should be amended accordingly. It is essential to specify as to what percentage of concession will be provided in it. I expect that this view of mine will surely be taken note of. Liberalisation and open market have been mentioned here but how it is related to the essential commodities. Is it not misleading the people? Do you want to mislead the people? Do you want to leave the essential commodities to the mercy of free market. You delicensed several items. You want to handover everything to the capitalists in the name of liberalisation. Are you thinking to give even essential commodities to them? That is why you are linking the question of liberalisation with it. During his reply, Hon. Minister must give this clarification as to why has he brought the question of liberalisation in it?

The question of low level trading has also been included in it. I fully agree with it. Such matters will be referred to an executive magistrate instead of a first class magistrate. It is not easy to appoint executive magistrate in the villages to check manipulation in essential commodities shops. This consequently will result in getting concession. To escape from it and to check the fraud, you must delegate this power to a magistrate or deputy magistrate. Delegation of this power to an executive magistrate is not going to serve your purpose.

Today in the morning, the whole House faced a stormy situation on the issue of price-increase. The House was of the view that the question did not relate to the people living below the poverty line and middle class alone, the people of upper middle class too were unable to buy things of necessity from the market. Their prices have skyrocketed. What are you thinking about them? Earlier, the United Front Government had made arrangements for red-cards for the people living below the poverty line, who account for 40 percent of our population. It had made arrangements for making things available at half the cost in ration shops. The Bharatiya Janata Party Government has completed hundred days in office but has left this job halfway. Leave alone finishing job, this Government has altogether stopped this scheme. The Government should make arrangements everywhere to make available the essential commodities through ration shops to the people living below the poverty-line. This will not involve a large amount. Rs. 20 thousand crores may be required as subsidy for this purpose. You spend crores of rupees in saving industries; why do not you spend over this? Are those farmers who get subsidies, farmers in true sense? How are they identified and what is their definition? You term everybody as farmer. This is not proper. The people linked with farming are called farmers but those, who have no relation to farming and are merely landlords, are also being called farmers and are being given concessions.

Can't we make arrangement through PDS to provide items of daily use at lower rates to every person? The work started by the United Front Government could not be completed, you have to complete that work. But the Act brought forward by you lacks sincerity.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the end I would like to appeal through you to hon'ble Minister that in today's circumstances it is essential to bring forward comprehensive bill regarding Essential commodities. For this, the question is not only of the concessions, for which you have made provisions. If necessary you can give other concessions to the businessmen. But alongwith it you should be able to give guarantee that items of daily use would be available to all at cheap rates, at half the rates at which the same are available in the open market. This type of Comprehensive Bill should be introduced. Mr Chairman Sir, with these words I conclude my speech and I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, our difficulty is that we are not against this bill but we are here to complain against the Government of Bhartiya Janata Party and its allies. Our complaint is that in the last 50 years the Bharatiya Janata Party or formerly Bharatiya Jan Sangh has made itself strong through businessmen's votes and money.

[Shri Mohan Singh]

It has always spoken in favour of traders. Whenever the BJP got an opportunity, it has spoken in favour of traders. But whenever the society has stood against the traders, they never came to their rescue. As you know society feels that traders are the root of all evils, dishonesty and corruption. When they have branded us as anti-traders. But when we got an opportunity, we got the Essential Commodity Act for entire India, passed in this Parliament. But we carried out the survey regarding this when our Government was formed in the State of Uttar Pradesh. After carrying out the survey, this law was enforced throughout India. When our Government was in power we suspended the implementation of this law in Uttar Pradesh. The whole survey was conducted during the tenure of Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. At that time, many traders were arrested and sent to jail. If under this law big commission agents like Shri Shayam Bihari Mishra had been sent to jail, or had been fined Rs. 25,000 or had been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, we would have appropriate reason to assume that this law is being executed properly. But this law is executed on small, poor and weak people. The number of such traders is increasing continuously. The unemployed youth, who have become self-employed after getting Rs. 80,000, one lakh or thirty thousand from Prime Minister's Fund have also become the victims of this law. In courts these types of cases do not stand securing, but in the process the people get harassed. That is why our party had carried out the survey. In all the big cities of Uttar Pradesh, we gave tickets to the people belonging to the Jaiswal, Gupta, Aggarwal community or any other business community so that they could come to this House and we would be able to understand their point of view. But these people, have given tickets to the people belonging to Vajpayee, Joshi, Mishra, Rawat and Shukla castes, living in big cities. From these places traders should have come to the House. These people have made every possible effort to put hurdles in their way. That is why, at the time of United Front Government, a delegation of traders had met the then Defence Minister, and Prime Minister. We felt that when consumers Act has come into force in the country, and when there is a law to check adulteration, there is a law to check underweighing, then this Essential Commodities Act has lost its utility. This special law was to be executed by Police Inspector. It was thought to be a panacea, but in reality it is a root cause of all the diseases.

Sir, yesterday, a complaint was being made that the CBI was the solution of all the problems. Otherwise also, who executes the law that we make Police Inspector. In my opinion all dishonesty, adulteration, black marketing, theft, robbery and other crimes take place in sinister connivance with the Police Inspector. We do not agree with it that because of traders only, the prices have risen. The reason for price rise is, the wrong policies of the Government. Recently, in Uttar Pradesh the Government increased the price of petrol by Rs. 1.50 per litre and of diesel by 60 paise per litre. The Government has also increased the price of Kerosene. We tried to rectify the Public Distribution System by temporarily suspending the enforcement of Essential Commodities Act and we decided that the fair price shops would not owned privately by any person. The Gram Sabha Panchayats will

appoint a person for this purpose. Thus these shops will be owned by Gram Sabhas. The person who runs the shop will be an employee of the Gram Sabha. The whole village will be responsible for preventing theft and black-marketing in that shop. We have given these shops to cooperative societies. This way, we can control price rise by rectifying Government policies. At least our party does not agree with the fact that only traders are responsible for price rise. Our party does not subscribe to this opinion.

Sir, the Bharatiya Janata Party had continuously assured traders of abolishing this draconian law, but now when it has come to power instead of abolishing this Act, it is just proposing the amendment—it is not good. I would like to State that all amendments, except one or two amendments proposed the Bharatiya Janata Party, were proposed by the United Front Government. This law came into force in 1955. At that time there was acute shortage of cloth. Cloth was being sold in black-market. But now, the cloth is available in abundant quantity in the country, then why should this law be kept on the statute? Similarly now in our country foodgrains are produced in large quantity. Gradually, the big grain traders are leaving this business. As the production of grains is rising, so where is the need for this law?

Mr. Chairman Sir, I request, that on all these issues a comprehensive discussion is required. Through you I want to request the hon'ble Minister that he should try to fulfill the promises made to the common people. And if he does not intend to fulfill these promises, then in future the Government should not be fool the people by taking money and vote from them. The State Governments have set up separate departments to deal with adulteration and underweighing. The Weights and Measures Department deals with underweighing. There is a provision in the law to award three to six months sentence to the person who indulges in underweighing. This department checks whether the weighing scale and weights are accurate or not. If these are not accurate, then it punishes the guilty. The person can be punished, if he does not get his weighing scale and weights tested by that Department. Corruption is prevalent in the Food Department which controls Public Distribution System. Corruption is also prevalent in Police Department to stop all these things, coordinated consideration is required. For this present, Central law should be abolished and State Governments should be given power to enable them to improve their public distribution system. They may be empowered to make laws at State level according to their needs after discussing the matter with traders, unemployed youth, representatives of consumers, and representatives of the consumer forum. We feel that the proposed amendments are to befool the traders.

When our friend Shyam Bihari Mishra speaks emotionally, it looks as if he is the only representatives of traders. By opposing from our side we give him such opportunity. We want to say that his support of traders and establishing control over them is nothing but shedding crocodile tears. This is hypocrisy and it should be stopped. To save the traders from police oppression and administrative control, there is need to bring new ideas, laws and new bill. Initiative should be taken for this. With this suggestion, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO (MACHILIPATNAM) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala—whom we always regard—to one particular thing. In this particular case, I do not know whether he has applied his mind or he went by the pressures from different sections of the traders or the bureaucrats. Normally, from my childhood days in my State, I find that there is an impression that the BJP is always in favour of traders and it is a party of the traders. The hurry with which they have resorted to the Ordinance and the Essential Commodities Act, clearly indicates their loyalty or their gratitude to the trading community in the country.

