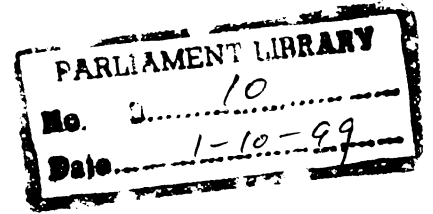


LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)



Second Session
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. IV contains Nos. 21 to 30)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

Price : Rs. 50.00

EDITORIAL BOARD

Shri S. Gopalan
Secretary-General
Lok Sabha

Dr. A.K. Pandey
Additional Secretary
Lok Sabha Secretariat

Shri P.C. Bhatt
Chief Editor
Lok Sabha Secretariat

Shri A.P. Chakravarti
Senior Editor
Lok Sabha Secretariat

Shri J.C. Sharma
Editor

[ORIGINAL ENGLISH PROCEEDINGS INCLUDED IN ENGLISH VERSION AND ORIGINAL HINDI PROCEEDINGS INCLUDED IN HINDI VERSION WILL BE TREATED AS AUTHORITATIVE AND NOT THE TRANSLATION THEREOF.]

CONTENTS

[Twelfth Series, Vol. IV, Second Session, 1998/1920 (Saka)]

No. 26, Tuesday, July 21, 1998/Asadha 30, 1920 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
ORAL ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS	
*Starred Questions Nos. 482-485	2-32
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Questions Nos. 486-501	33-60
Unstarred Questions Nos. 4828-5057	60-386
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	387-390
MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA	390-391
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE	
Report on Beedi Workers Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill	391
RE : ALLEGATION BY TWO MAHARASHTRA MINISTERS ABOUT DEATH THREATS AND MANHANDLING BY RULING PARTY WORKERS	391-400
RE : INTERIM AWARD OF CAUVERY WATER DISPUTES TRIBUNAL	400-412
CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE	
Difficulties faced by rubber growers due to fall in prices of natural rubber	426-444
Shri Suresh Kurup	426-428
Shri Ramakrishna Hegde	428-432, 434-435, 441-442
Shri Chengara Surendran	435-436
Shri P.C. Chacko	436-438
Prof. A.K. Premajam	439-440
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377	444-451
(i) Need for a comprehensive policy on the working of Delhi Development Authority	
Shri Krishna Lal Sharma	444-445

* The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(ii) Need to improve the functioning of telephones in Bhind Parliamentary constituency, Madhya Pradesh Dr. Ram Lakhan Singh	445-446
(iii) Need to improve the functioning of National Institute of Ayurveda Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava	446
(iv) Need to run Delhi-Porebandar Express train thrice a week Shri Gordhan Bhai Javia	446-447
(v) Need to direct State Government of Rajasthan to ensure uninterrupted supply of electricity in rural areas of the State particularly in Churu Parliamentary constituency Shri Narendra Budania	447
(vi) Need to provide financial assistance to State Government of Himachal Pradesh for better educational facilities in the State Shri K.D. Sultanpuri	447-448
(vii) Need to issue N.O.C. by the Central Government for implementation of various schemes for the benefit of slum dwellers residing on Central Government land in Mumbai Shri Abhaysinh S. Bhonsle	448
(viii) Need to sanction Ganga Action Plan—phase II in West Bengal and provide funds for it Dr. Asim Bala	449
(ix) Need to direct Nationalised Banks to offer loans to poor needy people on priority basis Shri C. Gopal	449-450
(x) Need to provide adequate staff for smooth functioning of the office of General Manager. Telecommunication in Darbhanga, Bihar Shri Mohd. Ali Ashraf Fatmi	450
(xi) Need to re-open Dunlop India Limited unit situated at Hooghly, West Bengal Shri Akbor Ali Khandoker	450
(xii) Need for stoppage of Bangalore CST Mumbai Express at Haveri and Ranebennur Shri B.M. Mensinkai	451
DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193	451-502
Maruti Udyog Limited	
Shri S. Jaipal Reddy	451-456
Shri Basu Deb Acharia	456-460
Dr. Madan Prasad Jaiswal	460-465
Shri K. Karunakaran	465-469
Shri Kharabela Swain	469-473

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
Shri V.V. Raghavan	473-475
Shri T.R. Baalu	475-477
Prof. P.J. Kurien	477-480
Dr. Subramanian Swamy	480-482
Shri Pramotes Mukherjee	482-484
Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy	484-487
Shri Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar	487-488
Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan	488-489
Shri Sikander Bakht	289-502
BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	503-504
Fourth Report	503

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, July 21, 1998/Asadha 30, 1920 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, I have given a notice for suspending the Question Hour to take up the Maharashtra issue ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you after the Question Hour.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK (Buldana) : There is a total failure of the law and order. There is a total failure of Constitutional machinery. The Ministers have been threatened. The life of a Minister is at stake. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you after the Question Hour.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur) : Sir, I have given a notice for suspending the Question Hour. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you after the Question Hour.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Mr. Speaker Sir, I have given a notice to suspend the question hour ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you all after the question hour. ... (Interruptions) Mr. Muttemwar I will allow you after the question hour. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, now you please take your seat.

11.01 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Foreign Assistance

*482. SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of voluntary organisations receiving foreign assistance;

(b) the criteria followed by the Government to grant permission to such organisations for receiving foreign assistance;

(c) whether any mechanism exists for regular auditing of accounts of such organisations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) 12,136 associations filed returns under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 during 1996-97. Their names are contained in the Annual Report on the receipt of foreign contribution by voluntary associations for 1996-97, copies of which have been placed in the Parliament Library.

(b) Permission under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 to receive foreign contribution is granted keeping in mind, *inter-alia*, the nature of the association, its aims and objectives, details of its past activities, composition of its executive committee/Governing Council, contravention, if any, of the provisions of the Act and whether or not it falls in a category prohibited from accepting foreign contribution.

(c) and (d) Associations covered under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 are required to furnish intimation of the receipt and utilisation of foreign contribution received by them during each financial year, alongwith a baiance sheet and statement of receipt and payment, duly certified by a Chartered Accountant. Besides this, the accounts of certain associations are also scrutinised by officers of this Ministry authorised to inspect the accounts/records maintained by the said association.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is written in the reply that the statement is laid on the table, but we do not get that, kindly arrange this for us.

SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether many non-governmental voluntary organisations are receiving foreign aid in India at present. For name sake these institutions are working for public welfare but it has become a business today. According to a report of a Bombay based Economic and political weekly these institutions, receive an amount of Rs. 10 thousand crore. It is not known as to which purpose these funds are used for. These funds are provided to the countries like India due to its poverty. Some countries try to influence through it and the others send funds for espionage. No investigation is done by the Government in this regard. Neither our state Governments nor the Government organisation can receive such funds directly. There is no such machinery in our country to investigate these things, and as a result of the same, these organisations after getting the foreign funds are spending these funds lavishly, whereas the African countries have a control over them and such funds are monitored. Tanzania have published the names of such organisations.

MR. SPEAKER : You ask the question.

SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister through you about the amount of foreign funds received by R.S.S. and whether any investigation has been done into it?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : To R.S.S.?

DR. SHAKEEL AHMED : Please tell me as to how much funds did the R.S.S. receive?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a discussion. Please understand this.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked about the names of all the voluntary organisations under this question. As I have already stated that there are many such institutions in the country.

There are 12136 Associations which have been registered under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act and have obtained permission to receive foreign assistance. The details of the entire list and the total amount received is published in the annual report which is kept in the library. If the hon. Member would like to raise a question on any particular organisation then he may have to give a separate notice for it.

SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned about Foreign Regulation Act, 1976 in reply to part B of my question. I would like to know through my supplementary question about the number of organisations against which action has been taken under this act since 1976 till date and the outcome thereof?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, 1976 till date is a long notice. This act was passed in 1976. I shall collect the information and place before the House. I can only say that before granting permission to any organisation information about the background of the organisation and the names of the members and their personal background is collected. Besides, each institution registered under it has statutory obligation to file their return which would be audited by a Chartered Accountant at the end of every year. Details of the income and the expenditure is given in it. While giving permission the source of funding and the purpose for which the money is to be utilised is also examined. There is a detailed plan under which it is monitored.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to part 'A' of the question it is stated that the list of these institutions, which are getting foreign aid, is placed in the library and their audit is certified by the Chartered Accountants. I have two questions. Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that there are many such institutions, educational institutions which have not been mentioned in this list, but it is known to all that they are funded for carrying out acts against the interests of many countries. I want to know whether the Government is aware of the fact and if so, may I have the details of the action taken? My second question is as it is mentioned in the answer that it can be audited by any Chartered Accountant.

[Translation]

We know that how Chartered Accountant provide certificates? Whether the Government will make arrangements for test audit through CAG in six months, seven months or in a year?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : We also do auditing and checking time to time before your suggestion. We also conduct surprise checking time to time through monitoring arrangement but as a whole the number of institutions is large. Their practical form have gradually increased. An apex department of our Ministry checks it. Hon. Member has said that some institutions get money for wrong doings, perhaps the members are aware of the fact that fund comes from regular sources, but a large amount also comes from irregular sources. The Government and investigating agencies of the Government enquire all these things.

[English]

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I did go to the Library this morning after seeing the statement that was laid there. The annual Report only gives a list of organisations. The Report which is available in the library does not mention the amounts against the organisations.

The question is in two parts. The person who filed the question has asked about RSS funding. ... (Interruptions)

I can answer that question also.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot answer a Question. You have to put a supplementary.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I can answer that question also. So, they should not ask me a Question. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Sir, he is not supposed to answer the question. He is supposed to ask the question. ... (Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : They should not ask me a question. I am not yet a Minister. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb him.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not disturb him.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister that how much money they have got from CIA.

[English]

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Is RSS unparliamentary that I cannot mention the name? ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except Dr. Swamy's supplementary question.

... (Interruptions) *

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : That is why I know about you. I only came to know about *Duryodhana* by going to the same school. I also came to know about that. I know their nefarious activities.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Swamy, please ask your supplementary.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : The question should have been posed in two parts. Firstly, I want to know whether RSS is a front organisation of which B.J.P. is one, and whether the front organisations like Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Antar-rashtriya Sahyog Parishad, etc., have received any money. If so, how much? It is because the Annual Report does not mention the amounts.

Secondly, the NRIs who operate Indian accounts here whether the money, that they give, will come under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act or not.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : So far as political parties are concerned, one of whom the hon. Member has referred to as a front organisation, they are barred from receiving any foreign contributions, so also MPs, MLAs, Journalists, judges and such other categories which are statutorily prohibited from receiving any foreign contribution. There

* Not Recorded.

is a list in which there are organisations which are somewhat political, but are not political parties. For example, there are certain trade unions and certain youth organisations who also have to seek prior permission before they receive any foreign contribution. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : The question is specific about V.H.P.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : V.H.P. is one of those organisations which comes in this category. It has to seek prior permission from the Government before it receives any foreign contribution. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Please also tell the account of Congress.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Hon. Speaker Sir, if the questions will be asked about the VHP or RSS specifically. I must reply them but as I know these are not in those receipts.

[English]

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I have asked a question whether the NRIs operating Indian accounts here also come under the FCRA or not.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : It is more of a legal question. But as far as I can see it, if a person has an account here and contributes in rupees to anyone here, perhaps that would not come. It is more of a legal question.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Home Minister tell us that had the Congress taken permission?

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : There is one organisation called Ananda Marg which is engaged in anti-national, anti-Government and nefarious activities. It dropped a large number of arms in December, 1995. Those arms came from foreign countries. I would like to know whether the Government is aware that this organisation is receiving a large amount of money from foreign countries, and they are utilised for anti-national, anti-Government and anti-social activities. If so, whether the Government propose to take any action against that organisation, and put a ban on receiving foreign contributions by that organisation.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The hon. Member has referred to the Ananda Marg. This I find is one of the 129 organisations which perhaps had been identified and permitted to receive funds with prior permission.

It is in that category. This decision, the hon. Member will appreciate, had been taken earlier. As has been the case of the RSS or the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, it is not this Government which has decided that. If there is any specific question, I will certainly reply to that later.

So far as anti-national activities are concerned, if any organisation indulges in anti-national activities, this Government would take serious note of it and take necessary action.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, the CBI has already inquired into the dropping of arms.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Mr. Speaker Sir, Vishwa Hindu Parishad is one of those 12000 institutions which are registered under FCRA. According to my knowledge, there is a big scandal in crores of dollars collected by Vishwa Hindu Parishad from foreign. That has not been utilised properly and a notice from Income Tax Department a notice of violation of FCRA has been served on VHP for this but both of the actions have been postponed. I want to know from the Minister through you that what actions have been taken against VHP which is one of the 12000 registered institutions and have received crores of dollars from Foreign after registration under FCRA and have told that they had received this funds for construction of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya. But have not utilised, the same for construction of mandir and have been served on notices from Income Tax Department and FCRA.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I believe that had an organisation been involved in mal-practices since so long, then this organisation would never been excused by the earlier Governments.

[English]

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Sir, is he denying that there is no inquiry? I have asked a specific question. There are inquiries. Is he denying that there is no inquiry?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Sir, I am sure that the Department concerned must be pursuing the matter.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Yes, say like that. The Government had ordered some investigation and the Department was inquiring. His question is whether the Government is going on with those inquiries or they have stopped them.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : No one who violates the law will be spared.

[Translation]

SHRI ADITYANATH : Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister through you that more than 12000 non-governmental organisations are getting foreign aid amongst them which are those organisations active in conversion on India-Nepal border and in North-Eastern States, they are alongwith conversion playing equal role in anti-national activities, and they are still continuing these activities? To know that how much aid these organisations are getting, will the Government set up an enquiry or hand over it to the CBI so that conversion or anti-national activities can be prevented?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am agree with the views of hon. Member that if someone misuses the money in this way then action should be taken against him but I also request him that he must realise this thing there are several organisations among 12000 which contribute funds to hospitals, orphanages and utilise in other good work. Therefore it is not good for the country to say generally that all the amount received under FCRA from foreign countries are misused.

SHRI ADITYA NATH : Hon. Speaker Sir, what is the views of the hon. Minister regarding conversion in the country? Is the money being misused in this country on large scales people are being converted into Christian or Muslim, what action, the Government is taking to prevent all these things? ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This has already been replied.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Sir, in the name of tribals, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, in the name of religion, and in the name of [Translation] ... Publicity of Ramayan, you will see that the America printed Ramayana comes in India which are those organisations? Big temples are being constructed worth crores of rupees. Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know from the Minister that India is a country of different

religions. Gods are exported from here. What is the need that these non-Government organisations are doing so in the name of God. 356 crore God—Goddesses are in this country. ... (Interruptions) There are three Gods on every Indian ... (Interruptions) I am telling you ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please see that this is Question Hour. This is not a discussion.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this? Please take your seats.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Laluji, please ask your supplementary.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please resume your seats.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is the question hour. Mr. Lalu has made it joke hour. Will the Parliament will be made a mockery. Is this the occasion of joke hour, Laluji has made the question hour like that. It is the question hour. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you. Please take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : This cannot be done in this manner. Nobody has the right to insult the God. ... *(Interruptions)* Whether one believes in God or not, but one should not behave like this ... *(Interruptions)* He should seek forgiveness ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Lajuji, please ask the supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I would like to ask the steps to be taken by Government to stop the inflow of foreign exchange into the country? What are the needs of these social service organizations for which funds are coming from foreign countries ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will expunge from the record if there is anything objectionable.

... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : It should not be done, none of the Hon'ble Member has the right to do this. Hon'ble Member could not do this. ... *(Interruptions)* Expunge it from the record.

[English]

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

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : You cannot insult the God.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : And you are honouring. ... *(Interruptions)* What is wrong I have done. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please resume your seats.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Take your seat first. I will allow you.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Lajuji, please finish your supplementary

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Lajuji, please complete your supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD YADAV : What is going on in these 12,000 institutions. ... *(Interruptions)* Will they not allow me to ask the question? ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, please take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Lajuji, please take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please resume your seat.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Sir, what is the need of this foreign money which is coming into the country. To stop that ... (*Interruptions*) I have not said anything wrong. ... (*Interruptions*) I would like to know as to what is the problem of the Government to stop this foreign exchange which is coming into India in different names. ... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Sir, Lajuji has said that we export the God. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : All right, I will expunge it after going through the record. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LALU PRASAD : If you have courage then raise a slogan of Shri Ram. ... (*Interruptions*) You are insulting the God in the name of God. ... (*Interruptions*) Why are you insulting the God ... (*Interruptions*) It is not a proper way. This is our right. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : What is this, will you not allow us to speak ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LALU PRASAD : What is this, will you not let me speak? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we demand that you please get the supplementary question of Shri Lajuji answered ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LALU PRASAD : When I speak, they stand up. Will they not let others speak. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Lajuji, please ask your Members to take their seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : They belongs to R.S.S. will they not let me speak by making noise. Are they custodian of God. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he was asking a question. They should allow him to ask the full question. It is not correct. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seat. Why are you provoking each other?

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD YADAV : I have not said anything wrong. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member should be allowed to ask the question. Let him ask the question.

MR. SPEAKER : He has already asked the question.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Lajuji, please take your seat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this law determines in detail as to which institutions can obtain money from foreign country. There are other guidelines to decide whether any institution should be registered or not. I have seen that the ministries take so much time in vetting of applications received from institutions. Sometimes they take one or one and half year in this process because it has been mentioned in the guidelines also. Such provision is already there in the Act:—

[English]

"If the activities of the association are found to be aimed at conversion, through inducement or force either directly or indirectly from one religious faith to another."

[Translation]

Such institutions which get money for conversion either by inducement or by force are not registered. Even if they get somehow, they remain under scrutiny. We think that F.C.R.A. should be used properly. Action should be taken if any institution make an improper use of F.C.R.A.

[English]

South African Airhostesses Into Bar

*483. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "South African Airhostesses face apartheid in Mumbai" appearing in the *Asian Age*, New Delhi, dated June 21, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(d) whether the Union Government have sought a report from the concerned State in this regard; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

As per the report obtained from the State Govt. about the alleged incident, on 19.06.98 at around 2.00 PM, two youths were having drinks on the ground floor of the Café Leopold, Colaba, Mumbai. At that time, two women came to the restaurant and ordered eatables to take away

in a parcel. While eatables were being packed, the two young men approached the two women who were sitting at a nearby table and requested the ladies to accompany them to the permit room (bar) of the restaurant on the mezzanine floor. As these two men were frequent visitors to the restaurant, the staff of the restaurant were aware of their quarrelsome nature. Accordingly, they did not allow these men and the two women to enter the permit room. While the ladies left the Café without argument, the men left the Café threatening to take revenge on the hotel.

Although no complaint regarding this incident was lodged with the police, the State Government after the publication of the news report regarding the incident has got the matter enquired into by the police. The Enquiry by the police revealed that there was no discrimination on the basis of colour or race in this incident.

(e) In view of the above facts there is no need for any other step to be taken by the Union Government.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Sir, India has always played a major role in fighting against apartheid wherever it has existed the world over. But the news item appearing in the *Asian Age*, captioned 'South African Airhostesses face apartheid in Mumbai' was a very damaging report. It damaged to such an extent that it has resulted in creating a lot of misunderstanding in the minds of the people. I appreciate the reply which the hon. Minister has given. But whatever facts he has conveyed through his reply convey the other side of the story.

In view of this, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the factual situation, as stated in his reply, will be conveyed to the Embassy of South Africa in New Delhi as well as to the Embassy of India in South Africa so that there is no scope for any misunderstanding on such a delicate and important issue?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The hon. Member has very rightly said that so far as India is concerned, we have been foremost in opposing apartheid in any form as it exists all over the world. Therefore, it was a very natural thing that when the Constitution of India was framed, our Constitution-makers incorporated this strong opposition of the country to apartheid into the Constitution itself when it said: 'no discrimination of any kind on grounds of race or religion'. In fact, article 15(2) of the Constitution says:

"No, citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them, be subject to any disability, liability, restriction or condition with regard to—

- (a) access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment; or ...”

This is one of the provisions of the Indian Constitution which only reflects the national strong opposition to apartheid in any form. Therefore, when this news appeared in the *Asian Age* and I believe, also in the *Indian Express* that something of this kind has happened, naturally everyone was disturbed. But on enquiry, we found that facts were not as were indicated. The facts were different.

We also tried to contact or rather the Government of Maharashtra tried to contact the air-hostesses who were stewardesses in the South African Airlines. But on the 20th of June, both of them had left. I do not want to go into elaborate process that the Maharashtra Government tried to undertake in order to see that the facts are found out. But this particular suggestion that the hon. Member has given, I shall certainly see that it is done.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Sir, for a change, I am satisfied.

Child Labour

*484. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to redefine the definition of hazardous industries to effectively implement the Prime Minister's Action Plan to free child labourers from the hazardous industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) Hazardous Industry has not been defined in the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 at present. The occupations/processes considered hazardous are added to the schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 on the advice of the Technical Advisory Committee constituted under Section 5 of the Act. Employment of children in such occupations/processes is prohibited. Presently, 7 such occupations and 18 processes stand included in parts A & B respectively of the Schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the answer of the Hon'ble Minister. Today even after fifty years there is the problem of child labour in India, every now and then it is discussed in the Parliament also and new laws are also passed but this menace is on the regular increase. Practically it is this that unless the provision is made for the livelihood of child labour, this problem is not going to end because they work for the sustenance of their parents and run the household. So nothing will happen by lectures or making laws. A practical and solid programme will have to be made to get this problem solved. I had asked as to what was the proposal regarding redefining the hazardous industries for proper implementation of the Prime Minister's action plan to release the child labour from hazardous industries. I want to know what are those 18 processes that are considered hazardous?

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, a schedule is there in parts A and B of the Child Labour Prohibition Act and that schedule is under parts A and B of the Schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act. The occupations enumerated in part A include.

[*English*]

"Any occupation connected with

- (1) Transport of passengers, goods or mails by railway;
- (2) Cinder picking, cleaning of ash pit or building operation in the railway premises;
- (3) Work in a catering establishment at a railway station, involving the movement of a vendor or any other employee of the establishment from one platform to another or into or out of a moving train;
- (4) Work relating to the construction of a railway station or with any other work where such work is done in close proximity or between the railway lines;
- (5) A port authority within the limits of any port;
- (6) Work relating to selling of crackers and fireworks in shops with temporary licenses; and
- (7) Abattoirs/Slaughter houses.

[Translation]

These are the occupations prohibited by the Government, and the processes in which child labour should not be engaged and are prohibited, include.

[English]

- (1) Bidi making
- (2) Carpet-weaving
- (3) Cement manufacture, including bagging of cement
- (4) Cloth printing, dyeing and weaving
- (5) Manufacture of matches, explosives and fireworks
- (6) Mica-cutting and splitting
- (7) Shellac manufacture
- (8) Soap manufacture
- (9) Tanning
- (10) Wool-cleaning
- (11) Building and construction industry
- (12) Manufacture of slate pencils (including packing)
- (13) Manufacture of products from agate
- (14) Manufacturing processes using toxic metals and substances such as lead, mercury, manganese, chromium, cadmium, benzene, pesticides and asbestos.
- (15) "Hazardous processes" as defined in Section 2 (cb) and 'dangerous operations' as notified in Rules made under Section 87 of the Factories Act, 1948
- (16) Printing as defined in Section 2(k) (iv) of the Factories Act, 1948
- (17) Cashew and Cashewnut descaling and processing
- (18) Soldering processes in electronic industries

[Translation]

There are 18 such occupations in which child labour is prohibited.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, my second supplementary question remains.

Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, whatever the Hon'ble Minister has just said, I would like to know as to what action plan of the Prime Minister is there to eradicate poverty, Please tell about that. In the second part of the supplementary question I want to ask as to how many cases have been registered statewide since 1986 under the Children's Act, 1986 and whether anybody has been punished as per the decision on the registered cases. Are you making any arrangements for the livelihood of these Children? If you will punish them and will not allow them to work then it is not practical, I want an answer to it.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Actually there is the provision under the sections of the Law for banning child labour, and it is there under various factory acts also. If a child is employed in any occupation, violating any provision then the person violating it will be punished with imprisonment for a period not less than three months but extendible upto one year, or a fine for an amount not less than Rs. 10,000 but liable to be increased upto Rs. 29,000 ... (Interruptions) This question is related to the Department of Labour but if you ask, I will answer it. I have the information about the manner in which the provisions have been made about children and the schemes are there under this. Certainly I have state-wise information with regard to way measures have been taken in various states to check it with a view to take them out of the hazardous processes. Measures have been taken to check it by prosecuting people. We have taken many measures to check it in compliance with the labour laws.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : We were not told as to how many cases have been registered.

[English]

SHRI P.S. GHATOWAR : In spite of the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, it is a fact of life that

there is inhuman exploitation of child labour in our country. Recently a European country has prohibited the import of carpets where child labour are engaged. Last week it was shown on television that about 400 boys were engaged as child labour in the carpet industry in a very inhuman condition and they were exploited like animals. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any effective provision in law to punish the erring management who engage child labour in their industry and exploit them. They even take the child from the family and there is no punishment given to the rich carpet manufacturers. I want to know whether the Government is thinking of putting any provision in the Act so as to prevent the engagement and exploitation of child labour especially in the carpet industry.

[*Translation*]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, keeping in view the concern expressed by the hon'ble members. We are continuously increasing the list of hazardous industries. Any child below the age of 14 years should not be employed anywhere. We are regularly increasing this list. A technical committee constituted in this regard have given their recommendations in which a lot of industries have been included. I think it proper to give information for the benefit of Hon'ble Members that the occupations include handling of toxic substances and inflammables and explosives also. The others that we are in the process of including are:—

[*English*]

Plastic units, automobile workshop and garages, mines, potteries and ceramic industry, gem cutting and polishing, utensil making, stone breaking and crushing, polishing of moulding, cutting and manufacture of brass goods, manufacturing of dyes and dye stuff ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You can send the reply to him.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.S. GHATOWAR : I want to know from the hon. Minister about those child labour who had met the

hon. Labour Minister last week and who were taken away from the carpet industry by some voluntary organisations. They had come and met the hon. Labour Minister. I want to know whether he has ordered any inquiry for giving punishment to these employers.

[*Translation*]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : I agree to your concern and want to say that we are in the process to include more industries under child labour act.

[*English*]

SHRI P.S. GHATOWAR : What is the use of showing it on the national TV when you have not ordered an inquiry against those employers? ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete, please.

[*Translation*]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : This will be done under same law. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : What action is being taken? Please tell this also.

SHRI P.S. GHATOWAR : What action you are going to take against those people who met you?

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : If you listen, I would like to tell regarding child labour that hon. members are concerned and regarding carpet industry, it is our opinion that wherever there is child labour, it should be abolished and to abolish it the rule is that we cannot take more than three hours work from child labour.

MR. SPEAKER : They are asking this. What is the action you have taken?

[*Translation*]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : We are thinking seriously to include more industries in it.

[English]

SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Sir, child labour is a social and economic problem. It cannot be eradicated only by laws, regulations and legislations. Most of the people are of the opinion that poverty and illiteracy are also one of the reasons behind it and thus, they have to be eradicated. In that case, I would ask the Minister whether the Government has got any scheme to reduce the number of child labour and if so, what are the schemes under it?

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : It has been endeavoured to make the present rule, regarding child labour more effective and implement it. For this inspection is carried out and wherever there are violations of it case registered thereafter prosecution is carried out and subsequently conviction also takes place. I am having record of last year. According to figures of 1992-93, 28183 inspections were conducted and the number of cases of violation was 1890. Number of prosecutions was 1875 out of these cases the number of cases in which conviction took place was 162. According to provisional figures available with me of 1998-99, there were 1325 cases of inspections, the number of violation cases was 958, that of prosecution was 676 and that of conviction was 69 took place.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Mr. Speaker Sir, the child labour problem is country's most serious problem. Country's children in numbers are made bonded, they are exploited in hazardous industries and work is taken from them and their health is not taken care of. Both male and female children are exploited such an example it cannot be found in any other country. Besides children in thousands are sent out of country from where they never come back to the country.

Heinous child trafficking is going on. By giving small amount of money to them they are sent outside the country. Keeping this in view, I want to ask the Minister about law which he was talking, that to implement it the machinery is more dangerous than the industrialist in whose industries these children are working. Figures which he presented here denote that they have failed to detect

the children where they have been working. The machinery becomes active only when it comes to know either through newspapers or through any accident. I want to ask the Minister—whether he would like to present white paper regarding child labour so that the present scenario of child labour in the country may be known. The second question is whether you are going to constitute a National Commission regarding child labour, empowering it to punish because in our country though life is given to children but they have not been given the right to live, so that through National Commission right is given to them. I would like to know Government of India is going to constitute a National Commission for such children, empowering it to give punishment wherever they are exploited to save children.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : We all agree to Hon. Buta Singh ji's concern, but implement the child welfare schemes, keeping in view all these we have started working and we have launched schemes covering one lakh children. To implement these schemes in every state of the country, we have selected districts. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Sir, this is not the answer. The Government must bring a White Paper on the Child Labour to the Parliament. The Parliament has the right to know about it ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Buta Singh, let him speak, now.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Hon'ble Speaker, as Hon. Member is concerned that law regarding child labour is being misused. These rules should be made more strict, so that such kind of things do happen. No one can deny it. But we have to work under the available provisions.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to ask the Minister through you, whether there is any provision in child labour act to prevent the children from working in carpet industries, working as motor mechanics and working on various cross-roads. ... (Interruptions) Is there any provision with the Government to link education with employment.

Hon. Minister, please tell it?

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : The manner in which Hon. Member has expressed his concern.... (Interruptions) Next time we are going to move proposal to keep children away from automobile workshop and garrages, we are going to make provisions regarding it. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : They want a Short Duration Discussion Mr. Minister, do you have any objection?

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : He has agreed. Please take your seats. The Minister has agreed to discuss it.

[Translation]

Import of Edible Oils

+
*485. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRI RAMCHANDRA BAINDA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of countries from which edible oils have been imported during each of the last three years alongwith the quantity of oils imported, country-wise;

(b) the total requirement of edible oils in the country during 1998-99;

(c) whether the Government are able to meet the requirement through its domestic production;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to import edible oils to meet its requirement during the current year;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the import of edible oils has becomes costlier due to imposition of additional custom duty; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

(SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The State Trading Corporation (STC) have been importing only RBD Palmolein, of Malaysian and Indonesian origin, on Government Account, exclusively for the Public Distribution System for a number of years. The details of RBD Palmolein imported on Government Account during the last three years are as under:—

Financial Year	Quantity imported from (in lakh MT)		Total import for PDS in lakh MT
	Malaysia	Indonesia	
1995-96	1.66	0.36	2.02
1996-97	1.43	0.06	1.49
1997-98	0.48	0.41	0.89

A statement giving the imports of edible oils, in the last three years, country-wise, both on Government and private account is given in the Annexure.

(b) The requirement of edible oils for the current year is estimated to be 82.00 lakh MTs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Government have decided to import 1.5 lakh MTs of RBD Palmolein for distribution through the Public Distribution System during the festival months of August-November, 1998. In addition, since import of edible oils (except Cocount Oil, Palm Kernel Oil, RBD Palm Oil and RBD Stearin), is also allowed under the OGL, substantial quantity of edible oils is being imported by private parties under OGL to meet the shortfall in supply.

(f) to (g) The special additional duty on imports as imposed in the regular Budget of the current year, is not applicable to the imports made for trading purposes. Hence the imported for further sale to consumers, costlier. However, considering the high prices of edible oils in the international market, the government has recently reduced the basic customs duty on edible oils from 20% to 10% so as to facilitate import of edible oils, (the surcharge of 5% remaining unchanged).

Annexure

*Details of the Edible Oils Imported During Each of the Last Three Financial Years (April-March)
Along with the Quantity of Oils Imported and Their Value*

(Quantity in MT)
(Value in Rs. Lakh)

Country	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98 (Provisional)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Argentina	113379	24996.56	234121	45463.9	139577	30242.71
Australia			4001	795.19	4000	908.83
Bahrain						
Belgium	247	62.51			3828	1793.64
Brazil	41238	8972.17	4150	916.56	18910	2092.71
Canada					41	22.12
Chinese Taipei	4454	959.15			85	30.62
China P. Rp.	3618	821.34	3598	862.96		
Denmark						
Egypt	30	8.17				
Finland					25	51.14
France	11	5.03	2033	422.93	442	129.93
Germany F. Rep.	5538	1361.17	7746	1632.25	1523	216.03
Iceland					500	101.3
Indonesia	110841	22334.5	226932	46028.49	223620	52903.11
Iran					2480	392.56

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Israel	500	111.58				
Italy	61	15.02			5027	1035.43
Japan			315	81.04	5	1.48
Korea Rp.	496	104.34				
Malaysia	736641	155326.62	839732	176344.48	666960	166114.22
Mayanmar			2500	355.89	250	58.18
Mexico			1509	454.35		
Nepal	3752	727.72	3432	603.3	2645	460.19
Netherland	10175	2192.47	17996	3745.19	4060	1030.99
Phillipines	2440	523	800	236.78		
Singapore	16406	3781.26	23596	5045.21	18476	4195.08
Spain					3000	666.67
South Africa			1500	322.65		
Sri Lanka	372	110.69	42	18.6		
Sweden			498	193.79		
Thailand			4459	693.22		
Togo					1000	225.67
United Arab Emirate			18	3.61	4400	903.61
U.K.	1	3.6	9947	2074.38	1	2.02
U.S.A.	11788	3776.02	27865	6624.52	29087	9705.87
Total	1061988	226192.91	1416794	292919.32	1129942	273284.65
	10.6 lakh		14.2 lakh		11.3 lakh	

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government have taken in the current year to bring about balance between demand and supply of edible oils. What are the statewise details at present to increase the production of edible oils and where the raw material is easily available at present ... (*Interruptions*), what steps the Government have taken for increasing the number of units of edible oils there?

Sir, I just visited my area. There the cost of edible oils has increased by two hundred rupees a tin approximately. I want to know from the Minister why the cost of edible oils has increased much, what arrangements he is making for this that the public may get the edible oil at low rate ... (*Interruptions*)

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : I accept that the cost of edible oils is increasing. But an effort is being made to make these prices low. It has been coming to the notice since last week that these prices are falling down. There has been fall of about 150-200 rupees per quintal in the cost of oil last week. Hon'ble Members are talking about their areas. They must enquire in their areas, there too the prices must have fallen down.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to know from the hon'ble Minister as to what steps the Government have taken so far to reduce the cost of edible oils?

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : 25% import duty was imposed on the palmolein oil coming from outside. Having reduced that 10% we have made its import easy so that the import may increase. The prices of edible oils in the international market have risen much. Therefore, we have lessened the import duty. Secondly, S.T.C. has been ordered to import one and half a lakh tonnes of palmolein oil. Due to festival season the states had demanded that it should be imported. Thirdly, this that the quantity of mustard oil used for making vegetable ghee has been reduced by 10% and the effort to reduce the prices of edible oil is being made.

[*English*]

SHRI K.S. RAO : The statement given by the hon. Minister reveals that in the year 1997-98 Rs. 2733 crore was spent on import of edible oil, particularly palmolein oil. About ten years back when we visited Andaman and Nicobar Islands, we found that area was very suitable for raising palm trees. The income per acre of plantation

that can be generated by each farmer comes to between Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 60,000. We wrote a letter to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Agriculture also that although 90 per cent of the land is considered as the reserved forest where not even a tree exists, only 5 per cent of the land is permitted to raise palm trees that can serve the needs of the entire country, and all this Rs. 3000 crore can also be saved.

Similarly, the coastal area of Andhra Pradesh is found to be very suitable for raising these oil-based trees. I wish to know from the hon. Minister that keeping in view the very stringent position of the foreign exchange and also the need to increase the income of the farming community, whether the Government will come out with some more incentives to the farmers who can save the foreign exchange and also raise their own income particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : An effort has been made to grow palm trees in the country. Some plantation in Kerala was introduced over an area of about 500 hectares. There was an intention of doing farming there over an area of about 80,000 hectares. But it could not succeed. I have visited that palm tree plantation also at that time when it was granted. Our effort was to grow more palm trees in the country. It has not succeeded so far.

In Andamans that the hon. Member has referred to, I have examined that also earlier. In Andamans, there is a resistance for cutting the forest for the purpose of growing palm trees. But our effort is to have more palm trees, more palm tree plantations in the country, so that we can get palmolein here also.

12.00 hrs.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Even though the Government of India is not importing coconut oil under OGL, private parties are importing coconut oil. The coconut growers are therefore affected. Would you take some action against those private parties who import coconut oil, against the policy of the Government of India?

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Import of coconut oil is not under OGL and so they are not allowed to import it under OGL. We will keep a watch and if there are specific complaints, we will look into them.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Petrol/Diesel Pumps

*486. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :
SHRI JUAL ORAM :

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

(a) the details of criteria for allotment of new petrol/diesel pumps in the States; and

(b) the procedure for selection of dealers for allotment?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY) : (a) and (b) To make the selection of dealers objective, fair and transparent, revised criteria for selection of dealers/distributors for allotment of retail outlet dealerships (Petrol/Diesel Pumps), SKO-LDO dealerships and LPG distributorship have been issued by the Government on 1.4.1997.

Oil companies conduct feasibility surveys from time to time to identify economically viable locations for setting up retail outlets, SKO-LDO dealerships and LPG distributorships. The locations found feasible are included in the Marketing Plans. After approval of the Marketing Plan by the Government, the locations are advertised under appropriate category in two Newspapers i.e. one "English Daily" and one "Regional Vernacular Daily" having maximum circulation in District(s) in which the Dealership/Distributorship is to be located.

The existing policy provides reservations for different categories as under:—

Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST)	—	25%
Physically Handicapped Persons (PH)	—	5%
Paramilitary/Police/Govt. Personnel (PMP)	—	8%
Defence Personnel (DC)	—	8%

Freedom Fighters (FF) — 2%

Outstanding Sportspersons (OSP) — 2%

Open (O) — 50%

Also, 33% of the dealerships/distributorships in all the categories mentioned above will be reserved for Women belonging to that category. Other things being equal Unmarried women above 40 years of age without earning parents and Widows will be given priority over others in all women categories.

Eligibility Criteria*Nationality:*

Indian Nationals for all categories.

Age on the date of application:

(i) For SC/ST, PH, PMP, DC and Open Categories:

Minimum 21 years

Maximum 60 years

(ii) For FF Category No age limit

(iii) For OSP Category:

Minimum 35 years

Maximum 60 years

*Educational Qualifications:***For SC/St, PH, PMP, DC and OPEn Categories:**

Matriculation or recognised equivalent.

For FF/OSP Categories:

Not applicable.

Residence:

(i) For SC/ST and PH categories:

Residents of the district of the advertised location and adjoining districts (as mentioned in the advertisement) in the same State.

(ii) *For PMP, DC, FF, OSP Categories:*

Residents of any District in the State.

(iii) *For OPEN Category:*

Residents of the District in which location is advertised.

However, for (i) and (ii), preference will be given to candidates belonging to the district in which proposed dealership/distributorship is advertised.

Relationship applicable to all categories for prohibition of multiple dealerships:

No person shall be awarded a new dealership/distributorship if he/she and any of his/her following close relatives (including step relatives) already holds(s) a Letter of Intent or a dealership/distributorship of MS/HSD/SKO-LDO/LPG of any Public Sector Oil Company.

For other than 'PH' Category *For 'PH' Category*

- | | |
|---|---|
| (i) Spouse | (i) Spouse |
| (ii) Father/Mother
(Not applicable to daughters) | (ii) Father/Mother
(Not applicable to daughters) |
| (iii) Brother/Brother's wife
(Not Applicable for women applicants) | (iii) Son/Dougher-in-law. |
| (iv) Son/Daughter-in-law. | |

Income applicable to all categories:

The gross income of the candidate should not exceed Rs. 2 lacs per annum. The income for this purpose would include that of self, spouse and dependent children. In case the candidate happens to be dependent on his/her parents, then their income will also be taken into consideration for computing the total income.

Corporation Owned or Controlled by the Government

(a) Corporations owned or controlled by the Government and all PSUs will be eligible to apply for dealerships/distributorships in response to all Advertisements under 'OPEN' category.

(b) Restrictions relating to annual income, residence and multiple dealerships/distributorships would not be applicable to such Corporations.

Conviction:

Candidates convicted for any criminal offence involving moral turpitude/economic offences and those against whom charge has been framed by the Court in such criminal proceedings would not be eligible for dealership/distributorship and if such a person is allotted the dealership/distributorship by suppression of information, it will be cancelled.

Above is also applicable for all the members of Co-operative/Consumer Society.

Note: For 'FF' category, the above is applicable except for 'Freedom Struggle.'

Selection Procedure

Constitution of Dealer Selection Boards

Selection of dealers/distributors of Oil Companies will be made by the duly constituted Dealer Selection Boards.

[English]

Wages to Women

*487. DR. PRABHA THAKUR :
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing exploitation and harassment of women workers in their place of work;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to protect the women work force from exploitation;

(c) whether the Government propose to adopt a resolution or bring about any legislation to protect the rights of women workers alongwith reasonable wages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) Government is aware of the need for combating exploitation and harassment of women workers in their place of work.

A number of provisions have been included in the labour laws to prevent the exploitation of women workers and for their general welfare. These include maternity benefit, creche facilities, provisions for separate latrines and rest rooms, restricted time for employment etc. Equal wages for men and women workers are fixed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 in respect of workers working in employments given in the schedule to the Act. The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 further provides for equal wages for same or similar work. The enforcement machineries set up in Centre as well as States, take necessary action in case of violations of the provision of these enactments.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of Writ Petition (Criminal) No. 666-70 of 1992 filed by Vishaka and Others against the State of Rajasthan and Others defined sexual harassment and laid down certain guidelines for prevention of such harassment. In compliance of the Supreme Court directives Government has circulated guidelines for action to Ministries/Departments, States/UTs and Central Public Sector Undertakings. A large number of responses have since been received, intimating action taken in accordance with the directives. These include wide dissemination of the guidelines, formation of Complaints Committees, modification of conduct rules etc. The Department of Personnel & Training has also amended the CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 with a view to implementing the guidelines. The guidelines issued by the Court have the force of law under Article 141 of the Constitution.

Spurious Polio Vaccine

*488. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY
SHRI MOTI LAL VORA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Lakho Shishuon ko polio ki nakli dava pila di gai" appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated June 21, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether there is possibility of adverse effect on the health of those children to whom these drops were given;

(d) the action taken by the Government to investigate the matter in this regard;

(e) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a Central office for monitoring Polio Eradication Programme;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government would ensure an early report on the laboratory test of the polio drop vaccine and availability of better quality vaccine with the approved manufacturers; and

(h) the reasons for importing the vaccine from Belgium?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALA) : (a) to (h) The newsitem in 'Rashtriya Sahara' of 21 June, 1998 did come to the notice of Government of India alleging that lakhs of children had been given spurious polio vaccine in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. Government took immediate cognisance of the report and constituted a High Level Technical Committee on 25th June, 1998 with Head of the Department of Microbiology in All India Institute of Medical Sciences as the leader of the team and Additional Professor of Paediatrics in AIIMS, Assistant Commissioner in the Department of Family Welfare and Joint Director (Immunisation) Uttar Pradesh Government as members. The report of the Committee was received on 30th June, 1998. The Committee visited Ghaziabad and Lucknow in addition to making field enquiries in Ghaziabad.

2. The vaccine involved in this incident was out of the foreign made vaccine received as donor assistance from foreign donor agencies. The Technical Committee found that imported vaccine was received on 10.9.97 and stored at Medical Stores Depot, Kamal of Government of India. Before the vaccine was despatched from Kamal to Lucknow, it was tested at Central Research Institute, Kasauli and its quality was found to be good. From the Vaccine Store in Lucknow, the vaccine was issued to Ghaziabad District in March 1998 and during its storage in Ghaziabad, samples sent to National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi in April-May 1998 were also found to be of good quality. Thus upto May 1998 the vaccine was potent.

3. It seems this vaccine lost its potency after May 1998 because the colour monitors affixed on the vials of polio vaccine showed change of colour to a degree

signifying loss of effectiveness when the team inspected this lot of vaccine in Ghaziabad during its enquiry. The Committee has found that the district and Field Officers of U.P. Government in Ghaziabad do not seem to have given attention to change in colour of vial monitors and they continued to administer the vaccine till the news items appeared in the newspapers. During 1996-97 all health functionaries were trained about proper handling of vaccine specially the use of Vaccine Vial Monitor.

4. The Committee has found that cold chain in both Ghaziabad and Lucknow was in good working condition. The Committee has stated that the Oral Polio Vaccine if administered to children even after it has lost its potency, does not cause any danger to the lives of the children nor does it directly contribute to any other harmful effects except that the child remains susceptible to the infection by polio virus and its consequences. This has since been confirmed by the Regional Adviser (Polio Surveillance) of W.H.O., SEARO, Delhi.

5. On the basis of report of the Committee, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has been advised to take the following remedial actions:

- i. Children who were vaccinated with the OPV in question in Ghaziabad should be re-vaccinated immediately;
- ii. All health functionaries (medical and para medical) who handle vaccines must be reoriented for handling of vaccine vials which have Vaccine Vial Monitors imprinted on them.

6. It would be clear from the foregoing, that no spurious vaccine has been used in the immunisation programme, nor has the health and well-being of children been endangered. The State Government has been advised to re-immunise these children who might have been recently given in-effective polio vaccine during last two months in Ghaziabad. Other State Governments have also been alerted about taking safeguards against occurrence of such incidents.

7. Oral polio vaccine is a drug under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. All polio vaccines, locally manufactured or received by way of commodity assistance are put to use under the programme only after they have been subjected to quality control test by Central Research Institute (CRI), Kasauli. Central Research Institute, Kasauli has been designated as the statutory National Quality Control Laboratory for testing of all vaccines by the Drug

Controller General of India, who is the National Drugs Authority.

8. Vial monitors in the form of labels put on the vials are being progressively used for easily ascertaining effectiveness of vaccine in the vial. The monitor has an outer circle of blue colour and inside this is a smaller square of white which slowly becomes blue as time passes. So long as colour of the inner square is lighter than the colour of the outer circle the vaccine in the vial is effective. Vaccine inside the vial should be presumed to have lost effectiveness and should not be used once the colour of inner square becomes as dark as in outer circle or darker. This easy mechanism to help health functionaries (ANM, LHV and PHC doctors) is intended to be in the interest of children's health.

9. A National Polio Surveillance Project has been in operation in the country since October 1997. The main objective of this Project is to identify areas with local transmission of polio virus and intensify activities for eradication of the virus from such areas. 59 trained Medical Officers have been posted throughout the country to assist States and Districts in polio surveillance work. Nine laboratories in different parts of the country have been equipped and strengthened for prompt and comprehensive analysis of stool samples.

10. The oral polio vaccine is administered to children under two programmes:

- i. Universal Immunisation Programme
- ii. Pulse Polio Immunisation Programme

11. The total quantity of polio vaccine used in both the programmes annually is about 5300 lakh doses. Substantial quantity of the vaccine use in PPI is received as commodity assistance from international donor agencies. Part of the vaccine received as commodity assistance in 1997-98 came from M/s. Smith Kline Beecham, Belgium. Government of India has been accepting commodity assistance due to inadequate availability of resources in the domestic budget.

Ban on Sale of Common Salt

*489. PROF P.J. KURIEN :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to the State Governments including the Government of Kerala to prohibit the sale of common salt for human consumption;

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

(c) whether the Government have received any objection from the Government of Kerala against the decision of the Union Government regarding the amendment in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1955 and demanded its withdrawal;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) the details of those companies which are producing iodised salt on large scale in the country; and

(f) the action taken by the Government to lift the ban on the sale of common salt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The recommendations of Central Council of Health & F.W. meeting held in January 1997, the highest policy formulating body in the Health Sector where all Health Ministers are Members, were sent to all States/U.Ts., to take appropriate action including issue of notification banning the sale of salt, other than iodated salt, for direct human consumption in order to control, prevent and eliminate Iodine Deficiency Disorders which are prevalent in the country.

(c), (d) and (f) The Government of Kerala has taken the position that while popularising the use of iodised salt the use of common salt should not be prohibited in view of the cost factor.

Iodine supplementation through salt is the simplest and most cost effective method to combat Iodine Deficiency Disorder. Government has taken measures in the interest of public health under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 stipulating that salt sold for direct human consumption must be compulsorily iodised with effect from 27.5.98.

(e) Only M/s. Tata Chemical Ltd. at Mithapur and three other units are producing iodated salt on a large scale in the country.

Recently, Andhra Pradesh High Court has issued orders suspending the notification and a similar case is before the High Court at Gwalior. The matter is subjudice.

HIV Infected Pediatric Population

*490. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATER : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has millions of HVI-positive cases;

(b) if so, the total number, out of them are in pediatric age group; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for checking the increase in HIV-infected pediatric population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI)

(a) As per the reports available with NACO, 77881 HIV positive and 6059 AIDS cases have been reported as on June 30, 1998. However, WHO/UNAIDS in a recent report has estimated that about 4 million people are living with HIV infection in our country.

(b) In depth analysis of 5014 AIDS cases shows that 199 (3.89%) cases are reported to be under 15 years of age.

(c) Prevention of perinatal transmission is an important strategy to control the spread of HIV infection from HIV infected mothers to children. Various studies have shown that use of AZT (Azidothymidine) can reduce the risk of transmission of HIV infection. Clinical trials on use of AZT for prevention of HIV transmission from mother to child will be initiated in various institutions in the country, to assess the efficacy of AZM in Indian context. Based on the outcome of these trials, use of AZT in the pregnant women will be included as an integral component of the programme

Mahajan Committee Report

*491. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
SHRI LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH :

Will be Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the likely impact on the price of sugar in various States particularly in Kerala after the implementation of Mahajan Committee Report on decontrol/discontinuation of sugar from P.D.S.;

(b) whether some States have opposed the supply and sale of sugar through Public Distribution System;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government have decided to seek the views from the States on Mahajan Committee report before framing the sugar policy;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : (a) to (f) The various recommendations made in the Mahajan Committee's Report include those relating to decontrol of the Sugar Industry and discontinuance of supply of Sugar in the Public Distribution System (PDS). The various Ministries/Departments of the Central Government, as also the State Governments/UT Administrations, have been requested to offer their comments in writing on the recommendations contained in the Report. A meeting of the State Ministers in charge of Food, Civil Supplies and Sugar Industry Departments, was held on 25.6.1998 to ascertain the views of the State Governments on the various recommendations contained in the Report. Representatives of 23 States/UTs participated in the meeting. In the course of this meeting, a variety of views were expressed on issues, *inter alia*, relating to modalities for running the PDS; the norm for allocating Sugar to States/UTs under the PDS; the need for continuation of distribution control; the need for higher allocation of sugar for festivals; problems faced on account of high stocks of Sugar with the Mills; problems on account of arrears of payment of sugarcane price to farmers; and the need for timely issue of Sugar Release Orders. Representatives of some State Governments/UTs, including Kerala State, expressed reservations in respect of the recommendations for discontinuance of supply of Sugar under the PDS. No final decision was taken on any of the issues. The matter is under examination in the Government.

Leila Seth Commission

*492. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the findings of the Leila Seth Commission;

(b) whether the Government have accepted the findings and recommendations of the said report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Govt. on the basis of the report?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) The Government of N.C.T. of Delhi appointed Justice Leila Seth Commission of Inquiry for the purpose of making an inquiry into the circumstances leading to the death of Shri J.M. Rajan Pillai while he was in judicial custody in Central Jail, Tihar, New Delhi. The main findings of the Commission are summarised below :

(1) There was no evidence to substantiate the allegation of conspiracy behind Shri Pillai's death;

(2) The allegation that Shri Pillai was beaten by three jail officials on the evening of 4.7.95 was concocted and far from the truth;

(3) Shri Pillai's 'mulahiza' i.e. initial medical examination could not take place on 4.7.95, the day he was arrested and remanded to judicial custody, as the jail formalities of his entry were completed at about 2 p.m and no doctor was available at that time or in the evening for the 'mulahiza'. It could not be done on 5.7.95 or 6.7.95 either as he had to leave for Court in the morning and came back only in the evening. Consequently, the 'mulahiza' of Shri Rajan Pillai took place only on the morning of 7.7.95 when his condition had already started deteriorating and he had high grade fever. The lack of medical personnel and the faulty system in the jail were, therefore, responsible for the 'mulahiza' not being done as soon as possible; and negligence cannot be attributed to any particular individual in this regard.

(4) When Shri Rajan Pillai was remanded to judicial custody on 4.7.95, the designated Magistrate addressed an urgent confidential letter to the R.M.O., Central Jail, Tihar enquiring about the ailment of Shri Rajan Pillai and also sent a copy of the application which was moved in the court by the counsel of Shri Pillai for his medical examination/treatment. The letter reached Jail No. 4 in the evening and was received by the Assistant Superintendent who did not, however, ensure that it reached the right quarters;

(5) There was no doubt that Shri Rajan Pillai was a sick man, having a chronic disease like alcoholic cirrhosis

of the liver. He had two life-threatening episodes in 1992 and ten sclerotherapies till March, 1995. He was entitled to proper medical treatment and it was the duty of the authorities concerned to have ensured that it was made available since he was in custody. Unfortunately, the two doctors in Central Jail, Tihar, New Delhi who examined him, were casual and careless in the performance of their professional duty. Their negligence eventually resulted in giving Shri Pillai hardly any chance of survival.

The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have informed that they have accepted the findings of the Commission.

Based on the said findings of the Commission, the services of an NGO doctor, have been discontinued. Departmental proceedings under Rule 16 of CCS (CCA) Rules 1965 have been initiated against one Assistant Superintendent, Jail. In so far as two other doctors of the CHS Cadre are concerned, a recommendation has been made to the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to initiate major penalty proceedings against them.

The other recommendations made by the Leila Seth Commission regarding systemic improvements and action taken thereon by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi are tabulated in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Summary of the main Recommendations contained in Leila Seth Commission Report

Recommendations	Action Taken
A. It should be ensured that all the dak received from the Court is properly entered in the Receipt Register and sent to the addressee. A special care is needed in respect of confidential communication from Courts. It should be opened by the addressee only.	A. The system is already in vogue. However, in the instant case the Assistant Supdt., Jail violated the system; for his negligence he has been proceeded against.
B. Proper arrangement should be made for the management/upkeep of ambulances and their equipment.	B. One ambulance has been provided to each Jail for shifting serious patients to the outside hospitals and two ambulances are kept ready exclusively to attend to any medical contingency at the Jail Hospital.
C. Sufficient number of benches should be provided in the dispensaries/Central Jail Hospital for seating of sick prisoners awaiting treatment.	C & D. After rationalisation of 'mulahiza'/new admission system, a room has been earmarked at Deodi where 'mulahiza' is carried out. Steps have been taken for furnishing this room with reasonable facilities to make prisoner-patients comfortable.
D. A room should be earmarked in Deodhi of all the jails for conducting 'mulahiza' of newly admitted prisoners. The room should be adequately furnished with all reasonable facilities to make the #1 patients comfortable and facilitate their proper medical examination.	
E. In all situations the medical care to the sick prisoners should take precedence over interview or any other work.	E. The system has been reviewed and streamlined. Now, if a prisoner is admitted in the Central Jail Hospital or in the M.I. Room or a Dispensary, he is permitted to leave only after the doctor concerned permits him to do so keeping in view the prisoner's

Recommendations	Action Taken
F. The observations of the Courts about the health of a prisoner as recorded in the production warrant must be communicated to the R.M.O./S.M.O. concerned verbatim for necessary action.	health. Further, the Duty Officers have been sensitised that in case a prisoner has suddenly fallen ill, when he goes out for legal interview or interview with friends etc., medical care should take precedence over any such interview.
G. It is the statutory duty of the S.M.O. to take round of the jail premises alongwith the Jail Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and conduct the inspection of living barracks, kitchen, water facility, etc. so that health care is ensured.	F. The Jail Authorities have since issued instructions that any directions of the Court on the detention/ production warrant should be communicated to the doctor or the official concerned by means of the photocopy of the same.
H. The de-addiction centre needs to be strengthened and more centres set up. After the patients have been treated, they need to be rehabilitated in order to ensure that they do not once again become drug addicts. For this purpose, the services of clinical-psychiatrists, medico-social workers, counsellors, occupational therapists and yoga teachers should be enlisted.	G. This is being done.
I. A well equipped laboratory for conducting various tests of prisoner-patients should be provided separately in each jail and Central Jail Hospital.	H. The de-addiction Centre at Jail No. 4 which was hitherto being run by an NGO, has been taken over by the Government. Another de-addiction centre in Jail No. 5 has become operational. The work to operationalise a de-addiction centre in Jail No. 3 is in progress. Some other NGOs have also extended help to the Jail Administration in taking steps like vocationalisation, counselling, meditation, education, theatre, etc. This has helped many a prisoner in changing the whole approach to life.
J. There is no Medical Officer residing in Central Jail, Tihar. This could be rectified.	I. The hospital functioning in the Central Jail has been provided with facilities for indoor patients, casualty, X-Ray and routine laboratory tests. Specialists from other Govt. Hospitals regularly visit the jail hospital. Some doctors have been working on voluntary basis also. Besides this, one fullfledged dispensary with availability doctors and para-medical staff round the clock is functioning in each jail.
K. A proper inter-communication system should be provided in the prison.	J. Construction of new residential accommodation in the Tihar Jail Complex is in progress. The RMO/ SMO and other medical/para-medical staff will be provided accommodation in due course.
	K. Besides installing a new telephone at the Prison's Control Room, an intercom network has been provided in all the jails for improving the communication system. Telephones have been provided in each ward having a link with the Duty

Recommendations	Action Taken
	Officer, the Deputy Superintendent and the Superintendent, Jail so as to minimize the communication timing of any important happening inside the Ward to the Supervisory staff on duty.
L. The keys of the Wards during the lunch time in the Central Jail Hospital and the Dispensaries should be available with the doctor on duty and should not be deposited in Deodi.	L. This recommendation has been implemented.
M. Computerisation in the prisons should be suitably strengthened so that the medical data could also be handled by the computers.	M. The action to install computers etc. for the computerisation of medical data has been initiated.
N. In addition to Register No. 1 which contains the details of newly admitted prisoners and those to be released, Register No. 1(a) should be started which should be primarily used by the doctor on duty for 'mulahiza' of the newly admitted prisoners. This Register should also be consulted for history of any illness of the prisoner concerned even in future.	N. The system has been streamlined to ensure that no new prisoner is admitted into the jail unless he has been medically examined properly.
O. The observation ward must be properly equipped with necessary life saving equipments. The names of persons responsible for looking after the equipments, the ambulance and the stretcher etc. should be put up on the notice board of the Deodi.	O. This recommendation has been implemented.
P. All the doctors should be sensitised for making proper and systematic summary of the diagnosis of cases examined by them.	P. This is being done.

[*Translation*]

Sale of Rice in Open Market by FCI

*493. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India had decided a few months back to sell rice in the open market;

(b) if so, the details of the variety and quantity of rice sold and the reason for selling rice in the open market; and

(c) the criteria adopted for selection of purchasers of rice?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The variety of rice sold was category 'D' more than two years old rice, which is fit for human consumption but not readily issueable under Public Distribution System unless it is upgraded. The quantity of rice sold was 10,000 MTs in December 97—January 98, and 13,000 MTs in May-June, 98. The reason for selling rice was to liquidate old stocks of rice which may further deteriorate and become unfit for human consumption.

(c) Intending purchasers were required to buy a minimum of 10,000 metric tonnes or more at the rate of Rs. 700 per quintal on "as is where is basis", and selection of purchasers was done on "first come first serve basis". On review of progress of disposal, the minimum lot size was reduced to 600 metric tonnes in June, 1998, and a floor price of Rs. 700 per quintal was fixed. Against fresh public tender notice issued, offers for 59261 metric tonnes have been accepted for disposal.

[English]

Reservations for Disabled

*494. SHRI N. DENNIS :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to secure reservation not less than 3% to the disabled as provided in the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 in all Government educational institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have utilized the amount sanctioned by the Union Government under the National Disabled Welfare Fund during the last two years;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) the achievements made during the said period;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The information has been called for from the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education).

(c) No funds have been provided to the State Governments under National Fund for People with Disabilities which is meant for support to the voluntary sector.

(d) to (g) Question does not arise.

Union Home Minister's Meeting with Chief Ministers

*495. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Home Minister called a meeting of Chief Ministers of five States to discuss and evolve a joint strategy to deal effectively with the problem of the extremist violence;

(b) if so, the names of the States invited for the meeting;

(c) the details of main subjects discussed and outcome thereof;

(d) whether any action plan was prepared during the said meeting;

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government to implement them;

(f) whether there is any proposal to initiate a TADA like law to combat naxalite menace;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the Naxalites are still striking at their targets at will; and

(i) if so, the details of killings carried out by them from June till date?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (g) The Union Home Minister convened a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa on 15.6.1998 at Hyderabad to review the action being taken by these States to curb the activities of left wing extremists. In this meeting, the following decisions were taken:—

(i) The existing laws such as the National Security Act will continue to be invoked by the concerned State Governments. Simultaneously, the State Governments could examine enactment of a separate law to deal with the left wing extremist problem;

(ii) A comprehensive plan of action encompassing development activities as well as stepped up security measures will have

to be prepared by the States. Andhra Pradesh Government have already prepared such a plan which has been referred to the Planning Commission. Other State Governments should also prepare similar plans which will be taken up with the Planning Commission for allocation of funds;

- (iii) A Coordination Centre will be set up at Hyderabad for reviewing the progress of the Action Plan and to coordinate the efforts of the State Governments. Union Home Secretary will be the Chairman of the Committee with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the four States as Members.

Ministry of Home Affairs has set up the Coordination Centre on 26.6.1998. State Governments have been requested to take immediate action on the decisions taken at the meeting. Action taken by the State Governments is being reviewed from time to time.

(h) The naxalites in these States are still perpetrating violent incidents.

- (i) According to available information the details of the killings by naxalites from June 16 to July 15, 1998 are as under:—

Andhra Pradesh	9
Madhya Pradesh	4

High Level Committee on PDS/RPDS

*496. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revamp the Public Distribution System/Revamped Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a high level Committee set up by the Government for examining the possibility of extending double ration benefits to remote and hilly areas of the country has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the Composition of the Committee;

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) the time by which this is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : (a) and (b) The Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) envisaging issue of special cards to families below poverty line (BPL) and making available foodgrains to them @ 10 kg. per family per month at specially subsidised prices was launched in June, 1997. With the launch of TPDS with its focus on "poor in all areas", the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) introduced in 1992 with its emphasis on "all in poor areas" has become redundant.

(c) No high level Committee was set up by the Government of India for the specific purpose of examining the possibility of extending double ration benefits to remote and hilly areas of the country.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Foreign Mercenaries

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

(a) whether foreign mercenaries and insurgents run the civil administration in different border areas of the country including Rajwar and other parts of Jammu and Kashmir and also collect revenues in these areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure smooth running of administration by the Government; and

(d) the number of foreign mercenaries nabbed and apprehended from Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and other border States during the last three years till date?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) No foreign mercenaries or

insurgents are running the Civil administration in any part of the country. However, there are reports of insurgent groups in North-East collecting taxes.

(c) The concerned State Governments are gearing up their administrative machinery, including upgradation of the capabilities of their State Police, to effectively deal with the problem of militancy. The Central Government is providing the required assistance to the State Governments in their efforts.

Concerned State Governments in the North-East have been advised to take strict action to curb illegal collection of taxes/revenues.

(d) 91 foreign mercenaries were arrested in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years from 1995 to 1998 (June end).

Eligibility in Pre-Medical-PM/PPD Test

*498. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that domicile from the States of Jammu & Kashmir and Andhra Pradesh are not eligible to take part in the Pre-medical, PM/PPD test (CBSE-PMT) in the All India Examination;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the steps taken to remove this discrimination and ensure the eligibility to sit in the examination for the candidates belonging to these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 21.7.1986 in the matter of Dinesh Kumar Vs. M.L.N. Medical College, Allahabad and others (C.W.P. No. 348-352/1985) the students from the States of Andhra Pradesh and J&K are not entitled to appear in the All India Entrance Examinations for 15% of the Under Graduate and 25% of the Post Graduate courses in Medicine and Dentistry, as the States of Andhra Pradesh and J&K had opted out of the All India Scheme since its inception.

(c) The States of J&K and Andhra Pradesh have been advised to approach the Supreme Court of India and obtain its permission for participation in the All India Entrance Examination Scheme.

Street Children

*499. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of street children in the country;

(b) the schemes introduced by the Union Government for the Welfare of street children during each year of the Eighth Plan;

(c) whether these street children are benefited from the grants-in-aid under these schemes to voluntary organisations;

(d) if so, the details of voluntary organisations in Maharashtra receiving such grants-in-aid from the Union Government indicating the area of their activities in this regard; and

(e) the funds received by these organisations during the said period of this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Data on number of street children in the country is not maintained.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (the then Ministry of Welfare) started implementing from 1993-94 a scheme for the welfare of street children in order to provide integrated community-based non-institutional basic services for the care, protection and development of street children facing destitution, neglect, abuse and exploitation. Under the scheme, 90% of grant-in-aid is extended to Non-Government Organizations for running the project.

