

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Second Session**  
**(Twelfth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. IV contains Nos. 21 to 30)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Wednesday, July, 15, 1998/Asadha 24, 1920 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

\*402. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the companies engaged in production of bio-fertilizers in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of companies in Gujarat which are producing fertilizers for agriculture; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the production of bio-fertilizers in the country?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

## Statement

(a) A statement giving details of the organisations engaged in the production of biofertilisers, State-wise, is at Annexure.

(b) In Gujarat the major fertiliser producers are Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO), Krishak Bharati Cooperative (KRIBHCO), Gujarat State Fertiliser Company Ltd. (GSFC) and Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertiliser Company Ltd. (GNVFC). In addition, there are five single Super phosphate manufacturers in the State namely Kisan Industries, Moraiya; Rama Fertilisers, Junagarh; Liberty Phosphates Ltd., Baroda; Mardia Chemicals, Surendranagar and Dhamsi Morarji Chemicals Company Ltd. Anueli.

The biofertiliser production in the State has been taken up by IFFCO, KRIBHCO, GSFC, Gujarat State Cooperative Marketing Federation and Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation. These organisations have set up a production capacity of 975 tonnes per annum of biofertilisers in the State.

(c) Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme for Development and Use of Biofertilizers. Under this scheme a grant-in-aid of upto Rs. 20 lakhs is provided for establishment of biofertilizer production capacity of upto 150 tonnes per annum. Field demonstrations and trainings for farmers and the extension workers are organised to popularise the use of biofertilisers in the country.

### Annexure

#### Details of biofertiliser production units of the country

Units financed by GOI		Others	
Unit	Capacity (mt)	Unit	Capacity (mt)
1	2	3	4
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>			
1. MFL, Vijayawada	75	1 A.N.g. Ranga Agri. Univ., Amaravathi, Guntur	70
2. APAU, Hyderabad	75	2. Regional Soil Testing Lab., Hyderabad	07

1	2	3	4
3.	GFL, Secunderabad	100	
<b>Assam</b>			
1.	Assam Agro Ind. Corpn., Guwahati	150	
2.	HFC, Namrup	75	
3.	HFC, Silchar	150	
<b>Bihar</b>			
1.	SCADA	150	1. Birsa Agric. Univ., Ranchi 11
2.	PPCL, Amjhore	75	
3.	HFC, Sindri	75	
4.	HFC, Barauni	75	
<b>Gujarat</b>			
1.	KRIBHCO, Surat	225	
2.	Gujarat State Coop. Mktg. Fed., Ahmedabad	125	
3.	GSFC, Vadodara	475	
4.	Gujarat State Agro Ind. Corporation	150	
<b>Haryana</b>			
1.	CCS HAU, Hisar	75	
2.	RBDC, Hisar	50	
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>			
1.	Dept. of Agric., Shimla	75	
<b>Karnataka</b>			
1.	Karnataka Compost Dev. Corporation	150	1. Azo Fertilisers Pvt. Ltd., - Mysore 375

1	2	3	4	
2.	Kamataka State Agro Ind. Corporation	150	2. KCD Corpn., Bangalore	150
3.	RBDC, Bangalore	50	3. UAS, Dharwad	05
4.	MFL, Bangalore	75	4. UAS (GKVK), Bangalore	50
			5. Kadhur Agro, Mylasandu, Bangalore	100
<b>Kerala</b>				
1.	Dept. of Agric., Pattambi	75		
2.	FACT, Travencore	150		
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>				
1.	MFL, Indore	100		
2.	M.P. Agro Ind. Corpn., Bhopal	450		
3.	HFC, Gwalior	75		
4.	HFC, Bhopal	75		
5.	NAFED Biofertiliser, Indore	200		
6.	M.P. Oilseed Corpn., Dhar	150		
7.	RBDC, Jabalpur	50		
<b>Maharashtra</b>				
1.	BAIF, Pune	1000	1. Indian Organic Chemicals, Khopoli, Raigadh	300
2.	RCF, Chembur	75	2. Kumar Krishi Mitra Pvt. Ltd., Pune	2400
3.	RBDC, Nagpur	50	3. Ajay Biotech (India), Pune	1500
			4. MPAU, Pune	36
			5. MAIDC, Chinchwad, Pune	300
			6. K-Ferts Laboratories, Nanded	60

1	2	3	4
<b>Manipur</b>			
1. RBDC, Imphal	50		
<b>Mizoram</b>			
1. Dept. of Agric., Aizawl	75		
<b>Nagaland</b>			
1. Dept. of Agric., Nagaland	150		
<b>Orissa</b>			
1. OAIC, Bhubaneswar	75		
2. OAIC, Sambalpur	150		
3. OAIC, Rayagada	150		
4. HFC, Cuttack	150		
5. RBDC, Bhubaneswar	50		
<b>Punjab</b>			
1. PAIC, Ludhiana	75	1. PAU, Ludhiana	03
<b>Rajashtan</b>			
1. PAIC, Jaipur	75	1. RCL-Dept. Of Agric., Durgapura	50
2. SFCI, Suratgarh	150	2. Raj. College of Agric., Udaipur	02
		3. Jaipur Biofertiliser, jaipur	1000
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
1. MFL, Chennai	75	1. Luxmi Biotech, Cuddalore	150
2. Dept. of Agric., Salem	250	2. ESVIN Biosystems, Erode	20
3. Dept. of Agric. Kudumiamalai	75	3. Magnam Associates, Chennai	250
4. T. Stanes & Co., Coimbatore	925	4. Main Biocontrol Res. Lab., Chengalpattu	300

1	2	3	4
5. SPIC Biotpch Div., Chennai	75	5. Monarch Biof. & Res. Centre, Chennai	22
6. Seema Cotton Dev. Res. Association, Coimbatore	75	6. Dept. Of Agric, Pudukottai	250
		7. TNAU, Coimbatore	17
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			
1. IFFCO, Phoolpur	75	1. Dept. Of Agric., Meerut, Aligarh, Lucknow, Badaun, Etawah, Sultanpur, Banda, Jhansi, Azamgarh and Varanasi	300
2. Dept. Of Agric., Etah, Baharaich and Orai	150		
3. NBDC, Ghaziabad	75		
<b>West Bengal</b>			
1. BCKV, Kalyani	75	1. Nitrofix Labs, Calcutta	150
2. HFC, Durgapur	75	2. Micro Bac India, Shyamnagar	84
3. HFC, Siliguri	150		
<b>Pondicherry</b>			
1. P. Agro Service & Ind. Corp., Pondicherry	75		
Delhi		1. IARI, Pusa, New Delhi	03
<b>Tripura</b>			
1. Dept. Of Agric., Tripura	10		
<b>Total</b>	<b>8360</b>		<b>7965</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>16325</b>

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAISINHJI CHAUHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government are aware of the fact that bio-fertilizers are not being properly used by the farmers of the country though these are economical and eco friendly? If so, the details of the steps taken by the Government in this regard and if not, what are the reasons therefore? What will be the future policy of the Government in this regard?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the role of bio-fertilizers is very important in increasing the agricultural production and sustainable development of agriculture and environment. Certain ecological imbalances and soil imbalances have been noticed due to the use of chemical fertilizers. Therefore, the use of bio-fertilizers is very much desirable and Government is fully aware of it. Many research works have been undertaken by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research to promote the use of bio-fertilizers and to educate the farmers in this regard. Government has also implemented a scheme to encourage the use and production of bio fertilisers. A grant of Rs. 20 lakh is being given to every bio-fertilizer producing unit. At present, approx. 10 thousand tonnes of bio-fertilizers are being produced in our country and Government wants to promote its production further.

SHRI JAISINHJI CHAUHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what steps have been taken by the Government during the last three years to educate the illiterate farmers about the use of bio-fertilizers in agriculture? What are the details of the achievements made in this regard? If not, the reasons therefor? I would also like to know state-wise details of the companies engaged in production of bio-fertilizers in the country particularly in Gujarat indicating the names of the companies encouraging the farmers to use these fertilizers and thereby expanding the market by creating a healthy competition among the producers? Also please give company wise details of the progress and achievements made in this regard.

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, training is being imparted to farmers to use bio-fertilizers. All 28 Agricultural Universities, all research centres and Institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and state Governments are doing this work. As far as Gujarat is concerned, it is also engaged in the production of bio-fertilizers. KRIBHCO Surat, GSFC Vadora and Gujarat State Cooperative Marketing Federation Ahmedabad and Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation are the four major bio-fertilizer producing units in the State whose production

capacity per annum is 225, 125, 475 and 150 M.T. respectively.

[*English*]

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH: There is a view in certain sections, even among the experts also, that over usage of chemical fertilisers and pesticides will ultimately lead to crop loss and damage. Has the Government got it examined? If not, will the Government be pleased to get it examined thoroughly?

SHRI SOMPAL: Sir, it is not correct to say that fertilisers are damaging the crops, rather they help growth of crops. But certain imbalances are being noticed because of over presence of nitrogen in the lower atmosphere, certain insects are breeding which are harmful to crops. Susceptibility of disease increases with overdose. There are certain imbalances noted in the fertility of soil and soil profile; its texture, its composition, chemical, physical as well as organic, undergoes a change. We are seized of the matter. Research is a continuing process and it is being taken note of and measures are being taken to create a use pattern on balanced side and promoting a balanced NPK use as well as other fertilisers including biofertilisers.

SHRI A.C. JOS: In the answer, the names of the major industries which produce biofertilisers have been mentioned. Under the present scheme, Rs. 20 lakh is given as grant-in-aid for the establishments which produce biofertilisers up to 150 tonnes. The disposal of solid wastes is posing a great problem for the municipalities and corporations, especially in Kerala where the density of population is so high and there is no space to dispose of the waste. So, many of them are turning to produce biofertilisers using some worms that were recently found out.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

SHRI A.C. JOS: In producing these biofertilisers, the municipalities are facing problems. So, in the wake of propagation of biofertilisers, my question to the hon. Minister is, will the Government be pleased to consider subsidising and giving grants to the municipalities and corporations which are prepared to produce biofertilisers from solid wastes?

SHRI SOMPAL: Our research institutes are trying to find new strains for producing new kinds of biofertilisers and this medium yet has not been tapped. I think, it should be done. As a mandate to the ICAR, we are

trying to include certain other things including solid wastes from the urban as well as rural areas. If new strains can be found, then, surely, they can be utilised.

SHRI A.C. JOS: My question is specific. Are you prepared to give grants to the municipalities and corporations which are now engaged in converting solid wastes into biofertilisers?

SHRI SOMPAL: Unless it is scientifically established that they do contain certain microbes which can be used to produce fertilisers...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI A.C. JOS: It is produced in Kerala. Many municipalities have taken solid wastes and are producing biofertilisers.

SHRI SOMPAL: Sir, if they have specific information, they can provide it to me. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI A.C. JOS: Let him answer. The questions are not being answered. I had put a specific question.

SHRI SOMPAL: It has been clearly answered.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister has answered your question. Please take your seat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that bio-fertilizers increase the fertility of the soil but the use of chemical fertilizers reduce it. I want to know whether the Government have any scheme to impart this regard?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already given reply in this regard. It is a continuous process. There are certain imbalances in the soil which affect the environment. Research is going on in this regard. Farmers are made aware of it regularly.

[*English*]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Sir, at present, there is a fully developed scientific method by which biofertiliser is produced by one company known as Excel Industries. Many of the corporations and municipalities in Kerala have decided to use this technology and establish factories or plants to divert or dispose of the solid wastes.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, you ask your supplementary. You need not give all the information. The hon. Minister will give it in his reply.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: I am coming to the question. I want a specific answer to this. Already there are applications pending from Calicut Corporation. The question is, will the Government give incentive to such plants established by the local bodies.

SHRI SOMPAL: The grant which is given for establishing bio-fertiliser production units includes all kinds of organisations, including the private organisations, whosoever approaches and whose proposal is approved.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: I am not asking about the companies, but I am asking about the local bodies which are using the bio-technology.

SHRI SOMPAL: The local bodies are also included there.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN( Indore): Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is right that we want to promote the bio-fertilizers but their quality should be maintained and a standard product should be available in the market. I want to know whether the Government is considering to provide it I.S.I. mark? It is possible that these bio-products may decay in 3-4 months but a urea bag can be kept intact for a year. I would like to know from the Government what is its plan to increase the shelf life value of these products?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bureau of Indian Standards has laid some standards for the quality control of bio-fertilizers. This work has been assigned to Indian, Council of Agriculture Research. A team of this Council has submitted all the norms and standards after suitable amendments to the Bureau of Indian Standards. Bureau of Indian Standards is engaged in the work of amending those specifications.

It is right to increase the shelf life value of these products and as I have said these are the micro biological organism which can be preserved at a certain temperature and in a special medium. They have a fixed life span. Continuous research is going on to increase the shelf life value of bio-fertilizers and to have a control on their quality.

[*English*]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Our farmers do not have general awareness about the use of nitrogen, potash and phosphate. In a way, the farmers have to use nitrogen, phosphate and potash according to some proportion. I think it may be 4:1:1. So, to create a general awareness among the farmers, will the hon. Minister and the Government come forward to educate the farmers in a proper way so as to use the complex fertilisers for the proper crops?

SHRI SOMPAL: Though I have answered the question in reply to an earlier question and though it does not pertain to bio-fertilisers - it pertains to the balanced use of NPK i.e, chemical fertilisers - yet, I would like to say that the Central Government as well as the State Governments, through all their extension agencies and State Agriculture and Central Agriculture Departments, are already having a programme to educate farmers on these and the information is continuously being supplied to farmers. They are being trained through demonstration plots, through publicity measures, on the K.V.Ks, and also other centres which the Central Government and the State Governments have.

[Translation]

\*403. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:  
SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any action plan for development of horticulture in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the allocation made during the current financial year, state-wise;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any action plan to invoke co-operative sectors also in the field of horticulture;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have issued guidelines to the State Governments in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture and cooperation is implementing various central plan schemes for promoting integrated development of fruits, vegetables, root & tuber crops, mushroom, floriculture, coconut, cashewnut, cocoa, spices, use of plastics in horticulture, medicinal and aromatic plants and promotion of beekeeping throughout the country. Allocation for the above schemes during 1998-99 is Rs. 300 crores, as per details in Annexure-I. Allocation made to the states for various horticulture programmes are indicated in Annexure-II.

(c) to (e) The Government of India have envisaged an important role for cooperative Sector in marketing and post harvest support to horticulture produce. National cooperative Development Corporation provides financial assistance for creating marketing and post harvest facilities to the cooperatives through the State Governments. The National Horticulture Board provides soft loan to cooperatives for integrated projects and for post harvest facilities as also to the private and public sector. The State Governments have been advised to utilise the financial support available to horticulture cooperative marketing societies under the schemes of National cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and National Horticulture Board (NHB).

**Annexure-I**

*Statement showing allocations for various horticulture schemes during 1998-99*

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl. No.	Schemes	Revised Budget Allocation 1998-99
1	2	3
1.	Integrated Development of Fruits	2500.00
2.	Integrated Development of Vegetable Seeds	2000.00
3.	Integrated Development of root & Tuber Crops	200.00



1	2	3
4.	Integrated Development of Mushroom	475.00
5.	Development of Floriculture	1000.00
6.	Integrated Development of Spices	3750.00
7.	Integrated Development of Cashewnut	2000.00
8.	Integrated Development of Cocoa	70.00
9.	Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	200.00
10.	Development of Beekeeping	250.00
11.	Promotion of Use of Plastics in Agriculture	11000.00
12.	Programmes of National Horticulture Board	2800.00
13.	Coconut Development Board	2300.00
14.	Integrated Projects for Handling & Marketing of Fruits and Vegetables	60.00
15.	Human Resource Development in Horticulture	410.00
16.	Infrastructure Support for Horticulture	40.00
17.	Horticulture Intervention for Human Nutrition	200.00
18.	Horticulture Development in Tribal & Backward Areas	300.00
19.	Technology Mission for North-Eastern States	445.00
<b>Total:</b>		<b>30000.00</b>

Note: (1) Schemes 1 to 13 are continuing schemes.

(2) Schemes 14 to 19 are new schemes  
Details being worked out.

**Annexure-II****State-wise allocation for various horticulture schemes during 1998-99**

Name of States	Total allocation for all Schemes during 1998-99 (Rs. In lakhs)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	2107.55
Arunachal Pradesh	253.07
Assam	144.90
Bihar	446.20
Goa	234.83
Gujarat	454.84
Haryana	387.87
Himachal Pradesh	291.22
Jammu & Kashmir	785.37
Karnataka	3232.29
Kerala	1936.98
Madhya Pradesh	665.18
Maharashtra	4028.17
Manipur	264.84

1	2
Meghalaya	188.60
Mizoram	183.14
Nagaland	207.63
Orissa	958.17
Punjab	287.68
Rajasthan	640.42
Tamilnadu	1648.86
Tripura	161.89
Uttar Pradesh	307.27
West Bengal	234.91
Sikkim	239.03
A&N Islands	36.19
Chandigarh	2.50
Dadra & Nagar haveli	13.71
Daman & Diu	15.56
Delhi	122.70
Lakhsadweep	19.95
Pondicherry	67.48
<b>Total:</b>	<b>20569.00</b>

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, an acute shortage of vegetables and fruits is being felt these days due to which the prices of vegetables have skyrocketed. It has been heard that government is planning to export the vegetables. I would like to know from the government whether it would like to formulate any special action plan to increase the production of fruits and vegetables keeping in view the demand in the local marketing the potential of export in the international market?

Part(b) of my question is that today when an increasing demand for herbal medicines is being felt, whether the government would like to formulate a special action plan/research plan for increasing the production of herbal medicinal plants? The (c) part of my question relates to the potentialities in increasing amla production in Pratapgarh district where amla is grown extensively. I would like to know whether the government would like to set up any special research centre or an agricultural science centre for increasing the production of guara and amla, and for the preservation and marketing of these fruits.

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation of the Government of India is already implementing some of the centrally sponsored schemes through which production of fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, tuber crops, and aromatic and medicinal plants is being encouraged. As far as the production of amla in Pratapgarh is concerned, I do not have the full information as to what quantity is being produced there but one thing is definite, that be it amla or other fruits, the agriculture department of Central Government is implementing centrally sponsored scheme and centrally planned schemes for encouraging their production. As far as the export of aromatic plants is concerned, as Hon'ble Member has said correctly, there is an ample scope for it. Ayurvedic system of medicine has been increasingly getting recognition at the international level, and the research work is going on for the cultivation of the medicinal plants and to improve their variety. Previously, these plants used to be collected from the forests, now the Government wants to promote their cultivation. All the research centers and universities have been entrusted with the responsibility of cultivating medicinal plants and improving over their variety. Our such institute is in Lucknow and another institute namely. Tropical Botanic garden Research Institute at Balod in Kerala has been doing outstanding work in this regard by doing research

activities pertaining to identification of the medical properties of these plants and promoting their production.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Sir, I did not get the answer which I was striving to know through you. Mr. Speaker, Sir, that a special variety of amla is grown in Pratapgarh and special research centre is grown in Pratapgarh and a special research centre is needed for giving boost to its production, marketing and preservation. In this connection, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he would like to set up a special research centre for preservation and marketing related activities and for increasing production of this crop?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present no such plan is under consideration of the Centre, but the Central Government is providing assistance to Uttar Pradesh Government to increase its cultivation with the cooperation of the State Government.

SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, in Western Uttar Pradesh the mangoes are specially grown along with rice and wheat. But from the last few years the cultivation of mangoes has become quite an unprofitable proposition, due to which the farmers have been forced to shift to cultivation of wheat and sugarcane in place of Mango. If the area under horticulture decreases, it will have serious impact on our environment. In Western Uttar Pradesh, the ground water is not available even upto the depth of hundred feet. Water is not available to the farmer, and the region has reached a pathetic state. The region which was bushgreen fifty years ago has now become devoid of greenbelt. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister through you, Mr. Speaker, Sir whether the Government has formulated any scheme for the protection of Horticulture area in the country and for providing the benefits of mango crop to the farmer so that its cultivation is not adversely affected?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hail from the Western Uttar Pradesh and I am well acquainted with this fact. The concern of the Hon. Member that the mango production has received a severe blow is quite justified. There are mainly three reasons for it - firstly, the underground water level is falling at an alarming rate because of excessive ground water exploitation that has taken place for irrigating crops like sugarcane and rice. Secondly, mango crop has been infested with some diseases of which the farmers have no knowledge. Our Central Fruit Research Centre, Lucknow has conducted a lot of research in this direction and we have formulated a scheme to disseminate this information to Western Uttar Pradesh on a far better scale from this year.

A decision to establish a centre which is expected to start functioning from the next year has been taken to easily make available the saplings of mango and other fruit plants to the farmers of Meerut. Another reason for it is that the trees in the gardens and elsewhere have grown old. The work of rejuvenating these trees by cutting one part of the tree and allowing the rest of it to spread has been going on so that the yield per tree may increase. All these four schemes are being implemented in Western Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir I would like to ask one more question from the Hon. Minister.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please to take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, the allocation for the vegetables mentioned by Hon. Minister the production of which is to be increased, is Rs. 300 crores for the year 1998-99. The allocation covers marketing and procurement facilities also. I would like to tell that the fruit production in the Chattisgarh belt of Madhya Pradesh, mango production in Panchamarhi, and the apple production in Utrakhand region of Uttar Pradesh takes place on a large scale but there is no proper transportation system for these fruits crops. Poor and marginal farmers do not have proper access to the main road from the village to supply their produce to markets. Fruit-production has been abundant this year. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that in the Hindi speaking belt, the funds that have been allocated are for Bihar only Rs. 446.20 lakhs, for Madhya Pradesh Rs. 665.18 lakhs, for Rajasthan Rs. 640.42 lakhs and for Uttar Pradesh Rs. 307.27 lakhs. With such a meagre allocation how do you expect that fruits can be produced on a large scale? Hon'ble Minister I would like to say that I do not have any objection as to how much you have given to other states but why this kind of partiality is being adopted with the Hindi speaking states?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has no such intention to give stepmotherly treatment to a particular state or region.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA: these are your's figures, not mine...(Interruptions) the money allocated under the plans.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, the allocation under various schemes is made keeping in view several factors i.e. the demand made by the State Government, the amount of previous allocation and the extent of its utilisation by the respective states. This allocation also includes the allocations made for sprinkler set and drip-irrigation system. But it is surprising that all the assistance provided by National Horticulture Board is availed of by these five states about which the hon. Member was talking and still nobody has raised any objection to it. State Governments have to take more active part in this regard and they receive the funds in proportion to their respective demands.

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, horticulture is yet to be introduced in the rural areas, people do not have knowledge about the production, cultivation and irrigation techniques of fruit-plants. Therefore, I would like to know from Hon. Minister as to what provisions have been made for training the farmers of rural areas about horticulture so that they are able to undertake horticulture practices and adopt the cultivation of fruit plants in an efficient way?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, horticulture is generally practiced in rural areas. Delhi has no surplus land in which horticulture can be practiced.

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you go to places like Damoh, Panna and the entire range of that area, you will not find any horticulture being practiced there. My submission is that whether the Government is taking any action for training the farmers in horticulture?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main job of giving encouragement to the horticulture and implementing all the related schemes and providing training pertain to State Governments. Central Government provides only financial assistance to them. The information gathered through research is made available to them. If the work is to be done at places like Panna and Damoh or at village to village level, it should be done by the Horticulture Department of the concerned State Government. If the State Government submit any plans in this regard to us, then the issue of providing grants and assistance in that regard can surely be considered.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Ministries an expert conversationist and has replied to all the questions cleverly. I would say that Bihar, especially Northern Bihar, excels in production of Leechi.

[*English*]

Sir, Uttar Pradesh is the Garden of Bihar.

[*Translation*]

In tribal area of Chotta Nagpur, pappaya, the jack fruit and 'barhal; are grown on a large scale and Leechi of best quality is produced there.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NIAK): Do not narrate much about these things, my mouth is watering.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Not water, we want you to drink milk.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know what arrangements have been made to transport Leechi and Pappaya from fields to the road and from there to the markets and what steps have been taken to boost their export?

Second thing I would say is that this year the production of mangoes has been less and whatever little fruits trees bore, fell off the trees due to strong winds, rains and storms etc. This year mango did not reach the market. I want to know whether your Agriculture Research Centre on which crores of rupees are spent, has formulated any scheme for getting the mango crop every year? What arrangements have been made in this regard?

SHRI SOMPAL: As far as the manipulation in replies is concerned, some of its credit goes to Shri Lalu Prasad for we have received the training of this art from him. As far as the Potential of North Bihar is concerned, it has been accepted without dispute that there is an ample scope for fruit and vegetable production Northern Bihar. The availability of water and sun light throughout the year, the fertility of soil, and the availability of inherited bio-resources in the soil is conducive to the cultivation of many fruit crops which include Leechis and other fruit varieties mentioned by Shri Lalu Yadav. 'Makhana' is one

of them, but for its cultivation, we expect the cooperation of the State Government. As I said just now that we have four departments to facilitate their export, marketing, processing and for creating necessary infrastructure for the aforesaid activities. NCDC, National Horticulture Board and Government of India are working in tandem. The utilisation certificate of allocation made to them by Government of Bihar also remains awaited?

SHRI LALU PRASAD: We will pressurise the Government of Bihar for providing you the needed co-operation.

SHRI SOMPAL: Your capacity to pressurise Bihar Government is unchallenged, you can pressurise them.

It is a well known fact that Laluji is capable of maintaining continuous pressure on the Government of Bihar and I would like that Laluji should use this capacity for encouraging horticulture.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR: If Laluji does not pressurise the Government of Bihar, then you can do the same by imposing President's Rule in Bihar.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): Who will apply pressure there when Mr. Lalu is present?

SHRI SOMPAL: As I said just now, four departments look after promotion of cultivation of fruits, their processing and facilitating infrastructure for their storage.

If the Government of Bihar seeks any assistance from these departments then we will certainly consider it.

[*English*]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: It is a fact that the Government should also accept the fact that the country now needs horticultural crops and encouragement for horticulture. Sixty-five per cent of our population is living on agriculture. That is why the problem with agriculture is agricultural farmers. We have to reduce the number and diversify them. Horticulture is the only alternative. It is a fact that during Dr. Balam Jakhari's time horticulture had been given a fillip. No one can dispute it. Shri Sompal is an academician, farmer, technocrat, everything. About Bihar Shri Lalu Prasad and about Madhya Pradesh Shri Motilal Vora had asked question. I am not going to ask about Andhra Pradesh alone, but about the whole country. What is your perspective plan about marketing post-

harvest technologies? Whenever somebody comes you give him one or two lakh rupees to build a cold storage. That is not going to be the answer. Shri Rajiv Gandhi had created 27 agro-climatic zones.

MR. SPEAKER: There are other Members also who want to raise questions.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: But Sir, you never allow me to raise the question.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your supplementary.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: I will sit down. What is this, Sir? Everybody is asking his question, but when I ask a supplementary...

MR. SPEAKER: You ask your supplementary question, please.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: This is an important question.

MR. SPEAKER: You are not supposed to give all this information.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: I was asked to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Agriculture Ministry. That was not possible. I should be allowed to put at least a question.

My question is, is three any perspective plan drawn by the Government of India based on the fruits or flowers that are going to be developed? Cold storage, refrigerated transport, all these things are necessary. Have you got any plan or are you simply giving some loans to State Governments and later say that you had given Rs. 20 crore or Rs. 30 crore to Andhra Pradesh? This is not going to be the solution. Are you thinking to develop any integrated approach for the horticultural development, crop development, post-harvest technology and also marketing?

SHRI SOMPAL: The hon. Member has raised a very important issue. It relates to comprehensive plan for

integrated development of horticulture in the country. There is no doubt that encouraging production would not be sufficient. It has got to be backed up with infrastructure like storage facility, packaging, processing, establishing pre-cooling facilities, connectivity in terms of roads, adequate market system in the areas of produce, forward linkage in terms of transporting it in freezer vans and also for packaging to international standards if it is sought to be exported. All these things are being undertaken by the Government of India. We do have an integrated project of handling fruits and vegetables, infrastructure support for horticultural development, integrated development of horticulture in tribal areas in North-East, Technology Mission of vegetables and Technology Mission for integrated horticultural development for North-East States including Sikkim. We are having a continuous system of research input support and technology transfer, post-harvest management, marketing and export and also financial back-up through the four agencies which I have already outlined.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hail from Konkan region of Maharashtra which is completely a hilly area. For the last few years, farmers of this region are shifting from their traditional cultivation of foodgrains to horticulture. Mango, cashew nuts, coconut and betelnut are produced in a large scale in our area. The fruits which are exported are mostly grown in hilly areas. Through you, I would like to know from the Government that whether any special plan has been formulated to promote the horticulture in hilly areas?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while replying the question of Shri Reddy I have already stated that a special plan has been formulated for hilly areas and North-Eastern States. As far as Konkan region is concerned, steps are being taken to encourage the cultivation of cashew nuts. It is one of the fruits whose production has increased substantially. India is number one producer of cashew nuts. Regarding vegetables production it stand second in the world. Assistance is given to the cashew producing states like Kerala. You will be glad to note that its productivity has increased from 57 tonnes to 71 which is almost 1½ times more than the earlier productivity.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: He has called me. (Interruptions) Please allow me to put my question.

Thank you, Sir. From the statement which shows the allocation for various horticultural schemes during 1998-99, I am surprised to see - and I want to know the reason for this - that out of a total of Rs. 300 crore for these nineteen schemes, the biggest amount, that is, Rs. 110 crore have been allocated for promotion of use of plastics in agriculture whereas the scheme for development of medicinal and aromatic plants has been allocated only Rs. 2 crore. May I know why this non-eco-friendly scheme for promotion of use of plastics has been allocated more money while all the other important schemes have been almost neglected. Is it because of pressure from the plastic lobby and if so will the hon. Minister rethink all these priorities?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, people who know about agriculture and people who know about horticulture are all convinced on this point that use of plastics in horticulture is meant for a more judicious and economic use of water which is a scarce commodity in India. Plastics are not used to fertilize fields. They are used to administer water to the plants. It is done on a more sustainable basis. The same water is sought to serve a larger area and a larger number of plants on a trickling basis so that there is growth on a more continuous basis. It has been advised by all experts. There is no question that it is to be reconsidered. It has great use and it will continue to remain so.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now hon'ble Shri Laluji has asked about the mango crop but the hon'ble Minister did not reply. This question concerns the whole country whether it is Uttar Pradesh or Rajasthan. 'Dashahri' Mango of Malihabad city of Lucknow district is famous not only in the country but all over the world. There are many other varieties of mangoes. Hon'ble Prime Minister must be aware about it. When I went to Lucknow I came to know that this year only 20% mango crop has come in the market earlier many schemes have been formulated for Malihabad which is famous all over the world for its mangoes. I would like to know that measures have been taken with regard to those schemes to save the mango crop. The production of mango is declining for the last 3-4 years. It resulted in the increase in prices and have become out of reach of poor people. Now a days a

single piece of Malihabadi mango costs several rupees...(Interruptions) Hon'ble Minister will do, but, whether the hon'ble Prime Minister will also look into this matter. Malihabad is a part of his constituency. It is good that Lucknow is being beautified but if you will take steps to save the mango crop in Malihabad, only then the real beautification of Lucknow will take place. We will also appeal hon'ble Prime Minister to recollect his memories of Lucknow. What steps have been taken to protect the mango crop in Malihabad?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has rightly pointed out that I did not reply the question regarding the mango asked earlier. I seek your pardon for it.

Mango crop was already damaged when our government came into power. However, no government could be held responsible for it. It is a genetic problem...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Hon'ble Minister, please take it seriously. It is not a question of change in government. The crop worth crores of rupees has been damaged there.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA: The crop of Malihabadi mango is decaying for the last three years. The crop is getting damaged by the pests and many diseases.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not do like this.

[English]

SHRI SOMPAL: Sir, alternate bearing of fruits is a genetic feature of mango.

[Translation]

This year we had a low production. Due to adverse weather conditions mango flowers could not mature into fruition. Such natural calamities seldom take place. The main factor responsible for the low production of mango crop was adverse weather conditions. It is right that research should be undertaken in this regard. Horticulture department of the Indian Council of Agriculture is undertaking research on such genetic feature so that every year same quantity of fruit could be produced. The trees with such genetic feature have been discovered in a temperate climate fruit research institute situated at Lucknow. Such trees have been marked which will bear

the same quantity of fruit every year. A programme will be launched to grow such saplings. 700 varieties of such sapplings have been collected in temperate fruit institution. A genes Bank is also being developed in Lucknow. The cultivation of mangoes should be encouraged in Malihabad Lucknow and other adjacent areas which are world famous not only for 'Dashahri' but also for 'langra', 'chausa' and many other varieties of mangoes. A programme is being launched to provide nursery to prevent the diseases and to develop the varieties giving uniform production every year...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Raghunath Singh please take your seat.

*[Translation]*

This is Question Hour, it is not the time for discussion.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have pain in my hand as I have raised it since long.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister belongs to the State where agriculture is the prime occupation. The Hon'ble Minister also takes interest in agriculture. He used to give us solid suggestions at seminars when he was not in power I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards two issues. Today, farmer's attention is diverting from cultivating main crops like wheat, sugarcane etc. Because the cost of agricultural inputs have increased. Farmers are left with only two options i.e. horticulture and agro-based industries to survive. If government do not pay attention towards them I do not think farmer will be able to survive and raise his voice after 10-15 years. Government have paid less attention towards agro-based industries in this year's Budget. If it is the policy of government then it will affect the progress of agro-based industries. Hon'ble Prime Minister is present here. I request him to set up a task force for the development of horticulture. Shri Sharad Pawar was mentioning that our share in world market regarding horticulture crop is 0.25% inspite of our capacity Dashahri mangoes are not being exported and we have not been able to export even one percent of horticulture produce even after the hard labour of 50 years. My question is how agro-based industries and horticulture can be promoted and farmers could be saved? Whether the hon'ble Prime Minister will give priority to set up task force in this regard?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no need to set up a task force as the concerned departments of the centre and state governments already have a large number of manpower there. The need is to use the existing man power. You never had the political and administrative motivation to do so. However, we will use that man power.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 404.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have called out the number of the next Question.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not get the opportunity.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I have raised my hand since the Question Hour has started.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate. Please take your seat.