I will start with the Statement of Objects and Reasons which the hon. Minister himself has enunciated in the Bill. It says that the existing provisions in the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, are not adequate and effective in the expeditious disposal of cases pertaining to hoarding, blackmarketing and profiteering in essential commodities. So, the object is to sort out the cases, to clear the cases pertaining to blackmarketing and to save the traders who are involved in blackmarketing.

Basically, the Act is meant for preventing blackmarketing and hoarding, and to see that commodities, more particularly the essential commodities, are made available to the common man. In its place, now, he says that he wants to bring this amendment for the expeditious disposal of the cases against the blackmarketees and hoarders and to bail them out from the prison, to bail them out from punishment. The subsequent clause also reveals how they are meant only for the traders.

Normally, any number of policemen in the country cannot prevent crime in this country unless there is a fear in the minds of the citizens that if they commit any crime, they will be punished mercilessly. Let 10,000 Vigilance people go to various places. If the people do not have any fear in the system, any number of policemen will not be able to prevent the crime. So, psychologically, it is the fear in the minds of the citizens that prevents the crime more than the number of people meant for preventing it. Here, he is removing that fear from the minds of the blackmarketers and hoarders.

16.00 hrs.

What is he doing? He is mentioned that the existing provisions of the Act are not adequate and effective in preventing the misuse of power by lower functionaries. That is all right. If a small person in the hierarchy were to book a case wrongly on an innocent trader, then let a provision be made to punish the officer who is responsible for booking a case on an innocent trader. He is not doing that. He is only giving more benefit to the traders by reducing the punishment from seven years to two years. He has also mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that except for certain minor offences, all offences shall be non-bailable. The quantum of fines will be more but the maximum period of imprisonment will be reduced from seven years to two years. He has himself committed this. But in the amendment that he has brought today, he has reduced the fine from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 20,000. I am not putting these words. It is mentioned

in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. Why did you bring the amendment for reducing the fine from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 10,000? Why are you contradicting your own views given in this Bill? Possibly, earlier, you would have thought that, that would be a nice reason to convince the public, that you are not reducing the penalty. You are not reducing the penalty. You only wanted to reduce the quantum of punishment on innocent traders. How many innocent traders are there in the country? If the intention of the Government is to save the innocent traders, what type of innocent trader is the Government thinking of? Is he thinking of a trader who is responsible for killing thousands of people not by axe, not by knife, not by killing in the daylight but a trader who is very silently killing thousands of people?

We all had discussed the other day about 300 cotton farmers committing suicides. What was the purpose of their committing suicides? They committed suicides because of the adulteration in fertilizers, pesticides and also because of the variation in the grant of remunerative prices. Why did the price become an unremunerative one? It was because of the hoarding of cotton in the hands of the traders and not the farmers.

You can verify today that all the farmers in the country have sold their paddy. They did not even get Rs. 300. But when it went into the hands of the traders, the prices jumped like anything. The same is the case with cotton. It is because of the unremunerative price to a farmer for his produce and a highly remunerative price to a trader that the farmers committed suicides. When you want to save this type of trader who is killing thousands of people, why do you not bring an Act to save a person who has committed a murder in a fit of anger? When he has got a grievance, he is deprived of his privileges, his Fundamental Rights etc. Why are you giving him a capital punishment? Why did you think of this? Why do you call a person a naxalite? I am not talking of a *Naqli* naxalite but a genuine naxalite. He went into that line only because he had a very horrible grievance in his life. You never think of this. If a trader commits black-marketing or hoarding, you say that you are keeping pace with the path of liberalisation. What is this liberalisation? Do you call it a liberalisation if essential commodities are prevented from being made available to the common man?

Is this the liberalisation that our country is thinking of? The country is thinking of liberalisation in reducing the hurdles, in improving manufacture, production but not distribution of essential commodities to the poor man. If you think that it is liberalisation, Sir, we do not want such liberalisation. We do not want such type of liberalisation where a common man is prevented to have his meagre food.

Barnalaji, I am not saying this with an intention to criticise just because I am sitting in the Opposition benches. Even if I was in the Government Side, I would have spoken in the same manner. Sir, you please apply your thoughts, apply your mind and not do as it is being given by your subordinates, officers or somebody. Please save the poor people of our country.

In the statement of Objects and Reasons, you have said

[Shri K.S. Rao]

that, a number of trade organisations have represented. 'Sir', what is the fate of a common man who works from morning 3 o'clock to night 10 o'clock, from childhood of 8 to 80 years in village? Today if we visit the village, we find that he has not food to eat and there is nobody to take care of him and his children. We never thought of providing any pension to that poor man. But we think of 11th Finance Commission, 12th Finance Commission for a person who is drawing Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 20,000!

You think in terms of bringing liberalisation and make things available. I would request you to kindly think over it. I know, by virtue of the Indian Government, you wanted season ticket. The Act is passed, the Amendment is passed because it is helping you. But what is the position of a common man? What is the reflection?

Sir, you said that this Bill is meant to 'ensuring easy availability of essential commodities to the consumers.' How can there be an easy availability? When there is a punishment of seven years, when there is a provision in non-bailability. We could not prevent hoarding and blackmarketing in the country. You remove all these things and make everything available in this country. On which common sense or legal conclusion it is possible? It is against every common sense that is known to the humanity. So, you change the objects. I do not mind your getting through every thing by virtue of the majority you have or the power you are vested with the Government. But please change that. It contradicts every thing what you are doing. At least, you change the objects or please wait for some time, give serious thought to this Bill. Let it be brought next time. Let the Ordinance continue for some more time. There is no hurry. I have seen that ordinances were being continued, once, twice, thrice, four times. Any number of Ordinances were issued by this Government. Or you may refer it to a Committee of selected people of your choice who think in terms of doing some good to the people.

Sir, it is also written in the Statement of Objects and Reasons and I quote:

"(d) tackling genuine hardship of the traders when there is a minor variation in stocks."

If there is a minor variation of 1 kg in 10,000 kg, if somebody is punished because of the mischief of the small officer, why do you not think of punishing him? Because of this one punishment one innocent trader out of 100, you want to allow the black marketing and hoarding in a liberalised manner in the country! How are you really helping the country and the nation, the people, more particularly the poor men?

Sir, this Act is meant only for essential commodities and not for every commodity. If you neglect even those few essential commodities which are required for the poor men and this nation, God only will save these poor people and this nation. So, I humbly request you, Shri Barnalaji, as you are in favour of at least the farming community, if not the poor men, to please wait. Please refer this to a Select Committee. Do not be in a hurry. The Ordinance can still be implemented and

effected till such time we take the decision and bring amendments in this Act.

You also said and you wanted to put an officer of not less than the rank of sub inspector. What is the reputation a sub inspector has got in this country? It is the sub inspector who is doing every crime in every part of the country, who is taking law in his control and punishing innocent.

Do you mean to say that this 'Inspector Raj' is going to make a judicious case and handle it only in the right manner and not in the wrong manner? I would have understood if you were to say that the District Collector would make the case and not anybody else. We could have at least depended upon one man in the district. How many cases were reading in the newspapers, in our daily life that with no reason the 'Inspector Raj' is taking a fellow who is innocent, who has not committed any crime into the custody? Crime is committed on him. Instead of arresting the person who has committed the crime there are hundreds of instances where the Sub-Inspector have put innocent people into the jail at the instance of politicians. And you want to tell the country that you have vested powers in the hands of Sub-Inspectors.

Please think once again. You have your own experience also. Now you are in the Government. You may be in the Government here, you may not be in the Government elsewhere. You know the attitude of the Sub-Inspector. You know the values, you know how he behaves, how he takes the law into his own hands. That also does not serve the purpose. If you want to mention a reason on the paper just like that, not with a sincere mind, I do not have anything to say. I will be helpless. But the House also should think of it. I humbly request the entire House not to confirm this. Please do not give an impression that this Government thinks of traders only. Please quell that. I do not wish that the Ruling Party and the Government must have that brand. At least by stopping this you can give an impression to the people that you are not just for traders. My hon. colleagues have given eloquent speeches. I agree with them.

I am not against the innocent traders. But for the sake of one or two if you are going to do this, this is not reasonable. On this ground I oppose this Bill. I would request the hon. Minister not to be in a hurry, not to make it an issue of personal ego that he should get this Bill passed at any cost.