(d) and (e) A list of voluntary organizations in Maharashtra receiving grant-in-aid under the Scheme for the Welfare of Street Children and funds released to them during the 8th Plan period is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement**MAHARASHTRA**

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Mumbai					
1. Salaam Balak Trust, Mumbai Chapter, P.T. Welfare Centre, Asha Sadan Marg, Umer Khade, Mumbai-400009	NIL	NIL	3.51	5.07	10.45
2. SUPPORT, 67, Bajaj Bhavan, Nirman Point, Mumbai-21	NIL	2.46	5.49	3.7	4.99
3. Tata Institute of Social Sciences, P.B.No. 8313, Sion-Bombay Road Deonar, Bombay	NIL	NIL	2.34	1.17	0.14
4. Society for Promotion in Area Resource Centres, Byculla Area Resource Centre, Meghraj Sethi Marg, Municipal Dispensar, Byculla, Bombay	NIL	3.17	3.35	NIL	NIL
5. Vatsalya Foundation, King George V Memorial Dr. Moses Raod, Bombay-400011	NIL	1.76	8.02	NIL	NIL
6. Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action, (YUVA) 8, Second Floor, 351, Mughbat Cross Lane, Mumbai.	NIL	3.08	3.06	2.75	NIL
Nagpur					
7. Apang Va Niradhar Bahuddeshiya Kalyankari Sanstha, Jhinga bai Takli Road, Gita Nagar, Ward No. Nagpur-30, Maharashtra	NIL	0.62	6.96	3.7	10.75
8. Samaj Kalyan Mandal, Lan Gunj Naik Ralao, Nagpur-2	NIL	0.62	3.7	NIL	NIL
Pune					
9. Community Aid sponsorship Programme, Gurutrayer Apartments, Scout Ground, 1779/84, Sadashiv Peth, Pune-411030	NIL	3.08	5.42	NIL	NIL
10. The Department of Continuing Adult Education Extension Works, SNDT Women, University, Maharshi Karve, Vidyapith Karve Road, Pune-411038	NIL	1.17	5.65	NIL	NIL

Note: Wherever funds have not been released, it has been on account of the following reasons:

1. Non-receipt of State Government Recommendation/Inspection Report which is required under the scheme.
2. Non-submission of documents by the organisation as per required under the scheme.

[Translation]

Opening of Pay-Clinics in Medical Colleges in U.P.

*500. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that in order to have an effective control over the private practice in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh pay-clinics would be opened in medical colleges in the State;

(b) if so, the view point of the Union Government in regard to the pay-clinics;

(c) whether the approval of the Union Government is required for opening of such pay-clinics;

(d) if so, whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has requested for such approval, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) As reported by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, no decision has been taken by the State Government to open pay-clinics in medical colleges in the State.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d, and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Shortage of Fertiliser

*501. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :
SHRI AJIT JOGI :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of fertiliser in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the total quantity of Urea likely to be supplied during 1998-99.

(d) whether the State Governments requested the Union Government for additional quota of urea; and

(e) the steps taken to meet the shortage of fertilisers, specially potash, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : (a) to (e) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under price, movement and distribution control. The consumption of urea during 1998-99 is estimated to be 216 lakh metric tonnes (LMTs) of which 104.79 LMTs is expected during the Kharif season. For meeting this, 110.06 LMTs of urea is to be supplied to the States/Union Territories (UTs) during Kharif'98. The quantum of supply for Rabi'98-99 will be assessed by Deptt. of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) during the Zonal Conference of States/UTs which is scheduled in August 1998. No difficulty is envisaged in meeting the demand of urea during Rabi too.

63.37 LMTs of urea has been made available during April-June'98. The availability has been satisfactory so far and no State has yet requested for additional quota of urea.

All other fertilizers are decontrolled and their availability is dependent on the market forces of demand and supply operating within the parameters of the Concession Scheme of the DAC. Shortages of Potash have been reported by the States of Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Jammu & Kashmir and Tamil Nadu. While the States are free to make their own arrangements for imports. Indian Potash Limited has been authorised by DAC to import 2.75 LMTs of MOP during Kharif'98 to augment the supply to Potash for meeting the requirement of these States.

[Translation]

Health Schemes and Programmes

4828. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of programmes and schemes being implemented by his ministry, separately;

(b) the details of programmes and schemes implemented in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the amount provided by the Union Government to Madhya Pradesh for the implementation of the said

programmes and schemes alongwith the purpose for which it was provided and the agency through which it was spent in the State;

(d) whether any audit has been conducted for the fund allocated to Madhya Pradesh during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(e) if so, the audit objections raised therein;

(f) the action taken against each of the erring officials; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (b) Though health is a State subject, this Ministry has been engaged in assisting States to combat major communicable and non-communicable diseases. Several National Health Programmes are

accordingly being implemented as Centrally Sponsored Schemes aimed mainly at reduction of mortality and morbidity caused by major diseases. The major health schemes *inter-alia* include National programmes for the control/eradication of Malaria, Blindness, Leprosy, Tuberculosis, AIDS, National Family Welfare Programme, etc. These programmes are implemented throughout the country.

(c) A statement showing the details of funds released to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for major national health programmes during 1995-96 to 1997-98 is enclosed.

Central assistance is mainly provided to supplement the resources of the State Government for Control/ Eradication of diseases through supply of drugs, establishment of diagnostic facilities, etc. and these funds are spent in the state through the Programme Officers.

(d) to (g) No adverse comments in the audit reports for the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 have come to the notice of this Ministry so far.

Statement

Financial Assistance to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for Major Health Programmes during 1995-96 to 1997-98

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1.	National Malaria Eradication Programme	1228.26	769.35	1072.77
2.	National Leprosy Eradication Programme	372.70	292.54	456.33
3.	National Programme for Control of Blindness	320.26	400.37	210.12
4.	National T.B. Control Programme	191.65	152.17	174.33
5.	National AIDS Control Programme	137.00	425.00	150.00
6.	National Family Welfare Programme	10126.12	9755.89	9993.30

[English]

Tea Industry Affected by Militants

4829. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tea Industry in Assam is under constant attack by the separatists/militants operating in that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of tea gardens adversely affected by these separatists/militants; and

(d) the concrete measures taken by the Union Government to protect Tea Industry from the attack of these separatists/militants?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Tea Industry has also been affected, like other industries by militant operations in Assam. Extortion and kidnapping of tea garden personnel are common *modus operandi* of the militants.

(c) Many tea gardens have received demand notices from different militant organisations. Some tea gardens are hesitant to report the same of police authorities. According to information furnished by State Government, 15 tea gardens were affected by militants in the form of kidnapping/extortion etc. during 1997 and 1998.

(d) The steps taken include, *inter-alia*;

- (i) induction of additional para-military force including army in insurgency infested area;
- (ii) Assam Tea Plantation Task Force has been formed for giving security coverage to tea gardens.

(iii) Sensitising State Government from time to time regarding threat received by tea garden personnel.

Industrial Disputes

4830. SHRI MOINU HASSAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial disputes pending in the two Industrial Tribunals of Dhanbad as on 31.3.98; period-wise break up more than three months, six months and above one year;

(b) the period of oldest case lying in both the Courts; and

(c) the reasons for the delay and the steps taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (b) The number of industrial disputes pending in the two Central Government Industrial Tribunals-cum-Labour Courts in Dhanbad, tribunal-wise and period-wise as on 31.03.1998 is:—

Name of CGIT-cum-Labour Court	Pendency of Industrial Disputes			
	More than 3 months	More than 6 months	Above 1 year	Total
No. 1 Dhanbad	38	184	791	1013
No. 2 Dhanbad	488	250	141	879
Total:	526	434	932	1892

6 industrial disputes over 10 years are pending in both the Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts at Dhanbad.

(c) Major reasons for delay and steps taken thereof are:—

- (i) Shortage of Labour Courts in States/Union Territories.
- (ii) Filling up of vacancies of the post of Presiding Officers from time to time.

(iii) Procedural impediments such as absence of affected parties at the time of hearing, adjournments sought by parties to file documents etc.

(iv) Expeditious steps are taken to fill up posts of Presiding Officers in Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts after observing all necessary formalities.

(v) Presiding Officers are also impressed upon about the need to reduce pendency of Industrial Disputes Cases in their Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts.

Laser Technique for Eye and Dental Operation

4831. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of Government/Recognised/Private hospitals and clinics in the capital where Eximer/Lasic Laser Technique for eye operation and Laser Technique for dental problems are available;

(b) whether this facility is reimbursable under CGHS, in case such treatment is taken in private hospital/clinic by the CGHS beneficiary;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The procedure of Eximer/Lasic Laser Technique for eye operation and Laser Technique for dental problems has not been included in the list of approved procedures under CGHS and hence the expenditure incurred on these account is not reimbursable to CGHS beneficiaries under the CGHS Rules.

(c) In view of the position stated at (a) and (b) above, the question does not arise.

(d) The procedures have not been recognised under CGHS so far.

Overcharge from Sale of Petrol

4832. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of overcharge collected from sale of petrol consequent to confusion after the presentation of the Budget for 1998-99, State-wise; and

(b) the decision of the Government regarding refund or utilization of the over-charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH

KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Opening of Sub ESIC Office

4833. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in opening the sub-regional office of ESIC, at Hubli, Karnataka; and

(b) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the opening of this office at Hubli?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The ESI Corporation has already issued orders for opening a Sub-Regional Office of the ESIC at Hubli. The preliminary arrangement like biring of accommodation posting of officials, procurement of furniture etc. is already being completed for commencement of work in the Sub-Regional Office at Hubli.

Reservation for the Handicaps

4834. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had announced 3% reservation for the handicaps in all the departments of Central Government, State Governments and the public Sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of handicaps given employment in those departments during the last three years;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to formulate any scheme in view of the increasing number of such persons; and

(d) the budget allocation made by the Government during 1997-98 and 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details have been called for from the Ministries/Departments concerned and all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

(d) The budget allocation of Rs. 125.37 crores (Rs. 106.44 crores—Plan + Rs. 18.93 crores—non-Plan) and Rs. 165.35 crores (Rs. 141.54 crores—Plan + Rs. 23.81 crores non-Plan) have been made during 1997-98 and 1998-99, respectively for the schemes/programmes being handled by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for the welfare and development of the disabled persons.

Packing Unit in CGHS Dispensaries

4835. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of packing unit/quantity of Unani/Ayurvedic medicines for CGHS Unani/Ayurvedic Dispensary/Units during the last two years;

(b) the reasons for adopting two different types of policies in CGHS for Ayurvedic and Unani system;

(c) the role of packing unit in increasing or decreasing the OPD patients in dispensaries/Units; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The packing unit/quantity of Unani/Ayurvedic medicines for CGHS Unani/Ayurvedic was changed by the Purchase Advisory Committee/Formulary Committee for 1996-97 and 1997-98 for two years according to the prescribed doses of medicines given in the text books, keeping in view the prescribed doses of medicines and after calculating its quantity to be issued for 5 to 7 days to the CGHS beneficiaries at a time from the dispensaries.

(b) Both the systems have different types and doses of medicines. The question of adopting two different types of policies in CGHS for Ayurvedic and Unani systems therefore, does, not arise.

(c) The packing units/quantity is not related to increasing or decreasing of OPD patients.

(d) In view of (c) above, the question does not arise.

Abolition of Scavenging

4836. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether scavenging has been abolished by the Government in the country;

(b) if not, the details of States where this practice is still existing;

(c) the total number of scavengers engaged in this profession; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to abolish this abnoxious practice of scavenging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Efforts are being made to achieve this objective in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and N.C.T. of Delhi where this practice is still existing and approximately 3,10,505 scavengers are believed to be engaged in this profession currently.

(d) The Government has incorporated a National Safai Karamcharis' Finance and Development Corporation to assist scavengers alongwith Safai Karamcharis by providing loan assistance at concessional rate to take up projects as per lending guidelines of this Corporation. Also a National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of scavengers is also in operation since March, 1992. The Government have also set up a Statutory National Commission for Safai Karmacharis. A low cost sanitation scheme for liberation of scavengers by conversion of existing dry latrines into sanitary latrines and construction of new sanitary latrines where none exist is being implemented by M/o Urban Affairs and Employment.

Urea Imported

4837. SHRI RAMSHAKAL :
SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of countries from which the Urea has been imported alongwith its quantum and rates during the last three years, till June 30, 1998, and;

(b) the urea imported so far to remove the gap between demand and supply during 1998-99 in comparison to production during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) A statement giving the information in respect of source-wise imports of urea and weighted average C&F

price per tonne for the period from 1996-97 to 1998-99 (April-June) is attached.

The production of urea during these years has been as under :

1996-97	156.20 lakh MTs
1997-98	185.96 lakh MTs
1998-99 (upto 30.6.98)	41.71 lakh MTs

Statement

Quantity in Lakh Metric tonnes
Average price in US\$ per MT

Sl. No.	Name of country	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
		Quantity	Weighted average C&F price	Quantity	Weighted average C&F price	Quantity	C&F price
1.	Bangladesh	1.44	200.67	0.26	111.25	—	—
2.	CIS	6.84	202.21	9.80	159.91	—	—
3.	Germany	—	—	0.29	176.00	—	—
4.	Indonesia	—	—	0.34	112.88	—	—
5.	Kuwait	3.86	204.11	3.91	125.66	0.25	102.00
6.	Libya	2.14	207.68	0.80	176.00	—	—
7.	Qatar	2.95	204.22	3.02	143.45	—	—
8.	Romania	1.60	195.85	1.23	175.47	—	—
9.	Saudi Arabia	2.98	206.50	2.14	162.84	—	—
10.	UAE	1.47	200.80	2.10	140.05	—	—

**Central and Foreign Assistance for
Health Scheme in Orissa**

4838. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any special scheme for backward and tribal areas of Orissa started by the Government of Orissa and his Ministry to take the health problems in these remote areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds provided by his ministry and the external assistance extended to these areas for health schemes thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make a separate health scheme to tackle this problem in this State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) As per information received from the Government of Orissa, the scheme 'Long Term Action Plan (LTAP)' which includes a component on health care, has been taken up by them since 1995-96 in the tribal districts of Koraput, Malkanagiri, Rayagada, Nowarangpur, Bolangir, Sonapur, Kalahandi and Naupada. The total expenditure incurred so far is reported to be Rs. 5.79 crores and 2.51 lakh patients have been treated. In addition, National Health Programmes for control of various diseases such as Malaria, T.B., Leprosy, Blindness, AIDS etc. are also being implemented in these areas.

(c) A statement showing funds released to Government of Orissa in respect of major health and family welfare programmes is annexed.

(d) There is no such proposal.

Statement

*Financial Assistance to the State Govt. of Orissa for
Major Health Programmes for 1997-98*

		(Rs. in lakhs)
Name of the scheme		1997-98
1		2
1.	National Malaria Eradication Programme	233.42

	1	2
2.	National Leprosy Eradication Programme	418.94
3.	National Programme for Control of Blindness	311.44
4.	National T.B. Control Programme	175.69
5.	National AIDS Control Programme	75.00
6.	National Family Welfare Programme	6159.90

Corruption in Traffic Police

4839. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police Commissioner has ordered a crackdown against corruption within the Traffic Police of Delhi;

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

(c) whether the main roads have been encroached and narrowed by shopkeepers, rehriwalas and parking of cars etc.; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to clear all the main roads?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) The Commissioner of Police, Delhi has emphasised the following priorities for the Delhi Police which includes the Delhi Traffic Police:—

- (i) Honesty
- (ii) Accountability
- (iii) Professionalism
- (iv) Morale and welfare of force.

Delhi Traffic Police has an independent cell for Public Relation and Grievances (PRG) to enquire into the complaints relating to corruption in the traffic police. It works under the close supervision of Additional Dy. Commissioner of Police (Administration) and DCP (Traffic). In addition, the vigilance branch of Delhi Police Headquarters, Anti-Corruption Branch of Government of N.C.T. of Delhi and other agencies such as CBI also keep vigilance over the activities of Delhi Traffic Police.

(c) and (d) It is the constant endeavour of Delhi Police to keep the main roads free from encroachment by taking action against any such encroachment in coordination with the civic road agencies. The traffic police has also deployed over 60 cranes to tow away vehicles found parked unauthorisedly on roads or obstructing the free flow of traffic.

Setting up of Finance and Development Corporation for STs

4840. SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Will be Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has set up a separate Finance and Development Corporation for the Scheduled Tribes and requested the Union Government to allocate its share;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to accord its permission to provide 49% share money in principle;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay therefor; and

(d) the time by which the share money is likely to be released by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government of Maharashtra has been requested to furnish some information/document about ST Development Corporation.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) As soon as the required information/document is received, the case will be processed for release of equity contribution.

[*Translation*]

Tadi Brewing Business

4841. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to State:

(a) The details of people belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes engaged in the Tadi extracting business;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any welfare scheme for them;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The information is not being maintained centrally.

(b) to (d) No separate scheme has been formulated by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for this group of persons. However, the various schemes being implemented by the Ministry of SCs, STS and OBCs will be applicable in respect of these persons also.

[*English*]

Bongaigaon Refinery

4842. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to go for disinvestment leading to privatisation of the Bongaigaon Refinery and petro-chemicals;

(b) if so, the details of the decision along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether various employees associations of the said refinery have submitted memorandum demanding to review the aforesaid decision; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in response to the memorandum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Government have approved the appointment of an Adviser to examine all alternatives and options including those recommended by the Disinvestment Commission. The final recommendation of Adviser, so appointed would once again be analysed by Government before initiating any actual disinvestment from the Company.

(c) Yes, Sir.

- (d) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) and (b) above.

Proportional Quota for Recruitment

4843. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :
SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exist a State-wise quota for recruitment in the Central Police Organisation and the armed forces;

(b) if so, the details of quota for recruitment from Tripura during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that recruitment upto the proper level of quota is made from Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) There is no State-wise quota as such in the recruitment to the uniformed Central Police Organisations known as Central Para Military Forces. However, in order to maintain the all India character of these Forces, recruitment of Constables is made on the basis of population ratio of the State and also taking into consideration the special needs the circumstances of different areas. In the case of Air Force and Navy, recruitment is made on all India merit basis and there is no fixed quota for any State or region. Recruitment to Army is carried out from various States/UTs on the basis of population ratio of recruitable male population of each State/UT.

Number of personnel recruited in Central Para Military Forces in Tripura during the last three years is 64 (1996), 37 (1997) and 111 (1998). In the Army the number of personnel recruited from Tripura was 24 (1994-95), 129 (1995-96) and 137 (1996-97).

(c) The representation of Tripura in Central Para Military Forces is adequate.

In order to increase representation of Tripura in the Army, periodical recruitment rallies are being organised to cover the entire State after giving wide publicity through Civil Administration and also the State Government have been advised to establish Human Resource Development Centres to prepare youth for Common Entrance Examination.

Marketing Plan for Maharashtra

4844. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether petroleum companies have finalised marketing plan for their products in Maharashtra for 1998-99;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the location of new dealership/agency alongwith the backlog of marketing plan for the last three years, company-wise;

(c) whether the Government are aware the increasing adulteration and other irregularities committed by dealers in marketing of products and operations of the dealerships/agencies; and

(d) if so, the details of comprehensive assessment made in this regard to deal with the problem effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir, However, in the Marketing Plan for 1996-98, a total 512 locations are earmarked for Maharashtra for selection of dealers for retail outlets (Petrol/Diesel) and SKO-LDO and distributors for LPG.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In order to prevent adulteration and other irregularities in retail outlets, steps such as furfural doping of kerosene, blue-dyeing of kerosene and density checks, are taken and regular/suprise inspections at retail outlets by field officers of the oil companies, inspections by Joint Industries, inspections by Joint Industry Teams, mobile laboratories and officers of State Government. Enforcement agencies are carried out.

The oil industry has been launching special drives for checking malpractices including adulteration at retail outlets and has been conducting campaigns for educating the customers.

Action is taken against the erring dealers under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines. Action is also taken by the State Government enforcement agencies under the Essential Commodities Act and the MS/HSD Control Order.

[*Translation*]

**Recruitment of various Posts in
CCRH, New Delhi**

4845. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy is under the administrative control of his Ministry;

(b) if so, the recruitment procedure adopted for appointing Research Assistants, Research Fellows, Assistant Research Officers and Homoeopathic Doctor on temporary and permanent basis;

(c) the details of appointment made on the said vacant posts during June, 1997 to June, 1998; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Senior Research Fellows and Junior Research Fellows are appointed on a fixed tenure of three years on the recommendations of duly constituted Selection Committee or on the recommendations of the Project Head depending on the need of the research programme. Assistant Research Officers are appointed 50% by direct recruitment and 50% by promotion. Recruitment to Research Assistants is made by direct recruitment. There is no post of 'Homoeopathick Doctor' as such in the Council.

(c) Appointments were made to the posts of one Senior Research Fellow and four Junior Research Fellows during June 1997 to June 1998 by the Council.

(d) Advertisement calling for applications to fill up three vacant posts of Assistant Research officers has been issued in May, 1998.

Displaced Kashmiri

4846. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced Kashmiri families returned to their homeland during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether such families have got back the possession of their houses and lands (there);

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether members of the displaced families returned to Kashmir have been killed by militants; and

(e) if so, the number thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Child Health Programme

4847. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government have introduced Child Health Programme in Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the details of amount allocated for the said programme by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have reported that a reproductive and Child Health Programme is being implemented throughout the country including Uttar Pradesh during the 9th Five Year Plan. Under this programme the interventions which include immunisation programme, control of Acute Respiratory Diseases and diarrhoeal diseases, prophylaxis against Vitamin A & Iron deficiencies are being implemented in all districts. In addition, equipment for essential newborn care is being provided to PHCs, CHCs district hospitals in a phased manner. The outlay for the RCH programme during 9th plan period amounts to Rs. 5112.53 crores.

[*English*]

Iodised Salt

4848. SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the states at present to include iodised salt in the Provision of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and 1955 because of evaporation character of iodine and other factors like sunrays and wooden platform for its storage;

(b) whether the Government propose to amend the said Act accordingly so that no prosecution except imposition of panalty is applicable as it is a natural product;

(c) if so, the time by which this Act is likely to be amended; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The standards for iodised salt have been prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 & rules, 1955 which are applicable throughout the country. The requirements of iodine content in the standards of iodised salt have been prescribed based on the advice of experts and taking into account all relevant factors.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Allocation of Rice to Manipur

4849. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice allocated to Manipur per month for the people BPL and APL since the commencement of this new system;

(b) the quantity of rice out of the allocated quantity actually transported to FCI godown at Imphal; and

(c) the manner by which the Government propose to transport the balance quantity of rice to FCI godown at Imphal without any further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The month-wise quantities of rice allocated to Manipur since introduction of Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are given in the enclosed Statements.

(b) During June, 1997 to June, 1998 22,341 MTs of rice was transported to FCI godown at Imphal.

(c) FCI normally moves foodgrains stocks to Imphal godown by road mainly from its base depot at Dimapur. While allotments of foodgrains are made for the State as a whole and no appointment of quantities for FCI godown at Imphal is made by the Government of India, at times, stocks moved by FCI to Imphal are less than the desired quantities due to operational and law and order problems. As such the State Government also lifts foodgrains from Dimapur.

Statement

Quantity of Rice Allocated to Manipur under TPDS for BPL and APL Families since June, 1997 Onwards

(In Metric Tonnes)

Month	Allocation of Rice	
	BPL	APL
June, 97	760	3400
July, 97	1080	3080
August, 97	1080	3080
September, 97	1300	2860
October, 97	1300	2860
November, 97	1300	2860
December, 97	1300	2860
January, 98	1300	2860
February, 98	1300	2860
March, 98	1300	2860
April, 98	1300	2860
May, 98	1300	2860
June, 98	1300	2860

Welfare Projects of Orissa

4850. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to State:

(a) whether some welfare projects of Orissa are pending with the Union Government for approval at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard;

(d) the estimated cost thereof;

(e) the time by which these projects are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) 122 schemes received from Non-Governmental organisations for taking up various welfare programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment are pending final disposal.

(c) Reasons for delay in the timely disposal of the pending cases are mostly on account of non-receipt of full and complete documents from the organisations concerned, and recommendations/Inspection Reports from the State Governments or other designated agencies, etc.

(d) The amount of financial assistance sought by the various NGOs is Rs. 4.79 crores approximately.

(e) The Schemes will be processed for grant of financial assistance on rectification of the deficiencies in the proposals, and completion of the required formalities.

Women belong to SC/STs

4851. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government observed any concern over the pitiable condition of women belonging to SCs/STs expressed by the National Human Rights Commission and National Commission for women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government received any report from these commissions in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (e) National Human Rights Commission have not made any specific mention of the pitiable condition of women belonging to SCs and STs in their various reports.

The National Commission for Women in its report titled 'Women of Weaker Section—Socio-Economic Development of Scheduled Caste Women' has commented on unsatisfactory condition of women in certain areas which include malnutrition, migration of Scheduled Caste women from rural to urban areas, instability and insecurity in self-employment activity. This report further states that their are hopeful signs of improvement in health, housing and education of dalit communities, such instances are comparatively fewer in agriculture and agro-based industries and the State sponsored development programme like IRDP, RLEGP, DWACRA etc. have certainly brought some awareness among Scheduled Castes in rural areas.

The Union Government have *inter-alia* provided for preference to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes women by providing loans on concessional rates for setting up self-employment ventures under the projects financed by the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation and National Safai Karamchari Finance & Development Corporation. Under the scheme of 'Assistance to Non-Governmental Organisation SC/ST women are given preference for setting up training centres, residential schools etc. Preference to women scavengers is given under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers & their dependents. The Government is also implementing a 'Special Education' Development Programme for the SC Girls belonging to low literacy levels wherein a package of inputs is given for schooling of SC' girls living in districts where female literacy is below 2% as per 1981 census. A similar scheme is also being implemented for Scheduled Tribe Girls.

Petrol Pumps in Mumbai

4852. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no petrol/diesel pump on the Eastern Express Highway in Mumbai between Sion and Thane; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to open a petrol/diesel pump on this stretch of Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the Express Highway Rules, no retail outlet can be opened on the Express Highway unless a parallel service road is available. Since there is no service road available in the Sion-Thane stretch, no retail outlets can be commissioned on this highway.

Loss of Rigs in ONGC

4853. MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDJURI, AVSM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is frequent loss of drilling Rigs in Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC);

(b) if so, the number of such Rigs lost alongwith their cost during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government are aware that quite a few of these losses are fake;

(d) if so, the number of inquiries have been conducted, location-wise; and

(e) the findings of these enquiries and the action by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) During the last three years, only one ONGC owned rig E-1400-8 was damaged in a blow out fire in Assam in the year 1995-96. The net book value of the rig is Rs. 19.59 lakhs.

One contract rig Hitdrill of M/s Hitech was destroyed in a blow out in East Godavari district in Feb., 1997.

(c) to (e) An enquiry was conducted by Dy. Director of Mines Safety, Digboi and ONGC and suitable action was taken against three erring officers in the E-1400-8 blow out.

In the M/s Hitech case an enquiry was conducted by Maj. Gen. SCN Jatar (Retd.). Based on the report action is in hand against three officers of ONGC.

Reduction of Security Forces in Kashmir

4854. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are reducing security forces in Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether situation in the valley has been so normal to reduce the security forces;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) Central Security Forces are made available to the State Government to assist them in maintaining public order and tackling militancy. The levels of deployment depend upon overall security scenario in the country and the availability of Central Security Forces. Accordingly, Central Security Forces are being made available to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir keeping in view the availability of these forces and the prevailing security situation which is reviewed from time to time. Within J&K the Unified Headquarters keep reviewing the deployment which has to be dynamic keeping in view the changing situations.

[Translation]

Smuggling in Bihar

4855. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that smuggling of opium-hamp, gold and silver in Bihar due to nexus of local police officers has been detected; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to curb it?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Scandal in Traffic Signals

4856. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scandal involving crores of rupees in the traffic signals of the capital has been detected by an expert committee set up by the police authorities recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the expert committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the time by which the said report is likely to be submitted; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government against those involved in the scandal?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (f) A three member Committee of police officers found on random check that the maintenance contractor of traffic signals/blinkers had committed some irregularities; these included non-laying of cables and discrepancies in the length of the cables. Thereupon another Committee was constituted to check and physically verify each pending and future claim of the contractor; so that no over-payment is allowed. Delhi Police have informed that necessary deductions have been made before making payments to the contractor. Moreover, a show cause notice has also been issued to the contractor about the said irregularities. However, Delhi Police have been asked to examine, *inter alia*, whether there was any lapse on the part of police officials who had been assigned the responsibility for supervising the work.

Illegal Activities

4857. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of persons have been taken into custody, interrogated and arrested in Gujarat, Delhi, Punjab, Maharashtra and Jammu and Kashmir in connection with illegal arms and ammunition, illegal activities and espionage during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, detailed

information regarding number of persons taken into custody, interrogated and arrested in Gujarat, Delhi, Punjab, Maharashtra and Jammu & Kashmir in connection with illegal arms and ammunition is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. The number of persons arrested for spying during the last three years is as under:—

Year	No. of Cases	Persons arrested
1995	01	06
1996	02	01
1997	09	40

(c) Law & Order being State subject, the State Governments take appropriate steps towards crime detection and prevention.

Stalls/Shops in Red Fort

4858. SHRI VIJAY SINGH SOY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some area in Red Fort, Delhi have been allotted to run shops for commercial use;

(b) if so, the details thereof *inter-alia* agreements regarding lease, rent, maintenance etc. thereof;

(c) whether any encroachments have been made by the said shop owners there; and

(d) if so, the detail of action taken/being taken to check any kind of encroachment by the shop owners?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are 37 shops in Red Fort under the management of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) which were transferred to it by the erstwhile Notified Area Committee when MCD was formed on 7.4.1958. The MCD is collecting rent/licence fee from all the shopkeepers.

(c) and (d) No case of encroachment has come to the notice of MCD. However, some shopkeepers have made some additions/alterations inside the shops. The MCD takes prompt action as and when any encroachment comes to its notice.

Construction of Ram Temple

4859. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a recent statement of the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister stating that there is no provision in the law under which the Government could ban the ongoing construction work for the proposed Ram Temple in the Vishva Hindu Parishad run workshop in Ayodhya; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Cutting and Carving of stones away from the disputed Ram Janma Bhoomi-Babri Masjid site at Ayodhya does not constitute violation of any law. Central Government, as a Statutory receiver, is taking all possible steps to maintain status-quo in the disputed area as per Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 24.10.1994.

Displaced Persons in West Bengal

4860. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the displaced persons in West Bengal are facing problems since Independence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to revive the Rehabilitation Department for proper rehabilitation of those refugees;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from West Bengal for their rehabilitation;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (g) In response to the initial proposals from West Bengal Government, the displaced persons on

their arrival, were provided with relief measures such as shelter camps, cash assistance, food, clothing etc. so as to enable them to absorb the immediate shock of migration.

Subsequent to the above, several proposal were received from West Bengal Government regarding resettlement of displaced persons. Pursuant to these proposals wide range of rehabilitation measures were taken by the Central Government. These included rehabilitation loans for agriculture, small trade, housing etc., development of colonies and provision of educational and medical facilities. By 1960-61, the rehabilitation of displaced persons was by and large completed except a few residuary problems. Schemes for acquisition of land for approved squatters' colonies and ex-camp site families are being implemented by the State Government with funds provided by the Central Government.

Finally, in 1987, the proposal of West Bengal Government for regularization of 607 group of squatters' colonies was approved by the Union Cabinet subject to the condition that no further list of squatters' colonies would be admitted by the Government of India in future and the list submitted by the West Bengal Government would be treated as final. Funds agreed for this purpose have been released to the West Bengal from time to time.

As regards revival of the Rehabilitation Department, a Rehabilitation Division under the Ministry of Home Affairs is already in existence and attending to proper rehabilitation of displaced persons.

Shortage of Doctors/Medicines

4861. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :
DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey on non-availability of medicines, inadequacy of vital facilities and shortage of doctors/medical officers in the Rural Health Centres recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for inadequacy of health care facilities in the rural areas; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (d) Government has conducted a Facilities Survey at Primary Health Centre Level of 90 demographically weak districts under Social Safety Net Scheme which was conducted in the year 1993 covering 32 districts of Uttar Pradesh, 23 districts each in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, 5 districts in Bihar, 2 each in West Bengal and Gujarat and 1 each in Haryana, Kerala and Orissa.

Of the 3405 Primary Health Centres covered under the survey only 15% had labour rooms and 13% had operation theatre. Only 18% of the Primary Health Centres are reported to have conducted deliveries and 19% of the Primary Health Centres had no medical Officers. By and large, the main reasons for inadequate health facilities in rural areas are under-funding of the Primary Health care schemes leading to lack of infrastructure, reluctance on the part of medical and para-medical staff for working in rural areas and shortage of medicines and equipments. Being a state subject the Central Government has asked to State to see that adequate funds are allocated for drugs, equipments and essential maintenance. States are also advised from time to time that existing vacancies of medical and para-medical staff be filled up on priority basis. Strengthening of First Referral Units, Primary Health Centres and facilities for providing better essential obstetric care and medical termination of pregnancy services and also providing more facilities at the Sub-centre level constitutes a major part of the recently launched Reproductive and Child Health Programme. Besides Family Welfare Services are also being strengthened and expended through various externally aided projects.

Exodus of Tribals from Mizoram

4862. SHRI BHIM DAHAL :
SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a massive exodus of tribals from Mizoram is taking place due to lack of security of life of tribals particularly of Reang community;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to provide necessary amenities to refugees;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether a tripartite meeting among the Union Government, Government of Mizoram and Reang leaders has been held recently to discuss about the repatriation of Reang tribals;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof;

(g) whether Reang tribals have been demanding for an Autonomous District Council; and

(h) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) There has been an exodus of Reang tribals from Mizoram which started in October/November, 1997 in the wake of ethnic tension between Mizos and Reangs in Tuipuibari area of Aizawl West District. At present about 35,000 Reang Tribals from Mizoram are in Tripura and an estimated 300 in Assam.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Financial assistance is being provided to the Government of Tripura for meeting the expenditure on ration, clothes, drinking water supply etc. So far, an amount of Rs. 348 lakhs has been made available to the Government of Tripura. Government of Assam has also been provided a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs for the purpose.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The discussions were inconclusive

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) The State Government of Mizoram does not favour the request.

[Translation]

Swarna Massori Paddy

4863. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to State:

(a) the percentage of recovery fixed for rice mills, State-wise particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the names of the States where 'Swarna Massori Paddy' is produced and the support price fixed for the said paddy in these States, separately;

(c) whether this paddy has been treated as coarse variety in Madhya Pradesh;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the said paddy is likely to be treated as fine variety in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The Government of India has fixed the out-turn ratio of 67% and 68% for raw and parboiled rice respectively uniformly for all the States including Madhya Pradesh since Kharif marketing season 1996-97 based on the recommendations of the Expert Committee appointed to examine the results of trial milling of paddy conducted in the different States.

(b) to (d) The paddy variety "Swarna Massori" is produced in the States of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. The Swarna Massori paddy has been classified as Grade 'A' for the State of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. Support price for Grade 'A' paddy for kharif marketing season 1997-98 is Rs. 445 per quintal. "Swarna Massori" variety of paddy has not been classified for the State of M.P. However, the same has been allowed to be procured as common variety due to presence of admixture of lower varieties of paddy.

(e) The State Government has been advised to send the pure and authenticated sample of Swarna Massori variety to Central Grain Analysis Laboratory for its classification.

Assistance to Family Planning Programmes

4864. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of assistance given by the Government to the States for family planning programme during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98, State-wise;

(b) whether the financial assistance provided to Gujarat during the said period has been utilised;

(c) if so, the details thereof, year-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) A statement is annexed.

(b) to (d) The grant-in-aid to States is released on the basis of utilisation/requirements and finally settled on the basis of expenditure as admitted in audit. The State Accountant General Offices generally forward the audited statements of expenditure with a gap of 2-3 years. In respect of Gujarat, the latest statement available is for the year 1995-96 as per which no surplus is available with the State Government.

Statement

Grants in Aid (Cash and Kind) Including Arrears to the States

(Rs. Lakhs)

		1995-96			1996-97			1997-98		
		In cash	In kind	Total	In cash	In kind	Total	In cash	In kind	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11097.58	2021.09	13118.67	14781.23	2398.43	17179.66	8838.71	2387.25	11225.96
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	139.85	110.69	250.54	146.82	33.86	180.68	147.73	89.65	237.38
3.	Assam	2815.74	896.14	3711.88	2233.69	824.06	3057.75	3284.70	1165.81	4450.31

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
4.	Bihar	8923.03	2977.17	11900.20	5506.62	2851.93	8358.55	9894.51	2727.31	12621.82
5.	Goa	133.91	35.31	169.22	141.81	53.24	195.05	168.13	38.70	206.83
6.	Gujarat	3653.60	1882.41	5536.01	3408.15	1957.01	5365.16	9446.00	1877.12	11323.12
7.	Haryana	2308.63	776.55	3085.18	1439.48	859.66	2299.14	3521.84	722.46	4244.30
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1703.27	260.50	1963.77	1613.92	294.88	1908.80	1123.72	307.30	1431.02
9.	J&K	1192.60	306.82	1499.42	863.14	268.35	1131.49	1873.62	264.16	2137.78
10.	Karnataka	6036.45	1521.36	7557.81	7599.98	1784.70	9384.68	5185.49	1275.84	6461.33
11.	Kerala	2595.61	870.21	3465.82	2456.74	735.58	3192.32	2981.46	937.70	3919.16
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5887.69	4238.43	10126.12	5689.22	4066.67	9755.89	6765.52	3227.78	9993.30
13.	Maharashtra	9681.23	3036.70	12717.93	8383.02	3351.69	11734.71	8289.64	2388.04	10677.68
14.	Manipur	635.08	118.93	754.01	418.72	56.61	475.33	452.95	132.90	585.85
15.	Meghalaya	266.73	88.83	355.56	300.07	87.40	387.47	300.91	96.13	397.04
16.	Mizoram	189.65	52.24	241.89	197.57	45.85	243.42	221.36	74.68	296.04
17.	Nagaland	262.19	74.68	336.87	211.63	47.62	259.25	209.05	59.19	268.24
18.	Orissa	4140.80	1224.97	5365.77	2960.32	1149.21	4109.53	4821.63	1337.46	6159.09

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
19.	Punjab	1862.57	1127.15	2989.72	1958.20	776.12	2734.32	2451.93	1117.79	3569.72
20.	Rajasthan	7199.77	2213.36	9413.13	7094.65	3084.52	10179.17	7299.73	2176.96	9476.69
21.	Sikkim	417.86	34.09	451.95	237.71	22.25	259.96	218.87	46.00	264.87
22.	Tamilnadu	9557.57	1977.06	11534.63	6636.80	2077.61	8714.41	10835.89	1924.09	12759.97
23.	Tripura	622.94	98.32	721.26	998.50	100.96	1099.46	411.50	161.28	572.78
24.	Uttar Pradesh	15173.71	5945.75	21119.46	11436.91	7721.73	19158.64	19276.48	5797.10	25073.58
25.	West Bengal	6253.18	1936.60	8189.78	7046.22	1909.68	8955.90	5201.99	2505.16	7707.15
		102751.24	33825.36	136576.60	93761.13	36559.62	130320.75	113223.36	32837.65	146061.01

[English]

New Districts in Karnataka

4865. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Karnataka had set up seven new districts in August, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Karnataka had sought approval of the Union Government;

(c) the amount of Central Grants given for the development of these new districts so far; and

(d) the amount of Central Grants sought for the development of these new districts by Karnataka during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) The State Governments do not

required the approval of the Union Government for creation of new districts. There are also no special Central grants for development of new districts.

[Translation]

Contract System in FCI

4866. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to end the contract system in the Food Corporation of India godowns;

(b) whether the Government have ratified the resolution passed in the International Labour Conference in this regard; and

(c) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. In view of sporadic and seasonal nature of work in FCI Godowns, abolition of Contract System altogether is not considered desirable.

(b) and (c) Since there was no consensus regarding adoption of an international instrument on the subject at the International Labour Conference, the question of its ratification by Government of India does not arise.

Import of Wheat

4867. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
SHRI ASHOK ARGAL :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India will have to import about 20 crore tonnes of foodgrains by the year 2030 as reported by the World Watch Institute in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated January 11, 1998.

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (c) Government has seen the report published in the "Rashtriya Sahara" dated January, 11, 1998.

Government does not share this pessimistic projection. Steps are being taken to increase production of foodgrains

to meet the needs of our growing population. The production of foodgrains is projected to increase from 198.53 million tonnes in 1996-97 to 304 million tonnes in 2011.12. The consumption is likely to increase from 194.70 million tonnes in 1996-97 to 298.38 million tonnes in 2011.12.

[English]

Letter of Intent to Sugar Mills

4868. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in according approval to letter of intent to sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh, mill-wise;

(b) the time by which these mills are likely to be set up in the State;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision for providing extension of validity period given in the Letters of Intent to new sugar mills;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which this is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (e) As on 9.7.1998, the following 3 applications were pending consideration for grant of Letters of Intent/Industrial Licences for establishment of new sugar factories in the State of Uttar Pradesh:—

Sl. No.	IL Application and date	District	Name of the Applicant
1.	025/98/IL 26.2.98	Bijnor	M/s Shanti Sugar Ind. Ltd.
2.	074/98/IL 16.4.98	Bijnor	M/s Upper Ganges Sugar ind. Ltd.
3.	083/98/IL 01.5.98	Sultanpur	Ram Yash Singh G B S J K S Sansthan

Generally, it takes three to four years to set up a new sugar mill after issue to the Letter of Intent.

The applications for grant of extension in the validity period of the Letters of Intent are examined in accordance

with the criteria indicated in the Press Note No. 6 (1997 Series) dated 28th May, 1997. The criteria set out in the guidelines relate to completion of acquisition of land, commencement of civil works, placement of orders for plant and machinery and filing of applications for term-

loan. In the 1997-98 Season (up to 30.6.1998), 54 parties have been given extension in the validity period of their Letters of Intent.

[Translation]

DANICS and DASS Cadre

4869. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :
SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officials of DANICS and DASS cadre working in Delhi have planned to strike soon from the first week of July;

(b) if so, the reasons behind such move; and

(c) the steps taken to stop the officials from going on strike?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have reported that the DANICS and DASS officers had planned to proceed on mass Casual leave for three days with effect from 1st July, 1998 to press the demand for acceptance of the recommendations made by the Fifth Central Pay Commission in regard to pay and grade structure of DANICS. However, they did not eventually go ahead with these plans. The Government have nonetheless taken note of the demand of DANICS officers.

[English]

Medical Aid to Cyclone affected People

4870. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sent any Central team to assess the out-break of the epidemic diseases like diarrhoea and the other diseases due to the current cyclone in the areas of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons affected by the epidemics, State-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government, State Governments, Voluntary Organisations and Kandla Port Trust Authority have provided any medical aid and other assistance including financial assistance to the cyclone affected persons;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any steps has been taken in advance by the concerned State Governments and the Kandla Port Trust Authority to save the people from this cyclone;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the action taken by the Government to save the people from such cyclone in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) On the request of the Government of Gujarat, a team from National Instt. of Communicable Diseases, Delhi visited the cyclone affected areas of Gandhidham block of Kutch district from 16th to 19th June, 1998 to make an assessment of the post-disaster conditions and investigate the likelihood of out-break of any waterborne vector borne or zoonotic disease. A team from National Malaria Eradication Programme also visited the affected areas of Kandla Port Trust, Gandhidham and Anjar Talukas of Gujarat from 17th to 20th June, 1998 to make on the spot assessment of health situation in the cyclone affected areas in particular reference to malaria.

(c) There has been no report of out-break of water-borne, vector-borne or zoonotic diseases.

(d) and (e) The State Govt. of Gujarat have reported that medical aid was provided to cyclone affected people spread over 938 villages situated in 5 districts (Kutch, Jamnagar, Porbandar, Junagarh and Rajkot). 428 medical teams were despatched to the affected areas. 3 temporary hospitals, i.e. 1 at Lohana Mahajan Wadi (80 bedded), 1 in Adipur (10 bedded) in Kutch district and 1 at Moti Kavadi (30 bedded) were established to treat the people 1,05,755 ORS packets were distributed as well as chlorination of drinking water was undertaken. Local voluntary organisations and UNICEF helped in the medical relief.

(f) to (h) The Health Deptt. of the State formulated an action plan in the month of January, 1998 to be implemented accordingly.

On receipt of the warning regarding the impending cyclone from the Meteorological Department, the Control Rooms established at the State and District levels were activated to monitor the effects of cyclone. District Health Authorities were alerted to respond to the emergencies.

Information in respect of Maharashtra and Rajasthan is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Shortage of Labourers in Agriculture

4871. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the decreasing number of labourers in agricultural sector thereby the agricultural work is badly affected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to meet this shortage of labourers in agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir, The total number of agricultural workers has increased from 55.50 million in 1981 to 74.60 million in 1991. The growth rate of employment in agriculture sector rose from 0.94 in 1983-88 to 1.88 during 1988-94.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Fertilizer Project in Nellore

4872. SHRI K.P. NAIDU :
DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA :
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state :

(a) the demand of urea in the country projected to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers to arrange for manufacture in the country;

(b) whether public investment Board has cleared for setting up an IFFCO Urea Fertilizer Project at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons thereof;

(e) the time by which this proposal is likely to be cleared; and

(f) the manner by which the demand of Urea is likely to be met by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (f) According to the projections made for the formulation of the 9th Five Year plan, the demand for urea in the year 2001-02 was estimated at 245 lakh tonnes, on the assumption that the disparities in nutrient pricing would be corrected.

During the consideration by the Public Investment Board of IFFCO's proposal to set up grassroots ammonia-urea plant in Nellore district (Andhra Pradesh), there was a divergence of views in regard to the projected demand for the nutrient Nitrogen. The project proposal will be posed for investment approval as per the prescribed procedure after finalisation of the demand projections for nitrogen in the terminal year of the 9th Plan and the policy for capacity accretion, which is being reformulated in the light of the recommendations of the High Powered Fertilizers Pricing Policy Review Committee. Any gap between the demand and the indigenous availability of urea will be met through imports.

Solution of Jammu and Kashmir Problem

4873. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI :
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of overall situation prevailing in Jammu and Kashmir, till date;

(b) the proposed measures to be adopted to deal with the situation in future;

(c) whether Union Government have adopted any strategy to solve the Jammu and Kashmir problem and strengthen the internal security; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) While the overall situation in the State of J&K have shown improvement, militants have continued to resort to stray incidents of killings of soft targets especially members of minority community, in remote areas.

(b) to (d) With a view to tackle the militancy problem sponsored from across the border in Jammu & Kashmir, the Government have adopted a multipronged approach which include *inter-alia* strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of militants by proactive action against them in hinterland, gearing up intelligence machinery, galvanising development programmes and deepening the democratic process etc.

Atrocities on Women

4874. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of atrocities on women in general and women of minorities in particular have been increased in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of cases registered and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether some officials have been found involved in these atrocities against women particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(e) whether the Union Government have sought information from the Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding atrocities on women of minority community;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Union Government propose to set up special court for the speedy disposal of registered cases; and

(h) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Available information relating to

crime against women in the country during the last three years is given belows:—

<u>Year</u>	<u>Incidents</u>
1995	109259
1996	115723
1997	112226

Specific information in regard to atrocities on women belonging to minorities is not maintained.

(c) to (f) Information is being collected.

(d) and (h) The Administration of Justice in District/ Subordinate Courts comes under the purview of the concerned State Governments/High Courts. It is for the concerned State Government/High Courts to set up such courts according to their requirements.

[Translation]

Renaming of Railway Stations

4875. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government for changing the name of some of the Railway Stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to change the name of Kolhapur Railway Station and name it after the Chhatrapati Sahu Maharaj; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (a) and (b) There is only one such proposal. It relates to renaming of a Railway Station in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*[English]***Fencing on Indo-Bangladesh Border**

4876. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision was taken by the Union Government for border fencing on the Indo-Bangladesh border in Tripura in order to prevent infiltration and to prevent free movement of the extremists along the international border;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) 514 kms of border roads on the Bangladesh-Tripura border have been sanctioned. No decision has so far been taken on the proposal for border fencing in Tripura.

Financial Powers to A&N Islands

4877. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review demands for delegation of more financial powers to the Administration of A&N Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether Administration of all the Union Territories enjoy equal financial powers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The existing financial powers delegated to the Lt. Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands in respect of creation of Plan posts, approval of Plan schemes, sanction of works and purchase of proprietary items are presently under review.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. The extent of delegated powers is determined by functional requirements and other financial considerations which vary from Union territory to Union territory. A Statement indicating the extent of financial powers delegated to the Administrators of Union territories in various fields is attached.

Statement

S. No.	Item	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Chandigarh	Dadra Nagar Haveli	Daman & Diu	Lakshadweep	Pondicherry	Govt. of NCT of Delhi
1.	Creation of Posts	Group B, C & D posts under Plan	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Group B, C & D under Plan	Group A, B, C & D under plan & Non-Plan
2.	Sanction of Plan Schemes	Upto Rs. 5.00 crs.	Upto Rs. 5.00 crs.	Upto Rs. 5.00 crs.	Upto Rs. 5.00 crs.	Upto Rs. 5.00 crs.	Upto Rs. 10.00 crs.	Upto Rs. 50.00 crs.
3.	Sanction of works	Upto Rs. 20.00 crs.	Upto Rs. 1.50 crs.	Upto Rs. 1.50 crs.	Upto Rs. 1.50 crs.	Upto Rs. 2.00 crs.	Full Powers	Full Powers
4.	Indent/Contract/Purchases							
	(i) Normal Contract/Purchase	Upto Rs. 2.00 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.20 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.20 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.20 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.20 crs.	Upto Rs. 5.00 crs.	Upto Rs. 5.00 crs.
	(ii) Negotiated/Single Tender Contract	Upto Rs. 0.80 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.02 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.02 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.02 crs.	Upto 0.02 crs.	Upto Rs. 1.00 crs.	Upto Rs. 1.00 crs.
	(iii) Indent for stores of proprietary nature	Upto Rs. 0.40 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.02 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.02 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.02 crs.	Upto 0.02 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.80 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.80 crs.
	(iv) Direct purchase on grounds of emergency	Upto Rs. 0.20 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.02 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.02 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.02 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.02 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.50 crs.	Upto Rs. 0.50 crs.

[Translation]

Illegal Trade of Farm Houses

4878. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
(JAHANABAD) :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farm houses located at southern border of the Capital have become a symbol of illegal trade being run by the wealthy and influential people;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether the Union Government propose to conduct an inquiry into the on-going illegal trade in those farm houses; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) During the current year, Delhi Police seized in six separate incidents 33 and a half bottles of whiskey and 133 bottles of bear stored at some farm houses located at the southern border of the National Capital Territory allegedly in violation of the Excise Act. 11 persons were arrested in this connection. No other complaint about any illegal trade in such farm houses has been received by Delhi Police.

[English]

Reservation in Tamil Nadu

4879. SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI VAIKO :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has not taken cognizance of incorporation of Tamil Nadu Reservation (Employment and Education opportunities) Act in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) whether the Government propose to protect the 69% reservation in Tamil Nadu; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) The validity of Tamil Nadu Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of Seats in Educational Institutions and Appointments of posts in Services under the State) Act, 1993 as well as the validity of the Constitution (76th Amendment) Act, 1994, whereby the said Act of Tamil Nadu was included in the Ninth Schedule to the Constitution, has been challenged in the Supreme Court of India *vide* W.P. (civil) No. 238 of 1995, Common Cause a Regd. Society Vs UOI & others. The decision depends on the judgement of the Supreme Court.

Medical Colleges

4880. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical colleges functioning at present with the approval of the Government, State-wise;

(b) the number of Medical Colleges functioning in the country without the approval of the Central or State Governments;

(c) whether the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare has recommended to impose ban on opening of new medical colleges;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The State-wise list of 141 recognised medical colleges is at Statement-I. 12 medical colleges have been permitted by the Central Govt. to be established after the enactment of the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act, 1993. The list of such colleges is at Statement-II.

(b) As per information given by the Medical Council of India, there are 9 unrecognised medical colleges in India. The State-wise list of unrecognised medical colleges is at Statement-III.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement-I

*State/UT-wise list of MCI recognised
Medical Colleges*

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of recognised medical colleges
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10
2.	Assam	3
3.	Bihar	8
4.	Goa	1
5.	Gujarat	6
6.	Haryana	1
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
9.	Karnataka	19
10.	Kerala	5
11.	Madhya Pradesh	6
12.	Maharashtra	29
13.	Manipur	1
14.	Orissa	3
15.	Punjab	5
16.	Rajasthan	5
17.	Tamil Nadu	14
18.	Uttar Pradesh	9
19.	West Bengal	7
20.	Chandigarh	1
21.	Delhi	4
22.	Pondicherry	1

141

Statement-II

*List of Medical Colleges permitted by the Central
Government to be Established after Enactment of
Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act, 1993*

Sl. No.	Name of Medical College
<i>Private Colleges</i>	
1.	Maharashtra Academy of Medical Education and Research, Pune, Dhabade, Pune.
2.	Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences and Hospital, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu Tawi, Jammu and Kashmir.
3.	PV Naramsimha Rao Medical College, Jollygrant, Dehradun.
4.	Dr. D.Y. Patil Medical College for women, Pimpri, Pune.
5.	Santosh medical College, Gaziabad.
6.	Vinayaka Mission Medical College, Salem.
7.	Vinayaka Mission Medical College, Kariakal Pondicherry.
8.	Guru Ram Das Medical College and Research Institute, Amritsar.
9.	Mamtha Medical College, Khamman.
<i>Govt. Colleges</i>	
10.	Medical College, Bhavanagar.
11.	Medical College, Rajkot.
12.	Academy of Medical Sciences, Pariyaram, Kannur, Kerala.

Statement-III

List of Un-recognised Medical Colleges, State and University-wise in India and process of recognition/inspection is under consideration

S.No.	Name of the State/Univ./College	Year of inception	Management No. of adm.	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	<i>Bihar</i>			
(1).	<i>Vinoba Bhave University.</i>			
1.	Patliputra Medical College, Dhanbad. (Previously affiliated to Ranchi University)	1969	Govt. 50	<p>The college was recognised up to 30.4.1982. The matter with regard to recognition of the college was placed before the Executive Committee of this Council at its meeting held on 17.9.1997 alongwith the further compliance received from the college and the Committee decided to verify the same by way of an inspection.</p> <p>The compliance verification has been carried out on behalf of the Council by the Council inspectors in May, 1998. The compliance verification report will be placed before the Executive Committee of this Council in its ensuing meeting.</p>
2.	<i>Jammu & Kashmir</i>			
(2)	<i>Kashmir University, Srinagar</i>			
2.	Jhelum Valley College of Medical Sciences, Bemina, Srinagar.	1989	Trust 80	<p>The matter with regard to recognition of the colleges was placed before the Executive Committee of this Council at its meeting held on 17.9.1997 and decided to reiterate its earlier decision taken at its meeting held on 8.3.1997, directing the authorities to stop the admissions with immediate effect till the institution complies with all the deficiencies to get the recognition of Medical Council of India. No compliance has been received from the college authorities till date.</p>
3.	<i>Maharashtra</i>			
(3)	<i>Bombay University, Bombay</i>			
3.	Terana Medical College, New Bombay	1997	Trust 50	<p>The matter with regard to recognition of the college was placed before the Executive Committee of this council at its meeting held on 10.12.1997. The Committee noted that there are still deficiencies in terms of infrastructure and hence the college can not be considered for granting recognition at this stage. However, the college has been permitted to admit 50 students annually in the academic year 1997-98.</p>

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Rajiv Gandhi Medical College and Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Hospital, Kalwal, Thane.	1992	Municipal corporation 100	The compliance verification report will be placed before the Executive Committee of this Council at its ensuing meeting.
(4)	<i>North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon</i>			
5.	Jawaharlal Foundation, Annasaheb Chudaman Patil Memorial Medical College, Dhule. (Previously affiliated to Poona Univ.)	1990	Pvt. 50	The compliance verification report will be placed before the Executive Committee of this Council at its ensuing meeting. However, the college has been permitted to admit 50 students annually for the academic session year 1997-98 to MBBS course.
4.	Rajasthan	1992	Govt. 50	The Executive Committee of this Council at its meeting held on 16.3.1998 decided to obtain the staff list of all the medical colleges in Rajasthan for further consideration with regard the recognition of the Medical College, Kota. The information is awaited from the college till date.
(5)	<i>Rajasthan University, Jaipur</i>			
6.	Medical College, Kota.			

Medical Council of India

Inspection carried out by the Council under the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court/information Awaited/Subjudice.

S. No.	Name of the College/ State University	Remarks
1	2	3
1.	Bihar	
1.	<i>B.N. Mandal University, Madhipur</i>	
7.	Mata Gujuri Memorial Medical College, Kishanganj.	Inspection was carried out by the Council on 29.12.94 under the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The Hon'ble Supreme Court <i>vide</i> its order dated 25.3.96 directed the State Govt. and the University to grant provisional affiliation to the applicant institution within a period of five weeks. The Registrar, B.N. Mandal University Madhipur <i>vide</i> notification dated 10.4.96 has given provisional affiliation to the college.

1

2

3

The college authorities *vide* this office letter dated 18.10.97 were requested to send the formal request for inspection under section 11(2) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956. The College authorities have also been requested to intimate when their final MBBS batch will appear for the Univ. examination. Reply is awaited till date.

8. Katihar Medical College,
Katihar.

Inspection was carried out by the Council on 27th/28th June, 95 under the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The inspection report was submitted to the Court on 17.7.95. The Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* its order dated 27.2.96 has directed that the steps for grant of affiliation to the applicant's instt., may now be expedited and directed the respondents to issue the necessary orders without loss of time.

The Registrar, B.N. Mandal University Madhipura *vide* order dated 2.4.96 has given affiliation to the college from the session 1987-88 in MBBS course and allowed for publication of the results of the MBBS previous examinations, at the University level.

3. **Haryana**
M.D. University, Rohtak

9. Maharaja Agrasen Instt.,
of Medical Research &
Education, Agroha.

The Central Govt. *vide* letter dt. 12.2.98 in pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana dated 7.1.98 in CWP No. 12695 of 1997 forwarded application of the Maharaja Agrasen Instt. of Medical Research and Education, Agroha for establishment of medical college for 50 admission under section 10A of the IMC, Act, 1956.

Council carried out inspection of the instt. in March, 98. The report was placed before the E.C. of this Council on 16.3.1998 and did not recommend to the Central Govt. for issuing letter of Intent. The Matter will be listed before the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court in July, 1998.

[Translation]

**Financial Assistance for
Development of SC/ST**

4881. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have provided financial assistance to the SCs/STs Financial and Development Corporation of Madhya Pradesh for

economic development of SCs and STs of the State; and

(b) if not, the action proposed by the Government to extend the assistance to the Financial and Development Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

LPG Agencies

4882. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA :
 SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
 SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI :
 SHRI P. SANKARAN :
 SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
 SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
 SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
 SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :
 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
 SHRI P.C. THOMAS :
 SHRI RAMANAND SINGH :
 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA :
 SHRI BHIM DAHAL :
 SHRI JUAL ORAM :
 SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :

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

(a) the criteria adopted for allotting LPG agencies to the distributors and the rules governing the agencies;

(b) the number of LPG agencies, functioning in the country at present, State-wise and company-wise;

(c) the number of such agencies in the hilly areas particularly in Ranchi;

(d) the number of applications received for allotment of gas agencies, State-wise;

(e) the number of applications approved and the number out of them lying pending, State-wise; and

(f) the number of new agencies proposed to be allotted during the current year alongwith the locations, State-wise and category-wise and in hilly areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) As per existing policy, oil companies advertise the locations included in the approved Marketing Plans under different reserved categories in two newspapers, one in English daily and one in vernacular daily, and invite applications from the candidates meeting the eligibility criteria relating to nationality, age, educational qualification, residence income, multiple dealership norms, etc. Selection of the

eligible candidates is made by the duly constituted Dealer Selection Boards. Reservation for different categories have been provided as under :

Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST)	—	25%
Physically Handicapped Persons (PH)	—	5%
Paramilitary/Police/Govt. Personnel (PMP)	—	8%
Defence Personnel (DC)	—	8%
Freedom Fighters (FF)	—	2%
Outstanding Sportspersons (OSP)	—	2%
Open (O)	—	50%

Also, 33% of the dealerships/distributorships in all the categories mentioned above are reserved for Women belonging to that category. Other things being equal Unmarried women above 40 years of age without earning parents and Widows are given priority over others in all women categories.

(b) As on 2.4.1998 there were 5538 LPG distributorships functioning all over the country.

(c) Oil companies are operating 318 LPG distributorships in hilly areas. Ranchi has not been identified as a hilly area in the list of hilly areas approved by the Planning Commission. However, at present there are 21 LPG distributorships in Ranchi.

(d) to (f) 1702 LPG distributorships have been included in the LPG Marketing Plan 1996-98 for all over the country. The receipt of applications and its scrutiny after advertisement is a continuous ongoing process. Selection of a distributor is done by the Dealer Selection Board from the applicants applying for an agency.

[*Translation*]

Sub-Regional Office

4883. SHRI MANJUNATH AYANUR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been made for opening of Sub-Regional office of Provident Fund at Shimoga District, Karnataka;

(b) if so, the time by which the said proposal is pending with the Government; and

(c) the present position of the proposal and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYANA JATIYA) : (a) to (c) The proposal to open a new Sub-Regional Office (S.R.O.) is approved by the Executive Committee of the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provided Fund. Generally, such proposals are initially considered and approved by the Regional Committee, EPF, which is a tripartite body set up for advising the CBT on operation of EPF Schemes in the State. There have been representations from various quarters for opening an SRO at Shimoga from time to time since July, 1995. Earlier, as per the norms, opening of SRO at Shimoga was not *prima-facie* found feasible. However, pursuant to notification of some new districts in the State in July, 1997 there is a need for re-organisation in of SRC in Karnataka. Accordingly, the EPF Organisation has decided to place the matter before the Regional Committee, EPF in its ensuing Meeting.

[English]

Requirement of Blood in NIMHANS, Bangalore

4884. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the average requirement of blood every day in NIMHANS, Bangalore;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to meet the requirement of blood in Nimhans, Bangalore after the decision of the Supreme Court banning paid donors;

(c) whether the blood bank at Nimhans has been upgraded to higher storage capacity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The requirement of blood in NIMHANS every day on an average is 10 units of whole blood; 5 units of Fesh Frozen Plasma; 5 units of blood for Plasmapheresis; 5 units of Platelet Concentrate and 25 to 30 units of Packed Cells.

(b) After the decision of the Supreme Court banning paid donors, no blood is collected at NIMHANS from

Professional donors and the requirement of blood is met from Voluntary Donors.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The blood bank at NIMHANS has been upgraded and shifted to a new building with space as specified by the Drugs Controller of India. It has been designated as "Modern Blood Bank" by Drugs Controller of Karnataka. NIMHANS have specified space and equipments to bleed, store and screen the blood with equipment for component separation and plasmapheresis.

[Translation]

Provisions for Medical Courts

4885. SHRI ADITYANATH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to create medical courts on the lines of labour courts, sales-tax courts/tribunals and income-tax tribunals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All services, if rendered for consideration have been covered under the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. A consumer can file an allegation in writing in a consumer court against a medical practitioner and the consumer court has the power to direct the opposite party to pay such amount as may be awarded by it as compensation to the consumer for the loss or injury suffered by the consumer due to the negligence of the opposite party.

[English]

HIV Cases

4886. SHRI VINOD KHANNA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned '28 HIV positive cases

in city' appearing in 'The Tribune' Chandigarh edition dated June 23, 1998;

(b) if so, whether there is any apprehension of an increase in the number of HIV infected persons by 2000 A.D.;

(c) if so, the details of other points raised in the State level workshops for project designed for prevention and control programme of HIV/AIDS; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A state level workshop for project design was held at Chandigarh on 20th June, 1998. The participants in the workshop were divided into 7 groups to discuss key issues of the programme on a pre-designed matrix. The issues were:

- (i) Programme Management
- (ii) Interventions
- (iii) IEC and Social mobilisation
- (iv) Safe blood initiative
- (v) Surveillance
- (vi) STD Control & Condom promotion
- (vii) Clinical Care & Counselling.

The recommendations of these groups will then be transformed into a Project Implementation Plan for next 5 years (1999-2004) for Union Territory of Chandigarh.

(d) The National AIDS Control Organisation under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is also organising such State level workshops in all States/UTs in order to design a Project Implementation Plan for the respective State to be incorporated into the National Project Implementation Plan for Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS for the next five years (1999-2004).