*[Translation]*

You will also get an opportunity.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: You are not protecting our rights...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Time is too short. This is Question Hour, please understand this. I am requesting you to take your seat.



[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Our rights are being breached...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Please allow half an hour discussion on this issue...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am appealing to you to please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Mukul Wasnik says.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPAKER: Shri Shailendra Kumar, please take your seat. This is not good.

#### Dairy Development

\*404. <sup>+</sup> SHRI MUKUL WASNIK:  
SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plans to give a further thrust to animal husbandry and dairy development sector which plays a prominent role in the rural economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have drawn up any plans to provide chilling plants, cold storages and refrigerated vehicles for the growth of dairy development sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Though the primary responsibility for animal husbandry and dairy development is that of the State Governments, Government of India has plans for supporting the efforts of the State Governments in this regard.

The thrust of the Central Government in the Ninth Plan is in the following areas:

- Upgradation of Genetic Resources.
- Development of Feed and fodder.
- Animal Health Care and Management.
- Processing and Marketing of Livestock Products and
- Development of animal husbandry Statistics and Information System.

(c) to (e) Under the Central Sector Scheme "Integrated Dairy Development Project (IDDP) in Non Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas," assistance is provided to the State Governments for establishing chilling Plants, Cold Storages and refrigerated vehicles and other infrastructure for aiding the growth of dairy development.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Sir, while replying to the question put by Shri Rajesh Pilot, the hon. Minister has questioned the political will. It is only because of that, I would like to state this. On 'animal husbandry and dairy development' the percentage of allocation of the Central Plan fund was 1.1% during the First Five Year Plan whereas during this Plan period, that percentage has been reduced to 0.3% of the Central Plan fund we will now understand where the political will is and where it is not.

\* Not Recorded.

Moreover, I would like to state here that every hon. Member in this House will talk about farmers and the need to diversify in agriculture and allied activities. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development had asked for an allocation of Rs. 3,151.57 crore during this Plan period; but against this, an allocation has been made only to the tune of Rs. 1,980 crore.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the schemes which are likely to be affected adversely because of the reduction in the allocation against the demand made by the Department, and what are the steps the government plans to initiate so that the schemes do not fail and the necessary thrust is given to these programmes.

SHRI SOMPAL: Sir, there is no scheme which is to be affected and so far as allocation is concerned, it is a fact borne out by the statistics kept by none but by the Government of India that over all the previous Plans, the allocation has been coming down in the case of the whole agriculture sector not only as a proportion of a total Plan fund allocation but also in real terms. This year we have taken a decision to enhance the allocation by 58 per cent in one year which is a record. In dairy sector too, the hike is more than ever before. Therefore, there is no question that the Plans are going to be affected.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: In reply to part 'c', 'd' and 'e' of the question, the hon. Minister has stated that assistance is provided to the States under the scheme of Integrated Dairy Development Project in non-operation flood, hilly and backward areas. When the hon. Minister has stated that there has been an enhancement of funds, I would like to state that, for this particular scheme, Rs. 200 crore was provided in the last Plan period, and during this Plan period also, only Rs. 200 crore has been maintained. There has been no enhancement. However, I would like to know whether backward areas in relation to irrigation facilities will be included in this particular scheme along with backward and hilly areas.

Part 'b' of my supplementary is that the Standing Committee which went into the Demands for Grants for last year had categorically stated that the Government should immediately create a new Ministry, namely, Ministry for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development because of the declining interest and the reduction in funds allocated to this Department. I would like to have the intervention of the hon. Prime Minister on this point. What is the reaction of the Government on this particular recommendation of the Standing Committee?

SHRI SOMPAL: Sir, the hilly and backward areas are already covered under the operations of Technology Mission on Dairy Development. It is already covered in the non-Operation Flood areas.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: I had asked about the backward areas in relation to irrigation facilities.

SHRI SOMPAL: I think when we identify backward areas, the availability of irrigation facilities is also taken as one of the parameters to judge whether it is a backward area or not. It must be there but there is no direct linkage. Backward areas are identified on the basis of various parameters. There is a special plan and TMDD is overseeing that in the non-Operation Flood areas.

So far as the creation of a Ministry is concerned, there is a separate Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development. There used to be a Minister for it. Now it is under the Ministry of Agriculture. Currently, there is no proposal to create a separate Ministry.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: I had said that the Standing Committee had recommended for a separate Ministry. I wanted to know whether the Prime Minister would create such a Ministry because the funds have been reduced and there is total lack of interest.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir Operation Flood was completed in three stages in which 1800 crores of rupees were spent. In one district of a State, Rs. 468 crores were spent out of a total Rs. 1800 crore. Whereas in some other states spending was 10 crore, 20 crore, 30 crore, 40 crore and 50 crores of rupees. Besides this 270 Districts were to be covered under Operation Flood. But this scheme was implemented in 200 Districts and 70 Districts remained without the scheme. Thirdly, 1800 crores of rupees were spent and 76 village Dairy Co-operatives were formed out of which 22 thousand are non-functioning and in 15 thousand, there is provision for artificial insemination. I want to know whether the government want to re-start Operation Flood Scheme? The District which were to be covered Under Operation Flood Programme were not covered under this scheme and these districts were not included even in the Integrated Dairy Development Programme whereas there was potentiality for this in these districts. I want to know whether government has any scheme to include those Districts which were left out under these two schemes to be included in Operation Flood Scheme? Besides, is there any proposal to include those Districts which were left

out from the Operation Flood Scheme and Integrated Dairy Development Programme under the Dairy Development Programme? Besides, whether Government wants to rehabilitate 22 thousand non-functioning villages out of 76 thousand villages? In the Ninth Five Year Plan one Lakh villages...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your question. Otherwise, I will disallow it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, I want to ask from the Government that whether government wants to include one lakh villages which were left out in the Dairy Co-operative programmes and village Dairy Programme which were started for non-functioning Dairy Co-operatives to make them functional under the Operation Flood and Integrated Development Programme under Operation Flood No. 4?

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a need to restrict the tendency of asking six-seven questions under one question in Question Hour...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, written answer is unsatisfactory and therefore, I asked this question relating to Dairy Development...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as Operation Flood number 1,2 and 3 are concerned, these have been completed. Those villages which were not covered in these programmes will be covered under other programmes such as Intensive Dairy Development Programme. There is no plan as yet to start operation Flood Programme number 4.

Hon'ble member himself had been the Minister...(Interruptions) We have seen him as Minister and therefore, I can't help addressing him as Minister. He himself had been the Minister and the progress which he made was inherited by us and hence, he knows better why he was unable to do this. It will be my endeavour to complete the unfinished work. There is a rehabilitation scheme for the cooperatives at the village and district

levels whose economic condition is bad. There is no proposal to close them. They will continue and their rehabilitation will be done...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Dr. Sanjay Singh.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

DR. SANJAY SINGH: Sir, for the balance of the environment it is very necessary to maintain the average ratio between human population and animal population. According to a report, there has been a steep fall in the population of animals due to the slaughter of cow and its progeny. I want to know whether the Government of India has any action Plan to maintain this balance? And if so, whether this action plan is working?

12.00 hrs.

SHRI SOMPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is very right in saying that animals play an important role in maintaining the environment balance. From animals we get not only nutritious food, but manure like compost which helps in maintaining the fertility of soil. As far as the question regarding reduction in their number is concerned, this is true and some thinkers have expressed concern over the fall in animal population. But the Government of India has specific plans for animal growth especially cow-growth and these schemes will continue to be encouraged.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Crop Insurance Scheme

\*405. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the implementation of Crop Insurance Scheme in the country;

\*Not recorded.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the crops covered under the scheme;
- (d) whether some State Governments have sought Central assistance for extending the insurance schemes to other crops which have not been insured so far; and
- (e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in response to their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government in 1986 constituted a Group under the Chairmanship of the then Additional Secretary in the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation to undertake review of the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS). Following the recommendations of this Group, some changes were introduced in the scheme from Kharif 1988 season. These changes were:

- (i) The sum insured was limited to Rs. 10,000/- (as against Rs. 15,000/- previously) per farmer irrespective of the quantum of loan taken by the farmers.
- (ii) The total sum insured was limited to 100% (as against 150% previously) of the crop loan.

In addition to these changes (from Rabi 1988-89), the level of indemnity for various crops was altered as follows:—

Category	Variation in yield	Indemnity
Low	Upto 15%	90%
Medium	16—30%	80%
High	Above 30%	60%

In view of the demands of the implementing States, in the year 1992 it was decided to modify CCIS so as to make it financially viable and broad-based. Various alternative proposals were considered by the Government. At a point of time, suggestions were also sought from the States and the Members of Parliament on the modification of CCIS. Based on the suggestions and also

to provide greater benefit to the resource poor segments of the farming community an Experimental Crop Insurance Scheme (ECIS) covering all the small & marginal farmers (both loanee and non-loanee small and marginal farmers) was introduced from the Rabi 1997-98 season onward. As required under the condition of sanction to the scheme its performance was recently reviewed.

- (c) The crops covered under the CCIS are - wheat, paddy, millets (including maize), oilseeds and pulses).
- (d) and (e) There is no provision for extending the Central assistance to the States/UTs to cover additional crops under CCIS. However, the implementing States/UTs have been requesting from time to time to cover more crops and farmers.

Keeping in view the demands of various States/UTs, it is proposed to modify the existing CCIS so as to enlarge its coverage in terms of farmers and crops.

[Translation]

**Development of Industrially Backward Areas**

\*406. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:  
DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Planning Commission have formulated any scheme for the development of industrially backward rural areas in various States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government for the speedy development of rural backward areas in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) The specific schemes e.g. for the development of industrially backward rural areas in various States of the country, etc., Are formulated and implemented by the concerned Administrative Ministries/State Governments.

(d) While the development of backward areas is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State, the Central Government has also taken up a number of schemes for speedy development of backward areas including rural areas in the country e.g. Growth Centres Scheme, Transport Subsidy Scheme, Integrated Infrastructure Development Centres Scheme, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Rural Employment Generation Programme.

[English]

#### **Indo-Pak Talks**

\*407. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:  
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has called upon his Pakistan counterpart to step forward for a fruitful and sustained dialogue on a whole array of bilateral issues including Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Prime Minister of Pakistan in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to have dialogue with Pakistan in the spirit of the Simla Agreement signed between the two countries in 1972; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) Prime Minister wrote to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on 14 June, 1998 reiterating India's commitment to fostering a peaceful and friendly relationship, and developing a stable structure of cooperation between India and Pakistan. In his letter, Prime Minister also conveyed to the Prime Minister of Pakistan that their presence in Colombo for the SAARC Summit would enable them to hold bilateral discussions on all issues of mutual interest, and also to decide on how to proceed further with the dialogue process. In this reply of 23 June, 1998, the Prime Minister of Pakistan agreed with Prime Minister's suggestion to hold bilateral discussions during the SAARC Summit in Colombo. This meeting will be in keeping with the tradition of such bilateral meeting between the Prime Ministers of Indian and Pakistan.

In the Simla Agreement, India and Pakistan had agreed to resolve their differences by peaceful means

through bilateral negotiations. India remains committed to the resolution of all outstanding issues with Pakistan through a process of direct bilateral dialogue.

#### **Modern Food Industries (India) Limited.**

\*408. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government would formulate any action plan for expansion of and improvement in the functioning of Modern Food Industries (India) Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): Modern Food Industries (India) Limited established in 1965 has been growing and making profits consistently from 1970-71 right up to 1997-98 except for the years 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92. The turnover and profit/loss of the Company over the above period is set out in the enclosed statement-B.

It will be seen from the table annexed that the company made losses in the year 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92. Also that the turnover of the company has grown from Rs. 1.64 crores in its first year of operation, i.e., 1968-69 to approximately Rs. 1.78 crores in 1997-98. However, most of the 14 bread making plants of MFIL - bread being its major product - are very old. 9 of its plants were set up over the period 1965-1970 while another 4 plants were set up over 1975 to 1979. Therefore, in September, 1996, the Company undertook an internal study covering modernisation of its technologies, upgrading and replacing old and worn out equipment. This study completed in January, 1997 indicated that a capital investment of Rs. 85 crores was required for the above purpose. As the internal resources available with the company at that time were only approximately Rs. 6 crores, even with raising of another Rs. 25 crores as debt from the financial institutions, did not make it possible for the company to meet Rs. 85 crores requirement of modernisation and expansion.

Meanwhile, Government has decided in September, 1997 to disinvest 50% of its equity in MFIL to a strategic partner. Actions have been taken since then towards the above end. This has resulted in a Global Advisor having been selected by Government to identify the strategic partner who would purchase 50% of the Government equity in the company at a properly valuated price and supply, contemporary process and product technology and plant and equipment to enable the joint venture make a range of bakery and allied products well matched to the needs of our consumers.

The above disinvestment-cum-selection of a strategic partner notwithstanding, the company is going ahead aggressively to get the best performance possible from its existing plant and equipment, technology and work force. For example the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the company with the Government for the year 1998-99 involves plans for technology Upgradation, strengthening marketing capacity & capabilities, and augmentation of internal resource generation. These are objectives having a direct bearing on the performance of the company, with a score of 14% in the total performance score of the company. Under the MOU, this score includes a study for measuring the satisfaction level of consumers for the bakery products of the company, computerisation of accounts and Management Information Systems and greater emphasis on Human Resource Development.

**Statement**

*Modern Food Industries (I) Limited  
Turnover and Profit & Loss Statement*

(Rs. In lakhs)

Year	Turnover	Profit/Loss
1	2	3
1967-68	0.00	-6.84
1968-69	163.81	-2.34
1969-70	243.81	-9.29
1970-71	408.43	8.42
1971-72	596.20	52.93
1972-73	764.32	62.45
1973-74	866.02	77.02
1974-75	1273.38	103.14
1975-76	1294.03	17.59
1996-77	1380.79	43.19

1	2	3
1977-78	1466.66	57.21
1978-79	1485.79	46.51
1979-80	1745.60	49.67
1980-81	2085.98	45.69
1981-82	2621.46	185.64
1982-83	3080.17	204.73
1983-84	3389.12	223.29
1984-85	3424.65	139.13
1985-86	3420.65	153.14
1986-87	4224.73	175.20
1987-88	4639.48	110.07
1988-89	4851.35	-68.16
1989-90	5279.57	-50.61
1990-91	5775.04	-256.64
1991-92	6550.69	-302.34
1992-93	8225.29	141.68
1993-94	8128.35	65.19
1994-95	11264.78	573.99
1995-96	14022.13	1151.59
1996-97	16682.25	1645.30
1997-98 (Prov.)	17836.00	648.41
Total	137190.08	5284.96

**Criteria for Promotions**

\*409. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA:  
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received representations from Government employees' unions, other associations and individuals for abolishing Annual confidential Report (ACR);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large number of cases are pending in Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) and other courts against promotions based on the system of ACR;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether his Ministry propose to introduce objective tests, examinations to assess the employees' performance at the time of their promotions instead of depending on the ACR which is biased and lacks consistency, reliability and validity; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) Such information is not centrally maintained.

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

(e) The Government does not have any plan at present to change the existing system of promotion.

(f) Does not arise, in view of (e) above.

**Purchase of Tractors and Drip Irrigation System**

\*410. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI:  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are providing subsidy to the farmers for purchase of tractors and to implement drip irrigation system in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total area being irrigated at present by drip irrigation system in the country, State-wise;

(d) whether budgetary provisions have been made and amount of subsidy disbursed to the farmers;

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

(f) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted proposal to increase and sanction the amount of Central assistance for drip irrigation upto Rs. 100 crores;

(g) if so, the action taken by the Government in regard thereto;

(h) whether only the big farmers are getting benefit from this scheme; and

(i) if not, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers', subsidy is being provided @30 per cent of total cost limited to Rs. 30,000 per tractor of upto 30 Power Take off Horse Power. Similarly, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Use of Plastics in Agriculture', subsidy is being provided @90 per cent of cost subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare to the Small, Marginal, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Women farmers and @70 per cent of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare to the other farmers. Similar pattern of subsidy is being provided under the Central Schemes of (i) Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System and (ii) Oil Palm Development Programme.

(c) The details are given in the statement enclosed-I.

(d) and (e) The details of budgetary provision for disbursement to the farmers during the course of the year 1998-99 is given in Statement-II.

(f) and (g) The Government of Maharashtra requested for additional allocation of Rs. 100 crores during the year 1997-98. The State Government has already been allocated Rs. 24.47 crores out of the total budget provision of Rs. 81.00 crores, the highest allocated to any state during 1997-98. During the year 1998-99, Maharashtra has been allocated Rs. 28.19 crores out of the total allocation of Rs. 110.00 crores under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Use of Plastics in Agriculture.

(h) and (i) No, Sir. The scheme envisages maximum subsidy @ 90 percent of cost to the Small, Marginal, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Women farmers. In Maharashtra state, more than 45 per cent of the total subsidy on drip irrigation was disbursed to these category of farmers during 1997-98.

**Statement-I**

*Area Covered Under Drip Irrigation during VIII Plan Under Various Schemes*

Sl. No.	State	Area Covered (Hectares)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14606
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	75
3.	Assam	38
4.	Bihar	0
5.	Goa	300
6.	Gujarat	4451
7.	Haryana	1404
8.	Himachal Pradesh	85
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	33
10.	Karnataka	31967
11.	Kerala	4688

1	2	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2526
13.	Maharashtra (Central Sector) Maharashtra (State Sector)	45879 56195
14.	Manipur	184
15.	Meghalaya	16
16.	Mizoram	0
17.	Nagaland	252
18.	Orissa	1778
19.	Punjab	1086
20.	Rajasthan	1706
21.	Sikkim	98
22.	Tamil Nadu	18563
23.	Tripura	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	689
25.	West Bengal	9
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3
27.	Daman & Diu	24
28.	Delhi	4
29.	Lakshdweep	0
30.	Chandigarh	0
31.	Andaman & Nicobar	0
32.	Pondicherry	60
Total		186718



**Statement-II**

*Outlay Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Use of Plastics in Agriculture During 1998-99  
and Amount Released Towards First Instalment*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State	Toal Outlay	Outlay for Drip Installation	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1410.75	1370.25	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	69.75	29.25	24.00
3.	Assam	32.15	16.65	0.00
4.	Bihar	73.28	46.13	0.00
5.	Goa	28.83	13.95	14.00
6.	Gujarat	226.63	216.00	0.00
7.	Haryana	105.43	74.25	52.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	39.68	2.66	0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	534.05	11.93	83.00
10.	Karnataka	2452.93	2389.50	1400.00
11.	Kerala	415.65	380.25	290.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	245.38	228.38	70.00
13.	Maharashtra	2818.65	2733.75	700.00
14.	Manipur	100.80	71.55	50.00
15.	Meghalaya	78.38	48.38	36.00

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1	2	3	4	5
10.	Mizoram	65.63	31.73	32.00
17.	Nagaland	96.60	63.23	0.00
18.	Orissa	239.00	231.75	0.00
19.	Punjab	156.80	131.18	60.00
20.	Rajasthan	384.90	368.10	130.00
21.	Sikkim	53.30	6.98	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	1060.00	1026.00	625.00
23.	Tripura	52.30	27.27	0.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	61.13	51.75	0.00
25.	West Bengal	11.80	5.18	0.00
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	2.90
27.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Delhi	5.59	4.45	0.00
29.	Lakshdweep	1.10	0.95	2.90
30.	Chandigarh	5.86	4.45	0.00
31.	Andaman & Nicobar	5.86	4.45	0.00
32.	Pondicherry	6.44	5.75	0.00
33.	NCPA	161.40	0.00	53.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>11000.00</b>	<b>9596.05</b>	<b>3624.80</b>

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[*Translation*]

**Impact of US Sanctions on Space Programme**

\*411. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the likely impact of sanctions slapped by US on the space programme of India;

(b) the extent to which US has been assisting in the space programme of India;

(c) whether the Government have increased the grants for space programme after the announcement of said sanctions;

(d) if so, the extent to which grants have been increased; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) The ongoing Satellite and Launch Vehicle Projects scheduled for launch in the next one year will not be affected by the sanctions imposed by US. The Department's assessment is that the impact of US sanctions on the future missions could be only marginal in terms of schedule and cost over-run. The Department, however, has already expanded its alternate courses of action in terms of indigenous development of critical items has already been accelerated substantially.

(b) The role of US is mainly limited to commercial supply of a few components to Indian space projects for reasons of cost-effectiveness. Recently, there has also been a co-operative arrangement between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of USA and the Department of Space (DOS) and Department of Science & Technology (DST) of Government of India for scientific co-operation in the areas of earth and atmospheric sciences. In addition, an American company M/s. Space Imaging-EOSAT, USA markets the data abroad from Indian Remote Sensing Satellites under a commercial arrangement with M/s Antrix, the commercial arm of Department of Space.

(c) No, Sir. The funds provided for the Department in 1998-99 is in accordance with the programmatic requirements of Space programme.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The cost impact of the Sanction is not expected to be much for the current year. Hence, the Department has not sought any increase in the current year's budget after the announcement of sanctions.

[*English*]

**Pakistan's Entry in A.R.F.**

\*412. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has strongly objected to some countries' move to allow Pakistan's entry into Asian Regional Forum (ARF);

(b) if so, whether India has conveyed its views to these countries which are members of the ARF;

(c) if so, the main objections raised by India; and

(d) the extent to which it has been accepted by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The admission of new members to ARF requires consensus among the members. There is no such consensus among the member countries regarding Pakistan's participation. The ARF has accordingly decided not to invite Pakistan for the ARF meeting scheduled to take place at the end of this month. This decision was formally conveyed to us on June 18, 1998 in Delhi.

**Water Management**

\*413. SHRI D.S. ABIRE:  
DR. SAROJA V.:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implements in the country to assist the State Government to augment and harness the water resources;

(b) the allocation made and funds released to each State, particularly to Maharashtra for each of the scheme during the last three years till date, year-wise; and

(c) the achievement made by each State in additional water conservation and harnessing the water resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) There are nine Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented in the country, to assist the State Governments to augment harness the water resources. These Schemes are:

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Ministry implementing  
the Centrally  
Sponsored Schemes

Schemes Under Operation

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- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Ministry of Water Resources.            | (i) Command Area Development Programme                            |
|  | (ii) Rationalisation of Minor Irrigation Statistics               |
|  | (iii) Satluj Yamuna Link Canal                                    |
| 2. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation | (iv) Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects |
|  | (v) Soil Conservation in the Catchments of Flood Prone rivers     |
|  | (vi) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas      |
| 3. Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment  | (vii) Integrated Rural Development Programme                      |
|  | (viii) Million Wells Scheme                                       |
|  | (ix) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme                     |

Details of these Schemes are given in Statement-I.

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(b) Central assistance to the State is provided on the basis of the approved financing patterns of the concerned schemes. The position of the funds released during the past three years state-wise including Maharashtra under different schemes is given in Annexure-II(a) to II(h). In case of Satluj Yamuna Link Canal Scheme there was no release of fund during the period on account of stoppage of work by the State Government. The case is subjudice.

(c) The impact of different activities on water conservation and harnessing water resources is a combination of various factors and is, therefore, difficult to quantify. However, the physical achievements made to provide additional facilities under Command Area Development Programme for efficient water management through conservation of irrigation water under core items of on-farm development *i.e.* Construction of field channels, Warabandi and land levelling are given in Statement-III.

**Statement-I**

*Annexure as Referred to in Reply to Part (a) of Lok Sabha  
Starred Question No. 413 to be Replied on 15.7.1998*

*Details of Centrally Sponsored schemes being implemented in the country  
to augment and harness water resources in the country*

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Ministry implementing the scheme	Year/Plan of launching	Main Components	Financing pater	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Command area Development Programme	Ministry of Water Resources	1974-75	(i) Construction of Field Channel (ii) Warabandi (iii) Land Levelling	50 : 50 Centre : State Loan and Grant to identified items	The scheme envisaged efficient irrigation water utilisation at farm level to optimise agricultural production from irrigated land. It covers 218 projects with a CCA of 21.78 mha spreadover 23 States and 2 UTs.
2.	Rationalisation of Minor Irrigation Statistics	Ministry of Water Resources	VIII Plan	Rationalisation/ building data	100% Central Grant to State	This scheme would indirectly help in future planning for augmenting and harnessing of available water resources.
3.	Sutej Yamuna Link Canal Project	Ministry of Water Resources	1982	Construction of 121 km long canal through Punjab	100% Central Assistance	The Scheme envisages to Supply Haryana's share in the Ravi-Beas waters. The work came to a stand still in 1998. The matter at present is sub-judice.
4.	Soil Conservation in the catchment of River valley Projects.	Ministry of Agriculture and cooperation	III Plan	(i) Construction of water harvesting Structures and farm ponds  (ii) Sediment detention  (iii) Construction of check bunds and drop spill ways etc.  (iv) Agro-forestry, Horticulture and other bio measures	(i) 100% Central assistance (50% grant & 50% loan to states)  (ii) 50% grant on matching basis to DVC)	At present the scheme covers 31 catchments in 18 states including Maharashtra
5.	Soil Conservation in the Catchment of Flood Prone Rivers	Ministry of Agriculture and cooperation	VI Plan	Soil and water conservation measures like contour graded bunding, afforestation Agro-forestry, water harvesting structures etc.	100% Central Assistance 50% Grant and 50% loan to States	Presently the scheme covers 10 catchments spread over 8 States. This scheme is merged with River Valley Project in the 1st year of IX Plan
6.	National Watershed Development project in Rainfed Areas	-do-	1990-91	(i) Treatment of Arable and non-arable land through moisture conservation measurs. (ii) Afforestation, grass & fodder cultivation, etc.	75% Grant and 25% loan to states	The scheme is in operation in 25 states and 2 UTs including Maharashtra. This scheme is being implemented in IX Plan also.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Integrated Rural Development Programme	Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment	1980	Activities relating to alleviation of poverty of rural masses through various measures including exploitation of Ground Water	50 : 50 Centre : State Matching basis and subsidy to identified groups.	This has been a very Popular rural development Programme.
8.	Million wells Scheme	-do-	VIII Plan	(i) To provide open irrigation well to poor farmers.  (ii) Construction of water harvesting structures.	80 : 20 Centre : State	For UTs. Cent per cent expenditure is borne by the
9.	Rural water supply and sanitation	-do-	First Plan	Supply of safe drinking water in rural areas.	50 : 50 Centre : State	During 1990-91 this scheme was renamed as Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission.

**Statement-II(a)**

(Unit Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Central Releases			
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	190.81	99.40	3839.57	4129.78
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	62.00	0.00	124.00	186.00
4.	Bihar	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
5.	Goa	13.81	39.00	20.00	72.81
6.	Gujarat	550.14	444.38	97.11	1091.63
7.	Haryana	1080.00	1247.18	1116.85	3424.03
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4.00	44.02	73.07	121.09

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	277.61	252.23	189.90	719.74
10.	Karnataka	681.00	845.59	437.87	1965.26
11.	Kerala	774.46	466.96	200.00	1441.42
12.	Madhya Pradesh	70.00	65.00	6.25	141.25
13.	Maharashtra	1445.69	1429.92	296.30	3184.91
14.	Manipur	102.04	130.69	86.91	319.64
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Orissa	362.82	353.99	231.47	948.28
18.	Rajasthan	2925.57	3948.17	2226.65	9100.39
19.	Tamil Nadu	1212.94	2081.99	552.46	3847.39
20.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2204.13	2022.60	3057.83	7284.56
22.	West Bengal	206.57	112.19	90.00	408.76
23.	Dadra & Nagar Havel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Studies and Other	164.77	242.53	319.88	727.18
Total :		12410.16	13835.84	12968.12	39214.12

**Statement-II(b)**

*Details of Central Releases Made Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rationalisation of Minor Irrigation Statistics During the Period 1995-96 to 1997-98*

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount Released During			
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15.450	12.210	10.000	37.660
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	0.000
3.	Assam	3.930	4.180	5.080	13.190
4.	Bihar	7.960	—	—	7.960
5.	Goa	—	—	—	0.000
6.	Gujarat	10.490	13.580	12.910	36.980
7.	Haryana	3.130	3.850	—	6.980
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6.250	6.390	5.196	17.836
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3.460	8.340	7.660	19.460
10.	Karnatka	—	—	—	0.000
11.	Kerala	5.800	—	—	5.800
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6.260	8.340	9.940	24.670
13.	Maharashtra	—	—	—	0.000
14.	Manipur	—	—	—	0.000



1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	0.000
16.	Mizoram	—	—	—	0.000
17.	Nagaland	2.910	2.890	—	5.800
18.	Orissa	6.730	6.670	8.480	21.880
19.	Punjab	4.440	4.640	9.270	18.350
20.	Rajasthan	7.850	5.250	3.650	16.750
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—	0.000
22.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	0.000
23.	Tripura	—	—	—	0.000
24.	Uttar Pradesh	18.460	—	—	18.460
25.	West Bengal	—	35.130	9.380	44.510
Total States		103.120	111.600	81.566	296.286
26.	Andaman and Nicobar	—	—	—	0.000
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.210	—	1.870	3.080
28.	Daman and Diu	—	—	—	0.000
29.	Delhi	—	—	—	0.000
30.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	0.000
31.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	0.000
Total UTs		1.210	—	1.870	3.080
Total All India		104.330	111.600	83.436	299.366

**Statement-II(c)**

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Amount Released During			Total
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	525.000	773.000	668.000	1966.000
2.	Assam	23.000	20.000	20.000	63.000
3.	Bihar	0.000	50.000	50.000	100.000
4.	Gujarat	299.000	333.000	266.000	898.000
5.	Himachal Pradesh	546.000	480.000	400.000	1376.000
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	358.520	364.000	458.000	1180.520
7.	Karnataka	767.000	751.000	950.000	2468.000
8.	Kerala	211.000	92.000	0.000	303.000
9.	Madhya Pradesh	478.000	650.000	900.000	2028.000
10.	Maharashtra	0.000	600.00	820.000	1420.000
11.	Orissa	140.000	260.000	100.000	500.000
12.	Punjab	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
13.	Rajasthan	694.000	765.000	870.000	2329.000
14.	Sikkim	240.000	0.000	0.000	240.000
15.	Tamil Nadu	522.000	600.000	600.000	1722.000
16.	Tripura	0.000	0.000	31.000	31.000
17.	Uttar pradesh	453.480	360.000	100.000	913.480
18.	West Bengal	664.000	400.000	500.000	1564.000
<b>Total</b>		<b>6648.000</b>	<b>6498.000</b>	<b>6733.000</b>	<b>19879.000</b>

**Statement-II(d)**

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Release Made During the Period			Total
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	
1.	Bihar	303.00	50.00	48.00	401.00
2.	Haryana	138.00	70.00	90.00	298.00
3.	Himachal Pradesh	219.00	150.00	250.00	619.00
4.	Madhya Pradesh	230.00	450.00	694.00	1374.00
5.	Punjab	50.00	40.00	30.00	120.00
6.	Rajasthan	957.00	758.00	747.00	2462.00
7.	Uttar Pradesh	1445.00	1636.00	2000.00	5081.00
8.	West Bengal	101.00	15.00	0.00	116.00
9.	H.Q.		10.00	20.00	30.00
Total		3443.00	3179.00	3879.00	10501.00

**Statement-II(e)**

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount Released During			Total
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	320.000	700.000	1020.000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	80.000	—	10.000	90.000
3.	Assam	512.000	—	15.000	527.000

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar	—	—	15.000	15.000
5.	Goa	46.000	—	5.000	51.000
6.	Gujarat	—	332.000	7000.000	1032.000
7.	Haryana	55.000	60.000	80.000	195.000
8.	Himachal Pradesh	265.000	60.000	120.000	445.000
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	118.000	—	108.000	226.000
10.	Karnataka	476.000	1095.000	2100.000	3671.000
11.	Kerala	—	700.000	500.000	1200.000
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1977.000	3700.000	1750.000	7427.000
13.	Maharashtra	3290.000	2754.000	2500.000	8544.000
14.	Manipur	75.000	100.000	250.000	425.000
15.	Meghalaya	55.000	—	15.000	70.000
16.	Mizoram	—	—	225.000	225.000
17.	Nagaland	—	18.000	160.000	178.000
18.	Orissa	1580.000	1000.000	1200.000	3780.000
19.	Punjab	—	—	40.000	40.000

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Rajasthan	2855.000	3016.000	2850.000	8721.000
21.	Sikkim	10.000	41.000	90.000	141.000
22.	Tamil nadu	420.000	240.000	900.000	1560.000
23.	Tripura	—	4.000	130.000	134.000
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2215.000	1000.00	1.000.000	4215.000
25.	West Bengal	1157.000	—	10.000	1167.000
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	2.000	2.000
27.	Andaman and Nicobar	50.000	50.000	25.000	125.000
Total		15236.000	14490.000	15500.000	45226.000

**Statement-II(f)**

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount Released During			Total
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8221.720	12065.740	9634.210	29921.670
2.	Arūnachal Pradesh	582.880	471.590	651.300	1705.770
3.	Assam	3186.620	2400.470	2038.380	7625.470
4.	Bihar	8297.840	10999.780	9090.270	28387.890

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1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Goa	128.250	90.330	120.890	339.470
6.	Gujarat	3153.110	3213.830	3850.610	10217.550
7.	Haryana	1411.520	767.800	938.040	3117.360
8.	Himachal Pradesh	212.260	242.500	386.040	840.800
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	680.710	766.690	777.170	2224.570
10.	Karnataka	5766.370	4072.570	4695.630	14534.570
11.	Kerala	2654.580	2061.120	2226.810	6942.510
12.	Madhya Pradesh	12846.520	9929,210	9328.360	32104.090
13.	Maharashtra	7785.500	7281.260	8541.070	23607.830
14.	Manipur	355.710	501.560	235.150	1092.420
15.	Meghalaya	383.470	497.860	323.100	1204.430
16.	Mizoram	286.040	206.070	240.560	732.670
17.	Nagaland	445.230	451.400	208.710	1105.340
18.	Orissa	7058.800	6129.850	6178.520	19367.170
19.	Punjab	401.260	516.810	716.310	1634.380

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1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Rajasthan	3924.240	4020.590	3743.080	11687.910
21.	Sikkim	169.990	81.750	126.920	378.660
22.	Tamil Nadu	5936.320	4517.820	6981.610	17435.750
23.	Tripura	850.000	959.870	779.580	2589.450
24.	Uttar Pradesh	23220.920	20212.390	18884.170	62317.480
25.	West Bengal	4544.130	3577.380	4525.150	12646.660
UNION TERRITORIES					
26.	A & N Islands	0.000	51.940	41.700	93.640
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7.490	14.990	31.130	53.610
28.	Daman and Diu	13.980	13.980	28.910	56.870
29.	Lakshadweep	4.080	6.990	17.780	28.850
30.	Pondicherry	28.980	50.130	83.520	162.630
Total		102558.520	96174.270	95424.680	294157.470

Note: 1. Total releases includes State share released so far. State release for 1997-98 are provisional.  
 2. Releases data is of all works of IRDP including water related item.