You have also said that the offence is bailable. Why do you not make murder also a bailable offence then? What is the big thing that he is committing? Otherwise you remove the words "Non-bailable" from the statute. If this is not non-bailable, then what is non-bailable? Please tell me which crime can be non-bailable if this fellow who is responsible for the killing, for the death of hundreds and thousands of innocent people is given bail. We have also experienced as people's representatives in our areas that a whole lot of people are scared of this Act. By virtue of this we could control some cases. But this Bill gives an impression of "free for all" to all the traders. They would not care for anybody in the State.

You also wrote that the State Governments have not

agreed to this. Even against the sentiments expressed by the State Governments, even against the wisdom expressed by them out of their experiences you want to bring this amendment and make it "free for all".

With these words, I would request not only the hon. Minister, but the entire House to please think over it once again. I am not against innocent traders. We can think of putting some provisions in this Act so that innocent people are not punished. But please do not give an impression to the trader that he can go scot-free and the Government is behind him to save him, to allow him, to do black marketing and to make tonnes of money even if it does not matter as to how many people get killed in the process of black marketing.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMA NAND SINGH (SATNA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the amendment brought by Shri Barnala in the Essential Commodities Act. This Act was passed in 1955, 43 years ago and according to the experiences of the past it needed some changes. After hearing speeches from Congress side and the speech of Shri Mohan Singh of Samajwadi Party and that of Shri Mishraji, I think that most of the members have supported this bill presented by Shri Barnalaji.

Sir, I want to say to the Congress friends, that you were against traders then why you are saying again and again that you are in favour of traders. From 1955 till the time you were in power, did anyone of you go to jail even for 55 minutes for their cause? Mr. Mishra has given figures that out of the total people arrested, cases were filled against only 164 people and no one was convicted. You made laws, introduced quota-permit system and action was not taken against a single person. Are you not ashamed of yourself that you speak of Barnalaji in such a manner. Barnala was Agriculture Minister in Morarji Bhai Desai Cabinet. Not only in Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) but he is one of the nationalist leaders of the country. After much thinking this bill was brought by him. False cases were framed by Inspectors against the shop keepers. They were put behind the bars and it used to take ten long years for a case to settle. They were denied bail facility. Ultimately they were acquitted. Now if Shri Barnala has proposed a provision of 2 years imprisonment instead of seven years, in Essential Commodities Act and has advocated that it should be non-bailable then what more can be done in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO : You please read the amendment. The word 'bailable' is mentioned there.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMA NAND SINGH: Please listen to me. Under the amendment which has been brought, it is non-bailable. ...*(Interruptions)* It has also been said that the goods thus seized by the Collector could be sold through fair price shops. In your times wheat used to get rotten and was not sold. In this amendment it has been said that after seizure of goods by the Collector it would be made available at fair price shops

to people as essential commodity. They have given an amendment that only first class executive magistrate can arrest and make seizure of goods. Have you got any answer to the speech delivered by Shri Mishra that out of three thousand cases filed against traders, not a single person was convicted. Regarding Challan they said that officer below the rank of a Sub-Inspector can't file this type of Challan. There is provision that case will not be dragged for long. There would be summary trial and consequently conviction. There is also a provision that for those who commit the crime second time, punishment for them would be increased.

Today our friends from communist party are sitting here and they also argue that industry should be established in their areas. Lalu Prasad Yadav who is our Samajwadi friend is also speaking. All are supporting the policy of globalisation. On one side we are talking about globalisation and international market and on the other side our friend Mohan Singh Ji was saying that for this Bharatiya Janata Party is to be blamed. Mulayam Singh has given full freedom, he is our friend and old Samajwadi leader. He said there is nothing wrong in copying in examination. I do not want to say what he did as I do not want to criticise him. Net result of Mulayam Singh's speech was to support the Bill of Barnala ji. He agreed that injustice against traders is going on. There was Inspector Raj and traders were harassed in petty cases. The bill which Senior Minister Barnala has brought is timely and has been brought on the basis of 43 years of experience. I would urge upon the hon. Members of the congress party to abandon the policy of opposing the matter just for the sake of opposition, rather they should support it liberally, and also congratulate Shri Barnala so that the small traders do not face injustice.

Bharatiya Janata Party caters to the interests of traders, farmers, workers and every section of the society. I am myself a farmer. The Hon'ble Minister in the first place, has safeguarded the interests of the consumers. The foremost purpose of the Bill is that people get essential commodities in appropriate quantity and in time. The hon. Minister has clarified this thing in it. It is an attempt to check the misuse of Government machinery and providing justice to the traders. Therefore, I urge upon the members of all political parties to support the Bill. I heartily support the Bill presented by Shri Barnala and urge upon the august House to pass it with unanimous support and abandon the policy of opposing for the sake of opposition.

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for the opportunity given to me. At the very outset, let me say that I oppose this Bill on more than one score

Sir, it is a misnomer that this Bill is called the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill. I also want to submit before this august House that it is a self-contradictory Bill. I suppose that many of the Clauses of the original Bill have been succumbed to the pressure of the trading community, and so, they have been amended; and there is a long list in the notice of amendments which are very much contradictory to the original Bill.

[Prof. A.K. Premajam]

I also want to submit a point that I cannot understand why this ordinance was promulgated on the 25th of April 1998. During the 100 days regime of the coalition Government of the BJP, there is a rush of Ordinances and I think, it is better to call this regime as 'Ordinance Raj'. During the last week and during this week, many Ordinances are coming before this House, to be replaced by legislation.

As I have already pointed out, the very name of the Bill itself is a misnomer. I am thoroughly disappointed, Mr. Minister. We expect something more democratic and something more for the benefit of the common man, whenever there is something in the name of Essential Commodities Bill. Now it is misleading. Usually we expect that, whenever essential commodities are mentioned, it would be in the best interest of the ordinary man, the common and the poor man.

But here at the Bill itself commouflages proposals which seek to help—not the small and ordinary traders—the big traders and the big fishes, if I may use that word. Shri Mishra, throughout his speech, was very eloquently speaking on behalf of the trading community and at the end only he mentioned that they also were concerned about the interests of the common man. I wonder as to how this legislation would help the common man. One of my colleagues here has pointed out that the objectives mentioned in the Bill are contradictory.

Let us take the instance of expeditious disposal of cases pertaining to hoarding, black marketing and profiteering. In the original Bill there was a provision for non-bailable warrants against the offenders. These cases need to be expeditiously disposed of. It is because justice delayed is justice denied. We do agree with that. But now, as we see from this particular piece of legislation, the quantum of punishment is proposed to be reduced by way of an amendment. It proposes to reduce it from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 10,000 and from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 5,000. The period of imprisonment is also proposed to be reduced from seven years to two years.

Sir, my question is, to help whom this legislation has been brought? Is to help the ordinary man who makes use of these essential commodities or for persons who are trading on these essential commodities? We do not want to harass the trading community. The essential commodities are traded not by all traders, but by a limited number of traders. Those who misuse their right as traders, their authority as traders and are actually indulging in blackmarketing, hoarding and profiteering should be punished very severely. But it is far from that. The fear of punishment is proposed to be removed through this legislation, especially through the amendment paper which has been circulated at the last moment.

Sir, I do not think that I would be misunderstood if I say that the Government has succumbed to a very strong pressure and that is evidenced by this small amendment paper which has been circulated at the last moment. A particular lobby—

not the lobby of the small traders—of the big traders had been pressurizing the Ministry and the paper containing amendments, which has been circulated at the last moment, is an evidence of that. I am not surprised by this. It is because right from the outset, from the very first day of the existence of this Government, which has now completed more than 100 days in office, its policies have been anti-people. The Railway Budget, the General Budget everything has been anti-people.

16.28 hrs.

(SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*)

It is not only that, the Government is even thinking in terms of decontrolling sugar. There would definitely be a rise in price, if sugar is decontrolled, because sugar is an essential commodity and it would benefit the traders. This morning there were uproarious scenes in this House regarding rise in prices. I would like to make use of this opportunity to say that this Government alone is responsible for the rise in prices of at least one essential commodity, that is salt. Common salt was an instrument of our freedom struggle and that has been banished from this country by this BJP Government with retrospective effect. For this commodity alone, an extra burden for a sum of Rs. 40 crore would have to be borne by the common people of the State of Kerala. Then, what would happen to the rest of the country? We must be given the freedom to use whatever salt we want. Even that individual freedom is being trespassed upon by this Government. Now, we are compelled to use iodized salt. There is a controversy over various scientific theories which say, that iodized salt is absolutely necessary for health reasons. This Government has trespassed upon the fundamental right of the citizens of this country by banishing and prohibiting the use of common salt. We should have the right to use whatever salt we want to. If the Government is thinking in terms of the health of the people of this country, then there are so many things like *pan masala* and other things which should be banned. Why do they not ban these items? It is because the interest of the larger trading houses, the multinationals and big firms are involved in this.