Amendments in Dentists Act, 1948

4887. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the professional bodies seeking amendments in Dentists Act, 1948 to empower Dental Council of India to act *suo-moto* to ensure transparency and accountability in the profession;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (c) the Indian Dental Association vide their letter dated 1-7-91 has suggested various amendments to the Dentists Act. These suggestions are more or less on the lines of the changes proposed in the IMC Amendments Bill which has already been introduced in Rajya Sabha in 1987 and the report submitted by the Joint Parliament committee thereupon.

Meeting of State Food Ministers

4888. SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the State Food and Civil Supplies Ministers has been convened to discuss the recommendations of the Mahajan Committee Report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decisions taken in the meeting; and

(d) the number of States which participated in the said meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (d) A meeting of the State Ministers, in-charge of Food, Civil Supplies and Sugar Industry Departments, was held on 25.6.1998 to ascertain

the views of the State Governments on the various recommendations of the Mahajan Committee Report. Representatives of 23 States/UTs participated in the meeting. In the course of this meeting, a variety of views were expressed on issues, *inter alia*, relating to modalities for running the Public Distribution System (PDS); the norm for allocating sugar to States/UTs under the PDS; the need for continuation of distribution control; the need for higher allocation of sugar for festivals; problems faced on account of high stocks of sugar with the mills; problems on account of arrears of payment of sugarcane price to farmers; simplification of procedure for grant of dealers licences; and the need for timely issue of sugar release orders. No final decision was taken on any of the issues.

Surveillance Centres for Prevention of AIDS

4889. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of locations of sixty two surveillance Centres and nine referred centres functioning for prevention of AIDS in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more such centres; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Statement-I is enclosed. The centres are now called as "Blood Testing Centres".

(b) & (c) Yes, Sir. Blood Testing Centres have been sanctioned for the remaining 69 Govt. Medical Colleges in the country during the year 1998-99. The details regarding these Medical Colleges are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

List of Surveillance Centres

S. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Name of Surveillance Centres
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Deptt. of Microbiology, Osmania College, Hyderabad 2. Deptt. of Microbiology, S.V. Medical College, Tirupati 3. Deptt. of Microbiology, Andhra Medical College, Vishakhapatnam 4. Surveillance Centre Instt. of Prev. Medicine, Hyderabad 5. Surveillance Centre Indian Naval Ship Hospital, Kalyani, Vishakhapatnam
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6. Surveillance Centre Distt. Hospital, Itanagar
3.	Assam	7. Deptt. of Microbiology, Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati

1	2	3
4.	Bihar	8. Rajendra Memorial Research Institute, Patna
5.	Goa	9. Deptt. of Microbiology, Goa Medical College, Panaji
6.	Gujarat	10. Deptt. of Microbiology,, B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad
7.	Haryana	11. Deptt. of Microbiology, Medical College, Rohtak
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12. Deptt. of Microbiology, Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13. Department of Immunopathology, Sher-e-kashmir Instt. of Medical Sciences, Srinagar
10.	Karnataka	14. Deptt. of Microbiology, Govt. Medical College, Jammu
		15. Deptt. of Microbiology, Bangalore Medical College, Bangalore
		16. Deptt. of Microbiology, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal
		17. Surveillance Centre, National Institute of Mental & Neurosurgery, Bangalore
11.	Kerala	18. Deptt. of Microbiology, Medical College, Trivandrum
		19. Surveillance Centre, Indian Naval Ship Hospital, Cochin
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20. Deptt. of Pathology, Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal
		21. Regional Medical Research Centre for Tribal Health Jabalpur
		22. Choitram Hospital & Research Centre, Indore
13.	Maharashtra	23. Deptt. of Microbiology, Seth G.S. Medical, College Mumbai
		24. Deptt. of Microbiology, J.J. Hospital, Mumbai
		25. Sion Hospital, Mumbai

1

2

3

- | | | |
|-----|------------|--|
| | | 26. B.Y.N. Nair Hospital, Mumbai |
| | | 27. Rajabari Hospital Ghatkopar, Mumbai |
| | | 28. Deptt. of Microbiology, B.J. Medical College, Pune |
| | | 29. Deptt. of Microbiology, Govt. Medical College, Nagpur |
| | | 30. Surveillance Centre, Civil Hospital, Kolhapur |
| | | 31. Surveillance Centre, District Hospital, Chandrapur |
| | | 32. Deptt. of Microbiology, Govt. Medical College, Miraj |
| | | 33. Surveillance Centre, Indian Naval Ship Hospital, Ashwini Mumbai |
| | | 34. Deptt. of Microbiology Armed Forces Medical College, Pune |
| 14. | Manipur | 35. Surveillance Centre, J.N. Hospital, Imphal |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 36. Surveillance Centre, Civil Hospital, Shillong |
| 16. | Mizoram | 37. Surveillance Centre, Civil Hospital, Aizwal |
| 17. | Nagaland | 38. Surveillance Centre, Naga Hospital, Kohima |
| | | 39. Surveillance Centre, District Hospital, Dimapur |
| 18. | Orissa | 40. Deptt. of Microbiology, S.C.B. Medical College, Cuttack |
| | | 41. Surveillance Centre, Regional Medical Research Centre, Bhubanshwar |
| 19. | Punjab | 42. Deptt. of Microbiology, Govt. Medical College, Amritsar |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 43. Deptt. of Microbiology, S.M.S. Hospital, Jaipur |
| 21. | Sikkim | 44. Surveillance Centre, S.T.N.M. Hospital, Gangtok |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 45. Deptt. of Microbiology Instt. of Child Health & Hospital for Children Madras |

1	2	3
		46. Deptt. of Microbiology Madurai Medical College, Madurai
		47. Surveillance Centre, Medical College, Chennai.
23.	Tripura	48. Surveillance Centre, District Hospital, Agartala
24.	Uttar Pradesh	49. Deptt. of Microbiology, K.G. Medical College, Lucknow
		50. Surveillance Centre, Central JALMA Instt. for Leprosy, Agra
		51. Deptt. of Microbiology Instt. of Medical Sciences, Varanasi
		52. Deptt. of Microbiology J.L.N. Medical College, Aligarh
		53. Surveillance Centre, Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad
25.	West Bengal	54. Surveillance Centre, National Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta.
26.	Delhi	55. Deptt. of Microbiology, Univeristy College of Medical Sciences, Shahdara, Delhi
		56. Deptt. of Microbiology, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi
		57. Surveillance Centre, Armed Forces Command Hospital, Delhi Cantt.
27.	A & N Islands	58. Surveillance Centre, G.B. Hospital Port Blair
28.	Chandigarh	59. Deptt. of Immunopathology, P.G.I., Chandigarh
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	
30.	Daman & Diu	
31.	Lakshdweep	60. Surveillance Centre, Govt. Hospital, Kavaratti
32.	Pondicherry	61. Surveillance Centre, Govt. General Hospital, Pondicherry
		62. Deptt. of Microbiology, JIPMER, Pondicherry

List of HIV Reference Centres

1. National Institute of Communicable Disease, Delhi
2. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
3. Indian Institute of Immunohematology, Bombay
4. National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases, Calcutta
5. School of Tropical Medicines, Calcutta
6. Madras Medical College, Chennai
7. National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune
8. Regional Medical College, Imphal
9. Christian Medical College, Vellore

The reference centres should be entrusted with the responsibility of carrying out confirmatory test. They should also be made responsible for diagnosis, quality control of HIV kits, guidelines for HIV testing, training in HIV testing and any other activity which may be necessary for standardization of HIV testing.

Statement-II*List of 69 Government Medical Colleges*

For establishment of "Blood Testing Centres"

1. Andhra Pradesh

- (i) Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada.
- (ii) Guntur Medical College, Guntur.
- (iii) Siddhastha Medical College, Vijayawada.
- (iv) Gandhi Medical College, Secunderabad.
- (v) Kakatiya Medical College, Warrangal.
- (vi) Kumool Medical College, Kumool.

2. Assam

- (i) Silchar Medical College, Silchar.
- (ii) Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh.

3. Bihar

- (i) Darbhanga Medical College, Lehena Sarai.
- (ii) S.K. Medical College, Muzzafarpur.
- (iii) Patna Medical College, Patna.
- (iv) Rajindra Medical College, Ranchi.
- (v) M.G.M. Medical College, Jamshedpur.
- (vi) Pataliputra Medical College, Dhanbad.
- (vii) Medical College, Bhagalpur.
- (viii) Magadh Medical College, Gaya.
- (ix) Nalanda Medical College, Patna.

4. Delhi

- (i) Sucheta Kriplani Medical College, Delhi.

5. Gujrat

- (i) Municipal Medical College, Ahmedabad.
- (ii) Medical College, Baroda.
- (iii) M.P. Shah Medical College, Jamnagar.
- (iv) Govt. Medical College, Surat.

6. Jammu & Kashmir

- (i) Govt. Medical College, Srinagar.

7. Karnataka

- (i) Mysore Medical College, Mysore.
- (ii) Karnataka Medical College, Hubli.
- (iii) Medical College, Bellary.
- (iv) Medical College, Mangalore.

8. Kerala

- (i) T.D. Medical College, Allepey.
- (ii) Medical College, Calicut.
- (iii) Medical College, Trichur.
- (iv) Medical College, Kottayam.

9. Madhya Pradesh

- (i) Govt. Medical College, Jabalpur.
- (ii) G.R. Medical College, Gwalior.
- (iii) M.G.M. Medical College, Indore.
- (iv) S.S. Medical College, Rewa.
- (v) Pt. J.L.N. Medical College, Raipur.

10. Maharashtra

- (i) T.N. Medical College, Bombay.
- (ii) L.T.M. Medical College, Bombay.
- (iii) Dr. V.M. Medical College, Sholapur.
- (iv) Govt. Medical College, Aurangabad.
- (v) S.R.T.R. Medical College, Ambajogai.
- (vi) Indira Gandhi Medical College, Nagpur.
- (vii) Govt. Medical College, Nanded.

11. Orisa

- (i) V.S.S. Medical College, Burla.
- (ii) M.K.C.G. Medical College, Berhampur.

12. Punjab

- (i) Medical College, Patiala.
- (ii) Medical College Faridkot.

13. Rajasthan

- (i) S.P. Medical College, Bikaner.
- (ii) R.N.T. Medical College, Udaipur.
- (iii) Dr. S.N. Medical College, Jodhpur.

(iv) J.L.N. Medical College, Ajmer.

(v) Medical College, Kota.

14. Tamil Nadu

- (i) Stanley Medical College, Madras.
- (ii) Kilpauk Medical College, Madras.
- (iii) Thanjazbur Medical College, Thanjazbur.
- (iv) Medical College, Coimbatore.
- (v) Tirunelveli Medical College, Tirunelveli.
- (vi) Medical College, Chingleput.

15. Uttar Pradesh

- (i) S.N. Medical College, Agra.
- (ii) M.L.N. Medical College, Allahabad.
- (iii) G.S.V.M. Medical College, Kapur.
- (iv) M.I.B. Medical College, Thansi.
- (v) B.R.D. Medical College, Gorakhpur.

16. West Bengal

- (i) Govt. Medical College, Calcutta.
- (ii) R.G. Kar Medical College, Calcutta.
- (iii) N.R.S. Medical College, Calcutta.
- (iv) National Medical College, Calcutta.
- (v) B.S. Medical College, Bankura.
- (vi) North Bangal Medical College, Siliguri.

[Translation]**Review of the Scheme of Scheduled Castes/
Scheduled Tribes**

4890. SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the schemes meant for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of expenditure made for the people of other section scheme-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The following Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes have been reviewed to make them more target oriented and effective:

1. Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan to Schedule Castes.
2. Equity Assistance to Scheduled Castes Development Corporations.
3. National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers & their Dependents.
4. Post-Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Castes and Schedule Tribes.
5. Pre-Matric Scholarship for the Children of those engaged in unclean occupations.
6. Hostels for Scheduled Castes Boys & Girls
7. Book Bank for 'Scheduled Castes and Schedules Tribes' students.
8. Coaching & Allied Scheme for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students.
9. Upgradation of Merit of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students.
10. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan.
11. Grants under First Proviso to article 275(1) of the Constitution.
12. Hostels for Scheduled Tribes Boys & Girls.
13. Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Area.
14. Vocational Training in Tribal Areas.

15. Educational Complex for Scheduled Tribes Girls in Low literacy pockets.

16. Assistance to State Tribal Development Cooperatative Development Corporations, Forest Development Corporations.

17. Scheme of Village Grain Banks.

18. Special Educational Development Programme for the Scheduled Castes Girls belonging to low literacy levels.

19. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations working for Scheduled Castes Development.

20. Assistance to Voluntary Organisations working for Tribal Development.

(c) (i) Under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers & their dependents the following expenditure was made for the Scavengers, flayers tanners etc.:

1996-97	Rs. 90 crores
1997-98	Rs. 90 crores

(ii) National Safai Karamchhari Finance & Development Corporation has been set up by the Government to promote economic development/Self-employment for the economic rehabilitation of safai karamchharis besides providing training in technical and entrepreneurial skills and extending loans to students from safai karamchharis for pursuing higher education. An amount of Rs. 4.75 crores was released as first instalment of equity capital fund to the Corporation for the year 1997-98.

(d) These schemes are implemented through the State Scheduled Castes Development Corporations, State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

[English]

TB Diseases in Women

4891. SHRI M. RAJIAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation has predicted that one million women will die by TB this year; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to control this disease efficiently in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, to control TB, the Government has introduced the Revised National TB Control Programme with World Bank assistance and the Revised strategy will be implemented in 102 districts of the country over the next 3 years, with objective of achieving a cure rate of 85% in these districts against the national average of 30%.

Revival of Sick Units

4892. SHRI ARJUN SETHI :
 SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :
 SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
 SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
 SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :
 SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA :
 SHRI M. RAJAIAH :
 DR. RAVI MALLU :
 SHRI MOINUL HASSAN :
 SHRI RAMACHANDRA MALLICK :
 SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
 SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
 DR. SAROJA V. :
 KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE :
 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
 SHRI ADITYANATH :
 SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :
 SHRI LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH :
 SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' :
 PROF. RITA VERMA :
 SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
 SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :
 SHRI INDERJIT SINGH RAO :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sick Chemicals and Fertilizers units in the country;

(b) whether there is any scheme under consideration of the Government to revive the performance of all the sick units of Chemicals and Fertilizers;

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

(d) the stage at which each of the projects is pending and the progress so far made in clearance thereof;

(e) the time by which these are likely to be revived and the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up a new plant in the premises of Gorakhpur Fertiliser plant; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (e) The desired information regarding the sick undertakings under the administrative control of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers is as under:—

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS & PETROCHEMICALS

Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL) :

IDPL has, at present, three manufacturing units located at Gurgaon (Haryana), Rishikesh (U.P.) and Hyderabad (A.P.); and two wholly owned subsidiaries located at Chennai (Tamilnadu) and Muzaffarpur (Bihar). The Company was formally declared sick on 12.8.92. A revival package prepared by the IDPL Management and vetted by the IDBI, Mumbai was approved by the BIFR on 10.2.94. As IDPL could not achieve the targetted levels of production, sales and profitability in the year 1994-95; the first year of its revival operations, the company suggested modifications in the package. The Government, therefore, decided to approach BIFR. BIFR, in turn appointed, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Mumbai as the Operating Agency for a techno-economic viability study for long-term rehabilitation measures for IDPL. Thereafter, various efforts have been made to finalise rehabilitation package for the company. On 1.6.98, IDPL submitted a new revival package with cut-off dates as on 30.9.98, 31.12.98 and 31.3.99. This package is under examination of the Government.

Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. (HAL) :

HAL is located at Pimpri, Pune, Maharashtra. HAL has been declared as a Sick Industrial Company by BIFR on 31.3.97 and IDBI was appointed as an Operating Agency to suggest measures for rehabilitations of the Company by BIFR. IDBI is preparing the rehabilitation scheme for the company which is in the advanced stage of finalisation.

Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (BCPL) :

BCPL has four manufacturing units; one each at Maniktala (Calcutta), Panihati (24 Paraganas of West Bengal), Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh) and Mumbai (Maharashtra).

The revival package approved by BIFR on 28.3.95 is being implemented by the company's management. The company has made gradual and steady progress in the last four years. It is on the path of recovery and progressing according to the BIFR sanctioned revival plan.

Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (SSPL) :

SSPL is located at Calcutta, West Bengal. BIFR formally declared SSPL as sick on 21.12.92 and sanctioned a revival scheme on 31.8.94. In a Review Meeting held on 3.7.96, BIFR noted that the performance of SSPL in 1994-95 and 1995-96 was far behind the targets. BIFR took a view that the progress of the company could be watched for some more time. BIFR directed that the projections for the year 1996-97 to 2003-2004 should be re-worked by the company. The revised projections worked out by SSPL and approved by the Board of Directors of the company were submitted to Operating Agency (IIBI) in April, 1997. The report of the Operating Agency received in August, 1997 indicates that SSPL is techno-economically non-viable and even after unprecedented levels of sacrifices and concessions, no viable revival prospects would emerge. The Operating Agency has, therefore, sought the views of the Government whether such unprecedented levels of reliefs/concessions would be agreeable to the Promoter. While the report of the Operating Agency is under examination in the Department, the Department asked SSPL to submit a feasible alternative proposal. SSPL has submitted a modified scheme to the Department on 28/30th May, 1998. This scheme has been prepared in association with Officers and employees of SSPL and is under examination of the Department.

Bengal Immunity Limited (BIL) :

BIL is located in Calcutta. It has two manufacturing units; one each at Baranagar (Calcutta) and Deharadun (Uttar Pradesh).

BIFR formally declared BIL as sick on 9.3.93 and sanctioned a rehabilitation scheme on 3.1.95.

BIFR took a review of the progress in the implementation of the sanctioned revival package in the hearing held on 11.1.96 at Calcutta. BIFR directed the

BIL management to prepare a prospective plan for the next five years. BIFR also directed BIL to get a manpower study conducted by a Professional Consultant/Organisation with a view to laying down work-norms and to determine optimum manpower. BIL entrusted the manpower-cum-productivity norms study to the West Bengal Productivity Council. The study report has been received by BIL. The perspective plan submitted to BIFR is lying with UBI for their observation/comments.

DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS**Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) :**

Its functional units are located at Barauni (Bihar), Durgapur (West Bengal) and Namrup-I, II & III (Assam). The company also owns an uncommissioned fertilizer project located at Haldia in West Bengal. The company was declared sick by BIFR on 12.11.92. The Government had approved the revamp of Namrup-I, II and III units of the company on 1.10.97 at an estimated fresh investment of Rs. 350 crore. The company has taken necessary steps for implementation of the Revamp Project which is likely to be completed by the year ending 2000. The proposals in respect of the remaining units of HFC, which are to be submitted to BIFR, will be finalised on considerations of unit-wise viability and tie-up of the funding arrangements.

Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) :

Its units are located at Sindri (Bihar), Ramagundam (Andhra Pradesh), Talcher (Orissa) and Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh). The company was declared sick by BIFR on 6.11.92. The proposals in respect of the various units of FCI, which are to be submitted to the BIFR, will be finalised on considerations of unit-wise viability and tie-up of the funding arrangements.

Projects and Development India Ltd. (PDIL) :

It is basically a design engineering and consultancy organisation having its divisions located at Sindri (Bihar), Baroda (Gujarat) and Head Office at Noida (U.P.). The company was declared sick by BIFR on 17.12.92. The rehabilitation scheme for PDIL was approved by the Government on 29.4.97 and sanctioned by BIFR on 1.7.97. The revival package has been put into implementation. The revival scheme envisaged the following reliefs :

- (i) Conversion of non-plan loan of Rs. 13 crore into 7% non-cumulative preference shares to be redeemed after 7 years.

- (ii) Write-off of accumulated interest/penal interest on GOI loans (upto 31.3.96) amounting to Rs. 44.99 crore.
- (iii) Interest holiday on GOI loans (Rs. 23.06 crore) for a period of two years from 1.4.96.
- (iv) Moratorium of repayment of GOI loan of Rs. 23.06 crore for a period of three years w.e.f. 1.4.96. This will be repaid in six equal annual instalments from 1999-2000.
- (v) Grant of Rs. 13.93 crore (upto 31.3.98) for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme to facilitate enbloc rationalisation of surplus manpower.

(f) and (g) Government has accorded first stage clearance to Krishak Bharti Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO) on 21.10.97 to set up a modern, standard ammonia/urea plant at Gorakhpur at an estimated cost of Rs. 1370.85 crore, using the existing infrastructure of the FCI plant. The detailed feasibility report of the project has been considered by the appraising agencies.

The proposal will be considered for investment approval as per the prescribed procedure after finalisation of the demand projections for 'N' nutrient in the terminal year of the Ninth Plan and the policy for capacity accretion, which is being reformulated in the light of the recommendations of the High Powered Fertilizers Pricing Policy Review Committee.

Fraud by Travel Agencies

4893. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several travel agencies in big cities are engaged in defrauding a large number of persons of their money on the pretext of getting them lucrative jobs in gulf countries;

(b) if so, the number of cases detected during the last three years;

(c) the details of agencies against which action has been taken;

(d) whether the Government propose to bring forward any legislation for foreign going labourers to regulate their recruitment and to look after the welfare of those labourers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Smuggling of Arms

4894. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether smuggling of explosive arms has been detected in Andaman Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to prevent the arms smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) In a combined Services operation conducted by the Army, Navy and Air Force and the Coast Guard in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on the 10th/11th February, 1998, 73 gun-runners, two gun boats and two trawlers containing arms and ammunition were captured. The Central Bureau of Investigation has been entrusted with the investigation of the case which is sub-judice. Similarly, on the 30th May, 1998, the Indian Navy with the support of Coast Guard intercept two trawlers and 26 persons alongwith some ammunition were apprehended. All the apprehended persons were handed over to the local police at Port Blair for interrogation.

(c) Proper vigilance is being maintained by the Armed Forces for preventing smuggling of arms in the North-Eastern region through Sea routes.

Recognition to Tamilnadu State Health and Family Welfare Society

4895. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any requests from the Government of Tamilnadu to recognise the Tamilnadu State Health and Family Welfare Society as the mother NGO to provide a proper system of sanction;

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

(c) whether the Government have also received any appeal from the Government of Tamilnadu to provide funds to the State for developing indigenous system of medicine for setting up of more Siddha, Ayurveda and Unāni clinics for leprosy and tuberculosis control schemes and creation of labour wards in the primary health centres; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to allow the registered Standing Committee on Voluntary Action Unit in the State to function as mother NGO subject to certain conditions.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Decontrol of Kerosene

4896. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to decontrol Kerosene; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL

SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Eradication of Epidemic Diseases

4897. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI. A.F. GOLAM OSMANI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of persons/children died in the country during 1998 due to infections, epidemic cancer, heart disease, kidney cancer and communicable diseases such as vomiting, dysentery, diarrhoea, measles, cholera, chicken-pox, gastro-enteritis and spurious drugs;

(b) if so, the number of persons/children affected and died with such diseases in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise, separately; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide necessary assistance to the State Governments to prevent such diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) Detailed country wide information in respect of these diseases are not available. However, in respect of measles and diarrhoea reports received from the states indicates that 635 deaths due to measles and 10964 deaths due to diarrhoea/gastro-enteritis and cholera had occurred in the country during the last 3 years. State-wise information is annexed at Statement.

(c) Health is a State subject and Central Government provides assistance to State/U.Ts. for control of diseases covered under National Health Programmes.

Statement**Reported Deaths due to Measles and Diarrhoea**

Sl.No.	State/UTs	1995		1996		1997	
		Measles	*Diarrhoea	Measles	*Diarrhoea	Measles	*Diarrhoea
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	572	10	476	8	146
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	10	3	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	—	—	NR	NR	NR	NR
4.	Bihar	—	—	NR	NR	NR	NR
5.	Goa	—	39	—	27	—	4
6.	Gujarat	28	131	37	81	25	50
7.	Haryana	6	106	2	72	—	46
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	83	—	40	—	33
9.	J & K	—	31	8	33	—	—
10.	Karnataka	8	277	3	256	4	355
11.	Kerla	1	13	—	110	2	35
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7	603	21	97	23	167
13.	Maharashtra	13	250	15	367	22	179
14.	Manipur	—	—	—	5	—	11
15.	Meghalaya	1	15	—	3	1	9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16.	Mizoram	1	13	—	13	—	5
17.	Nagaland	—	3	—	2	—	—
18.	Orissa	—	231	1	431	3	137
19.	Punjab	1	48	—	19	NR	NR
20.	Rajasthan	25	30	6	32	7	39
21.	Sikkim	—	—	NR	NR	NR	NR
22.	Tamil Nadu	4	62	6	281	—	55
23.	Tripura	—	68	—	25	—	14
24.	Uttar Pradesh	53	2047	82	671	37	110
25.	West Bengal	34	1790	NR	NR	NR	NR
26.	A. & N. Island	—	4	—	2	1	6
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	NR	NR	NR	31
28.	D. & N. Haveli	—	—	—	10	—	2
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Delhi	34	8	64	39	11	3
31.	Lakshdweep	—	—	—	6	—	5
32.	Pondicherry	—	14	—	10	—	15
Total :		236	6449	255	3048	144	1467

* Includes Gastro-enteritis and Cholera.

NR—Not reported.

[English]

Price of Medicine

4898. DR. SAROJA V. :
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have enhanced the prices of life saving drugs recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons and justification for such hike;

(c) the effect of such hikes on the poor people;

(d) whether there is a wide gap between the wholesale prices and retail prices of certain common medicines;

(e) if so, the reasons thereof;

(f) whether the controller of drugs and pharmaceuticals keeps a strict vigil in the production limit and the quality of their products; and

(g) if so, the number of cases of default registered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) :
(a) and (b) Life saving nature of the drugs depends upon a particular situation and circumstances. The OPCO, 95 does not make distinctions between life saving drugs and other drugs. Recently the NPPA has enhanced the price of a bulk drug, namely, the Pheniramine Maleate. The marginal change in the price of a bulk drug is warranted because of changes in the cost of inputs, changes in consumption norms and technology, etc.

(c) The diseases that primarily afflict poor are mostly covered under the National Programme for Health Care of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare where essential drugs are supplied free by the Government through State Governments.

(d) and (e) For scheduled drugs and formulations, the permissible margins are regulated under the provisions of DPCO, 1995. The retail prices of decontrolled drugs and formulations are fixed by the manufacturers. The prices as measured by the Whole-sale Price Index (base

1981-82-100), has increased by 18.86 per cent in respect of drugs and medicines in 1997-98 over 1994-95 as compared to 20.06 per cent increase for all commodities during the same period.

(f) Quality of production is controlled through licensing system administered by State Licensing Authorities under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act and the Rules thereunder.

(g) During the year 1995-96, 624 cases of prosecution were launched against the defaulting companies under the Drugs Cosmetic Act and Rules thereunder.

Quota of Wheat and Rice for BPL

4899. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of families below poverty line in Gujarat;

(b) whether the quota of wheat and rice has since been supplied to the State for the People Below Poverty Line from January, 1998 till date;

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

(d) whether this quota of wheat and rice is sufficient to meet the demand of the people of the State; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government to increase the quota?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) As per estimates of Planning Commission for 1993-94 based upon the methodology of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor constituted by Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of late Prof. Lakadwala, the percentage of population Below Poverty Line (BPL) in Gujarat is 24.21. Accordingly the number of BPL families is estimated to be 19.95 lakhs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The month-wise allocation for BPL families from January, 1998 to August, 1998 in Gujarat are as under :—

(In '000 Metric Tonnes)

Month	Wheat	Rice	Total
January	20.00	—	20.00
February	20.00	—	20.00
March	20.00	—	20.00
April	10.00	10.00	20.00
May	10.00	10.00	20.00
June	10.00	10.00	20.00
July	10.00	10.00	20.00
August	10.00	10.00	20.00

(d) Government of Gujarat have identified 34 lakh BPL families for which the quantum of foodgrains allocated above is not sufficient.

(e) Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) launched in June, 1997 the commitment of Government of India to make available especially subsidised foodgrains for BPL families is limited to the requirement of quantum of foodgrains @ 10 kg. per family per month based upon the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission. Any requirement over and above the quantum thus fixed has to be met by the State Government out of their own resources.

Super Bazar

4900. SHRI BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to blacklist the agency including Super Bazar and supplier that supply

goods to the Government Departments in case they charges unfair and unreasonable margin of profits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi the suppliers making supplies to the Super Bazar are registered after they are approved by their Purchase Committee. On receipt of complaints or other whenever the supplies are found to be of sub-standard quality or are at variance with the price quoted, such suppliers are black listed by the Purchases Committee of the Super Bazar, Delhi after proper verification. During the last five years the Purchase Committee of the Super Bazar has black listed six such suppliers. Three more cases have been taken up for investigation by the Vigilance Section of the Super Bazar with whom the Super Bazar has suspended further deals.

Regional Cancer Centre

4901. SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Regional Cancer Centres functioning at present in the country, location-wise;

(b) the number of cases of cancer reported during 1996-97 till date;

(c) the total amount sanctioned as grants-in-aid to each Regional Cancer Centre and voluntary organisations during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide medical facilities to the cancer patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) At present there are 12 Regional Cancer Centres in the country as listed below:

- (i) Cancer Institute, Adyar, Chennai;
- (ii) Tata Memorial Hospital, Bombay;
- (iii) Regional Cancer Centre, Trivandrum;
- (iv) Gujarat Cancer Society, Ahmedabad;

- (v) Kidwai Memorial Cancer Centre, Bangalore;
- (vi) Dr. B.B. Cancer Institute, Guwahati;
- (vii) MNJ Cancer Hospital, Hyderabad;
- (viii) Acharaya Harihar Regional Cancer Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment, Cuttack;
- (ix) Cancer Hospital and Research Instt., Gwalior;
- (x) Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital (AIIMS), New Delhi.
- (xi) Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad;
- (xii) Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Calcutta.

(b) No reliable Nation-wide data is available.

(c) Out of the 12 Regional Cancer Centres this Ministry provides funds to 10 Regional Cancer Centres

under the National Cancer Control Programme. The details of funds provided to 10 Regional Cancer Centres and Voluntary Organisations during the year 1996-97 and 1997-98 is at Statement.

(d) The following schemes have been identified for implementation under National Cancer Control Programme to reduce the incidence of cancer and its morbidity and mortality:

1. District Cancer Control Project.
2. Assistance to NGOs for undertaking health education and early detection activity.
3. Development of Oncology Wing in Medical Colleges/Hospitals.
4. Assistance for the purchase of Cobalt therapy unit.
5. Assistance to the Regional Cancer Research and Training Centres.

Statement

Statement showing the releases during the year 1996-97 and 1997-98 to Regional Cancer Centres and Voluntary Organisations

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1996-97	1997-98
Cancer Institute, Madras	50.00	82.50
Regional Cancer Centre, Trivandrum	50.00	75.00
Gujarat Cancer Society, Ahmedabad	50.00	75.00
Kidwai Memorial Cancer Centre, Bangalore	50.00	75.00
MNJ Cancer Hospital, Andhra Pradesh	50.00	75.00
Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer Centre for Research & Treatment, Cuttak	50.00	82.50
Cancer Hospital & Research Institute, Gwalior	50.00	75.00
Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital (AIIMS), N.D.	400.00	220.00
Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad	50.00	50.00
Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Calcutta.	150.00	150.00

Details of Voluntary Organisations

1996-97	(Rs. in lakhs)
1. P. Perichi Gounder Memorial Charitable Trust, Coimbatore	Rs. 5.00
2. Indore Cancer Foundation, Indore, Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 5.00
3. Indian Cancer Society, Delhi	Rs. 5.00
4. FJFM Hospital and Community Health Unit, Maharashtra	Rs. 5.00
5. Dharmshila Cancer Foundation & Research Centre, Delhi	Rs. 5.00
1997-98	
1. Cancer Society of Madhya Pradesh, Indore	Rs. 2.00
2. Cachar Cancer Hospital Society, Silchar, Assam	Rs. 2.00
3. Bharat Charitable Cancer Hospital & Instt. Mysore	Rs. 2.00

[Translation]

Family Planning Programmes

4902. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
SHRI S.S. OWAISI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :
SHRI N. DENNIS :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States having birth and death rates above the national average during the last two years;

(b) whether the country stood behind the progress in the family planning during 8th plan;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the name of the states lagging behind the target of implementation of Family Planning Programme;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the birth rate;

(f) whether the Government determined to take fresh initiatives to popularise the small family norms in the country;

(g) if so, the details of special programmes for the traditional groups formulated for the purpose;

(h) whether the Government plan to slow down the implementation of FPP in remote tribal areas; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) A statement giving the names of States & UT's having birth and death rates above national average as per Sample Registration System 1995 and 1996 is annexed.

(b) Although birth rate has declined in the country from 28.3 in 1995 to 27.5 in 1996 which is indicative of sizeable impact of Family Welfare Programme, as per Sample Registration System 1996 but the crude birth rate was 27.5 as against the target of 8th Plan of a crude birth rate of 26 at all India level.

(c) and (d) The national target of crude birth rate of 26 could not be achieved by the States of Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh among major States. The factors responsible for

tardy implementation of family welfare programme in these States are limited support by state leadership and community for the programme, slow progress in education particularly of women and weak accountability of field health functionaries for delivery of good results.

(e) to (g) The overriding objective guiding the Family Welfare Programmes continues to stabilise population of the country at a level consistent with the needs of national development. The system of Centrally determined method-specific targets for family planning has been dispensed with since April, 1996 in all the States/UTs. Immunization, Vitamin-A supplementation and Oral Rehydration Salt therapy will be sought to be provided to all needy children, maternity services including vaccination for Tetanus and treatment for anaemia will be provided to all women in reproductive age group and birth control facilities will be provided to desirous couples and they will be encouraged to use these more during IX Plan.

Statement

Statement showing names of States/UTs having birth and death rates above the national average during 1995 and 1996.

Year	Birth rate the national level	States/UTs with birth rate above national average	Death rate at the national level	States/UTs' with death rate above national average
1995	28.3	Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli	9.0	Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh
1996	27.5	Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli	9.0	Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli

The Reproductive and Child Health Programme (RCH), which is an integrated approach to the family welfare programme is being implemented in the Ninth Five Year Plan. The concept of RCH is to provide to the beneficiary need based, client centered, demand driven

and high quality services. This is being sought to be achieved by improving facilities for family welfare services under various specific programmes.

(h) and (i) No, Sir.

*[English]***LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps**

4903. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some petrol pumps and gas agencies allocated in Gujarat and other States during April 1991 to March 1998;

(b) if so, the details of such allotments, State-wise;

(c) whether these allotments were made under the rules and procedure; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Child Labour Laws

4904. SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments are sending periodic reports regarding implementation of child labour laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States where child labour laws are yet to be implemented alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the said laws in those States?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) (a) to (d) All the State Governments/Union Territories have an enforcement machinery to enforce child related provisions of the laws. As a part of the monitoring process, State Governments/Union Territories furnish periodical information of the Central Government on the implementation of the provisions of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act., 1986. As per available information, the enforcement figures under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 for the year

1996-97, 1997-98 are as follows:—

Year	Number of			
	Inspectiones	Violations	Prosecutions	Convictions
1996-97	35886	1868	458	18
1997-98 (Provisional)	13257	958	676	29

*[Translation]***Operational Cost and Production Capacity of Fertilizers**

4905. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the operational cost and production capacity of fertilizers industry in the country during the last month;

(b) if so, the details of projects and the allocation made for these projects;

(c) whether the cost of these projects has been rising continuously due to very less allocation; and

(d) if so, the details of additional funds demanded alongwith the funds made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) The production and financial performance of the Public Sector Undertakings and Cooperatives under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers were reviewed in a meeting of the Chief Executives held on 26.5.98.

(b) to (d) At present, only one major project of the undertaking under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers, namely, the Expansion Project of IFFCO's Kandla unit is under execution. The project which does not envisage any budgetary support for its execution, is likely to be commissioned on schedule without any cost overrun.

Growth Rate of Population

4906. SHRI MOHAN SINGH :
DR. RAVI MALLU :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) growth rate of the present percentage of population in the country and the extent of increase in the growth rate on compared to in the last decade;

(b) the total population of the country by the end of the present century and during the first decade of the next century on the basis of the current growth rate; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed by the Government to control the population growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Growth rate of population has actually substantially declined during the last decade. The annual growth rate of population measured in terms of natural growth rate was 1.85 per cent in 1996 compared to 2.15 in 1986.

(b) As per the Report of the Technical Group on Population Projection, constituted by the Planning Commission in August, 1996, the projected population at the national level, as on 1st July, 2000, 2001, 2006 and 2011 is projected to be as below:

Population (in '000) as on 1st July—India

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>
2000	1,002,142
2001	1,017,544
2006	1,099,995
2011	1,184,939

(c) The overriding objective guiding the Family Welfare programmes continue to stabilise population of the country at a level consistent with the needs of national, development. The system of Centrally determined method-specific targets for family planning has been dispensed with since April, 1996 in all the States/UTs. Immunization, Vitamin-A supplementation and Oral Rehydration Salt therapy will be sought to be provided to all needy children, maternity services including vaccination for Tetanus and treatment for anaemia will be provided to all women in reproductive age group and birth control facilities will be provided to desirous couples and they will be encouraged to use these more during IX Plan.

The Reproductive and Child Health Programme (RCH), which is an integrated approach to the family

welfare programme is being implemented in the Ninth Five Year Plan. The concept of RCH is to provide to the beneficiary need based, client centered, demand driven and high quality services. This is being sought to be achieved by improving facilities for family welfare services under various specific programmes.

[English]

National Fertilizer Limited

4907. SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of inquiries against the officials of National Fertilizers Ltd. are pending and loss incurred by the company thereby; and

(b) the action proposed to be taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) Seven departmental enquiries are pending against the officials of National Fertilizer Limited (NFL).

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has filed charge-sheets in three cases for prosecution of serving/retired officials of NFL. The CBI has also registered three regular cases for investigation into the criminal culpability of serving/retired officials of NFL.

As per the calculation made by NFL, the total amount involved in these cases is of the order of Rs. 143 crore.

In the absence of a final decision in these enquiries/cases, it is not possible to indicate the action to be taken against the officials concerned.

Bride Burning/Dowry Deaths

4908. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of bride burning and dowry death cases reported from March 1, 1997 to March 1, 1998;

(b) the number of persons arrested in such crimes;

(c) the number of cases out of them are under investigation;

(d) the number of cases in which the chargesheet have been submitted and the trial has already been over before the trial court;

(e) whether the Government propose to set up a special court for speedy dispensation of justice for these heinous offences; and

(f) if so, the time by which special court is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) 4215 cases of dowry death (section 304B IPC) and 494 cases of murder for dowry by burning (section 302 IPC) during the period March 1997 to February 1998 have been reported so far.

(b) to (d) The requisite information is not yet available with the Central Government.

(e) to (f) The Administration of Justice in District/ Subordinate Courts comes under the purview of the concerned State Governments/High Courts. It is for the concerned State Governments/High Courts to set up such courts according to their requirements.

Arrest of ISI Agents

4909. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ISI agents arrested for doing various anti-national and pro-terrorists activities in the country during the last three years;

(b) the number of ISI agents prosecuted/convicted and let off;

(c) the number of ISI agents still in jails in India facing trials or under-going imprisonment; and

(d) the number of terrorists sent back to Pakistan without proper trials or after trials?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) (a) 49 ISI agents have been arrested during last three years.

(b) to (d) The cases in which the ISI agents have been arrested are either under trial or under investigation.

Courts dealing with the Atrocities done on SCs/STs

4910. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for sanction of Rs. 647.95 lakhs for setting up of courts to deal with cases of atrocities with Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes exclusively;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Government of Andhra Pradesh had worked out tentative estimates of likely additional financial requirement of Rs. 647.95 lakhs for setting up of Exclusive Special Courts in every district to deal with cases of Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It was also requested that the Central Government may sanction this amount as a 100% Central Assistance.

(b) and (c) As the implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the Central Assistance is released to the States on matching basis of 50:50. The Central Assistance is released as and when the Government of Andhra Pradesh provides the required provision in their budget for this purpose.

Expenditure on MBBS and MD Students

4911. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred on each student of MBBS and MD in Government Medical Colleges by the Government;

(b) the share of the said expenditure realised from the students;

(c) the number of doctors migrated to other countries after completing their studies in Government Medical Colleges;

(d) whether the Government propose to make it mandatory for the doctors obtaining degrees from Government medical colleges to serve in rural and backward areas for a specific period;

(e) if not, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) As per study commissioned by the Medical Council of India, the cost of medical education per student ranges from Rs. 74,000 to Rs. 1.78 lakhs per annum at under-graduate level and Rs. 71,000 to Rs. 1.46 lakh per annum at post-graduate level in Government medical colleges. The fee being charged for these courses from the students is very nominal.

(c) The number of doctors in whose cases NOCs have been issued for going abroad for higher studies/residency/training during 1997 is 1529.

(d) to (f) The Central Council of Health and Family Welfare has resolved that rural posting for a specific period be made compulsory and a pre-requisite before admission to post-graduate courses.

Disturbed Areas

4912. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals/suggestions to bring Doda district and other higher reaches of the Jammu region under the Disturbed Areas Act to give adequate powers to the security forces to tackle terrorism and subversive activities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) No formal proposal has been received from the State Government in this regard, though a demand was raised for declaration of Doda district as disturbed area, during recent visit of Union Home Minister to State of Jammu & Kashmir.

A view in this regard would be taken on receipt of comments/views of various agencies including State Government.

[*Translation*]

Naxalite Activities

4913. SHRI BALIRAM KASHYAP : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the states affected by naxalite activities in the country;

(b) the details of such naxalite organisations alongwith the States and districts where they are active;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to inadequate police force these naxalites harass the villagers on the one hand and on the other police also harass the innocent villagers to get clue about naxalites;

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to check such incident of harassments; and

(e) the time by which a final steps are likely to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) The States affected by Naxalite activities are Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa.

(b) Names and areas of operation of major organisations involved in extremism in various parts of the country are given in the table below:—

Name of Naxalite group	Area of operation
1	2
1. CPML-People's War Group	Parts of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
2. CMPL-Vinod Mishra	Parts of Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, West Bengal, Tripura, Assam and Uttar Pradesh.
3. Communist Organisation of India (Marxist-Leninist)	Parts of West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Rajasthan.

1	2
4. Central Organising Committee CMPL-Party Unity.	Parts of Bihar, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh.
5. Maoist Communist Centre	Parts of Bihar and West Bengal.
6. CMPL-Santosh Rana (Bhaiji)	Parts of Bihar and West Bengal.
7. CMPL-CP-Reddy-PB	Andhra Pradesh.
8. CPML-CPR-KR	Parts of Bihar and West Bengal.
9. CPML-Santosh Rana	Parts of Assam, Tripura, West Bengal, Bihar and Delhi.
10. CRC-CPML	Parts of West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The naxalites are reported to be harassing the villagers by way of extortions etc. and on suspicion of their being informers. The police, however, have to conduct investigations to control naxalite activities, during which the objective is to seek information and not to harass the villagers.

(d) and (e) "Public Order" and "Police" being state subjects, it is for the concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps in this regard. At the Central level, action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-naxalite operations of different

States and to improve flow of information useful for control of naxalite activities among the States. Further, help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, deployment of para-military forces etc. In certain special circumstances, financial assistance has also been given to some of the affected States over and above the on-going allocation for modernisation of police and supply of weapons.

Oil Refineries

4914. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the loss suffered by Digboi Oil Refinery due to fire in Assam;

(b) the names of other refineries which caught fire alongwith the amount of loss suffered during the last three years;

(c) the names of oil refineries lying closed fully or partially due to fire incidents; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed to be taken to save the oil refineries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The loss suffered by Digboi Refinery in recent fire incident at Wax Extraction Unit on 9.1.98 is Rs. 1186 lakhs.

(b) The loss suffered due to fire incident at various refineries during the last three years i.e. 1995 to 1997 is as under:

Name of Refinery	Loss (Rs./lakhs)		
	1995	1996	1997
1	2	3	4
IOC			
Digboi	—	6.00	—
Barauni	—	88.42	3.58

1	2	3	4
Gujarat	333.00	—	14.00
Haldia	4.74	—	13.65
Mathura	—	19.53	—
BPC	50.00	—	—
HPC Vishakh	—	251.00	9700.00
CRL	—	9.98	3.87
MRL	600.00	26.00	—
BRPL	6.5	31.12	—

(c) Presently no refinery is lying closed due to fire.

(d) All major incidents are investigated by appropriate authorities and the findings are shared with all oil industry members so as to take necessary preventive measures. System of Internal as well as External Audit for Off-site facilities and new units (prior to commissioning) in refineries have been introduced so as to identify areas for improvements.

[English]

Indian Reserve Battalions

4915. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Reserve Battalions were raised by the States, State-wise; and

(b) the conditions and norms laid down for permitting these battalions to be raised by the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Under the scheme approved by Govt. in 1993, 28 India Reserve Battalions were raised as per

details given below:—

Name of State	No. of Battalions
1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	4
2. Assam	4
3. Arunachal Pradesh	2
4. Himachal Pradesh	1
5. Jammu & Kashmir	2
6. Mizoram	1
7. Manipur	2

1	2
8. Meghalaya	1
9. Punjab	5
10. Rajasthan	2
11. Sikkim	1
12. Tripura	2
13. Lakshadweep (Union Territory)	1

(b) No norms or conditions are laid down for raising of these Bns. as such. The request of States to raise IR Bns. is considered keeping in mind the law and order needs and availability of resources.

Indians in Pakistani Jails

4916. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Pakistani nationals released and sent back to Pakistan during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of Indians are languishing in Pakistani jails; and

(c) if so, the steps taken for their repatriation?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) According to the available information, 234 Pakistani nationals were released and sent back to Pakistan since 1995.

(b) According to the available information, 1368 Indian nationals are under detention in Pakistani jails.

(c) The issue of release and repatriation of Indian prisoners under detention in Pakistan has been repeatedly

taken up with Government of Pakistan. After high level meetings between the two countries, it was decided in 1997 that concerned authorities of both countries would expedite the release of civilian prisoners belonging to either side. Government of India has been making continuous efforts for the early release and repatriation of Indian prisoners under detention in Pakistan. Since 1991, 740 Indian prisoners have been released and repatriated from Pakistan to India.

[Translation]

Procurement Centres in Bihar

4917. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of procurement of paddy, rice and wheat in Bihar during each of the last three years and till March, 1998;

(b) the number of procurement centres opened and the expenditure incurred thereon during the said period location-wise;

(c) the extent of surplus foodgrains in the States at present; and

(d) the schemes formulated for future procurement of foodgrains in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Quantities of paddy, rice and wheat procured in Bihar are as under:

(in lakh tonnes)

Marketing	Paddy	Rice	Wheat
Season			
1995-96	Neg.	Nil	Neg.
1996-97	Neg.	Nil	Nil
1997-98	0.25	0.06	Neg.
1998-99	—	—	Neg.

(Neg. : Below 500 tonnes)

(b) The number of procurement centres opened for procuring paddy and wheat in Bihar are given below:—

Marketing Season	for Paddy	for Wheat
1995-96	10	11
1996-97	72	11
1997-98	100	11
1998-99	Season not yet commenced	30

Expenditure of Rs. 1,87,784.15, Rs. 12,22,136/- and Rs. 18,33,008/- approximately were incurred towards opening of purchase centres during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively.

(c) and (d) Bihar is basically not a surplus State in foodgrains production. However, public procuring agencies undertake procurement of wheat and paddy in Bihar under price support scheme to extend the benefits of support prices to the farmers and to avoid chances of distress sale.

[English]

Supply of Foodgrains by FCI

4918. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India have taken any steps to manage the supply of wheat and other foodgrains without creating artificial shortages and also to maintain stability in prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several organisations like PHDCCI/FICCI have also drawn the attention towards such steps;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Food Corporation of India (FCI) maintains foodgrains stocks as per buffer norms prescribed by the Government of India, and the stocks of wheat and rice held with FCI on Central Pool A/c as on 1st April, 1998 are as follows:—

(Figures in Million Tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice
Buffer norms as on 1st April, 98	3.70	10.80
Stocks held on Central Pool A/c. 1.4.1998	5.08	13.05

Food Corporation of India supplies wheat and rice to the States/UTs as per the monthly allocation made by the Government of India and the details of allocation and lifting during the year 1997-98 under the Public Distribution System (PDS) are as under:—

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Year	Wheat		Rice	
	Allotment	Lifting	Allotment	Lifting
1997-98	99.24	69.39	126.56	97.65

The State/UT-wise details of allotment and lifting of wheat and rice during the above said period are given in a statement enclosed.

It would be seen from the above that there is no scarcity of foodgrains (wheat and rice) in the Central Pool.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Allotment (A) and Offtake (O) for Rice and Wheat from the Central Pool during April, 1997 to March, 1998 (Provisional)

(Prepared on 29.6.1998)

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Rice		Wheat	
		A	O	A	O
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2309.00	2000.07	183.00	125.29
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	107.86	89.31	7.11	5.76
3.	Assam	590.85	438.31	323.08	193.94
4.	Bihar	489.80	156.31	788.40	513.74
5.	Delhi	174.30	100.34	661.47	532.02
6.	Goa	76.80	51.95	32.30	27.10
7.	Gujarat	308.00	178.75	741.65	519.31
8.	Haryana	5.00	4.10	178.55	98.44
9.	Himachal Pradesh	134.99	90.07	131.02	115.66
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	430.76	296.56	290.59	167.74
11.	Karnataka	1024.52	833.94	260.00	248.84
12.	Kerala	1827.36	1607.38	389.04	370.93
13.	Madhya Pradesh	463.50	297.27	584.90	308.91
14.	Maharashtra	678.40	562.37	1251.80	987.43

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Manipur	101.40	45.19	25.66	27.61
16.	Meghalaya	199.28	152.89	26.54	28.70
17.	Mizoram	106.21	95.05	16.94	17.70
18.	Nagaland	108.97	92.22	28.73	29.24
19.	Orissa	715.40	550.84	299.00	207.19
20.	Punjab	12.60	1.82	91.30	14.18
21.	Rajasthan	56.86	4.17	901.30	451.44
22.	Sikkim	77.38	52.05	5.68	5.32
23.	Tamil Nadu	1359.71	1261.92	244.60	124.48
24.	Tripura	167.33	153.49	17.96	14.49
25.	Uttar Pradesh	521.59	320.98	1214.82	867.20
26.	West Bengal	536.90	315.98	1193.20	927.66
27.	A & N Islands	30.00	0.20	9.00	0.10
28.	Chandigarh	2.94	2.08	17.58	5.27
29.	D & N Haveli	4.95	2.78	1.98	1.32
30.	Daman & Diu	4.38	3.34	1.50	0.69
31.	Lakshadweep	8.70	3.11	0.50	0.89
32.	Pondicherry	20.14	0.00	4.82	0.00
Total		12655.88	9764.84	9924.02	6938.59

Construction of Primary Health Centres

4919. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of some Primary Health Centres has not been completed by Andhra Pradesh due to shortage of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have provided funds of Andhra Pradesh for construction and completion of project of PHC during 1997-98;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to further the completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 1317 Primary Health Centres in the State, 695 have their own buildings and the remaining 622 Primary Health Centres do not have their own buildings.

(c) and (d) During 1997-98 the funds for construction of buildings for Primary Health Centres were available to State Government earmarked under the Basic Minimum Services Sector in the State plan. A total amount of Rs. 390 lakhs was provided in the budget for construction of buildings for Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres.

(e) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has a programme to complete the construction of incomplete buildings of Primary Health Centres by 31.3.2004, under the proposed Economic Restructuring Programme with World Bank aid.

Development Scheme for Border Area

4920. SHRI NEPAL CHANDRA DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand for inclusion of whole of Karimganj District of Assam in the Inter-state Border area Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent in Karimganj district of Assam under this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) The Government of Assam requested for inclusion of the Whole of Karimganj District under the Border Area Development Programme. As the spatial unit for this programme is the block and at present only four blocks of Karimganj district have an international border with Bangladesh, the request was not agreed to.

(c) Funds under the programme are allocated to the State of Assam as a whole and further spatial and schematic allocation is done by the State Level Screening Committee headed by the Chief Secretary. No details are therefore available.

[Translation]

ILO Conference

4921. SHRI VIJAY GOEL Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of discussion on 'Child Labour' in the International Labour Conference held at Geneva recently;

(b) the approach of our country on this issue;

(c) whether other countries had also supported the view point of India in this conference; and

(d) if so, the conclusions drawn from that conference?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) The Committee on Child Labour set up by the International Labour Conference in its 86th Session considered proposed conclusions with a view to adopting a Convention and Recommendation for adopting new standards on extreme forms of child labour. Most Governments were in favour of the proposed instruments and there was unanimity on elimination of extreme forms of child labour. However, while representatives of developed countries felt that it should be eliminated immediately, representatives of developing countries, including India, felt that it can be progressively eliminated looking to the ground realities.

*[English]***Para Military Forces**

4922. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of death of Personnel of Para Military Forces have been brought to the notice of Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of cases of family Pension, employment on compassionate grounds to their dependents and other financial benefits have been finalised by the Government; and

(c) the number of cases pending in regard to employment on compassionate grounds indicating the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Number of cases finalised by the Government are as under:—

(i) Family pension and other financial benefits.	2418
(ii) Appointment on compassionate grounds to the dependents	674
(c) Total number of pending cases	569

Reasons:—

- (1) As per instructions of DOP&T, only 5% vacancies against direct recruitment quota in Group C & D posts can be filled up under compassionate appointments.
- (2) Dispute about actual Next of Kin, plural marriage, Court cases, succession certificates or non-availability of vacancy in the trade in which employment can be provided.

*[Translation]***Increase in Naxalite Activities**

4923. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether naxalite activities have been increasing in Jahanabad and surrounding areas resulting in incidents of carange during the last two years;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to provide para-military force and additional financial assistance to the Government of Bihar to counter naxalites;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) The activities of left wing extremists as well as of various Senas have resulted in an increase in the number of killings in Jehanabad and surrounding areas. This has been a cause of concern to the Central Government. The Central Government has been providing Central para-military forces to the State to tackle the problem. The Central Government has also been providing financial assistance to the State under its Scheme of Modernisation of State Police Forces. The assistance extended to the State under this Scheme during the last two years was Rs. 11.00 crores approximately. It may be mentioned that a sum of Rs. 69.00 crores is also available to the State for upgradation of its police force as recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission.

*[English]***Action against LTTE**

4924. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to take effective steps against LTTE in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the way of handling them thereof; and

(c) the time by which the steps are likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The Central and State Governments are taking coordinated action to prevent any illegal activities by Sri Lankan militants in Tamil Nadu. Considering that Tamil Nadu has a long coastline, elaborate arrangements have been made for preventing possible infiltration. State Government has intensified security arrangements along the coastline by setting up armed check posts as well as mobile patrols. Apart from

these measures, the Palk Bay is kept under continuous surveillance by the Navy and Coast Guard.

The Central Government declared the LTTE as an unlawful association on 14.5.1998. This has strengthened the hands of the State and Central Governments in containing the activities of LTTE.

Royalty on Crude Oil

4925. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rates of royalty on crude oil is due for revision w.e.f. 1.4.1996;

(b) whether the rates were revised earlier by the Central Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the rates are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) After considering the recommendations of the Eswaran Committee and discussions with the concerned State Governments, the rate of royalty on crude oil was last fixed at Rs. 481 per metric tonne for the period 1.4.1990 to 31.3.1993 in February, 1993. For the period 1.4.1993 to 31.3.1996, an 'on account' payment @ Rs. 528 per metric tonne towards royalty on crude oil was made subject to adjustment on notification of the final rate of royalty and finalisation of crude price in due course. This 'on account' rate of royalty has been increased to Rs. 578 per metric tonne with effect from 1.4.1996.

For the three year period (1993-94 to 1995-96), the actual weighted average cost of production is being audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General and the final rate of royalty will be notified on this basis and necessary adjustments made against the 'on account' payments already made.

[Translation]

Purchase of Medicines by M.S.D.

4926. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of CGHS beneficiaries registered at medical store depot;

(b) whether Medical Store Depot can indent medicines on local purchase;

(c) if so, the reasons for such purchases and for whom these Local Purchase indents were made;

(d) the total expenditure incurred on such purchases during 1997-98;

(e) the policy of the Government for such purchases;

(f) whether the purchases made by Incharge Medical Store Depot is legal;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) As per the present procedure, CGHS beneficiaries are not registered at the CGHS Medical Store Depot (MSD).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The medicines are procured from the authorised chemists to ensure timely supply of the same to the CGHS beneficiaries besides avoiding inconvenience, if any, caused to them.

(d) For CGHS, Delhi—Rs. 27,51,94,002

For CGHS outside Delhi—the information is being collected and would be laid on the table of the House.

(e) As in (c) above.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. All the purchases made the Medical Store Depot are legal.

(h) In view of (f) above, the question does not arise.

[English]

Tribal Belt

4927. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any committee has been formed for declaring Tribal Belt?

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether tribals are now called *van vassi*; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

HIV Cases

4928. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of HIV infected persons in the country, State-wise;

(b) the measures taken by the Government in reducing its spread by other than allopathic means;

(c) whether the Government have undertaken any study on the impact of Indian medicines (Ayurveda) and homoeopathic medicines on the infected persons;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) State-wise details of HIV infected persons are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) To promote and encourage research on drugs for cure of AIDS in Indian System of Medicines including Homoeopathy, Indian Council of Medical Research has set up an expert group to critically examine the proposal on research under the various systems of medicines other than Allopathic. ICMR has also established facilities for testing of anti-retroviral properties of some drugs of traditional medicines in the Indian System. Central Council of Research in Homoeopathy is conducting trials to test immuno-moduler properties on various Homoeopathic drugs of Management of AIDS cases. The outcome of these studies is still awaited.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise details of HIV Infected Persons

S. No.	Name	Screened	Positive	Sero Positivity Rate (per thousand)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	74152	698	9.41
2.	Assam	12717	173	13.60
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	495	0	0.00
4.	Andaman & Nicobar	13026	108	8.29
5.	Bihar	9420	32	3.40

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Chandigarh (U.T.)	55812	196	3.51
7.	Punjab	1488	65	43.68
8.	Delhi	317457	1282	4.04
9.	Daman & Diu (U.T.)	250	8	32.00
10.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	160	1	6.25
11.	Goa	65346	1709	26.15
12.	Gujarat	433595	1226	2.83
13.	Haryana	150237	373	2.48
14.	Himachal Pradesh	3651	92	6.64
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	8981	40	4.45
16.	Karnataka	387403	3905	10.08
17.	Kerala	44547	215	4.83
18.	Lakshadweep (U.T.)	755	7	9.27
19.	Madhya Pradesh	93758	561	5.98
20.	Maharashtra	414306	45171	109.03
21.	Orissa	82995	213	2.56
22.	Nagaland	8548	429	50.187

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Manipur	29975	5327	177.71
24.	Mizoram	31329	103	3.29
25.	Meghalaya	14153	59	4.17
26.	Pondicherry	82184	2832	34.46
27.	Rajasthan	22055	406	18.41
28.	Sikkim	491	4	8.15
29.	Tamilnadu	703708	10931	15.53
30.	Tripura	5613	4	0.71
31.	Uttar Pradesh	96663	1066	11.03
32.	West Bengal	163950	645	3.93
		3329420	77881	23.39

**DANIDA Grants to Karnataka
for Health Projects**

4929. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Danish Kroner grants-in-aid for Health Projects in Karnataka has been freezed; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to find out alternative assistance from other sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Issue Price of Sugar and Essential Commodities

4930. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
SHRI RAJBANSHI MAHTO :
SHRI K.P. NAIDU :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to raise the issue price of sugar and other commodities under the Public Distribution System;

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

(c) whether any representations has been received by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (d) The matter is under consideration.

Capacity of Sugar Mills in Uttar Pradesh

4931. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh to whom permission has been given to increase their capacity during 1996-97, 1997-98, mill-wise; and

(b) the number of sugar mills out of them have increased their capacity, mill-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Statement showing the letters of intent issued to sugar mills for increasing their crushing capacity during the sugar years i.e. 1996-97, and 1997-98 (October-September) is enclosed.

Out of these, M/s Dwarikesh Sugar Industries Ltd. Bundki, Distt. Bijnor have complete their expansion from 2500 TCD to 5000 TCD.

Statement

The Letters of Intent issued to Sugar Mills for increasing their Crushing Capacity during the Sugar Years 1996-97 & 1997-98 (October-September) (As on 31.5.98)

Sl. No.	Name of the Factory	Expansion Range	
		From	To
		Tonnes cane crushing per day (T.C.D.)	
1	2	3	4
1.	Swadeshi Mining & Manufacturing Company Ltd., Anand Nagar, Distt. Maharajganj.	1219	2500
2.	The Simbhaoli Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd. Simbhaoli, Distt. Ghaziabad.	5000	10000
3.	The Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd., Dhampur, Distt. Bijnor.	9000	10000
4.	The Mahalaxmi Sugar Mills Co. Ltd., Iqbalpur, Distt. Haridwar.	3000	10000
5.	Mansurpur Sugar Mills Ltd. Mansurpur, Distt, Muzaffar Nagar.	2500	5000
6.	The Kanoria Sugar & General Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Captainganj, Distt. Pdrauna.	3000	5000

1	2	3	4
7.	The Balrampur Chini Mills Ltd., Babhnan, Distt. Gonda.	3500	5500
8.	Dwarikesh Sugar Industries Ltd., Bundki, Distt. Bijnor.	2500	5000
9.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit Shahganj, Distt. Jaunpur.	1016	2500
10.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd. Maliaha, Distt. Meefut.	1219	2500
11.	Saraya Sugar Mills (P) Ltd., Sardar Nagar, Distt. Gorakhpur.	3200	8000
12.	The Bazpur Coop. Sugar Factory Ltd., Bazpur, Distt. Nainital.	4000	5000
13.	Gangeshwar Ltd., Unit-Ramkola, Distt. Deoria.	2500	5000
14.	The Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd., Hargaon, Distt. Sitapur.	5000	10000
15.	DSM Agro Products Ltd., Unit DSM Sugar Kashipur, Kashipur, Distt. Nainital.	2500	5000
16.	J.K. Industries Ltd., Meeraganj, Distt. Bareilly.	2500	5000
17.	Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd., Padrauna, Distt. Padrauna.	2400	3500
18.	Monnet Industries Ltd., Un, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar.	2500	5000
19.	The Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd., Asmoli, Distt. Moradabad.	2500	5000
20.	The Kisan Sahkari Chini Mills Ltd., Sathiaon, Distt. Azamgarh.	1250	2500

1	2	3	4
21.	Shakumbari Sugar & Allied Industries Ltd. Todarpur (Raghar) Distt. Saharanpur.	2500	5000
22.	Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd., (Unit-Ramgarh Chini Mills), Ramgarh, Distt, Sitapur.	2500	5000
23.	Modi Industries Ltd., Modi Nagar, Distt. Ghaziabad.	2500	5000

*[Translation]***Fertilisers to Farmers**

4932. SHRI PUNNULAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made proper arrangement for providing fertilisers to farmers before the sowing of the Kharif crops;

(b) whether irregularities and blackmarketing of fertilisers has been noticed; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to curb such irregularities and blackmarketing prior to monsoon season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) Urea is the only fertilizer under price, distribution and movement control. For kharif '98. Statewise demand for ureas has been assessed and arrangements made for its supply as per the requirement of States both from the indigenous sources and imports. As all other fertilizers have been decontrolled, their availability is regulated by the market forces of demand and supply operating within the parameters of Concession Scheme of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.

(b) No reports of irregularities or blackmarketing of fertilizers have been received so far from any of the States during the current season.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Scholarships to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Candidates**

4933. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the date for the schemes of scholarship to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes student at Secondary and Graduation level introduced by the Government and the amount of annual scholarship fixed;

(b) the actual amount of annual scholarship being paid to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe students at present under the scholarship scheme;

(c) whether the amount of scholarship paid by the Government is equal in all the States and the Union Territory; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT: (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The Centrally sponsored Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which was introduced by Government of India in 1944 for Scheduled Castes and extended to Scheduled Tribes in 1948, had first revision of maintenance allowance rates in 1954 which were fixed at Rs. 27/- per month for day scholars and Rs. 40/- per month for hostellers for undergraduate courses and Rs. 60/- per month for day scholars and Rs. 75/- per month for hostellers in professional degree courses in Engineering and Medicine.

(b) The existing monthly maintenance allowance rates under the Scheme are effective from 1.10.1995, the details of which are given below:—

(In Rupees)

Course of Study	Monthly Maintenance	
	Allowance Hostellers	Rate Day Scholars
Group 'A' (Graduate and Post graduate level professional Courses in Medicine, Engineering Agriculture, Veterinary and Fisheries).	425	190
Group 'B' (Diploma in professional disciplines, Post Graduate courses in science subjects)	290	190
Group 'C' (Certificate courses in professional disciplines, Post Graduate courses in Arts and Commerce subjects)	290	190
Group 'D' (General graduate Level course—2nd year onwards)	230	120
Group 'E' (+2 courses and 1st year of general graduate level courses)	150	90

(c) The above maintenance allowance rates under the Scheme are uniformly applicable to all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

(d) Does not arise.