**Statement-II(g)***Details Showing Releases Made Under Million Wells Scheme During the Period 1995-96 to 1997-98*

(Rupees of lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount Released During			
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4342.130	4342.140	4280.930	12965.200
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	36.280	25.560	28.610	90.450
3.	Assam	1429.410	1312.680	1512.780	4254.870
4.	Bihar	8516.940	5811.980	5836.150	20165.070
5.	Goa	48.160	24.080	13.130	85.370
6.	Gujarat	1593.910	1442.700	1216.180	4252.790
7.	Haryana	382.880	267.010	225.790	875.680
8.	Himachal Pradesh	153.040	112.150	120.430	385.620
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	236.280	294.760	241.180	772.220
10.	Karnataka	2915.550	2635.640	2550.560	8101.750
11.	Kerala	1910.340	880.940	1029.530	3820.810
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5502.110	4296.140	4221.400	14019.650
13.	Maharashtra	4733.530	4128.540	4096.460	12958.530



1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Manipur	47.060	52.250	33.760	133.070
15.	Meghalaya	52.750	37.680	42.100	132.530
16.	Mizoram	28.160	28.160	28.190	84.510
17.	Nagaland	71.660	61.760	71.660	205.080
18.	Orissa	3522.490	2373.350	3581.610	9477.450
19.	Punjab	0.000	243.840	107.710	351.550
20.	Rajasthan	2285.930	1272.960	1630.980	5189.870
21.	Sikkim	52.160	21.700	26.090	99.950
22.	Tamil Nadu	3925.200	3459.710	3925.230	11310.140
23.	Tripura	111.330	74.210	74.210	259.750
24.	Uttar Pradesh	13706.630	8666.260	9669.410	32042.300
25.	West Bengal	4041.180	3381.560	2170.890	9593.630
UNION TERRITORIES					
26.	A & N Islands	16.560	10.550	0.000	27.110
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4.160	11.070	5.730	20.960
28.	Daman and Diu	6.760	3.380	0.000	10.140
29.	Lakshadweep	10.600	5.290	5.290	21.180
30.	Pondicherry	10.320	10.320	0.000	20.640
Total		59893.480	45288.370	46745.960	151727.810

**Statement-II(h)**

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount Released During			Total
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63.803	66.722	88.068	218.593
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.920	12.000	24.760	47.680
3.	Assam	22.450	23.535	23.763	69.750
4.	Bihar	35.495	31.130	0.000	66.625
5.	Goa	2.550	5.504	1.986	10.019
6.	Gujarat	40.500	41.970	58.866	141.336
7.	Haryana	25.691	25.500	32.592	83.783
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16.612	19.340	17.090	53.042
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	38.939	37.350	46.940	123.229
10.	Karnataka	65.440	67.207	99.377	232.224
11.	Kerala	29.190	32.637	35.647	97.474
12.	Madhya Pradesh	66.730	73.136	83.457	223.323
13.	Maharashtra	74.749	91.810	120.872	287.431
14.	Manipur	4.010	4.786	9.070	17.866
15.	Meghalaya	2.208	5.720	7.432	15.360

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Mizoram	3.400	4.289	5.836	13.525
17.	Nagaland	2.110	4.220	2.110	8.440
18.	Orissa	33.760	41.538	50.384	125.682
19.	Punjab	15.060	12.890	17.140	45.090
20.	Rajasthan	100.390	115.870	137.832	354.092
21.	Sikkim	5.720	4.720	4.356	14.796
22.	Tamil Nadu	52.620	53.330	58.344	164.294
23.	Tripura	7.600	8.500	7.620	23.720
24.	Uttar Pradesh	113.344	117.280	151.827	382.453
25.	West Bengal	34.956	45.213	44.115	124.284
UNION TERRITORIES					
26.	A & N Islands	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
28.	Daman and Diu	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
29.	Delhi	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
30.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
31.	Pondicherry	0.600	0.100	0.100	0.800
Total		868.846	946.329	1129.563	2944.738

**Statement-III**

*Details of Physical Achievement in Respect of on-Farm Development Works for 1995-96 to 1997-98  
Under CAD Programme*

(Unit: '000 hectare)

Sl.	States/UTs.	Field Channes			Warabandi			Land Levelling		
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98*	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.09	0.03	—	11.04	11.49	5.96	7.41	6.00	3.11
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—
3.	Assam	0.74	0.15	0.21	0.00	0.02	0.30	0.00	—	—
4.	Bihar	0.00	—	—	9.00	—	—	0.00	—	—
5.	Goa	0.27	0.10	—	1.50	1.50	0.60	0.01	—	—
6.	Gujarat	22.04	10.53	15.28	7.06	12.43	8.35	0.00	0.05	0.05
7.	Haryana	33.95	35.79	31.03	9.58	2.17	1.50	0.65	0.51	1.79
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.01	0.55	0.60	0.13	0.25	0.40	0.00	Nil	—
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3.95	4.52	5.58	28.37	30.92	31.17	2.27	1.91	1.90
10.	Karnataka	13.04	23.75	11.02	9.63	7.49	16.24	0.00	—	4.24
11.	Kerala	17.75	14.39	4.32	3.97	11.15	2.88	0.20	0.08	0.11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8.95	1.41	3.56	8.48	—	0.38	0.00	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	39.49	20.88	18.35	4.25	4.87	7.57	0.73	1.45	2.68
14.	Manipur	2.50	2.24	2.80	1.36	0.51	—	1.28	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—
16.	Nagaland	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—
17.	Orissa	8.80	18.66	3.46	56.55	—	7.00	3.73	0.16	0.20
18.	Rajasthan	51.83	69.39	22.33	53.86	64.29	—	3.01	0.60	2.13
19.	Tamil Nadu	43.97	41.61	46.61	58.34	60.84	59.73	0.00	—	—
20.	Tripura	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—
21.	Uttar Pradesh	116.55	126.87	62.25	198.45	204.61	112.53	.00	—	—
22.	West Bengal	5.64	5.35	0.82	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—
23.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—
24.	Daman & Diu	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—	0.00	—	—
<b>Total</b>		<b>369.54</b>	<b>376.22</b>	<b>228.22</b>	<b>452.57</b>	<b>412.54</b>	<b>254.62</b>	<b>19.29</b>	<b>10.76</b>	<b>16.21</b>

Provisional.

### **Agricultural Colleges/Institutions**

\*414 SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of diploma/degree-holders and post-graduates of Agricultural Colleges/Institutions in the country have been facing unemployment problem due to small number of jobs available for them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have chalked out any action plan to make effective utilisation of trained manpower during the Ninth Five Year Plan under the new Agriculture Policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Agricultural Education is a State subject however the vacancies in National Agricultural System are less commensurate with the outturn of the graduates except in discipline of Veterinary Sciences & Fisheries.

(c) and (d) A comprehensive national policy in Agriculture is under the final stages of drafting and it is likely to be finalised in consultation with the States. However, a study on manpower assessment need is being initiated under Agricultural Human Resource Development Project which will help in effective utilisation of trained manpower.

### **Launching of PSLV-C-2**

\*415. SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PSLV-C-2 is to take German and Korean Satellites to space this year;

(b) if so, whether the other foreign countries viz. Norway are also leasing transponders in INSAT-2E;

(c) the commercial benefits likely to be accrued from the sale of remote sensing data acquired by India from the space programme;

(d) whether the INSAT system continues to provide services in the area of Telecommunications, Meteorology

and disaster warning through the INSAT-1D, 2A, 2B and 2C; and

(e) the time by which final decision for launching of PSLV-C2 is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Nine out of the Seventeen INSAT-2E transponders have been leased to INTELSAT.

(c) Through a Co-operation Agreement between Antrix Corporation Ltd., the commercial arm of Department of Space, and Space Imaging, USA, Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS) data is being marketed globally. The revenues from these dealings are shared between Antrix and Space Imaging. For the year 1997-98, the income receive by Antrix is about 1 million US Dollars and estimated income during 1998-99 is US\$ 2 million. National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) is selling IRS data in India and in the neighbouring countries. The revenue for 1997-98 was Rs. 10.50 Crores and estimated revenue during 1998-99 is Rs. 12.50 Crores).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Based on present assessment of the likely readiness of the Primary Satellite, the PSLV-C2 launch is scheduled during the first quarter of 1999.

### **National Coastal Protection Project**

\*416. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a National Coastal Protection Project (NCP) based on proposals received from the Coastal States;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received from different States and the prepared project;

(c) whether the project was proposed to be financed by generating funds from the international agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether due to nuclear test conducted by India the assistance from international agencies is likely to suffer; and

(f) if so, the other alternate resources envisaged by the Government to finance the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) All coastal States have been asked by the Central Government for furnishing proposals on Coastal Protection works at vulnerable stretches of coastline in their respective States for inclusion in the consolidated National Coastal Protection Project (NCP) being prepared by the Central Water Commission of Ministry of Water Resources.

(b) Proposals for NCP involving works like sea walls, saline embankments and river bank protection works in tidal reaches have been received from Gujarat (Rs. 35.00 crore), Goa, (Rs. 10.5 crore), Karnataka (Rs. 150.00 crore), Kerala (Rs. 346.5 crore), Tamil Nadu (Rs. 2.47 crore) Andhra Pradesh (Rs. 2.76 crore), Orissa (Rs. 670.00 crore) and West Bengal (Rs. 224.80 crore). The proposals received from Gujarat, Kerala and Karnataka have been found to be in order for inclusion in the NCP. Proposals received from remaining States have been returned to the States with observations for compliance. Pondicherry and Maharashtra have not submitted any proposals.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

#### **Nuclear Weapons Programme**

\*417. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:  
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UN Security Council has unanimously urged India and Pakistan to halt nuclear weapon programmes;

(b) if so, in precise terms Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether the Security Council also reminded the nuclear weapon States of their responsibility to renew efforts to curb nuclear weapons, including those in their arsenal and if so, what the P-5 response thereto; and

(d) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government in its response has stated that the resolution adopted by the Security Council was coercive and unhelpful.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, the P-5 countries have not agreed to work for global nuclear disarmament in a time-bound framework.

(d) The Government regrets that these countries continue to insist that it is essential to retain nuclear arsenals for their security and have prevented the start of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva on a Nuclear Weapons Convention for elimination of nuclear weapons.

#### **Study on Sea Erosion**

\*418. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN:  
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scientific study has been conducted on large scale sea erosion in mining area of India Rare Earth Ltd., Chavara, Kerala and different coastal States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent the sea erosion and the grants sanctioned by the Centre for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) and (b) No scientific study has been carried out so far of the effects, if any, on sea erosion as a result of the operations of the Indian Rare Earths Ltd., (IREL), a public sector undertaking (PSU) of the Government of India (Department of Atomic Energy) in a small area at and around Chavara in Kollam (Quilon) District of Kerala. In this area, the Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd. (KMML), a PSU of the Government of Kerala also carries out beach sand mining. IREL has, however, approached the

Centre for Earth Science Studies (CESS), Thiruvananthapuram, a Government of Kerala organisation, and recently received from CESS a proposal for conducting a scientific study of beach sand budgeting, including assessment of the impact, if any, of IREL's operations on sea erosion in this area. Sometime back, the Kerala Engineering Research Institute carried out a study of the general phenomenon of sea erosion along the Kerala coast. The findings of this study are - constant retrogression of the shoreline in many zones since 1850, erosion during the months of April-August and accretion thereafter, comparatively steeper foreshore and predominantly north-south direction of the littoral drift and seasonal reversal thereof. As regards other coastal States, the nature of the problems in each State is known, though, no specific studies have been undertaken so far.

(c) and (d) Planning and implementation of anti-sea erosion works is the responsibility of the respective State Governments which take up such works out of the Plan outlays allocated to them by the Planning Commission. In the past, the State Governments concerned have provided various types of protection works along varying lengths of the coastline in their respective areas, depending on the nature and intensity of the problem. The approved Plan outlays under the Flood Control sub-sector (including sea erosion) for the years 1995-96 to 1997-98 were - Andhra Pradesh (Rs. 69 crore), Goa (Rs. 1.94 crore), Gujarat (Rs. 8.2 crores), Karnataka (Rs. 26.72 crore), Kerala (Rs. 82 crore), Maharashtra (Rs. 8.19 crore), Orissa (Rs. 23.8 crore), Tamil Nadu (Rs. 7.11 crore) West Bengal (Rs. 179.58 crore) and Pondicherry (Rs. 10 crore). All coastal States have also been asked by the Central Government to furnish proposals on coastal protection works at vulnerable stretches of the coastline in their respective States for inclusion in the consolidated National coastal Protection Project (NCPP), under preparation by the Central Water Commission of the Ministry of Water Resources. Proposals for NCPP involving works like sea walls, saline embankments and river bank protection works in tidal regions have been received from the States of Gujarat (Rs. 35 crore), Goa (Rs. 10.5 crore), Karnataka (Rs. 150 crore), Kerala (Rs. 346.5 crore), Tamil Nadu (Rs. 2.47 crores), Andhra Pradesh (Rs. 7.16 crore), Orissa (Rs. 670 crore) and West Bengal (Rs. 224.8 crore). The

Governments of Maharashtra and Pondicherry have not submitted any proposal. The proposals received from the Governments of Gujarat, Kerala and Karnataka have been found to be in order for inclusion in the NCPP. Proposals received from the remaining States have been returned to the State Governments concerned with observations for compliance.

#### **Funds for Agriculture**

\*419. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:  
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated for development of agriculture and live stock during the last two years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the amount actually utilised by the State Governments during the said period, State-wise;

(c) whether the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have sought additional funds during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Details of funds released and utilised Statewise for agriculture and livestock development during 1996-97 and 1997-98 are furnished at Annexure-I. For the current year funds will be released on the basis of proposals received from State Governments under various Central/Centrally sponsored Schemes and previous balances lying unutilised with State Governments etc.

(c) to (e) No proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh for additional funds under Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the current year.



**Statement**

*Details of funds released to State Governments & expenditure reported under various central/centrally Sponsored Schemes for development of agriculture and livestock during 1996-97 & 1997-98*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of State	Agriculture				livestock*	
		Amount Released 1996-97	Expenditure Reported 1996-97	Amount Released 1997-98 (Provisional)	Expenditure Reported 1997-98	Amount Released 1996-97	Released 1997-98
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9870.40	7856.93	7697.78	5061.30	239.01	1347.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	247.08	312.32	499.80	392.43	201.41	299.69
3.	Assam	1113.49	494.14	397.48	654.80	32.77	54.04
4.	Bihar	1676.15	2049.12	1191.83	1086.78	91.18	271.55
5.	Goa	199.42	145.25	35.57	157.12	16.50	57.04
6.	Gujarat	4730.85	4122.58	4061.30	1999.12	556.24	256.92
7.	Haryana	2821.28	2956.44	2904.96	1349.26	122.40	139.52
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1086.66	1112.99	1148.90	496.54	74.27	156.82
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1359.33	1337.96	1528.60	495.74	179.95	167.42
10.	Karnataka	7275.69	4392.94	8118.24	4804.78	240.98	556.14
11.	Kerala	5322.93	5467.38	3514.35	1414.84	532.13	440.39

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9107.45	8597.77	6962.18	5580.09	75.50	888.69
13.	Maharashtra	11928.95	9208.90	9911.59	4863.56	402.04	1514.06
14.	Manipur	1254.88	858.76	1135.85	495.11	84.78	154.38
15.	Meghalaya	444.29	162.56	256.77	152.58	75.57	118.99
16.	Mizoram	530.04	286.96	717.23	581.54	186.86	300.03
17.	Nagaland	891.50	1022.59	875.88	661.80	497.81	167.85
18.	Orissa	4918.76	3396.26	4112.38	3554.10	629.23	383.05
19.	Punjab	3155.45	2671.95	2530.26	1216.63	663.45	360.10
20.	Rajasthan	10037.64	10295.69	9691.23	7817.01	64.47	627.27
21.	Sikkim	316.72	442.03	340.66	275.40	28.69	230.73
22.	Tamil Nadu	7040.12	6170.64	5855.98	2286.86	358.53	692.26
23.	Tripura	418.01	271.02	533.97	395.25	37.95	289.51
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11046.44	10634.72	10246.51	5699.54	817.93	1589.36
25.	West Bengal	1243.06	1332.02	1003.30	343.14	109.38	736.90
Total		97035.59	85599.92	85333.10	51836.02	6319.03	11811.12

\* For Livestock, figures of amount utilised are not separately available.

\*\* For Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, expenditure figures are as on 31.3.1998.

**Smuggling of Uranium**

\*420. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of illegal trafficking in uranium at its mining site in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a case of smuggling of uranium has also come to the notice of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the security implications and safeguards proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) and (d) It has come to the notice of the Government that reports have appeared in a section of the press on the alleged illegal trafficking in uranium at the Jaduguda mining site in Bihar of the Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL), a public sector undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy. The reports are based on the arrest of some persons by the West Bengal Police for allegedly carrying materials containing uranium and also seizure of some yellow material at Muzaffarpur by the Bihar Police. However, on analysis of the materials seized in each case, it was found that the said materials did not contain any uranium or its compounds.

(e) Adequate security arrangements through the deployment of the Central Industrial Security Force exist in the operational areas of the Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. At Jaduguda.

**Subsidy on Generation of Power**

\*421. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to explore non-conventional energy sources in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide 50 percent subsidies to those States which are likely to generate power in public sector and private sector through non-conventional energy sources;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat in this connection; and

(f) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard and the total amount of subsidy provided to the State during 1997-1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Government has accorded high priority to generation of grid quality power from non-conventional energy sources, such as wind, biomass, small hydro and recovery of energy from urban, municipal & industrial wastes. A total capacity of about 1300 MW has already been installed in the country, by the end of March, 1998. A capacity addition of 1400 MW has been proposed for the Ninth Plan period.

(c) and (d) Various fiscal and promotional incentives including capital and interest subsidies are being provided to promote commercial projects for generating power from non-conventional energy sources. Details of the subsidies available under various programmes for power generation are given in the Statement.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

**Statement****Financial Assistance Including Subsidies**

Sl. No.	Programme/Schemes	Amount of Subsidy	Type of Subsidy
1	2	3	4
1.	<b>Wind Power:</b>		
	Financial Assistance for Wind Power Demonstration projects provided to State Nodal Agencies/State Govts./State Electricity Boards	60% of the cost of wind turbine equipment, maintenance spares, and erection commissioning, subject to eligibility and bench mark cost of Rs. 3.20 crore/MW	Capital Subsidy
2.	<b>Biomass Combustion-based Power:</b>		
a.	Capital Subsidy for Taluka level biomass based power plants (1 MW and above Under Demonstration Scheme).	Rs. 1.0 crores per MW subject to a maximum of Rs. 10 crores per project.	Capital Subsidy
b.	Interest Subsidy for Biomass Combustion-based Electrical Power Plants for captive Biomass Projects (2 MW & above).	Maximum of Rs. 30 lakh per MW	Interest Subsidy
c.	Interest subsidy for Biomass combustion based Electrical Power Plants for field based Biomass Projects (2 MW & above).	Maximum of Rs. 45 lakh per MW.	Interest Subsidy
d.	For preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR).	50% cost of DPR subject To maximum of Rs. 2 lakhs	Grant-in-aid
3.	<b>Bagasse based Co-generation</b>		
a.	Capital Subsidy in Co-operatives /Public/Joint Sector Sugar Mills (Under Demonstration Scheme).	Rs. 2 crores/MW of surplus power or 50% Project cost comprising of Rs. 70 lakh/MW of subsidy subject to maximum of Rs. 6 crores per project and balance as soft loan at 9% annual rate of interest.	Capital Subsidy

1	2	3	4
b.	Interest Subsidy for Project of 1—4 MW surplus power generation capacity based on bagasse	Maximum of Rs. 15 lakh/MW of surplus power fed into the grid.	Interest Subsidy
c.	Interest Subsidy for projects of more than 4 MW surplus power generation capacity based on bagasse	Maximum of Rs. 35 lakh/MW of surplus power fed into the grid.	Interest Subsidy
4.	<b>Small Hydro Power:</b>		
a.	Capital subsidy for Small Hydro Projects upto 3MW Station capacity in North-East States.	Up to Rs. 3 crores/MW or 50% of the cost of the Project, whichever is lower.	Capital Subsidy
b.	Capital Subsidy for Small Hydro Projects upto 100 KW capacity, for Hilly region, N.E., and A&N Islands for projects expected by Government Deptt., Agencies, NGOs, Local Bodies.	⊙ Rs. 15,000/- per KW.	Capital Subsidy
c.	Interest Subsidy for Small Hydro Power Projects upto 3 MW station capacity in the Hilly region, N.E. region and A&N Island.	Capitalised amount upto Rs. 1.12 Crores per MW	Interest Subsidy
d.	Interest Subsidy for Small Hydro Power Projects upto 3 MW station capacity for other areas.	Capatalised amount upto Rs. 38.30 lakhs per MW or the actual amount	Interest Subsidy
e.	Renovation / Modernisation and capacity uprating of SHP station upto 3 MW capacity.	⊙ 75% of the R&M cost upto Rs. 2.00 crore per MW.	Grant-in-aid
f.	Assistance for Detailed Survey and Investigation	100% of the cost Subject to a maximum of Rs. 1.5 lakh per site.	Financial incentives
g.	Assistance for DPR Preparation	50% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 1 lakh per DPR.	Financial incentives

1	2	3	4
h.	<b>Subsidy for development and upgradation of Water Mills</b>		
	a. Mechanical Output only	Upto Rs. 30,000/- or 75% of actual cost	Financial incentives
	b. Mechanical and electrical output	Upto Rs. 60,000/- or 75% of actual cost	
5.	<b>Energy from Urban, Municipal and Industrial Wastes.</b>		
	(i) Capitalised Interest Subsidy	upto 10% of the loan amount subject to a maximum of Rs. 1.0 crore/MW	Interest subsidy
	(ii) Investment Subsidy	50% of the direct equity stake of the promoter in the project cost, subject to maximum of Rs. 1.0 crore/MW for power generation projects & Rs. 50 lakh for waste to fuel projects.	Subsidy
	(iii) Assistance for the preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR)/ Techno-Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR).	50% of the cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 2 lakh	Financial Report
	(iv) Assistance for site clearance/ facilitation/coordinated actions to Municipal Corporation/Urban Local Bodies.	Rs. 15 lakh per MW (equivalent).	Financial Support
	(v) Assistance to State Nodal Agencies for their coordinated actions/ monitoring etc.	Rs. 5 lakh per MW (equivalent)	Financial Support
	(vi) Financial Support for Demonstration Projects	Upto 50% on cost sharing basis subject to a maximum of Rs. 3.0 crore per MW.	Financial Support
	(vii) Financial Support for Energy Recovery at Sewage Treatment plant (STP).	Cost sharing upto 50% of the incremental Capital cost of biogas power generation system at STP	Financial Support

### Role of NCES in Rural Development

4103. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether (i) creation of bio-gas plants and gobar gas plants with the help of animal dung, (ii) wind mills for drinking water and irrigation purposes and (iii) photovoltaic cell for generating solar energy are very essential for the development of rural areas;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any nationwide schemes in this regard; and

(c) the outlines of such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government is implementing schemes for meeting the rural energy needs for cooking, lighting and water pumping through Biogas, wind pumps and solar photovoltaic systems. The salient features of these schemes are given in the Statement.

#### **Statement**

Following are the salient features of the schemes on Biogas Plants, Water Pumping Wind Mills and Solar Photovoltaic Systems, implemented by the Central Government.

#### **(i) Biogas Plants**

Two Schemes, namely National project on Biogas Development (NPBD) and programme on community, institutional and night soil Biogas Plants have been formulated. These schemes are being implemented in all states and Union Territories (UTs).

The objectives of both schemes are to provide fuel for cooking purposes and organic manure to rural households, reduce pressure on forests and improve sanitation in villages by linking sanitary toilets with Biogas plants. Under these schemes, grant-in-aid is provided for subsidising the cost of biogas plant, turn-key job fee, sanitary toilet linked house-hold biogas plant, service charges, staff support and publicity etc.

#### **(ii) Water Pumping Wind Mills**

Government is implementing a demonstration programme for deployment of water pumping windmills for meeting drinking water and micro-irrigation needs. Under this scheme, grant-in-aid is provided for subsidising the cost of wind mills, service charges, training and publicity support. The scheme is implemented through renewable energy state agencies and manufacturers of wind mills.

#### **(iii) Solar Photovoltaic Systems**

Photovoltaic cells are used in solar energy systems to generate electricity, which can be used to meet lighting, water pumping and battery charging needs in rural areas. A scheme for meeting house-hold lighting, community lighting and other battery charging applications, and another for water pumping for agriculture and related uses have been formulated. These schemes have provision for grant-in-aid to subsidise the cost of the systems, service charges, training and publicity support. Both schemes are available in all states & UTs.

Under the water pumping programme, a soft loan is also provided to the users of water pumping systems. The scheme is being implemented through Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA). The systems are sold through direct marketing by the participating manufacturers and financial intermediaries.

#### **Rehabilitation Policy**

4104. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased state:

(a) whether the Government contemplating to formulate a National rehabilitation policy for the displaced of medium and major irrigation projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Steps have been initiated for adopting a National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of persons affected by reservoir projects to get over the shortcomings in the

implementation of resettlement and rehabilitation programmes. The draft policy document in this regard has been finalised by the National Water Board for consideration of the National Water Resources Council. The implementation of the said Policy depends on its adoption by the National Water Resources Council.

[Translation]

#### Ground Water in Bihar

\*4105. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanabad): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any scheme from the Government of Bihar for increasing the underground water level in the State;

(b) if so, the latest position thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to implement this scheme in other State also;

(d) if so, whether the Government have mobilised additional financial resources for the implementation of the scheme; and

(e) the time by which the Union Government are likely to clear the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### Jasauli Irrigation Project

\*4106. SHRI RAM SHAKAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to undertake major irrigation projects in the country during the current year;

(b) if so, the present status of the Jasauli irrigation project in Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the time by which the work on the project is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are undertaken by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their own priority. Central Government gives only investment clearance to major and medium irrigation projects.

(b) and (c) No project by name Jasauli Irrigation Project has been received in Central Water Commission from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for techno-economic appraisal.

[English]

#### Visit to Religious Places

4107. SHRI S.S. OWASI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pilgrims who visited various religious places abroad during each of the last three years, religious place-wise;

(b) the criteria being adopted for their selection, religious place-wise; and

(c) the financial/logistic/organisational assistance provided to the pilgrims religious place wise and number of pilgrims likely to visit these places during 1999?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The number of pilgrims who have visited various religious places abroad during the last three years religious place-wise is as under:

	1996	1997	1998
Haj Pilgrims	75,346	81,766	94,602
Kailash Mansarovar Yatris	435	516	600 (approx.)
Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas to Pakistan	5085	5200	2830 till now



The figures of pilgrims for the year 1998 in respect of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and the Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas to Pakistan are as of date. The Kailash Mansarovar yatra is still on and it is not possible to indicate how many pilgrims will actually undertake the Yatra by the time last batch leaves in the first week of September, 1998. The number of pilgrims of Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas who will visit Pakistan in October and November 1998 is not available. (In October and November 1997, the number of pilgrims who visited Pakistan was 50 and 2290 respectively.)

• The criteria adopted for the selection of pilgrims religious place-wise is as follows:

#### **Haj Pilgrims**

All intending pilgrims submit their applications to the respective State Haj Committees accompanied by a bank draft of Rs. 5280/- towards Registration fee and advance accommodation money. Any Muslim who is a citizen of India can make an application for Haj pilgrimage except (i) those who have performed Haj during the last five years; (ii) those suffering from polio, tuberculosis, congestive cardiac ailment, acute coronary insufficiency and coronary thrombosis, infectious leprosy or any other communicable disease or disability or are handicapped; (iii) children upto the age of 16 years (infants upto two years of age can, however, accompany their parents); (iv) ladies who are pregnant for 20 weeks or more on the date of departure of their flight; and (v) persons who are crippled, handicapped or otherwise physically incapacitated such as suffering from amputation of their legs or polio.

#### **Kailash Mansarovar Yatris**

Information about the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra is published nation-wide through the medium of television, radio and press. Applications are registered on a first-come-first-served basis. Applicants are required to be physically and medically fit and have to undergo a medical check-up in New Delhi and in Gunji, Uttar Pradesh, before being permitted to undertake the Yatra.

#### **Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas**

The lists of Jathas are prepared by various Sikh/Hindu organisations and are forwarded to the Ministry of External Affairs through respective State Governments for facilitating issue of visas by Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi.

• The financial/logistic/organisational assistance provided to the pilgrims religious place wise is as under:

#### **Haj Pilgrims**

All aspects of Haj management are handled by the Haj Committee based in Mumbai. It is responsible for collecting the application forms, selecting the pilgrims and finalising the air charter arrangements for their flight to Saudi Arabia.

In Saudi Arabia, the Consulate General of India is responsible for all logistic and welfare support provided to the pilgrims. For this purpose, during the Haj season, in addition to the permanent staff in the Consulate, Government deputed upto 400 officials to provide assistance to pilgrims, including a 224-member medical mission. The consulate also recruits some seasonal staff locally. The Consulate sets up a control room in Jeddah at the Haj terminal, in Makkah and in Madinah, as also a main Haj office in Makkah and Madinah and ten branch offices and medical centres in Makkah.

The Consulate supervises the movement of pilgrims from one point to the other during the Haj season, though day-to-day responsibility is vested in the local government and its agents. The Consulate also supervises arrangements at the Haj air terminal in Jeddah in order to ensure the smooth movement of incoming and outgoing pilgrims.

The total expenditure incurred by the Government of India on Haj in the last three years was as follows:

1995-96	Rs. 39,69,23,000
1996-97	Rs. 81,83,54,000
1997-98	Rs. 122,93,20,000

#### **Kailash Mansarovar Yatris**

In 1996, Government decided to peg the amount payable to Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) by pilgrims at the rate of Rs. 5000/- per pilgrim. The total cost charged by KMVN is Rs. 8250/- Thus, the Government provides a subsidy of Rs. 3250/- per pilgrim to KMVN towards board, lodge and transport arrangements. Government also provides facilities to pilgrims which include medical assistance, security and escort cover through ITBP and UP State Police, communication links between Delhi and places on route on the Indian side and with china, cost of publicity of

Yatra and partial costs of creation of infrastructure, logistics and facilities on the Indian side. Government also bears expenses for aerial evacuation of pilgrims in case of emergencies. A Liaison Officer at Government cost is attached with each batch of the yatris.

#### **Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas**

The Government extends all required assistance, obtains approval of the Government of Pakistan for the visit of each Jatha; coordinates with various State Governments/Ministries/Authorities and forwards the lists of intending pilgrims to the Pakistan High Commission, New Delhi for visas; arranges with the Ministry of Railways special train services for the pilgrims both for onward/return journey; expedites release of foreign exchange from Reserve Bank of India as a special case in view of the fact that permission for Jathas is given at short notice and visas are stamped on the pilgrims' passports which is one or two days prior to the departure of the Jathas; attaches a Liaison Officer from the High Commission of India in Islamabad to render assistance to the visiting pilgrims when they contact for any kind of help etc. No direct financial assistance is provided to the Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas visiting Pakistan.

The number of pilgrims likely to visit these places during 1999 is about 1 lakh Haj pilgrims, approximately 600 Kailash Mansarovar Yatris, and about 5200 pilgrims of Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas to Pakistan.

*[Translation]*

#### **Food Processing Industry in Uttar Pradesh**

4108. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:  
SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy for encouraging the setting up of Food Processing Industries in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of Food Processing Industries which have been provided assistance by the Union Government during the last three Years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) For

promotion of food processing industries in the country. Various policy measures have been provided by the Government. Besides, under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry, financial assistance in the form of soft loan and grant is provided to cooperatives, Non-Government Organisations, Public sector Undertakings, Private Sector Industries, Research Institutions etc. For promotion of the processed food sector. These schemes are project specific and not state specific. Details of measures taken by the Government in this direction are in the attached Statement.

(c) 300 units of food processing industries in Uttar Pradesh have been provided financial assistance during the last 3 years under the Plan Schemes of this Ministry.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of Measures Taken by the Government*

- (i) Declaration of most food processing industries as high priority.
- (ii) Delicensing all food processing industries except brewing and distillation of alcoholic beverages and those items reserved for small scale sector.
- (iii) Promoting domestic/foreign/NRI investment.
- (iv) Providing fiscal reliefs by reducing or eliminating excise duties in many food products.
- (v) Providing duty relief in excise and customs for food processing industries.
- (vi) Networking with State Governments and assisting Nodal Agencies identified by the State Governments through Plan Schemes
- (vii) Propagation of the concept of backward linkages.
- (viii) Extension of assistance for promotion of post-harvest infrastructure, cold chain etc.
- (ix) Extending assistance for establishment of Food Processing and Training Centres for propagating technology for developing entrepreneurship in the rural areas. Assistance extended so far covers 245 such centres.

- (x) Public and private sectors are viewed as complementary for all round planned development. Increasing emphasis is being placed on individual effort and private initiatives.
- (ix) Operating various plan schemes for promoting food processing industries.

[English]

#### **Aid for Cashewnut**

4109. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has sought financial assistance/aid from the Union Government for replanting/productivity improvement on cashewnut in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) During November, 1997 the Government of Kerala submitted a project proposal seeking Central Assistance of Rs. 107.10 crores for Replanting and Productivity Improvement of Cashew in Kerala. The project included the components of area expansion, replanting and rejuvenation of old and senile orchards, production and distribution of hybrid varieties of cashew clones, establishment of model gardens, better management of young plantations, training and propaganda, to be implemented in a period of five years during the Ninth Five year Plan.