At the same time, this Government is pretending that they are interested in the health of the people by banning the sale of common salt with which Mahatma Gandhi had fought our war of Independence. It is a shameful thing that this Government is going ahead with its anti-people and anti-national activities. On all these grounds which I have explained, I oppose this Bill very strongly.

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (BASIRHAT): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the aims and objectives of the principal Act which was enacted in 1955 were to check and stop black marketing and hoarding, and to ensure adequate supply of essential commodities at fair prices. However, those aims and objects have been totally frustrated. In spite of the many amendments that have been made to the principal Act since it was passed, the intentions of the legislature could not be fulfilled.

The Bill tabled by the hon. Minister today contains some

provisions regarding pardon to the accused, pardon the traders, and reduction in sentence, reduction in imprisonment. This is nothing but showing indulgence, leniency to traders who are one of those primarily responsible for the present price hike in the country. At a time when prices are rising day-by-day, when essential commodities are not available in the market and when prices of essential commodities have gone beyond the reach of the common man, this Government has brought this Bill giving indulgence, making some lenient provisions in the Bill in favour of traders.

Can traders avoid their responsibility to adequate supply of essential commodities to the people? The prices are shooting up due to inadequate supply of commodities, due to hoarding, due to smuggling and due to black marketing. At the very same time my learned friend from BJP benches, Shri Mishra, is holding a brief for traders. He pleaded very efficiently the case of traders who are mostly responsible for the present crisis in the country.

In the 'Zero hour' today I tried to raise a very important matter on the floor of the House. I am the inhabitant of a border area. Everywhere along the Indo-Bangladesh border, and other borders, essential commodities are being smuggled out by some people in connivance with the BSF personnel. That is the reason why essential commodities are not available in the markets there. The prices of essential commodities are going up everyday. They have gone beyond the reach of the common man. At some borders, some black marketeers are indulging in this anti-national practice by working in close cooperation with the BSF personnel. They are engaging some workers and through whom they are carrying out this anti-national activity in the border areas.

I am rather astonished to see the provision of pardon and the provision of reduction of imprisonment recommended in the present Bill. It is surprising that some friends from BJP side have pleaded for these unscrupulous traders also.

Nobody is there to check the price rise. Government is highly reluctant to do it. Some black marketeers, hoarders and traders are doing whatever they want to. The people are left to the mercy of the anti-national agencies.

In view of that position, we cannot support this amendment. Because, if we accept this amendment, in that case a wrong message will go to the nation and the people will think that these persons who are mainly responsible for this have given leniency in the present Bill.

I submit before the House that we can amend so many Acts and pass so many Bills but whether they will be fruitful or not that depends upon the implementing authority. Who will implement the law? Who will execute the law? It all depends upon them. It depends upon the investigating agency.

It is our experience that even after 45 years, when this Bill was passed, the executive authority or the implementing authority is reluctant or is not properly executing this law. When the case starts, the investigating agency, hobnobbing

with the traders and businessmen who are liable to be held under that Act, does not properly investigate. There are lacunae and defects in the acts of the investigating agency. So, we must be cautious and take proper care before passing this Bill. It is not an ordinary Bill. This Bill involves the common man's interest.

So, I urge upon the hon. Minister not to be in a hurry to pass this Bill. I would request him to think over the matter once again and send it to the Select Committee, so that a comprehensive Bill may be brought before this House by the Hon. Minister.

I cannot support this Bill with the present form of amendments and I strongly oppose the amendments in the present form. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL (VARANASI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Essential commodities Act (Amendment) Bill presented by the veteran leader and the present Minister of Food, Shri Surjit Singh Barnala. First of all, I would refer to the points being raised by the Members of Opposition. It is true that in 1955 when the law was enacted and implemented the textile production in the country was too inadequate to fulfil the demands of the people. We had to import many things including food-grains, and from bicycle to such petty things as needle under PL 480. However, the situation has totally changed today. The law in those days did not have the provision of non-bailable imprisonment. Today, the country has become not only self-reliant, but it is exporting foodgrains to other countries. Under the prevailing situation, if some amendments have been made in the law enacted in 1955, the members should not oppose them.

SHRI RAJO SINGH (BEGUSARAI): You can replace the law.

SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL: You ask to change the law. I would call your attention to the statement of a senior congress leader given on 27th May, 1998. A Senior Vice President of Delhi Pradesh Congress stated that Essential Commodities Act should be repealed. I would not like to mention the name of the leader because it is not a convention. However, I would like to submit that the leader observed that the Essential Commodities Act is meant for nothing except oppressing the traders. There is a news in two columns. All that glitters is not gold. Your leaders adopt dual policy and give contradictory statements outside and within the Parliament... (Interruptions) I beg your pardon, you should set up the conventions which the future generations may follow.

Shri Mohan Singh pointed out one thing with great courage that during the tenure of Shri Mulayam Singh as Chief Minister in Uttar Pradesh, all the cases identified in this connection were examined and found that money was extracted from small and innocent traders through the terror of this Act. The attitude of the bureaucrats towards these traders force them to adopt wrong methods. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has already deferred this Act. The Central Government have 76 laws at their disposal to control the price rise. State

[Shri Shanker Prasad Jaiswal]

Governments have also been empowered to implement various laws to check adulteration, hoarding etc.

One of our lady Members stated that there has been price-rise. My submission is that the prices of only edible oils have increased and that too not only in our country but in other countries of the world also. The price of palm oil at the international level has reached Rs. 40/- per kg. and all this is but natural to have effect on the prices in our country. ...*(Interruptions)* However, I do not agree with the submission made by Shri Mohan Singh. The Government have given financial assistance to set up small scale business thus providing employment to unemployed youth. It is not good to distort things in this manner. He has alleged that BJP sheds crocodile tears while we have given tickets to a number of Jaiswals and Aggarwals. Myself being Jaiswal, I would submit that despite giving tickets to them, they were not at all assisted to win. We know the attitude adopted towards them. I would like to appreciate Shri Mulayam Singh who deferred this Act. But I oppose the present state of political diplomacy.

The great leader of this country, the Minister of food Shri Barnala once held the post of Chief Ministership. His career is spotless. If any Member says that Shri Barnala is under some pressure, if he will keep into his conscience he will feel that his statement is not reasonable. We want no injustice in the country, we oppose excesses. Owing to this, I support the Essential Commodities Act (Amendment) Bill presented by Shri Barnala and thank you.

SHRI HIRA LAL ROY (CHHAPRA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, A discussion on the Essential Commodities Act (Amendment) Bill has been going on for a long time in the House. I have been listening to it with rapt attention. During the discussion we have been pleading our case in a manner to contrive a quarrel between the BJP and the Opposition. Essential Commodities Act was implemented in 1955, amended in 1981 and remained in force in the form of ordinance. Today, we want it to be implemented in a new form. In Bhojpuri, there is a word 'Adhbhesar' which means a person who is neither a male nor a female. The Bill has been presented in the similar form. It should have the provision of seven years' imprisonment to the offender whereas punishment has been lessened to two and a half years' imprisonment. The cases which demanded an enquiry by the judicial magistrate have been restricted to enquiry by any magistrate. Similarly, the cases which required enquiry at the inspector level have been recommended enquiry by sub-Inspector. Earlier the crime was non-bailable which has now been converted into bailable.

I am sorry to submit that if you are really sincere in your efforts to safeguard the interests of that section you should follow the footsteps of Shri Mulayam Singh who has deferred this Act in Uttar Pradesh. You won't find any hurdle in the way. As you have already claimed that there are 76 laws to check such evils, you must assist in this direction. You have quoted the examples of Jamna Lal Bajaj, Bhamashah and many others but I am surprised why you do not cite the

example of Gandhiji. My submission is that it is not a matter confined to party politics. It is a matter related to evil practices as hoarding, black marketing etc. and the punishment for the offenders. It is of no use to waste the time in futile discussion. If there is no need of this law it should be repealed and if it is necessary then all the hurdles in the way should be overcome.