Subsidy to Fertilizer Units

4934. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy paid to the fertilizer producing units during the last three years;

(b) whether the subsidy on these indigenous units being computed and retention prices of fertilizers producing units being fixed;

(c) whether adequate mechanism is available with the Government to verify cost data for production of fertilizers furnished by these units and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether maintenance of cost records by fertilizers units is obligatory under the company law;

(e) whether irregular and avoidable excess subsidy was paid to the fertilizer units in advance by assuming that certain amount of income tax would be paid by them;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government ascertained actual tax paid by the fertilizer units; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) Details of subsidy paid on indigenously manufactured controlled fertilizers during the last three years are as under:

Year	Rs. in Crore
1995-96	4300.00
1996-97	4743.00
1997-98	6600.00

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Scrutiny of cost data submitted by fertilizer units is done by the Cost Evaluation Division of the Office of Fertilizer Industry Coordination Committee, which is manned by officers drawn from the Indian Cost Accounts Service.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) to (h) Under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme, a post tax return of 12% is allowed on the networth of the unit on a normative basis by taking into account the prevailing rate of corporate tax. The computation of return on networth based on a notional tax liability is in consonance with the practice followed by other expert pricing bodies, such as the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices and the Cost Accounts Branch of Ministry of Finance.

Implementation of Dharamveer Committee

4935. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement Dharamveer Committee report on Police reforms;

(b) the main recommendations of the Dharamveer Committee on Police reforms; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) National Police Commission submitted 8 Reports during 1979 to 1981. The first report was considered at a conference of Chief Ministers held at New Delhi in June, 1979 and was laid on the Table of the House on 1.2.1980. The other 7 Reports of the

Commission were also forwarded to all State Governments/UT Administrations for consideration and appropriate action, and laid on the Table of the House on 30.3.1983.

2. 'Police' being a State subject, it is primarily for the State Governments to implement the recommendations of the National Police Commission. The Central Government have been requesting them to ensure expeditious action on the implementation of these recommendations.

3. Recommendation in these reports, which concern the Central Government, have also been identified. In case of those recommendations accepted, action has been taken. Some points, especially those where amendments to existing laws are required, are at various stages of implementation.

4. Pursuant to the directions of the Supreme Court issued on 6.5.98 a High Powered Committee headed by Shri J.F. Ribeiro has been constituted on 25.5.98 to review the recommendations of the National Police Commission and to suggest ways and means for implementation of the pending recommendations. The constitution of the Committee and its terms of reference were reviewed by the Supreme Court on 14.7.1998 and are again listed for further consideration by the Hon'ble Court on 22.7.1998.

Industrial Disputes Act, 1947

4936. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether for breach of the terms of an Award of Industrial Tribunal penal action is prescribed under Section 29 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947;

(b) if so, whether a Public Sector Undertaking/Government Department being Industry is covered by such provisions of the said Act;

(c) if so, the number of cases where breaches, consequential action and prosecution launched against officials of the Public Sector Undertakings/Government Department by the Ministry of Labour during the last four years;

(d) whether such breaches have been taken in All India Radio/Doordarshan also being Industry;

(e) if so, the details of the prosecutions launched breaches of the terms of the Awards announced during the last ten years; and

(f) if not, the full details and justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Penal provisions are prescribed under Section 29 of the I.D. Act, 1947 for breach of settlement or award.

(b) A Public Sector Undertaking/Government Deptt. being an industry is covered under Section 29 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

(c) During the last four years, i.e. 1994-97, 22 prosecutions were sanctioned against Public Sector for breach of Award/Settlement. No prosecution has been launched against Govt. Departments.

(d) to (f) A complaint of non-implementation of Award of CGIT, Kanpur in reference No. 87 of 1990 relating to reinstatement of a workman with back wages, was received against Doordarshan Kendra, Lucknow. As per records available no prosecution has been launched against All India Radio and Doordarshan for non-implementation of Award under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 from 1992.

Construction Labour Act

4937. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :
SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the rules for implementing the Construction Labour Act;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay;

(c) whether the rules are likely to be notified;

(d) whether the State Governments will prepare separate rules to implement the law in their respective States; and

(e) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Rules, 1998 have been notified on 26.3.1998. The Building & Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service (Central) Rules, 1998 have also been drafted.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The State Governments are not required to prepare separate Rules under the Cess Act. However, under the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, the State Government are required to make the Rules.

C.G.H.S. facilities to Public Sector Officer

4938. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the CGHS facilities to retired public sector officers, senior citizens and the general public;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The CGHS is primarily intended only for Central Govt. employees/pensioners who draw their salary/pension from civil estimates.

Due to constraints of resources, it is not possible for the CGHS to extend its facilities to non-entitled categories. Moreover, health is a State subject.

ESI Dispensaries

4939. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI DINSHAW PATEL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether ESI dispensaries/hospitals are functioning in all the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of people benefited during the last three years, dispensary-wise;

(d) whether any request from any State has been received for opening of new ESI hospitals/dispensaries;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken to accede to their request?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) There are 127 ESI Hospitals & 1443 dispensaries functioning in 22 States/Union Territories.

(c) As on 31.3.97, there were 77.31 lakh employees and their families eligible for medical care being provided in the ESI dispensaries. As number of the dispensaries is quite large, it is somewhat difficult to give details of the persons who actually benefitted dispensary-wise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) There are proposals for construction of new ESI Hospitals at Peenaya and Bamasandra in Karnataka, Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh and Ferozabad in Uttar Pradesh. There is also a proposal for conversion of 225 bed ESI Chest Diseases Hospital at Naroda, Gujarat into a 300 bed General Hospital with a separate block for T.B. Beds. The Corporation has also received proposals for opening new ESI Dispensaries at Kumarmangalam in Kerala and at Nitravillai, Edaicode, Kuzhiturai and Sivakasi in Tamil Nadu. New ESI hospitals/dispensaries are set up generally on the basis of need. Accordingly the ESIC is already taking necessary action in the matter keeping in view the norms/guidelines prescribed by the Corporation.

Supply of Diesel to Farmers

4940. SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI :
SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to supply diesel/petrol to the farmers at concessional rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any date regarding consumption of diesel/petrol by farmers;

(d) if so, the quantum of Diesel/petrol sanctioned and consumed by farmers during each of the last three years; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal.

(c) to (e) At the time of effecting sales at Retail Outlets, no record is kept of the intended end use of the product. To assess the profile of users of Petrol (MS) and Diesel (HSD) through retail outlets (RO), market study was conducted by IMRB in 1991. Based on the percentage sales for Tractors/Pumpsets/Tillers/Thrashers from ROs and direct sales for agriculture operations, the estimated quantity of sale of Diesel and Petrol for Agriculture for the last three years in accordance with the norms provided by above agency is as under:

(Figures in thousand tonnes)

	HSD	MS
1995-96	5762	1
1996-97	5851	1
1997-98	6002	1

[Translation]

Consumer Organisations

4941. SHRI SHILENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of consumer organisations in the country at present State-wise;

(b) whether these organisations are unable to function due to being neglected by the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide assistance for active participation of these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) As per the latest information available, there are 1332 consumer organisations in the country. The State-wise number of consumer organisations is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Central Government provide financial assistance to the voluntary consumer organisations from the Consumer Welfare Fund to undertake consumer protection activities.

Statement*No. of VCOs functioning in States/UTs*

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	At the end of June
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	322
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	8
4.	Bihar	30
5.	Gujarat	123
6.	Goa	5
7.	Haryana	16
8.	Himachal Pradesh	9
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6
10.	Karnataka	78
11.	Kerala	60
12.	Madhya Pradesh	71
13.	Maharashtra	70

1	2	3
14.	Manipur	3
15.	Meghalaya	6
16.	Mizoram	2
17.	Nagaland	3
18.	Orissa	46
19.	Punjab	51
20.	Rajasthan	79
21.	Sikkim	3
22.	Tamil Nadu	160
23.	Tripura	5
24.	Uttar Pradesh	103
25.	West Bengal	19
26.	A & N Islands	1
27.	Chandigarh Admn.	6
28.	D & N Haveli	Nil
29.	Delhi	25
30.	Daman & Diu	1
31.	Lakshadweep	2
32.	Pondicherry	18
		1332

[English]

Welfare Schemes

4942. ER. SHANKAR PANNU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of voluntary organisations getting financial assistance from Union Government to implement child and other welfare schemes during the last three years, scheme-wise; and

(b) the extent to which these welfare schemes have been implemented in Rajasthan as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) There are over 133 welfare schemes with various Ministries/Departments/Agencies of the Government of India which could involve large number of NGOs. Government is implementing two schemes for the benefit of Child Labour viz., National Child Labour Projects and Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations. Under the National Child Labour Projects (which are implemented with the help of voluntary organisations), 2 Projects have been set up in the districts of Udaipur and Jaipur in the State of Rajasthan, for the rehabilitation of 3000 working children.

Cheating by Non-Banking Financial Companies

4943. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Police department is not well-equipped to deal efficiently with the complaints of investors being cheated by non-banking financial companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Numerous complaints of cheating by non-banking financial companies were being received by the Delhi Police. Taking these into account, an Economic Offences Wing was set up in Delhi Police in 1994 to investigate such white-collar crimes.

Revision of Pay Scale

4944. SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pay and allowances of employees of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited and Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. has not been revised since 1987?

(b) if so, the reason thereof; and

(c) the time by which the pay scales of those employees are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (c) The pay and allowances of the employees of Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation Ltd. (HFC) and Fertiliser Corporation of India (FCI) were last revised in 1987. These companies were declared sick by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in November, 1992 under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985. The revision of pay and other allowances of non unionised employees of sick companies has to await the final decision of the BIFR on their rehabilitation. HFC and FCI have not been able to undertake the wage revision of unionised workers as these companies are unable to meet the additional financial liability through their internal generation and ensure that there is no increase in labour cost per unit of output.

In the absence of a final decision on the rehabilitation of HFC and FCI, no specific time frame for the revision of pay and allowances of the employees of these companies can be indicated at this stage.

World Bank Aided Health Schemes

4945. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes in the health sector for which loan has been sanctioned to Tamil Nadu by the World Bank during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of expenditure to be incurred on each of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) National Disease Control Programmes are being implemented by the Deptt. of Health in Tamil Nadu for T.B., Leprosy, AIDS and Cataract induced Blindness with World Bank Assistance and the year-wise details of allocation of funds/expenditure incurred

on these scheme during the last 3 years is given below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1995-96		1996-97		1997-98		Total	
	Allocation.	Exp.	Allocation	Exp.	Allocation	Exp.	All.	Exp.
Leprosy:								
State Govt.	114.00	114.00	114.00	114.00	117.00	117.00	345.00	345.00
Distt. Societies.	91.00	118.26	287.30	124.37*	Nil	Nil	378.3	242.63
(*Reported by 12 districts so far)								
AIDS	650.00	679.73	1700.00	1306.99	2000.0	1681.71	4350	3661.53
T.B.							59.23 (1996-98)	3.46
Blindness								
(Funds released to Tamil Nadu)								
State Govt.	306.3		106.5		443.6		856.4	
Distt. Societies	90.0		108.0		225.0		423.0	

Status of Cabinet Ministers

4946. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :
SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have granted status of Cabinet Minister to the Chairman of the National Minorities Commission and provide adequate staff; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Setting up of Kidney Medical Centre by NRIs Doctors

4947. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Non-resident Indian Doctors for setting up an ultra-modern kidney medical centre in the capital;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal;

(c) the number of persons likely to be benefited from setting up of the said medical centre;

JULY 21, 1998

211 Written Answers

(d) whether the Government have cleared the said proposal;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which this proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Custodial Deaths

4948. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of custodial deaths, including deaths caused by harassment and ill-treatment during each of the last three years till date, State/UT-wise;

(b) the number of cases in which the police was involved for such deaths;

(c) the number of persons/officials punished, State/UT-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposal to be taken by the Union Government to bring reforms in the investigation process and use of third degree methods to extract confessions?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Available information in regard to deaths in Police custody and Judicial custody is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Details about individual cases are not maintained at the Central level.

(d) This Ministry has issued guidelines to the State Governments to ensure that the police forces conduct themselves in a humane manner and that alleged cases of police excesses, if any, are taken serious note of and dealt with promptly and firmly. This Ministry has also advised the State Governments to scrupulously follow the directions of the Supreme Court on arrest and detention as contained in its judgement dated 18.12.1996 in Writ Petition CRL. No. 539 of 1986—Shri D.K. Basu V/s. State of West Bengal.

Statement

Custodial Deaths

S. No.	Names of the States/ Union Territories	PC 1995-96	JC	PC 1996-97	JC	PC 1997-98	JC	PC 01.04.98 to 30.06.98	JC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	45	27	70	21	52	02	22
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	02	—	02	02	02	—
3.	Assam	07	15	13	12	14	20	03	08
4.	Bihar	08	67	14	79	09	110	03	46

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	Goa	—	—	02	—	—	03	01	—
6.	Gujarat	15	04	18	32	15	04	01	20
7.	Haryana	04	05	02	07	03	08	—	03
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	01	01	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	15	—	04	—	02	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	03	10	08	28	06	35	—	04
11.	Kerala	02	02	06	09	06	29	—	04
12.	Madhya Pradesh	02	07	08	07	18	43	—	23
13.	Maharashtra	09	25	21	180	19	115	—	23
14.	Manipur	04	—	01	—	01	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	03	—	10	02	—	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	02	—	—	—	01	—	—
17.	Nagaland	02	—	02	01	01	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	02	08	03	10	04	19	—	22
19.	Punjab	08	06	05	12	11	26	—	15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20.	Rajasthan	06	11	05	25	06	11	—	15
21.	Sikkim	01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	04	01	03	18	11	55	—	11
23.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	03	—	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	13	24	32	139	16	169	—	75
25.	West Bengal	14	37	06	42	10	43	—	11
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	01
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Delhi	07	33	05	19	12	29	—	02
31.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	01	—	—	—
Total		136	308	188	700	193	819	42	305

PC—Police Custody

JC—Judicial Custody

Seizure of Chemical Weapons

4949. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKARA REDDY :
SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any chemical weapons have been seized recently in the Kashmir Valley and North-Eastern and various other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details, thereof;

(c) the types of foreign weapons seized at those places during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Major types of weapons seized during the last three years are—AK series rifles, Pistols/revolvers, Carbines, UMGs, RPGs, LMGs/SLRs, Sniper rifles, Grenade launchers, Rocket launchers etc.

(d) Sustained efforts are being made by the Security Forces to contain the smuggling of weapons etc. from across the borders.

[*Translation*]

Health Services at the Doors to the Rural Masses

4950. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum on 20th March, 1998 from various Panchayats, Sarpanchs, chief medical officers and several Public Health Care Organisations to provide health services at the doors of the rural masses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir. A memorandum was received from Akhil Bhartiya Jan Swasthya Rakshak Sangathan, Delhi.

(b) The main demands in the memorandum are:

(i) To restore the supply of medicine Kits to Village Health Guides.

(ii) To increase the amount of honorarium.

(iii) To pay the pending honorarium in some states including Haryana.

(iv) To issue the identity cards to Village Health Guides.

(v) To recruit the Village Health Guide from the family of the deceased Village Health Guide.

(c) and (d) The Government has constituted an expert committee to look into various aspects of the Village Health Guide Scheme. The Committee is in the process of visiting various State Govts. to assess the usefulness of the Village Health Guide Scheme. Further action on the matter will be taken once the Committee submits its report. The Akhil Bhartiya Jan Swasthya Rakshak Sangathan has already been kept informed of this development.

[*English*]

Policy on Medicine Waste in Delhi

4951. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI S.S. OWAIISI :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that daily waste from hospitals is being recycled and sold in Delhi and other metropolitan cities in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any policy/scheme for the disposal of hospital wastes/medical waste management in the country;

- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the policy/scheme is being implemented in all the States/Union Territories effectively;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, State-wise;
- (f) whether it is likely to be a major health hazard due to lack of proper management of medical waste;
- (g) if so, the details thereof;
- (h) whether the State Government have demanded Central assistance for the implementation of these schemes/policies;
- (i) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (j) if not, the time by which a policy/scheme is likely to be formulated or any instructions/guidelines are likely to be issued to the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) The existing Policy on Hospital Waste Management advocates the establishment of infection control, and Waste Management Committees to be set up in all Hospitals in the public and private sectors, to devise procedures and systems for proper waste disposal. The need for adopting cost-effective measures for Hospital Waste Management, to evaluate technical options, training requirements and creation of awareness and motivation of Staff have also been recognised. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has since issued the draft Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1997 on 16.10.97, inviting objections and suggestions from the public. The rules *inter-alia* prescribe the procedure, and specify the responsibility for handling Bio-Medical Waste. These rules will be implemented in States/Union Territories through appropriate authorities after final notification. The improper management of Bio-Medical Waste may likely pose major health hazardous in various forms. The infectious waste may spread various diseases.

- (h) No such request has been received.
- (i) Does not arise.

(j) The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been addressed in March, 1997 to take urgent steps to construct and install incinerators of alternative method for disposal of hospital wastes in all the hospitals under their control. While installing the incinerators, the standards and guidelines for Hospital Waste Management prepared by Central Pollution Control Board may also be kept in view.

LPG Lines

4952. SHRI K.S. RAO :
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINCH :

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

- (a) the present position of the project for supplying cooking gas through pipelines to house holds in Delhi;
- (b) the reasons for delay in implementing the project;
- (c) whether the Government have received a proposal from Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) to form a joint venture with one of the Oil Companies for gas distribution project in Delhi;
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating categories of consumers and the areas in Delhi to be covered by the project, the cost and the benefits to be accrued to the consumers; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) GAIL has already implemented the pilot project for supplying natural gas to about 1200 domestic and industrial consumers in areas of Bapa Nagar, Kaka Nagar and Pandara Park in Delhi. Further extension of this scheme has been taken up.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) GAIL has proposed formation of Joint Venture Company with BPCL to implement the gas distribution project in Delhi. The Project at an estimated cost of Rs. 537 crores will cover domestic, commercial and automobile sectors in various parts of the National Capital Region of Delhi. Once implemented, the consumers will have continuous supply of cooking gas.

(e) The Government has approved the formation of the Joint Venture Company.

the comparative figures of wage structure of organised industrial workers in India with other Asian countries and in the developed countries of the world?

Wages Structure of Organised Sector

4953. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA :
SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : A statement showing the comparative figures of wages of organised industrial workers in India with other Asian countries and in the developed countries of the world is annexed.

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

Statement

This table shows Average Wages per worker in manufacturing as a whole and by a major industry group or division in india, other Asian and Developed Countries

	Currency	Period	1995
Asian Countries			
India	Rupees	Monthly	1211.00
Pakistan	Rupees	Monthly	1501.00 (1993)
Srilanka	Rupees	Daily	145.35
China	Yuan	Monthly	430.75
Hong Kong	Dollars	Daily	278.00
Japan	Yen	Monthly	371356.00 (1993)
Malaysia	Ringgit	Monthly	928.00 (1994)
Singapore	Dollars	Monthly	2157.30
Republic of Korea	Won	Monthly	1123.90
Thailand	Baht	Monthly	5000.00
Developed Countries			
Australia	Dollars	hours	15.59
Canada	Dollars	hours	16.20
France	Francs	hours	50.63 (1993)
Germany	Mark	hours	25.48
UK	Pound	hours	7.85
USA	Dollars	hours	12.37

Note—Source: Year Book Labour Statistics, 1997 of I.L.O.

—Combined figure of men and women.

—Information is not available in respect of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal.

[Translation]

Waiting List for Pathological Tests in Hospital

4954. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Aspatal Mein Sadharan Test Ke Liye Mahino Intijar Karo". Sarkari Aspataloan Mein Had Darge Kei Laparwahi or Davooan kee Janch Subidhaoan Kar Abhav" and "Sarkari Aspatalon Mein Mariij Maut Ka Intijar Karanej Jaten Hai" appeared in 'The Navbharat Times' on June 4, 1998, June 8, 1998 and June 10, 1998 respectively;

(b) if so, the reasons for negligence in tests, scarcity of medicines and callous behaviour of hospital staff towards patients; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide necessary medical facilities to the O.P.D. and indoor patients and the remedial measures to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The hospital authorities are required to ensure smooth functioning and proper maintenance of the equipments, adequate supply of medicines and also to see that the staff in courteous to the patients. Alternative arrangements are made by the hospitals to get the pathological and other tests done from other Deptts./Emergency Deptt. in the same hospital. All the admitted patients are given free medicines as per the hospital formulary and tests are done on priority to minimise the hospital stay so as to make available beds for another needy patients. Regular monitoring of the functional status of equipments is being undertaken.

Funds for Sacrifice Cows

4955. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI:
SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISHRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds are being mobilised from foreign countries to sacrifice cows in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have ordered any probe so far into this matter;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No Such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Eradication of Leptospirosis in Gujarat

4956. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Leptospirosis, a rodent borne disease is prevalent in some parts of Gujarat;

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

(c) the measures taken by the Central and the State Government to eradicate the disease from the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Govt. of Gujarat and National Institute of Communicable Diseases have reported that the total No. of cases of Leptospirosis in Valsad and Surat Districts were 448 and 209 respectively during 1997.

(c) Under National Disease Surveillance programme of Central Govt; Surat, Mahsana and Banaskantha Districts have been selected in Gujarat, and Rs. 33.75 lakhs have been released for strengthening of Laboratory Facilities to check the incidence of these cases. The National institute of Communicable Diseases is working as a Nodal Agency in giving guidance for prevention and control of Leptospirosis. It also assists in Training Programme for medical personnel at State and District levels.

The following steps have been taken by the State Government:

1. Strengthening of surveillance activities for early detection of cases and prompt treatment to avoid serious forms and to reduce mortality.
2. Creation of treatment facilities at the local level hospitals for proper case management.
3. Training Workshop for all medical persons, particularly Medical Officers and Superintendents of Hospitals, Professors of Medical Colleges of Vadodara and Surat alongwith District Agriculture officers and Veterinary officers was arranged.
4. Ten days training of paediatricians, Physicians and Supdts of the Hospital was conducted at Kidney Institute, Ahmedabad for treatment of cases at Distt. and Sub-distt. level hospitals.
5. State level inter-sectoral coordination meeting was held, and action plans for State and Distts. were prepared for prevention and control of Leptospirosis.
6. State Govt. have also carried out house to house survey, in two Districts during the epidemic season.
7. Rodent control activities have also been initiated as per the State Government's action plan.
8. Dissemination of Health Education Material has been undertaken and Health Camps have been organised.

Women Prisoner in Tihar Jail

4957. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI :
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the observations made by the National Human Rights Commission regarding safety and the condition of women prisoners in jails particularly in Tihar Jail;

(b) the number of women prisoners in Tihar Jail till date; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of women prisoners?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Chapter III (D) of the Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission for the year 1996-97 contain *inter-alia* recommendations/observations of the Commission relating to the condition of women who were held in jail. The Annual Report of the Commission has been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 9.6.98.

(b) There are 348 women prisoners lodged in female ward of Tihar jail as on date;

(c) Since 'Prison' is a State subject as per Entry 4, List-II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, it is primarily for the State Governments to deal with any matter relating to the administration of prisons according to their rules, regulations, and Jail Manuals. The Government of India, however, provides financial assistance under the Scheme of Modernisation of Prison Administration to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in improving prison infrastructure and living conditions of prisoners and to provide medical facilities in Jails. Besides, the Tenth Finance Commission has also recommended financial assistance to the State Governments for repair and renovation of old prison buildings and for providing medical facilities in Jails.

Irregularities in CGHS Dispensaries

4958. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints against CGHS dispensaries functioning in Delhi/ New Delhi;

(b) whether the attention of the Government has also been drawn to the various irregularities like time of opening of dispensaries, punctuality of staff, inadequate and untimely supply of medicines, indifferent attitude of medical staff towards patients, non-availability of essential medicines in the dispensaries, red-tapism and complicated procedure in re-imburement and many more;

(c) if so, the details thereof, dispensary-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A few complaints have been received from time to time allegedly not adopting prescribed time in opening/closing of dispensaries, not maintaining punctuality by staff members, inadequate and untimely supply of medicines, indifferent behaviour and attitude of medical and para-medical staff, non-availability of essential medicines, delay and procedural complications in medical reimbursement, etc.

(c) The information may be seen in the statement attached.

(d) The complaints received are duly examined and appropriate action taken in accordance with the rules to avoid inconvenience to the CGHS beneficiaries. Periodical inspections are undertaken by supervisory Officers to ensure punctuality, availability of medicines and proper behaviour of staff. For simplifying the procedure of reimbursement of medical expenses, a computer network has been installed in the CGHS Headquarters to regulate and monitor the medical reimbursement claims of CGHS beneficiaries which helps in faster disposal of the claims.

Statement

(c) The details of CGHS dispensaries of Delhi/New Delhi against whom complaints have been received are as under:—

- (I) Late opening of CGHS dispensaries/units.
- (i) Physiotherapy Centre, Kidwai Nagar,
 - (ii) R.K. Puram, Sector-IV,
 - (iii) Sadiq Nagar,
 - (iv) R.K. Puram (Ayurveda), Sector-XII.
 - (v) Yamuna Vihar
 - (vi) Naraina (Unani)
 - (viii) Ghaziabad
- (II) Inadequate and untimely supply of medicines.
- (i) Andrews Ganj
 - (ii) Laxmibai Nagar

(iii) Naraina

(iv) Gurgaon

(v) Janakpuri

(III) Punctuality of staff.

(i) Kalkaji-II.

(IV) Indifferent attitude of medical staff.

(i) Laxmibai Nagar.

(ii) R.K. Puram (Ayurveda), Sector-XII.

(iii) R.K. Puram, Sector-VI.

Special Consultation on Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital

4959. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to open consultation chamber in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital for providing special consultation in Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic therapy; and

(b) if so, the time by which this facility is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) A consultation chamber of Unani System of Medicine has been opened in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital as part of the research activities of the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine. Similarly, consultation chambers one each have been opened in Ayurveda and Homoeopathy in the Safdarjung Hospital as part of the research activities of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha and Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy respectively.

[Translation]

Vacancy in KRIBHCO

4960. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies filled up in Krishak Bharati Co-operative (KRIBHCO) during the last eight months, category-wise;

(b) the details of criteria adopted for filling up the vacancies;

(c) the details of the rules framed for promotion in KRIBHCO;

(d) whether the said rules are followed while making promotions; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) The category-wise details of vacancies filled by Krishak Bharati Co-operative Ltd. (KRIBHCO) in the last eight months are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The eligibility criteria for filling for these categories of posts are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) to (e) As per the Promotion Policy of KRIBHCO which is duly approved by its Board of Directors, promotions are made on the recommendations of the Departmental Promotion Committee which evaluates the candidates taking into account their competence, experience, performance, seniority. According to KRIBHCO, this policy is being adhered to.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Category of Posts	Number of vacancies filled.
1.	Asstt. Engineer	12
2.	Junior Manager	01
3.	Asstt. Operator/Technician	35
4.	Accounts Assistant	07
5.	Steno-Typist	05
6.	Assistant (Personnel)	01
7.	Assistant (Marketing)	01
8.	Typist	03
9.	Driver Grade V	01
10.	Grinder	01
11.	Junior Attendant	03
Total		70

Statement-II

(Specified eligibility criteria)

Sl. No.	Category of post	Minimum educational qualification	Maximum age limit	Experience/training required
1.	Asstt. Engineer	B.E.	27	1-1/2 years training in KRIBHCO
2.	Junior Manager (Cooperative Relations)	Graduate + M.B.A. (Cooperation)	27	one year training in KRIBHCO.
3.	Asstt. Operator/Technician	B.Sc./Diploma in Engineering	25	Two years' training in KRIBHCO.
4.	Accounts Asstt.	B.Com.	30	One year training.
5.	Steno Typist	Graduate + Profeciency in trade.	30	Three years' experience.
6.	Asstt. (Personnel)	Graduate + M.B.A./M.S.W.	25	One year training.
7.	Asstt. (Marketing)	Graduate	30	One year experience.
8.	Typist	Graduate + Profeciency in trade	30	Two years' experience.
9.	Driver	Matriculate + Heavy duty licence.	30	Five years' experience.
10.	Grinder	10th pass-preferably ITI pass	35	Five years' experience.
11.	Jr. Attendent	Preferably Matriculate	30	Experience not required.

*[English]***Persons killed due to Terrorism**

4961. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed due to terrorism during the last two months, State/UT-wise; and

(b) the details of financial assistance given by the Union Government to the victims families?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) According to information available upto May, 1998, the details of persons killed due to terrorism during the months of April and May, 1998, are as under:—

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of persons killed due to terrorism	
		April, 1998	May, 1998
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	86	90
2.	Assam	31	46
3.	Manipur	4	12
4.	Mizoram	1	—
5.	Tripura	8	10
6.	Nagaland	16	—

(b) Affected States provide relief to families of terrorist victims.

Coverage of Orissa under CGHS

4962. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa is covered under the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS);

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to cover Orissa under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT

EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (c) According to the policy of the Government, the CGHS facilities are first to be extended to the State Capitals of the country which fulfil the norms of a minimum of population of 7,500 Central Government employees/pensioners, subject to availability of resources. Due to resource constraints, even the State Capital cities of the country which fulfil the norms could not be covered under CGHS.

The CGHS dispensary at Bhubaneshwar is exclusively meant for the employees of AG's office and all the expenditure on this dispensary is borne by the office of the AG at Bhubaneshwar.

Functioning of Tribunals

4963. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Tribunals functioning in Assam under the Illegal Migrants De-limitation by Tribunals Act to identify and deport infiltrators and illegal migrants;

(b) the number of infiltrators deported from Assam since the enactment of the said IMDT Act;

(c) whether the Union Government have decided to do away with this Act; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) 16 Tribunals are functioning in Assam under Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983.

(b) 1452 illegal migrants have so far been deported till 31st May, 1998 from Assam under the IMDT Act, 1983.

(c) and (d) The proposal for repeal of IMDT Act, 1983 is under consideration of Government.

Welfare Schemes in U.P.

4964. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :
SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount incurred on Welfare schemes related to the upliftment of SCs/STs/Widows/Handicapped and people belonging to the minorities in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the backward and most backward classes under welfare schemes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of people/families benefited during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The total amount of expenditure incurred by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on schemes/programmes related to SCs/

STs/Handicapped/Minorities in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years is as follows:—

	(Rs. in crore)
1995-96	125.07
1996-97	147.11
1997-98	152.59

(b) and (c) No such categorisation is adopted in implementing the schemes/programmes related to SCs/STs/Handicapped/Minorities.

(d) Data in this regard is not maintained for all the schemes/programmes.

Killing of Senior Citizens

4965. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of senior citizens killed in National Capital Territory of Delhi during the last one year;

(b) whether it is a fact that Delhi Police is as brutal as it used to be thirty years ago;

(c) if so, whether the lower police staff of the Capital undergo periodic mental stress and normalcy tests as is done in Scotland Yard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) During the last one year (i.e. from 1.7.97 to 30.6.98), four senior citizens were allegedly murdered in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(b) to (d) The Government have been laying adequate emphasis on sensitising the police personnel and to infuse in them basic human values. Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR & D) has conducted a series of seminars/workshops on human rights, in collaboration with State Police Forces and Central Police Organisations. For the long-term, BPR&D has incorporated inputs on Human Rights and a Code of Conduct in the induction as well as in-service training courses designed for different levels viz., Constables to IPS officers.

However, there is no practice of subjecting the police personnel to periodic mental stress and normalcy tests.

Agitation by Bodo Militants

4966. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Bodo militants have been agitating since long;
- (b) if so, whether they have recently explode bomb blasts and cut-off rails routes; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Bodo militants have been indulging in violence for few years now.

(b) Bodo militants exploded bombs last month in an attempt to disrupt rail traffic in certain areas of Assam.

(c) Central Government is closely monitoring the situation. Security of rail and road bridges, rail tracks have been tightened and intensive patrolling and static guard arrangements have been made both on the North and South Bank of Brahmaputra. Additional units of para military forces and army have been inducted in areas affected. Central Government has also restarted the process of dialogue with moderate Bodo groups to resolve the various outstanding issues so that normalcy is restored.

Displaced people of Manipur

4967. KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are about one lakh twelve thousand displaced people of Manipur due to crisis in the hills;
- (b) if so, the details indicating the places of their shelter; and
- (c) the measures taken for their relief and rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) A large number of persons have been displaced due to Naga-Kuki and Kuki-Zomi ethnic conflicts in the Manipur Hills. These people are taking shelter in various areas within Manipur where their tribes are in a majority and also in camps set up in Mizoram.

(c) Central Government has been providing financial assistance to the States for maintenance of the refugees. A sum of Rs. 73.95 lakhs has been released to Government of Manipur for payment of ex-gratia to the victims of ethnic clashes. Government of Mizoram has so far been provided a sum of Rs. 127.33 lakhs for the purpose.

[*Translation*]

Eating of Poisonous Rice

4968. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Bassi chawal khane se Anathalaya ke bachche beemar" appearing in *Rashtriya Sahara* dated 7 June, 1998.
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to appoint a Doctor in each orphanage of Delhi for making proper arrangements for the food and health test;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for preventing such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) It has been reported by the Government of NCT of Delhi that as reported by the Secretary, Arya Bal Grah, Darya Ganj, 95 children were admitted in two hospitals after complaint of stomach pains and vomiting on 6.6.98. Children consumed stale rice alongwith boiled fried grams and sweet lemon and immediately the vomitus of some effected children were sent by Lok Nayak Jaiprakash Hospital for clinical examinations and to ascertain the cause which led to stomach disorder. These children were admitted on 6.6.98 and discharged by 8.6.98.

- (c) As reported by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, there is no proposal so far.
- (d) Question does not arise in view of (c).
- (e) As reported by the Govt. of NCT Delhi, all the institutions licensed by NCT of Delhi under the provision

of "Women and Children Licencing Act" have been issued necessary instruction for adequate precautions to take safeguard against occurrence of such incidents in future.

[English]

Custodial Death in Maharashtra

4969. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "overcrowd jails causing untimely death" appeared in *Times of India* dated May 5, 1998;

(b) whether investigation made by National Human Rights Commission reveals a serious problem of overcrowding in the State-jails;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to bring improvement in jails?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During its visit to States and discussions with the concerned State authorities, the National Human Rights Commission has observed that overcrowding in jails, caused largely because of the vast number of under-trials, creates conditions grossly at variance with the demands of human dignity.

(d) Though 'Prisons' is a State subject according to the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, the Central Government has been stressing upon the State Governments the need to take steps to improve the Criminal Justice System so as to reduce the number of under-trials. The Central Government has also been extending financial assistance to the State Governments under its Scheme of Modernisation of Prison Administration to improve prison infrastructure and living conditions in jails. Besides, the Tenth Finance Commission has also recommended financial assistance to the State Governments for repair and renovation of jail buildings and for providing medical facilities in jails.

Deletion of Rule 2(ee) (iii) from the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945

4970. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Rule 2(ee) (iii) in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945;

(b) whether the Government have decided to delete the said Rules from the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the extent to which this would affect the Health Programme;

(e) whether the patients can be treated and cured by use of any single medical system (pathy);

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (g) Rule 2(ee) (iii) of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 define a Registered Medical Practitioner as one registered in a medical register (other than a register for the registration of Homoeopathic practitioners) of a State, who is declared by a general or special order made by the State Government in this behalf as a person practising the modern scientific system of medicine for the purpose of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

Consequent upon the judgement delivered by the Rajasthan High Court declaring Rule 2(ee) (iii) as ultra vires of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act 1940, the Central Government issued a Gazette notification on 29.1.97 inviting public comments on the proposed deletion of the above Rule 2(ee) (iii) from the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

Cyclone affected Petroleum Industries

4971. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil, Reliance Petroleum, Essar Petroleum industries were affected by cyclone in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the estimated loss suffered by each company;

(c) whether any Central aid has been granted to them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be resumed its commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) All the terminals of the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., viz., Main Terminal, Force-shore Terminal, KBPL Terminal and LPG Terminal, were affected by the cyclone in Gujarat.

No information is available on Reliance Petroleum Ltd. and Essar Oil Ltd. which are private sector companies.

(b) It has been tentatively assessed that the loss suffered by the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. is of the order of Rs. 15 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Product receipts at Kandla by shifts resumed on 18.6.1998. Tank truck loading from Kandla terminals resumed on 11.6.1998. Tank wagon loading at Kandla resumed on 24.6.1998. Product pumping into Kandla-Bhatinda Pipeline resumed on 22.6.1998.

Import receipts and regular tank wagon/tank truck loading operations are likely to be started by mid-August, 1998.

Freedom Fighter Pension

4972. SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fraud cases has been noticed for freedom fighter's pension, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the action taken by the Government to check such false cases;

(c) whether freedom fighter's pension scheme is open even now for the freedom fighters who have not applied earlier;

(d) if so, whether such scheme is still being implemented; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. On the basis of complaints and inquiries several instances have come to light where pension was got sanctioned by the applications on the basis of misrepresentation, or concealment of material information, or on the basis of false/forged documents. Pension has been suspended in all such cases, and finally cancelled if found necessary, after considering the replies. Process of recovery, in cases where pension was cancelled, has been initiated through the State Governments. In appropriate cases prosecution has been launched against the involved persons. Scrutiny of claims for pension has been made more stringent with a view to ensure that no person, who is not entitled to pension, is sanctioned pension. A State-wise list of cases wherein pension was suspended and cancelled so far is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) As per judgement of the Supreme Court of India in Mukund Lal Bhandari Vs. Union of India no last date can be prescribed for receipt of applications under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme. As the Samman Pension Scheme is not closed, the Government is still receiving applications for pension duly verified and recommended by the respective State Government/U.T. Administrations which are decided expeditiously.

Statement***State-Wise List of Suspended/Cancelled Pension Cases***

S. No.	State/U.T.	Suspended	Cancelled
1.	Andhra Pradesh	110	4
2.	Bihar	639	180
3.	Delhi	2	26
4.	Goa	9	9
5.	Haryana	15	22
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0	2
7.	Karnataka	570	261
8.	Kerala	720	61
9.	Madhya Pradesh	55	61
10.	Maharashtra	227	37
11.	Manipur	35	0
12.	Meghalaya	7	13
13.	Orissa	38	85
14.	Pondicherry	9	13
15.	Punjab	101	26
16.	Tamil Nadu	15	81
17.	Uttar Pradesh	228	222
18.	West Bengal	191	214
Total		2971	1317

UN Report on Unregistered Births

4973. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 10 million births left unregistered in India every year, according to the latest UNICEF report presented to the Government of India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to bring the birth registration under compulsory position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for low levels of registration are primarily due to lack of awareness of the need and lack of motivation for registration among the people at large. Under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, which is administered by the Registrar General of India (Home Ministry) the Chief Registrars of Births and Deaths and the State Governments are responsible for the respective States. Low priority by the state Governments for enforcing Provision of the Act is also responsible for low levels of registration.

(c) Under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, registration of all births and deaths in the country has already been made compulsory.

Joint Patrolling in Indo-China Border

4974. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to undertake joint patrolling on the Indo-China border;

(b) if so, whether the Government of China has made any suggestion to the Government of India in the matter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Hindustan Latex Limited

4975. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received memorandum from M/s. Hindustan Latex Ltd. regarding production and other problems; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Placement of Supply Orders for procurement of Copper-T, Condoms and Oral Pill on M/s. Hindustan Latex Ltd. is under consideration.

Census Employees Association

4976. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all India Census Employees Associations has submitted any memorandum to the Government regarding the anomaly in the pay-scale of statistical/cartographic cadres in the census organisation, as recommended by the 4th Central Pay Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) The matter relating to anomalies, if any in the pay-scale of statistical/cartographic cadres in the census organisation as recommended by the 4th Pay Commission had been settled and have no relevance at present in view of the receipt of the recommendations of the 5th Pay Commission.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Naxalite Activities

4977. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Home Minister has stated during the Southern States Chief Minister's Conference

that firm action is needed to curb the activities of Naxalites and to fulfil the promise to provide assistance to all the States;

(b) if so, whether the Centre has also agreed to set up Centres to impart training to police personnel involved in anti-Naxalite operations and manpower to the State;

(c) if so, the extent to which the States have been provided to assistance so far;

(d) whether any High level committee has been set up to review the implementation of these Security measures; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) The Union Home Minister had made an elaborate statement on left wing extremist in a meeting convened at Hyderabad on 15.6.98 with the representatives of the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa.

(b) and (c) It was decided that States will examine setting up their own training centres and the Central Government will offer them such assistance as is possible.

370 Andhra Pradesh Police personnel were imparted training of 8-12 weeks duration, in counter-insurgency and anti-terrorist courses in the past, in the training institutes of BSF, CRPF, ITBP.

(d) and (e) A Coordination Centre has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Home Secretary, with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa, as its Members, to regularly review and monitor the status of left wing extremist activities and implementation of the Action Plan in the four affected States.

Declaration of College of Nursing in Kerala

4978. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some nursing colleges in some states with less facilities have been recognised;

(b) if so, the details of such colleges with the criteria adopted for their recognition, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala regarding withholding of the recognition of nursing colleges at Calicut and Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Indian Nursing Council have to follow the norms which apply to all institutions.

(c) to (e) The Indian Nursing Council has reported that the colleges of Nursing at Calicut and Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala were declared unsuitable on the basis of inspections carried out in November, 1997.

In the General Body Meeting held on 26.6.98, the Council has decided to permit admission of students on condition that re-inspection will be done by the Indian Nursing Council within 6 months.

[Translation]

Adulteration in Food Items and Spurious Medicines

4979. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases relating to adulterated food items and spurious medicines detected during 1996-97 and 1997-98, State-wise; and

(b) the action taken by the Government to deal with such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) As per information furnished by State Food Authorities, State Licensing Authorities, statements indicating number of cases relating to adulterated food items and spurious medicines detected during 1996-97 and 1997-98 State-wise is annexed at Statement I and II respectively.

(b) Action is taken against the offenders by launching prosecution under the provision of PFA Act, 1954 and C Act, 1940 as applicable.

Statement-I

Information as available with the Ministry of Health & FW relating to State-wise number of Food Samples found adulterated/misbranded during the Calender years 1996 & 1997

State/U.T.	Number
(Calender year 1996)	
Anjaman & Nicobar	Nil
Assam	144
Daman & Diu	02
Delhi	124
Goa	37
Gujarat	561
J & K	136
Lakshadweep	Nil

State/U.T.	Number
Meghalaya	08
Mizoram	Nil
Rajasthan	1120
Tamil Nadu	443
Tripura	25
Uttar Pradesh	2928
West Bengal	179
(Calender Year 1997)	
Arunachal Pradesh	20
Delhi	88
Lakshadweep	Nil
West Bengal	174

Statement-II

State-wise number of cases of Spurious Medicines detected by the State Licensing Authorities during the Year 1996-97 and 1997—31.3.1998

S. No.	States/UTs	Year 1996-97	Year 1997-98
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Not Available	Not Available
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil
3.	Assam	Nil	Nil
4.	Bihar	Not Available	Not Available
5.	Goa	Not Available	Not Available

1	2	3	4
6.	Gujarat	15	1
7.	Haryana	Not Available	Not Available
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil
9.	J&K State	Not Available	Not Available
10.	Karnataka	13	02
11.	Kerala	Nil	Nil
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Not Available	Not Available
13.	Maharashtra	Not Available	Not Available
14.	Manipur	Not Available	Not Available
15.	Meghalaya	Not Available	Not Available
16.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil
17.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil
18.	Orissa	Nil	Nil

[English]

Loan to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

4980. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to provide loan for establishment of S.S.I. units, cottage industries and several business for their upliftment;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the rate of interest charged on the loans; and

(d) the target achieved in Sundargarh district and in the other areas of Orissa during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and

Development Corporation (NSFDC), New Delhi sanctions schemes to SC/ST target groups in Agriculture, Industries, Transport and other Service Sectors for project costing upto Rs. 30.00 lakhs.

(c) For a loan amount per project/unit upto Rs. 5.00 lakhs NSFDC charges interest @ 4% p.a. from the Channelising Agency (C.A.) and a maximum interest of 6% p.a. is charged by the Channelising Agency from the ultimate beneficiaries for a loan amount above Rs. 5.00 lakhs per project/unit interest charged is 6% p.a. is charged by the Channelising Agency from the ultimate beneficiaries.

(d) No district-wise targets are fixed by NSFDC. However, actual disbursements made during the last three years in Sundergarh district and in other areas of Orissa are Rs. 40.13 lakhs and 401.31 lakhs respectively.

[*Translation*]

Office of Registrar General

4981. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference in the Pay Scale of the Employees of statistics cadres of the Office of Registrar General under Home Ministry and that of the employees of statistics Cadres of other Ministry/ Department;

(b) if so, whether any representation has been received in this regard from the organisation of Employees or departmental for upward revision of the Pay Scales; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Ministry thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A representation has been received in the Office of the Registrar General, India from the All India Census Employees Association and they have been advised to take up the matter with the Departmental Anomaly Committee through the Secretary, Staff Side of the Departmental Council as per the procedure prescribed in the Department of Personnel and Training O.M. No. 19/1/97-JCA dated 6.2.98.

Closure of Sugar Mills in Uttar Pradesh

4982. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh, and the production capacity thereof at present location-wise;

(b) whether any sugar mills has been closed down during the last three years;

(c) the details thereof location-wise; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Statement I showing the names of the installed sugar mills with their annual sugar production capacity in the State of Uttar Pradesh is enclosed.

(b) to (d) Statement-II showing the sugar mills which did not work during the last three sugar years i.e. 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (October-September) in the State of Uttar Pradesh is enclosed.

These sugar mills could not operate on account of various factors like continuous losses, undertaking expansion scheme, non-availability of sugarcane etc.

Statement-I**Name of the Installed Sugar Mills with their Annual Sugar Production Capacity in the State of Uttar Pradesh**

Position as on 31.5.98

Sl. No.	Name of factory with Location.	Sector	Installed annual sugar production capacity (lakh tonnes)
1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh			
1.	The Modi Industries Ltd; Modinagar, Distt. Ghaziabad.	Pvt.	0.332
2.	The Simbhaoli Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd., Simbhaoli, Distt. Ghaziabad.	Pvt.	0.365
3.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit; Mohiuddinpur. Distt. Meerut	P.S.	0.332
4.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Maliana, Distt. Meerut.	P.S.	0.162
5.	Daurala Sugar Works, Daurala, Distt. Meerut.	Pvt.	0.598
6.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd., Unit; Sakhoti-Tanda, Distt. Meerut.	P.S.	0.199
7.	Mawana Sugar Works, Mawana, Distt. Meerut.	Pvt.	0.564
8.	The Bagpat Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Bagpat, Distt. Meerut.	Coop.	0.332
9.	The Ramala Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Ramala, Distt. Meerut.	Coop.	0.332
10.	The Triveni Enginnering Works Ltd; Sugar Unit. The Upper India Sugar Mills, Khatauli, Distt. Meerut.	Pvt.	1.328
11.	Mansurpur Sugar Mills Ltd., Mansurpur, Distt. Muzaffarnagar.	Pvt.	0.332

1	2	3	4
12.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Rchana-Kalan, P.O. Rohana Mills, Distt. Muzaffarnagar.	P.S.	0.223
13.	The Upper Doab Sugar Mills Ltd; Shamli, Distt. Muzaffarnagar.	Pvt.	0.664
14.	The Ganga Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Teh. Jansath, Distt. Muzaffarnagar.	Coop.	0.332
15.	Monnet Industries Ltd; Un. Teh. Kairana, Distt, Muzaffarnagar.	Pvt.	0.664
16.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Panninagar, Distt. Bulandshahr.	P.S.	0.202
17.	Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Anoopshahr. Distt. Bulandshahr.	Coop.	0.266
18.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Doiwala Distt. Dehradun	P.S.	0.332
19.	Gangeshwar Ltd; Deoband, Distt. Saharanpur.	Pvt.	1.328
20.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit. Saharanpur, Distt. Saharanpur.	P.S.	0.332
21.	Kisan Coop. Sugar Factory Ltd; Sarsawa, Distt. Saharanpur.	Coop.	0.332
22.	Shakumbhari Sugar & Allied Industries Ltd; At Todar (Raghar), Distt. Saharanpur.	Pvt.	0.332
23.	Rai Bahadur Narain Singh Sugar Mills (P) Ltd; Lhaksar, Distt. Haridwar.	Pvt.	0.465
24.	The Mahalakshmi Sugar Mills Co. Ltd; Iqbalpur, Distt. Haridwar.	Pvt.	0.398
25.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Nanauta, Distt. Saharanpur.	Coop.	0.332
26.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit. Bijnor, Distt. Bijnor.	P.S.	0.332
27.	Upper Ganges Sugar & Industries Ltd; Seohara, Distt. Bijnor.	Pvt.	0.486

1	2	3	4
28.	The Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd; Dhampur. Distt. Bijnor.	Pvt.	1.195
29.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Chandpur Distt. Bijnor.	P.S.	0.266
30.	Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Sneh Road, Fazalpur, Najibabad, Distt. Bijnor.	Coop.	0.332
31.	Dwarikesh Sugar Ind. Ltd; Bundki Distt. Bijnor.	Pvt.	0.332
32.	The Ajudia Sugar Mills, Raja-Ka-Sahaspur Distt. Moradabad.	Pvt.	0.332
33.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit. Amroha Distt. Moradabad.	P.S.	0.398
34.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Gajraula, Distt. Moradabad.	Coop	0.332
35.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit Rampur Distt Rampur.	P.S.	0.404
36.	Rudra Bilas Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Bilaspur, Distt. Rampur.	Coop.	0.266
37.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Bareilly, Distt. Bareilly.	P.S.	0.135
38.	The Kesar Enterprises Ltd; Baheri, Distt. Bareilly.	Pvt.	0.465
39.	Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Semi-Khera, Teh. & Distt. Bareilly.	Coop.	0.332
40.	Rosa Sugar Works Ltd; (Prop. Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd;) Rosa, Distt. Shahajahanpur.	Pvt.	0.332
41.	Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Tilhar, Distt. Shahajahanpur.	Coop	0.166
42.	L.H. Sugar Factories Ltd; Pilibhit, Distt. Pilibhit.	Pvt.	0.332
43.	The Kisan Coop-Sugar Factory Ltd; Majhola, Distt. Pilibhit.	Coop.	0.266

1	2	3	4
44.	Bisalpur Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Bisalpur. Distt. Pilibhit.	Coop.	0.332
45.	Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Teh. Pooranpur, Distt. Pilibhit.	Coop.	0.166
46.	DSM Agro products Ltd. Unit Kashipur, Distt. Nainital.	Pvt.	0.332
47.	The Bazpur Coop. Sugar Factory Ltd; Bazpur, Distt. Nainital	Coop.	0.398
48.	Kichha Sugar Co. Ltd; Kichha, Distt. Nainital.	P.S.	0.398
49.	Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Rajapur-Poorenpur-Nadehi, P.O. Jaspur, Distt. Nainital.	Coop.	0.266
50.	Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Teh. Sitarganj, Distt. Nainital.	Coop.	0.332
51.	The Neoli Sugar Factory, Manpurnegaria, Neoli, Distt. Etah.	Pvt.	0.169
52.	The Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd; Hargaon, Distt. Sitapur.	Pvt.	0.332
53.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Mahoti, Distt. Sitapur.	P.S.	0.202
54.	The Seksaria Biswan Sugar Factory Ltd; Biswan, Distt. Sitapur.	Pvt.	0.332
55.	Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Mohmoodabad, Distt. Sitapur.	Coop.	0.332
56.	Bajaj Hindustan Ltd; Golagokarannath, Distt. Kheri.	Pvt.	0.637
57.	The Gobind Sugar Mills Ltd; P.O. Aira Estate, Distt. Kheri.	Pvt.	0.332
58.	The Sarjoo Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Belrayan, Distt. Kheri.	Coop.	0.332
59.	Bajaj Hindustan Ltd; Paliakalan, Distt. Kheri.	Pvt.	0.332

1	2	3	4
60.	Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Sampurnanagar, Teh. Nigashan. Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri.	Coop.	0.332
61.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Hardoi, Distt. Hardoi.	P.S.	0.243
62.	The United Provinces Sugar Co. Ltd; Seorahi. Distt. Padrauna.	Pvt.	0.332
63.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit. Baitalpur, Distt. Deoria.	P.S.	0.121
64.	Cawnpore Sugar works Ltd; P.O. Gauribazar, Distt. Deoria.	Pvt.	0.098
65.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit. Deoria, Distt. Deoria.	P.S.	0.128
66.	The Kanoria Sugar & General Mfg. Co. Ltd; Captainganj, Distt. Padrauna.	Pvt.	0.398
67.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; P.O. Rajabazar, Unit. Khadda, Distt. Padrauna.	P.S.	0.166
68.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Chhitauni, Distt, Padrauna.	P.S.	0.108
69.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit Lakshmiganj, Distt. Deoria.	P.S.	0.119
70.	Gangeshwar Ltd; Unit. Ramkola, Distt. Deoria.	Pvt.	0.332
71.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit. Ramkola, Distt. Deoria.	P.S.	0.105
72.	Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd; Padrauna, Distt. Padrauna.	Pvt.	0.239
73.	Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd; Kathkuiyan, Distt. Deoria.	Pvt.	0.133
74.	The Pratappur Sugar & Industries Ltd; Pratappur, Distt. Deoria.	Pvt.	0.332

1	2	3	4
75.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit. Bhatni, Distt. Deoria.	P.S.	0.135
76.	Saraya Sugar Mills (P) Ltd; Sardamagar, Distt. Gorakhpur.	Pvt.	0.425
77.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Pipraich, Distt. Gorakhpur.	P.S.	0.108
78.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Ghughli, Distt. Maharajganj.	P.S.	0.135
79.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Siswabazar, Distt. Maharajganj.	P.S.	0.332
80.	Swadeshi Mining & Manufacturing Co. Ltd; Anandnagar, Distt. Maharajganj.	Pvt.	0.162
81.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Munderwa, Distt. Basti.	P.S.	0.094
82.	The Basti Sugar Mills Co. Ltd; P.O. & Distt. Basti.	Pvt.	0.332
83.	Govindnagar Sugar Ltd; P.O. Walterganj, Distt. Basti.	Pvt.	0.108
84.	Khalilabad Sugar Mills (P) Ltd; Khalilabad, Distt. Basti.	Pvt.	0.093
85.	The Balrampur Chini Mills Ltd; Babhnan, Distt. Gonda.	Pvt.	0.465
86.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Nawabganj, Distt. Gonda.	P.S.	0.202
87.	Balrampur Chini Mills Ltd; Balrampur, Distt. Gonda.	Pvt.	0.328
88.	Tulsipur Sugar Co. Ltd; Tulsipur, Distt. Gonda.	Pvt.	0.332
89.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit. Jarwal Road, Distt. Bahraich.	P.S.	0.332
90.	Sravasthi Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Nanpara, Distt. Bahraich.	Coop.	0.166

1	2	3	4
91.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit. Barabanki, Distt. Barabanki.	P.S.	0.133
92.	The U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd; Unit, Burhwal, Distt. Barabanki.	P.S.	0.108
93.	U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd, Unit Shahganj, Distt. Jaunpur.	P.S.	0.135
94.	Kamalapat Motilal Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd; P.O. Motinagar, Distt. Faizabad.	Pvt.	0.332
95.	Kashi Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Aurai, Distt. Varanasi.	Coop.	0.166
96.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Rasra, Distt. Ballia.	Coop.	0.166
97.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Karimganj, Distt. Farukhabad.	Coop.	0.166
98.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Sathion, Distt. Azamgarh.	Coop.	0.166
99.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Ghosi, Distt. Mau.	Coop.	0.166
100.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; P.O. Satha, Hardeoganj, Distt. Alligarh.	Coop.	0.166
101.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Badaun, Distt. Badaun.	Coop.	0.166
102.	Chhata Sugar Co. Ltd; P.O. Chhata, Distt. Mathura.	P.S.	0.332
103.	Nandganj Sihori Sugar Co. Ltd; Daryapur, Distt. Rai-Bareilly.	P.S.	0.166
104.	Nandganj Sihori Sugar Co. Ltd; P.O. Nandganj, Distt. Ghazipur.	P.S.	0.166
105.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Sultanpur, (Avadh).	Coop.	0.166
106.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Gadarpur, Distt. Nainital.	Coop.	0.332

1	2	3	4
107.	Ghatampur Sugar Co. Ltd; Teh. Ghatampur, Distt. Kanpur	P.S.	0.166
108.	The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd; Powayan, Distt. Shahjahanpur.	Coop.	0.166
109.	Oswal Agro Mills Ltd; Dhanaura, Distt. Moradabad.	Pvt.	0.332
110.	Shriram Industrial Enterprises Ltd; Titawi, Distt. Muzaffamagar.	Pvt.	0.666
111.	Dhampur, Sugar Mills Ltd; Rouzagaon, Teh. Ram Snehi Ghat, Distt. Barabanki.	Pvt.	0.332
112.	Venus Sugar Ltd; Mazhawali (Bhartra), Teh. Sambal, Distt. Moradabad.	Pvt.	0.332
113.	Willard India Ltd; Sugar Division (Agauta Sugar & Chemicals), Agauta, Distt. Bulandshahr.	Pvt.	0.332
114.	Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd; (Unit. Ramgarh Chini Mills), Ramgarh, Teh. Misrikh, Distt. Sitapur.	Pvt.	0.332
115.	Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd; Asmoli, Teh. Sambhal, Distt. Moradabad.	Pvt.	0.332
116.	Kitply Industries Ltd; Rupapur, Distt. Hardoi.	Pvt.	0.332
117.	J.K. Industries Ltd; Mirganj, Distt. Bareilly.	Pvt.	0.332
118.	Indo Gulf Industries Ltd; Maizapur, Distt. Gonda.	Pvt.	0.332
119.	Chilwaria Sugar & Chemicals Pvt. Ltd. Chilwaria Distt. Baharaich.	Pvt.	0.332
120.	U.P. Coop. Sugar Factories Fedn. Ltd; Dhuriapar, Block-urwa, Distt. Gorakhpur	Coop.	0.332
121.	Oswal Overseas Ltd; Nawabganj Distt Bareilly.	Pvt.	0.332
122.	Ghaghara Sugar Ltd. Ajbapur Distt. Lakhimpurkhari.	Pvt.	0.332

Statement-II

Names of the Sugar Mills which did not work during last three sugar years (Oct-Sept.) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

Sl. No.	Name of factory with location
<i>1994-95 Season</i>	
1.	M/s. Swadeshi Mining and Manufacturing Co. Ltd. Anandnagar, Distt. Maharajganj.
2.	M/s. Khalilabad Sugar Mills(P) Ltd. Khalilabad, Distt. Basti.
3.	M/s. U.P. State Sugar Corpn. Ltd. Nawabganj, Distt. Gonda.
<i>1995-96 Season</i>	
1.	M/s. Swadeshi Mining & Mfg. Co. Ltd. Anandnagar, Distt. Maharajganj.
2.	M/s. Govind Nagar Sugar Ltd. P.O. Walterganj, Distt. Basti.
<i>1996-97 Season</i>	
1.	M/s. Swadeshi Mining & Mfg. Co. Ltd. Anandnagar, Distt. Maharajganj.
2.	M/s. Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd. P.O. Gauri Bazar, Distt. Deoria.

[English]

Setting up of Dental and Medical Colleges in Andhra Pradesh

4983. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has decided to set up five dental and five medical colleges in the State;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has decided to set up a three-member high-power committee under the chairmanship of the sitting High Court Judge for the establishment of the proposed colleges;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for approval of these proposals;

(e) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The Government of India has no such information in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Removal of Encroachments

4984. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the unauthorised encroachments detected in Government Colonies under the jurisdiction of Deputy Commissioner of Police (South-West District), New Delhi;

(b) the action taken so far by the police to remove these encroachments as on May 31, 1998;

(c) whether instead of initiating action of remove the encroachments the encroachers are making expansions of their encroachments;

(d) if so, the reasons for the inability of police authorities for removal of encroachments; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government to remove these encroachments and the time by which these are likely to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Clearance for Setting up a Medical College in A.P.

4985. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medical Council of India has made it mandatory for any society to start a medical college to have a 300 bed private hospital;

(b) if so, the new guidelines issued by the Medical Council of India;

(c) the number of Medical Colleges set up in the State of Andhra Pradesh so far;

(d) whether clearance of these hospitals are still awaited; and

(e) if so, the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) Under the establishment of new medical colleges, opening of higher courses of study and increase of admission capacity in medical colleges Regulations, 1993, it is mandatory for the applicant applying for permission to establish a new medical college to own and manage a hospital of not less than 300 beds with necessary infrastructural facilities and capable of being developed into a teaching institution as prescribed by the Medical Council of India, in the vicinity of proposed medical college.

(c) As per the information furnished by the Medical Council of India, there are 10 recognised medical colleges in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Besides, one new private medical college, namely, Khammam Medical College, Khammam, has been permitted to be established in Andhra Pradesh by the Central Govt. in May, 1998.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

National Labour Policy

4986. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce a new national labour policy;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) Review and updation of Labour Policy is a continuous process so as to ensure its relevance to the emerging needs. However, in the context of preparation for the 9th Five Year Plan, a Working Group on Labour Policy was set up in December, 1995. The report was submitted to the Planning Commission in October, 96. The thrust of the Labour Policy would be on consolidation and strengthening of the base created through tripartism for maintaining industrial peace and harmony. The policy parameters include development of a labour policy in tune with the economic policy with a thrust on appropriate employment and wage policy.

Security Threat

4987. MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of mis-use of "Security Threat" perceptions by politicians, retired bureaucrats and Armed forces senior officers to get benefits of "Security-cover" for personal usage or as "Status-symbol";

(b) whether the Government have any norms or methodology to ascertain the actual security-threat to such people; and

(c) the number of persons under security classification, separately?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Security is provided to individuals on the basis of perceived level of threat as per the assessment of the security agencies.

(c) At present Delhi Police is providing security to 391 persons under different categories of security.

[*Translation*]

Killing of SC/ST

4988. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some SC/ST persons killed on July 11, 1997 in New Gach in Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to give compensation to the family of the victims;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the said case has been referred to National Human Rights Commission; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K.ADVANI) : (a) to (e) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Pre-Medical Test for Admission to Colleges

4989. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has decided to conduct centralised pre-medical test for admission to various medical colleges before the current academic session;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the wide-spread resentment among students;

(c) whether the Union Government have issued any direction to the States in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information received from the Govt. of Maharashtra, pursuant to the orders of the Supreme Court in W.P. No. 649/97 Ravindra Kumar Rai Vs. State of Maharashtra & Ors., it has become mandatory for the Govt. of Maharashtra to hold Pre Medical Test for medical admissions from the year 1998 onwards.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the Supreme Court of India in W.P. No. 607 of 1992 Unni Krishnan J.P. Vs. State of Andhra Pradesh has, inter-alia, held that "atleast, 50% of the Seats in every Private Professional Colleges shall be filled by the nominees of the Government or University, as the case may be, which will be called 'free seats'. These Students shall be selected on the basis of

merit, determined on the basis of a Common Entrance Examination, where it is held or in the absence of an entrance examination, by such criteria as may be determined by the competent authority or the appropriate authority, as the case may be. It is, however, desirable and appropriate to have a Common Entrance Examination for regulating admissions to these Colleges/Institutions, as is done in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Children Hospitalised due to Food Poisoning

4990. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than hundred children of Arya Samaj Orphanage in Jama Masjid, Delhi were hospitalised due to food poisoning in June, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the decision taken by the Union Government to compensate the affected persons in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) "Arya Bal Graha" popularly known as "Arya Orphanage" is an institute registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1660 and has also been granted licence under the Women and Children Institutions (Licensing) Act, 1956 for the purpose of running a home for the destitutes. The Secretary of the said Institute is reported to have informed the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi that consequent upon consuming stale rice on the 6th June, 1998, 95 children amongst the inmates of the "Home" fell sick and complained for vomiting. The sick children were removed to the hospital on the same date from where they were discharged on the 8th June, 1998. The incident is reported to have occurred as a result of negligence of the kitchen supervisor who had not examined the rice before distributing it to the inmates. She was promptly transferred by the Institute authorities. There is, however, no proposal under the consideration of the Central Government for payment of any compensation to the affected persons.