Most of the components included in the project proposal submitted by the Government of Kerala like area expansion. Replanting/rejuvenation, production and distribution of hybrid varieties through regional nurseries, establishment of model clonal garden and training of farmers are being covered under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Integrated Development of Cashew'. A sum of Rs. 119.9 lakhs was relased to the Government of Kerala during 1997-98. During 1998-99 an allocation of Rs. 92.02 lakhs has been provided for Kerala state. The other components are not covered under the scheme.

#### **Training to Terrorists**

4110. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bangla Desh, Bhutan and Nepal have been giving shelter and patronage to terrorist activities in North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken to persuade these countries for stopping such activities;

(d) whether the Government of India have taken up this matter with these countries at a diplomatic level; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The Governments of Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal have confirmed that they will not permit their territory to be misused against Indian interests.

(c) to (e) Government of India have held discussions with the Governments of Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal on matters relating to the possibility of terrorists misusing their soil for activities against India. All three countries have agreed to work with India to counter terrorism and have stated that they would not permit their respective territories to be used for any activities targeted against the other.

#### **Software Technology Parks**

4111. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Software Technology Parks (STP) set-up in the country so far;

(b) the details thereof, locationwise;

(c) whether the Government propose to set-up new STPs during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) Deptt. of Electronics have established 7 Software Technology Parks (STPs) one each at Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad, Gandhinagar, Noida, Pune and Thiruvananthapuram. In addition, State Government of West Bengal has set up a STP in Calcutta.

(c) and (d) 3 STPs, one each at Mohali (Punjab), Jaipur (Rajasthan) and Navi Mumbai (Maharashtra) are expected to become operational in the current year.

### **Arable and Fallow Land**

4112. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have estimated the arable and fallow land in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) A statement giving State-wise details of arable land and fallow land in the country for the latest available year 1994-95 is enclosed.

### **Statement**

*State-wise fallow land and arable land @ - 1994-95*

(Thousand hectares)

State/Union Territory	Current Fallows	Other Fallow lands	Total arable land
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	2726	1745	15083
Arunachal Pradesh	25	49	268
Assam	72	70	3139
Bihar	1922	965	10609
Goa	—	—	139
Gujarat	737	28	10378
Haryana	156	—	3719
Himachal Pradesh	50	21	689

1	2	3	4
Jammu & Kashmir	96	7	908
Karnataka	1284	422	12451
Kerala	48	29	2348
Madhya Pradesh	825	789	21301
Maharashtra	1023	1075	20187
Orissa	149	243	7562
Punjab	36	2	4250
Rajasthan	1669	1832	20539
Tamilnadu	1001	1030	8040
Uttar pradesh	1126	879	19859
West Bengal	210	34	5785
All India:	13533	9766	169750

⊗ :Arable Land includes Net Sown area, Current Fallows, Other Fallows and Land under Misc. Tree Crops & Groves.

#### **Policy to Protect land Resources**

4113. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Centre to adopt a national policy to protect and preserve the fast eroding land resources; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Issue of Licences to Food Processing Industries.**

4114. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received applications for issue of licences for setting up of Food Processing Industries in the North Eastern States and Sikkim;

(b) if so, the number of such applications received during 1997-98 (upto May), State-wise;

(c) the total number of licences issued out of the applications received; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the clearance of the pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

**Fodder in Hilly Areas**

4115. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether fodder meant for animals grown in plains cannot be grown in hilly areas due to geographical, environmental and climatic factor and also because hilly areas of high altitude remain snow covered for almost six months as a result of which vegetation gets dried;

(b) whether any specific research is being done for growing fodder in such areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to conduct any study in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and steps being taken for easy availability of fodder in hilly areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Though common

types of cultivated fodders and grasses can be successfully grown in mid-hills (upto 5000 ft. above mean sea level), there are different fodder crops and their varieties specific to high hills.

(b) Research work on high yielding nutritive varieties of grasses and legumes for high altitude pastures has been taken up by State Agriculture Universities and by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research.

(c) As a result of research the following forage varieties have been found suitable.

*Crop Varieties*

*Oats* — JHO 810, JHO 821

*Lucerne* — Anand - 3

*Tall fescue* — Him-1

*Berseem* — JHB 89-4, BI-22

*Pasture* — JHB-89-4, BL-22

*Pasture Species:*

*White clover* — Donna, Ladino, Haifa, S-100 (Exotic)

*Red Clover* — Astra, Brita, Kenstar

*Guinea grass* — PGG-1, PGG-9

*Setaria* — Nandi, TSS-1

(d) The work in this direction is continuing for purpose of development further new forage crop varieties and pasture species.

(e) and (f) The Regional Research Station of the Indian Grasslands and Fodder Research Institute at Palampur is engaged in research on high altitude fodder crops and pasture species. A Regional Station for Forage Production and Demonstration at Srinagar under the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India is also working on promotion of fodder programmes in hill areas.

[English]

**Visa Restriction**

4116. SHRI GEORGE EDEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dubai Government has imposed some restriction on issuing new visiting Visas for Keralites;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir. Visit visas continues to be granted by the Dubai authorities on the same terms and conditions as before.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Examination of Supreme Court's Judgement in Hawala Case

4117. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the recent Supreme Court Judgement in the Hawala Case;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take to ensure that CBI does not, in future, file cases which are rejected by the Court for lack of evidence so that no un-necessary mental agony is caused to the accused; and

(c) whether the Government propose to fix the responsibility on the CBI Officers for filing cases against political leaders, which are not substantiated by proper evidence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The CBI is guided by the provisions of the Criminal procedure Code, 1973 while performing its statutory duties in the investigation/trial of any case being handled by it and, therefore, no further action is required to be taken by the Government in this regard.

(c) Investigations in the Hawala Case were monitored by the Supreme Court. Chargesheets against the accused were filed by the CBI, after completion of investigations, in the court of Special Judge, Delhi, which took cognisance and framed charges against a number of accused persons. The Delhi High Court, which considered a Revision Petition filed by one of the accused, also upheld the order of the Special Judge taking cognisance.

However, the Delhi High Court, in another Revision Petition filed against the charges, concluded that entries in diaries alone were not sufficient for the finding of guilt. The Supreme Court upheld this view point of the High Court. It it, however, worth mentioning that the High Court and the Supreme Court have not held anywhere that the CBI mis-conducted investigations or that there was malice on its part. In view of the above, the question of fixing responsibility on the CBI officers does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Power From Waste

4118. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incineration technique of generating energy from rubbish has been declared invalid at international and national level;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the use of the technique produce fatal gas 'dioxin', leakage of which may lead to serious incidents;

(d) whether any study has been conducted in this regard;

(e) if so, the findings thereof; and

(f) the attitude of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):

(a) and (b) No. Sir.

The technique is already in practice in the United States, Europe and Japan, etc.

At the national level, the technique is not common, as the garbage generally contains low percentage of combustible material like paper, wood, etc. Which are picked up at source and not thrown as waste. The rubbish also contains high percentage of moisture making it generally unsuitable for incineration.

(c) to (e) When rubbish containing chlorinated compounds (which may include PVC, hazardous biomedical waste containing plastic) is incinerated "dioxin" gas is liberated. The amount of dioxin released is a direct function of the percentage amount of such chlorinated compounds present in the rubbish, the chimney height and other pollution control measures employed. Studies carried out abroad by various research agencies, have indicated that dioxin gas affects human physiology and is a proven carcinogen.

(f) The Ministry of Environment & Forests is in the process of notifying Bio-medical Waste (Management and handling) Rules, 1998 where-in appropriate standards in respect of incineration of bio-medical wastes containing plastics, have been specified.

No Waste to Energy project based upon the incineration technique is being considered for support by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources unless the project promoters obtain all necessary statutory environmental clearances from the concerned authorities.

*[English]*

### **Virus Menace**

1119. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:  
Will the PRIME MINISTER be please to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of panic among farmers as virus wipes out cotton crop in cotton growing States;

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

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to redress the grievances of the cotton growers; and

(d) efforts being made to meet the shortfall in production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Leaf Curl virus disease has affected cotton crop in cotton growing States of North India like Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. The cotton crop was affected by leaf curl virus because of growing of varieties of cotton susceptible to this

disease. As per information available, area infested by leaf curl virus in the northern cotton belt is as follows:

S.No.	State	Highly infested area	Moderately infested area
1.	Rajasthan	75,000 ha.	35,000 ha.
2.	Punjab	50,000 ha.	25,000 ha.
3.	Haryana	15,000 ha.	15,000 ha.
Total :		1,40,000 ha.	75,000 ha.

(c) and (d) (1) Measures being taken by the Government for increasing the productivity/production of cotton. In addition to the above, "a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) is being implemented in 11 major cotton growing States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu & Uttar Pradesh. The funding pattern under the scheme is mostly on 75:25 sharing basis between the Government of India and the Implementing States." The basic objective of the scheme is to increase productivity and production of cotton.

The Assistance under the Scheme is provided for following components:

- (i) Production of breeder seed.
- (ii) Distribution of certified seeds.
- (iii) Demonstration on production technology, pheromone traps and NPV (Nuclear Polyhydrosis Virus).
- (iv) Integrated Pest Management demonstration-cum-training (IPM)
- (v) Distribution of plant protection equipments.
- (vi) Supply of sprinkler sets
- (vii) Farmers training

include —

- Educating the farmers for adopting improved agricultural practices.



- Sowing of cotton seeds resistant to leaf curl virus like LRK-516, LRA-5166, LH-1556, LH-144, RG-8 etc. During Kharif, 1998.
- Application of optimum dose of fertilisers, irrigation and drainage.
- Use of right doses of recommended pesticides.
- Use of bio-control agents, pheromones, bio-pesticides etc. Under Integrated Pest Management Programme.

(2) The scientists of the ICAR Institutes and State Agricultural Universities of the country are engaged in evolving more disease resistant varieties of cotton seeds. Four genotypes namely, CNH-1012, CNH-123, RS-2013 and RS-992 have been found to be resistant to Leaf Curl disease. These cultures are being multiplied in the off-season nursery at Regional Station of Central Institute of Cotton Research at Coimbatore for further testing and selection in the hot spot areas during the next season.

(3) Research projects are under consideration by ICAR to study diseases in cotton like leaf curl virus.

#### **Return of F-16s to Pakistan by US**

4120. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any information that US was contemplating to return F-16s fighter jets to Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether the Government have assessed the threat of the use of these aircrafts against India by Pakistan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to meet the challenge in view of the present overall security scenario and threatening statements/postures by Pakistani leaders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) There have been media reports that in order to dissuade Pakistan from conducting nuclear tests, the US may offer to Pakistan military and economic aid including the supply of F-16 aircrafts. Such assistance is presently

restricted under US domestic laws, namely the Pressler Amendment.

Pakistan has since conducted nuclear tests, and the US has announced imposition of sanctions in addition to those already in place under Pressler Amendment. This question has, therefore, been overtaken by the events.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Modernisation of IREF**

4121. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for modernisation of the Indian Rare Earths Factory in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to utilise the raw material mineral sands processed for manufacturing zirconium dioxide and titanium dioxide; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The plant at Manavalakurich (Tamil Nadu) of the Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a public sector undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy, has been recently modernized at a cost of Rs. 9.31 crore approx. No further modernization is envisaged at present.

(b) and (c) At present, the Manavalakurichi plant of IREL produces and about 4-5 tonnes per annum (tpa) of chemically pure zirconium dioxide and there is no plan to set up titanium dioxide production facility at this plant. The IX plan of the Department of Atomic Energy also includes provision for a project at Palayakayal (Tamil Nadu) for additional production of zirconium oxide, of both chemical and nuclear grade purity (500 tpa), and titanium sponge (400 tpa), using the beach sand minerals as the basic raw material.

#### **Crop Insurance Scheme**

4122. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:  
SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of farmers covered under by the comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme during the year 1997-98, State-wise;

(b) the details of total sum insured and the total premium income received during 1997-98, State-wise; and

(c) the amount claimed and paid to farmers, under this scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) A Statement indicating State-wise details of farmers covered, sum-insured, premium collected, total claims and claims paid under Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) during 1997-98 is enclosed.

**Statement**

S.No.	State/UT	Farmers Covered	Sum Insured (Rs. In Crores)	Premium Collected (Rs. In Lakhs)	Total Claims (Rs. In Lakhs)	Claims Paid (Rs. In Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13,99,132	846.95	1455.54	⊙	N.A.
2.	Assam	738	0.39	0.75	0.41	0.41
3.	Bihar	1,30,017	64.38	128.63	109.36	£
4.	Goa	1,296	0.14	0.28	0.02	0.02
5.	Gujarat	9,13,628	564.56	686.84	116.39	116.39
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1,559	0.40	0.80	NIL	NIL
7.	Karnataka	3,23,357	183.45	270.34	1105.38	£
8.	Kerala	34,382	20.16	40.32	2.96	2.96
9.	Madhya Pradesh	10,60,937	299.54	434.68	⊙	N.A.
10.	Maharashtra	11,45,294	309.10	475.37	2738.17	2738.17
11.	Meghalaya	388	0.11	0.22	NIL	NIL

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Orissa	4,59,003	177.00	353.25	⊙	N.A.
13.	Tamilnadu	1,33,990	92.82	159.80	203.58	£
14.	Tripura	61	0.02	0.04	NIL	NIL
15.	West Bengal	4,93,109	152.82	305.60	106.75	*
16.	A & N Islands	240	0.15	0.30	1.35	*
17.	Pondicherry	1,185	1.15	2.30	7.05	£
Total		60,98,316	2713.14	4315.06	4391.42	2857.95

Note: Information pertaining to Rabi 1997-98 claims is not included as the cut-off date for submission of the yield data by the State Governments is 31.7.98.

N.A. — Not applicable

⊙ — Claims have not been made available so far.

£ — Claims are under scrutiny

\* — 1/3rd share is awaited from the Implementing States.

### Upper Age Limit for Exams

4123. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the upper age-limit for appointment to SCs/STs for the examination to be conducted by the Union Public Service Commission etc. As has been extended to OBC candidates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b)

At present age relaxation upto 5 years is available for Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes and 3 years for OBCs, in all the open competitive examinations conducted by all the recruiting agencies. The Government has now decided to raise further by 2 years the maximum age of recruitment including that for SCs/STs in cases where recruitment is done through direct open competition to the All India Services, the Central Services and other Civil posts under the Central Government with effect from January 1, 1999 after amendment of the relevant rules, etc.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Earthquake at Jabalpur

4124. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh on relief works and rehabilitation of earthquake victims;

(b) the funds allocated and released by the Union Government for purpose so far;

(c) reasons for such low allocation;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to allocate additional funds to the Government of Madhya Pradesh in view of the heavy losses suffered by the State due to devastating earthquake;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported that it has so far spent about Rs. 130.00 crore on relief and rehabilitation of earthquake victims in an around Jabalpur district and that the rehabilitation work is continuing.

(b) and (c) Based on a memorandum submitted by the State Government seeking additional assistance of Rs. 248.75 crore in the wake of damage due to earthquake and taking into account the report of the Inter-Ministerial Team which visited the affected areas, an additional assistance of Rs. 45.26 crore was released to the State for taking relief & rehabilitation measures.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The extent of damage has already been assessed by a Central Team and additional assistance has been provided on the basis of the report submitted by the Team.

*[English]*

#### **Swarna Massori Paddy**

4125. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the States where 'Swarna Massori' paddy is produced;

(b) whether the coarse variety of 'Swarna Massori' is produced in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details therefor;

(d) whether 'Swarna Massori' paddy is likely to be treated as fine variety in Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) No variety of paddy named 'Swarna Massori' has been notified as per the Section 5 of the Seed Act, 1966, for commercial cultivation.

(d) and (e) Question do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Fishing in Coastal Areas**

4126. SHRI RAMESH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fishing project is being undertaken in the coastal areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the coastal areas in Maharashtra where the said project is being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) yes, Sir.

Schemes/programmes aimed at development of fisheries, conservation of fishery resources, betterment of the standard of life of fisherfolk through higher income generation, etc. are implemented in all the coastal districts of the marine States/Union Territories including the State of Maharashtra. Details of some of the important Schemes/programmes are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

Details of Schemes/Programmes being implemented in coastal areas of the country for development of fisheries and aquaculture.

1. **Integrated Coastal Aquaculture:** This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The main objective of this

scheme is to utilize the country's vast brackishwater resources for fish/shrimp culture. The other objectives of the scheme are to increase foreign exchange earning through higher production, generate adequate employment opportunities and increase the income of farmers. Under this scheme 39 Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDAs) have been set up in the coastal districts to help and guide the fish farmers in their activities.

**2. Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries through Motorisation of Traditional Craft:** This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Under this scheme assistance is provided to motorise the traditional craft with inboard/outboard motors. This helps the fishermen to go farther into the sea and increase the catch.

**3. Reimbursement of Excise Duty in IISD Oil Supplied to Mechanised Fishing Vessels below 20 m length:** This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme aimed at providing some relief to mechanised fishing vessels owners/operators below 20 M overall length by reducing part of the operational cost. It will also enable them to increase the number of their fishing days thereby increasing the fish production.

**4. Setting up of Artificial Reefs and Sea Farming:** This Centrally Sponsored Scheme is aimed at enhancing the level of fin and shell fish production in the sea with a view to providing shelter to both adult and juvenile fishers.

**5. Providing Fishing Harbour Facilities at Major and Minor Ports:** This scheme has the objective of providing infrastructure facilities for deep sea fishing vessels, mechanised fishing vessels, traditional crafts at major and minor ports and fish landing Centres, as well as augmenting fish production.

**6. National Welfare of Fishermen:** Besides the above mentioned production oriented Schemes, the Government is also implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for welfare of fishermen with the objectives of:

- (i) Better living standards for the fishermen and their families.

- (ii) Social security to active fishermen and their dependents.
- (iii) provision for basic amenities like water and sanitation in fishermen villages.
- (iv) Economic security, and
- (v) Environmentally sustainable growth.

The group Accident Insurance Component provides insurance coverage to Marine & Inland Fishermen. The Model Fishermen Village Development component provides housing facility, drinking water facility and recreation and common working place facilities to Marine and Inland Fishermen. Saving-cum-Relief component provides a minimum subsistence allowance to Marine Fishermen during the 4 month lean fishing season.

#### **World Bank Assistance**

4127. SHRI R.S. GAVAL:  
SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI:  
SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE:  
SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Major, Medium and Extension, Renovation and Modernisation irrigation projects being implemented in the country with the assistance of the World Bank at present, State-wise;

(b) the estimated cost of each project and the funds provided by the World Bank for the purpose during the last three years and current financial year, State-wise;

(c) whether some projects are still under consideration of the World Bank;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) (a) and (b) the present status of on-going World Bank aided irrigation projects is

as under:—

(Amount in Million US\$)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State	Total Estimated cost	Date of signing/ closing	Amount of assistance provided by World Bank	Fund provide by World Bank	
						1995-96 to 1997-98	1998-99 Upto May, 1998
1.	Punjab Irrigation & Drainage Project	Punjab	265.00	09.02.1990/ 31.07.1998	161.679	67.017	0.699
2.	Haryana Water Resources Consolidation Project	Haryana	516.00	06.04.1994/ 31.12.2000	262.148	75.881	0.000
3.	Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project	Tamil Nadu	317.50	29.04.1995/ 31.03.2002	252.303	16.398	0.289
4.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project	Orissa	270.578	05.01.1996/ 30.09.2002	270.578	74.999	0.000
5.	Andhra Pradesh III Irrigation	Andhra Pradesh	472.50	03.06.1997/ 31.01.2003	325.00	58.787	0.000

(c) Yes Sir,

(d) The details of projects under consideration is as under:—

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	State	Estimated cost	Present status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh Economic Restructuring Project (Irrigation Component)	Andhra Pradesh	US\$ 282.3 M	The Negotiations for this project were held in May, 1998 and the World Bank Management has approved the project. The project is proposed to commence from 30.09.98 and contemplated for completion by 30.3.2004, subject to the signing of the agreement between Government of India and the World Bank.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Rajasthan Water Resources Consolidation Project.	Rajasthan	US\$ 292.15 M	The Project is at the appraisal stage.
3.	Water Research Innovation and Training Project (WRITP)	Central Sector	US\$ 55 M	JICA (Government of Japan) has agreed to provide project preparation grant of US\$ 4,05,000. Project preparation is yet to commence.
4.	Gujarat Water Resources Consolidation Project	Gujarat	US\$ 150.0 M	The project has been posed to World Bank in May, 1998.

(e) The date of completion of the projects under consideration of the World Bank will only be known after the agreements are signed.

of sugarcane in the area, preference to the growers cooperative societies etc. These measures would encourage the sugarcane producers and also ensure timely crushing of sugarcane.

#### **Production of Sugarcane**

#### **Statement**

4128. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

#### *State Wise Estimates of Area of Sugarcane, 1997-98*

(a) the names of the major sugarcane growing States;

State	Area (Thousand Hectares)
-------	--------------------------

(b) the total area under sugarcane cultivation;

Andhra Pradesh	192.0
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(c) whether the facilities are likely to be provided to encourage the sugarcane producers for the timely crushing of sugarcane as well as setting up of sugar mills in these areas; and

Bihar	170.0
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(d) if so, the details thereof?

Gujarat	155.0
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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) A statement giving sugarcane area in major producing States during 1997-98 is enclosed.

Haryana	140.0
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Karnataka	241.0
-----------	-------

Maharashtra	460.0
-------------	-------

Punjab	132.0
--------	-------

Tamilnadu	293.0
-----------	-------

(c) and (d) The guidelines for licensing of new and expansion of existing sugar factories take into account minimum crushing capacity per day, adoption of modern technology by the mills, minimum distance to be maintained between proposed and existing sugarcane mills, availability of cane and/or potential of development

Uttar Pradesh	1956.0
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Others	178.0
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All India :	3917.0
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**Linseed/Mustard Research Centre**

4129. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal has been sent by the Government of Bihar to the Union Government to set up a Linseed/Mustard Research Centre in the State; and

(b) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

[English]

**Cyclone in Gujarat**

4130. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the agencies responsible for not alerting the people in time living by the sea side about the impending storm; and

(b) the steps taken to check such negligence in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) A High Level Fact Finding Team has been constituted which would attempt to understand the sequence of events and advise ways and means for ensuring better preparedness in future. The Report of the Team is awaited.

**Bakrol Irrigation Project**

4131. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI:  
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for the technical clearance of Bakrol irrigation project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the proposal received from Government of Gujarat, The Bakrol Irrigation Project with estimated cost of Rs. 23.86 crores, envisages annual irrigation of 4500 hectares in Sabarkantha District;

(c) The Union Government has not taken any decision due to non-compliance of the observations of Central Water Commission by the Government of Gujarat.

[Translation]

**Drip Irrigation System**

4132. SHRI GAURI SHANKER CHATURBHUI BISEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have kept Madhya Pradesh under lower category of classification regarding purchase of drip irrigation system.

(b) if so, the justification this classification;

(c) whether the farmers of Madhya Pradesh are required to pay 25 percent more price on the purchase of drip system in comparison to that of Maharashtra on account of this classification;

(d) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a proposal to the Union Government to place the State under category 'B'; and

(e) if so, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken and implemented in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Since the drip manufacturers were unable to provide the drip systems at a uniform price throughout the country as the prices of components vary from State to State depending upon the level of awareness, proximity of the State to the factory, the distance involved in transportation, potential of drip irrigation in the State and taxes levied, the States in the country are categorised as A, B & C. As the level of awareness in Madhya Pradesh State in implementing the drip irrigation was very low while initiating the scheme by the Government, the State



was put under category 'C'. As per the guidelines, for all category 'C' States the system cost for drip irrigation can be raised upto 25% over the average cost of category 'A' State, i.e. Maharashtra.

(d) and (e) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh had furnished a proposal in January, 1997 requesting for placing Madhya Pradesh State under category 'B'. The Government of Madhya Pradesh was informed that the proposal regarding recategorisation of the States would be looked into by a committee which has been set up to review the price structure of the drip irrigation system. The State Government was also informed that the farmers of Madhya Pradesh could purchase the drip system from any where they feel convenient. The meeting of the committee was held on 04.07.1998 and the final report is expected shortly.

#### **Development of Trout Fish**

4133. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for development of 'Trout Fish' in cold water currents from the Government of Uttar Pradesh is awaiting clearance from the Union Government;

(b) if so, since when and the details of the project;

(c) the funds sought/allocated or the foreign assistance sought for the project; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be cleared and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) The Government of India have received a project proposal with an estimated cost of Rs. 2.0 crores from the Government of Uttar Pradesh in May, 1996 for seeking external assistance for the development of Trout Fish farming in the hilly areas of the State. The Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance have informed that the proposal was posed to the French authorities for assistance under the Indo-French Financial Protocol in April, 1998, but the French authorities were of the view that since the proposal does not meet the technical and structural parameters required for eligibility, they cannot consider the proposal under the Indo-French Financial Protocol.

However, development of fish farming in the hilly region of Uttar Pradesh is already covered under the

ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Development of Freshwater Aquaculture".

#### **Irrigated Land**

4134. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have achieved the target fixed for bringing the land under irrigation during the eighth Five year Plan;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any effective plan to achieve the target fixed for the purpose during Ninth Five Year Plan period; and

(e) if so, the funds likely to be incurred on implementation of the plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Reasons for not achieving the targets include (i) Financial constraints, (ii) proliferation of projects resulting in thin spreading of resources and consequent time and cost over-runs, and (iii) change in scope and design of projects during construction, etc.

(d) Ninth Five Year Plan have not been finalised by the Planning Commission.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Crop Insurance Scheme**

4135. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experimental Crop Insurance Scheme for covering non-loanee small and marginal farmers in

addition to loanee farmers has been formulated during the year 1997-98; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme mooted and the total number of States in which the scheme was implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India formulated an Experimental Crop Insurance Scheme (ECIS) for implementation in 24 selected districts of 8 States from Rabi 1997-98 season. The features of the ECIS are as under:—

- (i) It covers loanee as well as non-loanee small and marginal farmers.
- (ii) 100% subsidy in premium for small and marginal farmers.
- (iii) Premium and claims are shared between the Central Government and the State Governments in the ratio of 8 : 2.
- (iv) The scheme is to be implemented, as far as possible, over a smaller unit area preferably a Gram Panchayat.
- (v) Other features are identical to the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS).

ECIS was implemented in 5 States during Rabi 1997-98.

[*Translation*]

#### **Nuclear Tests**

4136. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan has made an offer to India to sign the treaty regarding not conducting any nuclear test;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) On 11th June 1998 Pakistan while announcing

moratorium on further nuclear testing offered to sign a bilateral test ban agreement with India.

(c) It has been India's consistent position that issues related to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation cannot be limited to an arbitrarily defined geographical sub-region when nuclear weapons by definition have a global reach and impact and India's security concerns extend well beyond that sub-region. Therefore proposals for a bilateral test ban treaty in South Asia are not practical. This is also redundant as India has announced a voluntary moratorium on further testing and is exploring ways and means to convert it into a de jure formulation. India, however, remains fully committed to sustained and constructive dialogue with Pakistan and has offered concrete proposals like the no-first use agreement.

#### **Support Price for Cash Crops**

4137. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:  
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have failed to announce the support price of cash crops on account of which the farmers have suffered a heavy loss;

(b) if so, the support price of each cash crop likely to be announced immediately; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for commercial crops, viz. Oilseeds, fibres, sugarcane, tobacco and copra covered under the price support scheme have been announced for 1997-98 season. The MSP for jute for 1998-99 has also been announced.

The horticulture crops and spices that have localised production or are perishable in nature, are covered under another scheme viz. the market intervention scheme which is implemented on the request of the concerned State Government willing to bear 50% of the losses, if any.

[*English*]

#### **Disarmament Stand**

4138. SHRI M. RAJIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) backs India's disarmament stand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to further clarify India's view point in regard to the number of nuclear tests carried out in the world and the number of times discussed in IAEA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) At the instance of Australia, Canada, Japan and New Zealand, the 35 member Board of Governors of the IAEA at its meeting in Vienna from June 8-12, 1998, inserted an additional item on "Nuclear Testing" on its agenda. The summary adopted by the Chairman of the Board of Governors at the conclusion of the debate included a call on the Nuclear Weapon States to redouble their efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate their nuclear weapons in accordance with Article VI of the NPT and to enter into negotiations in good faith to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons. This is in line with India's consistent position on universal nuclear disarmament.

The Indian statement clarifying our viewpoint quoted extensively from Prime Minister's address in Parliament on 27th May, 1998. The statement also referred to the further steps taken by India towards the de jure formalisation of a moratorium, a "no-first-use agreement, bilaterally or multilaterally, willingness to commence negotiations on FMCT and India's existing stringent export control policy. The statement added that no commitment or treaty with the IAEA or other international body had been violated and pointed to the deteriorating peace and security situation in our region. The fact that our concerns were not limited to South Asia was emphasised and our strong indigenous scientific and technological base and self reliance in nuclear science and technology was highlighted. Our commitment to the global elimination of nuclear weapons within a definite time frame was reiterated.

India opposed the inclusion of this item on the agenda of the Board on the grounds that the IAEA, whose mandate is the promotion of peaceful uses of atomic energy is not the appropriate forum to raise such an issue. India also pointed out that in the past Nuclear Weapon States like the U.S., U.K., and China have said that the issue of nuclear testing did not lie within the competence of the Agency.

The issue of nuclear testing was raised in the IAEA Annual General Conference in 1996 when France and

China carried out nuclear tests prior to signing the CTBT. India's Peaceful Nuclear Explosion (PNE) was also discussed in 1974 at the IAEA.

[Translation]

#### **Crop Insurance Scheme**

4139. SHRI VITHAL TUPE:  
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:  
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:  
SHRI A. SIDDARAJU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Crop Insurance Scheme is limited only to such farmers who have taken loan from any bank or financial institutions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this existing system is confined only up to the damage of Rs. 10,000;

(d) if so, whether the Maharashtra Government has formulated any new scheme in which all the farmers and crops are covered and have submitted the same to Central Government for its approval;

(e) if so, whether the Union Government propose to accord approval to this scheme; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The present Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) is limited to only those farmers who avail of crop loans from rural financial institutions.

(b) The CCIS is confined to loanee farmers as the very objective of the scheme is to restore the credit eligibility of farmers, after a crop fails for the next season. Again, for the sake of administrative feasibility of the operation of the scheme, only loanee farmers are covered.

(c) Yes, Sir. The maximum sum-insured per farmer at present is Rs. 10,000/-.

(d) No new scheme as contemplated by Maharashtra Government has yet been received.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Misuse of Funds**

4140. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Senior IAS official suspended in Orissa' appearing in the Times of India dated 2.5.98;

(b) the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against erring officials responsible for committing irregularities and misappropriation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per facts provided by the State Government, no case of misappropriation has been established.

#### **Cyclonic Storm Warnings**

4141. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the salt workers were not shifted even after having been warned against impending cyclone in the sea;

(b) the number of workers actually working in the salt factories and salt pans on the cyclone day, found missing and the number of workers killed;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to probe the matter through the appointment of a Commission of Inquiry to be headed by a sitting judge of the Supreme Court;

(d) whether there is any proposal to compensate families of victims the losses of property and lives of the salt workers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to provide relief to the people affected by natural calamities from the allocation under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), to which the Centre and the State contribute in the ratio of 3:1. The Centre's share is released in 4 equal quarterly instalments. An allocation of Rs. 154.83 crore has been made to Gujarat for 1998-99. Immediately after the occurrence of the Calamity the second instalment of Centre's share of CRF for 1998-99 amounting to Rs. 29.03 crore was released to the State, in advance, to speed up the relief work.

In addition to the payment made from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund in death cases, the State Government reportedly made ex-gratia payment to the next of kin of the deceased at the rate of Rs. 50,000/- per adult and Rs. 30,000/- per minor people who were rendered destitute due to the calamity were paid cash-doles and assistance was also paid for household belongings.

An Inter-Ministerial Central Team has already visited the affected areas in Gujarat to assess the extent of damage and has submitted its report. Necessary action on the report is being taken as per the established procedure for release of assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR).

[Translation]

#### **Loss of Crops due to Insects**

4142. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether in various parts of the country particularly in the 'tal and diyara' areas of Bihar, crops are largely damaged by the insects;

(b) whether the Government accepts it as a natural calamity and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the heavy losses being suffered by the farmers due to it;

(d) whether the Government propose to give any compensation to the farmers for this loss; and

(e) if so, the details of the amount spent in this regard during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) As per information furnished by the Government of Bihar, rabi crops like pulses and oilseeds are grown in an area of 6.3 lakh hectares in "tal and diyara" areas. About 12% of this area was affected by insects during 1997-98 causing damage to the crops.

(c) As per present norms, recurring losses of crops due to insects is not considered a national calamity.

(d) and (e) The Central Government does not have any scheme to give compensation to farmers who have suffered losses to crops due to insects in "tal and diyara" areas of Bihar.

[English]

#### Antarctica Research Centre

4143. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Antarctica Research Centre, Goa has been fully commissioned;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of mandate given to this centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The major reasons for the delay in commissioning fully the Antarctic Study Centre in Goa are.

(i) Non-availability of various clearances in time from the local administrative authorities for construction;

(ii) Continuous dumping of garbage at the construction site by the local authorities.

(d) The mandate given to the Antarctic Study Centre includes.

(i) Planning, coordination, execution and monitoring of implementation of polar science and logistics under the Indian Antarctic Programme.

(ii) To act as a Polar Scientific Research Laboratory and National Antarctic Data Base.

#### Fund for J and K

4144. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to J&K during the last three years both for planned and non-planned sector;

(b) whether there is any increase in the amount of funds in view of the insurgency prevailing in the State for the development of works; and

(c) if so, the details of Central share for different schemes of the state?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Year-Wise allocation of Central Funds to J&K (both plan and non-plan) during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crore)	
Year	Amount
1995-96	2996.29
1996-97	3332.22
1997-98	3681.36

(b) Yes Sir. Plan outlay for developmental work shows an increasing trend.

(c) The Central Assistance is allocated on bloc and not scheme-wise.