With these words, I would like to submit that I neither oppose Shri Barnala nor you. However, I would not support you in pleading the present State of affairs in the country where prices are increasing and hoarding and other offences are spreading at large scale. In such a situation, we should not try to favour the measure half heartedly.

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (BERHAMPUR) (ORISSA): Mr. Chairman, the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 was enacted to ensure that the consumers get the essential commodities easily without being exploited by the traders or anybody. The Act provides for the regulation, control of distribution and pricing under this Act. The Act has been amended from time to time to make the provisions more efficient and more effective.

In order to check the defaulting traders this Act of 1955 has been made more stringent making the offences non-bailable and providing for summary trials through the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981. This Act has been extended up to August 1997. After that we know that Ordinances were promulgated, re-promulgated and within the 100 days of its regime, the ruling party or this Government has brought this Bill. The way the Government has brought this Bill, one can imagine, one can guess, what the intention of the Government is. They want to pass this Bill as soon as possible.

With the lapse of the Essential Commodities (Special Provision) Act, 1981 which was to regulate the availability of the foodgrains and others of daily need and prevent hoarding and blackmarketing, the Ministry wants to propose to make the violation of the provisions of the Act specially with regard to offences mentioned in the Act bailable. In the previous Act all the offences were non-bailable but as the amendments of the proposed Bill, as it has been brought before the House, show all the offences will be bailable.

So, I can say that the first Act, i.e. the original Act was brought in 1955. After 25 years, another Act was brought in 1981 to make the offences non-bailable so that the offences were taken seriously. Now, after fifteen or sixteen years, the Government is saying that they are not taking the offences seriously so that they can be bailable. This is the argument which the hon. Minister has given. I do not know what sort of an argument is this. Is it to benefit the traders or the common people?

I must say that the dealers and traders have been wanting the Act to be abolished. But some of the State Governments wanted it to be extended for some more years. That is why,

the Act has come until now, that is, 1997. We know that the basic objective of the Government's decision is to stop the harassment of the traders by the officials at cutting edge. I could imagine that what will happen if there are innocent traders. But generally what we are seeing is that they are indulging in black marketing, hoarding and creating an artificial scarcity. We have been watching all these things. I must say that there are other issues too which need to be addressed and concentrating only on the trading community would create a wrong impression among the people that the Government's intention is to help only the traders.

I would like to bring another provision of the change in the weight of stocked foodgrains caused by varying humidity in the atmosphere. I do not understand how we are going to define as to how much humidity has been there because different regions of the country have different quantity of humidity also. I do not understand as to how much relief the Government can give to the traders and whether that can be quantified or not. In this name, the traders may like to avail of the opportunity to do more black-marketing and more profiteering.

Some of the proposed amendments like the provision that search and checking operations can only be done by the officials above a certain rank. This tends to suggest that corruption exists only at the lowest rank. But what about the higher ranks? If all the sub-inspectors are corrupt parsons, then the hon. Minister could have brought some other amendments to punish the erring officials and erring sub-inspectors. Instead of doing that, they have already gone in a different way. The hon. Minister has amended the provision of appeal in the original Act. Instead of the State Government being the Appellate Authority against a Collector's order for confiscation, the provision has been made to make the judiciary the Appellate Authority. I must say that this is done in response to the complaints about the vested interests using the Act subjectively

It has been realised that the traders indulged in speculation at the slightest shortage in the supply of goods. This kind of behaviour still persists. In other words, I must say that there has been no improvement in the supply situation. So, in this situation, I must say that any move to change the Act could be misunderstood by the people as a measure to help traders only without ensuring any corresponding benefit for the consumers. I oppose this bill.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (CHAIL): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill.

Sir, I would like to express some points through you with reference to the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill presented by our hon'ble Minister, Shri Surjit Singh Barnala in the House. This Bill aims at creating more problems for the consumers and providing protection and benefits to the traders. The hon'ble Minister has expressed his views before the House that there should be control on Essential Commodities, the system should be strengthened and prices

should be reasonable. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister through you that the problems like hoarding, black marketing, profiteering and adulteration are rampant throughout the country. The hon. Minister is well aware through whom these malpractices are being carried out. But you have not framed any rule for strict enforcement of this Act.

I would like to make another important point in this House through you. There is a great discrimination in the distribution of essential commodities in urban and rural areas. In urban area, if family consists of five persons the quote of foodgrains provided to them is restricted to 2 k.g. per unit but in the rural areas one card is issued per family and quota of foodgrains provided to them is restricted to two k.g. per family irrespective of the number of family members. I hope, the Hon'ble Minister will try to remove such discrimination. The Government should take measures to provide essential commodities to the weaker sections, exploited people, farmers and labourers residing in rural areas.

Sir, earlier one of the hon'ble Members from Bharatiya Janata Party Shri Shyam Bihari Mishraji has put forth certain important points and he has been speaking in the interest of traders but he has not raised any specific point in the interest of consumers. He has raised points only to defend the traders.(Interruptions) I was listening to his views attentively. I would like to inform the House that he has supported the traders he has spoken for their benefit, it indicates there is something hidden somewhere but I would not mention it specifically. It would have been better if he could have told something about consumer protection. Other honourable members have also expressed their views in the House.

Today, this country is dependent on the 80 per cent people living in villages. If the Government pay attention to those people it will come to know how much foodgrains to they get. It is an open secret that our people from rural areas have to visit the ration shops again and again for getting kerosene for a few days which they have to run for a whole month. Sometimes these people may get foodgrains and sometimes they do not get. In fact, the present system is benefitting the rich people whether it is sugar, kerosene or diesel, the benefit is enjoyed by rich people and small and marginal farmers get only nominal benefit. The Hon'ble Minister should pay attention towards the same and should see that essential commodities are made available to the people belonging to poor class.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, the distribution system whether it is through cooperative societies or other institutions is full of lacuna. You might have observed that due to this consumers do not get any direct benefit. An effective Act may be enacted in this regard. Secondly, the market economy is being pressurised by commission agents. Today, attempts are being made to weaken the whole consumer movement due to which there is resentment among the masses. Whole market is controlled by commission agents, whether it is availability of stock, whether it is hoarding or fluctuation in the prices. Today commission gents have all the evils but they are controlling the whole market. There is no control of the Government which may benefit the common people.

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

Sir, the hon'ble Minister has just made a statement that there are many such issues in this Act which take a long time. I would like to say that such an Act should be enacted which is implementable to all, specifically for the consumer protection. It should be for our traders also. The name of the Hon'ble Mulayam Singhji has been mentioned again and again in this House. Shri Shyam Biharji has raised many points in support of traders. I would like to say that he has done a lot for the interests of the trading community during his reign. It is not a concealed fact. With these words, I conclude and oppose this Bill.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (JAIPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this law was essential and appropriate at that time when the country was facing sugar and wheat crisis. The Chief Ministers of many States have amended this law in view of the gravity of the situation. You should not feel annoyed I am thankful to Mulayamji also. He also deferred its implementation keeping in view the harassment of people. In Gujarat, its guidelines were changed during the congress regime and these are effective since 1982. But due to price rise, the whole work has been carried out on the basis of supply. It was essential at that time but at present such a situation is not prevailing in the country to keep this law in force. If I am talking in support of traders, even then I am not saying anything wrong. Is trader a foreigner? It is our duty to protest in the Lok Sabha if that trader is subjected to any kind of injustice.

Sir, this is a very old law and it is to be extended for five years. I have been a member of Ninth, Tenth and Twelfth Lok Sabha. I would like to tell my friends belonging to the Congress Party that this law was brought by Congress Party itself and today they are blaming us that we are talking about the interest of traders. They had extended the imprisonment of five years. The hon'ble Minister has asked to reduce it to two years and I welcome the suggestion of reducing the fine, but this law is not going to help the country in any way. Mishraji was saying that there is no need of such a law if the already enacted law in the country is implemented strictly. The Provision of punishment made in the law should be abolished. For example, there is a provision in motor Vehicle Act, that if I am going to my home, and a truck tramples me and I die, I am paid tributes then tomorrow the driver who killed me will get bail.