[*Translation*]

Vohra Committee

4991. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of Vohra Committee was laid on the table of the House;

(b) if so, whether some portion of the said report are yet to be made public;

(c) if so, the reasons for publishing the report partially;

(d) the time by which the whole report is likely to be published; and

(e) the effective steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) The Complete Vohra Committee Report was laid on the Table of the House on 1.8.1995.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Scarcity of Drinking Water in J&K

4992. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kandi area of J&K is facing severe scarcity of drinking water; and

(b) if so, the details of plans to provide sufficient drinking water to the Kandi area of J&K, especially Kathua, Jammu, Doda and Udhampur districts in view of the National Agenda announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Water supply is a State subject. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the state by providing central assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. An amount of Rs. 1232.03 lakhs has been released to the Government

of Jammu & Kashmir during 1998-99. The States have been delegated powers to plan and implement their own water supply projects.

Districtwise and areawise data in respect of habitations covered is not maintained at the Central level. As per the information furnished by the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir as on 1.4.98 out of 15726 habitations of the State 8266 are fully covered, 4397 are partially covered and 3063 are not covered with safe drinking water facilities. As per the Action Plan prepared by the State Government of J&K all the un-covered rural habitations of the State are to be fully covered with drinking water facilities during the 9th Plan period, subject to availability of funds.

[*Translation*]

Tribal Finance Board

4993, SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted/proposed to constitute a 'Tribal Finance Board' for the economic development in the Tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government proposed to allocate special financial Assistance for educational and economic development of tribal people; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The Government is already providing financial assistance to States/U.Ts. under Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for educational and economic development of Tribe people.

(e) These schemes are: Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan, Grants under First proviso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution, Girls and Boys Hostel for

Scheduled Tribes, Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan areas, Vocational Training in Tribal Areas, Educational Complexes in Low Literacy pockets, Book Banks for SCs & STs, coaching and Allied schemes, Upgradation of merit of SC/ST Students, National Overseas Scholarships and passage grants for Higher Studies abroad, Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Grant-in aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation for Minor Forest Produce operations. Besides, National Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) has also been set up to accelerate economic growth and development of the members of SCs & STs.

[English]

Underweight Gas Cylinders

4994. SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ :
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
(JAHANABAD):

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that loose sealed underweight gas cylinders are being supplied by Indian Oil Corporation and other companies in the country;

(b) if so, the details, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Oil companies carry out elaborate quality control checks on each cylinder filled at the bottling plants. After passing all the quality control checks at the LPG bottling plants, each and every cylinder is sealed before it is loaded and despatched to the LPG distributors. Oil companies use only aluminium and PVC seals to ensure that the LPG cylinders are not tampered with before it is delivered to the consumers.

Oil Companies conduct elaborate regular/surprise checks and inspections of functioning of their LPG distributors and also investigate complaints on their receipt. Suitable action is taken against the distributors who are found to be indulging in various malpractices as per the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

However, Oil Companies have received a few complaints from LPG consumers regarding supply of underweight cylinders.

(b) and (c) The state-wise details of action taken against LPG distributors of the Oil Companies during the year 1997-98 regarding malpractices/irregularities related to underweight cylinders, are given in Statement enclosed.

Statement

State	Name of the Distributor	Location	Action Taken
1	2	3	4
Delhi	M/s. Mohnil Enterprises	Delhi	Fine Rs. 2000/-
	M/s. K.S.B. Enterprises	Delhi	Fine Rs. 2000/-
	M/s ESS-ESS Ent.	Delhi	Fine Rs. 2000/-
	M/s. Pelicon Gas Agency	Delhi	Fine Rs. 2000/-
Haryana	M/s. Lal Enterprises	Faridabad	Fine Rs. 2000/-

1	2	3	4
Punjab	M/s. Dewan Gas Service	Ludhiana	Caution Letter Issued
	M/s. Gilson Gas Service	Ludhiana	Caution Letter Issued
	M/s. Kesari Gas Service	Ludhiana	Fine Rs. 2000/-
	M/s. Nirganj Gas Service	Ludhiana	Fine Rs. 2000/-
	M/s. Monika Gas Service	Ludhiana	Fine Rs. 2000/-
	M/s. Nakodar Gas Service	Nakodar	Caution Letter Issued
	M/s. Avtar Flame Center	Ludhiana	Fine Rs. 2000/-
U.P.	M/s. Pithorgarh Gas Service	Pithorgarh	Fine Rs. 2000/-
	M/s. Manju Chandra Gas Service	Allahabad	FIR Lodged by Civil Authority.
	M/s. Rukmini Gas Service	Lucknow	Fine Rs. 2000/-
Bihar	M/s. Lalit Enterprises	Raxaul	Fine Rs. 2000/-
	M/s. R.N.B. Udyog	Patna	Fine Rs. 2000/
Gujarat	M/s.Saurashtra Trading	Jetpur	Fine Rs. 2000/-

[*Translation*]

Juvenile Homes in Madhya Pradesh

4995. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA :
SHRI RAMANAND SINGH :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any
proposal from Government of Madhya Pradesh for opening
Juvenile Homes and women observation Homes at in the
state;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT : (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During 1997-98 the Ministry had received from Madhya Pradesh Government proposals for construction of 7 observation Homes (for girls) and 2 Juvenile Homes under the scheme of Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment. However, on account of unspent amount lying with the State Government from previous years releases, fresh grants could not be released. In addition, the Government had also been requested to furnish certain clarifications.

Failure of National Cancer Control Programme

4996. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
DR. MADAN PRASAD :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Cancer Control Programme has failed due to misuse of the allotted funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into this matter;

(d) if so, the details of outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to make this programme successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The NCCP was introduced in 1975-76. Priorities were given for equipping the premier cancer hospital/institutions. In 1984-85 the strategy was revised and stress was laid on prevention and early detection. There are 214 radiotherapy units in the country for the treatment of cancer. There is no reported case of misuse of funds warranting any inquiry. The following schemes have been identified for implementation under National Cancer Control Programme to reduce the incidence of cancer and its morbidity and mortality.

1. District cancer control project.
2. Assistance to NGOs for undertaking health education for early detection activity.
3. Development of Oncology Wing in Medical Colleges/Hospitals.
4. Assistance for the purchase of Cobalt therapy unit.
5. Assistance to the Regional Cancer Research & Treatment Centres.

[English]

Bhatinda Refinery

4997. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

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

(a) whether a proposal to set up oil refinery in Bhatinda has been approved;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target for completion of the project indicating its capacity and crude supplies to be secured therefor;

(c) the estimated amount likely to be incurred on the project;

(d) the sources from which the said amount is proposed to be mobilised; and

(e) the reasons for delay in giving approval to the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) The detailed feasibility report (DFR) for implementing a Joint Venture Refinery with equity contribution of 26% each by the JV Partners has been submitted by HPCL. The estimated cost of the refinery and power plant as per the DFR is Rs. 9644 crores and Rs. 3364 crores respectively. The crude oil for the refinery is planned to be sourced from Arab-Gulf (AG) crude market which is nearest source of supply.

The Project is expected to be completed within 48 months from the date of final Government approval. The project is planned to be funded by JV Company through debt equity ratio of 1.5:1.

Oil Exploration in Iraq

4998. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iraq has approved a joint venture plan to develop its Tuba Oilfield by an Indian Consortium of ONGC and Reliance Petroleum Ltd. in that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken for oil exploration in Iraq?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) ONGC Videsh Ltd. and Reliance Industries Ltd. consortium have submitted the initial offer for Tuba oil field to Ministry of oil, Iraq. No final decision has been taken in this regard by Iraqi authorities.

ESIC Hospital

4999. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation has constructed Hospitals at Shahabed and Belgaum in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the amount spent on these Hospital;

(c) whether these Hospitals have become operational and handed over to the Government of Karnataka; and

(d) if so, the details of new ESIC Hospitals proposed to be constructed in Karnataka during 1998-99, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ESI Corporation has spent Rs. 312.87 lakh for construction of the ESI hospital at Shahabad and Rs. 493.70 lakh for the ESI hospital at Belgaum.

(c) The ESI hospital at Shahabad has already been handed over to the State Government for commissioning. The work relating to construction of the ESI hospital at Belgam is at final stage.

(d) There is no proposal approved for construction of new hospital in Karnataka during 1998-99.

Incapabilities of Hospitals

5000. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :
SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Hospitals can't handle disasters" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated June 13, 1998;

(b) whether the Government hospitals have the treatment centres and well equipped ambulances to save the victims of major accidents and tragedies like Uphaar Cinema disaster;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons for not providing such facilities in these hospitals particularly in the metropolitan cities hospitals; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central Government Hospitals have the treatment facilities including adequately equipped ambulances.

(d) 'Health' being a State subject, it is responsibility of the concerned State Government to provide such facilities in the hospitals under their administrative control.

(e) There is a well organised Disaster Plan in existence and disaster ward in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital to meet any exigencies. Safdarjung Hospital/All India Institute of Medical Sciences have also framed plans to handle disasters.

In addition, strengthening of Emergency/Casualty Services in Central Government hospitals namely, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated hospitals have been approved by Standing Finance Committee on 10.2.1998 for implementation during the 9th Five Year Plan.

Import of Muriate of Potash

5001. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :
SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government stopped virtually the import of Muriate of Potash;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind the discontinuance of import;

(c) whether the import was restrained as a part of the sanctions imposed by the foreign countries;

(d) if so, the alternate arrangements proposed to tide over the contingency; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in restoring the import of Muriate of Potash and enhancing the domestic production of MOP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) Muriate of Potash (MOP) has been decontrolled since August, 1992 and its imports decanalised since June, 1993. There are no imports of MOP on Government account since then. These are made freely on private trade account within the framework of the Concession Scheme of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. 2.18 LMTs of MOP has been imported on private trade account during April-June'98. Besides the supply under German Soft Loan for which negotiations are nearing completion, more MOP is being contracted on private trade account.

(e) There being no commercially exploitable reserves of Potash in India, the entire requirement of MOP in the country is met through imports.

Progress of Fencing Work

5002. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in fencing and flood lighting of international borders indicating the sectors where it has been completed and the time so far taken in each case;

(b) the reasons for the slow progress and delay in completing the work;

(c) the steps taken to expedite the fencing and flood lighting of borders and target fixed for completion in each case; and

(d) the details of the borders and LOC that still remain to be fenced and flood-lighted.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) :

Indo-Pak Border

(a) *Punjab Sector:* Erection of fencing on 452 kms and flood lighting on 460 kms. of the border was sanctioned in various phases from 1988-89 and was completed by December, 1993 at a cost of Rs. 141.90 crores. The entire feasible length of border was fenced flood lit.

Rajasthan Sector: Fencing/flood lighting on Rajasthan border was sanctioned in various phases from 1989-90 to 1996-97 and upto December 31, 1997. Fencing/flood lighting on 865 kms. of border has been completed at a cost of Rs. 354.48 crores. Fencing/flood lighting on 167.5 kms. of border is under execution and is to be completed by December, 1999 in two phases at a cost of Rs. 56.24 crores. For the remaining border with shifting sand dunes, specially designed Single Row Fencing will be erected.

Jammu Sector: Fencing/flood lighting on 180 kms./195.8 kms. of Jammu International Border was sanctioned in March, 1995 at an estimated cost of Rs. 71.76 crores and the work was started by CPWD in July, 1995 but the same had to be suspended due to persistent firing from Pakistan side. Resumption of the work is under active consideration.

Gujarat Sector: Fencing/flood lighting of 10 kms. of Gujarat border in the Luni Basin was sanctioned in December, 1997 at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.75 crores and is targeted for completion by December, 1999. A proposal for fencing/flood lighting of 310 kms. of the border is also under consideration of the Government and will be taken up after completion of the work in Rajasthan Sector. The work will be executed by CPWD.

Indo-Bangladesh Border: Barbed-wire fencing for a length of 396 kms. out of a total length of 4000 kms. along Indo-Bangladesh border was sanctioned of which fencing on 779.68 kms. has been completed (upto March 1998). There is no scheme for flood lighting along Indo-Bangladesh border. Sector-wise details and progress of works is as under:—

Sector	Approved Kms.	Works completed upto Mar. 98	Expenditure
Assam	158	132.00	1551.65
W. Bengal	507	445.00	7515.24
Meghalaya	231	202.68	2945.30
Total	896	779.68	12012.19

There is no proposal for fencing/flood-lighting in respect of other borders.

(b) Under the Indo-Pak border project, all the works have been completed as per schedule. In respect of Indo-Bangladesh border, reasons for slow progress of work are (a) restricted release of funds by the Govt. of Assam to the State PWD; (b) slow progress of land acquisition in West Bengal, and (c) objection from local people in certain areas.

(c) The progress of fencing and flood-lighting works is reviewed regularly by a High Level Empowered Committee where problems resulting in delay in execution like land acquisition etc. are also discussed. On Indo-Pak Border, the works of fencing and flood-lighting in Rajasthan and the sanctioned work of 10 km. in Gujarat Sector are targeted to be completed by Dec. 99. The

work on IBB border is targeted to be completed by March 2001.

(d) In Punjab & Rajasthan, fencing and flood-lighting has been provided/sanctioned wherever feasible. A Scheme for providing flood-lighting as well as single row fencing in shifting sand dunes area in the only remaining unfenced length of 24 kms. in Jaisalmer Distt. will be taken up subject to satisfactory performance of a sample fencing being erected nearby.

In Jammu, the work of fencing and flood-lighting has been sanctioned for a length of 180 kms. and 195 kms. in 1995. The work started in June, 1995 but had to be suspended due to firing from Pakistan in July 1995. At present, there is no proposal for fencing and flood-lighting in the remaining portion of border/LOC in J&K Sector.

Total length of border in Gujarat Sector is 508 kms. out of which, about 310 kms. can be fenced. A proposal for providing fencing and flood-lighting in 10 kms. reach in continuation of Rajasthan has been sanctioned while in the remaining 300 kms. the proposal is under consideration of the Govt.

In Indo-Bangladesh Border, the total length of the border covering the states of West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram is 4096 kms. i.e. (West Bengal 2217, Assam 262, Meghalaya 443, Tripura 856 and Mizoram 318). For this, total length of 2784 kms. of road work and 896 kms. of fencing has been sanctioned. There is no provision in the sanctioned estimate for flood-lighting on the Indo-Bangladesh border.

[Translation]

Task Force for Liberation of Child Labour

5003. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the task force has been constituted in all the districts of Uttar Pradesh and other states in pursuance of the Supreme Court's order delivered on the petition No. 465/86 in regard to elimination of child labour;

(b) if so, the progress achieved by the task force so far in the field of liberation of child labour and their rehabilitation, State-wise; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in their Judgement in Writ Petition 465/86, inter alia, had directed that a separate cell in the Labour Department of the appropriate Government should be created and that Child Labour Rehabilitation-Cum-Welfare Fund should be constituted district-wise or area-wise. All State Govts./UTs except Nagaland have reported creating separate Labour Cell at the State level and initiated action for constitution of Child Labour Rehabilitation-Cum-Welfare Fund at the district level in pursuance with the directions of the Supreme Court. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has also opened a separate cell and decided to set up a Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum-Welfare Fund at the district level through its own initial contribution of Rs. One crore as also with the amount i.e. Rs. 20,00,000 per child which will be collected from employers of establishments employing child labour in hazardous industry/occupation/process.

There was no direction to set up any task force in the judgement of the Hon'ble Court in Writ Petition No. 465/86.

[English]

Damaging Foodgrains

5004. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTAMDAS PATEL:
SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sugar, fertilizers and foodgrains got rotten in FCI/CWC godowns during 1997-98 separately, State-wise;

(b) the details of foodgrains got damaged/destroyed due to the cyclone and rains at Kandla in Gujarat recently;

(c) the variety and cost of the said foodgrains; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make proper arrangements in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The details of foodgrains and fertilizer transferred from 'sound' to 'damaged' account during storage in FCI and CWC godowns during 1997-98 statewise are given in Statement-I. No damages to sugar has been reported during 1997-98.

(b) and (c) The details of foodgrain stock affected due to cyclone and rains at Kandla on 9.6.98 are given in Statement-II. The actual quantity damaged and value thereof can be ascertained only after completion of salvaging operations which are in progress.

(d) Following steps are taken by the storage agencies for proper maintenance of foodgrain stocks:

(i) The godowns are constructed on scientific lines. These godowns are rodent and damp proof.

(ii) The foodgrains are stored in scientific manner and regular prophylactic and curative treatments (spraying and fumigation) are undertaken to control stored grain insect pests.

- (iii) Due to paucity of covered godowns, foodgrains are also stored in CAP (Cover and Plinth). It is a temporary storage system wherein foodgrains are stored in scientific way with adequate precautions. Such type of stocks stored in open complexes (CAP) are issued on priority basis.
- (iv) The foodgrains are stored on appropriate dunnage material like wooden crates, poly pellets etc. and covered with specially fabricated low density polythene covers which are water proof and protect the grain from rains.
- (v) Nylon ropes, cover tops and monofilament nets are used for proper lashing of polythene covers to prevent damage due to ballooning of covers during high velocity of winds.
- (vii) Reiteration of instructions for timely and regular inspection of godowns to ensure storage according to the guidelines on this subject and its proper monitoring at higher levels.

Statement-I

Statement showing state-wise accrual of damaged foodgrains & Fertilizer in FCI/CWC Godowns during 1997-98.

(Figures in MT)

Region	Foodgrains		Fertilizer	
	FCI	CWC	CWC	FCI
1	2	3	4	5
West Bengal	13963	31	1.74	—
Bihar	812	—	—	—
Orissa	134	—	—	—
Assam	1291	—	—	—
NEF (Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland & Meghalaya)	133	—	—	—
Delhi	228	—	—	—
Punjab	32806	42.5	—	—
Haryana	1698	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	2618	—	—	—
U.P.	6561	—	122.2	—
H.P.	Nil	—	—	—
J & K	969	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	161	—	—	—
A.P.	1040	—	—	—
Karnataka	1153	—	—	—
Kerala	244	—	—	—
Maharashtra	1256	—	—	—
Gujarat	7160	—	—	—
M.P.	3462	—	—	—
	75,689	73.5	123.374	—

Statement-II

Details of Foodgrain Stock affected due to cyclone and rain on 9.6.1998 at Kandla

Sl. No.	Agency	Commodity	Quantity Affected
1.	F.C.I.	Australian Wheat	756 MT
2.	C.W.C.	1. Parmal Rice	16312 bags
		2. Basmati Rice	2155 bags
		3. Masor Dal	1159 bags
		4. Superfine Rice	43562 bags
		5. Boiled Rice	693 bags
		6. Toor Dar Whole	37419 bags

[*Translation*]

Central Assistance to the Voluntary Organisation of M.P.

5005. SHRI AJIT JOGI :
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of voluntary organisation functioning in the country for implementation of welfare schemes;
- (b) the funds provided by the Government to each voluntary organisations, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether the fund provided by Government to these voluntary organisations are being misutilised;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (f) the criteria fixed for providing assistance to these organisations by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The number of Non-Governmental Organisations given financial assistance by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment during 1997-98 was 1466.

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

(c) to (e) In case any complaint is received about misutilisation of grants-in-aid by any voluntary organisation, an investigation by appropriate authority is ordered into the matter, and release of further installment of grant-in-aid suspended pending such investigation. In order to minimise the possibility of misutilisation of funds, a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) is approved for grant-in-aid under the schemes of the Ministry on the basis of an inspection carried out by the State Government official and recommended by the concerned Department of the State Government. The inspection report from the State Government and/or Central/State agencies once a year is also necessary before the second installment of grant is released to the NGO.

(f) While the criteria fixed for each scheme differ depending on the nature of the scheme/programme to be implemented and the target group to be serviced, the following general norms are followed in releasing grants-in-aid to NGOs:—

- (i) A Society, Trust or a Company set up not for profit and has been functioning in the field for some time, is eligible to be considered.
- (ii) Recommendation of the State Government/ U.T. Administration is available.

[*English*]

Industrial Tribunal

5006. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :
SHRI LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases are pending for disposal at the Industrial Tribunal, so far, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is no Presiding Officer for the said Tribunal;
- (c) if so, the time by which the said post has been kept vacant;
- (d) whether the Government have sought for fresh panel of District Judge for being appointed as Presiding Officer from the High Court of Karnataka; and
- (e) if so, the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) 630 cases are pending in the CGIT-cum-Labour Court, Bangalore as on 30.4.98. State-wise breakup is:—

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of Cases
1.	Karnataka	607
2.	Tamil Nadu	18
3.	Andhra Pradesh	2
4.	Kerala	3
		630

(b) to (e) The post of Presiding Officer, CGIT-cum-Labour Court, Bangalore fell vacant from 1.3.98. The selection of the Presiding Officer has been made and has been sent for the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

[Translation]

Ban on Drugs

5007. SHRI JAISINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have imposed a ban on drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons died due to drug abuse during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to get rid of this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) In terms of the provisions of the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 the consumption of Narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is prohibited.

(c) There is no information on reported deaths which can be attributed directly to drug abuse.

(d) The Ministry is implementing the scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention, which is a community based programme wherein grant-in-aid to the extent of 90 percent of the approved expenditure, as per norms under the scheme is released to the voluntary organisations for a series of activities such as preventive education and awareness programmes and maintenance of Deaddiction-cum-Rehabilitation Centres. At the end of the year 1997-98, the Ministry has been assisting 370 Centres all over the country. The Ministry also collaborates with the Department of Youth Affairs to generate awareness amongst youth through Nehru Yuva Kendras, NSS, Youth Clubs, etc.

[English]

Functioning of Swimming Pools

5008. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of swimming pools are functioning in the capital engaged in un-social activities unbecoming of a civilised life in the capital;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any survey in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken against the officials responsible for their negligence?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Delhi Police has reported that no such complaint has been received by them.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Border Area Development Programme

5009. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI :
SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the purpose and nature of Border Area Development Programme;

(b) the details of Border Area Development Programme likely to be implemented during Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) the details of project implemented during Eighth Five Year Plan in North Eastern area; and

(d) the details of allocation made for implementing the projects in the said area during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Border Area Development Programme is a 100 per cent Centrally funded area programme. The main objective of the programme is the balanced development

of remote, inaccessible areas situated near the border, ensuring effective administration in these areas and involving the people in strengthening their resilience.

(b) and (c) Funds under this programme are allocated to the State. Further schematic and spatial allocations are decided by the State level Sorening Committees chaired by the Chief Secretary of the State. Hence date on schemes implemented and proposed during the 9th Five Year Plan are not available. Schemes implemented in the North East relate mainly to infrastructure development including education, health and transport facilities, administrative framework and security related items etc.

(d) State-wise allocation of funds for the current financial year has not yet been finalised.

Massacre in Doda

5010. SHRI M. RAJIAH :
 SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
 SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :
 SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV :
 (JAHANABAD) :
 SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
 SHRI K.S. RAO :
 SHRI ADITYANATH :
 SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
 SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
 SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :
 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons of a marriage party have recently been killed by terrorists in a village of Doda in J & K;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the compensation paid to the families of victims;

(c) whether intelligence agency had warned the Government in advance about the possibility of such attacks;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any terrorist group has claimed the responsibility of this massacre;

(f) if so, the names thereof along with the number of terrorists arrested/identified in this regard;

(g) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to check terrorist incidents in the valley;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) the time by which this scheme is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

On June 19, 1998, while the members of two Barat (marriage) parties were waiting for a bus to carry them to Prem Nagar (Doda district), 5 armed militants came in a hijacked Maruti van at Champnari (8 kms. away from Prem Nagar) asked the members of a particular community to line up and opened fire on them killing 25 persons and injuring 7 others.

As regards ex-gratia to the next of kin of those killed or injured in such incidents, it is paid by the State Government, as per the standard norms/policy of the State Government.

(c) and (d) Intelligence inputs regarding militant plans are shared by the Intelligence Agencies with the security forces from time to time.

(e) and (f) While the group responsible for the incident has been identified and an alert has been sounded, no arrest has however been made so far.

(g) to (i) With a view of tackle the militancy problem sponsored from across the border in Jammu and Kashmir, the Government have adopted a multi-pronged approach which include inter-alia strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of militants by proactive action against them in hinterland, gearing up intelligence machinery, galvanising development programmes and depending the democratic process etc. The security forces have already been asked to tighten the anti-militancy measures etc.

General Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology

5011. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology are in operation in various parts of the country;

(b) whether an assistance of US\$ 14 million was available for strengthening its training during the Eighth Plan period;

(c) whether facilities were not utilised; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) There are Eleven Centres of Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology (CIPET) in operation in various parts of the country.

(b) to (d) During the 8th Plan period CIPET has received World Bank Assistance of US \$ 12 million for modernisation and strengthening of training facilities and the entire assistance has been fully utilised for all the centres.

Testing of Well Ichhapur-I

5012. DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

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

(a) whether testing of well Ichhapur-I in Oligocene oil was inconclusive;

(b) if so, the reasons identified by ONGC scientists for inconclusive testing; and

(c) if not, the quantum of oil likely to be found out of the well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Ichhapur-I well gave indications of liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons from oligocene sand. The amount of flow was so negligible that there was no scope of commercial production.

Re-entry/side tracking of the well is being carried out to evaluate production potential and reservoir parameters of Oligocene pay and of Ichhapur-I. The quantum of oil likely to be found can be predicted only after completion of re-testing and geoscientific assessment thereafter, of the reservoir in the re-entry well.

Human Rights Violation

5013. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases related to violation of human rights came to light during the last three years; State/ Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether the National Human Rights Commission have ordered payment of compensation to the victims by the Central or State Governments; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government against the police personnel responsible for such violation of human rights?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) Law and order being a State Subject, State/Union territory-wise information of cases of human rights, violations that came of light is not available. However, the State/UT-wise number of cases registered with the National Human Rights Commission is given in the Statement enclosed.

2. National Human Rights Commission have been recommending payment of compensation to the victims by the Central/State Governments.

3. Although 'Police' is a State subject and the responsibility to take action against the delinquent police personnel is of the State Government, the Government of India have issued detailed instructions/guidelines to the State/UT Governments regarding measures to prevent human rights violations. Apart from specific guidelines, the State Governments have been advised that there is a necessity to bring about a qualitative change in the approach and behaviour of the police towards the general public. Human Rights as a subject has been introduced in the curricula of several Police Training Institutes, including the premier Training Institute for IPS Officers viz. the National Police Academy, Hyderabad. Based on the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission, the Government has prepared three tier training syllabus for the police and paramilitary forces officers and circulated to the State Governments and CPMFs for implementation.

Statement

Number of complaints of Human Rights Violation registered by the National Human Rights Commission during the Years, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98.

Name of State/UT	No. of complaints		
	1.4.95 to 31.3.96	1.4.96 to 31.3.97	1.4.97 to 31.3.98 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	326	481	811
Arunachal Pradesh	16	16	29
Assam	106	119	198
Bihar	1091	2413	3127
Goa	14	27	41
Gujarat	105	227	422
Haryana	273	525	1082
Himachal Pradesh	35	81	166
Jammu & Kashmir	147	317	400
Karnataka	117	217	398
Kerala	201	383	490
Madhya Pradesh	718	932	2555
Maharashtra	450	740	1730
Manipur	49	81	48

1	2	3	4	
Meghalaya	8	18	14	
Mizoram	5	4	18	
Nagaland	31	67	27	
Orissa	497	708	725	
Punjab	320	384	592	
Rajasthan	448	981	1899	
Sikkim	6	2	5	
Tamil Nadu	1110	1064	1311	
Tripura	23	19	33	
Uttar Pradesh	2679	8668	17638	
West Bengal	494	651	732	
A & N Islands	3	5	}	
UT Chandigarh Admn.	7	14		
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	2		
Daman & Diu	1	3		42*
NCT Delhi	900	1340		
Lakshadweep	2	4		
Pondicherry	13	21		

*Figure in respective individual Union Territories have been combined and reported as a single figure by the NHRC.

[*Translation*]**Support to Militants**

5014. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rajauri-Poonch mein sakriya atankvadiyon ko sthaniya netaon ka vardhast" appearing in 'Dainik Jagran', dated May 12, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Government is aware of such news-item.

(b) and (c) The State Government and Unified Headquarters in the State are taking steps to ensure better coordination between various security forces and intelligence agencies, particularly in the border districts. Adequate and timely steps are taken by the State Government to enquire into any complaints of nexus between militants and local leaders/residents, and suitable action is taken accordingly.

[*English*]**Operation of Sugar Mills**

5015. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sugar mills become sick after its operation State-wise; and

(b) the details of sugar mills became sick during the incentive period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The Sugar units in the country are grouped in three sectors namely, Public, Private and Cooperative. The sick sugar mills under the Cooperative Sector are not required to be registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and are dealt with by the State Cooperative Societies Acts. The

sick sugar units belonging to Private and Public Sector are covered under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985. According to BIFR, established under the provision of this Act, 37 sick sugar mills have been registered with them upto 30.6.98. The state-wise sick sugar mills registered with BIFR are as follows:

State	No. of Mills
Andhra Pradesh	3
Bihar	3
Kerala	1
Karnataka	4
Madhya Pradesh	2
Maharashtra	3
Punjab	1
Rajasthan	1
Tamil Nadu	2
Uttar Pradesh	16
West Bengal	1
Total	37

(b) The statewise number of sugar mills which became sick during the Incentive period are as follows:

State	No. of Mills
Andhra Pradesh	1
Bihar	1
Punjab	1
Madhya Pradesh	1
Tamil Nadu	1
Uttar Pradesh	1
Total	6

[Translation]

Looting of Passengers

5016. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passengers of Varanasi-Kurla Holiday Express were looted at Satna (M.P.) on 25.4.98;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into this incident?

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) Details of individual incidents of crime are not maintained at the Central level. Registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. A separate organisation, known as the Government Railway Police (GRP), exists in the State to deal with crimes committed on trains and at Railway Stations.

[English]

Functioning of Foreign Intelligence Agencies

5017. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign intelligence Agencies are functioning in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the name of the countries involved in anti-national activities; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the activities of those agencies?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pakistani ISI has a concerted design to revive terrorism in Punjab and intensify militancy in Kashmir. It has also been instrumental in master-minding incidents of explosions in Delhi and elsewhere in buses, trains and other public places to cause panic. The investigation into the bomb blasts in Mumbai (Feb 27, 1998) has revealed that the explosions were caused by militants trained and motivated by Pak ISI. The arrest of 12 persons (including 04 Pak nationals) in July, 1998 at Hyderabad uncovered the existence of an elaborate hub-and-spoke network that has been established by the ISI under the banner of the Lashkar-e-taiba network.

(c) Pakistan.

(d) Government is aware of the sinister designs of Pak ISI to destabilise India by sponsoring terrorism and subversive activities in different parts of the country including its efforts to target and train misguided youth for engineering violence. A close and continuous watch is, therefore, being kept on the situation and all necessary efforts, including sustained operations against terrorists and subversive elements, are being made to ensure that such designs are not allowed to succeed. Government have taken several steps which include sensitising and gearing up of the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and co-ordinated actions by concerned Central and State agencies, border fencing, intensification of border patrolling, supply of equipments for effective observations during day and night, increase in number of Nakas (checkposts) as well as sensitising and alerting the State Governments regarding movement of Pak ISI agents, anti-national elements and insurgents.

Shortage of Life Saving Drugs

5018. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that shortage of essential life saving drugs have been reported many times in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such medicines; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure easy availability of essential life saving drugs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (c) Government is operating a system whereby localised shortage of medicines is reported by the State Drug Controllers to the concerned manufacturer(s) under intimation to this Department i.e. shortage are monitored at State level. On the basis of reports received in regard to shortages, the Department of Chemicals and Petro-chemicals takes up the matter with the concerned manufacturers for ensuring speedy availability of the medicines in the areas concerned.

A general analysis of the reports received indicate that no general shortage of essential/life saving drugs has come to notice. Localised short go of some particular branded formulations have been reported. In such instances of temporary shortages, it has been noticed that therapeutic equivalents of medicines are normally available.

[*Translation*]

Price of Levy Sugar

5019. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :
SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI MADHAVRAO PATIL :
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
SHRI BIJOY KUMAR "BIJOY" :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of levy sugar procured by the Government from Sugar Mills during 1996-97 and 1997-98 and the rate at which it was procured;

(b) whether the Government have not fixed the procurement price of levy sugar to be paid to sugar mills for the year 1997-98;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are considering to increase the procurement price of levy sugar;

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

(f) whether the price of levy sugar for 1997-98 has not been declared by the Government so far;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the levy price for 1997-98, 1998-99 is likely to be fixed; and

(h) the loss suffered by the States particularly by Uttar Pradesh due to this delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (g) During the 1996-97 Sugar Season (October-September), 41.30 lakh tonnes of levy sugar was procured, while in the 1997-98 Sugar Season (upto 15.06.1998), 33.5 lakh tonnes of levy sugar has been procured.

The procurement price for levy sugar fixed for the 1996-97 Sugar Season was Rs. 1,000.77 per qtl, while that for the 1997-98 Sugar Season, is Rs. 1,022.46 per qtl. The 1998-99 Sugar Season will commence from 1.10.1998, and the levy price for that Season will be notified in the course of the Season.

(h) The levy price, irrespective of when it is notified, is effective from the 1st of October of the Sugar Season to which it applies. Prior to the notification of the levy price for a Season, provisional payment is made to the Mills at the rate of the levy price for the previous Season, and after notification of the relevant Season's levy price, this is brought into effect retrospectively from 1st October of that Season. Therefore, no loss is suffered by any Sugar Mill.

[*English*]

Malpractices in Agencies

5020. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :
COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

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

(a) the details of Petrol/Diesel outlets and LPG agencies found indulging in malpractices in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of such outlets and agencies whose licences have been cancelled;

(c) the number of LPG distributors who have not been punished for committing irregularities since 1994;

(d) whether incidents of irregularities are increasing despite the action being taken against the distributors; and

(e) if so, the action plan formulated by the Government to take stringent action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The total number of malpractices/irregularities detected at retail outlets and LPG distributorships in the country during the last three years is given below:—

Retail Outlets	
Year	Number of malpractices/ irregularities detected
1995-96	295
1996-97	525
1997-98	602

LPG Distributorships	
Year	Number of malpractices/ irregularities detected
1995-96	650
1996-97	629
1997-98	556

(b) During April, 1995 to March, 1998, 10 retail outlets and 45 LPG distributorships found indulging in malpractices/irregularities were terminated.

(c) Since 1994, there are three cases of LPG distributorships where irregularities were detected during 1997-98 and final action is to be taken against them.

(d) During the last 3 years, malpractices/irregularities at retail outlets have shown an increasing trend. In the case of LPG distributorships, the number of malpractices/irregularities slightly decreased during 1996-97 and slightly increased during 1997-98.

(e) In order to check adulteration and other malpractices at retail outlets, steps such as furfural doping of kerosene, blue-dyeing of kerosene, and density checks, are taken and regular/surprise inspections at retail outlets by the field officers of oil companies, inspections by Joint Industry Teams, mobile laboratories and officers of State Government enforcement agencies are carried out.

The oil industry has been launching special drives for checking malpractices including adulteration at retail outlets and has been conducting campaigns for educating the customers.

Action is taken against the erring dealers under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines. Action is also taken by the State Government enforcement agencies under the Essential Commodities Act and the MS/HSD Control Order.

In the case of LPG distributorships, regular/surprise inspections are carried out by oil companies officials. Inspections are also carried out by State Government enforcement agencies. Action is taken against the erring distributors under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

[Translation]

Fair Price Shops in Delhi

5021. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the black marketing of ration on fair price shops in Delhi;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check this practice; and

(c) the number of cases of black marketing detected during 1997-98 and the action taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. Information/complaints are received in this regard from time to time.

(b) On the basis of information/complaints the officials of Food & Supplies Department of Government of NCT of Delhi carry out checking of Fair Price Shops (FPS).

(c) Government of NCT of Delhi have reported that during 1997-98, 840 fair price shops were checked by the Enforcement Branch of Food & Supplies Department of the Government of NCT of Delhi. In 21 cases, FIRs

were recorded against the FPS holders concerned for taking action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. In 65 cases proceedings for suspension/cancellation of the authorisation of FPS were initiated. In 663 cases proceedings for the imposition of penalties on the authorisation holders were initiated.

Production and Marketing

5022. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL :
DR. RAVI MALLU :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the present policy of the Government regarding production and marketing of chemicals and fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said policy is being reviewed from time to time.

(d) if so, whether there is any controversy involved therein; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (e) Out of the three main fertilizer nutrients required for agriculture, raw materials are available in the country mainly for nitrogen. The Government policy has aimed at achieving optimum self-sufficiency in the production of nitrogenous fertilizers based on the utilisation of indigenous feedstocks. The major requirement of phosphate, either in the form of raw materials or finished fertilizers, and the entire requirement of potash, are imported. There are no known commercially exploitable potash reserves in the country.

At present, urea is the only fertilizer which is under price, distribution and movement control. The requirement of urea for each crop season is assessed in respect of each State and Union Territory and a detailed supply plan indicating the quantities to be supplied by the manufacturers is formulated. The gap between the requirement so assessed and the likely availability through domestic sources is bridged by imported urea. In the case of all other fertilizers, which are made by the Central Government. The demand and supply of decontrolled fertilizers are governed by the market forces. The scheme of concession on the sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers also influences the demand and supply of these fertilizers. Government is not aware of any controversy in regard to the marketing policy of fertilizers.

Consequent upon the liberalisation of the Industrial Policy in July 1991, the production of chemicals, with the exception of a few hazardous chemicals, has been delicensed. The entrepreneurs are only required to file an Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum (I.E.M.) with the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion before taking up the production of these items. In respect of hazardous chemicals, an Industrial Licence is required for its production, which is granted by Government taking into consideration various aspects like environmental pollution, safety angle, etc. Government does not monitor the pricing, distribution or marketing of chemicals in the country.

[English]

Reimbursement of Security related Expenditure

5023. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have reimbursed security related expenditure to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the requests from some other States including Tripura for reimbursement of security related expenditure are pending with the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the time by which the reimbursement is likely to be made by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has reimbursed Rs. 1045.31 crores to the State of Jammu and Kashmir during the period 1990-98 (which includes Rs. 146.97 crores for elections) and Rs. 131.91 crores to the State of Assam for the period 1990-95, as security related expenditure.

In the case of Punjab, no security related expenditure was reimbursed. However the instalments of Principal and interest for the years 1997-2000 pertaining to the Special Term Loans given to Punjab during the years 1984-85 to 1993-94, amounting to Rs. 2114.66 crores, has been waived by centre.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Central Government are in the process of formulating and finalising the eligibility criteria and the

guidelines for reimbursement of security related expenditure in respect of North-Eastern States. Reimbursement would be possible after approval of the guidelines and adequate provision of funds in this regard.

Naphtha Based Urea Factory

5024. SHRI LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to give clearance to naphtha based urea factory; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) No industrial licence is normally required for setting up a fertilizer plant. Due assistance in securing feedstock linkages is provided to the entrepreneurs seeking to set up fertilizer plants. The allocation of naphtha is made by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas. The processing of requests for naphtha allocation in respect of six project proposals has been kept on hold pending finalisation of the decision of the Government on the Report of the High Powered Fertilizers Pricing Policy Review Committee. These proposals pertain to the States of Andhra Pradesh (2), Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh.

Child Labourer

5025. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of child labourer engaged in agricultural and domestic sectors, State-wise;

(b) the details of child labourer engaged in glass, bangle, fire-works and match factories; and

(c) the action plan formulated to abolish child labour in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) Industry-wise figures of the number of working children are not maintained.

(c) Government have taken a series of steps for the elimination of child labour working in hazardous occupations. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, the employment of children is

prohibited in 7 occupations and 18 processes contained in parts A & B of the schedule to the Act. National Child Labour Projects have been set up for rehabilitation of child labour working in hazardous occupations. A major activity undertaken under the child labour projects is the establishment of special schools to provide non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend, health-care etc. So far 76 child labour projects have been set up for the rehabilitation of 1.5 lakh working children in 11 child labour endemic states. This issue was also deliberated up-or by Hon'ble Supreme Court, which has given several directions, in its Judgement dated 10.12.96, including payment of compensation by the employers employing children in hazardous occupation. The Government has already taken a number of steps to implement these directions.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Police

5026. SHRI MOTILAL VORA :
SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE:
SHRI K.P. NAIDU :
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to modernise the State police force in the country particularly in military affected States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the budget provisions made by the Government in this regard during the current financial year, State-wise;

(d) the total amount demanded by each State for the year 1998-99;

(e) whether these demands have been examined by the Government; and

(f) if so, the final decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (f) Since "Police" is a State subject as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to modernise their police forces. However, to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in the matter of

improving their police related infrastructure, Central financial assistance is being provided to them since 1969-70, on matching basis, under the Scheme of or Modernisation of State Police Force. This Scheme, inter alia, covers assistance for meeting special problems being faced by various States. Financial assistance provided to various States during the year 1997-98 is given in the Statement enclosed.

The approved allocation under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces for the current financial year i.e. 1998-99 is Rs. 50.00 crores. In order to combat militancy/extremism, the following States have demanded financial assistance during 1998-99 as under:—

S.No.	Name of the State Government	Special assistance sought (Rs. in crores)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	197.90
2.	Bihar	70.18
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	13.45
4.	Karnataka	9.00
5.	Madhya Pradesh	16.22
6.	Orissa	1.50
7.	Tamil Nadu	10.00
Total		318.25

These proposals are under examination.

Statement

The Funds released to various State Governments during the financial year 1997-98

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of State	Amount released during 1997-98
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	1209.560
Arunachal Pradesh	96.270
Assam	47.715

1	2
Bihar	783.120
Goa	No funds released
Gujarat	150.180
Haryana	71.710
Himachal Pradesh	20.345
Jammu & Kashmir	81.540
Karnataka	150.800
Kerala	113.990
Madhya Pradesh	387.820
Maharashtra	No funds released
Manipur	217.315
Meghalaya	51.880
Mizoram	87.780
Nagaland	238.430
Orissa	164.610
Punjab	284.650
Rajasthan	154.920
Sikkim	43.015
Tamil Nadu	296.750
Tripura	246.530
Uttar Pradesh	626.300
West Bengal	174.770
Total	5750.000

Note : No funds were released during 1997-98 to the Governments of Goa and Maharashtra because they had not furnished complete Utilisation Certificates for the funds released during 1996-97.

Asthang Treatment in Ayurveda

5027. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether surgery had an important place in Asthang Treatment in Ayurveda;

(b) whether post-mortem is also being done in Ayurvedic colleges to impart knowledge about surgery; and

(c) if so, the further steps being taken by the Government to impart knowledge at par to Allopathy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Surgery, i.e. Shalya Tantra is one of the eight branches of Ashtang Ayurved.

(b) and (c) Post Mortem is not done in Ayurved colleges at present, however, ayurvedic students are taught forensic medicine, i.e., Agad Tantra and Vyavahar Ayurved and are taken to modern hospitals for demonstration of Post Mortem Examinations.

Even at present students are being taught modern surgery along with Shalya Tantra of Ayurved.

[English]

Maintenance of Buildings in Chandigarh

5028. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government or the Chandigarh Administration have allocated any funds for the maintenance of Government Buildings in Chandigarh during the last three years;

(b) the total amount actually spent on the maintenance of these buildings; and

(c) the number of buildings are in occupation of the States of Punjab and Haryana and the Union Territory of Chandigarh, separately?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The expenditure incurred

on the maintenance of these Government buildings during last three years is indicated below:

Year	Amount spent (in lakhs of rupees)
1995-96	540.60
1996-97	643.50
1997-98	762.42

(c) The number of non-residential Government buildings under occupation of various agencies is as follows:—

(i) Government of Punjab	10
(ii) Government of Haryana	6
(iii) Jointly by the Government of Punjab and Haryana	3
(iv) Chandigarh Administration	470

In addition, there are 15,028 residential units allotted to the employees of the State Governments of Punjab and Haryana and Chandigarh Administration as per prescribed procedures.

TB Cases in Rural Areas

5029. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tuberculosis has re-emerged and spreading at an alarming rate in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to eradicate it especially in poverty stricken rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The trend of T.B. cases in the country reported under the Programme over last several years has been more or less static. However, under the National T.B. Control Programme the treatment completion rate was only about 40%. To achieve a cure rate of atleast 85%, a revised strategy, which was pilot tested in India, has been introduced with World Bank assistance. The Government proposes to extend the

revised strategy in 102 districts and strengthen 203 S.C.C. districts for adoption of the revised strategy in future.

[*Translation*]

Nylon Filament Yarn

5030. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether handloom weavers of Nylon Filament Yarn have been adversely affected due to the unprecedented increase made in the prices of Nylon;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase made in the prices of Nylon during the last six months;

(c) the reasons for the steep hike in the prices of nylon; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (d) The prices of Nylon Filament Yarn (NFY) have exhibited down trend during the last 6 months. The prices of NFY in June, 1998 was about 5% lower than those prevailing in the month of January, 1998. In the Budget 1998-99 basic excise duty on NFY has been reduced from 30% to 25% and basic customs duty on Caprolactam, the raw material for manufacture of NFY, has been reduced from 30% to 25%. These measures are expected to have favourable impact on prices of NFY. There is no price control on NFY and its prices are market driven. NFY is freely importable under O.G.L.

[*English*]

Model Fire Bill

5031. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had circulated a 'Model Fire Bill' to all the State Governments for adoption and suggestions;

(b) whether many State Governments have not adopted the "Model Fire Bill" even after 40 years of its circulation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts made or being made by the Government to press upon the State Governments for its adoption?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) A Model Fire Force Bill, prepared by the Central Government, was circulated to the State Governments in the year 1958 for enactment. According to available information, 13 States, viz. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura and Sikkim have not adopted the Bill so far. The Central Government has time and again impressed upon the State Governments to enact the Bill. However, as the matter primarily relates to the States Governments, it is for them to ensure the enactment to the Bill.

Installed Capacity of Sugar Mills

5032. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of sugar and target fixed for the production of sugar during the current year, State-wise;

(b) the estimated quantity of sugar produced by various sugar mills, so far, State-wise;

(c) whether the production of sugarcane is more than the installed capacity to sugar mills;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the installed capacity of sugar mills and the percentage of capacity to which the mills were working since 1995, State-wise;

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the functioning of sugar mills and better prices for farmers;

(g) whether the sugarcane is lying unlifted due to non-procurement by the mills; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor and the loss suffered by the farmers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL

SINGH YADAV : (a) The estimated requirement of sugar for internal consumption, during the current sugar season 1997-98, is 143.0 lakh tonnes. No targets for production of sugar are fixed as it depends on various factors like climatic conditions, availability of sugarcane, recovery percentage of sugar from the sugarcane crushed, etc.

(b) The production of sugar during the current sugar season (1997-98) State-wise as on 15.6.98 is given in Statement-I

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Apart from its utilisation for production of sugar, sugarcane is also utilised for production of gur, khandsari, and for chewing and seed purposes.

(e) The installed capacity of the sugar mills of the country as on 31.5.98 was 141.67 lakh tonnes. A statement showing State-wise installed capacity of sugar mills and the capacity utilisation for the sugar seasons 1995-96 and 1996-97 is at Statement-II.

(f) The various short & long term measures taken by the Government to improve the functioning of sugar mills and to assist sugarcane farmers, are as under:—

- (i) Early crushing incentive by way of partial exemption from statutory levy for the production in the period 1.10.97 to 15.11.97;
- (ii) Late crushing incentive by way of partial exemption statutory levy for the production in the period 2.5.98 to 31.7.98;
- (iii) Providing low-interest loans from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for purchase of inputs for improved cultivation of sugarcane by farmers;
- (iv) Providing low-interest loans from the Sugar Development Fund for projects relating to cane development and modernisation/expansion of existing sugar mills;
- (v) Graded exemption from statutory levy for setting up of new capacity for production of sugar;
- (vi) Providing of buffer subsidy from the Sugar Development Fund to sugar mills during the period in which the stocks are abnormally high.

(g) and (h) During the sugar season 1997-98, no report has been received regarding unlifted sugarcane. In

fact, the perception of the Sugar Industry is that there has been inadequate availability of sugarcane.

Statement I

Quantity of Sugar Produced by Sugar Mills Upto 15.6.1998 during the Current Sugar Season 1997-98 (Oct.-Sept)

Sl. No.	States	Qty. in lakh tonnes
1.	Punjab	3.07
2.	Haryana	3.81
3.	Rajasthan	0.23
4.	Uttar Pradesh	39.04
5.	Madhya Pradesh	0.71
6.	Gujarat	8.84
7.	Maharashtra	38.55
8.	Bihar	3.08
9.	Assam	0.03
10.	Orissa	0.57
11.	West Bengal	0.03
12.	Nagaland	—
13.	Andhra Pradesh	7.76
14.	Karnataka	8.69
15.	Tamil Nadu	10.96
16.	Pondicherry	0.37
17.	Kerala	0.05
18.	Goa	0.10
All India Total		125.89

Statement II

Statement showing State-wise installed capacity of Sugar Mills and the Capacity Utilisation for the Sugar Seasons 1995-96 and 1996-97

State	1995-96		1996-97	
	Installed Capacity (Lakh Tonnes)	Capacity Utilisation %	Installed Capacity (Lakh Tonnes)	Capacity Utilisation %
1	2	3	4	5
Punjab	6.249	101.13	6.249	98.09
Haryana	3.914	115.99	4.266	114.86
Rajasthan	0.232	99.13	0.232	80.13
Uttar Pradesh	34.793	125.31	36.389	112.23
Madhya Pradesh	0.987	130.69	0.937	88.14
Gujarat	8.537	131.89	8.963	107.88
Maharashtra	39.8657	134.85	43.005	80.13
Bihar	4.122	91.94	4.007	90.34
Assam	0.184	38.04	0.184	27.17
West Bengal	0.067	119.4	0.067	74.62
Orissa	1.018	80.55	1.018	76.62
Andhra Pradesh	6.788	127.57	7.498	103.02

1	2	3	4	5
Karnataka	8.366	151.44	8.366	103.99
Tamil Nadu	12.83	128.42	12.725	82.51
Nagaland	0.064	15.62	0.064	
Pondicherry	0.383	148.82	0.383	86.16
Kerala	0.17	76.47	0.102	49.01
Goa	0.093	204.3	0.093	161.29
Total	128.4627		134.593	

Child Labour Rehabilitation Act

5033. SHRI CHANDRASEKHAR SAHU :
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made to reduce the number of child labour in fire cracker Industry of Sivakashi in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of child labour in the country, Industry-wise/Mine-wise and State-wise;

(c) the details of action taken by the Government for reducing the child labour in the country; and

(d) the details of child labour rehabilitated in each State?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) As per the 1991 census, the number of working children State-wise is given in the statement enclosed. Industry-wise/Mine-wise figures are not maintained.

Government have taken a series of steps for rehabilitating child labour working in hazardous occupations. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, employment of children is prohibited in 7 occupations and 18 processes contained in Parts A and B of the Schedule to the Act. Apart from legal measures, National Child Labour Projects have been set up. A major activity undertaken under the Projects is the establishment of Special Schools to provide non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend, health-care etc. to children withdrawn from employment. So far 76 Child Labour Projects have been set up for the rehabilitation of 1.5 lakh children in 11 child labour endemic states. In Sivakasi, Kamarajar districts in Tamil Nadu, 87 special schools have been set up for rehabilitation of working children.

Statement*State-wise Distribution of working Children according to 1991 Census*

State/Union Territories	Total Workers
1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	1,661,940
2. Assam	327,598
3. Bihar	942,245
4. Gujarat	523,585
5. Haryana	109,691
6. Himachal Pradesh	56,438
7. Jammu and Kashmir	**
8. Karnataka	976,247
9. Kerala	34,800
10. Madhya Pradesh	1,352,563
11. Maharashtra	1,068,413
12. Manipur	16,493
13. Meghalaya	34,633
14. Nagaland	16,476
15. Orissa	452,394
16. Punjab	142,868
17. Rajasthan	774,199
18. Sikkim	5,598
19. Tamilnadu	578,889
20. Tripura	16,478

1	2
21. Uttar Pradesh	1,410,086
22. West Bengal	711,691
23. Andman & Nicobar Island	1,265
24. Arunachal Pradesh	12,395
25. Chandigarh	1,870
26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4,416
27. Delhi	27,351
28. Daman & Diu	941
29. Goa	4,656
30. Lakshadweep	34
31. Mizoram	16,411
32. Pondicherry	2,680
11,285,349	

**Census could not be conducted.

NB : Figures for 1991 relates to workers of age group 5-14 years.

[Translation]

FCI Godowns

5034. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :
DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI :
SHRIMATI USHA VERMA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of godowns of Food Corporation of India at present and the quantity of foodgrains stored therein, separately location-wise;

(b) the reasons for taking much time in loading and unloading of foodgrains at these godowns;

(c) the quantity of foodgrains gone waste in the godowns of Food Corporation of India in Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years;

(d) the reasons for less inflow of foodgrains in these godowns this year;

(Figs. in MT)

(e) whether the godowns of FCI are in dilapidated condition in various States;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of these godowns; and

(h) the amount spent on the maintenance and development of these godowns during each of the last three years, State-wise?

Years	Rice	Paddy in terms of rice
1994-95	16778	160
1995-96	22593	214
*1996-97	21293	288

*Provisional figures.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) A Statement-I showing State-wise and agency-wise storage capacity and foodgrains stored therein is enclosed.

(b) Normally the loading and unloading are being done strictly in accordance with the monthly movement plans finalised in consultation with the Railways. There may be occasions when same delay may occur for reasons beyond the control on FCI.

(c) the quantity of foodgrains gone waste in the godowns of FCI in Uttar Pradesh is as under:—

(d) The capacity utilisation in these godowns being more than 80%, indicates that the inflow of foodgrains is adequate.

(e) No, Sir. The godowns in the FCI are being maintained on regular basis. As and when any repairs are required the same are attended to, promptly.

(f) and (g) Not applicable in view of what is stated at (e) above.

(h) The details of expenditure incurred on maintenance and development of the godowns of FCI during the last three years, State-wise, are furnished at Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise and Agency-wise Storage Capacity and Foodgrains Stored

Position as on 31.5.1998
(Fig. in '000 Tonnes)

Position as on	Covered			CAP (Open)			Grand Total
	Owned	Hired	Total	Owned	Hired	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I. Position as on 31.5.98							
1. Capacity	12475.96	7607.63	20083.59	1624.56	2490.73	4115.29	24198
2. Stocks	9918.14	6904.67	16822.81	723.72	2259.32	2983.04	19805
3. Utilisation	79%	91%	84%	45%	91%	72%	82%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
II. Position as on 30.4.1998								
1. Capacity	12439.23	6991.83	19431.06	1595.87	1791.87	3390.85	22821	
2. Stocks	9015.84	6080.15	15095.99	433.84	1348.25	1782.09	16878	
3. Utilisation	72%	87%	78%	22%	75%	53%	74%	
III. Position as on 31.5.1998								
1. Capacity	12422.67	6935.09	19357.76	1514.94	1440.35	2955.29	22313.05	
2. Stocks	7452.48	5186.30	12638.78	326.18	741.70	1067.88	13706.60	
3. Utilisation	60%	75%	65%	22%	51%	36%	61%	

Statement showing the Storage Capacity (Owned & Hired/Covered & CAP), Stocks held and its %age utilisation available with Food Corporation of India as on 31.05.1998

Sl. No.	Name of the State Union Territory	Covered						Total (Hired)	Total (Covered) (4 to 8)	CAP (OPEN)			Grant Total	
		FCI Owned	Hired From		Private Party		Owned			Hired	Total			
State Govt.	C.W.C.		S.W.C.	Ardc.	Genl.	(3+9)		(11+12+13)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
I	N.E.F. Zone													
1.	(*) Assam Region													
1.	Assam	Capacity	187.16	3.70	—	11.19	—	73.30	88.19	275.35	—	—	—	275.35
		Stocks	82.48	3.06		10.57		42.20	55.83	138.31				138.31
		Utilisation	44%	83%		94%		58%	63%	50%				50%
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Capacity	17.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	17.50	—	—	—	17.50
		Stocks	3.04							3.04				3.0
		Utilz.	17%							17%				17%
Total of Assam Region	Capacity		204.66	3.70	—	11.19	—	73.30	88.19	292.85	—	—	—	292.85
	Stocks		85.52	3.06		10.57		42.20	55.83	141.35				141.35
	Utilz.		42%	83%		94%		58%	63%	48%				48%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3.	N.E.F. Region												
(a)	Meghalaya	Capacity	10.00	6.80	—	—	—	6.80	16.80	—	—	—	16.80
		Stocks	3.68	1.25				1.25	4.93				4.93
		Utilz.	37%	18%				18%	29%				23%
(b)	Manipur	Capacity	12.50	1.00	—	—	—	1.00	13.50	—	—	—	13.50
		Stocks	1.35	0.38				0.38	1.73				1.73
		Utilz.	11%	38%				38%	13%				13%
(c)	Mizoram	Capacity	17.59	1.00	—	—	—	3.79	4.79	22.38	—	—	22.38
		Stocks	2.50	0.05				0.64	0.69	3.19			3.19
		Utilz.	14%	05%				17%	14%	14%			14%
(d)	Nagaland	Capacity	7.72	—	10.13	—	—	3.20	13.33	21.05	—	—	21.05
		Stocks	0.74		6.96			1.55	8.51	9.25			9.25
		Utilz.	10%		59%			48%	64%	44%			44%
(e)	Tripura	Capacity	17.47	4.80	10.92	—	—	1.67	17.39	34.86	—	—	34.86
		Stocks	4.18	3.85	7.12	—	—	0.57	11.54	15.72			15.72
		Utilz.	24%	80%	65%			34%	66%	45%			45%
Total of	Capacity		65.28	13.60	21.05	—	—	8.66	43.31	108.59	—	—	108.59
N.E.F. Region	Stocks		12.45	5.53	14.08			2.76	22.37	34.82			34.82
	Utilz.		19%	41%	67%			39%	52%	32%			32%
Total of	Capacity		269.94	17.30	21.05	11.19	—	81.96	131.50	401.44	—	—	401.44
N.E.F. Zone	Stocks		97.97	8.59	14.08	10.57		44.96	78.20	176.17			176.17
	Utilz.		36%	50%	67%	94%		55%	59%	44%			44%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
II. East Zone														
4.	Bihar.	Capacity	411.08	8.44	27.92	20.50	—	84.68	141.54	552.62	—	—	—	552.62
		Stocks	265.93	5.72	26.39	22.99		83.86	138.96	404.89				404.89
		Utilz.	65%	68%	95%	112%		99%	98%	73%				73%
5.	Orissa.	Capacity	253.83	2.90	58.95	115.80	—	15.00	192.65	446.48	—	—	—	446.48
		Stocks	246.39	0.74	46.95	115.39		17.64	180.72	427.11				427.11
		Utilz.	97%	36%	80%	100%		118%	94%	96%				96%
West Bengal														
6.	West Bengal	Capacity	291.34	102.75	12.60	3.70	57.17	12.20	188.42	479.76	—	—	—	479.76
		Stocks	279.16	66.09	6.45	2.12	19.47	9.89	104.02	383.18				383.18
		Utilz.	96%	64%	51%	57%	34%	81%	55%	80%				80%
7.	J.M. (PO) Cal.	Capacity	559.77	67.00	—	—	40.00	—	107.00	666.77	—	—	—	666.77
		Stocks	309.49	26.50			29.77		56.27	365.76				365.76
		Utilz.	55%	40%			74%		53%	55%				55%
Total of		Capacity	851.11	169.75	12.60	3.70	97.17	12.20	295.42	1146.53	—	—	—	1146.53
West Bengal.		Stocks	588.65	92.59	6.45	2.12	49.24	9.89	160.29	748.94				748.94
		Utilz.	69%	54%	51%	57%	51%	81%	54%	65%				65%
8.	Sikkim	Capacity	7.30	2.65	—	—	—	6.61	9.26	16.56	—	—	—	16.56
		Stocks	5.27	5.06				10.17	15.23	20.50				20.50
		Utilz.	72%	191%				154%	164%	124%				124%
Total of		Capacity	1523.32	183.74	99.47	140.00	97.17	118.49	638.87	2162.19				2162.19
East Zone:		Stocks	1106.24	104.11	79.79	140.50	49.24	121.56	495.20	1601.44				1601.44
		Utilz.	73%	57%	80%	100%	51%	103%	77%	74%				74%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
III. North Zone														
9.	Delhi	Capacity	354.01	—	5.00	—	—	—	5.00	359.01	8.50	—	8.50	367.51
		Stocks	254.13		4.17				4.17	258.30	4.67	—	4.67	262.97
		Utilz.	72%		83%				83%	72%	55%		55%	72%
10.	Haryana	Capacity	770.90	6.38	69.84	109.80	260.00	—	446.02	1216.92	303.63	22.00	325.63	1542.55
		Stocks	706.84	7.37	69.84	110.77	270.31		458.29	1165.13	96.36	17.57	115.93	1281.06
		Utilz.	92%	115%	100%	100%	103%		103%	96%	32%	80%	36%	83%
11.	Himachal Pradesh	Capacity	10.84	9.38	5.37	—	—	0.87	15.62	26.46	—	—	—	26.46
		Stocks	8.05	17.15	4.00			3.31	24.46	32.51				32.51
		Utilz.	74%	182%	74%			380%	157%	123%				123%
12.	J. & K.	Capacity	77.34	23.60	—	—	—	—	23.60	100.94	10.00	—	10.00	110.94
		Stocks	50.11	17.06					17.06	67.17	—	—	—	67.17
		Utilz.	65%	72%					72%	67%	—	—	—	61%
Punjab Region														
13.	Punjab	Capacity	2103.54	327.32	322.58	743.40	1295.46	60.37	2749.13	4852.67	452.51	1905.26	2357.77	7210.44
		Stocks	1972.68	312.88	308.67	715.82	1228.26	60.79	2626.42	4599.10	355.72	1740.69	2096.41	6695.51
		Utilz.	94%	95%	96%	96%	95%	100%	96%	95%	79%	91%	89%	93%
14.	Chandigarh	Capacity	39.94	0.50	17.33	4.20	—	—	22.03	61.97	2.90	11.38	14.28	76.25
		Stocks	37.20	—	18.21	4.20			22.41	59.61	—	4.33	4.33	63.94
		Utilz.	93%	—	100%	100%			102%	96%	—	38%	30%	84%
Total of		Capacity	2143.48	327.82	339.91	747.60	1295.46	60.37	2771.16	4914.64	455.41	1916.64	2372.05	7286.69
Punjab Region		Stocks	2008.88	312.88	326.88	720.02	1228.26	60.79	2648.83	4658.71	355.72	1746.02	2100.74	6759.45
		Utilz.	94%	95%	96%	96%	95%	100%	96%	95%	77%	91%	89%	93%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15.	Rajasthan	Capacity	707.03	—	18.24	68.90	148.35	1.00	236.49	943.52	154.05	177.08	331.13	1274.65
		Stocks	643.45		18.24	70.60	144.47	0.72	234.03	877.48	64.47	231.23	295.70	1173.18
		Utilz.	91%		100%	100%	97%	72%	99%	93%	42%	131%	89%	92%
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Capacity	1501.58	133.68	274.72	423.69	83.84	52.46	968.39	2469.97	355.44	250.07	605.51	3075.48
		Stocks	1130.85	131.63	281.54	425.09	78.24	30.25	946.75	2077.60	45.21	226.28	271.49	2349.09
		Utilz.	75%	98%	102%	100%	93%	58%	98%	84%	13%	90%	45%	76%
		Capacity	5565.18	500.86	713.08	1349.99	1787.65	114.70	4466.28	11031.46	1287.03	2365.79	3652.82	13684.28
		Stocks	4803.31	486.09	704.67	1326.48	1721.28	95.07	4333.59	9136.90	568.43	2220.10	2788.53	11925.43
		Utilz.	86%	97%	99%	98%	97%	83%	97%	91%	44%	94%	76%	87%
South Zone														
Andhra Pradesh														
17.	Andhra Pradesh	Capacity	1140.09	—	563.54	358.40	—	63.92	985.86	2125.95	114.58	—	114.58	2240.53
		Stocks	1058.75		533.64	317.82		56.03	987.49	1966.24	88.85		88.85	2055.09
		Utilz.	93%		95%	89%		88%	92%	92%	78%		78%	92%
18.		Capacity	41.56	—	—	—	—	—	—	41.56	—	—	—	41.56
		Stocks	21.56							21.96				21.96
		Utilz.	53%							53%				53%
Total of														
		Capacity	1181.65	—	563.54	358.40	—	63.92	985.86	2167.51	114.58	—	114.58	2281.09
Andhra Pradesh														
		Stocks	1080.71		533.64	317.82		56.03	907.49	1988.20	88.85		88.85	2077.05
		Utilz.	91%		95%	89%		88%	92%	92%	78%		78%	91%
19. Kerala														
		Capacity	524.52	—	5.00	0.33	6.25	—	11.68	536.20	—	—	—	536.20
		Stocks	456.51		4.68	0.33	3.02		8.03	464.54				464.54
		Utilz.	87%		94%	100%	48%		69%	87%				87%
20. Karnataka														
		Capacity	273.87	—	59.00	74.85	—	20.45	154.30	428.17	51.65	—	51.65	479.82
		Stocks	246.94		44.18	64.81		16.56	125.55	372.49	14.37		14.37	386.86
		Utilz.	90%		75%	87%		81%	81%	73%	28%		28%	81%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Tamil Nadu Region														
21.	Tamil Nadu	Capacity	547.28	3.60	157.76	54.69	—	—	216.05	763.33	10.00	—	10.00	773.33
		Stocks	418.53	0.15	126.25	44.89			171.29	589.82	7.73	—	7.73	597.50
		Utilz.	76%	04%	80%	82%			79%	77%	77%		77%	77%
22.	J.M. (P.O) Madras.	Capacity	40.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	40.00	—	—	—	40.00
		Stocks	19.56							19.56				19.56
		Utilz.	49%							49%				49%
23.	Pondicherry	Capacity	41.20	—	—	—	—	—	—	41.20	—	—	—	41.20
		Stocks	29.39							29.39				29.39
		Utilz.	71%							71%				71%
<hr/>														
Total of		Capacity	628.48	3.60	157.76	54.69	—	—	216.05	844.53	10.00	—	10.00	854.50
Tamilnadu		Stocks	467.48	0.15	126.25	44.89			171.29	638.77	7.73		7.73	646.50
		Utilz.	74%	04%	80%	82%			79%	76%	77%		77%	76%
<hr/>														
Total of		Capacity	2608.52	3.60	785.30	488.27	6.35	84.37	1367.89	3976.41	176.23	—	176.23	4152.64
South Zone		Stocks	2251.64	0.15	708.75	427.85	3.02	72.59	1212.36	3464.00	110.95		110.95	3574.95
		Utilz.	86%	04%	90%	88%	48%	86%	89%	87%	63%		63%	86%
<hr/>														
V. West Zone														
Gujarat State														
24.	Gujarat	Capacity	347.51	12.11	26.46	—	—	209.38	247.95	595.46	19.98	29.94	49.92	645.38
		Stocks	238.97	6.06	26.46			123.98	156.50	395.47	19.50	22.52	42.02	437.49
		Utilz.	69%	90%	100%			59%	63%	66%	98%	75%	84%	68%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
25.	JM (PO)	Capacity	143.86	—	3.88	—	—	—	3.88	147.74	62.00	—	62.00	209.7
	Kandla	Stocks	91.14		3.88				3.88	95.02	13.59		13.59	108.6
		Utilz.	63%		100%				100%	64%	22%		22%	52%
Total of	Capacity	491.37	12.11	30.34	—	—	209.38	251.83	743.20	81.96	29.94	111.92	855.1	
Gujarat.	Stocks	330.11	6.06	30.34			123.98	160.38	490.49	33.09	22.52	55.61	546.1	
	Utilz.	67%	50%	100%			59%	64%	66%	40%	75%	50%	64%	
Maharashtra Region														
26.	Maharashtra.	Capacity	1177.11	75.89	81.05	31.01	42.52	—	230.45	1407.56	62.33	—	62.33	1469.89
		Stocks	576.27	18.20	75.41	22.58	32.72	—	148.91	725.18	—	—	—	725.18
		Utilz.	49%	24%	93%	73%	77%		65%	52%	—	—	—	49%
27.	Goa.	Capacity	15.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	15.00	—	—	—	15.00
		Stocks	10.33							10.33				10.33
		Utilz.	69%							69%				69%
Total of	Capacity	1192.11	75.89	81.05	31.01	42.50	—	230.45	1422.56	62.33	—	62.33	1484.89	
Maharashtra	Stocks	586.60	18.20	75.41	22.58	32.72		148.91	735.51	—	—	—	735.51	
	Utilz.	49%	24%	93%	73%	77%		65%	52%	—	—	—	50%	
28.	Madhya-	Capacity	825.52	30.71	161.78	203.04		125.28	520.81	1346.33	16.99	95.00	111.99	1458.32
	Pradesh.	Stocks	742.27	25.40	151.92	186.85	—	111.86	476.03	1218.30	11.25	10.70	27.95	1246.25
		Utilz.	90%	83%	94%	92%		89%	91%	90%	66%	18%	25%	85%
Total of West Zone	Capacity	2509.00	118.71	273.17	234.05	42.50	334.66	1003.09	3512.09	161.30	124.94	286.24	3798.86	
	Stocks	1658.98	49.66	257.67	209.43	32.72	235.84	785.32	2444.30	44.34	39.22	83.56	2527.86	
	Utilz.	66%	42%	94%	89%	77%	70%	78%	70%	27%	31%	29%	67%	
Grand Total	Capacity	12475.96	824.21	1892.07	2223.50	1933.67	734.18	7607.63	20083.59	1624.56	2490.73	4115.29	24198.88	
(All India)	Stocks	9918.14	648.60	1764.96	2114.83	1806.26	570.02	6904.67	16822.81	723.72	2259.32	2983.04	19805.85	
	Utilisation	79%	79%	93%	95%	93%	78%	91%	34%	45%	91%	72%	82%	

Note:—(1) Figures of Stocks based on Regional Offices's dates.