**Water Logging**

4145. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN:  
SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:  
SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total cultivable land affected in the country due to water logging, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from any State Government for draining of water in the water logged area; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) As per the estimation of Ministry of Agriculture (1984-85) an area of 85.26 lakh hec is affected in the country by waterlogging. However, the Working Group constituted by Ministry of Water Resources estimated (1991) this problem in 24.56 lakh ha in irrigated commands. These areas are inclusive of cultivable land. The State-wise detail is given in the statement I and II enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Water Resources have cleared those schemes for reclamation of waterlogged areas including drainage in principle which are in conformity with the financial and technical norms set under Centrally sponsored Command Area Development Programme.

**Statement-I**

*Statewise details of waterlogged areas in the country based on Ministry of Agriculture (1984-85) assessment*

(unit : '000 ha)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Waterlogged Area
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	339
2.	Assam	450
3.	Bihar	707

1	2	3
4.	Gujarat	484
5.	Haryana	620
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	10
7.	Karnataka	10
8.	Kerala	61
9.	Madhya Pradesh	57
10.	Maharashtra	111
11.	Orissa	60
12.	Punjab	1090
13.	Rajasthan	348
14.	Tamil Nadu	18
15.	Uttar Pradesh	1980
16.	West Bengal	2180
17.	UTs	1
Total		8526 (85.26 lakh ha)

**Statement-II**

*Statewise details of waterlogged areas in the country based on Working Group constituted by Ministry of Water Resources (1991)*

(Unit : '000 ha)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Waterlogged Area
1.	Andhra Pradesh	266.40
2.	Bihar	619.70
3.	Gujarat	172.59
4.	Haryana	249.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	0.20
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.50
7.	Karnataka	24.54
8.	Kerala	11.61
9.	Madhya Pradesh	73.12
10.	Maharashtra	15.35
11.	Orissa	196.26
12.	Punjab	200.00
13.	Rajasthan	179.50
14.	Tamil Nadu	16.19
15.	Uttar Pradesh	430.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>2455.96</b> (24.56 lakh ha)

**Small Power Projects**

4146. SHRI MADHAV RAO PTAIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sought any assistance from the Union Government for setting up the small power project in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount sanctioned and disbursed by the Union Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):

(a) to (c) Ministry of Non-Conventional energy Sources has supported Karanjawan (1x3000 KW) small hydro power project in Nasik district with subsidy of Rs. 170.45 lakhs, Chalkewadi Wind Farm project (2 MW) in Satara district with subsidy of Rs. 384 lakhs and 10 Biomass Gasifier systems with total capacity of 1409 KW with subsidy of Rs. 18.76 lakh to the State Government of Maharashtra during the Eighth Five Year Plan. An amount of Rs. 519.62 lakhs have been released by the Ministry for these projects.

[*Translation*]

**Training Programme for Farmers in Food Processing Units**

4147. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any comprehensive training programme to train the farmers in food processing so that they may sell their produce after processing them so as to earn more profits; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a Plan Scheme relating to Person Power Development in Food

processing industries during the 9th Plan Period. One of its components relates to providing assistance for setting up of Food Processing and Training Centres (FPTCs). This scheme was also implemented during the 8th Plan Period (1992-97).

The objective of the scheme is to give hands-on experience to the rural people in the areas of processing of horticulture produce, quality control, hygiene, book-keeping and marketing etc., so that after undergoing the training, they can set up their own food processing units.

During the 8th Plan period and 1st year of the 9th Plan (1997-98), assistance has been provided to different organisations which include Non Governmental Organisations Cooperatives, State Public Sector Undertakings, Defence Establishments etc., for setting up of 245 Food Processing and Training Centres in the country. Out of those, 119 FPTCs have already become functional and 6163 persons have been provided training in food processing.

#### **Barrage Projects**

4148. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the norms adopted by the Government for declaring any barrage project as a national project;

(b) the details of the projects in Maharashtra declared as a national projects by the Government during the last three years;

(c) the details of the projects for which a demand is pending with the Government to declare them as national projects; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be declared as national projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) There is no decision of the Government to declare any project in irrigation sector as "National Project".

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Bovine Growth Hormone**

4149. SHRI K. YERRAN NAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are permitting injecting milch animals with Bovine Growth Hormone (BGH) to increase milk output;

(b) if so, the adverse impact thereof;

(c) measures being taken to save the milching animals from the adverse side-effects of this injection;

(d) whether the Research Study conducted by DAV Research Society in this regard has been ignored; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Government is not aware of the study conducted by DAV Research Society in this regard.

#### **Aquaculture**

4150. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether investment on Aquaculture by the Government has increased;

(b) if so, the details of such investment during the past three years, State-wise;

(c) whether investment in this regard are affected by sanctions imposed by foreign countries and external agencies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The details of State-wise Central assistance for the past three years for development of aquaculture is given in the Statement.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.



**Statement**

Sl.No.	State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	203.28	92.78	25.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.00	26.00	24.00
3.	Assam	23.00	46.00	38.44
4.	Bihar	49.00	Nil	114.00
5.	Goa	2.00	13.06	2.00
6.	Gujarat	6.00	23.50	58.50
7.	Haryana	24.00	28.00	25.39
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2.00	2.00	3.00
9.	J & K	2.00	2.00	11.00
10.	Karnataka	40.00	14.00	59.07
11.	Kerala	40.00	64.00	85.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	142.50	100.00	227.00
13.	Maharashtra	48.04	47.17	78.91
14.	Manipur	8.00	16.00	22.74
15.	Meghalaya	52.00	2.00	35.60

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Mizoram	5.00	10.00	9.50
17.	Nagaland	33.00	105.00	40.00
18.	Orissa	83.15	185.05	123.07
19.	Punjab	51.00	42.00	50.00
20.	Rajasthan	15.00	2.00	15.00
21.	Sikkim	5.00	2.00	5.00
22.	Tamilnadu	55.15	13.00	16.25
23.	Tripura	Nil	16.00	16.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	187.00	195.00	259.28
25.	West Bengal	228.74	271.13	222.56
26.	Pondicherry	1.00	—	—
27.	A & N Islands	5.00	—	—
<b>Total :</b>		<b>1312.86</b>	<b>1317.69</b>	<b>1568.31</b>

### Sardar Sarovar Dam

4151. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on Sardar Sarovar Project was delayed due to non-availability of loan from Overseas Economic Cooperation Funds, Japan for procurement of Turbo Generator sets for River Bedi Power House;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the efforts being made by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat have requested the Union Government for additional Central assistance for importing of Turbo Generator sets from Japan;

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

(e) the time by which the Central assistance is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) One of the

reasons for delay in implementation of Sardar Sarovar Project is non-availability of Loan from Overseas Economic Cooperation Funds, Japan for procurement of Turbo Generator sets for River Red Power House. Government of Japan did not approve additional trenches of loan from Overseas Economic Cooperation Funds after the release of first instalment of Yen 2.85 billion in 1986 for the Sardar Sarovar Project. A team constituted by the Government of India is negotiating with M/s. Sumitomo Corporation for finalisation of supplier's credit for supply of Turbo Generator sets.

(c) and (e) Yes, Sir. Government of Gujarat had sought an additional Central Assistance of Rs. 294 crores for importing of Turbo Generator sets from Japan. However, the Additional Central Assistance (ACA) is provided for State Plans within the framework of the Gadgil formula and is not relatable to any specific project. Therefore, the ACA release was not considered.

[*Translation*]

#### **Yamuna Canal**

4152. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government for supply of water to desert and unirrigated areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat through Yamuna canal;

(b) if so, since when this work is going on; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Central Government has not taken up any survey work to supply water to desert and unirrigated areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat through Yamuna canal. However, Government of Rajasthan has taken up survey for supply of Yamuna water to desert and unirrigated areas of the State in Jhunjhnu and Churu districts. In addition, National Water Development Agency has taken up survey work for interlinking Sarda river to Yamuna river to Sabarmati river in Gujarat via Rajasthan through Sarda-Yamuna Link, Yamuna-Rajasthan Link and Rajasthan-Sabarmati Link canals which interalia shall supply water to Rajasthan and Gujarat.

(b) The survey work by Government of Rajasthan is in progress since January 1996 whereas the survey work

for Sarda-Yamuna Link has been taken up since April 1996 and that of Yamuna-Rajasthan Link since April 1998. The survey work for Rajasthan-Sabarmati Link is planned to be taken up in January 2003.

(c) The survey work by Government of Rajasthan is likely to be completed by September 1998 whereas the survey work for Sarda-Yamuna Link is likely to be completed by December 2000, Yamuna-Rajasthan Link by December 2003 and Rajasthan-Sabarmati Link by December 2007.

[*English*]

#### **Farm Machines**

4153. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether farm Mechanisation is uniform all over the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to popularise farm mechanisation in less advanced States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The uneven level of Farm mechanisation in the country is attributable to a number of factors such as investment capacity of farmers, irrigation facilities, cropping pattern and intensity, size of operational land holdings, promotional efforts, etc.

(c) No separate scheme has been evolved for less advanced States. However, subsidy is available to the farmer under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes all over the country for the purchase of tractors, power tillers, drip and sprinkler irrigation equipment and other identified agricultural implements and machines. Further, Government's efforts have been directed towards developing efficient agricultural implements and machines; dissemination of improved technology towards imparting skills to the users for their selection, operation, maintenance and management.

#### **Subansiri and Slang Project**

4154. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Subansiri and Siang multipurpose river dam project in Assam-Arunachal border;

(b) whether any proposal with regard to this project acceptable to concerned States is under consideration of the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the time frame for the completion of the project; and

(e) the anticipated benefits in terms of flood control and power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) Brahmaputra Board has taken up investigation for preparation of Detailed Project Report at three alternate sites for construction of moderately high dams on Subansiri and Siang rivers. These sites are at Mēnga, Tamen, Gerukamukh on Subansiri river and Pugging, Roing and Rotung on Siang river. All the six sites are located in the territory of Arunachal Pradesh and are acceptable to the Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

(d) The investigation as well as preparation of the Detailed Project Reports for these projects would extend up to 2007.

(e) The estimated benefits likely to accrue from these projects would be known only after completion of the Detailed Project Reports.

#### **Foreign Aid for Dalry Development**

4155. SHRI ADITYANATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where the Government have introduced schemes for the development of Dairying and Animal Husbandry with foreign aid;

(b) the details of such schemes indicating the achievement made therein;

(c) the amount of Foreign aid provided for such schemes during the years 1995, 1996 and 1997 State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Names of the States

where Government have introduced schemes for the development of Dairying and Animal Husbandry with foreign aid is at Statement-I.

(b) The details of achievements made under the schemes are at Statement-II.

(c) The amount of Foreign aid provided for such schemes during last three years; State-wise is at Statement-III.

#### **Statement-I**

S.No.	Name of States/UTs
1.	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Assam
3.	Bihar
4.	Delhi
5.	Goa
6.	Gujarat
7.	Haryana
8.	Himachal Pradesh
9.	Jammu & Kashmir
10.	Karnataka
11.	Kerala
12.	Madhya Pradesh
13.	Maharashtra
14.	Nagaland
15.	Orissa
16.	Pondicherry
17.	Punjab
18.	Rajasthan
19.	Sikkim
20.	Tamil Nadu
21.	Uttar Pradesh
22.	West Bengal

**Statement-II**

Name of the Scheme	Salient achievements
1. Indo-Swiss Project, Andhra Pradesh for Cattle Breeding, Fodder Production and Dairy Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Capacity Building for human resource development</li> <li>b. Restructuring of breeding operations in Animal husbandry Department</li> <li>c. Organisation of cluster and gender programmes in 12 districts</li> <li>d. Decentralised fodder seed production programme in 22 districts</li> </ul>
2. Integrated Livestock Development Project in Kokraput District Orissa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Training of Community Link Workers</li> <li>b. Village based training for farm men and women</li> <li>c. Formation of Self Help Groups for management of Village Revolving Fund</li> <li>d. Provision of extension services through Block Extension Teams</li> <li>e. Special focus on women's Participation and training</li> </ul>
3. Indo Swiss Project, Sikkim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Organisation of Management Orientation Programme</li> <li>b. Organisation of bull production and distribution programme</li> <li>c. Establishment of four district laboratories for disease investigation work</li> <li>d. Civil works on Cheese Plant and purchase of equipment and machinery</li> <li>e. Ginger Disease Control and systems for curing of cardamom</li> </ul>
4. Danida Assisted Project for Livestock Development in Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Training of Link Worker Couples</li> <li>b. Training of Contact Farmers</li> <li>c. Conducting of baseline survey</li> <li>d. Evolving of small scale poultry models</li> <li>e. Distribution of toddler seedlings.</li> </ul>
5. Indo-Swiss Project, Orissa for sustainable land Use, animal husbandry and dairy development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Adoption of AI and natural breeding programmes in Ganjam and Gajapati Districts</li> <li>b. Provision of liquid nitrogen tankers.</li> <li>c. Construction of AI training centre in Cuttack</li> <li>d. Adaptive research trails on feed and fodder</li> <li>e. Support to Ganjam and Gajapati District Cooperative Milk Unions in Dairy Development activities.</li> </ul>

**Operation Flood: Progress-1997-98**

Region/State	DCS ORG Anised	Farmer Members ('000)	Rural Milk Procurement ('000 KG/D)
1	2	3	4
<b>Western Region</b>			
Gujarat	12086	2039	3989
Maharashtra	6387	1149	2166
Madhya Pradesh	4601	237	195

1	2	3	4
Goa	155	17	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>23229</b>	<b>3442</b>	<b>6374</b>
<b>Southern Region</b>			
Tamil Nadu	7686	1901	1156
Karnataka	7823	1492	1478
Andhra Pradesh	5424	236	767
Kerala	1481	406	300
Pondicherry	82	23	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>22496</b>	<b>4558</b>	<b>3722</b>
<b>Northern Region</b>			
Punjab	6156	360	734
Rajasthan	5374	385	661
Uttar Pradesh	11613	501	669
Haryana	2630	166	197
Himachal Pradesh	254	15	15
Jammu & Kashmir	—Report not received—		
Delhi	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>26027</b>	<b>1517</b>	<b>2277</b>

1	2	3	4
<b>Eastern Region</b>			
Bihar	2763	143	211
West Bengal	1459	91	155
Orissa	1255	91	77
Sikkim	161	5	7
Tripura	84	4	1
Assam	123	2	3
Nagaland	35	1	1
A & Nicobar	—Reports not received—		
<b>Total</b>	<b>5880</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>455</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>77632</b>	<b>9854</b>	<b>12829</b>
North Kerala	576	135	168
Dairy Proejct (NKDP)			
<b>Operation Flood: Progress-1997-98*</b>			
<b>Region/State</b>	<b>Milk Marketing ('000 L/D)</b>	<b>—Capacity— Liquid Milk ('000 L/D)</b>	<b>Power (MT/D)</b>
<b>Western Region</b>			
Gujarat	1576	6960	453
Maharashtra	2143	3970	60

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1	2	3	4
Madhya Pradesh	226	1030	30
Goa	71	75	—
<b>Southern Region</b>			
Tamil Nadu	1376	2421	70
Karnataka	1312	2030	37
Andhra Pradesh	619	2397	126
Kerala	348	410	10
Pondicherry	36	50	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>3689</b>	<b>7308</b>	<b>243</b>
<b>Northern Region</b>			
Punjab	374	1460	100.5
Rajasthan	355	1050	60
Uttar Pradesh	367	1140	60
Haryana	62	530	25
Himachal Pradesh	21	30	—
Jammu & Kashmir	—	10	—
Delhi	1199	1150	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>2378</b>	<b>5370</b>	<b>245.5</b>
<b>Eastern Region</b>			
Bihar	244	586	12.5

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1	2	3	4
West Bengal	648	1570	10
Orissa	94	125	—
Sikkim	7	15	—
Tripura	5	10	—
Assam	6	60	—
Nagaland	1	—	—
A & Nicobar	—	5	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>1006</b>	<b>2371</b>	<b>22.5</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>11088</b>	<b>27084</b>	<b>1054</b>
NKDP	# 166	115	—

\* Provisional @ Refers to December 1997

# Indo-Swiss Project

**Statement-III**

*Amount of Foreign Aid Provided During the Three Years*

Sl. No.	Name of Schemes	Names of States-Schemes Implemented	Amount of Aid (Rs. in Lakhs)		
			1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Indo-Swiss Project for Cattle Breeding Fodder Production and Dairy Development	Andhra Pradesh	296.72	92.35	146.81
2.	Integrated Livestock Development Project Koraput	Orissa	91.13	62.98	72.47

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Indo-Swiss Project	Sikkim	21.40	49.41	129.56
4.	Danida Assisted Project for Livestock Development	Tamil Nadu	44.87	33.32	50.38
5.	Indo-Swiss Project for Sustainable Land use Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development	Orissa	70.00	152.00	180.00

6. The Funds Disbursed by the NDDB for the Operation Flood projects During Three Years is Given Below:

Name of the Scheme	Union	Year		
		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
Operation Flood	1. Andhra Pradesh	430.48	613.96	197.12
	2. Assam	0.09	0.00	0.00
	3. Bihar	138.20	243.30	116.57
	4. Delhi	238.92	1315.15	728.91
	5. Goa	25.49	26.36	2.98
	6. Gujarat	7969.24	6281.76	2840.70
	7. Haryana	372.80	204.24	23.87
	8. Himachal Pradesh	5.18	49.82	26.11
	9. Karnataka	764.61	1182.24	601.91
	10. Kerala	236.38	431.68	112.74

1	2	3	4	5
	11. Jammu & Kashmir	0.02	2.10	0.00
	12. Madhya Pradesh	30.52	373.29	45.08
	13. Maharashtra	158.74	2433.74	1316.89
	14. Nagaland	0.91	0.00	0.00
	15. Orissa	74.93	153.94	31.58
	16. Pondicherry	1.19	34.23	12.50
	17. Punjab	201.70	647.78	243.39
	18. Rajasthan	289.65	412.21	241.48
	19. Sikkim	0.07	0.01	0.19
	20. Tamil Nadu	569.87	591.55	149.15
	21. Uttar Pradesh	1938.66	2455.76	461.84
	22. West Bengal	2723.10	1589.54	331.32
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16170.75</b>	<b>19042.66</b>	<b>7001.40</b>
7. (11)	Releases Under Swiss Aided North Kerala Dairy Project (NKDP)	255.25	109.89	244.47

**Changes in Cadre**

4156. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any policy in regard to change of cadre to officers of the All-India Services officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal before the Government to formulate a rational and transparent policy in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The policy guidelines on change of cadre of officers of the All India Services are given in the Statement.

(c) The existing policy is rational and transparent.

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

#### **Statement**

##### *Policy in Regard to*

##### *Inter-Cadre Transfer of All India Services Officers*

Inter-Cadre transfers will be permitted only for members of All India Services on marriage to another member of an All India Service.

Cadre transfers *shall not be permitted* to All India Service Officers on marriage to an officer serving in a Central Service/State Service/Public Sector Undertaking/ any other organisation.

Generally no cadre transfer should be permitted on medical grounds/personal reasons. However, for extreme hardship cases, the following criteria shall be applied before considering and deciding on the request for cadre change:

- (i) the nature of the problem(s), to be assessed by Government of India in each case, on merits; and
- (ii) the problem should be of such a nature that inter-cadre deputation will not solve the officer's problems.

All requests for inter-cadre transfers will be approved by the Minister-in-charge i.e. MOS (PP) in the case of IAS Officers, the Home Minister in the case of IPS officers and the Minister of Environment & Forest in the case of IFS officers, in the first instance. Thereafter, all such requests for inter-cadre transfer shall be processed and submitted for the orders of the Appointments Committee of the cabinet.

#### **Starvation Deaths**

4157. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:  
SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has recommended a number of measures to prevent starvation deaths;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action initiated by the Government on the recommendations of the Commission in regard to starvation deaths in Orissa;

(d) the reasons for starvation deaths in the worst affected districts of Kalabandi, Bolangir and Koraput; and

(e) the details of long-term and short-term strategies adopted for the development of aforesaid districts of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c): The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in its report dated the 17th February, 1998, has recommended that the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Central Government and the State Government of Orissa to undertake the following interim measures over a period of two years:—

- (i) emergency feeding programme.
- (ii) Old age pensions, disability pensions and other social security measures.
- (iii) employment generation in Agriculture, ecological security, social conservation, irrigation and other schemes.
- (iv) Specificity of programme.
- (v) Monitoring arrangements.
- (vi) Drinking water - Maintaining tube-wells and hand-pumps in good condition and improvement in logistical facilities.
- (vii) Public Health - Improvement in nutritional conditions and also undertaking a health nutritional survey.

(viii) Land Reform - Study of existing land reform and suggesting measures for improvement.

(d) The Commission felt that the possibility of deaths which occurred could have been due to prolonged malnutrition and hunger, compounded by diseases.

(e) The Government of Orissa had prepared a Long Term Action Plan (LTAP) for the KBK districts containing a package of programmes which aim at ameliorating the fundamental causes contributing to backwardness of the area and simultaneously creating opportunities for augmenting purchasing capacity of people over a period of time. The Planning Commission is monitoring the implementation of LTAP.

[*Translation*]

#### **Indian Council for Cultural Relations**

4158. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government contemplate to bring changes in the set-up of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):  
(a) The organisational set-up of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations as defined in its Constitution is reviewed from time to time. The Governing Body and the General Assembly of the ICCR adopt changes if they are found necessary.

(b) In keeping with this practice the Council has recently opened new Cultural Centres in Johannesburg, Durban and Colombo.

(c) does not arise.

[*English*]

#### **Nuclear Test**

4159. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:  
SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact Pakistan has decided to resume its nuclear tests in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) and (b) After Pakistan announced a moratorium on further nuclear testing, a week later on 18th June 1998, the Pakistan Foreign Ministry said that Pakistan would calibrate its response to the level of provocation and that there were a number of factors which needed to be analysed, including the available data from the Indian tests which over time would enable an assessment of Indian weapons capabilities in qualitative terms.

(c) Government announced a moratorium on underground nuclear testing which was maintained after Pakistan conducted nuclear tests on 28th and 30th May. Government will continue to monitor developments and would take requisite steps to safeguard national security.

#### **Kashmir Issue**

4160. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL:  
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Resolution on Kashmir seeking greater U.S. role introduced in senate" appearing in 'Time of India' dated 25 June, 1998;

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

(c) the details of the resolutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUDHARA RAJE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The resolution sought to express the sense of the US Senate on the Kashmir issue and sought to give the United States and the United Nations a role in a settlement of the same. The resolution failed to come up for discussions before the Senate. Government's views on third party involvement in India-Pakistan relations have been reiterated on many occasions: there is no

place for any third party involvement of any nature whatsoever in India-Pakistan relations. These views have been made publicly known through official statements as well as interaction at the diplomatic and political levels to all concerned.

[*Transalition*]

#### **Production of Almond**

4161. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to increase the cultivation of almond in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme for Integrated Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits, aiming at the development of various fruits including almond. Under this scheme, four States viz. Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir have been identified for providing financial assistance @ Rs. 2050/- ha. For rejuvenation of old orchards.

#### **Haj Pilgrimage**

4162. SHRI RIZWAN ZAHEER KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that every year lakh of Haj Pilgrims coming from Uttar Pradesh to Delhi face the problem of accommodation in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government have any scheme to build a Haj house for these Haj Pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Every year about 14,000 pilgrims from Uttar Pradesh perform Haj through the Haj Committee. The normal arrangement is for them to stay for about three days at a camp set up by the Delhi State Haj committee near the Haj Manzil, Turkman Gate, Delhi, before they embark for Jeddah. During the Haj season, on any particular day, there was about 500 pilgrims from UP

who are so accommodated. It is the understanding of the officials of the Haj Committee, Mumbai, and the Delhi State Haj Committee that the arrangements for temporary accommodation for these pilgrims are satisfactory.

(c) Haj Houses are constructed in different State capitals largely with the funds raised by the State Haj Committees concerned, with some financial support being provided by the Central Haj Committee. Government do not have a separate scheme for housing the pilgrims.

[*English*]

#### **IAS/IPS on Deputation**

4163. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of IAS, IPS and other allied cadres belonging to different State cadres have come on deputation to Delhi;

(b) the norms fixed for their deputation;

(c) whether some of their stay in Delhi is overdue;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to send back them to their parent Departments/State Cadre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Information is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Officers are appointed to different Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India on tenure deputation basis in accordance with the provisions contained in the Central Staffing Scheme. The appointment of IPS and IFS officers under the Government of India, against posts earmarked for them, is regulated in accordance with the Tenure Rules for IPS officers and the Scheme for staffing posts included in the Central deputation reserve of the IFS and other forestry posts.

(c) and (d) Appointment of officers upto the level of Additional Secretary and Inspector General of Police is made for the prescribed tenure. No tenure has been

prescribed for officers at the level of Special Secretary/ Secretary and Addl. DG/DG of Police. Indian Forests Service (IFS) officers are appointed against posts included in the Central deputation reserve of the IFS and other Forestry posts for the prescribed tenure.

Any proposal for extension of tenure of an officer beyond the normal tenure is considered only when there is strong justification.

(e) Officers on completion of their tenure/extended tenure are reverted to their parent cadres.

#### **Statement**

Information about Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS) and Indian forests Service (IFS) officers on Central deputation to Delhi as on 1st July 1998 is given below:—

Service	No. of officers on deputation
IAS	608
IPS	414*
IFS	54

\*In the case of IPS officers appointed in various Police organisations, the head of the Organisation makes internal transfers and postings from time to time. Hence the number of IPS officers posted at Delhi is not readily available. The figure of 414 given denotes the number of IPS officers on Central deputation.

#### **Bharatiya Cattle Research Development Foundation**

4164. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the orders placed by Bharatiya Cattle Research Development Foundation with CIAE, Bhopal in the middle of 1996 for supply of multi-tool bars have not been executed till date;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the manner in which the drudgery of Draught Animal Power and farmers would be reduced and productivity improved;

(d) the promotional schemes in force for tractorisation and use of DAP; and

(e) the total amount of subsidy paid for tractors during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) During July, 1996 to January 1997 four orders from M/s. Bharatiya Cattle Resource Development Foundation by CIAE, Bhopal for supply of Animal Drawn multi-purpose tool bar to four different organizations Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh, Mr. Deep Chand Gareli, Rural & Animal Protection Development Trust, Surendra Nagar, Gujarat, Mr. S. Krishana, Ahinsa Research Foundation, T. Nagar, Chennai and M/s Raghu Hari Dalmia, Orissa Cement Ltd., Rajganjpur, Sunder Gadh, Orissa for a sum of Rs. 41,275/- were received. The order were for the design of multi-purpose tool bar with lifting mechanism which was not a released design of CIAE, Bhopal but a new development. It, therefore, took sometime to design and fabricate four prototypes. M/s. Bharatiya Cattle Resource Development Foundation was informed in February 1998 that the total cost of 4 units of multi-tool bar alongwith attachments and Nagpuri yokes would be Rs. 57,500/- and they should send the balance amount to CIAE, Bhopal.

Out of four multi purpose tool bar alongwith the attachments, one has already been supplied to M/s. Raghu Hari Dalmia, Orissa Cement Ltd., Sunder Gadh, Orissa, one is under dispatch to Chennai and the remaining two are in the process of dispatch to Rishikesh and Gujarat.

(c) The drudgery of Draught Animal Power and farmers would be reduced by using high capacity implements matching to the draft capacity of the animals. This will help to get more outputs from the same animals, thus requiring less time for doing the same job.

(d) In the Integrated Crop Development Programmes of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation of Government of India subsidies on different types of animal drawn implements for wheat, rice, coarse cereals, jute, pulses, oilseeds and sugarcane are being given. The subsidy is to the tune of 50% of the cost, subject to a limit of Rs. 1500.

(e) Under a centrally sponsored scheme on Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization a subsidy of 30% limited to Rs. 30,000 is available to the individual farmers, or their groups, registered co-operative societies, agricultural farming societies, agricultural credit societies for the purchase of tractors upto 30 PTO hp alongwith their matching implements. This scheme has been under implementation since the year 1992-93 except for the year 1994-95. The details of funds released to State

Governments to provide subsidy under this scheme during the last 5 years are given below:—

Year	Subsidy Paid (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	1000.00
1994-95	Nil
1995-96	600.00
1996-97	1673.00
1997-98	1669.30
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4942.30</b>

[Translation]

#### **Food Processing Industries in Gujarat**

4165. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposal approved for setting up of food processing industries in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) whether the number is close to the target;

(c) is so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) During the last three years, i.e., from April 1995 to March 1998, 31 proposals for joint ventures, 100% Export Oriented Units and Industrial Licences have been approved by the Government for setting up food processing units in the state of Gujarat. During the same period, 131 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda have been filed for setting up food processing units in Gujarat.

(b) No targets have been set by the Government.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Rehabilitation of earthquake Victims**

4166. SHRI D.S. AHIRE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position in regard to the implementation of the earthquake rehabilitation programme in Latur and Osmanabad;

(b) the reasons for delay in providing rehabilitation to the victims; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### **Review of Project Under MPLADS**

4167. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have reviewed the ongoing projects of Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme Fund;

(b) if so, the shortcomings detected during the review and the steps being taken by the Government to remove the shortcomings;

(c) the total amount released under this schemes so far and the amount utilised by M.Ps of various States;

(d) the details thereof;

(e) whether the C&AG has recommended to abandon this scheme; and

(f) the opinion of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF



STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND  
PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):

(a) The Union Government have not reviewed the ongoing projects under the MPLAD Scheme.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A statement giving state-wise details of amount released and utilised under the Scheme is attached.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

**Statement***Summary Statement for Release/Expenditure of LS and RS MP's (as on 31/05/98)*

Sl. No.	States/ UTs	1993-1998				
		Release by G.O.I. (Rs. Lakhs)	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. Lakhs)	%Sanction Over Release (Rs. Lakhs)	Expenditure Incurred (Rs. Lakhs)	%Utilisation Over Released (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21795.0	18202	83.5	13088.7	60.1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1065.0	809.0	76.0	641.7	60.3
3.	Assam	7555.0	5579.4	73.9	4083.4	54.0
4.	Bihar	27210.0	23026	84.6	18459.9	67.8
5.	Goa	1015.0	469.3	46.2	361.1	35.6
6.	Gujarat	13435.0	9777.6	72.8	5769.1	42.9
7.	Haryana	5425.0	4579.5	84.4	3387.2	62.4
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2635.0	1483.9	56.3	1186.0	45.0
9.	J & K	1350.0	711.7	52.7	346.7	25.7
10.	Karnataka	15650.0	12072	77.1	8220.5	52.5

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Kerala	10495.0	9122.0	86.9	5748.1	54.8
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20875.0	17362	83.2	12999.8	62.3
13.	Maharashtra	25975.0	22930	88.3	14790.0	56.9
14.	Manipur	1215.0	858.3	70.6	792.4	65.2
15.	Meghalaya	1165.0	525.7	45.1	493.8	42.4
16.	Mizoram	760.0	710.0	93.4	672.3	88.5
17.	Nagaland	810.0	555.0	68.6	555.9	68.6
18.	Orissa	11350.0	9171.6	80.8	5784.3	51.0
19.	Punjab	7305.0	4861.1	66.5	3563.6	48.8
20.	Rajasthan	12525.0	10314	82.3	7051.0	56.3
21.	Sikkim	710.0	681.6	96.0	510.0	71.8
22.	Tamil Nadu	21585.0	16997	78.7	13757.7	63.7
23.	Tripura	915.0	621.9	68.0	399.2	43.6
24.	Uttar Pradesh	45095.0	38241	84.8	31107.9	69.0
25.	West Bengal	19735.0	14378	72.9	10479.6	53.1
26.	A & N Islands	305.0	157.8	51.7	132.7	43.5

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
27.	Chandigarh	355.0	216.7	61.1	151.3	42.6
28.	D & N Haveli	355.0	356.0	100.3	164.6	46.4
29.	Daman & Diu	405.0	227.9	56.3	216.9	53.5
30.	Delhi	3645.0	3168.9	86.9	1835.6	50.4
31.	Lakshdweep	305.0	229.4	75.2	22.3	7.3
32.	Pondicherry	610.0	132.2	21.7	22.1	3.6
Grand Total:		283630.0	228530.5	80.6	166795.4	58.8

[English]

#### Food Production

4168. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise food production for the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the reasons for disparities in productivity in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Statement I to VI giving State wise production of foodgrains, fruits, vegetables, milk, eggs and fish for the latest available three years are attached. The State wise production of meat is not available. However, the indigenous meet production during 1994, 1995 and 1996 is as follows:

(In '000 tons.)

Year	Beef & Buffalo	Sheep & Goat	Pig meat
1994	2493	640	408
1995	2493	646	420
1996	2493	648	420

(b) The disparities in productivity among States is mainly attributed to the divergence in the natural endowments of the States such as climatic conditions, soil characteristics and water availability. The irrigation

infrastructure as well as agricultural policies and practices followed in different parts of the country also lead to the disparities in productivity.