He will again come and say, yes grandpa I have killed you. He will not address me because I will be receiving the tributes. Thus, when there is a provision of bail in Motor Vehicle Act then it is not proper to give punishment to the traders. Therefore the provision of punishment in the Act should be abolished and amount of fine should also be reduced. I would like to say that there should not be such a law. I understood it will be proper if both the points are amended, term of punishment is reduced and this provision is made bailable. I urge upon the Government that this law should not be enforced in the interest of traders. I am very thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Non-bailable does not mean that he will not be granted bail, it means that Police will not grant him bail.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will support the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill presented by the Government and if voting takes place. I will vote in its favour. But, Mr. Chairman, Sir, this amendment has created a doubt in my mind which I would like to express here clearly. I have never seen or heard that powers of all the S.H.O's of police all over the country will be reduced because S.H.O. of a particular police station is not able to control theft in his area. The cases of theft will be increased if their powers are reduced. The powers of inspectors are being stripped by unnecessarily raising the bogey of Inspector Raj and it has been stated that Executive Magistrate will conduct a probe in this regard. Central Government have no right to create posts at block level. It is the duty of State Governments which create such posts and makes appointments for them. Under such circumstances, the present amendment creates the apprehension that it will provide a free hand to blackmarketeers and raise their strength. People in villages as well as in cities are already in distress due to price rise and this amendment will cause further price rise. My party is also a part of the Government and we will support this Bill but I would like to express this apprehension clearly. I would request the hon'ble Minister to think over it seriously. Otherwise people would put to great hardship and a doubt will crop up in their mind that Government was enacting their law under the pressure of traders.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now it has been mentioned during discussion that justice is not done properly in the cases filed in this connection. Most of the cases are decided in favour of defendant and nobody is convicted. You will have to think about it seriously. Mr. Chairman, Sir, after all why it happens? It is the result of nexus between the traders and supply department. Due to this cases are delayed and Government losses many of them. Therefore, I would submit that more powers should be given to the officers concerned. If any officer commits any mistake, he should be punished. But no such amendment should be made in the Act which will cause further rise in prices and strengthen the blackmarketeers. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Government to ponder over it seriously. There should be separate laws for the PDSs and free sale shops functioning in rural as well as in urban areas. Till now the process of investigation and punishment is going on under the same law. There is nexus somewhere in this process. Therefore amendment should be made after careful consideration. The commodities meant for PDSs are sold in free sale shops and consumers purchase them at higher rates. This should also be taken into consideration seriously.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (BUXAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I seek an information, on this point. My Submission is that traders should live near to his business place. He should be punished if he does his business elsewhere...*(Interruption)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: How you are speaking like this.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: With your permission I am concluding my speech. If an Inspector adopts any unfair means State Government should be directed to appoint Deputy Collector in such cases. Supply Officer should be appointed at block level under the supervision of Deputy

Collector. The traders should not be given that much freedom that they operate at their sweet will. You should give your ruling in this regard. With these words. I conclude.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (SHIMLA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose this bill. There is nothing new in the Bill by which the country will be benefited. This amendment has weakened this Act. All the members are of the opinion that it should be reconsidered. Shri Barnala is the Minister incharge of this department.

During the tenure of this coalition Government, no raid has been conducted at the godowns where agricultural produce is stored. No action has been taken against the big people and hoarders.

I have come from my constituency only today. There farmers are getting Rs. 300/- per sack of potatoes, though it is being sold here at the rate of Rs. 18 per kg. Similarly tomatoes are being sold at Rs. 12 per kg there and here it is Rs. 38 per kg. What steps are being taken by the Government to reduce the prices of essential commodities. Farmers are given less prices for their produce. Traders are being favoured but farmers are exploited. Traders of Azad Market determine the prices of various commodities with their own sweet will. What arrangements have been made to reduce the prices of various items. Farmers should be benefitted.

8 objectives of this Bill have been stated. I at loss to understand them. Members of various parties including Samta Party are abusing Congress. They are under the impression that Congress is responsible for all this. You were not a Member of the House in 1955. You may have become a Member of the House in 1982. Earlier Bhartiya Janata Party was known as Jansangh, which was the supporter of hoarders and blackmarketeers. It is being stated that present Government will eradicate the hoarding and black-marketing but it is beyond their capacity. Will power is needed to do so. I would ask Shri Barnala not to take any lenient view in such cases. Suitable action should be taken against the traders who exploit the farmers. I would also request that the bill should be prepared afresh so that a consensus could be evolved in this regard. It should be referred to Select Committee so that all members could consider it and tell the nation that a good law has been made. The Government has 18 allies. Will you lead the country towards 18 directions.

Therefore, the bill should be brought before the country after full consideration. With these words, I strongly oppose the bill.

***SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNAIAH (TUMKUR):** Mr. Chairman Sir, I am speaking in Kannada.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, you can speak.

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNAIAH: I welcome this Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Sir this is an appropriate Bill but at the same time there are some points which have to be corrected. For example you are empowering

the Sub-Inspector to seize the commodities. There is a saying in Kannada. According to that the wolf has been asked to take care of the sheep. One can imagine the plight of commuters if the Sub-Inspectors are given the responsibility. All of us know how efficiently these inspectors function. I feel that it is not proper to ask Sub Inspectors to deal with the situation.

The commodities have to reach the consumers. Unfortunately the consumer is being cheated at each and every stage. He is deceived while weighing the food grains. The food grains, sugar and other commodities of these fair price shops are of very poor quality. Therefore, it is very essential for the Government to appoint efficient, honest and sincere officers to look after this very highly responsible task.

I appreciate the Government of India for introducing clause 6A to seize the commodities from hoarders and others indulging in black marketing. Apart from hoarding and black marketing, adulteration is another malady which is rampant in our public distribution system.

In olden days there was a law called limb law. Of course, it has undergone a thorough change under the influence of democracy and modernisation. This type of law is prevailing even today in some of the Arabian countries. What I want to express is that stringent punishment should be awarded to those who indulge in adulteration and hoarding. Then only the traders and others connected with public distribution system can learn lessons. Consumer movement has to be strengthened. We have to encourage societies and other associations to encourage consumer movement. Government should come forward to provide financial and other assistance to these societies. Throughout the country the Government should alert the people particularly the consumers about the consumer movement. There is great need to start a college to educate the people in consumer movement. Perhaps the college would come up in the capital in the near future. I have got the information from reliable sources that foreign assistance (financial) is being made available for this purpose.

These days even kerosene is adulterated. Kerosene is mixed with petrol. Those who are indulging in adulteration are not sparing even edible oils like groundnut oil, coconut oil, refined oil etc. I am afraid, if this malady is allowed to continue like this thousand of people may lose their lives slowly.

The Government of India should not be a passive institution. Instead of keeping quiet like a silent spectator, it has to take immediate and proper measures to check adulteration throughout the country. They should appoint sincere and disciplined officers to take control of the situation and to save the consumers of PDS from distress.

I congratulate the Hon'ble Minister for bringing this law. At the same time I take this opportunity to remind him to implement this law. If it is not taken seriously then it will go to cold storage. We have many other such laws which are rotting in the cold storage. Some important laws which passed long ago have not seen the light of the day till today. I hope and trust that the present Bill will not meet the same fate. Hence, I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister Shri Barnalaji to strictly implement this very important law.

[Shri S. Mallikarjuniah]

Sir, thanks for calling me to express a few views on this amendment Bill, 1998 and with these words I conclude my speech.

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE (CHIMUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1998 presented to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. In my view, this bill has been brought to weaken the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to provide facilities to a special class of the society and to protect the exploiters. One of our hon'ble Members emphasized on the point that excesses are committed on the traders under Inspector-Raj and injustice is being done to them. By doing so they are trying to show that only they are wellwishers of the traders. How we can oppose the traders when we believe that industry and commerce are the reflection of country's economic development. We only want to oppose those ill practices which are responsible for the exploitation of common man. Therefore, I would like to emphasize that the provisions made in this bill will further increase the black-marketing, hoarding and adulteration and traders will exploit the society. Therefore, I oppose the amendments made in this bill. This bill will re-introduced the ill-practices like adulteration, hoarding and black marketing and thereby exploit the society.

Honest traders are harassed by the police for very small things. It should be provided in the bill that a separate agency should be set up to investigate the charge if any, levelled against a trader and the cases should not be referred to Police. And Inspector-raj should not be required.