(2) (*) Position as on 30.04.1998.

Statement II

State-wise amount spent on maintenance and development on FCI Godowns during the last three years.

(Amount in Rs. Lakhs)

Name of the State		1995-96	1996-97 (Prov.)	1997-98 (R.E.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	J & K	29.32	37.27	38.42
2.	Punjab	119.90	113.19	116.63
3.	Haryana	68.82	65.77	67.18
4.	Uttar Pradesh	108.07	152.27	156.97
5.	Rajasthan	54.46	65.86	67.89
6.	Delhi	42.02	40.02	41.25
7.	Himachal Pradesh	0.18	0.68	0.70
8.	Andhra Pradesh	276.51	359.02	370.10
9.	Tamil Nadu	81.68	119.29	123.49
10.	Karnataka	53.11	61.76	63.67
11.	Kerala	148.53	141.58	145.95

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	109.38	98.77	101.82
13.	Maharashtra	188.13	207.73	214.14
14.	Gujarat + Kandla	106.51	113.37	116.87
15.	Bihar	85.63	79.08	81.52
16.	Orissa	67.21	63.32	65.27
17.	West Bengal (SRM)	107.12	103.49	106.68
18.	-do- (PO Calcutta)	65.78	149.46	154.07
19.	Assam	30.41	42.24	43.54
20.	N.E.F. (Shillong)	7.96	21.31	21.97
21.	Zonal Office (NE)	—	1.81	1.87
Total		1750.73	2037.14	2100.00

[English]

Tripartite Committee

5035. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted industry-wise tripartite committee to study the problems of some industries;

(b) if so, the date by which the committees met last time and the decisions taken in those meetings; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to implement the decisions taken by those committees?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details of dates when these industrial Committees met last, decision taken in these Committees and the progress regarding implementation of these decisions is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Name of the Industrial Tripartite Committee and the Date on which the Meeting was last held	Main Decisions of the Meeting and Action Taken thereon
1	2
Industrial Committee on Sugar Industry, 15.12.97	<p>There was consensus that another Wage Board for Sugar Industry need not be constituted in the near future. It was agreed that a considerable expertise is required for framing a national wage policy and this cannot be done in the present framework of the Industrial Tripartite Committee. However, a Background paper on Sugar industry could be prepared after calling for detailed information from Ministry of Food, Ministry of Agriculture, Bureau of Industrial Cost & Prices, State Governments, management and workers representatives.</p> <p>The draft Background paper has been prepared and is in the process of being finalised.</p>
Industrial Committee on Cotton Textiles, 8.11.95	<p>It was concluded that all the problems relating to the textile industry would be discussed in the next meeting in the presence of Textile Minister.</p> <p>The Ministry of Textiles are in the process of formulating an appropriate strategy for revival of the textile industry. No request has been received by the Government so far on convening the next meeting of the Industrial Tripartite Committee on Cotton Textiles.</p>
Industrial Committee on Jute Industry, 18.7.95	<p>It was recommended that a package of measures be prepared for the Jute Industry including diversification, implementation of mandatory reservation orders, modernisation, fixation of productivity levels, manpower management, etc. In case of sick industries NRF assistance should be provided.</p> <p>It is reported that the National Jute Manufacturers Corporation as well as the Jute Corporation of India have availed of VRS under NRF. A Cabinet Note was prepared on the problems of National Jute Manufacturers Corporation and considered by the Cabinet on 27.11.97 in which Cabinet decided that GOM may examine the whole matter afresh.</p>
Industrial Committee on Engineering Industry, 30.11.94	<p>The Committee suggested that in regard on the sick companies referred to BIFR, quick decisions should be facilitated.</p> <p>This matter has been taken up repeatedly with Ministry of Finance. The SICA is in the process of being amended</p>

1

2

Industrial Committee on
Chemical Industry, 4.2.94

It was decided that a suitable revival package should be worked out for IDPL, FCL and HFC.

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers is in the midst of working out such a package for the above mentioned units.

Industrial Committee of Road
Transport, 13.3.93

It was suggested that the Terms of Reference for the next Transport policy Committee should include issues such as pricing, taxation, professional management of SRTCs, uniform wage policy, safety, pollution control, etc.

As a follow up to the decisions taken in the Tripartite Industrial Committee on Road Transport Industry, Planning Commission had issued guidelines to State Governments/S.R.T.U.s, on operational efficiency, financial performance and incremental demand for passenger traffic.

Industrial Committee on
Electricity Generation and
Distribution, 13.11.92

The Committee resolved that plant level Bipartite Committee be constituted for labour participation in management, effective grievance redressal machinery, improvement in productivity, vigilance in power consumption, identification of wasteful practices.

All the concerned Ministries/State Electricity Boards/Trade Unions have been requested to take necessary action on the matter. Employers and employees have assured that they would make every effort to find solution to problems of the industry through sustained mutual co-operation.

Inclusion of Language in Eighth Schedule

5036. SHRI VIJAY SINGH SOY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering the inclusion of some more language in the Eighth schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The Government proposes to constitute a High Powered Body for evolving criteria for inclusion of any or more language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India. The question of inclusion of any language in the Eighth Schedule will be taken up in terms of the criteria to be evolved by the proposed Body.

Shortage of Crude Oil, Kerosene and Diesel

5037. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is facing shortage of crude oil, kerosene and diesel;

(b) if so, whether the Government have signed any agreement with United Arab Emirates to import crude oil, kerosene and diesel during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details indicating the quantities as well as possibilities of import of LNG and LPG from the Gulf States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH

KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The estimated demand *vis-a-vis* indigenous production of Crude, HSD and Kerosene during 1998-99 are as follows:—

(Fig. in MMT)

	Demand	Indigenous production
Crude	67.86	34.79
HSD	40.84	24.73
Kerosene	10.64	6.74

The gap between demand and indigeous production will be met through imports.

(b) A memorandum of Understanding has been signed by IOC with M/s. Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), UAE for supply of Crude Oil, Kerosene and HSD on Term Basis during the current year i.e. 1998-99 as per the following:

(Qty. in MMT)

Crude Oil* (Upper Zakum)	Kerosene	HSD (0.25%S)
4.0	0.3	0.6

*There is a provison for supply of additional quantity of 1 MMT of Upper Zakum/Murban crude subject to availability with M/s. ADNOC.

(c) Regarding the possibility of supply of LPG on Term Basis during 1998-99 from the Gulf States, the following proposals have been received by IOC from the National Oil Companies of the following countries:—

Kuwait	—	200 TMT
Qatar	—	150 TMT
UAE	—	100-200 TMT

In so far as import of LNG is concerned no agreement has been signed with the United Arab Emirates. Amongst the Gulf States, Qatar and Oman have the capability to supply LNG. A Joint Venture Company of GAIL, ONGC, IOCL & BPCL has been formed to explore the possibility of import of LNG.

[Translation]

Recruitment in Para-Military Forces

5038. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the recruitment had been made for C.R.P.F. and B.S.F. and district Pclice in Bihar during the last three years;

(b) whether such recruitments are likely to be made in Muzafarpur and Vaishali to recruit the unemployed and suitable youth;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) The number of times recruitment has been made for CRPF and BSF in Bihar is given below:—

Year	CRPF	BSF
1995	4	10
1996	4	25
1997	2	14

Details of recruitment to local Police in the State of Bihar are not available with Central Government.

(b) to (d) CRPF are following application based system for recruitment of Constables. In recruitment from Bihar State, applications are invited to specified Group Centres wherein candidates from Muzaffarpur and Vaishali or any other place of Bihar may apply for enlistment.

BSF are conducting recruitment rallies in various districts of Bihar State for the vacancies allocated to the State. During the recruitment year 1998, the identified places of recruitment are Hazaribagh, Betia, Mokameghat, Gaya and Ranchi. Candidates from Muzaffarpur and Vaishali are eligible to appear at any recruiting place of Bihar, Recruitment Centres/rally sites are also rotated in every recruitment year.

Unauthorised Encroachment

5039. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Police Ke Asahayog se Avaidh Nirman Bekhof Zari" published in "Dainik Jagaran" dated May 11, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Delhi Police have reported that during the month of April, 1998, Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) had informed them about six demolition operations to be carried out in the North-East District. Of these, the demolition operation was carried out with the assistance of Delhi Police in two cases, whereas in two other cases Delhi Police were unable to provide assistance because of non-availability of police personnel. Out of the remaining two cases, the demolition programme in one case was postponed by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi as the day fixed for it was declared a Gazetted Holiday, where in the second case none of the MCD officials reported at the Police Station concerned though the force was kept ready.

Indo-Iran and Indo-Oman Pipeline Projects

5040. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA :
SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :

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

(a) whether any study has been conducted into the progress of pipeline projects among India and Iran, Oman and certain Central Asian countries like Tazakistan, Turkmanistan etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these projects have been implemented;

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in implementing the projects;

(e) whether this has forced the Government to shift to LNG import; and

(f) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to ensure safety of the pipelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) In respect of the Indo-Oman gas pipeline project an Agreement on Principal Terms was signed with Oman. However, the project has not been implemented as the technical feasibility studies have not been completed and the Oman Oil Company is to establish adequate gas services in Oman. With regard to Indo-Iran pipeline, an MOU was signed with Iran but the feasibility has not been established as the pipeline route survey could not be completed. Hence this project has not been implemented. There is no specific understanding with Central Asian countries in respect of gas pipeline projects.

(e) As one of the measures of meeting the demand for natural gas, the Government has approved the formation of Joint Venture Company consisting of GAIL, ONGC, IOC and BPCL to explore the possibility of importing LNG to India.

(f) Pipeline transportation is required only after regassification. Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) prescribes the required safety standards for the pipelines and audits the same.

High Level meeting on Kashmir

5041. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
SHRI K.S. RAO :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level meeting on Kashmir was convened recently;

(b) if so, the details of the participants and the matters discussed at the meeting along with the decisions taken thereon;

(c) the extent to which it differs from the policy adopted by the previous Governments;

(d) whether the discussion on the scheme of development of the State was also discussed in the meeting; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) A highlevel meeting was taken by the Union Home Minister on 24.6.1998 at Srinagar, with the Chief Minister, J & K to discuss issues pertaining to the development of the State. Union Ministers of Defence, Tourism, Railway and Power as well as concerned Ministers of the State Government participated in the meeting. In addition, senior officers of the Central and State Government including the local Army Commanders attended the meeting.

The review of the ongoing schemes was undertaken during the meeting for galvanizing the development programmes, as this is viewed as a major element of the strategy to contain militancy in the State. While the main focus of the discussions was on development aspects, issues relating to security were also discussed.

During this meeting, it was announced that in order to strengthen J&K Police, 2 more Indian Reserve Battalions would be created immediately and one more in 1999-2000. In addition, Rs. 5 crores are to be made available for modernisation of the State Police and 114 Border police posts manned by J&K Police would also be established. Additional 3500 Special Police Officers would also be appointed.

Issues relating to the power sector, the progress of railway projects in the State as well as the need to finalise the Plan Outlays and the issue of grant of additional financial assistance to the State was discussed.

Per Capita availability of Foodgrains

5042. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita, per day, per month availability of foodgrains in the country during each of the last three years till April, 1998;

(b) whether per capital availability of foodgrains in the country has declined; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet this declined?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The per capita net availability of

foodgrains calculated as kgs./year and grams/day for the last three years and for 1998 till April are as under:

Per Capita Net Availability of Foodgrains

Year	Kgs./year	grams/day
1995	185.3	507.7
1996	177.3	485.8
1997	186.9	512.1
1998 (Upto April)	178.4	488.8

(b) and (c) The per capita net availability of foodgrains has declined in 1998 as compared to 1997 due to shortfall in production during 1997-98 season. To augment the availability of foodgrains, the Government has been implementing crop specific schemes such as Integrated Centrals Development Programmes in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems' Areas, National Pulses Development Project, etc. which would ultimately lead to increased production and productivity.

[English]

Education for SC/ST's Girls

5043. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to State:

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes Girls covered under the special education programme; and

(b) the places where these classes are conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The Central sector scheme of Special Education Development programme for Scheduled Castes girls belonging to very low literacy levels envisages establishment, through respective Zilla Praishads, of free residential schools for class I only. Each such school will have 25 girls in class I, of which atleast 90% of the intake should be from among girls belonging to Scheduled Castes and the rest may be from among Scheduled Tribes.

(b) The scheme covers only such districts where literacy amongst SC females is less than 2% as per 1981 Census. 16 such schools were started upto 1997-98, in places mentioned below:—

Sl. No.	Name of Place
1.	Muhupura, Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh.
2.	Chhatarpur City, Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh.
3.	Jeerapur, Rajgarh, Madhya Pradesh.
4.	Vill. Sirsi, Tehsil Guna, Guna, Madhya Pradesh.
5.	Vill. Rekra, Tehsil Pawai, Panna, Madhya Pradesh.
6.	Kushmi Block, Sidhi, Madhya Pradesh.
7.	Vill. Sasudha Block Nagaud, Satna, Madhya Pradesh.
8.	Rewa, Madhya Pradesh.
9.	Tehsil Raghogarh, Guna, Madhya Pradesh.
10.	Tehsil Mungawali, Guna, Madhya Pradesh.
11.	Tehsil Ashok Nagar, Guna, Madhya Pradesh.
12.	Vill. Purakalan, Tehsil Talbhat, Lalitpur, UP.
13.	Ch. Charan Singh Gate, Sikar, Rajasthan.
14.	Manipura, Tehsil Gangapur, Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan.
15.	Tehsil & Village Develi, Tonk, Rajasthan.
16.	Village Arayan Karanpur, Ganganagar, Rajasthan.

Import of Potash

5044. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether consequent upon the restriction imposed by the Government on import of potash, there is an acute shortage of mixed chemical fertilizers in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the factual position in regard to shortage of potash mixed chemical fertilizers;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the present status of supply position of chemical fertilizers in various States particularly in Maharashtra during the current Kharif season and the steps taken to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (c) Muriate of Potash (MOP) has been decontrolled since August, 1992 and its imports decanalised since June, 1993. There are no imports of MOP on Government account since then. These are made freely on private trade account within the framework of the Concession Scheme of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. Low imports of Potash during Kharif '98 have resulted in its shortages in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Bihar, Maharashtra and North-Eastern States. Consequently, this has affected the availability of potash mixed chemical fertilizers and the States of Maharashtra and Kerala have reported shortages of the availability of these fertilizers. As the data on availability of potash mixed chemical fertilizers is neither maintained by Government of India nor by the State Governments, it is not possible to give State-wise availability or shortages of these fertilizers. However, to augment the supply of potash, the department of Agriculture & Cooperation in the Government of India has authorised Indian Potash Limited to import 2.75 LMTs of MOP on Government account.

(d) A statement giving the present status of availability of major chemical fertilizers upto 30.6.98 in various states, including Maharashtra during the current Kharif season is attached. The assessed demand for urea which is the only controlled fertilizer, is 11.25 LMTs for Maharashtra for Kharif '98. This will be fully met. The availability of DAP and MOP, which are decontrolled fertilizers, is regulated by the market forces of supply and demand.

Statement*State-wise availability of Major Chemical Fertilizers as on 30.6.1998*

(Figures in Lakh Metric Tonnes)

S. No.	States	Urea	DAP	MOP
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.18	1.34	0.15
2.	Karnataka	2.43	1.60	0.33
3.	Kerala	—	—	0.12
4.	Tamilnadu	2.34	0.67	0.24
5.	Gujarat	2.39	1.76	0.21
6.	Madhya Pradesh	4.98	1.88	0.11
7.	Maharashtra	6.43	1.66	0.26
8.	Rajasthan	3.24	0.90	0.01
9.	Haryana	3.84	0.90	—
10.	Punjab	7.01	1.54	0.02
11.	Uttar Pradesh	16.79	1.63	0.02
12.	Bihar	4.93	0.65	—
13.	Orissa	2.08	0.25	0.09
14.	West Bengal	3.20	0.51	0.06
15.	Assam & N. E. States	0.50	0.06	0.02
16.	Others	1.02	0.18	0.01
	Total	67.36	15.53	1.65

Use of Banned Drugs

5045. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that certain drugs which are banned in other parts of the World are extensively used in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Regulatory Body to have a thorough check on those drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) There are no reports/complaints about use of drugs in the country which are banned on other parts of the world.

Based on the report received from WHO about withdrawal of Drugs in other countries, opinion of experts including Indian Council of Medical Research is normally obtained. Thereafter on the basis of the final recommendation of Drug Technical Advisory Board, import, manufacture & distribution of drugs is banned through Notification by the Central Government. So far, 57 Drugs/ Drug Combinations have been banned by the

Government.

(c) Information about banned drugs is widely circulated to State Drugs Authority. Drugs Control Organisation of State Governments are the Regulatory Bodies to monitor the sale/distribution of drugs. They have been instructed from time to time to maintain a strict check on the possible movement of any banned drugs.

[*Translation*]

Cement Factories in Satna District

5046. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cement factories located in Satna district and the number of labourers working therein, separately;

(b) the number of labourers working on regular basis and the number of labourers working on contract basis, separately; and

(c) the daily wages being paid to the regular labourers and the labourers working on contract basis, separately?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JAITYA) : (a) and (b) There are six cement factories located in Satna District of Madhya Pradesh. Unit-wise Employment data is given below:

S. No.	Name of Cement Factory	No. of Labourers employed on an average per day during the year 1997.	
		Regular basis	Contract basis
1.	Satna Cement Works	1093	140
2.	Birla Vikas Cement	651	35
3.	Prism Cement	253	1268
4.	Maiher Cement Unit-I	336	437
5.	Maiher Cement Unit-II	120	403
6.	Chitrakoot Cement Pvt. Ltd.	88	Nil

(c) The direct labour and contract labour employed in loading & unloading are paid wages as fixed under the Cement Wage Board Award, as revised from time to time through industry level tripartite settlements, and other contract labourers are paid as per minimum wages fixed by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh. Since Chitrakoot Cement Pvt. Ltd. is not covered under the Cement Wage Award, the workers are paid wages in the range of Rs. 1,650-Rs. 2,500/- per month.

[English]

Recruitment of Youths in Para-Military Forces

5047. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch a special drive to recruit youths in para-military forces from North-Eastern States and Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of drives launched to recruit youths of North-Eastern States and Sikkim in para-military forces during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Recently the Government have launched a special drive to recruit youths in para-military forces from North-Eastern States. There is no proposal for such a special drive in Sikkim. A total of 1967 vacancies of constables were released for special recruitment drive in North Eastern States. These vacancies were further allocated to each North Eastern State on the basis of their inter-se population ratio. The recruitment process is in progress.

(c) The number of constable recruited from North Eastern States and Sikkim in the recruitment drives during the last three years is given below:—

	NE States	Sikkim	Total
1995	1323	06	1329
1996	835	59	894
1997	477	51	528

[Translation]

Exploitation of Child and Women Labour

5048. SHRI PUNNULAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the various labour laws being enforced in the country;

(b) whether these labour laws have proved in effective to control the exploitation of child and women labour;

(c) whether any research work on child labour was conducted by the Government through teachers of Delhi;

(d) if so, the main points raised therein;

(e) whether the previous Government did not find the recommendations based on the said research practical; and

(f) if so, the decision taken by the present Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) A list containing various labour laws which have been enacted by the Central Government and which are being enforced in the country is given in the Statement enclosed.

The main labour laws to prevent exploitation of child labour and women labour are the following:

- * Pledging of Labour Act, 1933
- * Factories Act, 1948
- * Plantation Labour Act, 1951
- * Mines Act, 1952
- * Merchant Shipping Act, 1958
- * Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
- * Motor Transport Workers' Act, 1961
- * Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966
- * Equal Remuneration Act, 1976
- * Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986

Implementation of the above laws for preventing exploitation of child labour and women labour and for promoting their welfare is undertaken by the Central Govts. and the States Govts. in their respective jurisdiction. The pace and progress of implementation is being monitored and reviewed by the respective Government from time to time.

(c) to (f) Government is not aware of any research work on child labour having been conducted through teachers of Delhi.

Statement

Factories

1. The Indian Boilers Act, 1923
2. The Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, 1925
3. The Factories Act, 1948

Mines

4. The Mines Act, 1952
5. The Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974
6. The Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957
7. The Coking Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1972
8. The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973
9. The Coal Mines Nationalisation Laws (Amendment) Act, 1986

Plantations

10. The Tea Districts Emigrant Labour (Repeal) Act, 1970
11. The Plantations Labour Act, 1951

Transport

12. The Indian Railways Act, 1890
13. The Dock Workers (Regulations of Employment) Act, 1948

14. The Merchant Shipping Act, 1958
15. The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961

Shop and Commercial Establishments

16. The Weekly Holidays Act, 1942

Wages and Bonus

17. The Payment of Wages Act, 1936
18. The Minimum Wages Act, 1948
19. The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965
20. The Equal Remuneration Act, 1936

Safety and Welfare

21. The Indian Dock Labourers Act, 1934
22. The Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1946
23. The Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947
24. The Coal Mines (Conservation & Safety) Act 1952
25. The Iron Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act, 1961
26. The Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1972
27. The Beedi Workers' Welfare Fund Act, 1976
28. The Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Fund Act, 1976
29. The Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act, 1976
30. The Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1981
31. The Dock Workers (Safety, Health and Welfare) Act, 1986
32. The Dangerous Machine (Regulations) Act, 1983
33. The Cine Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1981

Social Security

34. The Fatal Accidents Act, 1855
35. The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923
36. The Employer's Liability Act, 1938
37. The War Injuries (Compensation Insurance) Act 1943
38. The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948
39. The Coal Mines Provident Fund, Family Pension and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948
40. The Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952
41. The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
42. Personal Injuries (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1962
43. The Personal Injuries (Compensation Insurance) Act, 1963
44. The Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966
45. The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972

Industrial Relations

46. The Trade Unions Act, 1926
47. The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946
48. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947
49. The Industrial Disputes (Banking Companies) Decision Act, 1955
50. The Industrial Disputes (Banking & Insurance Companies) Act, 1949
51. The Industrial Disputes (Appellate Tribunal) Act, 1950
52. The Industrial Disputes (Amendment and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1956
53. The Working Journalists & Other Newspaper Employees' (Conditions of Service) & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955

54. The Working Journalists (Fixation of Rates of Wages) Act, 1958
55. The Trade Unions (Recognition) Act, 1977
56. The Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India Act, 1984
57. The Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985

Protection of Children

58. The Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933
59. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986

Miscellaneous

60. The Cotton Industry (Statistics) Act, 1926
61. The Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959
62. The Collection of Statistics Act, 1953
63. The Apprentices Act, 1961
64. The Beedi & Cigar Workers' (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966
65. The Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970
66. The Central Labour Laws (Extension to Jammu & Kashmir) Act, 1970
67. The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976
68. The Sales Promotion (Employees Conditions of Services) Act, 1976
69. The Coconut Act, 1977
70. The Domestic Workers' (Conditions of Services) Act, 1977
71. The Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981
72. The Cine Workers And Cinema Theatre Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1981

73. The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979
74. The Repealing and Amending Act, 1988
75. The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (Determination of Conditions to Service of Employees) Act, 1988
76. The Labour Laws (Exemption from furnishing Returns and Maintaining Registers by certain Establishments) Act, 1988
77. The Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Act, 1981
78. The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995

[English]

Research Officer in Unani

5049. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consultation of U.P.S.C. for the permanent/regular post of Research Officer (Unani) is obligatory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this post is a Gazetted post;

(d) if so, the time by which this post has been upgraded; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (e) The post of Research Officer (Unani) Medical Officer (Unani) were upgraded to Group 'A' Gazetted status with effect from 1.1.1986, consequent on the acceptance of the 4th Pay Commission's recommendation for parity with Allopathic Physicians vide order No. A. 60011/3/87-ISM, dated 17.2.89. The mode of recruitment to this post is 100% by direct recruitment through U.P.S.C.

Wakf Board

5050. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a piece of land measuring 11 Bigha 20 Biswa of Masjid Som Bruj under Delhi Wakf Board has been sold/given on lease to somebody as published in the newspaper "Qourme Awaz";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have the facts that the Chairman, D.W.B. has also sold/given a piece of land measuring 25 Bigha of Village Gadaipur near Chatterpur and 8 Bigha land of D.W.B. in Panchsheel Park, Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) According to available information, Qanati Masjid and Graveyard bearing Khasra No. 1151/3 (1665) in Mehrauli, New Delhi, also known as Sohan Burj (and not Som Bruj), was notified in Part. III Section 4 of issue dated 17th May, 1997 of Gazette of India as a Sunni Wakf by the Delhi Wakf Board wherein its area was given as 11 Bighas approximately. The Mutawalli of this property has been indicated as DWB, that is Delhi Wakf Board. In the remarks column bearing S.No. 16 it is stated that "this property is being looked after by Janab Mouin Lateef son of Dr. Abdul Lateef, R/O 86, Jor Bagh, New Delhi".

(c) to (e) The facts with regard to the Wakf land at village Gadaipur at Chhaterpur and the one at Panchsheel Park at Delhi are not available and have been called for from the Government of NCT of Delhi. These will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as they are received.

Reservation Policy for SC/ST/Backward Classes In I.F.C.I.

5051. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any letter from the Industrial Finance Corporation of India Limited

regarding not to implement the reservation policy of the Government for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the decision of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
(c) Does not arise.

LPG Connections

5052. DR. RAVI MALLU :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI H.G. RAMULU :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI:
SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :
SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA:
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI :
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :
SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA :

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

- (a) the number of LPG and double bottling connections given by various companies in each State during each of the last three years, company-wise;
(b) the position of waiting list for such connections for urban and rural areas separately till date, State-wise;
(c) the number of new LPG and double bottling connections proposed to be issued during the current year alongwith the target fixed for Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise;
(d) whether the Government propose to provide LPG connections in backward areas particularly in rural areas on priority basis; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the percentage of new connections proposed to be given in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The details of number of LPG connections/DBC released by PSU Oil Companies in the country during the last three years are given below:

Year	New Connections Released (Lakhs)	DBC Released (Lakhs)
1995-96	20.6	18.20
1996-97	23.4	22.41
1997-98	41.4	38.06

(b) No. of persons registered in the waiting list of the PSU Oil Companies for LPG as on 1.4.98 was about 127.56 lakhs. It is not maintained on the Rural and Urban basis so far.

(c) LPG connections are not released on Statewise basis. New LPG connections are released in a phased manner against waiting list throughout the country depending upon the LPG availability, slack available with the LPG distributors and their viability. Since, the demand for LPG exceeds LPG availability and possible imports, new LPG enrolment plans are approved by the Government on a year to year basis. The new LPG enrolment/DBC plan for 1998-99 is not yet finalised. During IX Plan period, it is proposed to release 165 lac new connections & DBCs each in Urban market, and 50 lac new connections and DBCs each in Rural markets.

(d) and (e) With the increasing non-availability of traditional fuels and increasing popularity of LPG as cooking fuel due to its convenience in use and to prevent further deforestation, the Government has decided to start marketing of LPG in the rural areas also.

The Oil Industry has planned to enrol 50 lakh new LPG customers during IX Plan period in the Rural Sector.

Assistance to Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

5053. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Non-Governmental and social welfare organisation in Karnataka received assistance for helping

poor and the needy women from Rashtriya Mahila Kosh during 1997-98; and

(b) the assistance given to Chamarajanagar Lok Sabha Constituency for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

Statement

Statement showing the position of Loans sanctioned by RMK. in Karnataka State, Distt.-wise, during 1997-98

RMK Main Scheme

S. No.	State/Distt.	Name and Address of NGO	No. of Borrowers (Approx.)	Credit Limit Sanctioned			Amount Released		
				ST	MT	Total	ST	MT	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Karnataka									
1.	(a) Chitradurga	Gramina Abhivrudhi Mathu Adhyayana Kendra Trust, Vani Nilaya III Cross V.P. Extension Chitradurga	600	15.000	5.000	20.000	10.000	0.000	10.000
2.		Shri Shakthi Mahila Mandali Behind Shakthi Hills Guttur Colony, Harihar, Guttur Chitradurga	250	8.000	2.000	10.000	4.000	1.000	5.000
3.		Sri Maitri Mahila Mandali Doddabathi P.O. Davangere Tq. Chitradurga	250	8.000	2.000	10.000	4.000	1.000	5.000
4.	(b) Mysore	The Organisation for the Development of People "Pragathi", Bannimantap 'B' Layout Mysore	420	12.000	3.000	15.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
5.		Pragathi, Mysore 570, E-Block, 16th Main J.P. Nagar, Mysore	0	0.000	0.000	0.000	3.000	0.000	3.000
6.		Sumana P.B. No. 5, Siddarathanagar Mysore	300	10.000	0.000	10.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Subtotal			1820	53.000	12.000	65.000	21.000	2.000	23.000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

*Revolving Fund Scheme***Karnataka**

1.	(a) Mysore	The Organisation for Development of People, Mysore	2000	20.000	0.000	20.000	0.000	0.000	0.00
Subtotal			2000	20.000	0.000	20.000	0.000	0.000	0.00

Karnataka

1.	(a) Bangalore	Sri Shatha Shrunga Vidya Samaste Kamakshipalya Magadi Main Road, Near Check Post Bangalore	80	2.000	0.000	2.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2.	(b) Kolar Distt.	Community Action for Social Education Society, Illrd Cross, Opp. St. Teresa's High School, Robertsonpet, K.G.F. Kolar Distt.	80	2.000	0.000	2.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Subtotal			160	4.000	0.000	4.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

*SH6 Development Scheme***Karnataka**

1.	(a) Chitradurga	Sri Maitri Mahila Mandali Doddabathi P.O. Devangere Tq. Chitradurga	0	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000
2.		Shri Shakti Mahila Mandali Behind Shakti Hills Guttur Colony, Harihar, Guttur Chitradurga	0.	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000
Subtotal			0	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.000	0.000	2.000

* Assistance of Rs. 1.00 lakh per. NGO is given for formation of 25 SHGs.

[Translation]

Deaths due to Poisoning

5054. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Police have any laboratory to test the deaths due to poisoning in Delhi; and

(b) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to provide laboratory to Delhi Police?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Delhi Police does not at present have any laboratory of their own. However, the cases in which the death is suspected to have been caused by consuming poison are referred by Delhi Police to the

Central Forensic Science Laboratory at Chandigarh, Calcutta and Hyderabad for verification.

Dowry Deaths

[English]

Reservation of Women in Dealership of Petrol Pumps

5055. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to provide reservation to the women in allotment of dealership of petrol pumps and other petroleum products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) As per existing policy, following reservation is provided for different categories in the allotment of dealerships/distributorships of various petroleum products w.e.f. 1.4.97:

(i)	Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST)	-	25%
(ii)	Physically Handicapped Persons (PH)	-	5%
(iii)	Defence Personnel (DC)	-	8%
(iv)	Paramilitary/Police/Govt. Personnel (PMP)	-	8%
(v)	Freedom Fighters (FF)	-	2%
(vi)	Outstanding Sportspersons (OSP)	-	2%
(vii)	Open Category (O)	-	50%

Also, 33% of the dealerships/distributorships in all categories mentioned above will be reserved for women belonging to that category effective from the Marketing Plan approved from 1996-98. Other things being equal, widows and unmarried women above 40 years of age without earning parents will be given priority over others in all categories.

5056. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of dowry deaths and sexual harassment to women has been increasing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to take stringent steps to check these inhuman act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Review of Crimes

5057. SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE : Will the minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Ankdon mein apradh kum dikhana behad khatarnak; Advani Adhikari mamla darj na kare isse bada koi apradh Nahi, Police Janta Ka Vishwas Prapt Kare" appearing in *The Rashtriya Sahara* dated May 31, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The reported statement was made while addressing the police personnel at Police Training School, Jharoda Kalan in order to highlight that it was the basic duty cast on members of police force to promptly respond to the complaints lodged by the public and avoid any tendency not to register such complaints. Delhi Police have since issued specific instructions to their officers to ensure free and fair registration of complaints.

12.01 hrs.

of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Insecticides Ltd, New Delhi etc.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Food Corporations (Amendment) Rules, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 648(E) in Gazette of India, dated the 13th November, 1997 under sub-section (3) of Section 44 of the Food Corporation Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1304/98]

- (2) A copy of the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (First Amendment) Regulations, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. E.P. 1(3)/98 in Gazette of India, dated the 29th May, 1998 under sub-section (5) of Section 45 of the Food Corporation Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1305/98]

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Accounts of the Food Corporation of India, for the year 1996-97 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1306/98]

- (4) 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 Hindustan Insecticides Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Insecticides Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1307/98]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rehabilitation Council of India, 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 Rehabilitation Council of India, 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 1308/98]

Annual Report, Annual Accounts and Review by the Government of the working of the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor for the year 1996-97 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, for the year 1996-97, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, for the year 1996-97.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, *See No. LT 1309/98*]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, 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 Medical Council of India, New Delhi, 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 1310/98*]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Administrative Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, 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 Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, 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 1311/98*]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, 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 National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, 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 1312/98*]

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

12.02 hrs.

[*English*]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

- (i) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Tuesday, the 7th July, 1998 adopted the following motion in regard to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit:—

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that a Joint Committee of the Houses to be called the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit be constituted for the purposes set out in the motion adopted by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 3rd June, 1998 and resolves that this House do join in the said Joint Committee and proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, five members from among the members of the House to serve on the said Joint Committee."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee:—

1. Shri E. Balanandan
2. Shri Kapil Sibal
3. Shri Rajashekhar Murthy
4. Shri Onkar Singh Lakhawat
5. Shri Satishchandra Sitaram Pradhan'

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1998 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th July, 1998 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.03 hrs.-

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE

Report on Beedi Workers Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : Sir, I beg to present the report on 'The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1998' (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare.

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : Sir, I have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER : I will come to you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please cooperate with the Chair. I will allow all of you.

12.04 hrs.

RE : ALLEGATION BY TWO MAHARASHTRA MINISTERS ABOUT DEATH THREATS AND MANHANDLING BY RULING PARTY WORKERS

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very pained to report a very serious and unfortunate incident which took place in Mumbai. Yesterday, Shri Suresh Nawle, the Shiv Sena's Minister

of State (Energy) in the Maharashtra Cabinet has informed the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly about attempts to lynch him.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna) : Mr. Speaker Sir, all the villages of our area have been submerged in the water. The main current of Narayani river has changed its direction. This has affected the kushinagar district and lakhs of people have drowned in the water ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Speak later on please.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : He has informed the Maharashtra Assembly in a statement about attempts to lynch him. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing other than the speech of Shri Prithviraj Chavan will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, I am pained to report a very unfortunate incident that took place in Mumbai. Shri Suresh Nawle, a Shiv Sena Minister of State for Energy in the Maharashtra Cabinet informed the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly about an attempt to lynch him. In his statement made before the House, he says and I quote:

" ... Between 1100 and 1230 hours this morning, I was meeting members of some delegations when some 200 to 250 workers entered my house in groups of 25. The constable on duty made a request that only that number of people should go in as could be accommodated in the chamber. But the entire crowd ignored him and walked in. Each member came up and said: 'We know everything that is happening and if you dare to take some sort of a different path, we will shoot you'. ... (Interruptions)

Some of the hon. Members among them broke a number of their shirt buttons and pulled their shirts to show me the weapons that they had in their possession. ... During this incident, I was not sure whether I was sitting in the house of a Minister or in a gangster's den. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not worried about the consequences to me, I can only say that if such attempts to enter a Minister's official residence and threaten him can succeed, then, it is a very sad day in the history of Maharashtra. I had mentioned this to the hon. Chief Minister of Maharashtra. ...*(Interruptions)*

He further says, while all this was happening another Member of the Cabinet, Shri Arjun Khotkar, came to the spot. ...*(Interruptions)* He further says, "I can only appeal to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra and the popular Home Minister", ...*(Interruptions)* In another related incident which happened yesterday, Shri Gulabrao Gavande, who is also a former Minister belonging to the Shiv Sena, had written a letter to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and to other leaders. ...*(Interruptions)* I will mention what had happened. I will quote from the letter; "During the past eight days I have received four anonymous phone calls. ...*(Interruptions)* All the phone calls had the same threat to my life namely that "if you work against the Shiv Sena or if you continue to have links with Ganesh Naik, we will finish you" ...*(Interruptions)* However, I did not take this very seriously".

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chavan, this is a State subject.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Everyday we are discussing more about the State matters than the Parliamentary matters.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : He further says. "However, today, that is 19.7.1998, at about 10 o'clock, I received an anonymous call where a lot of foul language was used against me and I was told that if I spoke against Shiv Sena or if I went along with Ganesh Naik you will meet your end very fast at which I asked them "who said this to you" to which they replied "we have received orders from the top" ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Today, we have got our own business also.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : The Home Minister of Maharashtra assured the three Ministers that protection would be given to them. When he was coming out of the Assembly. ...*(Interruptions)* There is a report in the Maharashtra Times that the Home Minister was threatened by a Shiv Sena MLA—his name is given, but I will not take his name—who asked him, "Why are you giving protection to these traitors"? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Law and order is a State subject.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Everyday the hon. members are discussing more about the law and order problem of the States. We have our own business also.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Sir, you may remember the law and order problem of the State of Maharashtra was discussed at length in the last Lok Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)* We had demanded the dismissal of the Maharashtra Government under Article 356 for serious break down of law and order ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Indrajit Gupta, the then hon. Minister of Home, went to Mumbai. He met the Chief Minister, Home Minister and Shri Bal Thackeray. At that time he was assured that such incidents would not happen again ...*(Interruptions)* But this has happened again. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati) : Sir, when the issue came up for discussion in the last Lok Sabha, the then hon. Minister of Home, had informed the House that he had got an assurance from the Maharashtra Government that these things would not happen again. But this has happened again. The hon. Minister of Home is here. He should inform the House as to what exactly happened there. Otherwise, he can send a team to see that the law and order situation is restored in Maharashtra ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West): They are so much anxious about the law and order situation in Maharashtra. ...*(Interruptions)* I understand their anxiety about the law and order situation in that State. ...*(Interruptions)* Similar situation had arisen when the Congress Party was ruling the State of Maharashtra. During the Congress regime five MLAs were killed in day broadlight on the streets. ...*(Interruptions)* The Chief Minister of the Congress Government was even assaulted by their own MLAs. ...*(Interruptions)* Was that

not a law and order problem? ...*(Interruptions)* It is not just that. The entire House has noticed that in Bihar also, many MLAs had been killed. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not justifying it. ...*(Interruptions)* However, what I am saying is that the Maharashtra Government is capable of taking care of the law and order situation in Maharashtra. ...*(Interruptions)* They have got their MLAs there and if at all this issue is to be raised, the proper forum to raise this would be the floor of the Maharashtra Assembly. ...*(Interruptions)* Through them, they can raise this issue in the Maharashtra Assembly. ...*(Interruptions)* My request is that we should stop all these activities in order to see that the House functions well. ...*(Interruptions)* This is a wastage of the valuable time of the House and it is unnecessary. They should not raise this issue in the Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Madhepura) : What event is occurring in Bihar? ...*(Interruptions)* Get the matter of Bihar expunged from the proceedings ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK (Buldana) : Sir, I will take only one minute.

MR. SPEAKER : No, Hon. Home Minister is going to give a reply. Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : I will take only one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No. Hon. Home Minister is already on his legs. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that the Home Minister is already on his legs. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

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

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker Sir, the leader of opposition telephoned me and apprised me of the fact

last night that the people got into the residence of some Minister of Maharashtra and they used such and such words. After that, I contacted the Home Minister of Maharashtra and he told me that he would send me the report regarding event of that day. I request you to decide in this regard that while the legislative assembly of Maharashtra is in session, such matters should be discussed here or in the legislative assembly of Maharashtra. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur) : This situation is different. The law and order has been completely lost there ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Sir, there is a total break down of the constitutional machinery. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete. Please take your seat. Let him complete.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete, please. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : There the life of the Minister is in danger. ...*(Interruptions)* The states ruled by the non-BJP parties are excessively discussed here. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am sure that whatever might have happened there, its authorised version will reach the Government today, but I will go as per your advice in the matter. Whatever decision you take, I shall go according to that ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : Sir, a reference was made here a little while ago about an incident which took place in Mumbai last year, when I

happened to be the Home Minister. One of the leaders of the Congress Party in the Assembly is Shri Bhujbal whose quarters, the official residence, is just opposite the Secretariat.

His house was ransacked by a gang of people who broke into his house and was looking for him. ...*(Interruptions)* You can inform us as to who they were.

They were looking for him to beat him up and so on and he somehow managed to escape. Subsequently, I made some enquiries. I personally requested Mr. Bal Thackeray because I was informed by Shri Bhujbal that all those people who had entered his house and ransacked it were Shiv Sainiks. That was not known to me. So, I contacted Shri Bal Thackeray and requested him to spare some time to come and meet me at the Raj Bhawan where I was staying. He was kind enough to come there and very much deplored this incident. He said, "We are already taking steps to arrest some people who have been identified and so on." This was not done on any instructions or directions from us. Some people have taken the law into their own hands. He told, "I assure you that you have no cause for worry or concern. Such an incident will never be repeated here again." Now, we are sorry to hear—of course, subject to whatever report which the Government of Maharashtra gives to Shri Advani—that a similar type of an incident has happened all over again and some Ministers are being threatened that they will be killed and people with arms have broken into his house.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : It has happened for the first time in history. They seek protection.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : In conformity with the practice which Shri Advani has been following in respect of some other States, why do we not send a delegation there to find out what is going on there? It is a very strange thing. The Chief Minister, the Home Minister and Shri Bal Thackeray had all assured me that such a thing would not be allowed to happen. If it is happening again, then I agree that this matter should be discussed essentially not in this House but in the Maharashtra Assembly. But since it has happened and has been brought to our notice, I think the least the hon. Home Minister can do is to send an official team or a BJP team to Maharashtra to find out why these people are behaving like this and who is responsible for it.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : They have threatened to kill the Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Mr, Speaker Sir, so far as the incident is concerned, it has appeared in the Press and some hon. Members particularly from Maharashtra have raised it. I certainly deplore if it is correct and it must be condemned. But I also agree with the Home Minister because I have been saying it over the years in several Houses that such a matter is not fit to be raised on the floor of this House. And Shri Advani sitting there was supporting us. Now, suddenly, by switching over sides, he has switched over so many things, that is, the selective applicability of the good rule. I should say that it is incumbent on the House not to discuss such matters. He is applying it selectively now. According to him, the Opposition says that that rule cannot be applied to them because he has to prop up his rickety coalition. The very seating arrangement shows what a thing is happening in this country, with all respect to the hon. Members here. Therefore, I would expect that the leader of his stature and eminence will not break every rule, provisions of the Constitution of India and every convention just because he finds some difficulty in managing his allies and now, we will be lectured upon that we should not discuss this matter. This is not right. I agree with him to that extent. I humbly request you that every matter relating to the State Government, particularly law and order matters are being discussed here. Teams are being sent; threats are being given. Although you are committed not to apply Article 356 and have even been asking for its deletion as we had demanded, now that is being threatened. Is this the way the country will proceed? This is the way to divide this country and create tension inside the country. The situation now is that you have your own party-mate or ally under the leadership of Shri Sirpotdar.

He is representing that party here. Even they are alleged to be threatening the sitting Ministers.

Therefore, I request that this matter should be looked into very seriously by the appropriate authorities. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohan Rawale, please take your seat.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What has been reported here? ...*(Interruptions)* He is much more knowledgeable about this than I am. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete please.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Kindly remember that he should not interfere into the affairs of the States,

particularly about the law and order situation. ...*(Interruptions)* He should not abuse the powers that he is now having in trying to destabilise the State Governments.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Advani, would you like to respond?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : No. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH (Periyakulam) : Sir, I rise here to protest against the Government's inordinate delay in notifying the scheme formulated by it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati) : Sir, the Minister of Home Affairs is here. He is keeping quiet. He must respond. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : As I have already said, I would be willing to abide by your directions. If you wish and in response to what has been said by the other hon. Members of this House, I will come to the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Why should he require permission of the Chair to act?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Why not?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : This is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)* A statement is made on the floor of the House.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : That is a crucial matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am sure, this matter would be discussed in the Maharashtra State Assembly today. But if you want, I can certainly come to the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER (Tenali) : May I just make a submission? You are the Home Minister of India. You should not place the hon. Speaker in an awkward situation to seek his directions.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Yes, it is wrong.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Therefore, you have to decide. ...*(Interruptions)* Do not place the Speaker in an embarrassing situation.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I shall come to the House and say what has been reported to me by the State Government in this respect.

12.23 1/2 hrs.

RE : INTERIM AWARD OF CAUVERY WATER DISPUTES TRIBUNAL

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri R. Muthiah.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH (Periyakulam) : Sir, I rise to protest against the inordinate delay in notifying the scheme formulated by this Government to implement the interim order issued by the Cauvery River Waters Tribunal. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : It is a very serious issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Dev Acharia, I will allow you.

...*(Interruptions)*

12.24 hrs.

(SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will call you. Let Shri Muthiah complete it.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly resume your seat. Now, let Shri Muthiah complete. How can you all talk together? Please resume your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, yesterday we requested the Government and now I am asking the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : May I request you to please resume your seat? All of you, please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Yesterday also the same thing ...(Interruptions) For how many days would it continue. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Radhakrishnan, please resume your seat. I am on my legs.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, everyday the same thing ...(Interruptions) How many times? ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Radhakrishnan, would you please resume your seat? I am on my legs. Hon. Speaker has given the floor to Shri Muthiah. Let him complete first and then you will get your chance. Nothing, other than what Shri Muthiah is saying, would go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Sir, I am on a point of order ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Shiv Shanker, under what rule are you raising this point of order?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, I am raising this issue in this House ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Muthiah, Shiv Shankerji is on a point of order.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, he can take the floor anytime ...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Sir, my point of order is that Shri Muthiah has been raising this issue here daily. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, I can raise this issue only here ...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Why do you not act now? ...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, there is no other forum to raise this issue ...(Interruptions) That is why I am raising it here ...(Interruptions) Sir, I can raise this issue here only ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, if you stand up like this, then you will not get your chance.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, I am raising the Cauvery river water dispute ...(Interruptions) Sir, we want the implementation of the interim order of the Tribunal on the Cauvery water dispute ...(Interruptions) Sir, I am also protesting against the move of the Government who has sought two months' adjournment of the case in the Supreme Court on this issue ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me hear him please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Sir, the same issue ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, the matter was raised yesterday ...(Interruptions) Sir, the Minister has already given the reply ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Dhananjay Kumar, please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, the Government has already responded ...(Interruptions) Sir, everyday the same issue cannot be raised ...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, I can raise the issue here ...(Interruptions) Today the Government has gone to the Supreme Court seeking two months' adjournment of the case ...(Interruptions) Sir, we are seeking from the Government...(Interruptions) We are fulfilling our constitutional obligation ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Muthiah, your own Members are not allowing you to speak. What can I do?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, we are fulfilling our obligation towards the Government ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, would you please resume your seat? I am on my legs. You are a senior Member of this House. You cannot hold the House to ransom like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Muthiah has been given the floor by the hon. Speaker. Let him complete. This is not the way how you should conduct yourself in the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, he should not be allowed to raise the same matter ...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Who are you to permit him? ...(Interruptions) The hon. Speaker has permitted him ...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, I am not raising the same matter ...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, the same matter cannot be raised everyday in the House ...(Interruptions) That is the rule ...(Interruptions) How can he raise the same issue ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, would you please resume your seat now?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yesterday also we had taken up this matter. You should be brief.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : I am not raising the same issue. Some recent developments have taken place.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, under the Rules he cannot raise the same issue again. I can understand if there is a change in the circumstances in which case the same matter can be raised again. There is no change in the circumstances ...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Today, again the Government has moved the Supreme Court and sought an adjournment ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will give you the floor after he has finished his submission.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Yesterday, the Government has responded it properly. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : In the past, on seven occasions, that is on 15.7.97, 30.9.97, 6.1.97, 11.11.97, 30.3.98 and 28.4.98, the Government had gone for adjournment in

the Supreme Court. Even today the Government has sought an adjournment in the Supreme Court. The People of Tamil Nadu had high hopes and faith in the BJP and they voted in large numbers in favour of the BJP. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seats.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : I am not raising the same issue. There are some new development. We are the affected people. Even today we have been affected by the action of this Government ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think Khurana Ji wants to react. Please allow him to speak. He has to go to the BAC meeting.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Muthiah, you may complete your submission.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : I am not being allowed to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is 'Zero Hour'. You are supposed to speak for only five minutes and you have taken more than 15 minutes.

SHRI VAIKO : He is not being allowed to speak. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, I have not yet started it. Even today the people of Tamil Nadu have been affected by the action of this Government when it sought an adjournment in the Supreme Court. The people of Tamil Nadu, with high hopes and faith, voted in large number in favour of the BJP. During the UF Government also, the Government had betrayed the people of Tamil Nadu by seeking an adjournment ...(Interruptions) They are not at all allowing me to speak. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you resume your seats? I am on my legs.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jalappa, please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the hon. Member complete his point.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am on my legs. Will you resume your seats?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palakkad) : Sir, I may be permitted to speak on this issue. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You resume your seat. Behave yourself. Do not behave like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Muthiah, complete your point.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : I am not being allowed to speak, Sir, ...(Interruptions) The Government of India has sought an adjournment from the Supreme Court by seeking a clarification on the notification of the award. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, I am on a point of order. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what rule are you raising your point of order?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Rule 377(c) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha says, "No Member shall raise more than one matter during a week." ...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : The Speaker has all the powers to allow a Member and that cannot be questioned.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : I am raising a new matter. This development took place today. ...(Interruptions) I am referring today's developments only. ...(Interruptions) This Government sought adjournment from the Supreme Court asking a clarification. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : The Government has sought adjournment of hearing. ...(Interruptions) The interim award was passed in 1991 itself. Now, this Government had gone to the Supreme Court asking some clarification on the award of the tribunal. ...(Interruptions) I do not know, why is this Government hesitating in notifying the Cauvery Waters Tribunal's award !

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA (Chikballapur) : You ask the Government, you are a party to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jalappa, please do not interrupt.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : I think firm political will alone can solve this problem. In the present circumstances, we are witnessing a lack of political will on the part of this BJP Government. I can say nothing more than this on this, Sir. ...(Interruptions) The United Front Government, along with TMC and DMK parties, had betrayed the people of Tamil Nadu. This Government too is betraying the people of Tamil Nadu. In these circumstances, we urge upon the Government ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Muthiah, you have already had your say.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : He was not allowed to complete his point.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : The Government of India made a statement that the Union of India will be agreeable to frame a scheme to notify the interim award. ...(Interruptions) Their going against that statement amounts to going against the direction of the Supreme Court. ...(Interruptions)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is going out.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is going to attend the BAC meeting. Other Ministers are present here.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, this is a sensitive issue. The Minister should come back to the House.

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, going against the orders of the Supreme Court amounts to contempt of the court. Hence, I urge upon the Government ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Shastri, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, I would like to know whether the Government is going to conduct a meeting at this juncture...(Interruptions) and whether they are going to

agree to this or not. I would also like to know from the Government whether it is going to put up its case in the Supreme Court or not ...*(Interruptions)* I want some response from the Government on this issue ...*(Interruptions)* What is the view of the Government on this? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, this is a very sensitive issue ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, the Government is not ready to respond to this issue. Why? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Muthiah, please wind up. You have taken so much time now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MUTHIAH : Sir, as the Government is not ready to respond to this issue, we are walking out of this House in protest against the delay in solving this problem by this Government.

12.42 hrs.

At This stage, Shri R. Muthiah, Dr. Subramanian Swamy and some other hon. Members left the House

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, I will take only two minutes. I may be given a chance ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given the floor to Shri Krishnadas. You can speak after him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palakkad) : Sir, the Cauvery water dispute is not only a matter between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, but also Kerala is one of the interested States. It is also a border State in Cauvery river issue. Kerala contributes 20 per cent of the water into the river Cauvery and it is entitled to get a stipulated quantity of water.

The Government of Kerala has requested the Central Government to settle the issue so that an amicable division of water resources could be possible. The Chief Minister of Kerala has written to the Prime Minister several

times urging him that there should not be any unilateral announcement of the scheme without taking into consideration the consent of the State of Kerala.

Now, reports have appeared that Central Government is going to convene a meeting of the representatives of the States of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to discuss this issue. Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this Government that any decision without the involvement of the State of Kerala will not solve the problem. Therefore, I would urge upon the Central Government to convene a meeting of all the concerned States and solve the issue amicably taking into account the interest of all concerned States including the State of Kerala. This is my submission ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat, I have given floor to Shri Vaiko.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, the Government of India has committed a grave mistake by not notifying the scheme, by not formulating the scheme, by not obliging the commitment which was given by the Government of India or by the Attorney-General of India before the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court 16 months ago. The Government of India has miserably failed ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R.L. JALPPA (Chikballapur) : Sir, all these things have been told so many times ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, the Government of India has failed to honour the commitment ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, what do you want this Government to do?

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, the Government of India should have notified yesterday itself to implement the Interim award of the Tribunal. There is no need for any more negotiations.

They took time. That took place. Finally, the Supreme Court came to the conclusion. Then, Sir, without honouring the commitment given to the Supreme Court...

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want the Government do?

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, I am coming to that. Sir, a grave injustice has been done to the people of Tamil Nadu

and to the State of Tamil Nadu. This is not a matter of one State or two States. It is about the authority of the Central Government. It is about the authority which should be executed which they should do as a Central Government. It is a dangerous signal for the future unity and integrity of this country. Therefore, Sir, I oppose this attitude of this Government. The previous UF Government betrayed the Tamils.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, please conclude. Mr. Maran, please.

SHRI VAIKO : Both the Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka played a dubious role. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, please do not compel me to take extreme step. Please conclude now.

SHRI VAIKO : With a heavy heart, pain and agony, I have to protest about the attitude of this Government. Therefore, I walk out.

12.46 hrs

At this stage, Shri Vaiko left the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me conduct the House peacefully. Everybody will get the chance. Shri Maran, please.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN (Madras Central) : Sir, the hon. firends there have forgotten the facts. The draft scheme about Cauvery waters was drafted and finalised by the UF Government. The credit goes to the UF Government. Now the point is, the Government should come to a decision. I know it is a very difficult matter. So many States are involved. Kerala is involved. Karnataka is involved. They cannot come to a firm decision. Why are they adopting dilatory tactics? Therefore, today they have sought an adjournment in the Supreme Court. So, I condemn the dilatory attitude of the Government and we walk out.

12.47 hrs.

At this stage Shri Murasoli Maran and some other hon. Members left the House

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will come to you.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN (Thiruvananthapuram) : Cauvery water issue is not an issue between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. This is a matter which concerns Kerala

also. What I have to suggest or request the Government is that they should not take any action without consulting Kerala ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY GEOL (Chandni Chowk) : Mr. Chairman Sir, whatever is being published in the newspaper about All India Institute and the way its director has been caught while taking bribe, I want to raise that issue. Mr. Chairman, Sir, please give me permission. I want to speak about the corruption on the rise in the country.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Goel, please do not interrupt. Let him complete. I cannot help it.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : My demand is that the Government should not take any decision without consulting Kerala and without the consent of the people of Kerala. If they take any decision without the consent of the people of Kerala, Kerala will react to this.

SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY (Udupi) : The people of Karnataka have been deprived of Cauvery water for several years. If you go to the ground reality, more than 64 per cent of the catchment area is in Karnataka. The people of Tamil Nadu have been using 205 tmc. of water. They have been taking advantage of the present situation. They have been taking advantage of the Parliament. They have been taking advantage of the situation. We, the farmers of Karnataka, have been suffering the maximum by yielding to Tamil Nadu for the last 10 years. I would request the Government through the hon. Chairman to protect the interests of the farmers. It is a very grave issue. It cannot be solved on the floor of the House. The interest of the State of Karnataka should be protected.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Reply thereof should come by now on behalf of the Minister.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, no solution has been worked out in connection with Cauvery dispute.

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, before the Minister responds. I may add only one point.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)..."

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Chairman Sir, the Cauvery dispute has still not been settled. The concerned states are stubborn at their statements. We are demanding some more time from the Supreme Court. Whatever time we get, we would try to find its solution in that. We know that the condition may worsen if the solution is not obtained. The Prime Minister would discuss the matter with the Chief Minister of the concerned states and he desires to have a way out. Government of India will make efforts to sort out all facts ...(Interruptions). Mr. Chairman, Sir, I can atleast understand the reason for AIDMK's walk-out, but in April 1997 Mr. Maran assured to apprise the Supreme Court of this matter's all abouts within 4 or 6 weeks and they ruled for 11 months together. At that time, they never walked out, but today they do ...(Interruptions) you were a cabinet minister at that time.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Mr. Chairman, here is my point of order. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yesterday, there was a point of order. Today, there is a point of order. There is a point of order everyday. Let me hear what he wants to say and under what rule.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Chaman Lal Gupta, please let me conduct this House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you allow me to conduct this House? I have given the floor to Shri Lalu Prasad.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : My point of order is that the Hon. Minister has rightly answered. Here, Cauvery issue is raised everyday. Khuranaji told Maran Saheb that they did not find any solution of the Cauvery waters in his ruling period ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not point of order .

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not cast aspersions like this. You will have to withdraw your words. Please do not do that.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : He cannot use such words here. Please withdraw those words ...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY (Mayiladuthurai) : We are not satisfied with the reply of the hon. Minister. On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Congress, we are walking out.

12.53 hrs

At this Stage, Shri K. Krishnamoorthy and another hon. Member left the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Mr. Chairman Sir, the former coalition government failed in 11 months. They are suffering from its dire consequences. This government too is unable to solve this problem. These people will also suffer. They are going to suffer in the same way as the former did ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Mr. Chairman Sir, we are celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of our

Independence. Even now we are bothered with the caste system. The supreme judicial system of the country is under such interrogatory stigmas that rings no good for the democracy. I shall like to draw your attention towards the local lower court of Allahabad. Shri B. Prasad, Additional District Judge Allahabad (U.P.) was transferred to another branch. The Additional District Judge, Ashok Kumar Shrivastava, who was posted there, got the chamber washed with Ganga water; this is shameful. Mr. B. Prasad was an officer belonging to scheduled caste. This is a very serious matter. When Mr. B. Prasad complained this to the Supreme Court Administration, then he was transferred to Mainpuri within two years. He is a heart patient under treatment at Jaslok Hospital. I would demand hon. Prime Minister to refer this case, in view of its seriousness, to the Supreme Court so that Mr. B. Prasad should get proper protection. Further his transfer should be cancelled. Since there is no direct train from Mainpuri to Mumbai, where he is under treatment, I demand you to not to direct Mr. B. Prasad to vacate his residence.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir here they get the office washed with Ganga water after an officer or judge is transferred. This shows up a mentality of touchability. Today, we are going to celebrate the golden jubilee of country's independence and it is in the name of Gandhiji, we are fighting too for the same. Therefore, we are emphasizing upon the women's bill. Mr. Chairman Sir, the issue raised is a very serious one. This must be noted. What the Government is doing in this connection? If the judiciary works like this, that a chamber is turned for another on Dalit syndrome and purified with Ganga water, it is inappropriate. Mr. Chairman, Sir, please give your ruling on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I can't give directions.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Chairman Sir, please take the matter seriously ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : How will it fare if all of you stand together?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Mr. Chairman Sir, you can ask the Government regarding the issue which has been raised. There is no objection in getting the office washed; anybody can get it cleaned; but doing this with Ganga water and propagating it, is simply playing with one's sentiments. Let the Government ask for the report on this. If so happens that these things start easily but the end is terrible.

[*English*]

The hon. Minister of the Government is sitting here. He can get a report from the State Government whether...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is a very important issue.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : It is very serious matter. He has made complaint and he has been transferred on his complaint ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : I have heard the sentiments of the hon. member in which he told that Allahabad High Court judge has been transferred without any reason. The judge who replaced Caste judge has complained to the Chief Justice of Supreme Court. Mr. Chairman, Sir, therefore this matter is very serious. The Government should be asked whether it was true and if it is true then what action has been taken.