**Statement-I**

*State Wise Estimates of Production and Productivity of Total Foodgrains, 1994-95 to 1997-98*

State	Production (Thousand Tonnes)		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	11667	12684	10421
Assam	3561	3532	3804
Bihar	12953	14134	13289
Gujarat	4103	5209	5700
Haryana	10137	11455	10980
Himachal Pradesh	1362	1289	1409
Jammu & Kashmir	1473	1324	1644
Karnataka	8646	9271	8638
Kerala	974	858	1151
Madhya Pradesh	18073	19563	18813
Maharashtra	11604	14590	10172
Orissa	6802	4834	6871

1	2	3	4
Punjab	19806	21564	21649
Rajasthan	9567	12838	12925
Tamilnadu	6405	7645	8761
Uttar Pradesh	38368	42693	42001
West Bengal	12885	13739	13803
Others	2028	2099	2096
All India	180415	199321	194127

***Statement-II******Fruits Production***

(000 Tonnes)

S.No.	State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5023	5162	5470
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50	50	66
3.	Assam	1186	1239	1212
4.	Bihar	3584	3378	6045
5.	Delhi	10	2	3
6.	Goa	88	121	94
7.	Gujarat	2244	2448	2068

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1	2	3	4	5
8.	Haryana	123	134	145
9.	Himachal Pradesh	325	325	312
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	868	746	790
11.	Karnataka	4197	4511	4726
12.	Kerala	1783	1810	1826
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1320	1118	1143
14.	Maharashtra	5113	5099	4799
15.	Manipur	110	110	111
16.	Meghalaya	237	202	239
17.	Mizoram	44	51	71
18.	Nagaland	56	73	72
19.	Orissa	1151	1272	1242
20.	Punjab	728	737	761
21.	Rajasthan	95	230	238
22.	Sikkim	22	12	12
23.	Tamil Nadu	3621	4819	4819
24.	Tripura	326	326	401
25.	Uttar Pradesh	3471	3363	3511

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1	2	3	4	5
26.	West Bengal	1458	1219	1283
	U.Ts.			
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	16	17	17
28.	Chandigarh	1	0	0
29.	D & N Haveli	7	7	7
30.	Daman & Diu	3	3	3
31.	Lakshadweep	0	1	1
32.	Pondicherry	17	20	21
	All India:	37255	38603	41507

**Statement-III****Vegetables Production**

(000 Tonnes)

S.No.	State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1420	2341	2444
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	80	80	80
3.	Assam	1932	1970	2485
4.	Bihar	13610	11726	12285
5.	Delhi	464	551	613
6.	Goa	0	65	65

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1	2	3	4	5
7.	Gujarat	18699	1730	2089
8.	Haryana	1155	1275	1420
9.	Himachal Pradesh	538	544	569
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	354	354	354
11.	Karnataka	5035	5668	5705
12.	Kerala	2790	2790	2790
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2551	2241	2353
14.	Maharashtra	2738	2809	2957
15.	Manipur	33	35	36
16.	Meghalaya	238	200	211
17.	Mizoram	45	77	79
18.	Nagaland	108	87	87
19.	Orissa	7984	7896	8706
20.	Punjab	1721	1721	1774
21.	Rajasthan	363	283	357
22.	Sikkim	47	29	51
23.	Tamil Nadu	4389	4398	4398
24.	Tripura	321	321	358

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1	2	3	4	5
25.	Uttar Pradesh	1108	12686	13873
26.	West Bengal	4859	5340	5391
	U.Ts.			
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	19	16	16
28.	Chandigarh	9	0	0
29.	D & N Haveli	14	14	14
30.	Daman & Diu	1	1	1
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	23	37	34
	All India:	65787	67286	71595

**Statement-IV****Milk Production**

(000 Tonnes)

S.No.	State	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4221	4261	4470
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	22	23	14
3.	Assam	698	855	740
4.	Bihar	3250	3315	3399

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1	2	3	4	5
5.	Goa	36	37	39
6.	Gujarat	4459	4608	4831
7.	Haryana	4062	4100	4162
8.	Himachal Pradesh	663	676	698
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	641	862	900
10.	Karnataka	3003	3184	3460
11.	Kerala	2118	2246	2269
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5048	5125	5224
13.	Maharashtra	4812	4991	5127
14.	Manipur	64	60	61
15.	Meghalaya	54	55	57
16.	Mizoram	9	9	9
17.	Nagaland	43	45	44
18.	Orissa	584	625	650
19.	Punjab	6215	6424	6755

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1	2	3	4	5
20.	Rajasthan	5103	5200	5350
21.	Sikkim	32	33	34
22.	Tamil Nadu	3695	3791	3977
23.	Tripura	38	39	40
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11321	11878	12388
25.	West Bengal	3250	3341	3387
	U.Ts.			
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	25	25	21
27.	Chandigarh	39	41	42
28.	D & N Haveli	8	5	4
29.	Daman & Diu	1	1	1
30.	Delhi	257	261	264
31.	Lakshadweep	1	1	1
32.	Pondicherry	33	33	37
All India:		63805	66150	68485

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**Statement-V****Egg Production**

(Lakh Numbers)

S.No.	State	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	54350	60010	56598
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	228	330	335
3.	Assam	4604	6040	4870
4.	Bihar	13980	14000	14100
5.	Goa	996	1009	1060
6.	Gujarat	4682	4943	5017
7.	Haryana	6338	5700	6338
8.	Himachal Pradesh	669	710	718
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3182	3818	3960
10.	Karnataka	14699	15579	16303
11.	Kerala	19160	19960	20610
12.	Madhya Pradesh	11450	11950	12500
13.	Maharashtra	25010	26029	26872

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1	2	3	4	5
14.	Manipur	605	594	608
15.	Meghalaya	751	770	791
16.	Mizoram	198	200	203
17.	Nagaland	449	455	396
18.	Orissa	5740	5867	6300
19.	Punjab	24380	25100	27330
20.	Rajasthan	4170	4500	4750
21.	Sikkim	150	165	170
22.	Tamil Nadu	30509	30490	30420
23.	Tripura	420	440	530
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6268	6712	6990
25.	West Bengal	25001	25682	26030
	U.Ts.			
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	520	522	522
27.	Chandigarh	334	348	311
28.	D & N Haveli	74	40	40
29.	Daman & Diu	35	40	40
30.	Delhi	655	667	720
31.	Lakshadweep	47	50	55
32.	Pondicherry	104	87	77
	All India:	259758	272807	275564

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**Statement-VI****Fish Production**

(000 Tonnes)

S.No.	State	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	345	356	359
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	2
3.	Assam	153	155	155
4.	Bihar	195	240	250
5.	Goa	102	88	97
6.	Gujarat	715	660	725
7.	Haryana	24	28	30
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5	6	6
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	16	17	18
10.	Karnataka	244	305	324
11.	Kerala	597	582	631
12.	Madhya Pradesh	80	91	111
13.	Maharashtra	447	464	590
14.	Manipur	12	13	13

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Meghalaya	1	4	4
16.	Mizoram	2	2	3
17.	Nagaland	3	3	4
18.	Orissa	258	258	277
19.	Punjab	24	26	32
20.	Rajasthan	14	12	14
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	439	448	460
23.	Tripura	25	28	27
24.	Uttar Pradesh	140	146	149
25.	West Bengal	820	893	937
	U.Ts.			
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	26	26	26
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
28.	D & N Haveli	0	0	0
29.	Daman & Diu	12	15	15
30.	Delhi	4	4	4
31.	Lakshadweep	10	10	12
32.	Pondicherry	41	41	43
33.	Chartered Deep Sea Fishing Vessels	30	30	30
All India:		4786	4949	5348

### Global Disarmament

4169. SHRIMATI JASYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have called for global disarmament of nuclear weapons;

(b) if so, the countries supported the view expressed thereon by India;

(c) the reaction of the other countries thereto; and

(d) the views expressed by USA in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) Yes, Sir. We support the elimination of all nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework.

(b) to (d) Our position is supported by all NAM countries as well as some others. The USA has not agreed with the proposal for elimination of nuclear weapons within a time-bound framework.

### Farm Commodities

4170. DR. T. SUBBARMAI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a plan for quantitative restrictions on farm commodities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the list has been cleared by the Ministry of Commerce;

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be cleared and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (e) India has presented to WTO a plan for the elimination of residual Quantitative Restrictions on imports, including those of agricultural products, which are currently maintained for balance of payments purposes. Three phases of decreasing durations have been suggested: Financial Year 1997-2000-(I Phase), Financial Year 2000-2002 (II Phase) and Financial Year 2002-2003 (III Phase). Items of critical

nature like cereals, coarse cereals, edible oils and oilseeds, apple, oranges other citrus fruits, pepper etc., are in the third phase.

2. The list for phasing out quantitative Restrictions was filed with WTO by Ministry of Commerce last year, after it was prepared in consultation with Ministry of Agriculture & other concerned Ministries.

### Dead Bodies

4171. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government consider to arrange the deportation of the dead bodies of non-resident Indians who die while working in foreign countries on free of air charges; and

(b) the reactions of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) There are over 45 lakh Indian nationals living abroad of whom approximately 30 lakh are residing in the countries of the gulf region. As per the current practice in the Gulf countries, the mortal remains of deceased Indian nationals are transported at the expense of the foreign employer/sponsor under the obligations stipulated in the employment contract. As regards Indian nationals residing in other countries, the mortal remains are expected to be transported to India at the cost of the next of kin of the deceased. These arrangements have so far been working satisfactorily.

[Translation]

### Reservation for Sportsmen

4172. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jahanabad): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number/percentage of posts reserved for the sportsmen in the Ministries of the Union Government, Ministry-wise and category-wise;

(b) whether the extent of foresaid reservation is adequate;

(c) whether the Government propose to include the martial arts like Judo-Karate in the sportsmen quota;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and



(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) there is no reservation for appointment of sportspersons under the Central Government. However, a maximum of 5% of direct recruitment vacancies in all Group 'C' and 'D' posts in various Ministries/Departments /Offices under the Central Government can be filled by appointment of meritorious sportspersons.

(c) and (d) Judo and Karate have already been included in the list of games/sports which qualify meritorious sports persons for consideration for appointment to Group C and D posts under the Central Government.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Underground Water**

4173. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:  
SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS  
PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding replenishable ground water available in the country at present;

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

(c) the funds incurred thereon, State-wise;

(d) the irrigation potential being achieved by ground water in each State; and

(e) the measures taken for the maximum utilisation and recharging of ground water in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on the assessment made by the Central Ground Water Board upto 1995, the annual replenishable ground water resources of the country have been assessed as 43.19 million hectare meters. The statewise details are given in Statement I.

(c) No separate head of account for this work is maintained as it is done as a part of normal activity of the Central Ground Water Board.

(d) Irrigation potential created in each State upto the end of 8th Five year Plan is given in Statement-II.

(e) Water being a State subject, measures for utilisation and recharging of ground water are taken by the State Governments. The steps taken by the Union Government to, inter alia, recharge of ground water include:—

- (i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (ii) circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/ Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (iii) Circulation of a Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories including Karnataka to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (iv) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme on studies on recharge of ground water in Maharashtra, NCT of Delhi, Union Territory of Chandigarh and Karnataka.
- (v) Formulation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the State Government in artificial recharge of ground water. The scheme is at consultation stage.

**Statement-I****Ground Water Resources and Irrigation Potential of India**

S. No.	States/UTs	Total Replishable Ground Water Resource (mham/Yr)	Provision for Domestic Industrial & other uses (mham/Yr.)	Available Ground Water Resource for irrigation in net terms (mham/Yr.)	Utilisable Ground Water Resource for irrigation in Net Terms (mham/Yr.)	Gross Draft Estimated on Prorata Basis (mham/Yr.)	Net Draft (mham/Yr.)	Balance Ground Water Resource for future Use in net terms (Mham/Yr.)	Level of Ground Water Development (%)	Weighted Average Delta (m)	Utilisable irrigation potential for Development (m.ha.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.52916	0.52938	2.99978	2.69981	1.01318	0.70922	2.29056	23.64	0.047-1.472	3.96008
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.14385	0.02158	0.12227	0.11005	—	—	0.12227	—	—	0.01800
3.	Assam	2.47192	0.37079	2.10113	1.89102	0.13455	0.09418	2.00695	4.48	1.283	0.90000
4.	Bihar	3.35213	0.50282	2.84931	2.56439	0.78108	0.54676	2.30255	19.19	0.40-0.65	4.94783
5.	Goa	0.02182	0.00327	0.01855	0.01870	0.00219	0.00154	0.01701	8.30	0.570	0.02928
6.	Gujarat	2.03767	0.30585	1.73202	1.55881	1.02431	0.71702	1.01500	41.45	0.45-0.714	2.75590
7.	Haryana	0.85278	0.12782	0.72484	0.65238	0.88853	0.60798	0.11886	83.88	0.385-0.8	1.48170
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.03680	0.00731	0.0299	0.02637	0.00757	0.00530	0.02399	18.10	0.385	0.06850
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.44257	0.06639	0.37618	0.33858	0.00713	0.00500	0.37118	1.33	0.385-0.8	0.70795
10.	Karnataka	1.61857	0.24279	1.37578	1.23821	0.61443	0.43010	0.94568	31.28	0.18-0.74	2.57281
11.	Kerala	0.79003	0.13135	0.65868	0.59281	0.14374	0.10082	0.55806	15.28	0.53-0.83	0.87925
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5.08892	0.76332	4.32560	3.89298	1.01866	0.71312	3.61248	16.49	0.400	9.73249
13.	Maharashtra	3.78673	1.23972	2.54701	2.29231	1.10576	0.77403	1.77298	30.39	0.43-1.28	3.65197
14.	Manipur	0.31540	0.04730	0.26810	0.24129	Neg.	Neg.	0.26810	Neg.	0.650	0.36900

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15.	Meghalaya	0.05397	0.00810	0.04587	0.04128	0.00280	0.00182	0.04405	Neg.	0.650	0.06351
16.	Mizoram	Not Assessed									
17.	Nagaland	0.07240	0.01090	0.06150	0.05535	Neg.	Neg.	0.06150	Neg.	—	—
18.	Orissa	2.00014	0.30002	1.70012	1.53009	0.20447	0.14313	1.55899	8.42	0.34-0.44	4.20258
19.	Punjab	1.86550	0.18652	1.67898	1.51109	2.25109	1.57576	0.10322	93.85	0.518	2.91715
20.	Rajasthan	1.27076	0.19945	1.07131	0.98418	0.77483	0.54236	0.52893	50.63	0.457-0.6	1.77783
21.	Sikkim	Not Assessed									
22.	Tamil Nadu	2.63912	0.39586	2.24326	2.01892	1.93683	1.35578	0.88748	60.44	0.37-0.93	2.83205
23.	Tripura	0.06634	0.00995	0.05639	0.05076	0.02692	0.01885	0.03754	33.43	0.630	0.98056
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8.38210	1.25743	7.12467	6.41233	3.83364	2.68354	4.44113	37.67	0.20-0.50	16.79896
25.	West Bengal	2.30923	0.34642	1.98281	1.76853	0.67794	0.47452	1.48829	24.18	0.33-0.75	3.31794
	Total States	43.14789	7.07414	36.07355	32.46621	16.42936	11.50055	24.57300	31.88	—	64.04513
<b>Union Territories</b>											
1.	Andaman & Nikobar	Not Assessed									
2.	Chandigarh	0.002966	—	—	—	0.00351	0.000512	—	—	—	—
3.	Dadar & N. Haveli	0.004220	0.000633	0.003587	0.00323	0.00085	0.000457	0.003130	12.74	0.640	0.00504
4.	Daman & Diu	0.001300	0.000200	0.001100	0.00099	0.00129	0.000900	0.000200	—	—	—
5.	NCT of Delhi	0.029154	0.017832	—	—	0.01684	0.011800	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6.	Lakshadweep	0.000243	—	—	—	0.00022	0.000155	0.000088	63.79	—	—
7.	Pondicherry	0.002877	0.000432	0.002445	0.00220	0.00085	0.000595	0.001850	24.34	—	—
	Total UTs	0.040760	0.019197	0.007132	0.00642	0.02336	0.016362	0.005780	—	—	0.00504
	Grand Total	43.18850	7.093337	36.080682	32.47264	16.45272	11.516912	24.57878	31.92	—	64.05017

*Position of Utilisation of Irrigation Potential upto end of Eighth Plan*

(Unit '000 Hectare)

Sl. No.	State	Ultimate Irrigation potential	Potential created	Potential utilised
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3960	1678	1644
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	18	2	2
3.	Assam	900	200	142
4.	Bihar	4947	4365	3906
5.	Goa	29	2	2
6.	Gujarat	2756	1790	1707
7.	Haryana	1462	1544	1498
8.	Himachal Pradesh	68	16	11
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	708	10	10
10.	Karnataka	2574	788	772

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Kerala	879	142	127
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9732	1515	1496
13.	Maharashtra	3652	1635	1598
14.	Manipur	369	1	1
15.	Meghalaya	65	9	9
16.	Mizoram	—	—	—
17.	Nagaland	—	1	1
18.	Orissa	4203	701	571
19.	Punjab	2917	3384	3324
20.	Rajasthan	1778	2049	2015
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	2832	1315	1312
23.	Tripura	81	21	21
24.	Uttar Pradesh	16799	22634	20358
25.	West Bengal	3318	1861	1408
<b>Total States</b>		<b>64045</b>	<b>45663</b>	<b>41931</b>
<b>Total UTs</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>64050</b>	<b>45726</b>	<b>41993</b>

**Micro-Testing of Soil**

4174. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are formulating any scheme for micro-testing of soil;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have sought financial assistance from the Union Government for procuring equipments etc. for the said testing; and

(c) if so, the amount of financial assistance proposed to be provided to the Government of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Government of India has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilisers which has been continued during the IXth Plan. Soil testing including testing for micro nutrients is a component of the Scheme.

(b) and (c) During the period 1991-92 to 1996-97, an amount of Rs. 50.30 lakhs was released to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for procurement of equipments for micro-nutrient testing. Funds are made available to all States including Madhya Pradesh within the limits of budget grants.

[English]

**Floriculture Products**

4175. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK:  
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any plan to boost the production and enhance the quality of cut flowers and other floriculture products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have estimated the annual loss of revenue from fruits, vegetables and flowers which perish or suffer heavy damage during the post harvest handling;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Govt. to reduce the loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The Central Sector Scheme of Development of Commercial Floriculture introduced for the first time during the Eighth Five Year Plan aims at establishing Model Floriculture Centres through out the country, representing different zones suited for cultivation of different types of flowers. Of the eleven Centres sanctioned at Bangalore, Trivandrum, Hyderabad, Calcutta, Srinagar, Lucknow, Gangtok, Ooty in Tamilnadu, Rajgurnagar at Pune, Mohali in Punjab and Chail in Himachal Pradesh, four centres at Bangalore, Gangtok, Srinagar and Chail in Himachal Pradesh have already started functioning and others are in final stages of completion. The mandate of these Model Floriculture Centres is to produce, propagate and multiply elite planting material of traditional as well as cut flowers and demonstrate innovative technologies to farmers and entrepreneurs. Area expansion is also one of the important components of this scheme. An allocation of Rs. 14.29 crores under scheme was made during the Eighth Plan, Rs. 3 crores during 1997-98 and Rs. 10 crores for the current financial year.

(c) to (e) It is estimated that approximately 25% 30% of the production of fruits and vegetables are lost, due to inadequate infrastructure for post harvest handling and marketing, which is about Rs. 5,000/- crores per year. The National Horticulture Board under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation implements the following two major programmes to address this problem, viz., (i) Integrated Project on Management of Post harvest Infrastructure of Horticulture Crops (ii) Development of Marketing of Horticultural Produce through participation in Soft Loan.

Besides, APEDA under the Ministry of Commerce provides financial assistance under various plan schemes for setting up infrastructural facilities by growers and exporters. APEDA has also set up a Perishable Cargo Complex at IGI Airport to facilitate export of fruits, vegetables and flowers. The cold chain facility is also being established at Bangalore, Bombay, Chennai, Hyderabad and Thiruvananthapuram airports. •

**Termination of Nuclear Agreement**

4176. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an international pressure on Russia to terminate the recent agreement signed with India for setting up of nuclear reactors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Indian Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Government have seen reports in the media to the effect that the US Government sought to put pressure on Russia not to conclude an agreement in this regard.

(c) Developments having a bearing on national security and national development are constantly being monitored.

#### **Production of Groundnut**

4177. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA:  
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of groundnuts produced in country, State-wise during the last three years;

(b) whether Government are granting financial assistance to the farmers particularly small and marginal farmers to grow groundnut; and

(c) if so, the amount of assistance given to the farmers in the tribal districts of Madhya Pradesh during 1996-97 and 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) State-wise total quantity of groundnut produced in the country during the last three years is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir. A centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in operation in 23 States for increasing the production of Oilseeds including groundnut. Under the Programme, financial assistance is provided for production and distribution of seeds, distribution of minikits, Rhizobium Culture, Gypsum/Pyrites, improved farm implements and sprinkler sets etc. In addition, frontline and general demonstrations are conducted on farmer's fields to transfer the production technology.

(c) Amount of assistance under Oilseeds Production Programme given to the tribals in Madhya Pradesh during year 1996-97 is Rs. 518.78 lakhs & during 1997-98, Rs. 676.65 lakhs.

#### **Statement**

##### *Total Production of Groundnut ('000 tonnes)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (Estimated)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2625.9	2085.9	1142.0
2.	Bihar	4.6	6.9	7.0
3.	Goa	1.9	2.7	—
4.	Gujarat	1028.3	2449.0	2664.0
5.	Haryana	1.7	1.4	2.0

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.5	0.5	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	0.1	—
8.	Karnataka	1138.7	1122.5	873.0
9.	Kerala	9.9	9.9	15.0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	259.6	259.9	180.0
11.	Maharashtra	576.4	731.5	595.0
12.	Nagaland	1.0	2.1	—
13.	Orissa	92.3	78.8	81.0
14.	Punjab	8.0	9.0	9.0
15.	Rajasthan	164.8	270.1	365.0
16.	Tamilnadu	1520.3	1803.6	1334.0
17.	Tripura	1.3	2.4	—
18.	Uttar Pradesh	100.0	128.7	128.0
19.	West Bengal	42.1	57.6	55.0
20.	Pondicherry	2.2	2.0	—
21.	Others	—	—	7.0
All India Total		7579.4	9023.6	7457.0



**Wheat Production**

4178. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance has been provided or proposed to be provided by the Union Government for the successful implementation of the comprehensive plan worked out by scientists to raise the wheat production; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) to raise the wheat production in the country new wheat varieties and production technologies are being evolved by Indian Council of Agricultural Research/State Agricultural Universities Research System. Various Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Crop Production Oriented Programmes like Integrated Cereals Development Programmes in Wheat/Rice/Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Wheat, ICDP-Rice & ICDP-Coarse-Cereals) and Seed Minikits Programme of Wheat are being implemented in different States for the transfer of the technology. Through these schemes assistance is being provided to the farmers so as to motivate them to adopt the improved production technologies.

Allocation of funds, as central share, for implementation of the above programmes during 1998-99 are as under:

Programmes	Allocation as GOI share (Rs. In crores)
1. ICDP-Wheat.	25.00
2. ICDP-Rice.	46.00
3. ICDP-Coarse Cereals.	25.03
4. Seed Minikit Programme of Wheat	3.00

[*Translation*]

**"Sankat Chawal"**

4179. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agriculture Research Institute has under taken a research work on the development of "Sankat Chawal";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the regions where these are grown in the country, State-wise, alongwith its effect on increasing the production of paddy in these regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No Sir. Indian Agricultural Research Institute is not doing any research on 'Sankat Chawal'. However, it is engaged in research on hybrid rice (known as 'Sankar Chawal' in Hindi) with a major thrust on development of basmati rice hybrids.

(b) Initially, the research efforts were exclusively devoted to development of parental lines for the development of hybrids. As a result the Institute has developed two cytoplasmic male sterile lines of basmati (Pusa 3A and Pusa 4A) and one male sterile line of non-basmati rice (Pusa 5A). Simultaneously some restorer lines have also been developed. During 1997, four basmati hybrids were tested in national co-ordinated trial for the first time. These hybrid would require testing for two more years as per normal procedure for assessing their farm worthiness. Seven non-basmati rice hybrids developed by the Institute were tested in the national trial during 1997. During 1998, 14 old and new hybrids are being tested in the national trials.

(c) The question does not arise.

[*English*]

**Construction of Dam**

4180. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to construct a Dam over Ghaghar river near Chandigarh to store drinking water for neighbouring States of Punjab, Haryana and Union Territory of Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the work on the dam is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) Central Government is not contemplating to construct a dam over Ghaggar river near Chandigarh to store drinking water for neighbouring States of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh. Government of Haryana is, however, formulating a multi-purpose scheme on Ghaggar river which shall also meet the drinking water requirements of Chandigarh, Panchkula and Ambala area. The detailed project report has not yet been submitted by Government of Haryana.

#### **Prospects in Food Processing Sector**

4181. SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has set up any Committee to study the prospects in the food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Grant to D.M.s.**

4182. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant given to the DMS during the last year by the Government and the manner in which the grant has been utilised by the DMS;

(b) whether the DMS milk is being sold in the black-market openly with connivance of the administration;

(c) if so, whether the Government has taken any action to stop this black-marketing and to fix its responsibility; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the scheme to provide milk at cheaper rates to the residents of the capital would be made successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) (a) The Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) was given a budgetary support of Rs. 5847.60 lakhs during the financial year 1997-98. The budgetary support is utilised to bridge the gap between revenue receipts and expenditure which arises due to the difference in the cost of production and selling price of milk.

(b) to (d) DMS is selling milk at much lower prices than that of other suppliers. Consequently, there is heavy demand on the milk booths of DMS. Complaints regarding black-marketing are attended to. If the complaints are found true, necessary action including cancellation of agencies of Senior Depot/Depot Agent/Concessionaire etc is taken. Consumers Advisory Committee and Residents Welfare Associations are also being increasingly associated to aid in making milk distribution smooth and fair.

#### **Agriculture Based Industries**

4183. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey in regard to the agriculture based food processing industries in rural areas of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details of the agriculture based food processing industries which are being run successfully; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to promote agriculture based food processing industries in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As food processing industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors, information regarding the number of food processing units including those being run successfully State-wise is not maintained Centrally.

(c) Under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, financial assistance in the form of very soft loan and grant is provided to cooperatives, Non-

Governmental Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings and private sector industries etc. For setting up of food processing units any where in the country including rural areas.

Besides, the Ministry has also been operating since 1992-93, a scheme for setting up Food processing and Training Centres (FPTCs) with strong focus on the rural areas.

[English]

#### Arms Race in South Asia

4184. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the five nuclear power meeting in Geneva, in first week of June, 1998 agreed on a plan of "Quick Action" to head off an arms race in South Asia, laying down ways, the United States could help ease tension in the region;

(b) if so, the details of Quick Action Plan and the role assigned to the US therein to ease tension; and

(c) the Government's reaction and response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) and (b) The Foreign Ministers of Five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council, P-5, in their meeting in Geneva, June 4, 1998 adopted a Joint Communiqué which "condemned" the tests carried out by India and Pakistan, expressed their "deep concern about the danger to peace and stability in the region", and "pledged to cooperate closely" in order to prevent an arms race in the sub-continent, "bolster the non-proliferation regime and to encourage reconciliation and peaceful resolution of differences between India and Pakistan". They called upon India and Pakistan to adhere to the CTBT immediately and unconditionally and said that their goal continues to be adherence by all countries to the NPT as it stands, without any modification. They said that they would "actively encourage" India and Pakistan "to find mutually acceptable solutions, through direct dialogue that address the root causes of tension, including Kashmir and to try to build confidence rather than seek confrontation".

(c) The Government issued a statement pointing out that enjoys a consistent record as a responsible member of the international community and a pioneer and leading

participant in the movement towards global nuclear disarmament. India has made consistent efforts aimed towards building confidence and promoting peace and stability in our region. In the wake of the nuclear tests, Government have also taken various initiatives with a view to addressing concerns expressed subsequent to the tests. India expects a positive response to the various initiatives it has announced so that peace and stability are maintained in the sub-continent. The statement also underlined that one of the most serious threats to our security has arisen because of the non-observance of the obligations that the Permanent five have undertaken under the NPT.

[Translation]

#### Support Price

4185. SHRI GAURI SHANKER CHATURBHUI BISEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission for Agricultural costs and prices pays attention towards the support price proposed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the price of soyabean and gram are likely to be announced as per the price proposed by the State during the next few years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), prior to submitting their reports, consult the State Governments and various other public institutions and concerned interests. The CACP visit different States for eliciting the views of the State Governments and various other interests including farmers, trade and industry and also invite the representatives of various organisations and State Governments for detailed discussions with the Commission in New Delhi.

While formulating their recommendations, the CACP consider the following important factors:—

- (1) Cost of Production.
- (2) Changes in input prices.
- (3) Input/Output price parity.

- (4) Trends in market prices.
- (5) Demand and Supply situation.
- (6) Inter-Crop price parity.
- (7) Effect on industrial cost structure.
- (8) Effect on general price level.
- (9) Effect on cost of living.
- (10) International market price situation.
- (11) Parity between price paid and prices received by farmers (Terms of Trade)

Based on the recommendations of the CACP and also taking into account the views of the State Governments and Central Ministries as well as other relevant factors, the Government announces each season the minimum support prices for major agricultural commodities including soybean and gram.

#### **Disparity in Per Capita**

4186. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:  
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:  
SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ:  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN:  
SHRI ASHOK NAM DEORAO MOHOL:  
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is disparity in the per capita income/expenditure in rural and urban areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government propose to appoint a Commission for conducting survey to bridge this gap; and
- (d) if so, the time by which the Commission is likely to be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION) (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The estimate of income in rural and urban areas are not available. However, as per the latest Consumer Expenditure Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in its 50th Round

(July, 1993 to June, 1994), the per capita consumption expenditure in urban areas is 62.8 per cent more than that in rural areas.

(c) No, Sir. There is no proposal to appoint a Commission for conducting survey in this regard. The survey on rural and urban expenditure will continue to be conducted by the NSSO.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Oil Seeds**

4187. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:  
SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK:  
DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the annual production and per capita consumption of oil seeds in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any study regarding the acreage under oil seeds in the country;

(c) if so the details thereof State-wise;

(d) the acreage, production and consumption of oils, in comparison with other developing countries for the last three years;

(e) whether the Government propose to import oil seeds to save the oil mills in the public sector from closure and make full use of their installed capacity; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) State-wise annual production of oilseeds in the country during 1995-96 to 1997-98 is given in the Statement-I enclosed. State-wise per capita consumption of oilseeds in the country is not maintained. However, the approximate requirement of edible oil in the country is assessed at the present rate of 8.00 kgs. Per capita per year consumption.

(b) and (c) A well established crop estimation methodology of complete enumeration for reporting the area and crop cutting experiment for production and productivity of oilseeds is already in existence in the country due to which the need to conduct any study is not felt.

(d) The cooperative figures of production and consumption of oil in India and some of the neighbouring countries during 1994-95 are given below:—

(Qty. In '000 tonnes)

Country	Production of edible oil	Consumption
India	5430	6150
Pakistan	343	1706
Bangladesh	109	759
China	5948	9143

(Source: USDA estimates)

(e) and (f) Mostly, the oil mills are in private sector. No mill in public sector has made any demand for the import of oilseeds. However, the Oil Crushing Units, particularly Solvent Extractors Association (SEA) and Soyabean Processors' Association (SOPA) have been writing to the Government for import of oilseeds particularly soyabean in order to utilise their installed capacity. It has been found that import of soyabean could be allowed only in split form to eliminate dangers of importing dangerous pathogens. It was also decided that the association of industry would create splitting facilities at the port of entry i.e. at Kandla Port, before the import of soyabean takes place. The Association has been conveyed the decision, who has yet to take necessary action to create the splitting facility at the port of entry.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise details of Annual Production of Oilseeds in the country from 1995-96 to 1997-98*

('000 tonnes)

Sl. No.	State/UT	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (Estimated)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3029.9	2425.5	1447.0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	23.8	24.2	—
3.	Assam	155.7	155.0	172.0
4.	Bihar	142.2	160.7	143.0
5.	Goa	1.9	2.7	—
6.	Gujarat	2164.4	3808.9	4056.0
7.	Haryana	782.9	1003.8	866.0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	9.5	9.5	11.0

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1	2	3	4	5
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	43.6	43.8	42.0
10.	Karnataka	1741.9	1714.2	1380.0
11.	Kerala	11.4	11.3	17.0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4949.6	4997.6	6041.0
13.	Maharashtra	1980.6	2384.0	1971.0
14.	Manipur	1.4	1.5	—
15.	Meghalaya	6.4	6.5	—
16.	Mizoram	7.1	7.0	—
17.	Nagaland	15.5	21.5	—
18.	Orissa	243.2	177.2	180.0
19.	Punjab	306.1	310.0	303.0
20.	Rajasthan	3070.0	3524.6	3222.0
21.	Sikkim	7.6	7.6	—
22.	Tamilnadu	1593.6	1929.0	1468.0
23.	Tripura	8.5	8.5	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1423.8	1772.0	1668.0
25.	West Bengal	372.1	450.9	619.0
26.	Dadra & Nagar haveli	—	—	—
27.	Pondicherry	2.3	2.1	—
28.	Delhi	1.1	0.8	—
29.	Others	—	—	83.0
All India :		22106.1	24960.4	23689.0

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*[English]***Border Disputes**

4188. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian nationals evacuated from Ethiopia consequent on the border dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the safety and security of such Indian nationals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) The total number of Indian nationals evacuated from Ethiopia and Eritrea following the border conflict between the two countries was 188. 35 Indian nationals working in the border region of Ethiopia and 153 Indian nationals working in Eritrea were evacuated to India.

(b) Government is continuously monitoring the situation in both Ethiopia and Eritrea. Our Embassy in Addis Ababa has been in constant touch with members of the Indian community in the two countries and is advising them to take necessary steps for their safety. All Indians working in the border region of Ethiopia and Eritrea have been moved to the capital cities. Government is also in touch with authorities concerned in both countries to ensure the safety and security of our nationals.

*[Translation]***Loans to Earthquake Victims**

4189. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agencies disbursing loans to the earthquake victims are winding-up their lending operations due to uncertainty with regard to recovery of loans in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the response of State and the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

*[English]***Agitation in Indonesia**

4190. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indians have been repatriated or have migrated from Indonesia following large-scale disturbances and anti President Suharto agitations;

(b) if so, the number of Indians so far repatriated or migrated; and

(c) the facilities extended by the Government to help these Indians move out from Indonesia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) to (c) In the wake of recent disturbances in Indonesia, several members of the expatriate community, including Indian nationals and people of Indian origin, temporarily moved out of the country. Besides the regular Air India flights, Government arranged for additional flights to facilitate the travel to India of about 800 members of the Indian community between 18 and 21, May 1998. Arrangements were also made to render expeditious consular services to assist the community.

**Development of Biological Resources**

4191. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to develop the biological resources of India's Exclusive Economic Zone; and

(b) the details thereof?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to develop the biological resources of India's Exclusive Economic Zone, inter-alia include:

(i) implementation of a series of management and conservation measures to realise sustainable yields from the capture fishery resources;

- (ii) formulation of plans to sustainably exploit the potential resources from the high seas and to increase production through establishment of artificial reefs, sea ranching and coastal/ onshore farming and mariculture;
- (iii) development of data-base on marine fisheries and biodiversity;
- (iv) assessment of marine living resources and their commercial exploitation;
- (v) determination of optimum fishing fleet size; gears and mesh size of such gears;
- (vi) continuous monitoring of ocean health;
- (vii) generation and dissemination potential fishing zone forecasts to the fishing community; development of fisheries forecasting models, human resource development in marine biological resources to meet the R&D requirements, etc.