If essential commodities are provided to consumers at the time of their need in required quantity and at reasonable prices then I don't think that any consumer or any common man will take any action against any trader or take any legal action against them. All these things depend upon traders class. I am talking about essential commodities. If essential commodities are not provided to common man by the traders in required quantity and at reasonable prices then it is not right. Therefore, I oppose the Amendment Bill which has been presented here to encourage corruption. As far as protection is concerned, to whom you are going to protect the person who is involved in corruption or the profiteer or the hoarder or the black marketeer or the adulterator. This Bill should have a provision that adulterators should be punished because due to adulteration hundreds of people lose their lives. If this is not done then traders will exploit society...*(Interruptions)* There is no cause for the honest traders to fear. We are their friends and not their enemies. If they do their business honestly then they don't have to fear. One hon'ble Member has said that traders are being oppressed and injustice is done with them. If they work properly then there is no cause for them to fear. Therefore, while opposing the amendments I oppose this Bill. I would request this House and the Hon'ble Minister that the law which was enacted in 1955 should be implemented even more strictly. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI (DHARWARD SOUTH): Mr.

Chairman, Sir, I am happy that I have been given time to speak about this Act. At the outset, I would like to say that the Statement of Objects and Reasons says that the existing provisions in the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 are not adequate and effective in ensuring easy availability of essential commodities to the consumers. The wordings are there. To support this. I would like to cite the proposed amendment of Section 6A. The proviso says: "Provided that, in case of any essential commodity the retail sale price whereof has been fixed by the Central Government or a State Government under this Act or under any other law for the time being in force and which is being sold through fair price shops, the Collector may, for its equitable distribution and availability at fair prices, order the same to be sold through fair price shops at the price so fixed."

I want to further say that inclusion of all taxes and duties etc., as may be levied by the State Government and other local bodies is required to be added. When I was an MLC in Karnataka, taxes like sales tax and local taxes which used to be levied by the State Government on palm oil, those taxes were recovered. At the time of fixing the rate, the Collector did not consider all these things. Therefore, I would request the House and the Government, through you to consider either including taxes and other levies of the State Government or to exempt them. It should be there in the section itself.

Secondly, automobile parts have been exempted. Similarly, sugar is to be exempted from the purview of this Act because when sugar is in sufficient quantity, it should be exempted from the purview of this Act. At the time, when Shri Morarji Desai was the Prime Minister, sugar was taken out from the purview of the Essential Commodities Act because the rate that was prevailing at that time was Rs. 4.50 per kilogram. After it was taken out from the statute, the rate came down to Rs. 2.00 per kilogram. Therefore, I suggest that sugar should be deleted from the purview of this Act.

Thirdly, commodities like petrol, diesel and kerosene come under the category of essential commodities. The Sales Tax prevailing in one State is different from the Sales Tax prevailing in another State. By imposing the tax, the rates will be very much different from one State to another, like from Maharashtra to Karnataka or from Andhra Pradesh to Karnataka. Therefore, I want that these two items specially petrol and diesel should be brought under the Central Sales Tax Act so that they should be taxed at the rate of not more than four per cent. They should be treated as 'declared goods'.

The fourth point is about imposing punishment for offences committed under the Criminal Procedure Code. My senior colleague Shri Mallikarjuniah has already talked about it that the officers themselves are punishable. Therefore, I would request the House to delete this Act. I want that this Act be abolished from the statute.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (FAIZABAD): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I am thankful that you have given me an opportunity to speak.

While presenting this Bill hon'ble Minister has mentioned 3-4 points. Firstly, the punishment to the traders should be two years instead of seven years, secondly, the inspector should not enter their houses for investigation without permission of the Magistrate. An attempt has been made to give similar other concessions to them. Law is enacted only when its necessity is felt. Though we are solving our problems, the problem is growing even more serious. There is no need to give any such concessions to traders who are involved in black marketing of essential commodities. We should punish them instead of bringing amendment in our law. On the other hand we find that if an ordinary person is found to be involved in theft for a petty amount, he is convicted under section 420 of penal code. If something is recovered from anyone's house, he is prosecuted under section 379. If someone is caught while stealing things then he is imprisoned. But in case of traders, concession is being sought for them even if hoarding to the tune of thousands of bags of essential commodities is recovered from them. There should not be two sets of law to deal with the same offence. The Essential Commodities Act was enacted to protect the interests of poor people. The responsibility of any welfare State is that it should provide essential commodities to poor people at reasonable prices and if anyone commits any mistake then there is law to punish him. You are giving concession to those people who are misusing this. I do not know how Barnalaji has presented this Bill. He should have prudently brought better law. The BJP Government is directly trying to help those who are involved in blackmarketing. I feel that such allegations should not be levelled against them. Shri Mulayam Singhji has also resorted to this method and small traders were handcuffed. You are saying that exemption will be given to the criminals and robbers. The inspector will not apprehend them and the permission of the court have to be sought in such case.

Nowhere is the Bill any concession has been given to those who suffer due to non-availability of essential commodities. Adulteration is being done today on large scale in edible items. Even life saving drugs are adulterated and it is sold in black market. There have been instances of several deaths due to adulteration in eatables. Yet these concessions are being given to them. I am at a loss to understand as to how a Minister like Barnalaji can do this. He is giving concession to those people who are responsible for thousands of deaths. I would suggest tat before this Bill is passed, this should be referred to the Joint Select Committee of Parliament and opinion of State Governments may also be sought. After that such arrangement should be made so that objective of this Bill could be achieved.

SHRI LALU PRASAD (MADHEPURA): Mr Chalman, Sir, Hon'ble Prime Minister wanted to know the opinion of all party leaders over the Bill which was presented here. I had suggested that a consensus should be arrived at on this matter by convening a meeting of the leaders of all political parties. This is not an ordinary issue. This issue is very serious. It should not happen that tomorrow the present Government may have to go to court for it. It should also be considered as to who are the people whom we are going to give these concessions. We had opposed this and had said that this work should not be done under anyone's pressure.

All members know how prices of commodities are increasing in the market. At present your Government is in power so it is your responsibility to see to it. It may be distressing because we are criticising you.

We should think about the common man. Equalitarian society should be formed and justice should be done to proletariat class because it is difficult for them to make both ends meet. It is your responsibility to look after the interest of that class. I know Barnalaji, he has been with us and he is the leader of farmers. I understand that he has been forced to present this Bill to provide immediate relief to these people and somehow their lives could be saved. You should think about this thing. You should see for yourself the position regarding goods in the Mandis of Delhi or the market places of the villages of Bihar. The superior quality lemons are sold in Delhi and only dried Kagazi lemon reach Bihar. Yesterday was our party's foundation day. We have set up a market for poor people in the name of Loknayak Jaiprakash Narayan. When we went there people came to us in the hope that perhaps their leader would like to have fruits. Having fruit is prohibited for us. We asked them the price of lemon? They said that the price of lemon is Rs. 2/-. Mustard Oil is known as edible oil at other places. The area from where our Minister of Railways Shri Nitish Kumar hails and in other areas also when the women folks go for purchasing mustard oil they did not have money. The small traders used to sell the oil by weighing it with the help of small measuring cup. Our womenfolk used to tie the bottle with a rope containing mustard oil hang it in the house. Cockroach used to get into that bottle and spoil the mustard oil. The price of mustard oil and is Rs. 60 per kg., the price of Dalda is Rs. 70/ per kg, the prices of cloth and prices of potato...*(Interruptions)* Listen...*(Interruptions)* Sir, we cannot control it...*(Interruptions)* When I mentioned potato...*(Interruptions)* This is the cleverness...*(Interruptions)* The price of potato is Rs. 60/- for 5 kg., the price of tomato is Rs. 70 per kg. and the prices of onion, garlic, rice and pulses are sky rocketing...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Lалуji, please conclude your speech.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Sir, I have not even taken 3 minutes. The disturbances which are being created...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Four minutes are over. It is going to be five minutes.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Sir the traders as well as Inspectors themselves face inconvenience due to this law ...*(Interruptions)* The question is not of traders only but our community is also involved in it. If a person from Yadav community sells milk at higher price then the same law is applicable to him. This Government is aware that it will fall soon. Therefore they are taking care of their vote bank. Hence they have introduced this bill with the intension to do away with the clause of punishment. Therefore, I strongly oppose this Bill. The party representing the black marketeers has introduced this Bill with the intension of deceiving the proletariat class and to create more difficulties for them. I oppose this Bill. I will vote against this Bill and you will definitely lose on this count.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (BARAMULLA): Mr. Chairman, I know Shri Barnala as a hard working and conscientious Minister. But the Bill that he has piloted today has dismayed me.

On page 5, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, he has said that he will ensure easy availability of essential commodities to the consumers, prevent misuse of power by lower field functionaries, tackle genuine hardships of the traders when there is a minor variation in stocks and keep pace with the path of liberalisation. He has defeated all the purposes he had indicated.