[*English*]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I may be permitted to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur) : These incidents are certainly very serious. If anyone acts like that then it is not right. If such type of incidents take place in courts, then who will look into these matters.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Therefore, Mr. Shailendra Kumar has raised this matter.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Therefore I request you to give ruling in this regard as to whether such incidents will be looked into. If someone is born in lower caste, he is called mean and if one is born in upper caste is called elite. Is it correct? This type of arrangement was never here and also should not be here. Clear directive must be issued by the Government in this regard that who is guilty and what punishment should be given to the guilty?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Virendra Singhji, issues raised in the Zero Hour are noted by the Ministers. If the Minister wants to react them he can do so. You know the rule that no body can be directed from here. Therefore, the Minister will note down Shri Shailendra Kumar has said

in the Zero Hour, and the reaction of the House in this regard.

...(Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Prabhunathji, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever is mentioned in the Zero Hour is noted by the Ministers present here. If he wants to react he can do so.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have called my name. ...(Interruptions) I may be permitted to speak. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRAŚAD (Madhepura) : It is a very serious matter. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Government must have noted down because of being a serious matter.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : A judge has been insulted in this manner. ...(Interruptions) We should request the Supreme Court to look into it. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever it is, the Government will note this matter ...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD : The Government is not responding. You issue a directive ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If they do not want to react, I cannot give direction ...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir it is more than 10 minutes now after I have been called by you. I wanted to raise an important matter. I may be permitted to speak. I have given a notice. ...(Interruptions) I was called by you. This is not good. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mulayam Singhji, according to your rule that the chair can not direct the Government. You should know it is rule that the chair can not direct. Therefore if the Government have to react, it can.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please allow her to speak.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, I was not disturbing anyone. I may be permitted to speak. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, would you like to react?

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, I may be permitted to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will allow you after the Minister's reaction to this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj) : Please listen to me for a minute also ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You sit down. Hon. Minister wants to react.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : If we sit disciplined then you do not listen. You give chance only to those who shout loudly ...(Interruptions)

We want to say that the persons sitting on the high chairs of judiciary, take decisions arbitrarily. Not only this, but due to these arbitrary decisions Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court has resigned from his post. We want to know that these people sitting on the high chairs of judiciary take arbitrary decisions and can not give us justice then how can others expect of justice? Therefore solution must be found out after holding a special discussion.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North-Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, after 50 years of independence untouchability is still prevalent in our country and the people promoting untouchability are traitors and a citing against our Constitution. The Government must take action against such people and I want reply today itself and action must be taken regarding in this regard.

DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue of untouchability has been again raised in the House. There is no motive behind this except to spread hatred ...*(Interruptions)* First listen to me ...*(Interruptions)* Please listen carefully what I am saying ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker Sir, ask them to be quite.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want from the Government.

[English]

DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Sir, Please let me complete my sentence ...*(Interruptions)* What are they doing? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Kawade, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : I am bringing home the fact that the environment of country has changed and some people want to play politics in these matters. They are trying to spoil the atmosphere of the country by highlighting these small incidents.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please tell us to what Government should do in this regard.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : First, listen what I am saying ...*(Interruptions)* I am requesting that it is a serious issue and speeches of all should be listened carefully. Some People are trying to divide the country in the name of caste and community. It must be taken care of.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, there can be no two opinions about whatever has been expressed by the hon'ble members of the House. Keeping in view the provisions made in the Constitution with regard to untouchability, these things can not be tolerated in the country. I hope that action will be taken against the guilty after ascertaining the facts ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Why are you saying no-no, enquiry should be conducted into all these small incidents. This is a crime, offense, action will be taken against criminal. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Sir, we have also given notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What can I do unless everybody behaves properly in the House? Now, Prof. Premajam will speak.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government is encouraging untouchability ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, every time the senior Members are disturbing. I am not allowed to speak. Every time, he is rising up. I am not disturbing anyone ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called her three-four times.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I may be permitted to raise a very important matter before this august House. A large number of university and college teachers from across the country nearing more than a lakh are marching to Parliament House today in response to a call given by the All India Federation of University and College Teachers' Organisation. Their legitimate demand is to get the pay scales as recommended by U.G.C. implemented by the Government.

In this connection, I may submit that the All India Federation of University and College Teachers' Organisation has given a call for an all India indefinite strike from August 11 onwards. If the strike starts, it will lead to many difficulties as far as student population is concerned and this will disturb the entire working of the colleges and universities also. It is a very serious matter which will affect the entire nation.

Therefore, I appeal to the Government, especially the hon. Minister for Human Resource Development, to sympathetically consider their legitimate demands and not drag the university teachers all over the country into the strike as has happened in the case of postal employees. Their strike was dragged for more than seven days. I once again appeal to the Government to look into the matter and just try to implement it immediately ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : Sir, the Government should respond to this. Thousands of university teachers are demonstrating outside the Parliament House ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Sir, I have given notice on the same subject.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Sir, the Government is not giving sanction to the recommendations of the University Grants Commission.

That is the most important thing. That is one of their demands. The Government should immediately respond on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Premchandran, you can say that you endorse the same.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : I am endorsing what has been stated. In the year 1986, the Fourth UGC Pay Commission was constituted and 12 years have elapsed since then. After the Fourth Pay Commission, now the Fifth Pay Commission was also constituted. A committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. Rastogi and its recommendations have been accepted by the UGC. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record. Shri Premchandran, you were to endorse and not make any speech. Shri Prabhunath Singh.

...*(Interruptions)**...

*Not recorded.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, the Government should respond.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we welcome the teachers who have arrived in Delhi on behalf of the Teacher's Association of the Government colleges from all over the country and strongly demand from the Government that their demands be accepted so that the standard of education could be improved.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the matter raised by the hon'ble lady Member is very important. The people have arrived in Delhi from all over the country to participate in a rally and the rally is proceeding towards the Parliament House. They are demanding two things, implementation of pay scales recommended by the U.G.C. and enhancement of their age of retirement by two years.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is another matter related to this. There has been a lock out in the J.P. University for the last ten days. This lockout is due to lack of farsightedness in the decisions of the Government of Bihar. Monthly salary payment of employees of J.P. University comes to rupees 99 lakhs but as per the orders issued by the Government of Bihar arrears of rupees 88 lakhs of twenty employees of Jagdam College have been paid and arrears of rupees 99 lakhs for the month of June have not been paid. Therefore, my point is that on the one hand demands of employees of a college is acceded to and on the other hand, similar demands of the university employees are not acceded to, due to which there has been lockout in the J.P. University ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Tell me what do you want to demand from the Central Government?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, entire country is under the Government of India. Any incidents taking place in any part of the country can be raised in the Parliament and the Government should take action thereon ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*...

[Translation]

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH (Bhind) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to raise a very important matter
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have not given notice, so your name is not there in the list.

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want your protection, I have given it in writing
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I told you that if you had given the notice, your name would have been in the list. You have not given the notice. Your name is not there in the list.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not disturb. You have not given the notice. If your name is not there in the list, then it means that you have not given the notice. You can give the notice for tomorrow. I am telling you that you can raise this matter tomorrow. Please do not disturb.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am telling you that you have not given the notice. You can give the notice tomorrow.

[Translation]

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : I may be allowed to raise a very important matter in the Parliament
...(Interruptions) I want your protection.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How can I protect you? Had you given in writing, your name would have been there in the list.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : All serious matters have been raised.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are a number of people whose names are in this List. How can I give you a chance? Your name is not here. I will not tolerate this.

[Translation]

Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You give notice. You will get a chance tomorrow, not now. Your name is not there in the List. Why did you not given notice before 10 o'clock.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt like this. Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*...

[Translation]

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Rajnandgaon) : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, health services have been paralysed in Delhi due to observance of strike by 70,000 group 'C' and 'D' employees of the Government hospitals in Delhi. They will be on strike upto 24th July in support of their demands. They have warned that if their demands are not accepted they will go on an indefinite strike from 25th July. Accident victims have to face a lot of problems

due to the strike. Blood stained bandage, urine bags and other kind of garbage is scattered all over the hospital wards due to strike observed by the safai karmcharis. The Union Government should solve the problems of the employees who are on strike and should accept their demands immediately.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a most important matter that I would like to bring to your notice. The Andhra Pradesh Government has written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister. I quote:—

"I would like to bring to your notice that in Andhra Pradesh, the A.P. Intoxicating Liquors (Prohibition of Advertisements) Act, 1978 was brought into force from 1/10/1988. This legislation prohibits advertisements soliciting the use of or offering any liquor. However, time and again some of the liquor companies are utilising the electronic media in violation of the above legislation. I am sure you would agree with me that the use of electronic media for promoting alcohol is against the larger public interest."

I, therefore, request the Government through you that it must ban the liquor advertisements as early as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Riots erupted in Maharashtra on 6th December, 1992 and 6th January, 1992 and Srikrishna commission was constituted to probe into these riots ...*(Interruptions)* The report of the Srikrishna Commission has not been laid in the Maharashtra Assembly so far ...*(Interruptions)* The Government have announced that it would make efforts to bring the said report before the people but we have no faith in the State Government. The Union Government should ask the Government of Maharashtra the time by which the report of the Srikrishna Commission will be made public? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is very important matter ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It may be an important matter, you should have given the notice. You have not given the notice. Therefore, you will not be given a chance to raise it, despite its being an important matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : The report of the Commission is ready ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) (Bihar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the House ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very serious matter ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The matter is very serious, that is why he has been given a chance.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : We also want that this matter should be brought before the House ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have not given a notice. I will not allow you.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a very serious matter.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Fatmi, that is not the way. There are other Members also who have given their names. So many other Members are sitting here.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a very serious matter.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, an instance is before you. You will remember that magisterial inquiry was ordered against me and inquiry report was laid in the House ...*(Interruptions)* so you can ask the Government to lay the report of Srikrishna Commission in the House. That is an instance. Now it cannot be said that it relates to Maharashtra or any other state.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is right. Shri Mulayam Singhji, names of those hon'ble members are included in the list who have given notices.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Three or four members have given their names to speak on the same subject, we have called all of them to endorse this. Similarly, if his name is not there in the list he has not been given an opportunity to speak. Likewise, I can not give an opportunity to him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No.

[English]

I have called Shri Sushil Kumar Singh to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : This is a point of order. Hon'ble former Home Minister is sitting here. He has laid the report on the floor of the House about Uttar Pradesh and if you say so the report can be laid in the House, what is the problem in laying that report?
...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA (Damoh) : In this way we cannot participate, they are speaking
...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House towards a very important matter through you. I represent Aurangabad constituency of Bihar ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except what Sushil Kumar Singh says.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : This area is completely affected of terrorism. I would like to tell you, and I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards this ...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Fatmi, please go to your seat.

13.24 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi came and sat on the floor near the Table.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is not the way. You go to your seat.

[Translation]

You go to your seat. First, you go to your seat. You go there. You go to your seat. This is not the proper way. You go to your seat before I ask for the reaction from the Government. I will ask for the reactions from the Government, you go to your seat.

13.25 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi went back to his seat.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.25 p.m.

14.32 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty-Two Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Difficulties faced by Rubber Growers due to fall in prices of Natural Rubber

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The proceedings of the House start, now the matters of calling attention motion will be taken.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Commerce to the following

[SHRI SUREDH KURUP]

matter of urgent of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The difficulties being faced by rubber growers in the country due to fall in the price of natural rubber and steps being taken by the Government in regard thereto."

Respected Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity of calling the attention of the Government. This concerns a very serious problem of the State of Kerala.

As most hon. Members in this House know, 93 per cent of the production of rubber in this country is from Kerala. The farmers in Kerala turned to rubber cultivation because of the activity patronage extended to it by the Central Government through the Rubber Board. A lot of incentives were given and the farmers were given the impression that whenever there is a fluctuation in the prices, the Central Government would intervene to help the farmers.

You may be under the impression that these cultivators are rich farmers. Eighty-five per cent of them are small and marginal farmers who have only one or two acres of land. Over the last one year, the rubber price has gone to the lowest ebb. Our complaint is that in spite of repeated agitations and demands from all corners of this House, the Central Government has not done anything to protect the rubber growers.

I have great respect for Shri Ramakrishna Hegde. But in spite of my great regard and respect, I am constrained to say that he has not done anything to protect the farmers and rubber growers of Kerala and also of Karnataka.

We were under the impression that a person who has got the first hand knowledge of the problems of the cultivators would do something. But till this date nothing has been done to ensure a fair price for rubber. Earlier it was not the case. The scene was different. For the last two decades whenever there was a fluctuation in the price of rubber, the Government used to intervene; and STC used to procure rubber at a price fixed by the Government of India. All these changes have taken place due to the new economic policy. The statement given by the hon. Minister mentions about an important factor, that is the recession being faced by the automobile industry. I do admit that there is a recession in the tyre industry. The fall in the price of rubber is not only due to the recession in the tyre industry, but there are so many other factors which the hon. Minister has not mentioned.

Sir, this Government does not have any figure regarding the import of rubber. Now, rubber can be imported under public notice, under advance licencing and under special import licence. So, on all these accounts, tonnes of rubber are being imported. The Government should at least have a temporary measure to stop the import of rubber at least for the time being ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : First your listen to the hon. Minister.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP : The statement has already been circulated.

During the last fifty years, tyre was not imported in this country. Now, tyre is being imported, cycle tube is being imported and used tyres are being imported.

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): This is not the procedure. The hon. Minister has to make the statement first. Then only the discussion should be allowed.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the Minister speak first.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : If I could lay the statement on the Table, that will save my labour. Normally, the statement is read. If you are interested in listening to what has been stated in the statement, I would like to read the statement so that other hon. Members can also be enlightened.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Idukki) : If you lay the statement, we can ask some questions on it.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : Is it the intention of the hon. Member to carry on this discussion till evening?

In reply to Calling Attention Motion given by the hon. Members of the House, I seek your permission to make the following statement:—

Urgent attention has been drawn to the difficulties being faced by rubber growers in the country due to the fall in the price of Natural Rubber. In this regard, I am giving below the details of the steps taken by the Government of India to arrest the declining trend of rubber prices in the domestic market and also to provide a remunerative price to the rubber growers in the country.

The domestic price of natural rubber had witnessed considerable fluctuations in 1994 and 1995. The price of natural rubber during 1994 varied from Rs. 2600 per quintal to Rs. 4200 per quintal. However, the price of natural rubber touched an all time high of over Rs. 6000 per quintal in June 1995. Thereafter, there has been a steady decline in domestic prices and this trend continued during 1996 and 1997 also. The average price of RSS-IV, which is standard good quality sheet rubber, was Rs. 2663 per quintal in the primary domestic market of Kottayam in April 1998. All through the domestic prices have followed the pattern of international prices reported at Kuala Lumpur. However, domestic prices are again firming up and are ruling at Rs. 300 to Rs. 400 higher per quintal than the international prices.

Tyre industry which includes automobile/cycle tyres and tubes accounts for 60 per cent of the domestic consumption. There has been a significant decline in the consumption by this sector. Automobile tyre industry which accounts for 47 per cent of domestic consumption, after an annual growth rate of nearly nine per cent for the last few years, has reported a negative figure at about -2 per cent in 1997-98.

I may mention here that several Members of Parliament and Government of Kerala have expressed concern over the continuing decline in prices of rubber. The Government of India had earlier authorised market intervention by State Trading Corporation and STC was directed in the month of August, 1997 to procure up to 10,000 MT of natural rubber on Government account at current prevailing prices. STC has procured 9596 MT and it has been reported that two agencies of the Government of Kerala, namely, M/s. Rubco and Kerala State Warehousing Corporation have also procured 20,000 MT.

However, this did not arrest the decline and in April 1998, prices came down to Rs. 2663 per quintal. The Government of India authorised STC in mid-May 1998 to procure a quantity of 20,000 MT on Government account at the prevailing market prices not exceeding Rs. 3400 per quintal.

The Government of India further directed STC not to off-load the procured quantity into the domestic market and to export and/or sell the entire quantity of procured rubber to the Advance Licence Holders.

The Benchmark Price of natural rubber was last fixed in February, 1994 at Rs. 2490 per quintal for RSS-IV Grade. In view of escalation in the cost of labour and various inputs, the Ministry of Commerce had taken up with the Ministry of Finance, the issue of fixing a revised Benchmark Price. The report of the Cost Accounts Branch of the Ministry of Finance has been received in the Ministry of Commerce and is under examination.

As explained above, the Government is fully aware of the difficulties of the rubber growers and is keeping a close watch on the price situation of natural rubber. In fact, after the intervention by the STC, the price of natural rubber has improved from Rs. 2525 per quintal on 6.5.98 to Rs. 3300 per quintal on 18.7.98 and it is hoped that the upward trend will continue.

In view of the position explained above, it may be seen that the Government of India has spared no efforts and taken all steps to stabilize the domestic price of natural rubber.

Sir, I may add that Shri Suresh Kurup was very considerate in paying some kind of a compliment but he is under mistaken notion that Government of India has not done anything to come to the succour of rubber growers. I agree that Kerala is the largest rubber-growing State and we occupy the third position in the world in the production of natural rubber. The decline in the prices of natural rubber is due to several factors and many of them are beyond our control. Regarding the general recession, it is not only in India that the rubber prices have gone down but it is so all over the world. If there was a possibility of exporting rubber, we would have certainly done it. There is no demand and there is no point in exporting rubber only to incur losses. The ruling prices in international market are much lower than the ruling prices in our own country.

Many hon. Members met me personally, have represented and expressed their views on the floor of the House that unless the declining prices are arrested, the growers would be put to great hardship. I entirely agree with them. The cost of production has gone up. I entirely agree with them that nearly 80 per cent of the growers are small growers and are not big planters. Therefore, I consider that it is necessary and as the duty

[SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE]

of the Government to help the maximum possible extent.

The hon. Members had met me personally and made several suggestions. I have already taken action on those suggestions. Firstly, they wanted market intervention by the STC. Shri Kurup has said that during the last two decades, whenever the prices declined, the Government had asked the STC to buy rubber in the market at the price fixed by the Government. This is not true. As I told in the statement, last time also, when market intervention was resorted to, the maximum price fixed was Rs. 34. This time, we thought that since the STC has entered into the market to buy a great quantity as 20,000 tonnes, the prices would pick up, and the prices did pick up. There is no doubt about it. From Rs. 2700 per quintal, it has now risen to Rs. 3400 per quintal. This trend will perhaps continue.

About import of natural rubber and rubber products, I must mention here that we have not permitted any sort of import of rubber except by the advanced licence holders. We cannot prevent them. It is their right. Those who export apply for advance licence for import and it is not specified what they are going to import. It is also necessary to manufacture certain products to import certain kinds of rubber from other countries. I must also inform the hon. Members that one of the demands made by them was that the Benchmark price fixed in 1994 was Rs. 24 per kilogram which comes to Rs. 2400 per quintal. The demand was very reasonable. I immediately agreed and as I said in the statement, a Committee was constituted. The Committee has surveyed taking into consideration the cost of various inputs and have just prepared a report. I do not know what exactly is there in the report. As soon as the Finance Ministry clears it, we are going to implement it. If the prices further decline, I will consult the hon. Members as to what kind of steps we have to take further. I hope and I am confident that the prices will not decline further and in case, they decline further, we would meet again and I will take such steps as you think are necessary to be taken.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Sir, I am repeating what I have mentioned earlier. Whatever be the claim of the Government, the fact is that the rubber price is not picking up. Now, it is the monsoon season in Kerala. No tapping is done in the months of June, July and August. Normally, there will be a slight upward trend in the prices of rubber. The prevailing price of rubber of first quality is Rs. 33 per kilogram. The prevailing price of rubber, which is slightly of lower quality and which is produced by a

majority of the cultivators, is Rs. 29 per kilogram. So, this shows that the price is not going up. All of us have personally met the Minister of Commerce. We gave many representations. The Government promised to fix the benchmark price immediately. I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the meeting that I, along with other Members, had with him one-and-a-half months back. He promised us that the benchmark market price will be fixed immediately and will also be announced soon. But till this date, the Government has not taken any step for fixing the benchmark price.

What I mention is that the Government has no figures regarding the quantity that is being imported into this country. As I mention earlier, tyres and cycle tubes are imported. Used tyres are also imported. I do not know for what purposes the used tyres are imported. The developed countries want to dump the used tyres somewhere in the Third World because it causes environmental problems there. The used tyres are imported and our country is being used as a dumping ground.

Now, I also talk about the import of synthetic rubber. The other day, my learned friend, Prof. P.J. Kurien, mentioned to the Minister about the import of polyurethane. Polyurethane is imported. It can replace centrifugal latex. There is also another material, called 'Toluene Diisocyanate', which, along with other locally available materials, can be used for manufacturing polyurethane. All these things are being imported. Ultimately, it affects the price of rubber.

My submission is that import of natural rubber, synthetic rubber, other chemicals, tyres, used tyres and all these things should be stopped at least for the time being. I know that the Government is going forward with the liberalised economic policy. You have also got a duty towards the rubber cultivators. As I mentioned earlier, these people turned to rubber cultivation only because of patronage of the Central Government. Now, the Government is not doing anything to protect the farmers and to fix the fair price for rubber.

Lastly, these cultivators are at the mercy of the industrialists who manufacture rubber products. The tyre companies in India, who raise the prices of tyres, when the price of natural rubber is higher, have not cared to reduce a single rupee when the prices are lower. The fact is that the tyre prices are going up even when the price of natural rubber is going down. Can anybody be blamed if they think that the Government is playing into the hands of the big industrialists, big tyre manufacturers and not taking care of the interests of the cultivators?

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, this was your last point. You please sit down now.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Sir, let me formulate it. It is the practice of the House, I would only take two to three more minutes.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only clarification have to be sought. There is no need of a speech? You please sit down.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Sir, when you sit with us here, then you used to make long speeches ...*(Interruptions)* It is totally unfair.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want? The work will be done as per the rules. You can ask clarification. There are four other Hon'ble Members also. They are also to be given time to speak. You make your last point.

[English]

There are four hon. Members.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Sir, this has been the practice of the House ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Trichur) : Sir, let him complete his submissions ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, rubber is elastic and it would stretch. That is what is happening here.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Sir, there is an oligopolistic arrangement between these companies. They depress the prices in a declining market and they back out from an upward market. This is what is happening.

Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government is taking to fix the benchmark price of rubber and whether the Government intends to procure rubber from the market for this

benchmark price. This is the most important thing which the Government should do. That should be declared immediately ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEDGE) : Sir, I am sorry that the hon. Member has not understood what I said.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : The prices are coming down. The Government has not done anything. Whatever little has been done by the Government has not affected the market ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : It may be that I have not been intelligible to him. I said that we have taken steps to fix the benchmark price.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Then, you declare it now.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : I cannot declare it in *ad hoc* manner. There is a procedure. An expert team has to go and they have to take into consideration the various factors, for example, the cost of inputs, the cost of labour etc. I said the Report is ready. It has to be approved by the Ministry of Finance and, maybe, in the next two to three days, if the approval is obtained. I will immediately publish it.

Let me say in which way the hon. Member has asked the question. Would the hon. Minister tell us whether rubber would be procured at the benchmark price? The answer is 'yes'.

Are you satisfied now? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A.C. JOS (Mukundapuram) : Sir, would you tell, how many tonnes of rubber have been procured by STC?

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why have you stood up again?

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS : That is all I want to know from the hon. Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please keep quiet. Mr. Joshi your name is not mentioned in the list of the Members who have signed the calling attention motion. You please sit down.

[English]

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : I would give you that figure also.

Here, some kind of a suggestion was made that the Government is under the influence of the big business houses, monopolists etc. That is not true. I refute it with all the force at my command.

Sir, the hon. Members are not unaware, they read the newspapers, that there is a slump in the industrial production. There is a recession in the entire South-East Asian region. In our own country also, production in the automobile sector has come down by 40 per cent. Some of the automobile industries like, M/s Ashok Leyland, TELCO etc. are in doldrums. Who will buy this rubber? Unless there is a demand, the tyre manufacturers will not manufacture them.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Tyre prices never came down, they always went up ...*(Interruptions)*

15.00 hrs.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : May I complete?

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now you have completed.

SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN (Adoor) : I would like to invite your attention towards the rubber growers of our country. About 92 per cent of the natural rubber is produced in Kerala. The majority of the rubber growers are from the middle class and the lower middle class categories. Thinking that the rubber cultivation is profitable, the small scale farmers stopped cultivating tapioca and paddy, and switched over to rubber cultivation. Now, the rubber is a non-profitable crop as far as the State of Kerala is concerned. This has affected the very foundation of Kerala's economy.

The price of natural rubber during 1994 varied from Rs. 2600 per quintal to Rs. 4200 per quintal and over Rs. 6000 per quintal in 1995. Thereafter, there had been a steady decline in the domestic price and this trend continued during 1996 and 1997 also. But, today the price of natural rubber has come down. The Government of India had earlier authorised the market intervention by State Trading Corporation to procure up to 10,000 MT of

natural rubber. However, that did not arrest the decline and the price came down to Rs. 3300 per quintal.

The Government may take urgent steps for improving the price of natural rubber and for the progress of rubber growers. By banning the import of rubber and rubber products, the Government can help the rubber growers. My demand is that the price of rubber may be stabilized.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar) : Sir, the discussion on the Maruti issue was to begin at 1500 hours. I do not mind waiting until this discussion is over provided the Chair gives a specific ruling that it would be taken up soon after it is over.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, the discussion on Maruti is to take place after this.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, Maruti needs tyres. And, for tyres we require rubber. So, the hon. Member can wait for some time.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Without repeating what the hon. Members have already said, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister and in turn seek clarifications on certain points. The agony of the rubber growers of Kerala goes back to a few years when you, as the hon. Minister, visited Kottayam. At that time also we had drawn your attention towards the problems of the rubber growers. Let me quantify the whole thing for the understanding of everybody. We are producing 6 lakh tonnes of rubber in our country. Its cost used to be Rs. 60 per Kg. and now its cost is Rs. 30 per Kg. So, the loss comes to about Rs. 3000 crore to the rubber growers all over the country. In 1960 we were producing only 15,000 tonnes of rubber. Today we are producing about 6 lakh tonnes of rubber which is sufficient for the Indian industry. The rubber growers are being penalised for their hard work. One may imagine for a minute, had they not been producing 6 lakh tonnes of rubber what would have been the outflow of foreign exchange for the Indian industry to meet the requirement of rubber? I am not going into the details of this. We have taken up this issue not only in this House but in various other fora, like the Standing Committee and the Consultative Committee. The hon. Minister was also there the other day and we directly listened to the people who are in the field.

Once, Supplementary Demands for Grants for Rs. 150 crore were placed in this very House by the then Finance Minister on account of giving price support to cane-growers in the country. At that time we demanded as to why Supplementary Demand for Grants could not be placed and a fund be created in the Union Commerce Ministry to give subsidy to exporters of rubber. We are producing surplus rubber. Rubber can be exported, may not be at an economic price. In this kind of a situation, if the Government of India gives subsidy, or at least meets the loss on account of exports, it will be of great help to the rubber farmers. How much amount of money would be needed for this? It is not even half of what was provided for sugarcane and various other crops.

It is a fact that there are imports. The hon. Minister has stated that Advance Licencing Scheme cannot be stopped. I do not agree with him. Advance Licencing Scheme is the existing practice that a person who exports, has a right to import. But, when you impose a ban on the import of certain items, that does not come under Advance Licencing Scheme. The hon. Minister has stated that various grades of rubber is required for the manufacture of tyres. Any grade of natural rubber is required for the manufacture of tyre which is available in Malaysia or in Sri Lanka is available within the country. So, there is absolutely no necessity for any industrialist in the country—whatever is his Advance Licencing entitlement—to import a single kilogram of rubber into the country. When our supply and demand situation is not justified, where is the question of importing rubber from outside?

The other day, a big advertisement appeared in the newspapers that a multinational tyre company launched their tyre in India. They are marketing their tyre. I do not want to mention the name of the company. It was a multinational company which has started selling their tyres in India. Second hand tyres are being imported. We raised a question and we were told that retreading lobby is behind this. As Shri Kurup has said, we have repeatedly made a lot of hue and cry in this House in regard to Polyurethane Foam (PUF). Import duty on PUF was 50 per cent; it was reduced to 40 per cent; further reduced to 25 per cent; and now it is 15 per cent. That means, whatever is a substitute for rubber—whether it is in the form of used tyre, in the form of new tyre or in the form of PUF—is being imported. When this country is producing enough of rubber, it is absolutely within the rights of the Government of India to ban Advance Licencing on that commodity. I am not saying that hon. Minister or the Government is not aware of this problem. I am not saying that the Minister is concerned about it. I admit that the

Minister is very much concerned about it. But the question is that when he is asking STC to procure large quantities of rubber, it is not helping the rubber farmer. A benchmark price should be fixed on this. The Minister has said that it is under the consideration of the Finance Ministry. He may kindly check up with his officers. The matter has gone back to the Ministry of Commerce at least 20 days before. The cost accountants in the Finance Ministry had worked out the figure and sent it back to the Commerce Ministry. It is a different matter that it is not acceptable to us.

Government is a continuous mechanism. The previous Finance Minister stated in this House that as and when prices fell below Rs. 40 per kilogram, market intervention was resorted to by Government of India for various commodities. Where is such an intervention scheme for rubber? STC purchasing rubber at market price cannot be called market intervention. They purchase rubber at market price and when the price goes up they sell it and make money. That is not market intervention. Market intervention means fixing a benchmark price or a minimum support price and then purchasing that commodity at that price. This is not anger against the hon. Minister; this is our agony. We urge upon him to kindly state on the floor of the House today that a benchmark will be announced on such and such a date. He can do it in 24 hours because he knows what the cost of production is. He comes from a rubber-producing State. We should get a minimum price of Rs. 45 to Rs. 50. If that price is fixed and if, say, 5000 tonnes of rubber is purchased at that minimum price, the situation will improve

The Advance Licencing Scheme should go. A benchmark price should be fixed and at that benchmark price, STC should make purchases. Then only we will be saved. The farmer has started cutting the rubber trees.

The farmers started cutting rubber trees
...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The farmers will be fully taken care of.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Idukki) : Mr. Chairman, you also listen.

[English]

Kindly understand, Sir. We have full faith in the Minister and I would request the hon. Minister to make an announcement today.

Thank you very much.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara) : Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I would like to call the attention of the Central Government, especially the hon. Minister for Commerce to the very desperate conditions of the rubber growers of the whole country in general and the rubber farmers of Kerala in particular. As you are aware of most of the rubber farmers in Kerala are marginal farmers and are having just one to two acres of land. They are not big planters. Hence, a very grave situation is there.

I would also like to call the attention of the Government to the fact that the major chunk of the rubber produce is actually coming from Kerala. This matter has been repeatedly brought to the notice of this Government, especially during the discussion on the General Budget. I myself had raised this point during the discussion. It is highly regretted on behalf of the people of Kerala and also on behalf of the Members of Kerala in this august House that the Government had done nothing to improve the situation and to make the farmers get better price.

I have certain doubts about what the hon. Minister has said. He has said that the Ministry or the Government had done everything possible to improve the price and help the farmers. But the points which we have raised here for improving the price of rubber had not actually been taken care of or not even given any attention at all. If attention had been given to the suggestions given by us, definitely there would have been improvement. But there something contrary is happening.

Unless the Government changes its import policy as is repeatedly said by other Members, it is not going to improve. When there is ample produce of rubber in this country and when Kerala alone will be able to produce rubber that is required for the industrial purposes in this country, then why should there be this import? At least, for a short while, until the price is picked up, why cannot the Government change its policy of import?

The hon. Minister has said that it was not possible to change the rules regarding Advance Licence System. I do not think, that it is such a difficult matter. We have amended our Constitution so many times. What prevents the Government from changing the Advance Licencing Policy? I do not think, it is a hardcore matter or an iron bar which cannot be melted. Even the iron bars can be melted into something else. This is the point which I want to raise in this House and I want an answer from the Government on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes. Now, the hon. Minister.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, just one minute. This is an important point. I want to emphasise the point that the hon. Minister had been saying that they had done everything possible within their limits. Months have passed by since this Government came to power. Rubber season is over. Now it is the monsoon season. It is time when the price should pick up. But since the benchmark price is not fixed by the Government so far, it is not going to pick up.

There is no point in STC procuring rubber unless the benchmark price is fixed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. Please take your seat now.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, I am raising this point on behalf of the people of Kerala, it cannot be stopped like that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Same thing is said again and again.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, I am very sorry to say that the Government has not done anything in this regard. I want the Government to take necessary steps in this regard and fix the benchmark price. I also want the Government to procure the rubber on that price.

Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Minister, please.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, my question has not been answered. I would like to know how much quantity of tyre the STC is procuring from the market after his intervention.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The rule is that only those members whose names have been mentioned in this can ask the question. If all the Members would like to speak, then whom to allow and whom to disallow.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, we too have to speak on this. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no possibility of a debate in the calling attention. The mentioned in the motion can seek the clarifications and I have given the time to all of them.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Why should we import used tyres? Used tyres should not be imported. At least, the Government should see that much is not words ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, you have made your point, now you please take your seat.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we would like to draw your attention towards the problems being faced by the rubber growers in Kerala due to fall in price of Natural rubber in the country. We support the demands of rubber growers.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HAGDE : I cannot understand when there is no demand for the new tyres, how can anybody import used second-hand tyres? This is kind of illusion. Three main points were raised. I am going to reply to those three points. The first point is, regarding the benchmark price that has not been fixed. I said that we have taken steps immediately after the hon. Members met me about three weeks ago, maybe, one month ago and the report is ready. The report is with the Commerce Department. It has to be according to the rules of procedure. It has to be taken to the Cabinet. At the earliest possible time, this matter will be taken to the Cabinet. I hope the Cabinet will approve.

Secondly, a question was asked whether the Government, through STC or any other agency will buy natural rubber at the benchmark price. I said, yes. Whatever benchmark price is indicated, the Government will buy.

Shri Jos has asked a question what is the actual quantity of rubber the STC has purchased. STC has raised orders for 4,500 metric tonnes of rubber. STC does not buy directly or through private agencies. It buys through the cooperative societies. But the cooperative

societies have raised one question that the handling charges that they were getting are not adequate. Therefore, they are demanding 50 paise more. I am negotiating with the STC. I said, 'if Kerala Government is prepared to share this, I am prepared to share 50 per cent of the total cost.' Kerala Government has done it before. I have written to the Kerala Chief Minister that he should consider this matter and he should also come to the help. Last time, he did it. This year also, he should do it.

Apart from this, I have written to the various State Chief Ministers that they should start rubberising the highways. I have written to my colleague, the Minister of Surface Transport. I have got a copy of the letter here. I have written to him. Now the rubber market is down and rubber prices have gone down. It has become uneconomical for the farmers to grow. Once they stop growing, then we will have to import. That will cost us foreign exchange. It is not the lobby of this industry or that industry. Why should rubber prices fall here more than in main countries where rubber is grown more than us? In Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and everywhere, the price of natural rubber has gone down, actually, more steeply than in our own country. Therefore, I would like to assure the hon. Members that I share the concern and I do everything that is possible at our hand. Also, they must bring some kind of pressure on the Chief Minister of Kerala so that he should also come to the help of the farmers.

The bench-mark price will be announced as soon as the Cabinet takes a decision, maybe in the next meeting or whatever it is. Whatever bench-mark price is fixed, I assure that the STC is going to buy at that price, whatever may be the cost. I quite agree with the suggestion that unless we step into the market the price of rubber goes up.

They should also know that India's productivity is the highest and during the last few years, the growth has been more than nine per cent per annum and we should take all these factors into consideration. Therefore, please do not go by wrong conclusions that the Government is not coming to the help of the farmers. We will go to the farthest extent and he said rubber is stretchable, but if we stretch it, it will snap.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Do not do that.

Only on clarification. The hon. Minister has said that it is not possible to import used tyres. That is correct. I know that they cannot be imported. But in the interests

[PROF. P.J. KURIEN]

of the farmers, is the Minister prepared to import new tyres? Probably because the new tyres are being imported that affects the industry also. Is he prepared to allow import of new tyres?

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : Radial tyres.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Secondly, the Minister has said that already more than 4,000 tonnes of rubber has been procured by the STC and his target is 20,000 tonnes. Instead of releasing those 4,000 or 20,000 tonnes, whatever may be into the Indian market, is he prepared to export it. Of course, I know when we export he may incur a loss. Whatever may be that loss, the Government of India has to suffer that loss. Suffering that loss by the Government of India, is he prepared to export that rubber? These are two specific demands which the Government of Kerala and the people of Kerala are making. What is his reactions to these two specific points?

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): The hon. Minister has agreed that he has given permission to import. That point has to be clarified.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : We have not given any permission. The total cost of import has been less than Rs. 2 crore. Do not go by rumours. I want to clarify that last year we procured 9900, almost 10000 metric tonnes of rubber. It is still lying in STC godowns. We do not know, whatever we call it.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : There is a demand from Japan.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : Will you take the agency?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : There is a company in Kerala. It is ready to take the agency.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : Please send them here. Ask them to contact STC. They are prepared to export.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : They have an export order of 20,000 tonnes. They do not have the money. As Prof. Kurien has said if the Government of India is prepared to sustain a loss, there are companies which are ready to come forward to export.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : Would you please ask that company which is interested in exporting rubber to contact the STC.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : The name of the company is Palazhy Tyres, Kottayam, Kerala.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE : Even if it is a matter of some loss, not substantial, the STC will export through that company.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sir, Calling Attention motion is over. Now Matters Under Rule 377 will be taken. Now I call the names of the Hon. Members with the permission of the House. The matters given by them shall be treated as read under Rule 377.

1. Shri Krishan Lal Sharma
2. Dr. Ram Lakhan Singh
3. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava
4. Shri Gordhanbhai Jadavbhai Javiya
5. Shri Narendra Budania
6. Shri K.D. Sultanpuri
7. Shri Abhaysinh S. Bhonsle
8. Shri Asim Bala
9. Shri C. Gopal
10. Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi
11. Shri Akbar Ali Khadoker
12. Shri B.M. Mensinkai

15.23 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

- (1) **Need for a comprehensive policy on the working of Delhi Development Authority**

[English]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (Outer Delhi) : DDA has been in operation in the Capital for quite a long

*Treated as laid on the Table of the House.

time. The main purpose for which DDA was set up was to provide cheap housing to the needy and poor in the Capital. But DDA has deviated from the main objectives and ventured into commercial transactions. Further, the DDA has not formulated any comprehensive policy in regard to provide housing in the Capital even for the future.

DDA frequently acquired huge tracts of land without any firm planning resulting in large scale encroachment of Government land. Moreover, the huge blocks of flats of different types in various parts of Capital are lying vacant since years for want of necessary infrastructure and facilities. These flats have remained unallotted for quite a long time causing big loss of revenue to DDA. On the other hand, a large number of intending purchasers or needy persons are in a long queue to get a flat. All this is due to lack of proper planning and coordination with other local bodies and finally due to lack of comprehensive policy of DDA.

Another startling fact about the policy of the DDA is in regard to charging interest. DDA pays a low rate of interest on deposits received from the intending purchasers of its flats and charges a high rate of interest from those who default in payment of their due installments towards the cost of the flats.

All this shows that there is a lot to be done in improving the image of DDA.

In the first instance, I will ask the Government to issue a white paper on the performance of the DDA till now. Secondly, there is an immediate need for DDA to spell out a comprehensive policy on land acquisition, payment of compensation, allotment of constructed flats, new construction and removal of encroachment.

(ii) **Need to improve the functioning of Telephones in Bhind Parliamentary Constituency, Madhya Pradesh**

[*Translation*]

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH (Bhind) : Sir, the telephone system has come to standstill in Lohar, Alampur, Daboo, Saveda, Amaien areas under my constituency Bhind (M.P.) for last six months. The people of these areas are unable to make or receive any telephone call, as a result of which business class and general public are facing great difficulty. The business is incurring heavy losses due to failure of telephone system.

The telephone connection of the people of this area has been cut off from the people of other cities. So I would request the Central Government through you to take necessary steps to streamline the telephone system of these areas under my constituency.

(iii) **Need to improve the functioning of National Institute of Ayurveda**

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the National Institute of Ayurveda is the only institute in whole of India where the management is not working properly. Free medicines are not available in this institution. There is no arrangement in case of any emergency and there is also no staff on night duties. The institutes does not have a botanical garden and there is no system to find out the characteristic of matter. Dead bodies are not available to get the knowledge of body structure in this institute.

I would request the Government to take steps for removing the shortcomings in the system of India's only National Ayurveda Institute.

(iv) **Need to run Delhi-Porbandar Express train thrice a week**

[*Translation*]

SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIYA (Porbandar) : Sir, Porbandar is the birth place of Gandhiji. A "Delhi-Porbandar Express Train" has been started on the public demand on the occasion of 125th birth anniversary of Gandhiji, but this train is run once a week. Not only the people of Porbandar but also the people of entire Saurashtra, Gujarat and millions of people who have come to Sahelgarh, the birth place of Ghandhiji from the other parts of the country have also reaped the benefits of this train. Besides Porbandar and its surrounding areas are industrially developed and many businessmen and industrialists are getting benefits of it. The world famous Dwarika dham, where Lord Krishna ruled and Okhavat where Sudamaji presented rice to his friend Lord Krishna are very nearby. Keeping in view all these facts and heavy traffic in this region, this train should be run at least thrice a week and there should be no problem in doing so because this train remains in yard uselessly for four days.

There are so many problems regarding the trains besides this train. They include the extension of trains of

Ahmedabad and Rajkot to Porbandar, to reduce the time interval of trains, to increase the quota of reservation, computerisations at the main stations, the problems of the public etc. A high level railway committee should be sent there to submit its report on all these matters.

I hope Railway Minister will pay attention towards it.

[Translation]

- (v) **Need to direct State Government of Rajasthan to ensure uninterrupted supply of electricity in rural areas of the State particularly in Churu parliamentary constituency**

[Translation]

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA (Churu) : Sir, there is acute shortage of power in rural areas of whole Rajasthan, especially in Churu, my parliamentary constituency. As a result farmers are unable to irrigate their farms from wells and due to lack of irrigation their standing crop is destroyed. On the one hand due to lack of power farmers can't irrigate their farms, on the other there is acute shortage of drinking water in urban as well as in rural areas in this scorching heat. Villages and nearby are plunged in darkness resulting in spurt in the cases of theft and dacoities. Wherever electricity is supplied, farmers are unable to do their day-do-today activities because very low voltage is supplied. Through you I would request the Government of India to direct the Rajasthan Government to supply of electricity to rural areas, especially Churu, Lok Sabha Constituency so that standing crop of farmers could be saved, water could be supplied regularly to rural and urban areas, and people could be saved from theft and dacoities. Power connections should be given on priority basis to farmers at their wells so that food production could be increased.

- (vi) **Need to provide financial assistance to State Government of Himachal Pradesh for better educational facilities in the State**

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla) : For dissemination of education in Himachal Pradesh schools from primary level to secondary, higher secondary and colleges were opened by the previous Government and it was even notified by State Government. Principals and Headquarters were appointed. But still hundreds of primary schools, secondary schools and colleges are there where even teachers are not appointed. It is adversely affecting the career of students. Their parents are worried. Teachers never go to remote areas. Colleges which were given

permission by the previous Government, till now classes have not yet started there. To open college in Theog Simla district, Principal was also appointed. But I am sorry to say that classes have not yet started. There is resentment amongst people over this. People are sitting on hunger strike and are demanding that career of their children be saved. State Government should take action in this regard. If State Government lacks funds and is unable to pay salaries of teachers, then I would like to request Government of India to give financial help in this regard. This could be solved by sending the staff to educational centre.

- (vii) **Need to issue N.O.C. by the Central Government for implementation of various schemes for the benefit of slum-dwellers residing on Central Government land in Mumbai**

[English]

SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE (Satara) : Sir, during the post-Independence period, due to industrialisation, large number of people have migrated to Mumbai; a large number of slums have come up on State Government land and other Semi-Government lands and also land belonging to various Departments, namely, Railways, Airport Authority of the Central Government.

Considering the unhygienic condition of the slums, the State Government has taken steps to improve the living conditions of slum dwellers whose names are included in Electoral Poll of 1980 and 1985 and who are staying at the same place at present.

The State Government have implemented various schemes, namely, Slum Improvement Scheme, Slum Upgradation Scheme, Slum Redevelopment Scheme for improving the standard of living of slum dwellers and also to improve the environmental conditions of the slums. However, benefit of these schemes have not reached the slum-dwellers residing on Central Government land, since concerned Department of the Central Government has not issued the NOC for the implementation of the Scheme.

As per 1976, 1980 and 1985 census, 168 slum colonies are situated on Central Government land in Greater Mumbai. As these lands are owned by the Central Government Department, "No Objection Certificate" is required from them for providing amenities to the slums located on Central Government's land.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to resolve the problem of issue of NOC from the Central Government at the earliest.

(viii) Need to sanction Ganga Action Plan Phase-II in West Bengal and provide funds for it

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip) : Sir, works under Ganga Action Plan Phase-I has been completed. The programme of the Ganga Plan Phase-II is yet to be started in West Bengal. On the basis of the State Government's proposals and under the Supreme Court directions, the proposal has been submitted to the Central Government which accorded administrative approval in October, 1996 at an estimated cost of Rs. 348.05 crore. A detailed project report for various components has also been submitted to the Government of India and approval has already been received for detailed reports submitted by the State Government. The State Government has already represented to the Central Government that it is very difficult to find resources in the State Budget to meet 50 per cent of the project cost. It had also been decided in the meeting of the National River Conservation Authority held in July, 1997 presided over by the hon. Prime Minister that the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II Schemes would be fully funded by the Government of India.

The Schemes under the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II are quite important in the context of environmental improvement, Non-implementation of the Schemes will adversely affect the environment of the areas, that is, the towns and the quality of water in the river Ganga besides causing tremendous resentment among the local people. As such, Schemes in the West Bengal towns for which Government of India had already accorded administrative approval should be sanctioned under the GAP Phase-II as early as possible.

(ix) Need to direct nationalised banks to offer loans to poor needy people on priority basis

SHRI C. GOPAL (Arakkonam) : Sir, it is a well known fact that a total of 14 banks including the Indian Bank, Indian Overseas Bank, Canara Bank and Bank of India had been nationalized for the purpose of uplifting the standard of the life of the poor people in our nation. The purpose of nationalisation was to give loans to the poor people through the said banks. But the said purpose is not achieved till today. The same banks are interested to give loans only to rich people. Therefore, I request the hon. Prime Minister and the Finance Minister to give directions to the said nationalised banks to give loans to

the poor weavers, farmers, small business people and young graduates, artisans and architects. As we know, banks like Indian Bank, had not adopted the policy of giving loans to the poor sections of the people and it is said that a sum of Rs. 2000 crore is yet to be collected from the rich people who are having no intention to repay the amount.

I request the Union Government to order an inquiry into the matter and direct the nationalised banks to offer loans to the needy people on priority basis.

(x) Need to provide adequate staff for smooth functioning of the Office of General Manager, Telecommunications in Darbhanga, Bihar

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): Sir, through you, I would like to draw attention of Government towards recently established office of General Manager, telecommunications. Here instead of T.D.M., office of General Manager has been established, but till now General Manager has not taken charge and the earlier arrangement of T.D.M. has been abolished. All these developments have adversely affected development programmes of telecommunications.

Though the house, I request that adequate staff may be posted at office of General Manager telecommunications. General Manager telecommunications may be directed to take charge so that development work of telecommunications could be streamlined in this area.

(xi) Need to reopen Dunlop India Limited unit situated at Hooghly, West Bengal

[English]

SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER (Serampore) : Sir, Dunlop India Limited, once the largest tyre manufacturing company in Asia, has declared 'suspension of work'. And as a result, about 7,000 workmen have become jobless. The unit is situated at Chinsurah, district Hooghly. The company has become sick and has been referred to BIFR. The State Government assured to take over the management of this Sahaganj unit. But till date, no action has been taken in this regard by the State Government. The workers and members of their families are facing starvation. Even the children of these poor workers are forced to leave their schools and colleges since they are unable to pay the fees.

I urge upon the Central Government to intervene in the matter by reopening the unit.

(xii) Need for Stoppage of Bangalore CST Mumbai Express at Haveri and Ranebennur

SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI (Dharward South) : Sir, train No. 1018, Bangalore CST Mumbai Express, via Miraj, should stop at Haveri-district headquarters-and Ranebennur, which is a commercial and industrial centre.

The people of this area have got close contacts of commercial, industrial, educational and sentimental nature. This area formerly belonged to Bombay-Karnataka. Earlier, during the time of meter-gauge railways, Mahalaxmi Express used to stop at Haveri and Ranebennur. Now, the people of this area are put to a lot of hardship due to non-availability of a single train. This train should also be run daily. I once again request for this genuine cause.

15.27 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Maruti Udyog Limited*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the discussion under rule 193 will start. Hon. Member, Shri S. Jaipal Reddy.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak today with more anguish than with anger because I am trying to draw the attention of such a senior Minister, Shri Sikander Bakht. We have been great friends. The problem with the hon. Minister is that he takes everything in a personal sense. I hope he will not do this on this occasion having regard to the record of our equations extending over years. ...*(Interruptions)*.

15.28 hrs.

[PROF. RITA VERMA in the Chair]

Madam, I am now dealing with the subject of Suzukisation of Maruti Company. The first nail was driven into the coffin of Government's own Maruti Company Limited, way back in 1992. That was when the Congress Government allowed the Suzuki Company to raise its equity from 40 per cent to 50 per cent for reasons best known to that Government. The final nail into the coffin has been driven by this Government. I am sorry to make this strong remarks.

Before I deal with the merits of the agreement, I would like to go a little deep into the history of the whole issue. Before the equity of Suzuki Company was raised to 50 per cent, Shri Bhargava was the Managing Director of Maruti Company. He was the Managing Director of this Company as Government's nominee. He was the Managing Director of the Company for seven long years.

When the equity was raised to fifty per cent and nomination of the M.D. came to Suzuki by turn, Suzuki strangely chose same Shri Bhargava as its choice. Before Shri Bhargava become the M.D. of Maruti Company on behalf of Suzuki Company, there were many grave allegations against Shri Bhargava. Those allegations were not allowed to be inquired into by the CBI. After he ceased to be the Government's M.D., the CBI inquired into a couple of charges and filed two charge-sheets against him.

I am sorry to strike a slight personal note at this stage. I happened to be the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha's Committee on Government Assurances at that time. The matter was brought to the notice of the Committee. The Committee took up the issue and after inquiring into the issue exhaustively, made recommendations to the Government unanimously that Shri Bhargava Should be removed as M.D. because he was facing charge-sheets in the court. This report of the Committee was submitted on 25th August, 1995. I quote from the Committee's report:

"The Committee are of the considered view that the Government should take immediate steps to relieve Shri Bhargava of his office by moving against him under the Company law and by telling Suzuki in loud and clear language that the Government will not put up with its planted and tainted nominee."

This was the recommendation of the Committee. I must here say that the then Minister for Industry, Shri Karunakaran took a very serious view of the unanimous recommendation of this all-party Committee and acted with remarkable despatch and promptitude. He wrote to Suzuki Company asking them to replace Shri Bhargava by somebody else. Though it was the privilege of the Suzuki Company at that time to have a nominee of its choice, the Government told Suzuki in black and white that Shri Bhargava was tainted by charge-sheets and therefore, he did not deserve to be the M.D. of the Company. The Suzuki Company obstinately refused to replace Shri Bhargava. Suzuki invoked its inherent right to nominate its own choice. The Government at that time

approached the Company Board to take steps in the matter as per the recommendation of the Committee.

I must congratulate Shri Karunakaran on having taken another step which later on proved to be a momentous one. Shri Jagdish Khattar was one of the nominees of the Government on Maruti Board as a Director. When he was seen to collude with Suzuki Company, Shri Karunakaran passed an order that he be removed from the Board of Directors.

In the meantime, the new Government took over and Shri Murasoli Maran took over as the Minister of Industry. He also took an equally strong view in the matter. The order of Shri Karunakaran was implemented by Shri Murasoli Maran. And what was more? Shri Maran took the step of nominating Shri Bhaskarudu as the Managing Director. The Suzuki protested saying that Shri Bhaskarudu did not suit that company. Shri Maran said that you cannot have it both ways. When we asked you to remove Shri Bhargava, you did not agree. You claimed absolute privilege. Now, it is our turn to choose our M.D. and our choice has to be similarly absolute. It cannot be qualified at all and Suzuki was so incensed that it went to an international court.

Now, how did Maruti company get built up? Madam, Maruti company was given protection not only from competition from other foreign companies but also from India's own car manufacturers. It was given protection from that mildewed car, Ambassador and from another mildewed car, Fiat. The excise concessions given to Maruti Udyog Limited came to Rs. 2,200 crore. I am not quoting a figure out of my own imagination. This was the figure submitted to the International Court by the Government of India in defence of its own case.

What was the investment made by Suzuki Company in Maruti? Its capital was only Rs. 103 crore and what did Suzuki get in return? It got Rs. 350 crore either by way of profit or by way of royalty. Suzuki Company sold components and equipments worth Rs. 4,200 crore. You can imagine how they were over-invoiced. The general estimate is that the over-invoicing ranged from 20 to 50 per cent depending upon the component.

When the Government's nominee Shri Bhaskarudu took over, Suzuki followed another route. That was to try to increase its equity beyond 50 per cent. It began to suggest many expansion plans and new painting company. The analysis has proved that all their plans were only designed to increase their equity and not to strengthen the company. So, the Government did not

yield its ground at all. What is the present market worth of this company? I do not like to speak in terms of rupee because the value of rupee keeps on appreciating every day. That is another matter. I do not want to digress into that. The market value of this company is not less than three billion dollars. The worth of Government's equity today is 1.5 billion dollars. This has been built up at the cost of the taxpayers money in the country.

Our Government entered into an agreement in a cloak and dagger fashion. It was entered into on Saturday, the June 6, 1998. May I quote from the Agreement? I have a copy of the Agreement with me. I, therefore, propose to quote from the Agreement. If the Minister wants, I will place it on the Table of the House. These provisions of the Agreements have not been made public. I am quoting from the Agreement:

"2.2 Both parties agree to appoint Mr. Jagdish Kattar, who will be appointed as a Government nominated whole-time Director of Maruti not later than June 9, 1998 as the second joint Managing Director effective from not later than June 98 with effect from July 1, 1999."

This provision which I have read, contains three aspects. One, Shri Jagdish Kattar who had earlier been removed as a Government's nominee, would be brought back immediately to remain there up to 2,002. Secondly, he would be immediately made second Joint MD. Then later on, he would again be made the second MD. The Minister in his statement made in the House on 8th, did not choose it fit to tell the House about these facts. Shri Jagdish Kattar has been chosen by the Suzuki company and he is supposed to be a Government's nominee.

Now in this arrangement, Suzuki company will have a Chairman of its choice, and also an MD of its choice. I quoted earlier from the Rajya Sabha's Committee Report which described Shri Bhargava as a planted, tainted nominee. Shri Jagdish Kattar will be an illustrious successor to Shri Bhargava. He was also picked up by Shri Bhargava. He was his acolyte. Suzuki is armed with Midas touch. It can turn any Government's nominee into its own tool. Shri Bhaskarudu has been made to pay the price because he refused to play into the hands of Suzuki company. This Government is punishing Shri Bhaskarudu for his patriotism. This Government which talks of Swadeshi has punished Shri Bhaskarudu, a patriot par excellence.

[SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY]

I will quote again from the Agreement which has not been made public:

"6.3 As provided for in Article 5.7 of the amended Joint Venture Agreement, the experience and expertise of Suzuki shall be recognised and respected with respect to the technology and management of Maruti. This includes important decisions on day-to-day management as well as decisions on management policies. Government acknowledges this principle and agrees to call the Maruti to abide by this."

That means, whatever Suzuki says in respect of either technology or the price of technology or the method of management, Maruti company will have no option but to agree to it. That is the import of this clause. It also says, "Suzuki company will have the ultimate say in regard to day to day management." Show me another agreement in the corporate sector of the world where such shameful clauses have been inserted.

Madam, this whole thing was done in such a secret fashion, the Government found it difficult to find the witness for the President of India. There is one person—I am unable to decipher his name. I need to decode his name really—Shri R.D. Sharma. I do not know. He may be the Private Secretary to the Minister. I have no difficulty with the Private Secretary to the Minister. After all, he is a Government servant. For the President of India, the witness is only a Private Secretary to the Minister. Can there be anything more obnoxious, absurd, outrageous than this?

This kind of agreement was reached on Saturday. I am saying here with full sense of responsibility that the Ministry of Heavy Industry was not taken into confidence. No analysis was made by any Committee of Secretaries. No analysis was made by any group of Ministers. The matter was never taken before the Cabinet. The Secretary of the Heavy Industry, Shri Shankar, who is the Secretary to this, did not know this until 5th of June. He was called on Saturday and made to sign this. I am saying this with full sense of responsibility. Who were in fact taken into confidence in this matter and why did the Minister not deem it fit to have the matter studied in depth by other Committees? What were the compelling circumstances for the Government to reach this agreement? The Government tried in a subtle way to palm it off as an exercise in economic diplomacy in the post Pokhran phase. They are living in a fool's paradise. Suzuki is a tiny company in Japan. It accounts only for seven per cent of automobile sector in Japan, and our

Minister and the Government of India appear to believe that Suzuki can sway the Government of Japan.

Madam, I do not like to hurt the Minister by using strong phrases but the stink of the scandal is rising to the high Heavens, and I think, this needs to be inquired into by the Joint Parliamentary Committee. If the Minister is very confident about the deal struck behind the back of his own Department, behind the back of Parliament and at the cost of people of India, let him agree to an inquiry by Joint Parliamentary Committee. That will expose the serious compromises that the Government made with the national interest while entering into agreement on this question.

I would like to tell the Minister that the stink of this scandal will continue to haunt the Government not only upto its graveyard which does not seem to be very far away, but beyond its graveyard. Therefore, let not the Minister try to escape the whole issue by indulging in loud lamentation and proud protestations for which he is well known.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Madam, the agreement between the Government of India and Suzuki Company signed on 8th June 1998 is the greatest scandal of the year, if not of the century. The claim of achievement and the compromise with Suzuki Company is a surrender to the pressure of a multinational company of Japan.

The Maruti Company Ltd., was set up in 1981. But in 1982 Suzuki Motor Company had acquired 26 per cent of its share. Then it was increased to 40 per cent and the Government retained 50 per cent of its share. Then, in 1992, the share of Suzuki was increased to 50 per cent when it became entitled to the management of Maruti Company Ltd. At that time there was an agreement between Maruti and Suzuki, between the Government of India and the Suzuki Company. I would like to quote a few lines from Clause 5.1 of the agreement of 1992:

"The Chairman of the Board of Directors shall be nominated by Suzuki and the Government by terms, provided that the party which nominates the Chairman of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to remove such Chairman and nominate a new Chairman of the Board of Directors up to the expiration of the term of office of the predecessor. The company and the Government shall have the right to designate the next Chairman of the Board of Directors to be appointed at such Annual General Meeting of the shareholders."

As per the agreement, the Chairman was appointed by the Government of India and the Managing Director become Suzuki's nominee. Shri Bhargava was appointed as the Chairman and he was the nominee of Suzuki.

In this House as well as in the other House also, Members from various political parties raised this issue and various allegations against Shri Bhargava were leveled. In the other House the then Industry Minister gave an assurance on the issue and the Assurance Committee of Rajya Sabha took up the case and recommended strongly in favour of removal of Shri Bhargava because the serious allegations which were levelled against him were found to be true.

When the Committee on Government Assurances, Rajya Sabha submitted its Report and recommended the Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry—at that time, the Secretary was Shri T.R. Prasad—he wrote to the Suzuki Motor Corporation and he also received a reply. And what was the reply? I quote from the letter received from Mr. Osamu Suzuki, the President and CEO of the Suzuki Motor Corporation:

"Maruti is a private company, equally shared by the Government of India and the Suzuki Motor Corporation and appointment of the Board of Directors and their positions in the corporate organisation are determined after agreement between both shareholders. The Managing Director is to be elected alternately from the Board Members nominated by both shareholders. In reality, it was common understanding that election of the Managing Director of Maruti was virtually conducted in accordance with the agreement of the representative of both shareholders. Based on such agreement, Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Narasimha Rao, representing the Government of India and myself representing the Suzuki Motor Corporation agreed to elect Mr. R.C. Bhargava as Managing Director in June, 1992. A Managing Director who is elected should not be relieved at the sole discretion of either party or your sole judgement, without having mutual consent of both shareholders."

That was the reply from the President and CEO of the Suzuki Motor Corporation.

When the Government of India wanted to remove the Managing Director, who was the nominee of the Suzuki Motor Corporation, at that point of time, the Suzuki Motor Corporation did not agree to that. After Shri Bhargava's retirement, when Shri Bhaskarudu was

appointed as the Managing Director of the company, the Suzuki Motor Corporation raised an objection. Shri Bhaskarudu is the nominee of the Government of India. They said that they do not like this gentleman to be the Managing Director. They want Shri Khattar to be the Managing Director.

Shri Khattar was removed as Director in 1996. He was removed from the post of Director. The process was started when the Congress (I) was running the Government and when the UF came to power, Shri Khattar was removed as Director. He was removed as Director because there was a serious allegation.

He was a 'planted man' of Suzuki Motor Corporation. He was not looking after the interests of the Government of India and he was Shri Bhargava's man. This was why the Government of India wanted to remove Shri Khattar and he was subsequently removed. He was a person who was removed by the Government of India, who was proved to be a man of Suzuki Motor Corporation. The Suzuki Motor Corporation wanted that Shri Khattar should be the Managing Director of the company.

16.00 hrs.

Madam, when the United Front Government did not succumb and surrender to the pressure of this multinational company, that is the Suzuki Company, there was an all out support from all the sides. I can quote from a letter written by Shri Pramod Mahajan to the then Minister of Industries, Shri Murasoli Maran congratulating him for taking such a strong position. It says:

"The Government should tell the Japanese firm in clear terms that they will have to abide by the rules if they wish to continue in our country"

Then, what happened to this Government? Shri George Fernandes is now a member of the Cabinet. He had also within a very strong letter because he was very much against the continuance of Shri R.C. Bhargava. He raised this matter on the floor of the House. He demanded an inquiry by the CBI. He also wrote a letter to Shri Murasoli Maran congratulating him for taking such a strong stand. It was really a strong stand. Why is there a change in the attitude of the Government? We will have to find out. I support the views of Shri Jaipal Reddy when he says that in this serious issue not only crores of rupees are involved but also the prestige of our country.

Madam, what is the total investment of the Suzuki Company? It is a little more than Rs. 100 crore. What is

[SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA]

the amount of money that they have taken away from this Company by investing Rs. 100 crore? Through dividend and through supplying spares, they have already received more than Rs. 100 crore.

Shri Jaipal Reddy has already stated that it is not a giant company in Japan. Its share in the automobile industry is very small. Its share is only seven per cent. Then, why did the Government of India succumb and surrender to the pressure of the Suzuki Company? Why was the Parliament bypassed? Suddenly an agreement was signed bypassing the Parliament and at the back of the Parliament. The hon. Minister of Industry has made a *suo motu* statement in the Parliament. Why was the matter not discussed before the agreement? We could have discussed whether the agreement is in the interests of our country or not. There might be some underhand deal. We wanted to discuss this issue in the first phase of the Session. Time was allotted, but we were not allowed to discuss such an important issue concerning the interests of our country, prestige of our country.

Why was it so? What did the Government say? What did the Minister say? He said:

"Keeping in view the need to settle the differences quickly and concentrate on more vital question of business development and technology upgradation, the Government of India have responded for a negotiated settlement outside arbitration proceedings."

May I know whether as per the agreement, technology was supplied by Suzuki Motors Limited in the past? They had not supplied. Now, they are proposing to invest Rs. 8000 crore. The main purpose of this agreement is to grab a prestigious public sector company, Maruti Udyog Limited by the multinational company of Japan.

By this agreement, our interests have not been protected. The Minister of Industry will tell us, how the interests of our country will be protected by this agreement. Why has the agreement which was there in 1992 been nullified? We are opposed to increasing the market share of that company from 40 per cent to 50 per cent. We are opposed to that. At that point of time, the concept of public sector was diluted. When equal share was given, Suzuki Motors Limited was allowed to participate in the management with 12 Directors—50 per cent will be from Maruti or the Government of India and 50 per cent from the Suzuki Motors Limited. Why has this agreement been nullified? What was the urgency to go in for an agreement? What was the urgency to agree

to the terms and conditions of Suzuki Motors Limited? There was no urgency. Why was this finalised at the back of Parliament? Why did the Government of India surrender and succumb to the pressure of Suzuki Motors Limited?

I demand that a Joint Parliamentary Committee, JPC, be constituted to go into all aspects of this agreement and sell out of this prestigious company, the Maruti Udyog Limited so that it submits a report to the Parliament. It is a serious matter and it has been done hurriedly. I demand that an inquiry by the JPC should be ordered to find out the motives behind agreeing or surrendering or succumbing to the pressure of the Suzuki Motors Limited. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL (Bettiah) : Madam Chairman, today the discussion on the statement made by the Minister of Industry about Maruti Udyog Limited is taking place under Rule 193.