#### **Agriculture Institutions**

4192. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Agriculture Universities in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the Government have any proposal to set-up new universities in the country;
- (c) if so, the details of the proposal alongwith location and amount of funds provided State-wise; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) There are 28 State Agricultural Universities, One Central Agricultural University, Imphal and 4 to be the Deemed Universities. States having single SAU are: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, J&K, Orissa, Kerala, States having who SAUs are: Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamilnadu, West Bengal; States having 3 SAUs are: Uttar Pradesh; States having 4 SAUs: Maharashtra; one Central University, Manipur, Imphal and 4 to be deemed universities one each at New Delhi, U.P., Haryana and Maharashtra. University wise list is provided in Statement.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Not applicable.

(d) Agriculture education being the state subject, SAUs are established by the State Government and ICAR only provide support under development grant to the State Agricultural Universities. Due to scarcity of funds, no Central Agricultural University is proposed for IX Plan.

#### **Statement**

##### *List of State Agricultural Universities*

1. **Andhra Pradesh**  
Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)-500030
2. **Assam**  
Assam Agricultural University Jorhat (Assam) 785013
3. **Bihar**  
Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur (Bihar) 848125
4. **Birsa Agricultural University**  
Kanke, Ranchi (Bihar) 834006
5. **Gujarat**  
Gujarat Agricultural University Sardar krushinagar, banaskantha, (Gujarat) 385506
6. **Himachal Pradesh**  
Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Palampur, Himachal Pradesh 176 062
7. **Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry,**  
Solani (Himachal Pradesh) 173230
8. **Haryana**  
CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar, (Haryana) 125004



9. **Jammu and Kashmir**  
During Winter (Nov. To April)  
Sher-e-Kashmir University of  
Agricultural Sciences and  
Technology, Railway Road,  
Jammu Tawi (Jammu and Kashmir)  
180 004  
During Summer (May to Oct.)  
Sher-e-Kashmir University of  
Agricultural Sciences and  
Technology, Shalimar Campus,  
Post Box - 262, Srinagar  
(Jammu and Kashmir) 190001
10. **Kerala**  
Kerala Agricultural University  
Vellanikkara, Thrissur (Kerala)  
680 654
11. **Karnataka**  
University of Agricultural  
Sciences, Post bag No. 2477  
Bangalore (Karnataka) 560065
12. University of Agricultural  
Science, Dharwad (Karnataka) 580005
13. **Maharashtra**  
Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth  
Dapoli (Maharashtra) 415712
14. Mahatma Phule Krishi  
Vidyapeeth, Rahuri  
(Maharashtra) 431722
15. Marathwada Agricultural University  
Parbhani (Maharashtra)  
413722
16. Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Krishi  
Vidyapeeth, Krishi Nagar,  
Akola (Maharashtra) 431402
17. **Madhya Pradesh**  
Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa  
Vidyalaya, Jabalpur (M.P.)  
482 004
18. Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswa  
Vidyalaya, Krishinagar,  
Raipour (Madhya Pradesh)
19. **Orissa**  
Orissa University of Agriculture  
and Technology, Bhubaneswar  
(Orissa) 751003
20. **Punjab**  
Punjab Agricultural University  
Ludhiana-141004
21. **Rajasthan**  
Rajasthan Agricultural University  
Bikaner-334 002
22. **Tamil Nadu**  
Tamil Nadu Agricultural  
University (Tamil Nadu) 641003
23. Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal  
Sciences University, Madras  
(Tamil Nadu) 600 007
24. **Uttar Pradesh**  
C.S. Azad University of  
Agriculture and Technology  
Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh) 208002
25. Govind Ballabh Pant University of  
Agriculture and Technology  
Pantnagar (Uttar Pradesh) 263145
26. Narendra Deva University of  
Agriculture and Technology  
Faizabad (Uttar Pradesh)  
224 001
27. **West Bengal**  
Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwa  
Vidyalaya, Mohanpur, Nadia  
(West Bengal) 741 252
28. West Bengal University of  
Animal and Fishery Sciences,  
Belgachia, Calcutta-37  
(West Bengal).

[Translation]

**CADP and AIBP**

4193. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:  
SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the gap between the irrigation potential created and its utilisation in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the total funds released by the Government and utilised to bridge the gap and in helping the implementation of Command Area Development programme (CADP) and funds released under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during the period upto 1997-98 financial year, State-wise; and

(c) the achievement made by the Government to bridge the gap during the period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) State-wise details of creation and utilisation of irrigation potential and the gap between the two, alongwith Central assistance released under Centrally sponsored "Command Area Development Programme (CADP)" and Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP)" during each of the last three years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are enclosed at Statement-I, II and III respectively.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise Details Showing Creation and Utilisation of Irrigation Potential, the Gap between the two, Central Assistance Released under CADP and AIBP During 1995-96.*

States/UTs	Irrigation Potential (In thousand hectares)		Gap	Central Assistance Released Under CADP	Central Assistance Released Under AIBP (*)
	Created	Utilised		(Rs. Lakhs)	(Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	5.80	7.60	-1.80	190.81	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	4.00	2.15	1.85	0.00	0.00
Assam	3.11	3.11	0.00	62.00	0.00
Bihar	30.69	27.00	3.69	100.00	0.00
Goa	0.35	0.17	0.18	13.81	0.00
Gujarat	23.40	37.40	-14.00	550.14	0.00
Haryana	13.13	10.83	2.30	1060.00	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	2.41	0.66	1.75	4.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
J & K	2.80	3.36	-0.56	277.61	0.00
Karnataka	61.49	22.37	39.12	681.80	0.00
Kerala	24.82	24.82	0.00	774.46	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	54.30	57.20	-2.90	70.00	0.00
Maharashtra	103.40	97.00	6.40	1446.69	0.00
Manipur	5.40	4.40	1.00	102.04	0.00
Meghalaya	0.84	0.63	0.21	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.36	0.35	0.01	0.00	0.00
Orissa	65.59	44.31	21.28	362.82	0.00
Punjab	57.57	52.76	4.81	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	67.31	44.51	22.80	2925.57	0.00
Sikkim	1.15	1.02	0.13	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	1.65	1.65	0.00	1212.94	0.00
Tripura	0.69	0.69	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	1249.00	1282.00	-33.00	2204.13	0.00
West Bengal	103.15	62.75	40.40	206.57	0.00
Total-States	1882.78	1789.11	93.67	12410.16	0.00
Total-UTs	6.58	6.10	0.48	0.00	0.00
Grand Total	1889.36	1795.21	94.15	12410.16	0.00

Note: (i) Negative gaps indicate more utilisation of irrigation potential than created.

(ii) Grand total for Central Assistance under CADP includes assistance for studies and other expenses, State-wise break-up of which is not available.

(iii) (\*) As AIBP was launched during 1996-97, Central Assistance under AIBP during 1995-96 does not arise and hence figures in the last column in the above table have been shown as '0' for all states.

**Statement-II**

*State-wise Details Showing Creation and Utilisation of Irrigation Potential, the Gap between the two, Central Assistance Released under CADP and AIBP During 1996-97.*

States/UTs	Created	Irrigation Potential (In thousand hectares) Utilised	Gap	Central Assistance Released Under CADP (Rs. Lakhs)	Central Assistance Released Under AIBP (*) (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	29.35	29.35	0.00	99.40	3525
Arunachal Pradesh	4.27	2.20	2.07	0.00	0
Assam	0.31	7.01	-6.50	0.00	523
Bihar	16.65	14.00	2.65	0.00	1350
Goa	0.35	0.18	0.17	39.00	0
Gujarat	25.60	27.00	-1.40	444.38	7477
Haryana	22.00	13.29	8.71	1247.18	3250
Himachal Pradesh	2.65	2.11	0.54	44.02	0
J & K	2.80	3.16	-0.36	252.23	130
Karnataka	111.47	98.19	18.28	845.59	6125
Kerala	54.91	54.91	0.00	466.96	375
Ma thya Pradesh	54.70	32.00	22.70	65.00	63.25
Maharashtra	101.40	95.00	6.40	1439.92	1400

1	2	3	4	5	6
Manipur	3.50	2.50	1.00	130.69	430
Meghalaya	1.79	1.37	0.42	0.00	0
Mizoram	0.31	0.31	0.00	000	0
Nagaland	0.36	0.35	0.01	0.00	0.00
Orissa	83.53	65.59	17.94	353.99	4845
Punjab	33.60	35.69	-2.09	0.00	0
Rajasthan	66.40	47.71	18.69	3948.17	268
Sikkim	0.86	0.80	0.08	0.00	0
Tamil Nadu	0.57	1.65	-1.08	2081.99	2000
Tripura	1.38	1.38	0.00	0.00	377
Uttar Pradesh	852.00	809.00	43.00	2022.60	4350
West Bengal	131.66	84.66	47.00	112.19	500
<b>Total-States</b>	<b>1602.62</b>	<b>1424.41</b>	<b>178.21</b>	<b>13836.84</b>	<b>50000</b>
<b>Total-UTs</b>	<b>7.25</b>	<b>5.45</b>	<b>1.80</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1609.87</b>	<b>1429.86</b>	<b>180.01</b>	<b>13835.84</b>	<b>50000</b>

- Note: (i) Negative gaps indicate more utilisation of irrigation potential than created.  
(ii) Grand total for Central Assistance under CADP includes assistance for studies and other expenses, State-wise break-up of which is not available.  
(iii) (\*) Figures are provisional.

**Statement-III**

*State-wise Details Showing Creation and Utilisation of Irrigation Potential, the Gap between the two, Central Assistance Released under CADP and AIBP During 1997-98.*

States/UTs	Created	Irrigation Potential (In thousand hectares) Utilised	Gap	Central Assistance Released Under CADP (Rs. Lakhs)	Central Assistance Released Under AIBP (*) (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	120.81	158.08	-37.27	3839.57	7400
Arunachal Pradesh	4.35	2.25	2.10	0.00	0
Assam	9.13	8.18	0.95	124.00	1240
Bihar	34.28	32.50	1.78	0.00	1404
Goa	3.77	1.20	2.57	20.00	525
Gujarat	74.50	67.50	7.00	97.11	19690
Haryana	63.00	59.00	4.00	1116.85	1200
Himachal Pradesh	2.10	1.95	0.15	73.07	650
J & K	6.05	10.69	-4.64	189.90	0
Karnataka	133.21	109.37	23.84	437.87	9050
Kerala	45.07	43.45	1.62	200.00	1500
Madhya Pradesh	72.30	30.70	41.60	6.25	11450
Maharashtra	320.00	280.00	40.00	298.30	5500

1	2	3	4	5	6
Manipur	3.77	4.53	-0.76	86.91	2600
Meghalaya	3.50	2.68	0.82	0.00	0
Mizoram	0.11	0.11	0.00	0.00	0
Nagaland	1.03	1.00	0.03	000	0
Orissa	186.71	83.53	103.18	231.47	8500
Punjab	41.35	41.35	0.00	0.00	10000
Rajasthan	57.30	38.96	18.34	2226.65	4200
Sikkim	0.90	0.80	0.10	0.00	0
Tamil Nadu	3.86	0.57	3.29	552.46	0
Tripura	5.05	5.05	0.00	0.00	510
Uttar Pradesh	409.00	1075.00	-666.00	3057.88	7800
West Bengal	224.00	217.00	7.00	90.00	2000
Total-States	1825.15	2275.44	-450.29	12968.12	95219
Total-UTs	6.20	5.05	1.15	0.00	0
Grand Total	1831.35	2280.49	-449.14	12968.12	95219

- Note: (i) Negative gaps indicate more utilisation of irrigation potential than created.  
(ii) Grand total for Central Assistance under CADP includes assistance for studies and other expenses, State-wise break-up of which is not available.  
(iii) (\*) Target figures are provisional.

[English]

**UN Military Observer Group**

4119. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP)" is stationed in Jammu and Kashmir since January 1949;

(b) the personnel strength of the Group as on March 31, 1998; and

(c) whether there are any moves to increase the strength of this group after India-Pakistan Nuclear Tests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) The UN Military observer Group for India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) was established under Karachi Agreement between India and Pakistan of 1949 and has been stationed in Jammu and Kashmir since then.

(b) The strength of UNMOGIP as on March 31, 1998 was 46.

(c) Yes, Sir. There are suggestions from Pakistan to increase the strength of this Group.

**Incentives to Fruit & Vegetable Growers**

4195. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched various incentive schemes for fruit and vegetable growers;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the assistance provided to each State under these schemes during the last three years;

(c) whether Government of Maharashtra has urged to delegate the sanctioning power to the State Government; and

(d) if so, the decision of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing following central sector schemes for the development of fruits and vegetables in the country:—

(i) "Integrated development of tropical, temperate and arid zone fruits".

(ii) "production and supply of vegetable seeds"; and

(iii) "Development of Mushroom cultivation".

Under these scheme financial assistance is provided specifically to the fruit and vegetable growers. Under the scheme of "Integrated development of tropical, temperate and arid zone fruits, assistance is provided for establishment of nurseries, area expansion, rejuvenation of old orchards for improving their productivity and establishment of tissue culture units. Under the scheme of "Production and supply of vegetable seeds", minikits containing seeds of improved varieties and other inputs costing Rs. 150/- are provided to farmers at nominal charges. Under the scheme of "Development of Mushroom Cultivation", farmers are given training in mushroom cultivation and assistance is given to states for setting up of units for production of spawn for distribution to farmers.

The details of the funds released under these schemes during @ @ last three year i.e. 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are indicated in the enclosed Statements I to III.

(c) and (d) The State Governments have full authority to identify the areas and beneficiaries to be covered under these schemes in accordance with the norms laid down under the schemes and therefore there is no need for any further delegation in this regard.



**Statement-I**

*State-wise release of funds during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 under the Scheme of Integrated Development of tropical, temperate and arid zone fruits*

(Rs. In lakh)

Name of State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	95.67	262.87	41.00
Arunachal Pradesh	28.00	0.00	22.00
Assam	5.00	2.90	5.00
Bihar	0.00	50.00	71.72
Goa	12.00	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	0.00	41.00	0.00
Haryana	35.00	0.00	34.80
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	22.00
Jammu & Kashmir	83.00	167.88	232.00
Karnataka	92.43	10.80	80.00
Kerala	19.00	42.72	98.50
Madhya Pradesh	190.90	41.42	108.00
Maharashtra	165.00	124.20	100.00

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1	2	3	4
Manipur	124.17	156.89	182.90
Meghalaya	33.90	0.00	10.00
Mizoram	32.13	35.34	30.00
Nagaland	32.06	38.14	50.00
Orissa	191.80	258.33	299.00
Punjab	72.00	68.13	25.00
Rajasthan	35.00	41.00	40.00
Tamil Nadu	128.00	129.28	80.00
Tripura	5.00	0.00	15.00
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	0.00	0.00	70.00
Sikkim	0.00	7.00	10.30
A & N Islands	1.22	0.89	11.30
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	11.00
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	4.80
Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	4.80
Delhi	19.00	0.00	0.00
Lakshdweep	11.74	10.78	10.19
Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	3.00
Total	1412.02	1489.37	1672.42

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**Statement-II**

*State-wise release of funds during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 under the Scheme of Production and Supply of Vegetable Seeds*

(Rs. In Lakh,

Name of State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	15.68	0.00	10.69
Arunachal Pradesh	1.50	0.00	2.05
Assam	0.28	0.00	0.00
Bihar	0.00	31.25	0.00
Goa	1.50	1.50	2.79
Gujarat	6.80	1.12	6.50
Haryana	7.06	0.00	2.99
Himachal Pradesh	8.00	0.00	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	1.92	1.83	4.00
Karnataka	15.09	1.55	8.79
Kerala	4.79	5.69	4.12
Madhya Pradesh	20.55	0.00	36.91
Maharashtra	14.96	7.00	9.50
Manipur	1.50	0.00	23.30
Meghalaya	1.50	1.82	2.80

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1	2	3	4
Mizoram	1.50	1.50	3.30
Nagaland	1.50	0.00	5.80
Orissa	8.58	8.58	0.00
Punjab	13.36	7.07	7.50
Rajasthan	8.77	10.60	5.47
Tamil Nadu	4.75	4.34	6.90
Tripura	1.50	1.50	2.50
Uttar Pradesh	63.91	0.00	40.78
West Bengal	14.60	0.00	0.00
Sikkim	1.50	0.00	0.00
A & N Islands	1.06	1.40	2.15
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	1.50
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.65	10.43	0.00
Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	1.50
Delhi	4.50	2.92	5.00
Lakshdweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	1.50	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>228.81</b>	<b>100.10</b>	<b>196.84</b>

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**Statement-III**

*State-wise release of funds during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 under the Scheme of Development of Mushroom*

(Rs. In lakh)			
Name of State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	20.00	5.00	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	20.00	21.60
Assam	0.00	2.00	9.85
Bihar	0.00	15.00	7.10
Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00
Haryana	20.00	17.70	3.20
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	27.10	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	45.00	0.00
Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kerala	0.50	10.00	1.50
Madhya Pradesh	41.00	0.00	0.0
Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	1.50
Manipur	10.00	1.50	41.60
Meghalaya	29.50	15.00	6.50

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1	2	3	4
Mizoram	15.00	27.60	0.00
Nagaland	33.50	41.00	13.10
Orissa	20.00	20.00	41.00
Punjab	0.50	26.50	40.00
Rajasthan	0.00	46.41	0.00
Tamil Nadu	28.50	7.50	1.00
Tripura	19.00	1.00	6.05
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	49.96
West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sikkim	0.00	34.80	11.50
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delhi	0.00	2.50	40.00
Total	237.50	365.61	295.46

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**Fish Diseases****Statement**

4196. SHRI NIPEN GOSWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the fish diseases prevalent in the country particularly in the North-Eastern states;

(b) the steps taken to prevent these diseases;

(c) whether the Government are planing to set up research centres for fish diseases in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The diseases presently prevalent in fin and shell fish in the country including North-Eastern States largely relate to bacterial and fungal diseases, parasitic infections, epizootic ulcerative syndrome and other infections such as white spot and soft shell symptoms. Some of the fish diseases prevalent in the country as well as North-Eastern States are given in Statement attached.

Research on fish diseases has been systematically going on in the Fisheries Research Institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and some of the Colleges of Fisheries under the State Agricultural Universities such as (i) Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture, Chennai; (ii) Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar; (iii) Central Institute of Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore; (iv) Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi; and (v) Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai.

Based on the clinical and field level trials, guidelines detailing preventive and therapeutic measures have been issued from time to time. Besides these research institutions also undertake systematic surveys for surveillance and monitoring of the fin and shell fish diseases.

(c) and (d) The research institutions referred to above are already carrying out research on fish diseases. These research activities would be continued and intensified in future.

*Some of the Fish Diseases Prevalent in the Country including North-Eastern States*

- A. Fungal infections
  - 1. Saprolenosis
- B. Bacterial diseases
  - 2. Fin and tail rot
  - 3. Ulcer disease
  - 4. Dropsy
  - 5. Eye disease
- C. Protozoan diseases
  - 6. Ichthyophthiriasis
  - 7. Costiasis
- D. Worm diseases
  - 8. Gyrodactylosis
  - 9. Diplostomiasis
- E. Crustacean diseases
  - 10. Argujosis
  - 11. Lernaeasis
  - 12. Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome (EUS)
  - 13. White spot disease
  - 14. Soft shell syndrome

**Manufacturing of Drip Irrigation System Machines**

4197. SHRI S.S. OWAISI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the concessions and incentives being given for drip/sprinkle system, a number of companies have entered into joint ventures with foreign companies and these companies are selling the machines in name of foreign collaboration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of indigenous companies which are manufacturing such machines themselves and the number of companies which are selling foreign made machines;

(d) the names of agencies responsible for the pricing and quality of these machines; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the inflow of low quality of machines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) Under various Central Schemes, assistance is being provided for installing drip/sprinkler irrigation systems @90 percent of cost subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 25000/- per hectare for Small, Marginal Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, and Women farmers and @70 percent of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare for other category of farmers. However the assistance would be available to the farmers only if the drip/sprinkler systems are purchased from the companies which are registered with the State Governments or the National Committee on Use of Plastics in Agriculture (NCPA). The Government of India has issued guidelines for registration of companies which stipulate that the companies should have Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certificate. Permission is granted to import some of the system components to the companies who have the intention to manufacture the imported components in the country within a period of two years. All the companies which enter into joint venture of foreign collaboration are also required to obtain the certificate from Bureau of Indian Standards or Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology, Vadodra before selling their product in the country. Presently about 65 companies are manufacturing the system components by themselves while permission has been granted for four companies for importing some of the components.

(d) The normative price of the components for providing assistance under the Scheme on 'Use of Plastics in Agriculture' is fixed by the Government of India. The Bureau of Indian Standards and the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology, Vadodra ensure minimum quality standards of the products used under the micro irrigation system by issuing necessary certificate.

(e) All the State Implementing Departments have been directed by the Government of India to register and permit the sale of micro irrigation system components only from those companies which manufacture components having

certificate from the Bureau of Indian Standards or Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology.

#### **World Bank Aid Fisheries Sector**

4198. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has received the World Bank aid of 240 million dollar to start a project to train manpower in the fisheries sector;

(b) if so, whether any programme has been prepared by the Council to utilise these funds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No Sir. World Bank has approved to support the National Agricultural Technology Project for technology generation, refinement and dissemination in agriculture at a total cost of US\$ 239.7 million covering all major production systems including fishery.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Council and the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation have jointly finalised the plan of activities under three different components of the project, namely (i) Organisation and management systems, (ii) Strengthening of agro-ecosystem research, and (iii) Technology dissemination. The project will provide support for infrastructure, human resource development, development of information system etc. The project is due to start in the current year soon after the same is approved by the Cabinet.

#### **Reservation in Promotions**

4199. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Article 16(4)A of the Constitution empowers Government to make provision of reservation in promotion to any class or classes of posts under the State in favour of SCs/STs where they are not represented adequately;

(b) whether the Government have taken away the rights of SCs/STs by way of circulars dated January 30, 97, July 2,97, July 22,97 and August 29,97 by which well established provisions of reservation for SCs/STs



have been abolished in violation of fundamental rights stated in (a) above;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Supreme Court bench comprising of Shri K. Ramaswamy has given judgement quashing Government orders on revision of seniority of SC/ST officers; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not implementing the decision of the Supreme Court referred to in part (d) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) The intention behind incorporation of Article 16(4)A of the Constitution is contained in the "Statement of Objects and Reasons" of the Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Bill, 1995.

(b) and (c) The instructions issued vide Office Memoranda dated January 30, 97; July 2, 97; July 22, 97 and August 29, 97 on different aspects of reservation policy were in implementation of the various judgements of the Supreme Court which became law of the land in terms of Article 141 of the Constitution.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Protest By Coconut Cultivators**

4200. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the coconut cultivators as well as the Government of Kerala have strongly protested against the floor price fixed for one quintal of copra as the rate is less than, the remunerative price;

(b) if so, whether the Government contemplate to reconsider and to revise the floor price of copra; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) The Government of India announced on 10.6.98 the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Milling Copra of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) at Rs. 2900 per quintal and for Ball Copra at Rs. 3125 per quintal for 1998 season. The MSPs for 1998 season mark a substantial increase of Rs. 200 per quintal each for Milling Copra and Ball Copra over their respective MSPs last year. This also marks an increase of Rs. 40 per quintal in the MSP of Milling Copra and Rs. 25 per quintal for Ball Copra over the MSPs recommended by the CACP for 1998 season.

The Government of India has not received any proposal either from the Government of Kerala or cultivators against the MSPs declared. The Government has directed the National Agricultural Coop. Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) to start procurement under MSP. Upto 30th June, 1998 the NAFED had procured 199 tonnes of Milling Copra in the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The procurement of Ball Copra is not necessitated as its market prices are ruling above the MSP. There is no proposal to reconsider the MSP. There is no proposal to reconsider the MSPs already announced by the Government of India.

#### **Presence of Americans and A German In Indian Research Ship**

4201. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether security scientists have pointed out the presence of eight Americans and a German in an Indian research ship that left Goa on February 17, on a 45-day cruise to Port Louis in Mauritius via Male for collecting vital oceanic and atmospheric data;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of Defence and the Cruise with foreigners on board did not have the mandatory approval of the apex committee under the Cabinet Secretary;

(c) whether the Government have taken action as to how these Americans and the German were allowed to board the ship; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir. 12 foreign scientists including 8 American,

1 German, 2 Mauritian and 1 Maldivian were cleared for participation on board the Cruise No. 133 of the Indian Research Ship ORV Sagar Kanya, which left Goa on February 18, 1998 as part of Government of India approved International and Inter-departmental scientific programme called Indian Ocean Experiment (INDOEX) and no sensitive data were collected by any foreign scientist.

(b) No, Sir. Security approval has been obtained at the appropriate levels as per the existing guidelines for programmes of this nature including clearance from the Ministry of Defence for participation of foreign scientists in the Cruise.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Milching Cattle

4202. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:  
SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH:  
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of milching cattle is gradually decreasing in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to promote cattle-rearing for increasing the production of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to promote cattle rearing for increasing the production of milk, the Government of India has been implementing a number of Central/Centrally Sponsored schemes. Some of the major schemes are as follows:

- (i) Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing Programme.
- (ii) National Bull Production Programme.
- (iii) Development to States for Feed and Fodder Development.

(iv) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases.

(v) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication.

(vi) Integrated Dairy Development Projects in Non-operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas.

[English]

#### Watershed Development Project

4203. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have undertaken any programmes to promote the application of electronics and information technology in the watershed development projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have constituted a study team on agri-electronics;

(d) if so, whether the study team has submitted its report;

(e) if so, the details of the report; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) Yes, sir. Electronics and Information Technology is being used in the implementation of the watershed development projects through the usage of Data Base Management systems (DBMS) and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Techniques. The Department of Electronics has sponsored projects for the development of a variety of software packages for watershed Management.

(c) to (f) As a part of the exercise relating to the formulation of 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002), the Planning Commission in December 1995 constituted a Working Group on Electronics Industry for Agriculture and Agro-processing. The Committee in its report reviewed the status of electronics applications in this area and spelt out development strategies for different subsectors

within this. The Committee observed that use of Agri-electronics instruments in the country is very low, primarily due to high cost and therefore recommended that a few identified instruments be taken up for developing rugged and low cost models. As regards Agro-processing, the Committee recommended that Integrated Electronic Systems based on Microprocessor Technology be employed especially for sugar, paper and dairy based industries. Recommendations of the Study Team are acceptable.

#### **Integrated Cereal Development Programme**

4204. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the fund allocated to Orissa under the Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereal Development Programme for rice, the national Pulses Development Programme and the Oilseed Production Programme during last three years;

(b) whether the Government of Orissa has made a demand to the Centre to increase allocation under these programmes;

(c) if so, the steps taken to augment the allocation to that States during current financial year; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The funds allocated to Orissa State, as central share, during the last three years under the Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice), the National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) and the Oilseeds Production programme

(OPP) are as under:—

	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
ICDP-Rice	603.60	720.32	889.20
NPDP	157.24	160.00	180.00
OPP	444.00	472.00	500.00

(b) to (d) Allocation under Centrally Sponsored Schemes are generally made after considering the proposals received from the State Governments, norms as approved for the schemes and funds available. Accordingly, as of now, for the years 1998-99 amounts of Rs. 869.97 lakh, Rs. 180.00 lakh, and Rs. 500.00 lakh, as Central Share, have been allocated to the State of Orissa under ICDP-Rice, NPDP and OPP Schemes, respectively.

#### **Ban on Cow Slaughter**

4205. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:  
DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Government on the special schemes for improving/promoting cows progeny during last three years; and

(b) whether the Government propose to ban cow slaughter. The majority of States/Union Territories have already legislation restricting the slaughter of cows.

#### **Statement**

		(Rs. In lakhs)		
S.No.	Scheme	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Extension of Frozen Semen Technology	528.96	529.00	2550.00
2.	National Bull Production Programme	498.05	395.74	500.00

1	2	3	4	
3.	Progeny Testing Programme	82.85	77.38	120.68
4.	Central herd Registration Scheme	75.00	91.00	130.00

A small portion of the expenditure under the schemes at S.No. 1 and 4 is used for buffalo development also.

#### Ground Water

4206. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Plan to restrict exploitation of ground water" appearing in the 'Statesman' dated June 11, 1998;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any plan to restrict exploitation of ground water in Delhi and other States in view of receding ground water level;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Long term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown that both quantity and quality of ground water in Delhi has deteriorated due to over exploitation. Ground water level has fallen upto 15 metres in some cases and shows a declining trend. As such, the Central Ground Water Authority has initiated the process of registration of ground water extraction structures in NCT of Delhi to make an assessment of withdrawals vis-a-vis availability of ground water. Necessary steps have to be considered to prevent further decline, improving the level and quality of ground water in overall public interest.

(c) to (e) Water being a state subject, suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development has to be enacted by the states. The steps taken by the Union Government in this regard include:—

(1) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986

for regulation and control of ground water management and development. The Authority has been holding periodical meetings to, inter-alia, advise the State Governments to take suitable measures to check over exploitation in view of decline in the level of ground water and to assist CGWA in discharging its functions. It has also taken various measures for creating mass awareness on the subject.

(2) Holding meetings with the representatives of State Governments/Union Territories at various levels to discuss the ways and means to tackle the problem of over exploitation and decline in the level of ground water.

(3) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

(4) Circulation of a Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water level.

(5) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme on studies on recharge of ground water in some parts of Maharashtra, Karnataka, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh.

(6) Holding of workshops and seminars to discuss the problem and evolve solution to tackle it.

#### Assistance to Food Processing Units

4207. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to assist food processing industrial unit in the country;

(b) if so, the number of food processing units in existence as on 1 April, 1998, State-wise; and

(c) the facilities and incentives provided by the Union Government for promotion of food processing industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Food Processing Units are both in the organised and unorganised sectors and information regarding the number of units in existence State-wise is not centrally maintained. According to the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) for 1994-95 published by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), Department of Statistics, there were 29,407 factories in the country as whole in the various sectors of food processing. Statewise number of factories is shown at Statement-I attached.

Food Processing Industries, specifically relating to the processing of Fruits and Vegetables and sweetened aerated waters are required to take licence from the Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the Fruit Products Order (FPO) promulgated under the Essential Commodities Act. There are 3932 Fruit and Vegetable Processing Units which have been licensed under FPO upto January, 1998. Their State-wise details are given in attached Statement-II.

(c) Under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, financial assistance in the form of loan and grant is extended to Non-Governmental Organisations, Cooperatives, Public Sector Undertakings, private Sector Industries etc. For promotion of Food Processing Industries.

**Statement-I**

*State wise Number of Food Processing Units in the Factory Sector as per Annual Survey of Industries (1994-95)*

S.No.	Name of the State	No. Of Factories
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10183
2.	Assam	734
3.	Bihar	433
4.	Goa	34
5.	Gujarat	1270
6.	Haryana	600
7.	Himachal Pradesh	46

1	2	3
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	69
9.	Karnataka	1221
10.	Kerala	1170
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1302
12.	Maharashtra	2420
13.	Manipur	9
14.	Meghalaya	3
15.	Nagaland	5
16.	Orissa	425
17.	Punjab	1196
18.	Rajasthan	515
19.	Tamil Nadu	3792
20.	Tripura	22
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2652
22.	West Bengal	1089
23.	Chandigarh	36
24.	Daman & Diu	5
25.	Delhi	125
26.	Pondicherry	42
27.	Others	9
Total		29407

**Statement-II***State wise division of Fruits & Vegetable Units licensed under the Fruit Products order 1955*

1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	300
2.	Assam	—	25
3.	Bihar	—	58
4.	Gujarat	—	260
5.	Haryana	—	151
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	90
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	93
8.	Karnataka	—	253
9.	Kerala	—	38
10.	Madhya Pradesh	—	144
11.	Maharashtra	—	934
12.	Meghalaya	—	14
13.	Manipur	—	8
14.	Nagaland	—	5
15.	Orissa	—	43
16.	Punjab	—	38
17.	Rajasthan	—	110
18.	Sikkim	—	3
19.	Tamil	—	752
20.	Tripura	—	4

21.	Uttar Pradesh	—	494
22.	West Bengal	—	298
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	3
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	3
25.	Chandigarh	—	54
26.	Dadar & Nagar Naveli	—	7
27.	Delhi	—	307
28.	Goa Daman & Diu	—	160
29.	Mizoram	—	3
30.	Pondichery	—	14
Total			4932

**Ground Water Level**

4208. SHRI D.S. AHIRE:  
SHRI VITHAL TUPE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground water level in several states including Maharashtra are going down every year;

(b) if so, whether the Government have identified such areas where water level are going down and the extent to which the water level is receding at each place, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to increase the ground water level in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Long term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a state of both rise and fall in the level of ground water in various States including the State of Maharashtra.

(b) Statewise details of fall in the level of ground water registered during the last five years (1992-93 to 1996-97) is given in the Statement.

(c) Steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government, inter-alia, to increase the level of ground water include:

- (i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (ii) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/ Union including Maharashtra territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water

development.

- (iii) Circulation of a Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories including Maharashtra to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (iv) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme on studies on recharge of ground water in Maharashtra, NCT of Delhi, Union Territory of Chandigarh and Kamataka.
- (v) Formulation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the State Government in artificial recharge of ground water. The scheme is at consultation stage.