We have a plethora of laws but we fail to implement them. This is no occasion to tell you that in all markets in Delhi nobody pays the twelve per cent sales tax—I have collected some facts about it—because we have never shown the capacity to implement laws.

Mr. Chairman, here, I want to raise a few questions through you. Though these questions have already been raised, I will not repeat them in the same manner in which they have been raised. The hon. Minister has reduced the jail term from seven years to two years. He wants to control the market and to ensure supplies. But what is the punishment for the defaulters?

He wants to get rid of the inspector but the sub-inspector is a double danger. We want a civilian authority with his powers. I am not against the police but there are various charges that have been levelled against the inspectors. The sub-inspector in uniform is a double danger because he has the authority of the uniform and also the authority under the law. He has been armed to the teeth with authority. There is no check over him. Therefore, while the whole of Delhi has been crying for two years now to get rid of the Inspector Raj, you are perpetuating only that raj.

In clause 4, you have said: '...through fair price shops at the prices fixed by the Central Government or the State Government...' We must be honest. The public distribution system in this country is in a shambles. We must have a discussion on this subject. Where are you correcting the process?... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Mr. Chairmen, I wish I had time.

Finally, Shri Barnala has moved some amendments. These are very unfair. He is reducing the fine of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 5,000. He has halved the fine everywhere. Where it was Rs. 20,000, he has substituted it with Rs. 10,000; where it was Rs. 25,000, he has substituted it with Rs. 10,000 and where it was Rs. 50,000, it is now Rs. 20,000. I want that Shri Barnala should not get any blame but there are rumours that this Government shows more concern for the *bania*. It is not a relief to the consumer but it is a relief to the defaulters. Also, 'non-bailable' has been converted into 'bailable'. So, it is a relief to the *bania*. It is a relief to the defaulter. There is no relief to the consumer.

So, I would expect that, Shri Barnala being a senior person,

he understands the sense of the House; and when he rises, he should not only answer the questions raised, but he should also correct and withdraw these amendments. I request him to withdraw them again or else find out a mechanism so that we can discuss them in future. We should not pass this Bill in a hurry now. Thank you very much.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (JHANSI): The word 'Baniya' which he has used should be expunged.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the hon. Minister reply now. Only ten minutes are left.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Word 'Baniya' should be replaced by 'trader'... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have asked the hon. Minister to give a reply.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): All this is being done to reduce fine on hoarders and blackmarketeers. From 25 thousand to 10 thousand from 10 thousand to 5 thousand and from non-bailable crime to bailable crime. What is all this going on... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: When I am standing, you have to sit down. How can this House function like this?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: We can fill our belly in Calcutta in two rupees... (Interruptions) Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is an injustice in your rule.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me conduct the House, Shri Yadav.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER (TENALI): Sir, the Bill and its amendments had been discussed extensively. The matter is highly controversial. We even find that the hon. Members from that side had opposed this Bill. In view of the fact that it is fraught with consequences, it is better that we give a proper and adequate attention to this Bill. Therefore, we request the hon. Minister to kindly agree to refer this Bill to a Select Committee so that it can be gone into thoroughly... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me hear him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): I am of the same opinion. As there are a lot of controversies and opposition from all sides, let this Bill be referred to a Select Committee—with an instruction to submit a report within a stipulated time, say within this Session or within the next Session...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I think this is the right time. The prices have gone up sky-high and this Bill is also a controversial one. I support the stand taken by Shri Shiv Shanker and by other friends; instead of passing this Bill now, it may be referred to a Select Committee so that we can give a special thought to this subject...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to say something?

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Thank you very much for the compliment...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, one ordinance is already in force...*(Interruptions)* In earlier ordinance as well as the ordinance before that punishment and fine was not defined. There was a provision of a fine of 25 thousand rupees. It was approved by the committee. Fine was reduced from 25 thousand rupees to 10 thousand and from 10 thousand to 5 thousand rupees...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sir, what is your opinion? With regard to referring it to the select committee.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: My suggestion is to send it back to the select committee...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not shout like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): Yesterday, you were opposing lottery bill. Mulayam Singhji mentioned about its sections...*(Interruptions)* We want that this Government should function with consensus. Therefore we want that the as per the proposal of Shiv Shankerji it should be sent to the select committee.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please move the motion.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Sir, the Minister has to move that the Bill be referred to the Select Committee ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the Minister has only to

move the motion...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, no reply to the debate is required to be given now...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, the hon. Minister is not required to give any reply, instead he has to move that the Bill be sent to the Select Committee. Just that has to be done.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be referred to the Select Committee".

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the House that the Bill be referred to the Select Committee?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Bill may be sent to the Select Committee.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (VISAKHAPATNAM): Sir, I had moved the Bill and I am happy to say that the Bill has been referred to the Select Committee...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: May I appeal to the hon. Members to please resume their respective seats? Please resume your seats.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (MANDSAUR): Names of members to be appointed in Select Committee should be clear.

[English]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Sir, this Bill may be referred to a Joint Committee.

18.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: According to the rules.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Who would be the Members on this Joint Committee?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you allow me to function? I am making a reference to this matter. It is a very unusual situation.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): According to the rules of select committee it works in two ways. The committee will be either of this House or it will be a joint select committee of both the Houses. In case of a Joint Select Committee it should be specifically proposed that how many members it should have and secondly the other house would have to be requested as to how many members it should nominate. Therefore we request you that while relaxing the rules. The Speaker should be authorised to nominate the members...*(Interruptions)*

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do not allow anybody to speak in the House. You just stand up every now and then. I am very sorry.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (MADHEPURA): In this Bill *

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not form part of the record.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think it is better to do as Shri Nitish Kumar has suggested.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA): I would just like to add to what Shri Nitish Kumar has suggested. Instead of leaving it only to the Speaker, you should say that the Speaker in consultation with the Leaders of various Parties would nominate the Members.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Either the bill be kept pending or a formal resolution be brought by the Minister next day and get it adopted. Till then debate should be stopped here.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOGLY): I think this is a valid suggestion. Rule 298 says:

"The Members of the Select Committee on a Bill shall be appointed by the House when a Motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee is made."

So, it is simultaneous. Naturally, the latest suggestion given by Shri Nitish Kumar is to defer it. The formal Motion may come later on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We would do it like that only.

SHRI A.C. JOS (MUKUNDAPURAM): this is the correct procedure.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: The Minister of Priametary Affairs would come with a proposal tomorrow.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The hon. Minister would bring a formal Motion tomorrow. So, it should be deferred till tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Tomorrow, the formal proposal would be brought before the House and then we would proceed accordingly. This is the decision of the House. Till then the matter is kept pending.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (MADRAS SOUTH): Before adjourning the House, I would like to seek one clarification. Today, we had deliberated in a lengthy manner about the discussion to be held tomorrow and it was decided in the BAC that tomorrow we would be taking up discussion on the Ministry of External Affairs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next item on the Agenda is, the Railway Budget.

SHRI T. R. BAALU: I understand that there would now be a change in the Agenda.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am sorry, Mr. Baalu. The Business Advisory Committee decides something but the House decides something else.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Why are you opposed to a discussion on the Railways? Let us start the discussion. It is listed for today.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: There is no problem. We can take it up.

18.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, July 7, 1998/Asadha 16, 1920 (Saka)

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debate

(English Version)

Monday July 6, 1998/Asadha 15, 1920 (Saka)

<i>Col./Line</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Read</i>
155-156/30	Pithoraga	Pithorgarh
175/	Add below line 14 :	(Rs. in crores)
176/4 (from below)	Karanata	Karnataka
180/9 (from below)	(d)	(c)
186/15	(f)	(e)
237/16 (from below)	88	56
243/29	40	48
243/30	336	56
262/3 (from below)	4000	14000
278/2	56	152
297/10	3000	23000
298/8	88	80
384/5	DR. SANJAY SINGH	DR. SANJAY SINH
431-432/19 (Col. 5)	646.908	464.908
431-432/21 (Col. 20)	61.910	61.91
431-432 for item 20 & 21 read as follows		
	9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	
20.	0.378 0.07 - 0.448 0.052 - - 0.052 0.022 - - 0.022	
21.	- - - - 0.075 0.537 0.272 0.884 0.685 0.366 0.508 1.559	
433-434/7	19025.92	19025.928
474/15	SHRIMATI SURAKANTA PATIL	SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL
504/10 (from below)	reserved	reversed

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