We used to import the motorcars from foreign countries when our country became independent. We would see Austein cars in 1947 in the country. After that, 2-3 companies started manufacturing cars in this country. First FIAT and then PAL Motors started the work of manufacturing cars.

16.11 hrs.

[SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*]

After importing the parts of the car Maurice of England, they were fitted in a car named Hindustan which was later known as Ambassador. In between, a car named Standard came but its manufacturing came to a halt after some days. May be one-two cars were seen on the roads. Only the manufacturing of two cars so to speak, Fiat and Ambassador continued. In 1961 when I became a doctor from the medical college, I thought why my father had not booked a car in my name so that I might get one after becoming a doctor. At that time, the countrymen registered their names and deposited the money for buying the cars. 20-25 thousand rupees were being deposited for the cars at that time and the people would stand in the queues. One used to get a car in years. After that a time came.

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Madhepura) : It came in your time.

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Yes, it came in my time. An imagination developed in the country that a car should be made for the common citizens as a result of this demand of the country. I would quote the name of late Sanjay Gandhi who dreamt of making a car. He collected parts and components. It is not known from where he collected them. But he displayed them in the form of a car in a trade fair. I had also visited that fair and at first sight it seemed that probably a good car was being manufactured. But all its parts were forged in the country after bringing them from outside. Afterwards, this company by the name of Maruti Udyog Ltd. was established. Nothing but a shade was developed in it. Then an agreement between Maruti Udyog Ltd. and Suzuki took place and a car by the name of Maruti-Suzuki came into the market. At that time its cost was probably 46-47 thousand rupees. After the freedom of the country many such ...

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Its mechanic was not available.

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : But they are available in every village. No other car got expansion to the extent Maruti did.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when it came in the market its price was low. But today, the common man has to pay more than rupees 2 lakhs as its price. The same car which was priced at 46-47 thousand rupees initially, has shot up to more than Rs. 2 lakhs. After death of Sanjay Gandhi, Shri Rajiv Gandhi became the Prime Minister. He was also fond of cars and he used to drive himself. He was so fond of driving that he used to drive Maruti ignoring his security.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, he is speaking under Rule 193 or speaking something else. The name of the Member who is not present here should not be taken ... (*Interruptions*)

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am speaking about Maruti Udyog.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please speak on the subject.

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, when Bharatiya Janata Party came to power, no alteration was made in the ratio of shares of the Indian Government. The previous Governments had divided the shares by 50:50. ...(*Interruptions*)

Please do listen. Lalu ji is an old friend of mine. He would not like Madan Jaiswal to speak. That's why, he is interrupting ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Mr. Chairman, please understand what kind of doctor he is, what diagnosis he does. He is still preparing the background ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : He must have been your doctor. That's why, you are always unwell ...(*Interruptions*)

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Today, there is a revolution in the field of cars. After Maruti many cars came in the market. Now Mercedes is being manufactured in our country. Honda City has arrived. The credit of revolution in the field of automobile goes to Rajiv Gandhi ...(*Interruptions*) I am coming to the point which is being discussed. The agreement which was signed between the Government and the Maruti Udyog during the regime of United Front, that agreement was to be signed in consultation with the Suzuki Company. The Government appointed a Managing Director. This matter was discussed in the House. It was said that the Government had made this appointment arbitrarily and it had not heeded to the views of Suzuki company whereas this decision was to be made in consultation with the company. This did not happen and the case was taken to the court. Suzuki company went in arbitration. This case would have dragged for a longer period. The new cars and the models which are coming now in it ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar) : The hon. Member is not only casting reflection on the Government of that day but is also perhaps unconsciously letting down the interests of the country. I would say 'unconsciously' because he may not be aware of the implications of his own formulation.

The Government, at that time, was perfectly within its rights to nominate its own MD. The MD was not to be chosen in consultation with the Suzuki company at all. This is a wrong contention on the part of the hon. Member. I do not think, being a Member of the Indian Parliament, he should be saying this.

[*Translation*]

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, had the matter been confined to this only, there was no

[DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL]

need for Suzuki to go into arbitration. I respect Reddy ji and he is an eloquent speaker. But I want to reiterate that there was no need for them to go into arbitration in this situation. New cars were to come in Maruti Udyog. New arrangements of the cars were to be made ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, I want the Minister to clarify the position.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : Every now and then you cannot ask me to reply ...*(Interruptions)* I would reply in my turn ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Sir, I would like to refer to an article by Shri Jairman Ramesh, who belongs to the Congress Party, on this subject ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : He didn't make a request to you.

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, it has been published in the *India Today* magazine dated 22nd June, 1988 ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has not requested for it. You please resume your seat.

[Translation]

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : There are many public sector companies in this country, it is not the Government's work ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, I am referring to the point made by Shri Jaipal Reddy ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I am not casting any aspersion ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, the article says and I quote:

"The Joint Vanture agreement gave an absolute right to each of the partners to appoint an M.D. by turn since 1997. It was India's turn..."

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please refer to it when your turn to speak comes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD : We also are intellectuals ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : You are everything, you are making me learn this only, I am a newcomer ...*(Interruptions)* Intellectuals have come, whatever we do is wrong. You have been the Chief Minister, whatever you say will be right and whatever we say will be wrong.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was a lot of development work of the Suzuki company. Government of India is not like a small company that will be cowed down by the Suzuki Company. The Government of India can look after fifty companies like Suzuki company and can handle hundreds of Japanese companies. The way Indian Government is being compared with a small company is a matter of shame. But my personal suggestion, my personal opinion is that the Government should not trade in it. Had the Government learnt trading, IDPL would not have closed down. Today, HEC would not be in shambles in Ranchi, Mekon would not be on the verge of closure. Whatever heavy industries are there today, be it BHEL or any other, the Government should not trade at all. Whatever decision the Government have taken, whatever agreement has been reached at with Suzuki company is correct. It is in the interest of the country. The Government should not enter into trading. It is not Government's job to manufacture vehicles and to do business. Government have the right to think about every citizen of the country ...*(Interruptions)* Why the economy of the country is in shambles today and why the condition of the country has become what it is today!

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Swain, please take your seat.

[*Translation*]

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Whatever industries were running making profit, whether it was the coal industry or whatever else, were taken over by the Government. Now they are running in losses. Why the HEC was closed down today, what is the condition of BHEL! These public undertakings have ruined the economy of the country and the country has had to bear losses to the tune of billions of rupees. Taking that only into consideration our friends sitting here today, it was their leader only who decided that whatever people of these companies were there they be given voluntary retirement in a phased manner. Such an arrangement has been made and the sale of their shares has been commenced.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the shares of these companies are being sold abroad. Today what is the condition of these companies! Today we are into deficit trading. Today we are having a great achievement in the field of automobile engineering. Do you want to curb that tendency? Do you want that we should not have an agreement with Suzuki?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that the agreement concluded by the Government with Suzuki is a step towards the right direction and is in the interest of the country from the industrial point of view. We want that more new vehicles may come to this country and cheaper cars be manufactured. So the decision taken by the Government and the statement made by the Hon'ble Minister of Industry is correct. I am in its favour and support him. With these words, I conclude and resume my seat.

[*English*]

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN (Thiruvananthapuram) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to congratulate Shri Jaipal Reddy for having presented the case very truthfully and convincingly. There are still a lot of things to come out. When the statement was being made by the Minister of Industry, on the floor of the House, I was very much anguished and pained. I was thinking, what had happened to the hon. Minister! I have high regards and respect for him. I have never expected such a decision to come from the Minister of Industry.

As is rightly said, I know the Minister is innocent. Even his Department was kept out from what transpired between Suzuki and the so called Government. What prompted the Government to go for this worst agreement

which we never had in the history of our country? It is a sheer surrender for nothing. Probably, when the Minister would reply, he would say that a dispute was pending before the International Court which was detrimental to the progress of the industry. Now, what is the reference before the International Court? The only question before the International Court was whether the MD and the Chairman should be appointed with consultation or concurrence. This was the only issue before the International Court. Even if worst happened, it would not have been so worst than this. The Government and the industry would not have been affected as they have been affected today.

I am not making any allegation against the Minister or even against the Government because the Government is there only for namesake. I know that the officers of the Department concerned were not consulted. Even proper legal advice was not taken before entering into an agreement. Why was there the haste to enter into an agreement? There was a haste not only to reach an agreement but also to implement it. The agreement was signed on the 6th and the entire procedure with regard to the appointments of Director, Managing Director and Chairman, was completed by 9th. This is not the first time when Suzuki had tried to get Maruti in its fold. I would like to make it very clear from my past experience.

Suzuki has never fulfilled its promise; it has never carried out any agreement. When the equity share of Suzuki was raised from 20 per cent to 40 per cent, it was done with a definite understanding. The understanding was that Suzuki would hand over the technology to the Maruti. The condition was that within 10 years, the entire technology would be transferred to the Maruti. However, this has not been done till this date. One of the hon. Members was praising Suzuki for achieving this level of excellence but this was not its contribution alone. Contribution was made by our best talented technical persons and excellent management. The Government was protecting it all along. Even the Government did not allow any other company to compete with Maruti. Even for the export price, a blank cheque was given to them. When there was a lot of demand for Maruti, instead of going for open sale it was privatized. I am not going to elaborate it. Not only Suzuki did not fulfil the commitment but he threatened the Government at one stage. I did not forget to mention it because it was done in the presence of members. On being asked, why the technology was not being handed over, his reaction was, "I am not answerable to anybody. I may even face attack". So, he did not transfer most of the technology particularly gear box technology which is the most important. I then coolly told

[SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN]

him. "If India can make things which are produced today, do you think India will not be capable of replacing that".

I went to Italy for consultation. I do not wish to go further. That started strong action. The Government nominee Director (Marketing & Sales) as also the Managing Director were conniving with Suzuki management. What could the Government do? The only course left with the Government was to replace them. We were able to survive even with all these things. Today, Maruti has one of the best production levels in the country. All the three designs are marketable. But none of the technologies has been handed over to Maruti.

Now, an agreement has been arrived at by the Government and the Suzuki but not the Maruti and the Suzuki. Maruti is kept in the dark. The shareholders of Maruti include its workers. The Board of Directors of Maruti was not consulted.

It was placed before the Board of Directors for ratification in a hurry I could not understand, why this hurry. The worst would have come from the court. If they say that it is not the consultation but the concurrence, why such a hasty decision has been taken? This cannot be taken unless something is behind it. I allege against the Government that there are certain underhand dealings which should be brought before this country. If this Government is sincere and honest, why was it not referred to a Committee as has been suggested by my friend? Why should the Government worry about it?

I am quite confident that this Government would be exposed and finally the decision will become the symbol of corruption. I do not say 'X' or 'Y', I say, the result of the Government decision.

As I have already said, within one week all the appointments were made. A person against whom the corruption charges were there, a person who was conniving with the Suzuki against the Government, is appointed as Managing Joint Director and later Managing Director. I would like to know what for he is appointed to such a post.

Sir, if you go through the history of the Maruti, Bhaskarudu's contribution is commendable. I am not making any praise for the officer. He is a committed officer and is a very highly technically qualified person. Suzuki tried its best to win over him, but it could not. The reward which the Government is giving to a particular officer is, I do not wish to use the word of Dr. Swamy, impotent.

Sir, who is going to benefit out of it? What is the position of the Board of Directors today? The Board of Directors met immediately and appointed two committees—The Purchase Committee and the Sales Committee. If this is necessary, we can have a number of committees because the Chairmen of the Committees are the choice of Suzuki and members of the committees are nominees of Suzuki. That means, all the purchases and sales would be done by the Suzuki company, from their company to this company. No quotation were inserted. No other company was allowed to quote the price. Nobody was consulted.

The first decision of the Board of Directors was to increase the rate by four per cent and then by six per cent and eight percent and so on. If necessary, I am prepared to give all the details and proceeding of the Board of Directors, apart from the copy of the memorandum of agreement, which is with me. Now, what is the position? Will anybody come forward to purchase the shares of the company? Suppose the Government decides to release the shares, nobody will come forward with a reasonable price.

Now, I come to modernisation and expansion. When this agreement was made in the year 1992, Suzuki said that he would go for modernisation and expansion on his own. The money and technology would be brought by him. Later on, Suzuki approached the Government saying, 'everything is ready, we want money.' Fortunately, at that time, somebody said that the Government could not afford money.

Depending on that, O. Suzuki approached me when I took charge as the Industry Minister and said, 'the Government is not giving money; our Finance Minister has said that he cannot spare a pie for the Public Undertaking and so on'. Though he did not want to put the money, he said, 'unless you get money, we would not be able to do this'. I said, 'you have promised us that you yourself have the money, technology and everything, why have you taken this stand now?' Anyhow, I told him to give a project report. I said, 'when the report is accepted by the Government, I will make money available to you within 24 hours. But before that, you should give me a project report'. He took months. He did not send the project report. I sent reminder after reminder. He did not send the report.

Anyhow, forget about that. What is the situation today? As per the agreement, the Managing Director can be appointed only with the concurrence. This time, it is the turn of the Government. If Suzuki does not agree,

we would not have the Managing Director, so also the Chairman. It is because Suzuki takes that stand, we will not take that stand. Now, Suzuki is very happy. The Chairman is his man. The Managing Director is practically name sake. The Additional Managing Director is appointed by Suzuki of his choice and he will be there till 2002 A.D. We do not know how long this Government will continue. I do not want to say anything at this stage. Then, where is the necessity for an agreement by this short time? We surrendered everything. I do not know whether we will be able to revive it after some time. But still I am hopeful we can revive it. When a situation arises, we can find out some loopholes. I am not worried about that. We can revive it. But what is worrying is this. Why such a nice and very honest Industry Minister whom I respect him, has done like this?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : He has not done it himself.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : I know he is innocent. Why did his officers not know what happened? The signature was put by the Secretary on behalf of the President of India.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : It was not by the Secretary. It was done by the P.S. to the Minister.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Government's order is the order of *Rashtrapati*. Technically, it is the order of *Rashtrapati*. Maruti Udyog was not consulted. Did you take the legal opinion on this? What was the legal Opinion about sending a Director to sign the agreement in London? So, a number of dirty things have happened underground. This is a serious allegation. This should be brought into limelight. The only solution for this is to go for an inquiry by this House. Or else a Joint Parliamentary Committee is the best forum to go into it. My dear respected hon. Minister should concede to this demand. This is not only the demand from the Members of the entire House, but also the entire country. If you do not accept it today or tomorrow, God will punish you.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak. The hon. Members of the Opposition, while speaking have raised basically four points. One, that the national interest has been compromised. They said that it is a total sell-out; sell-out of the national prestige, and it is a total surrender and total surrender for nothing.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : Not for nothing; it must be for some consideration.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : I am coming to that.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : You do not agree to something like this without any thing in return.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : And secondly, they have made an allegation that this Government has succumbed to Suzuki's pressure. That was also an allegation made by the hon. Members.

The second point is this. Why has this person, Shri Khatter been appointed? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not interrupt him.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Do not stop them. The hon. senior Members, when they were speaking, they have told me to learn etiquette. I will also tell them the same thing.

Why has Shri Khatter been appointed? This is a point they have raised.

The third point they have raised is about the urgency and the haste in making such an appointment. And last but not least, the hon. Members have raised a serious point that this should be enquired into by a Joint Parliamentary Committee. These are the four points that have been raised by the hon. Members from the Opposition.

First I will deal with the point of national interest, that the national interest has been compromised.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not interrupt him.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : I am telling that the national interest has not been compromised. At least the Government led by hon. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee will never compromise. In any case, everybody knows what type of person Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is and the Government he is leading is incapable of compromising. ...*(Interruptions)* The hon. Members were asking on what ground it was done. Shri S. Jaipal Reddy was mentioning about the national interest, why it was done, and he had also spoken about the interest of Japan. I am telling that the Government did not do anything of that sort.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. When both have shares in the ratio of fifty per cent, what are the rules with regard to management and the system?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what rule you are raising the point of order?

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : According to the rule when the point of order is raised all proceedings should stop.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Chaubey ji, you please take your seat, you don't have any point of order.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : When there are no rules and regulations, how will the system work, and what is being discussed is useless, this is what I have to say.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Chaubey ji, you please take your seat. Nothing will go on record, except what Shri Swain says.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : I want to say that the Government has taken the right decision.

What has happened after Pokhran-II? After Pokhran-II, many countries in the world like America, Japan, England, etc., went on speaking against India and went on speaking about imposing sanctions against India.

I would like to say that Suzuki is a small company. It is having seven per cent of the market share in the automobile industry of Japan. It cannot sway the economy of Japan. I know it. But I can say that, through this, we had sent a strong message to Japan that we are prepared to compromise.

Sir, as we all know, when this Pokhran-II test took place, Japan was speaking in the loudest terms that more sanctions should be imposed against India. But after the Suzuki compromise, all the talks of sanctions to be imposed has been stopped by Japan. I can tell you that it is a total coup by the Government of India. India is willing to compromise on certain things.

What is the foreign policy of the country? Foreign policy means to protect the interests of the country. If the interests of the country are to be protected, we can do it by compromise. By having a compromise with Suzuki Company, we have sent a very strong message to Japan and to the rest of the world that India is willing to compromise. This is the first message we have sent.

It was mentioned here that Shri Bhaskarudu is a patriot. We know that he is a patriot. He is an efficient officer. He has been there for a very long time. But does it mean that an honest man, an honest officer will not be removed at all? If he is removed, then they say that there is an underhand deal.

Secondly, Shri Jaipal Reddy was mentioning that there is no such rule that there will be consultation with both the parties. But I am referring to one of the articles written by Shri Jairam Ramesh, belonging to the Congress. This is published in *India Today* issue of June 22, 1998. I will just read out three lines.

"His stand was the joint venture (jv) agreement gave an absolute right to each of the two partners to appoint an M.D. by turn, he was only exercising that right. Suzuki's stand was the agreement provided for consultation and concurrence before the appointment of an MD.

Finding Maran unrelenting, Suzuki took India to the International Court of Arbitration, where hearings were expected to commence on July 8."

I am telling you that there was such a provision and because there was such a provision, Suzuki could go to the court.

Now, a compromise has been reached with the Suzuki Company, I thank the Government for reaching a compromise. Suzuki Company has withdrawn the case from the international court of arbitration.

Thirdly, what was the urgency and what was the haste in doing this? You must have understood the urgency from the points which I have raised. The message was supposed to be sent to the world that India is prepared to compromise. I can tell you that was the urgency.

Finally, before concluding, I would like to say my last point. They say that an underhand deal has been made. ...(Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Swain, Shri Ambedkar is on a point of order. Under what rule is your point of order?

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (Akola) : Under rule 377. The hon. Minister has said that they are ready to compromise. May I know on what matters they are ready to compromise?

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order. Please take your seat.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Now, they are saying that there has been an underhand deal and this should be inquired into by a Joint Parliamentary Committee. I can understand if a person like you is making this allegation, I can understand when the hon. Member, Shri Jaipal Reddy made this allegation, but I cannot understand when this is made by an hon. Member of the Congress party, the party whose eighteen Members are now in the dog-house under the charges of corruption and whose Prime Minister is now running to the court everyday. That party is now making the allegation that we have made an underhand deal. That is a very serious allegation that the Congress party is making against us. I can firmly say that the Government of India, led by Shri Atal Bihari Bajpayee, has come to power to give a transparent Government. It is a change for the better and it is a change for honesty and integrity.

Lastly, I say that this Government is not a businessman. The Government should not enter into business be it of car or anything else. So, the Disinvestment Commission should chalk out a programme for the privatisation of the Maruti Company. The Government should not intervene in this so that the Company will go to private hands. The Government should not have any involvement in this so that there will be no allegations like underhand dealing and all that.

. So, suggesting that there should be total privatisation of this Company, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Trichur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I strongly support the suggestion put forward by Shri Jaipal Reddy to refer this matter to a Joint Parliamentary Committee for going into all this shady episode ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU (Mahasamund) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, how much time will it take?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Still there are many speakers.

[English]

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Sir, our hon. Prime Minister, while presenting the National Agenda of Governance, emphatically said that 'India will be built by Indians'.

16.58 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED in the Chair]

That is the content of the whole approach of the BJP in these matters, why blame Shri Sikander Bakht alone? So, as my friends pointed out, after Pokhran, the entire Government is running after multinationals. The Prime Minister's Office has cleared dozens and dozens of proposals giving entrance in the most key sectors of our economy, including our mineral wealth, to multinationals. Now, the slogan 'India will be built by Indians' should have been changed during these 100 days' action in favour of the multinationals, to 'India will be built by multinationals'. Not only the Maruti Udyog, not only all *udyogs*, the entire economy is being dismantled to give chance to multinationals to capture it.

17.00 hrs.

In the name of Pokhran and sanctions, the way out that the Government has thought of is to invite the multinationals, open our markets to the multinationals and give them 74 per cent of our company's investment as also the management. So, the learned and the experienced leader Shri Sikander Bakht is the victim of this policy. Surrender to the multinationals is the motto of the Government. He could not be blamed alone. This shoddy and shameful agreement was reached at in a hasty manner. I read in some newspapers that Shri Bakht is a man of speedy decisions. If we include whatever the former Minister for Industry, Shri Karunakaran put it, there must be some shady affair in the speedy agreement.

Sir, I am not so close to you but I have been watching from a distance that you have put in a very long service. Though people may not agree with your political understanding yet your services and maturity are appreciated. But this Maruti affair is gradually developing into a tempest. If your long service and good name not to be drowned in this tempest, it is better I suggest that you agree to a Joint Parliamentary Committee enquiry into this matter so that your role can be cleared of it.

[SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN]

The forces behind this deal which compelled you to agree to this episode can be revealed to the nation and the House.

Sir, my young friend was saying that the message which went to Japan and other countries by signing this is in our favour. Is it so? Japan is the toughest country with Australia who are trying to harm us. Is it not correct? Australia and Japan, the two countries are out to harm us in the name of Pokhran tests. Is that message went after the Suzuki agreement? The policy makers in Japan do not consider Suzuki at all and the message went to the other countries is that India is surrendering and that they can have more share from this great country. That is the message went out. They are doing it. The Americans are saying one thing and sending all their multinationals and all their private companies to India. They are saying that this is the time when you can get as much as you can and they are getting it. Britain is sending and Europe is also sending. Gradually, within four months, more multinational companies have entered into our economy and markets. That is the dangerous trend now prevailing in all these deeds and decisions.

I know, these Agreements including this Suzuki Agreement, come from the Prime Minister's Office. The decisions are taken there and the Prime Minister's Office are guiding all these things. I do not know why they are worried so much after Pokhran that they are surrendering to the multinational companies including the Suzuki. The man I know, Shri Sikander Bakht, would not have agreed to this unless the Prime Minister's Office had compelled him to sign this Agreement. Therefore, to clear all this shady atmosphere, it is better to agree to a JPC inquiry. That is my request.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the Motion moved by Mr. Jaipal Reddy and others. Mr. Sikander Bakht is one of the elder brothers of mine. We were closely associated in the Rajya Sabha from 1986-92. I can never forget the friendship that we had. But because of pressure from the top level of his Government, he had to abide by and go by this Agreement. So, he had succumbed to their pressures. There is one proverb in Tamil which says "*Padikkiradhu Ramayanam, Edikkiradhu Perumal Kovil*". The person will read Ramayana but at the same time, he would not hesitate to dismantle the *Perumal* Temple, the Rama Temple.

Here is the National Agenda set out by the present Government which says, "We will continue with the reform process, give it a strong *Swadeshi* trial to ensure that

the national economy grows on the principle that India shall be built by Indians." All right, this is the *Swadeshi* ideal. But as I said, a person who would read Ramayana, would not hesitate to dismantle the Rama Temple; in the same way, they also preach *Swadeshi* but promote *Videshi*. The Government has betrayed Indian people by handing over the management to the Suzuki of Japan. We feel, it is a total sell out. It is a shameful act of this BJP Government. They are preaching *Swadeshi* and adopting *Videshi*.

When they were in the opposition, they were opposing the then Government for entering into an agreement with Enron. When they came to power, within 13 days, they had approved the power project and they had gone through the counter-guarantee agreement.

Now, a Government company, the company which is managed by the Indian people and conducted by the Indian people has been handed over on a silver platter, the Suzuki Motors of Japan.

That is why, I have quoted that proverb. What is the pros and cons? Let us discuss.

The Managing Director and the Chairman will be appointed by Suzuki. The royalty from 1.4.97 will be released of Suzuki. The weak case filed by the International Court of Arbitration, by the International Chambers of Commerce will be allowed to withdraw peacefully. The most undesirable person by name Mr. Khatter who has disobeyed our Government directives will be managing the whole show and will be appointed as the Managing Director by the Suzuki.

Sir, will it be all right? Will it not be detrimental to our interests? Once again, Mr. Bhaskarudu, a true Government official, an honest Government official, a top-ranking official—we have never come across such a person—a man of high calibre will be sent out within two years and four months, that is, on 31.9.1991!

Sir, in this episode and in this agreement which our hon. friend Shri Sikander Bakht has entered into, he has not even got the courtesy to consult the sitting MD of Maruti Ltd. I am also a Managing Director of a particular company. Whenever things happen, we always consult. We have to consult. But here at the same time, even the Managing Director has not been consulted or taken into confidence during the discussion to conclude the Agreement. Maruti is going to have two Managing Directors. There will be lots of business magnates here. Sir, I want to know, is it used for the corporate sector?

We have never heard of the Indian corporate sector where two Managing Directors will be managing a company except in the case of Maruti which is going to be managed by 2 M.D.s It is a joke of the century.

I am very much sorry to say this. Mr. Sikander Bakhtji, you have been a very good person, tall and towering personality with high probity in public life. But unfortunately, after having become the Minister, you are succumbing to the pressure of your own party.

This is not good. That is why, I demand you to see that a Joint Parliamentary Committee is set up to see that you are vindicated. That is my humble submission. I know, you are a proper person but at the same time because of the pressure, you have succumbed. Sir, under what pressure you have succumbed, we want to know. The Government, the whole Opposition and the entire countrymen want to know whether you have succumbed to the pressure or you yourself voluntarily have done it. That is what we want to know.

With these observations, I thank Shri S. Jaipal Reddy for raising this discussion.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, I thank you for calling me I will not take much time of the House. About the agreement, much has been said. I would simply say that the agreement is nothing but a sell-out. When this Government talked about *swadeshi*, one would have thought that, at least, on *swadeshi* principle, they will be sincere enough. But unfortunately, their action has proved that they are only doing a lip-service to their own principles which they pronounced on the top of their Agenda. I am sorry to say this. I was so disappointed to read this agreement. How can a person like you can allow this?

He was my neighbour in Shahjahan Road. I know him as a very good person. But I am surprised, of all the people, how can he agree to this kind of an agreement? If he did not agree to it, then today he may have to speak against his conscience. I have no doubt about it.

What was the necessity to by-pass the Maruti Board? We speak a lot about autonomy. What is the autonomy? My hon. friend, a young Member from the Treasury Benches said that this was done to send some good message to the multinationals. Yes, today you have given a message to the multinationals.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : I have not said 'multinationals'. I have said 'to the world'.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Okay, to the world through multinationals. I am sorry, you have sent a message to the world that for the first time the Government of India, which speaks so much about *Swadeshi*, will compromise on the national interest.

A good friend spoke about correction and all that. I have been a Member of this House for the last 19 years. There was no occasion when even the Opposition had alleged that the Government compromised on the national interest. But I charge that this is a case where you have compromised on national interest. Very sad. This is all I can say about this.

What is the message you have given to the workers? You have given to these patriotic workers a message that only if they dance to the tune of the Suzuki foreign master, they will be there.

One may agree or disagree with Shri Bhaskarudu. But I know one thing. He is one officer who fought against the onslaught of the Japanese Suzuki. Obviously, everybody knows this. But he is being punished. For what? You have given a message to the patriotic workers of Maruti Factory to dance to the tune of the Japanese master and not to the Indian interest. It is a very wrong signal that you have given.

What is the worth of the company? I do not know, it has already been said. Maruti has spent Rs. 100 crore. Today the company is worth about three billion dollars. What is its turnover? It is more than Rs. 8000 crore.

17.18 hrs.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

What is the profit? I am talking about the turnover in Indian rupees. According to the figures which are available with me, the profit is Rs. 977 crore. The company was a good example of public sector undertakings. What have you done with it? You have sold it for nothing.

I have a question to ask you. Please tell us what you have gained. What did this country gain by this settlement? He may not have got anything, but maybe somebody else, I do not know. I know him. I say that he may not have gained anything. But I cannot say that about some of his friends. So, he is a good man in bed company. This is the problem. Please tell us what this

[PROF. P.J. KURIEN]

country has gained out of this agreement executed in ugly haste.

What did we gain. The hon. Member, Shri K. Karunakaran, who was a former Minister of Industry said about the case in the international court. The only question was that concurrence should be sought in the appointment of the Managing Director. Even if we had lost the case, we would have been in a much better position. Why did you do this?

Then, why was this done bypassing the Board? Why was this done bypassing your own Ministry, even without the knowledge of your Secretary? Why was this done in the absence of your Secretary? Why was your Private Secretary forced to sign it? Did you take the advice of the Attorney-General of India? If you had taken it, please take us into confidence and tell us what the advice of the Attorney-General of India was. A company with a turnover of Rs. 8,000 crore is being sold out for nothing, not even taking legal opinion. Even if you had taken the legal opinion, you did not go by that. This is nothing but a crime. I have nothing personal against anybody but I am very sorry to say that this Government has stooped to this level.

Shri Jagdish Khattar was found to be a stooge—I am sorry to use that expression—of the foreign company which was trying to snatch this company through all dubious means. Without conducting an inquiry when there are charges against him, you have made him the Managing Director. And what is the position now? The Chairman belongs to them and the Managing Director is their nominee. We have a fifty per cent share but what is the guarantee that the Government's interests will be protected? I believe that the Chairman has a casting vote. He must be having it. They can do whatever the Japanese Government and the Suzuki Motor Corporation want. Even otherwise, they have a majority. I am sorry that such a big company is being given out to a multinational for nothing.

Where is your *swadeshi* spirit? Where is your patriotism? I am sorry to say this. I am not questioning anybody's patriotism but I have no doubt that what you have done is a crime against this country. I am sorry for making harsh remarks but I am forced to make these harsh remarks. Today, the position is that they have a majority in the Board, with the Chairman belonging to the Suzuki Motor Corporation. They can buy the shares from the market—it is eighty per cent—and take full control of the whole company. What is your guarantee against that? This is such an objectionable agreement

which you have entered into. Therefore, I cannot but join the hon. Members who have requested for a Parliamentary probe into the whole episode.

If your hands are clean, why do you worry? If you think that this was done with the best interests of the nation in mind, why do you worry? Please agree to have a Parliamentary probe so that the nation would know the truth. I do not want to say anything more. Unless you do it, I feel, you will have to come back to be my neighbour. Let it not happen. So, please agree for a Parliamentary probe so that the country knows the truth.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Mumbai South) : Is it correct that Suzuki was ready to buy the entire 100 per cent equity at the market price or at a very high price in Maruti? Can the Minister respond?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : Not right way, but I will respond.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : This Maruti deal, underhand deal, is perhaps the most stinking sellout that this country has witnessed in the last fifty years. I am not surprised that the BJP Government has carried out this sell out. In 1996, when they were there for only thirteen days the first act they did was to underwrite the counter guarantee of Enron Corporation after running a huge campaign against it—*Swadeshi jagaran* and what not.

Having done this campaign the first act in thirteen days without one day's mandate, they ratified the counter-guarantee agreement and today Enron is slated to sell electricity at one of the highest rates in the world. It is almost Rs. 4.50 per kilowatt per hour. Enron has set aside Rs. 60 crore for educating Indian politicians. It had been admitted by Enron in the US Senate that we have set aside Rs. 60 crore to educate Indian Politicians. How much of that has gone into the education? That education is now seen in the Maruti sell out.

Sir, Maruti is in fact has to be looked at from the point of view of its infrastructure. All overheads were given practically free to that company. A huge estate, buildings, factory were all provided at the State expense. The Suzuki Company which is taking over the Maruti does not have to pay a penny for those overheads. If you have to advertise in the world that all these overheads would be provided free to set up factories for making cars—the lands will be free, the buildings will be free,

the factories will be constructed by the State and of course the Indian labour is one of the cheapest in the world—there will be a long queue of people wanting to set up companies in our country. Suzuki has got hold of this company. I do not want to go into the legalities of what concurrence means or what it does not mean. Today, everybody knows what the bottomline is. It is the Suzuki has taken over that company and there is nobody to protect if anyone goes against this company. Of course, there will be nobody to protect them till 15th August. Before that date we hope to have a new Government and we can undo this.

The second factor is that the technology that has come from Suzuki all these years since 1984 has been paid for almost three to four times. It is a second generation technology. The prices charged by Suzuki to Maruti was CIF, but we exempted them from excise duty payments, customs duty payments, and so on. Today we have a situation where the Company is not only taken over, but the MD who is to come in the year 2000 is already named. How can the present MD, Bhaskarudu possibly function now, knowing that the MD who is going to succeed is already named and the date has also been fixed?

Obviously the fraud of the BJP is in talking about *swadeshi* where a company was getting progressively indigenised. Maruti was being progressively getting indigenised; the name 'Maruti' become known as an Indian car. But that process of indigenisation has been completely set aside. It has been done by them. They themselves have admitted that they wanted to send a signal that they are ready to surrender to foreign interests after the Pokhran-II tests. Their own representative have said it. That is what we are seeing everywhere, whether it is in the form of a letter written by the Prime Minister to Mr. Clinton, petitioning him for the threat that he is facing from China as if we do not face any threat from the United States or the sell out of the Maruti.

We are seeing in the papers that everybody is now prostrating before Mr. Talbott. After all Mr. Talbott is a junior official. He has come here and he is treated like a commission from the United States! Practically, everybody is falling at his feet. At the same time, the Atomic Energy Commission's Chairman is denied a visa. Therefore, it is a part of that culture.

I do not know whether this Minister has anything to do with the decision making because I know that in every Ministry two RSS men have been appointed as Officers on Special Duty, one to look at the files and the other

to make the calculations—the right kind of calculations. I can name the two officers because I know all of them personally and I have seen. I can identify them by their faces. I know their names. Every Ministry—whether it is Power, Industry or Finance—has got two RSS men appointed as OSDs, one to only filter the files that will go to the Minister and the other to make the calculations which are difficult for the Minister to make. But they can make them and take into account various factors.

Therefore, if the Government has nothing to hide and if the Minister is not.* Let them appoint a Joint Parliamentary Committee. Sir, you have found out that it is not an unparliamentary word. ... is not an unparliamentary word. It means powerless. They may have wrong ideas because they have got all kinds of wrong ideas. But I am telling you that this is the weakest Government that we have since 1947.

They have surrendered on every issue and this is another issue of surrender. If they have nothing to hide, let them appoint a Joint Parliamentary Committee.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore) (WB) : Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to express our views on the discussion initiated by our hon. friend, Shri Jaipal Reddy. Sir, I strongly associate myself and my party with the views expressed by my hon. friend, Shri Jaipal Reddy.

The history of Maruti-Suzuki affair is known to the people of our country and the people of the business world. How the equity share of the Suzuki has been raised from 40 per cent to 50 per cent, how replacement of the Managing Director took place, how the Suzuki went to the International Court, what was the compulsion of the Government to come to an agreement, all these things are known to the people. We need not enter into the details of these things because our friend Shri Jaipal Reddy has given a very fine background note of this whole affair of the Maruti-Suzuki.

I can arrive at this conclusion that the agreement made by this Government is nothing but a complete surrender to the terms and dictates of the foreign multinational company, the Suzuki Motors Limited.

Sir, it is a fact that the Government is committed to *Swadeshi* in the National Agenda. The Government is also committed to good governance by consensus. Does this Government indicate any feature of *Swadeshi*? Or

* Expunged as Ordered by the Chair.

[SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE]

does this Agreement indicate any feature of good governance by consensus? Did they come with a paper to this House to seek consensus? No.

Let me quote our hon. Minister, Shri Sikander Bakht's comments on this Agreement ...*(Interruptions)* The hon. Minister, Shri Sikander Bakht made a very nice comment on this Agreement. He has said that the Agreement was in line with the Government's *Swadeshi* agenda which welcomed foreign investment in high-tech area and infrastructure, I am sorry to mention that this Agreement does not express any feature of *Swadeshi* Government. It does not indicate any attempt of the Government to bring any high-tech and infrastructure areas into its consideration. The kind of technology which Suzuki can give has already given by it. Today, they have no more new technology to give to this motor car-making industry. Can the Government say that the Suzuki Company had done something in the development of the infrastructure of the motor car-making industry? The entire infrastructure was developed by the public sector undertaking, Maruti Udyog Limited. So, I can never agree with this decision of the Government which has come to an agreement. I oppose it and I protest it. At the same time, I express my suggestion here that the entire matter should be forwarded to the Joint Parliamentary Committee which will inquire and investigate into the matter.

Sir, Maruti Udyog Limited was given adequate protection at that time. Today, what kind of a protection can the Government give to it? It is not the question of Maruti Udyog Limited alone; it is not the question of an Indian Company only; but it is the question of public sector and joint venture companies also. By this way, any kind of an Indian joint venture company will go to the hands of the foreign multinational companies. You cannot avoid it. That is why, we oppose this and say that this Agreement has destroyed the national interest of our country. Our national interest has been subservient to the terms and dictates of the foreign multinational companies. This is the credit which the Government can get from us.

For the last ten years, we have heard about privatisation and globalisation of our Indian economy. But is it allowed for the Suzuki to take over charge of the entire Maruti Udyog Limited without making any investment for the development of infrastructure? Does it indicate the nature of globalisation? Not a single country belonging to the third world can allow such things. It never indicates any step towards globalisation of the Indian economy. What you have done is nothing but opening a huge

market before the multinational corporations. You have opened a huge kingdom before the multinational corporations so that they can loot and make profits. This is what you have done. We are also aware of the features of the World Trade Organisation. We have criticised the policy of the Government and their attitude towards the World Trade Organisation.

But in this case, just before me, our hon. friend, Dr. Subramanian Swamy, told us that they could tender and the best companies of the world could come and bid here for taking over the management of the Maruti Udyog Limited and not of Suzuki alone. The World Trade Organisation did not instruct Suzuki to take over this charge. It is not the desire of the World Trade Organisation. But it is the desire of the Suzuki Motor Car Company only. They have taken over this charge by some means.

I cannot say that this deal is an underhand deal. But a foolish activity of the Government has compelled us to say that there is an underhand dealing for such an activity. This has destroyed our national interest. This has destroyed our national prestige and sovereignty of the economy. So, I propose that the entire matter should be referred to the Joint Parliamentary Committee for investigation into the matter.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : Sir, I must speak for five minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The time is very short.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : There is no question of speaking for less than that. I must speak for five minutes.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch) : How can he compel like this? ...*(Interruptions)* Has any Member compelled like this?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : My name is there.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : The name is there. That is all right ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Reddy, you cannot say that you must speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : What is this?

...(Interruptions)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : He does not know that my name is there ...(Interruptions) I take a very serious objection.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, no, please.

...(Interruptions)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : I never interrupt them. ...(Interruptions) I must speak ...(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Sir, he is one whom the Congress Party has fielded. Please give him five minutes. All of us agree to it. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North-Central): What about the Republican Party? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Reddy, I am allowing you. But this is not good.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, I am sorry for getting angry with me.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Reddy, please continue.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : My dear friends, I never get angry. I am a man who always keeps silence when anybody is speaking. I was hurt when I was suddenly interrupted. ...(Interruptions) When everybody talks, how could I speak?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will speak for nine minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no; only for five minutes.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : The first thing is that the entire House unanimously praises the hon. Minister, Shri Sikander Bakht, that he is a gentleman, a good man, and an honest man. There is no second thought about it. The entire House accepts it.

Secondly, the entire House was very much hurt, annoyed and displeased, concerned, become upset and found fault at the spontaneous action taken by the Government.

The third point is that the entire House, except one or two friends, firmly stated that there should be an impartial, independent and direct inquiry by a Joint Parliament Committee. He must say: "Yes, come on." If he feels that there is nothing wrong, he should himself announce to have an inquiry.

The next point is that Shri Bhaskarudu was appointed as Managing Director. And Suzuki wanted to go for arbitration. The point which surprises me is that ultimately they had the Chairman according to their choice. The MD's term has also been reduced on the plea that he will retire after completing the age of 58 years. Nobody has mentioned that point, that is, he will retire at the age of 58 years, and therefore, they could reduce the age.

Now, the age limit for retirement has been increased to sixty years and therefore, now the Government should also increase his term. These are the points which were not mentioned by anyone here. These are all new points that I am making ...(Interruptions) I would not like to repeat the points which have been made by Shri Jaipal Reddy, Shri Karunakaran and others.

Sir, M/s Maruti is a goldmine for the Suzuki. There profit for the previous year amounted to Rs. 1056 crore and out of that Rs. 501 crore was from the Maruti. How does it matter for the Government of India to bother about them? India is a mighty country with a population of over 90 crores. Why should it bother about a small company like Suzuki? Japan, of course, is a great country and we respect them. But why should we bother about Suzuki? That is why, a million dollar question that arises in the minds of the people is, what bothered a person of your calibre, wisdom and integrity to get confused and say that Shri Bhaskarudu is an incompetent personality and his term should be reduced?

Sir, I do not want to repeat everything. Everybody here was unanimous about the fact that it has been done in haste and the Government had made compromises. Yes, compromise is important provided that gives us benefit. On the one hand, it is a fact that Maruti being a goldmine for the Suzuki, it cannot afford to go from here and on the other hand, whatever technology was to be given by them has been given and nothing more is being provided by them now. The Government at least, could have had a bargain to the effect that if

[DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY]

the Indian Government gives them the MD, they should give us the full technology. But that also was not done. Perhaps, you are not a businessman, had you been a businessman, you could have done it this way. I think, that is a mistake. I think, the compromise has been made keeping the political interest in view.

Sir, in conclusion, I would like to request the hon. Minister to declare the constitution of a JPC to consider the facts impartially and come back to the House with its report which would enhance the prestige and reputation of the hon. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Prakash Ambedkar. Please speak for only two minutes.

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (Akola) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I have to say with a heavy heart that everytime when the question of time comes, it is the smaller parties that have to sacrifice.

Sir, one of the most effective signals that have gone out of this Agreement, which is also a part of the liberalisation process, that has taken place is that we need to look into the consequences that follow from this agreement. Many companies, which are private companies, had also gone into such kind of agreements with the Multinational companies, but in due course of time, those agreements broke up and the multinational companies took away the market set up of those companies.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister while justifying the Agreement that has taken place has said that there is going to be a transfer of technology. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether of all the three models that are now being produced, have the Peugeot company been approached for the engines and gear boxes? Is there any talks going on with them in this regard? If that is the case, then the whole justification that has been given by the Minister that there is going to be a transfer of technology is also not true.

Sir, the second point which I would like to make is that the BJP Government had gone to the international court over the Enron issue. But some agreement was reached with them after Ms. Rebecca Marc visited India and had a meeting with the top officials of the Maharashtra Government and the BJP leaders. Is it that, in this very case also some outside meetings have taken place and some outside settlement has been reached? Has this settlement taken place because of an outside meeting?

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is one way in which we are moving towards economic dependence on others. We have lost our voice in the compositions of the Board. We have lost our sovereignty. We are losing our economic sovereignty. One company after another, if the Boards are taken away leaving the propriety right to the Indians, our economy is going to be jeopardised. May I warn the Minister, who is also later on going to deal with another issue which is not a corrective attempt but it is going to come to him from the Ministry of Petroleum, as far as my knowledge goes Bharat Petroleum and Burma Shell are on the verge of some kind of an agreement. Similar talks are going on, that is, controlling the management power through the Board of Directors. Will the Minister ensure, when these kinds of agreements take place, if the economic sovereignty of this country has to remain, the economic decision-making remains with the country? If the economic decisions are taken away then we may lose our economic sovereignty as also the political sovereignty. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister, knowing him very well for his upright position and upright conduct, to agree to the demand made by Shri Jaipal Reddy, the mover of the Calling Attention, to form a Joint Parliamentary Committee and have a clear picture before the House.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, my Party did not get a chance to speak. I am the only speaker from my Party. Please allow me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia spoke about it very well. Shri Radhakrishnan, you may speak next time.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, I have given my name. I would finish within two minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : All right.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. I have got only a few words to speak.

At the outset, I support the move taken by Shri Jaipal Reddy. It is a very important discussion not because it is a matter concerning the Maruti Udyog Limited alone, it is a matter which must be an eye-opener for all those people who speak for liberalisation, multinational companies, market economy and all that. This is not a matter concerning a particular company alone. We all know that Suzuki is a very small company functioning in Japan. It is only one-seventh of the total automobile industry in Japan. How can such a small company influence a big

country like India? It must be an eye-opener. Even the bureaucrats would be the witness to the sell out of India's interests. Even the pressure could be exercised over bureaucracy or the Government of India. There are people in the Government who are prepared to sell out our national interest to multinational companies. But it is not even a multinational company.

What will happen when we deal with multinational companies? We have such a bitter experience in dealing with a very small company, what will be our experience when we come to deal with big multinationals? Then, Mr. Speaker, Sir, you and I will be sold out, what to talk of the economy of the country. Our country is facing such a serious situation. Whenever we deal with multinational companies in future, we should be doubly cautious. That is the lesson which is learnt from this particular experience.

What has happened in this case is, our sovereignty itself is taken to the international court of arbitration. We do not have any arbitration court. Suzuki had taken the matter to an international arbitration court. It seems the Government got scared by this and thought, "Oh! The whole thing will come down. The whole thing will collapse." Was that the feeling in the Government? What prompted it to make such a hasty compromise? After all, what could the arbitration court do? Even if they pronounce an award, what will be the legal consequences? Why was the Government afraid of the international court? While we were safeguarding the national interests, what prompted the Government to make a surrender to such a small company? It is such a small company that such companies are called 'blade companies' in our language.

We cannot believe Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a man of learning, the tallest man in the world, falling prey to this small company, Suzuki. What will be the result when Shri Sikander Bakht would come to deal with big companies? Shri Bakht is a very honest man, I concede that. But he himself will be purchased by big companies, if things go on like this. The entire nation will be sold out and there are people who can sell this country. So, I demand that the matter must be thoroughly investigated by a Joint Parliamentary Committee.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it's a formality that at the end of a debate like this, the one who has to reply the debate starts with the word, that he is thankful to those who participated in the debate.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise with mix feelings. I am more thankful to those who apart from expressing themselves uttered some sweet words for me also. I become quite emotional sitting here. I do admit that since we sit on opposite side, one, who is to oppose something, shall oppose it anyway. But I think that difference in political ideologies should not be allowed into our private relations. We sit together here in the House and despite being related to different parties, we all are running on the ground of politics. It makes no difference that we are treading the different paths. Honouring this relationship, we should not use harsh words. I am of quite a different nature. I am shouldering some responsibility in the BJP Government. I go through different views but I have never made any personal attack on anybody.

18.00 hrs.

Commenting on the past Governments, I don't want to prove that I am right and they were wrong in all respects. But today I, for my very good friends:— and I'm not saying only for the sake of mere formality, because when one stands to speak in the Parliament, one generally calls someone his friend. But in my political life in the Parliament, some people have been closer to my heart and Jaipal Reddy is one of them. Speaker, Sir, it pained me very much when I saw Mr. Reddy stooping very low today. He should object, complain and can raise the voice of dissent. But alas! So little stooping! I am 80 years old and am going to die and whenever die, this stigma would not leave me. I never expected this sort of harsh, substandard and cheap words from Jaipal Reddy ... (Interruptions) You please don't interrupt, you've ended up with your quota of speaking.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I did not say about him. I said about the Government.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : He was addressing me. It is all right, now.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, I must place this on record that I did not say about him, but I said about the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : Whether Government was 80 years old and it was at the verge of going to grave. It is only Sikander Bakht who is to go this way. This stigma will haunt the Government even after it goes into

[SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT]

the grave—to whom are you teaching kid's lessons at all. I can never forget those words. These words have wounded me.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to tell you that when I called the forest Press-Conference, I said that I don't want to make any comment on previous Government. I also said that Murasoli Maran was a fine man, "He is a nice man, I like him." these were my words. But they are compelling us to relate personal attacks with personal attacks. I am compelled to shed any loyalties. Now I really feel to smother myself. Awkward offenses I face. I would try, I've taken notes to ascribe all the speeches made here, as far possible. Secondly, apart from the first phase of the second press-release when personal attacks were made on, I said in a press-release:

[English]

"I do not wish to indulge in raking up the past history and reviewing the role of the predecessor Government nor do I like to drag the name of the predecessor Minister with regard to a situation which has been solely created by the approach adopted by him in the past."

[Translation]

I said that I committed this sin because I was fed up of listening all these things. I was confused as to how long I should keep silent.

[English]

"However, in regard to Maruti an unfortunate situation has been created."

[Translation]

That is entirely another matter.

...(Interruptions)

MAJOR GENERAL BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM (Garhwal) : They have spoken so much, why do not they wait and listen now?

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Iduki) : He must come to the point.

[Translation]

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : It is none of your business, I will listen to it ...*(Interruptions)* Yes you are right ...*(Interruptions)* This matter Mr. Jaipal Reddy started with the words that, we are friends and I don't want to quit that. Even today I have no intention to break the friendship.

Therefore, I am trying to say that my friendship with Jaipal Reddy will continue. So I've said the thing. Now, I come to Maruti. First thing is that I've heard the speeches of the gentleman.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Now he has clarified!

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : What if he has clarified now? When he was speaking and I was listening, I was hurt then. No regret can heal my wound. I wanted to tell some astounding things. I would try to reply all the questions raised by my friends. In which condition Maruti was handed over to me. I am sorry to say that there was no mention in any speech that I did not compromise with Maruti Suzuki, Suzuki was spoken of, officers were spoken of, I would tell about those officers. But there should have been mention of Maruti, the condition in which it was handed over to us and what should have been the way out to give it a new lease of life and whether it is our property or not. Maruti tops India's automobile industry today. Will it continue to remain so if the present scenario continues. Whether new technology is coming into Maruti or not, the process of upgradation is continuing or not. Everything has been discussed except the real problem whether Maruti is to be kept alive or not.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the second point which has surprised me the most is a horrifying thing that the chapter which was written since the day Maruti came into existence, there is a casual mention of it in the speeches. There was a mention of it in Shri Jaipal Reddy's speech. Maruti had 40 per cent shares but in the beginning there were only 26 per cent, latter on how these shares went up to 40 per cent? I don't want to go into the details but this much I want to say that there twenty six percent were given on concessional rates. After 26 per cent, even the 14 per cent, were given on concessional rates. In the original document 26 per cent shares belonged to Suzuki and the remaining 14 per cent were taken by others but these could have been taken on concessional

rates. It is mentioned in the agreement. They took advantage of this opportunity and 14 per cent shares were taken on concessional rates. There was no detailed mentioned in any speech regarding the time when Maruti was sold out. I would like to say that Maruti was sold at a time when its equity shares went up from 40 per cent to 50 per cent. When was this increase of 10 per cent effected and on what rates? No Government after 1992 ever bothered about it. Nowadays they are talking of sell out and surrender but I am surprised why such a thing was not thought of at the time when 10 per cent shares were sold out. Why do you talk in secretive manner, we should talk openly. Maruti was sold at that time when 60 per cent shares belonged to India which were later reduced to 50 per cent. I would like to inform you about its history. It is a long story but I have read it in detail. Upto a certain time it was felt that we are going ahead step by step administratively but a time has come when we could not understand how it was decided that 10 per cent shares would be sold out. The complete details are lying within me. If you give me some time I will read it out for you completely. It is the time when the original percentage was 26.

[English]

However, Suzuki was given option to subscribe and stake for additional number of shares as would cost the total number of its holding to constitute, of a percentage above 26 but not more than 48 per cent of the total shares outstanding. The subscription price was Rs. 100 per share.

CMD, MUL informed that Suzuki Motor Corporation would be willing to buy Maruti's shares at a premium of Rs. 400 per share. Premium of Rs. 400!

[Translation]

I have left out some middle portion of it in which several meetings have been referred to Shri R.C. Bhargava wrote to Shri Suresh Mathur, Secretary I.D.

[English]

Shares of face value of Rs. 100 per share will be sold at Rs. 5000,

[Translation]

agreed these things happened. Shri R.C. Bhargava made an offer to the Government that Suzuki is ready to take shares at the rate of Rs. 500 each. Suzuki made a

suggestion that they should be given to shares at lower rates. They said that shares must be given to them at a rate of Rs. 100 per share. Thereafter Shri Alok Prasad, Director in P.M. Office wrote to Shri Surendra Singh Desai.

[English]

He has informed that FIPB as recommended the request of Suzuki.

[Translation]

Suzuki said that they should be given shares at the rate of Rs. 100 per share.

[English]

MUL, CCFI also approved.

[Translation]

Now the question is who were these? There is a mention of CCFI of P.M. officer therein. There is a mention of the Prime Minister, Finance Minister and Ministry of Commerce. Thereafter, Shri R.C. Bhargava, C.M.D. M.U.L. wrote to Shri Surender Singh Desai.

They sent a proposal for FIPB informing that in pursuant to MUL's direction regarding conversion of shares it was carried out through Chartered Bank and it was arrived at a price of Rs. 264. No details are there.

The payment for MUL was made after assessment of price and determining the price of Rs. 269 per share.

[Translation]

They were ready to purchase the shares at the rate of Rs. 500 per share. Rs. 500 was also less than the prevailing market price. At least this ten per cent should have been sold at the market price. Infact these ten per cent shares should not have gone to the Suzuki as Indian stake in the Maruti Udyog Limited decreased yet these ten per cent shares were also sold to them. These were not sold at the market price but these were sold at concessional rate. Who sold these shares to the Suzuki? Sell out is being mentioned here, mention is being made here of surrender but nobody bothered that after 1992 all the successive Governments should have been held responsible for it. Why did they remain silent? I am really surprised why did the successive Governments remain silent? My hon'ble friends are sitting in front of me, I

[SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT]

want to know from them. The members of the United Front are sitting just in front of me, I also want to know from them as to why did they keep silent at that time? Why they did not raise any objection at that time? If they were against the sell out they should have raised their voice at the time of sell out itself.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this has been pointed out in this Committee's report. Nobody was silent. This was pointed out in this committee's report. His party members were members of the Committee.

[Translation]

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : Don't take pretext of this committee as I am ready to reveal it too. That was the previous committee. At that time the United Front was not in power. I know the protest lodged by the U.P. Government at its own level against this sell out ...*(Interruptions)* Leave it aside. Don't interrupt every time. Ultimately those shares were sold at the rate of Rs. 269 per share. I would like to urge that it has been vehemently said that shares were sold out and certain things happened to Suzuki. Had they a clear conscience they would have mentioned forcefully as to which Government was in power when 10 per cent of India's shares were sold. Who was the Minister of Industry at that time. Of course it was not that of the BJP, Sikander Bakht was not there, I can even point out these names ...*(Interruptions)* But it will be of no use ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North-Central): You should not reply angrily ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

"The senior-most persons who fulfilled these qualifications were found to be Shri Bhaskarudu, Shri Khattar, Shri Hansan and Dr. Kumar."

[Translation]

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : A case was filed in this regard in Delhi High Court. I will read out to you the observations of the High Court about the Industry Minister of U.F. Government. All the same I would like to mention about Shri Khattar. He was a representative of Shri R.C. Bhargava. I don't want to get entangled with the officers because the Government of India is far more a superior entity than the individual officers. Since the name has been quoted more often, so I would like to mention it.

[English]

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : I removed him.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : It is all right. You must have done. What was the reason? You had a misconception or a conception that he is a man of Bhargava. But did you also know that Bhaskarudu was also appointed by Shri Bhargava and that initially he was Bhargava's man? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Who had suggested to include Shri Khattar in this bracket? At least we have not done it. Who appointed Shri Khattar Member of the Board? Bhartiya Janta Party has not done it. There is no mention anywhere as to why Shri Khattar was removed from his post. What is the relevance of use of Khattar's name here. That was a thing of the past. I may be having the same views as you have about him ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Please do not get emotional.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : I am getting emotional.

[Translation]

I would like to tell Mr. Karunakaran that half truth would not do in Parliament. Tell the whole truth, only then we know what is a fact or otherwise. We have been identifying people on one's personal identities. Even today Shri Khattar is an appointee of the Government by Suzuki. But the way in which they had accepted Shri R.C. Bhargava, a person appointed by us, it is possible they might have considered Shri Khattar as a better choice. You have no right to override your choice to that of Suzuki ...*(Interruptions)* I may say that this is a very sad thing. Even now I think that with the frame of mind with which I am saying all these things, I am not sure whether I should read it or not ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Mr. Bakht please don't be swayed by emotions. We are old friends.

[Translation]

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : I am not going into it. What are you talking about? I really do not give much value to personal attacks but I have been told that so much personal attacks have been made, under hand

dealings have taken place. I can report the words that have been told by my dear friend. I am in a state of agony. I want to make one thing very clear. I bow my head before those people who have quoted my name out of love, I am extremely obliged to them.

But at the same time they have said that Sikander is a nice man but he was pressurised. I alone am responsible in pushing through this agreement one hundred percent even 101 percent. I was not pressurised by the Prime Minister's Office or the Prime Minister. I would like to point out that I alone am responsible for this. I am surprised, Shiv Shankarji here some people even my dear friend Shri Kurien has said that he does not want to say anything about Sikander Saheb but there is still something that should be made clear. I want to say only this much this sort of questions comes before me.

[English]

I reject them off the cuff. I do not even care to react to them. They are so low.

[Translation]

Will those who have spent their lives deep in corruption and point their fingers towards Sikander Bakht? What is it, we are even made to see it. Maruti ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, we are all very fond of him. He is our asset. We request him not to get so angry. May be, he has full justification, but it will affect his health. We do not want him to fall ill.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : Somnathji, I have controlled myself.

[Translation]

If I read the decision of the High Court no Minister should take it as a prestige issue. Shri Shiv Shanker has made an appeal to me, therefore, I have left it. I am not going to read it. But I want to say this much that how much you people think about Maruti Udyog. You think about it that Maruti Udyog too is a part of India, do you really accept it as correct. My dear friend for whom I have said.

[English]

I consider him a very nice man.

[Translation]

He has put Maruti Udyog and the whole of India, its prestige equally on the balance. Whether India has become too small to be equated with this simple industry. I have got complaint against my dear friend. After this, I would say that this matter was referred to the international court for Arbitration. You have asked as to what was the hurry. The hurry was that in June or July, I am forgetting the exact date, the case was to come before the court for hearing and I wanted to solve the case before that date, hence the hurry. One may call it as my ill intention but honestly I wanted to save Maruti Udyog. Maruti Udyog is the property of India. Maruti Udyog cannot be saved unless new technology is adopted in it. Maruti Udyog can not be saved unless it is not upgraded. I want to say that anyone of you should have mentioned about Maruti Udyog. You indulged only in mentioning about the officers name. Although we have to heed to the advice of the offices but when we are making a decision about the fate of the country. We cannot do it at the desire of the officers.

I have been told, Shri Karunakaran had said one thing, he had said that not only he but the whole country has criticised this agreement. I have got so many editorials of national press with me should I read it? Whether the right to have views rests only with our dear friends alone? Whether the Indian media do not have any right to have their views? I have got about 400-500 views with me. If I read it you will walk out from here.

SOME HON'BLE MEMBERS : Please read out at least one or two

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : Dear brother, I should read it to what extent. There is some difficulty in it. I am trying to read it, but will avoid to name. There is one headline captioned, "A Pig's breakfast from X's kitchen," I have not mentioned the name.

[English]

It says:

"What should we call this conflict? ..."

"The whole messy situation at Maruti Udyog Limited is a case in point. It was a pig's breakfast put on

[SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT]

the table by Congress chefs for reasons that are still unexplained ..."

[Translation]

I do accept that it is unexplained, how the figure of 269 was arrived at, is unexplained.

[English]

It further says:

"The 'sell-out'—in the literal as well as the metaphorical sense—came in 1992, when the X's Government conceded parity to Suzuki ..."

[Translation]

Yet there are more details ahead.

[English]

"In 1992, 'X' was in the saddle. And it was his Government that gifted parity in Maruti Udyog Limited to the Japanese outfit. I use the word 'gifted' advisedly—Suzuki got away with paying only Rs. 269 per share as against their own offer of Rs. 500 one year earlier.

I note without comment that this sad episode was preceded by a visit to Japan by 'X'."

[Translation]

That gentleman's son's name is given here.

[English]

"For the record, again without drawing any inference, the now-famous 'X', son of the then Prime Minister, had sought Japanese aid in an electronics venture that is now defunct ..."

"I have always found factories a bit magical—in go the raw materials, out come the finished products. But Maruti's alchemy seems to work as much on men as on machines. In go the Government's nominees, out come Suzuki's partisans! ..."

[Translation]

I am having many more, I am having four-five items more but why should I read it, I would only like to inform

my hon. friends that I am very happy about Maruti Udyog Limited, and its present condition, as it has been saved from closing down, this industry would progress. Just now somebody asked at which stage it was decided that Suzuki group was ready to purchase cent percent shares. I have also given press statement earlier and I would also like to say it now also that there is no such move to sell out the 50 percent shares of the Indian Government in the Maruti Industry.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has not answered any point raised by the Members in this debate.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : All right, I will do that.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, does he agree for an inquiry by a Joint Parliamentary Committee?
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He has not yet completed his reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. BAPIRAJU (Narsapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are all interested to hear the hon. Minister. Let him not lose his temper. He is an elderly person. We want to hear him fully. Let him not be provoked by Shri Jaipal Reddy. He should leave that point and forget it.

[Translation]

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : I would say that I have replied most of the issues raised by Shri Jaipal Reddyji. I have also replied to the question of Shri Jaipal Reddy relating to scandals. He has mentioned about Mr. Khattar, I have also replied to it. We had nominated R.C. Bhargava, it is a matter which came up prior to the agreement regarding Maruti Udyog, and I have already replied to all these issues. It is very unfortunate that whatever he has said about Mr. Khattar, he did not substantiate. Basudeo Acharia Saheb has also said that it is an underhand deal, I have mentioned about it. What can I do about money rupees etc.? I have replied to the questions of Shri Karunakam also. I also mentioned about the sale of shares as well as International court. The mention of Managing Director is

[English]

with the concurrence of both the parties at every moment.

[Translation]

May I also tell you that the entire country would rise, I have mentioned about the literate persons and those who are publishing newspapers. I have also mentioned about the media persons.

[English]

PM's Office has taken the decision

[Translation]

I do not know whether I have mentioned about whatever Mr. Raghuvansh said but I have taken the decision. I mentioned it when Baalu Sahed told about pressurising. How is Swadeshi related with it, is an amazing question. Suzuki existed even before our Government came to power. Suzuki as well as India had their shares in that company. I would also urge that I have also mentioned about swadeshi. Kurien Saheb had mentioned about ugly haste. In that case I have urged that it was ugly haste because I had to decide earlier to that date which was allotted to me by the International Court. Therefore, I did so. I think I have replied to all the points ...*(Interruptions)* I reject his charge off the cuff.

[English]

I do not even care to react to that sort of an ugly, absurd and virulent talk ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

The persons who level the charge of corruption, are those who have flourished in corruption. I reject their charge off the cuff ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN (Thiruvananthapuram) : Sir, we charge the Government ...*(Interruptions)*. We have to compel the Government to entrust the enquiry to a Joint Parliamentary Committee. If they do not do it, our charges will stand ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, we are totally dissatisfied with the reply of the Minister. He has, as usual, indulged in lamentations and protestations. We have no other option but to stage a walk out against this totally unsatisfactory reply.

18.33 hrs.

At this stage, Shri S. Jaipal Reddy and some other hon. Members left the House.

[Translation]

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the walking out of Shri Jaipal Reddy has confirmed that I was right. Had he not walked out I would have thought for a moment if I could be wrong ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : We are not satisfied with the answer of the hon'ble Minister, therefore we walk out.

18.33 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and some other hon'ble Members then left the House.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : We are not satisfied with the answer of the hon'ble Minister. Therefore, we too walk out.

18.34 hrs.

Shri Mohan Singh and some other hon'ble Members then left the House.

[English]

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Sir, since the Government did not agree to an enquiry by the Joint Parliamentary Committee, we protest against the attitude of the Government and we are walking out ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, the Government should agree for an enquiry. But since they are not agreeing for an enquiry we are walking out ...*(Interruptions)*

18.34 $\frac{1}{4}$ hrs.

At this stage, Prof. P.J. Kurien and some other hon. Members left the House.

18.34¹/₂ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Fourth Report

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Sir, I beg to present the Fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. SPEAKER : The House now stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. tomorrow.

18.35 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, July 22, 1998/ Asadha, 31, 1920 (Saka)