**Statement**

State	Fall above 4 metres in parts of Districts	Fall of 2-4 metres in parts of Districts
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Sirkakulam, Vijayagram, Vishakhapatnam, West Godavari
Assam	Bongaigaon, Kachar Darrang, Dhewaji, Dhubri, Goalpara, Jorhat, Kamrup, Karbi, Anglang, Karimganj, Moregaon, Nalbari, Sonitpur, Tinsukhia, Sivsagar Golaghat, Hailkandi	Neogeon
Bihar	Hazaribagh, Nawada	Darbhanga, Dumka Jahenabad, Patna Bhagalpur, Khagria, Palamu, Rohtas, Samastipur
Gujarat	Ranaskantha, Amreli, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Rajkot, Sabarkanthe, Baroda, Surendranagar	Ahmedabad, Valsad

1	2	3
Haryana	Jind Rhotak, Yamuna Nagar	Bhiwani, Gurgaon, Rewari
Kerala	Kottayam, Trichur Ernakulam, Trivendram, Malappuram, Edukki, Palghat, Kasargod.	Calicut, Wayanad Allepey
Madhya Pradesh	Chattarpur, Chindwara, Dhar, Mandsaur, Hoshangabad, Dewas, Panna, Vidisha, Raigarh, Ratlam, Sagar.	Damoh, Guna, Jabalpur Durg, Belaghat, mandla, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Pewa, alna, Sidhi, Indore Sihore, Raisen, Tikamgarh, Sahjapur, Siepuri.
Maharashtra	Aurangabad, Jalgaon Osmanabad	Akola, Amravati, Buldhana, Nagpur, Sangli, Bombay, Dadar & Nagar haveli
Orissa	Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Mayurbhanj, kalahandi, Sundergarh, Puri, Sambalpur	Balasore, Cuttack, Phulbani, Keonjhar
Punjab	Nil	Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana Ropar, Kapurthala
Rajasthan	Jhunjhunu, Pali, Sirohi, Udaipur	Barmer
Tamil Nadu	Ramanathpuram, Kamrajar, Salem, Coimbatore	Chinglapet, MGR, VR, Padayachi
Uttar Pradesh	Fatehpur, Rampur	Azamgarh, Dehradun, Meerut.

[Translation]

**Fish Farmers' Development Agency**

4209. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the States where the centrally sponsored fresh water fishery scheme has been implemented through Fish Farmers' Development Agencies; and

(b) the amount provided to each for this purpose during 1996-97 and 1997-98 and the estimated amount proposed to be given in 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for "Development of Freshwater Aquaculture", 422 Fish Farmers Development



Agencies (FFDAs) have been sanctioned since 1973-74 in all the 25 states and one Union Territory of Pondicherry. The Central assistance provided to the States/UT during 1996-97 and 1997-98 is given in Statement attached. The estimated amount proposed to be given under the scheme during 1998-99 is Rs. 18.50 crores.

**Statement**

*Centrally Assistance Provided to the States/UTs Under Centrally sponsored Scheme for "Development of Freshwater Aquaculture" Through Fish Farmers Development Agencies During 1996-97 and 1997-98.*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	State	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44.00	25.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	26.00	24.00
3.	Assam	46.00	38.44
4.	Bihar	Nil	114.00
5.	Gujarat	17.00	51.00
6.	Haryana	28.00	25.395
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2.00	3.00
8.	J & K	2.00	11.00
9.	Karnataka	12.00	42.00
10.	Kerala	19.00	40.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	100.00	227.00
12.	Maharashtra	26.00	78.91

1	2	3	4
13.	Manipur	16.00	22.74
14.	Meghalaya	2.00	35.60
15.	Mizoram	10.00	9.50
16.	Nagaland	105.00	40.00
17.	Orissa	160.00	120.00
18.	Punjab	42.00	50.00
19.	Rajasthan	2.00	15.00
20.	Sikkim	2.00	5.00
21.	Tamilnadu	13.00	16.25
22.	Tripura	16.00	16.00
23.	Uttar Pradesh	195.00	259.28
24.	West bengal	210.00	222.56
25.	Pondicherry	NIL	2.00
Total		1095.00	1494.245

**Food Processing Industries in Rural areas**

4210. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:  
SHRI VITHAL TUPE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to State Government for setting up food processing industries and training centres in rural areas during the last three years, state-wise; and

(b) the assistance utilised by these states so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Plan Schemes being operated by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries are Central Schemes and financial assistance under these schemes is provided to cooperatives, non-governmental organisations, public sector undertakings, private sector industries, research institutions etc. for the development of processed food sector including setting up of food processing industries and Food Processing & Training Centres. No assistance is provided to State Governments.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Development Board

4211. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar Government has requested the Central Government for setting up a separate Development Board for the development of backward people in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir. The Planning Commission has not received any such proposal from the Government of Bihar.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Pay Scales of Employees of Kendriya Bhandar

4212. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pay scales of the employees of Kendriya Bhandar except General Manager and Deputy General Manager have been revised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) does not arise.

#### Production of Coconut

4213. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the latest figures regarding production and productivity of coconut in the five leading coconut growing States;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to step up production and productivity of coconut in various States; and

(c) the allocation of funds made by the Coconut Development Board for the promotion of coconut cultivation during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The latest available figures of production and productivity of coconut in five leading coconut growing States are given below:—

State	1996-97	
	Production (Million nuts)	Yield (Nuts./ha)
1. Kerala	5759.0	5727
2. Tamil Nadu	3811.6	11621
3. Karnataka	1492.5	5204
4. Andhra Pradesh	685.9	7537
5. West Bengal	313.1	13211

(b) For increasing production and productivity of Coconut in various States, the Coconut Development Board is implementing following programmes:—

1. Production and distribution of quality planting material.
2. Area Expansion.

3. Integrated farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement.
4. Integrated control of leaf eating caterpillar.

Besides above programmes, installation of drip irrigation system is also implemented under the programme "Use of Plastics in Agriculture" for coconut in many States.

(c) The allocation of funds made during the last three years for implementing programmes for promotion of coconut cultivation through the Coconut Development Board are as under:—

Year	Allocation (Rs. In lakhs)
1995-96	2000
1996-97	6000
1997-98	1975

#### Agriculture Policy

4214. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:  
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finally formulated a new National Agriculture Policy to include provisions of crop insurance and economic security for the farmer;

(b) if so, the board features of the contemplated policy; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) A comprehensive National Policy on Agriculture is in the final stages of drafting and is likely to be finalised shortly in consultation with the States.

The Policy will aim at the management and conservation of the natural resource base through sustainable management of land and water resource base through sustainable management of land and water resources. It will seek to promote environmentally non-degrading, technically sound, economically viable and socially acceptable improvement of natural resources to

promote sustainable development of agriculture. The policy will focus particular attention on measures such as an effective crop insurance cover and Land reforms to channelise the energies of farmers, particularly the small and marginal farmers, and promote their well being.

#### Commission for Agricultural Cost and Price

4215. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of commission for agricultural cost and price;

(b) whether commission for agricultural cost and price has been successful in achieving its goal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make commission for agricultural cost and price more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The composition of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) is as under:—

Chairman	—	1
Member (official)	—	2
Member (non-official)	—	3
Member-Secretary	—	1

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The recommendations made by the CACP help the Government in formulating the price policy for agricultural commodities. The price policy in conjunction with package of technology and services hitherto pursued has paid rich dividends in terms of raising production, productivity and investment on a sustained basis.

#### Launching of Belgium Satellite

4216. SHRI PRITHAVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO has recently won a contract from the European Space Agency to launch a Belgium-built 'Probat' satellite into the polar orbit aboard its PSLV launcher; and

(b) if so, likely date of launching?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Antrix, the commercial wing of Department of Space has signed a launch services agreement, on behalf of ISRO with Verhaert Design & Development N.V., Belgium for launching a 100 kg. Auxiliary satellite, PROBA. The PROBA mission is a European Space Agency Project.

The PROBA mission is scheduled on PSLV mission during mid-2000.

#### **Bilateral Talks**

4217. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the G-8 in their meeting in London in June this year issued a communiqué *inter alia* suggested an international engagement parallel to bilateral talks proposed to be held between India and Pakistan to sort out outstanding Bilateral issues between the two countries;

(b) if so, whether Government rejected the plea for parallel international engagement alongside bilateral talks between India and Pakistan; and

(c) the precise terms of such proposals made and responded to by both the Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Government have seen the communiqué issued after the G-8 Foreign Ministers' meeting in London on 12 June, 1998. Government have made their views known on the communiqué through a statement of the Official Spokesman on 13 June, 1998. The statement noted, *inter alia*, that there is no place for third party involvement of any kind whatsoever in the bilateral talks between India and Pakistan.

#### **Improve Economic Relations**

4218. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Iran decided to improve the economic relations;

(b) if so, to what extent India and Iran signed the agreements to improve the relations; and

(c) if so, the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) India and Iran are working together to utilise all available opportunities for mutually beneficial economic and commercial cooperation. The vehicle for such bilateral cooperation is the Indo-Iran Joint Commission which was established in 1983 and consists of six committees which oversee cooperation in Agriculture & Rural Development; Industry; Trade; Transport; Culture; Science & Technology; and petroleum. In addition, Indo-Iran Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Indo-Iran Joint Business Council are also engaged in promoting economic and commercial cooperation.

The significant agreements in the recent past are:

(i) Indo-Iran Maritime Agreement signed on January 3, 1995; (ii) A Terilateral Agreement on International Transit of Goods between India, Iran and Turkmenistan signed on February 22, 1997; (iii) Indo-Iran MOU on Animal health signed on October, 5, 1997.

[Translation]

#### **Conference of Ministers**

4219. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals approved unanimously in the conference of Ministers of State for Animal Husbandry during the year 1996-97; and

(b) the action taken by the Government for the implementation of those proposals as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The proposals approved unanimously in the conference are placed in the statement in the Statement-I attached.

(b) The Action Taken on these proposals is placed in the statement in the Statement-II attached.

**Statement-I**

*The list of proposals approved by consensus in the Conference of State Ministers' of Animal Husbandry and Dairying held on 16-17th December, 1996.*

1. The conference broadly endorsed the draft National Livestock Policy.
2. Hon'ble Prime Minister announced doubling of the existing financial allocation for this vital sector for socio-economic development of the poor in rural areas.
3. The establishment of a separate Indian Council of Veterinary Research, parallel to ICAR, to support research and extension activities was strongly recommended by the delegates.
4. The conference recommended for setting up atleast 60 thousand artificial insemination centres in all parts of the country for upgradation of genetic potential, and increasing productivity levels of indigenous breeds of cattle and bufaloes.
5. An additional 1 lakh dairy cooperative societies for increasing milk production in areas left out under Operation Flood Programme would be created during the Ninth Plan.
6. Emphasis was laid on rehabilitation of sick dairy cooperatives to enable them to play a meaningful role in competitive markets.
7. The formation of cooperative federations for the development of sheep, goat and poultry was strongly recommended by the delegates.
8. Emphasis was laid for extension of insurance cover to non scheme animals of poor farmers through subsidised premium rates.
9. It was unanimously agreed that infrastructural support facilities, particularly, district regulated markets for improving marketing facilities for livestock and livestock products would also be established on a priority basis.
10. Most of the delegates did not favour the proposal of privatisation of Veterinary

Services in rural areas. While natural market forces may increase privatisation in this sector, the proposal need not be pursued as a matter of Government policy.

11. The conference recommended for the creation of disease free zones for control of foot and mouth disease and rinderpest in areas of concentration of high yielding animals; and in vicinity of export-oriented and modern slaughter houses, to boost the export potential of meat and meat products in this country.

**Statement-II**

*Action Taken Report on the proposals approved by consensus in the Conference of State Minister's of animal Husbandry and Dairying held on 16-17th December, 1996.*

1. The evolution of the National Livestock Policy, within the framework of the overall National Agricultural Policy is a time consuming process, involving extensive consultation with the State Governments and all the other Departments/agencies concerned. The Government is pursuing the requisite steps for the evolving of the National Livestock Policy.
2. The Department of AH&D formulated proposals of Rs. 3150.57 crores for the 9th Plan. The Planning Commission has approved Rs. 1072.18 crores for development of animal husbandry and dairy development sector during 9th Plan.

Besides, Rs. 605.70 crores has been transferred from the budget of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for Fisheries during 9th Plan.

3. A Cabinet note for establishment of Indian Council of Veterinary Research was prepared and circulated for comments. A revised note is being prepared for submission to Committee of Secretaries.
4. A substantially higher allocation has been provided for the schemes Extension Forzen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing Programme (Rs. 200 crores in 9th Plan as against Rs. 19.75 crores in 8th Plan) and National Bull Production Further, these

schemes are being incorporated into comprehensive project on cattle and buffalo breeding proposed to be implemented during 9th Plan to improve the functional efficiency of breeding programmes, and upgradation of the AI system.

5. The Government of India has since proposed a scheme for organising 25,000 village level Dairy Cooperative Societies (DCS) in the Operation Flood Districts but in the areas not actually covered in Operation Flood with a total provision of Rs. 50.00 crores for 9th plan and Rs. 4.00 crores for 1998-99.

Further, the Government is already implementing a Central Sector Plan Scheme IDDP in Non Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas which envisages setting up of about 7900 village level DCS out of which over 4000 DCS have been organised upto 31.03.98.

6. The proposed Central Sector Plan Scheme "Assistance to Cooperatives" which aims at rehabilitation of milk cooperative unions has been prepared, and is now to be posed to Expenditure Finance Committee for consideration after seeking the convenience of Secretary Expenditure.
7. (i) The Department formulated a scheme to support various State Poultry Cooperative Federations and other organisations during 9th Plan. The Scheme was however not favoured by Planning Commission.

(ii) A scheme for establishment of Sheep/Goat Development Board has been launched during 9th Plan for accelerating the growth of the sector.

8. A scheme is being formulated in consultation with GIC and State Govts. Cover non scheme animals of poor farmers at subsidised premium rates. A plan outlay of Rs. 5 crores has been earmarked under the scheme.
9. The Department of AH&D formulated a scheme for development of regulated markets during 9th Plan. The Planning Commission has however not supported the scheme.

10. The 9th plan proposal on privatisation of veterinary services was dropped in accordance with the recommendation of the conference for State Ministers.
11. Disease Free Zone is one of the sub-components of the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Assistance to States for Control of Animal diseases.

A separate project on 'Disease Free Zone' with a view to control inter alia foot and mouth disease and rinderpest has already been approved by the Planning Commission for implementation during the Ninth Plan period. A budget provision of Rs. 50 lakhs has been made for this project during 1998-99.

[English]

#### Central Ground Water Board

4220. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board has conducted any survey to identify dependable source of water in the tribal areas of North-East;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to develop ground water resources in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board has conducted survey and exploration to assess the availability of ground water in various parts, including tribal areas, of the North-East States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura. As per the assessment made by the Board, the total replenishable ground water resources in the North-East States is as indicated below:—

States/Union Territories	Total replenishable ground water resource (m.ha. m/yr)
1	2
1. Arunachal Pradesh	0.14385
2. Assam	2.47192

	1	2
3. Manipur		0.31540
4. Meghalaya		0.05397
5. Mizoram	Not Assessed	
6. Nagaland		0.07240
7. Tripura		0.06634

(c) Water being state-subject, development of ground water is the responsibility of the State Government.

#### Major and Medium Irrigation Projects

4221. SHRI MUKUL VASNIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Major, Medium and Extension, Renovation and Modernisation (ERM) irrigation projects in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have drawn up any plan to ensure early completion of the projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the funds released under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and Command Area Development Programme (CADP), during the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Statewise details of on-going Major, Medium Irrigation Projects in the country is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are executed by the State Governments themselves from their own resources as per their own priorities.

(d) During the current year, so far, no releases have been made under AIBP and CADA programmes.

#### Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State	Major Projects	Medium Projects	ERM Projects
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	20	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
3.	Assam	4	9	4
4.	Bihar	16	29	5
5.	Goa	2	1	—
6.	Gujarat	9	9	8

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1	2	3	4	5
7.	Haryana	3	—	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	—	1
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	9	5
10.	Karnataka	14	15	5
11.	Kerala	7	5	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	25	32	4
13.	Maharashtra	36	66	6
14.	Manipur	2	2	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	1	—
16.	Mizoram	—	—	—
17.	Nagaland	1	—	—
18.	Orissa	6	14	17
19.	Punjab	1	1	8
20.	Rajasthan	—	6	20
21.	Sikkim	8	—	—
22.	Tamilnadu	—	2	2
23.	Tripura	—	3	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	18	3	10
25.	West Bengal	4	17	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>170</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>110</b>

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**Development of Fisheries**

4222. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:  
SHRI MAHESH MANODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope for the development of fisheries in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated area identified for the development of fisheries, State-wise;

(c) the Central assistance provided for the purpose during the last three-years, State-wise;

(d) the measures adopted for development of marine fisheries, inland fresh water fisheries and brackish water fisheries; and

(e) the year-wise details of the achievements thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

The estimated area identified for the development of fisheries, State-wise is provided in the statements attached.

(c) to (e) Information is being collected. It will be laid on the table of the House.

**Statement-I**

Sl. No.	State	Estimated Inland Water Resources				
		Length Of Rivers (KMS.)	Area of Reservoirs (Lakh H.A.)	Area Under Tanks & Ponds (Lakh HA.)	Beels Ox-How Lakes & Der Elict Water Bodies (Lakh Ha.)	Brackish Bater (Lakh HA.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11514	2.34	5.17	—	1.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2000	—	0.01	1.10	—
3.	Assam	4820	0.55	0.21	0.05	—
4.	Bihar	3200	0.60	0.95	—	—
5.	Goa	250	0.03	0.03	—	0.19
6.	Gujarat	3865	2.43	0.71	0.10	3.76
7.	Haryana	5000	NEG	0.10	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3000	0.40	0.01	0.08	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	27781	0.07	0.17	—	—
10.	Karnataka	900	2.11	3.52	-	0.08
11.	Kerala	3092	0.30	0.03	—	0.65
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20661	2.91	1.17	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	3200	2.79	0.32	—	0.80
14.	Manipur	3360	0.01	0.05	0.40	—
15.	Meghalaya	5600	0.08	0.02	NEG	—
16.	Mizoram	1748	—	0.02	—	—
17.	Nagaland	1600	0.17	0.50	NEG	—
18.	Orissa	4500	2.56	0.64	1.80	0.32
19.	Punjab	15270	NEG	0.07	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	NA	1.20	1.80	—	—
21.	Sikkim	900	—	—	0.03	—
22.	Tamilnadu	7420	0.53	2.24	5.24	0.56
23.	Tripura	1200	0.05	0.12	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	31200	1.50	1.62	1.33	—
25.	West Bengal	2526	0.17	2.76	0.42	4.05

NA = Not Available

**Statement-II****Marine Fishery Resources of India**

S.No.	States/UTs	Continental Shelf (000 SQ.KMS.)	Approx. Length of Coast Line (KMS.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31	974
2.	Goa	10	104
3.	Gujarat	164	1600
4.	Karnataka	27	300
5.	Kerala	40	590
6.	Maharashtra	112	720
7.	Orissa	24	480
8.	Tamil Nadu	41	1000
9.	West Bengal	17	157
10.	Andaman & Nicobar	35	1912
11.	Pondicherry	1	45
12.	Lakshadweep	4	132
13.	Daman & Diu	0	27
<b>Total</b>		<b>506</b>	<b>8041</b>

[Translation]

**Floods in Assam**

4223. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI:  
SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the loss of lives and crops due to the floods caused by rains in the upper region of Assam recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of assistance sought by the State Government and being provided by the Union Government;

(d) whether the embankments broken in the State due to the floods last year have not been repaired so far due to paucity of funds; and

(e) if so, the amount sought by the State Government for repairing the embankments broken last year and the funds provided by the Union Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Government of Assam 18 districts have been affected by heavy rains and floods in varying degrees during the first wave of floods which started from 10th June, 1998. As per preliminary assessment made by the State Government, these floods have taken a toll of 66 persons including 51 due to landslides and damaged about 0.82 lakh hectares of cropped area.

(c) Under the existing system, the State Government is required to undertake relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of natural calamities out of the corpus of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), which is contributed by the Central Government and the State Government in the ratio of 3:1. Central contribution is released in four equal quarterly instalments. Additional financial assistance is also provided from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) in the wake of a Calamity of rare severity.

State of Assam has an allocation of Rs. 55.47 crore in the CRF for the year 1998-99 consisting of Central contribution of Rs. 41.60 crore and State contribution of Rs. 13.87 crore. Two quarterly instalments of Central

share of CRF amounting to Rs. 20.80 crore have already been released to the State Govt. No detailed Memorandum seeking additional assistance from the NFCR has been received so far.

(d) No such information has been received from the State Government.

(e) Ministry of Water Resources released a sum of Rs. 18.00 crore to the Government of Assam under Central loan assistance during 1997-98 for taking flood control measures in the Brahmaputra valley. During 1998-99, an allocation of Rs. 18.00 crore has been made for the same purpose.

[English]

**Resources Mobilization By States**

4224. SHRI D.S. AHIRE:  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States have failed in mobilising the desired quantum of resources during the Eighth Five Year Plan causing stoppage in various development works and increased the financial burden on Union Government;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government against those States which failed in mobilising the desired quantum of resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) As per the information supplied by the State Governments, many States have failed to mobilize resources as projected by them for the Eighth Five-Year Plan. Statewise data of major States is given in Statement. The failure in resources mobilization must have caused stoppage of various development works in the States. However, that has not increased the financial burden on the Union Government. The States which have failed in resources mobilization have been impressed upon the need for improving their resources mobilization efforts.

**Statement**

*Projection and Realisation of States' Own Resources of major states during  
the Eighth Five Year Plan at 1991-92 prices*

(Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	States	Projection	Realization
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3365.02	2050.82
2.	Bihar	5051.84	-1685.05
3.	Goa	459.80	414.21
4.	Gujarat	7650.21	5857.07
5.	Haryana	3780.72	1731.83
6.	Karnataka	8108.51	7671.65
7.	Kerala	1520.03	3015.91
8.	Madhya Pradesh	5455.38	3744.83
9.	Maharashtra	13251.79	15690.82
10.	Orissa	3881.14	1100.50
11.	Punjab	-3344.57	728.21
12.	Rajasthan	5552.12	2412.17
13.	Tamil Nadu	1653.75	4037.39
14.	Uttar Pradesh	4456.87	2624.26
15.	West Bengal	3071.30	810.03
	<b>Total</b>	<b>63913.91</b>	<b>50204.65</b>

[Translation]

**Natural Calamities**

4225. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has to face grave crisis due to loss of lives and property worth crores of rupees in the natural calamities from time to time in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to find a way out in consultation with scientists and concerned experts to prevent loss of life and property caused by the natural calamities such as fire, floods, cyclone, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The natural calamities result in loss of life and cause extensive damage of property, depending on the intensity of the calamity.

(b) A number of Scientists and Experts in various Government Departments, Organisations and Institutions, like India Meteorological Department, Ministry of Water Resources, Departments of Space and Science & Technology, Central Building Research Institute and Building Material Technology Promotion Council are constantly striving to find out ways and means by using the latest available State of the Art Technology to minimise the adverse impact of various natural calamities like fire, floods, droughts, cyclones etc. The Government of India is also encouraging, through various programmes, effective community awareness and public participation in the disaster preparedness and mitigation related activities.

[English]

**Relations with Russia**

4226. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia have agreed to intensify their bilateral contact and re-affirmed the strength and tradition of close understanding between the two countries as reflected in the Moscow declaration of 1994;

(b) whether the present Government is very keen to improve the relations with Russia and help Russia in bilateral trade;

(c) if so, the steps worked out in this regard; and

(d) the fields in which both Russia and India are strengthening their ties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) India and Russia have traditionally maintained warm and friendly ties and are committed to the 1994 Moscow Declaration on the Protection of the Interests of Pluralistic States. Government's efforts are directed at a further consolidation of India's close and multifaceted friendship with Russia on a sustained basis. Both countries attach considerable importance to the enhancement of bilateral trade. The India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation is the umbrella body for promotion of bilateral trade and economic cooperation. Its eleven Working Groups cover diverse fields such as trade and economy, power, metallurgy, petroleum, coal, information technology, science and technology, pharmaceuticals, environment, culture, and cooperation between regions. The last session of the Commission was held in December 1997 and its next session is to be held in late 1998. Alongwith the Working Group sessions, it helps resolve pending issues relating to bilateral trade and economic cooperation, as well as identify new directions of such cooperation. India's relations with Russia are being strengthened in all areas of mutual interest.

[Translation]

**Hybrid Variety of Rice**

4227. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agriculture Research Institute has been doing research on the development of the hybrid variety of rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely increase in production of rice in various regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) yes, Sir. Indian Agricultural Research Institute is engaged in hybrid rice research with a major thrust on development of basmati rice hybrids.

(b) Initially, the research efforts were exclusively devoted to development of parental lines for the development of hybrids. As a result the Institute has developed two cytoplasmic male sterile lines of basmati (Pusa 3A and Pusa 4A) and one male sterile line of non-basmati rice (Pusa 5A). Simultaneously some restorer lines have also been developed.

During 1997, four basmati hybrids were tested in national co-ordinated trial for the first time. These hybrids would require testing for two more years as per normal procedure for assessing their farm worthiness.

Seven non-basmati rice hybrids developed by the Institute were tested in the national trial during 1997. During 1998, 14 old and new hybrids are being tested in the national trials.

(c) The hybrids will be released if they give consistent performance during 1998 and 1999 also. Hybrids in general are expected to increase productivity by about 15% in the area of their adoption.

[English]

#### **Bilateral Talks**

4228. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has responded to India's proposal made at Dhaka for resuming bilateral talks on issues of mutual interest to the two countries;

(b) if so, the terms thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government to the Pak reply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) At their meeting in Islamabad in June 1997, the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan identified eight subjects for dialogue. These were; (a) Peace and Security, including CBMs; (b) Jammu and Kashmir; (c) Siachen; (d) Wullar Barrage/Tulbul Navigation Project; (e) Sir Creek; (f) Terrorism and drug-trafficking;

(g) Economic and Commercial Cooperation; and (h) Promotion of friendly exchanges in various fields. They also held discussions about the modalities of the dialogue process but could not reach an agreement. These discussions continued and ideas were exchanged. India made further suggestions when the Foreign Secretaries met on the sidelines of the Bangladesh-India-Pakistan Business Summit in Dhaka in January this year. We suggested a straight-forward approach where all subjects would be discussed simultaneously. This would ensure that the dialogue would proceed in a constructive, comprehensive and sustained manner. Pakistan has offered counter-suggestions. We have reservations about the Pakistani approach. Our interaction on these issues will continue.

[Translation]

#### **Insemination Centre**

4229. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open 60 thousand new artificial insemination centres on the basis of treating every thousand milking cows and buffaloes as one unit for opening one centre to provide such services within easy reach of the farmers in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Government proposes to have artificial insemination centres at the rate of One for 1000 breedable cows and buffaloes, and to reach insemination facilities to the doorstep of the farmers. Out of an estimated 107 million adult cows and buffaloes, about 75000 are considered breedable and these are proposed to be covered by opening new 35000 AI Centres over and above the existing 40,000 Centres.

[English]

#### **Natural Calamities**

4230. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the orange crops in Maharashtra were almost destroyed due to untimely rains during 1997-98;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have provided any relief of compensation to the orange growers of Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No such report has been received from the Government of Maharashtra in this regard.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Brahmaputra Board**

4231. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of project reports prepared and submitted to the Government by the brahmaputra Board so far till date;

(b) whether these project reports have been cleared by the State Governments of Northeast region as well as by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the status of each projects; and

(d) the total investment envisaged by the Brahmaputra Board at the time of submission of each project report and the cost escalation thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Brahmaputra Board has submitted to the Union Government Detailed Project Reports for multipurpose projects on (i) Pagladiya in Assam, (ii) Tipaimukh at the Manipur-Mizoram border.

(b) and (d) Pagladiya Dam project, costing Rs. 480 crore and updated to Rs. 522 crore at 1997 price level, has been accorded techno economic and environmental clearance by the Centre. Technical clearance subject to certain conditions was also accorded to Tipaimukh Dam Project, costing Rs. 2,899 crore. This project could not been taken up in the absence of agreement amongst the beneficiary states of Assam, Manipur and mizoram.

#### **Indo-US Co-operation in Nuclear Field**

4232. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientist of India and United States have identified new areas for nuclear tie-ups; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF (EXTERNAL AFFAIRS) SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: (a) and (b) During the visit of a delegation led by the Chairperson of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the possibility of collaboration between the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) of India and the US NRC on three nuclear safety related projects was discussed. The US NRC invited delegation from the AERB to visit the US in September-October 1998 for further interaction on these projects. Following the nuclear tests on May 11 and 13, 1998, the Chairperson, US NRC indicated that further action on these projects had been stopped.

#### **Colour Picture Tubes**

4233. SHRI D.S. AHIRE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gap between the demand and supply of colour picture tubes is too wide;

(b) if so, the actual demand and supply of colour picture tubes;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the demand; and

(d) the year by which the country is likely to become self-sufficient in the production of colour picture tubes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) (a) to (d) The country is self-sufficient in the manufacture of 14", 20" & 21" CPTs. The installed capacity for Colour Picture Tubes (CPTs) is 64 lakh numbers per annum as against a demand of 32 lakh numbers in 1997. There is a gap between demand and supply for larger sizes CPTs (25", 29" & above) only. The requirement of large size CPTs (25", 29" & above) currently is too small for economically viable production in the country.



**Utilisation of Fund by States**

4234. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has undertaken review of the schemes started under the Annual Plans of 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of general principle followed by the Government for adjusting Central Plan Assistance to the States and Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (b) The States have the freedom to take up new schemes within the Plan provided they qualify as plan

schemes and adequate provision is made for the existing schemes. A general review of the State Plan schemes is done by the Planning Commission at the time of Annual Plan discussions. The financial performance of the States in terms of implementation of State Plans during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 is given in the Statement.

(c) Under the existing guidelines, full Central Assistance is released to the States if their total expenditure is as per the approved/revised approved Annual Plan outlays. In case the total Plan expenditure of a State/UTs (with elected legislature) in a particular year falls short of the approved outlay/revised approved outlay or the expenditure for earmarked sector/schemes falls short of approved outlay for them, a proportionate cut in the normal central assistance is to be applied. However, in respect of Special Category States the cut is to be applied after allowing for diversion of permissible level of normal central assistance for meeting the non-Plan gap. In case of UTs (without legislatures), their Plan is entirely funded by Central assistance which is released on the basis of utilization.

*Statement**Approved Outlay/Revised Outlay/Actual Expenditure During Annual Plans 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98-States/UTs*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Annual Plan 1995-96			Annual Plan 1996-97			Annual Plan 1997-98	
		Originally Approved Outlay	Revised Outlay	Actual Expenditure	Originally Approved Outlay	Revised Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure	Originally Approved Outlay	Revised Outlay
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3159.00	2510.64	2696.03	2989.00	2550.00		3579.55	3586.30
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	471.00	439.30	432.92	520.00	457.17	430.93	600.00	517.36
3.	Assam	1418.00	1202.00	1203.98	1434.00	1216.25	1040.32	1510.28	1324.08
4.	Bihar	2500.00	972.00	981.86	2143.91	1649.00		2268.42	1796.19
5.	Goa	210.00	194.49	197.25	250.00	196.34	199.13	230.56	185.99

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6.	Gujarat	2486.00	2610.00	2598.57	3378.00	3378.00	3080.14	4509.62	4509.62
7.	Haryana	1250.00	1225.00	1120.06	1433.65	1370.02	*	1576.04	1400.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	750.00	835.00	850.91	900.50	915.36	*	1008.00	1220.20
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1050.00	1053.25	1023.72	1250.00	1254.00	*	1551.81	1629.81
10.	Karnataka	3575.00	3100.00	3390.85	4360.00	3700.00	*	4153.59	4179.16
11.	Kerala	1550.00	1563.00	1591.00	2207.27	2207.27	2106.72	2851.10	2698.66
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2900.00	2572.32	2560.23	3144.80	2870.46	2759.71	3718.15	2700.00
13.	Maharashtra	5907.00	6408.85	6206.26	8319.67	7650.05	6856.77	8393.19	8393.19
14.	Manipur	300.00	290.42	286.29	350.00	355.44	*	410.00	382.02
15.	Meghalaya	306.52	255.67	241.60	370.00	271.40	253.87	382.00	260.00
16.	Mizoram	227.00	234.00	233.41	281.00	276.02	286.78	290.00	304.94
17.	Nagaland	240.00	195.00	199.94	290.00	241.23	267.53	291.00	258.00
18.	Orissa	1650.00	1520.00	1370.52	2205.50	2156.24	*	2529.46	2121.08
19.	Punjab	1675.00	1501.83	1588.99	1857.05	1250.00	*	2100.01	1940.00
20.	Rajasthan	3200.00	3200.00	3162.42	3310.49	3310.49	*	3514.42	4259.39

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
21.	Sikkim	192.00	180.82	165.40	192.00	194.00	193.42	220.00	222.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	3200.00	3200.00	3282.12	3719.05	3719.05	3719.75	4004.90	4009.90
23.	Tripura	350.00	298.39	307.31	370.00	348.91	*	439.91	407.18
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5477.50	4027.40	4211.25	6549.03	5281.74	*	7246.57	5200.14
25.	West Bengal	2065.00	2082.00	2141.38	3158.63	2300.00	*	3907.62	2310.00
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	215.00	215.00	193.89	225.00	222.30	*	261.84	261.84
27.	Chandigarh	100.00	100.00	99.56	105.34	105.34	100.23	116.87	116.87
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	29.00	29.00	27.64	30.09	30.09	30.09	34.71	34.71
29.	Daman & Diu	23.00	23.00	22.80	23.91	23.91	23.86	27.71	27.71
30.	NCT of Delhi	1720.00	1720.00	1298.25	2102.94	1931.94	1879.88	2073.00	2073.00
31.	Lakshadweep	38.60	38.60	26.73	40.07	40.07	*	45.78	44.61
32.	Pondicherry	175.52	175.52	173.59	200.66	200.66	*	219.85	218.00
Grand Total		48410.14	43972.50	43886.73	57711.56	51670.75		64065.96	58591.65

Note: Actual Expenditure figures for Annual Plan 1996-97 are not available and hence anticipated expenditure as reported by the State/UT Governments are given (\* = not reported).

Actual/Anticipated Expenditure figures for 1997-98 are not available.

File Name: PQ4234

[Translation]

**Satellite from Arab Satellite Operating Company**

4235. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Arab Satellite Operating Company (Arab Sat) had entered into an agreement to sell a satellite to India;

(b) if so, the terms of the agreement; and

(c) the time by which the satellite is likely to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The ARABSAT-1C spacecraft was purchased in orbit for US\$40 million including performance payment of US\$4 million spread over 4 years. The Agreement between Government of India and ARABSAT was signed on November 26, 1997 at Delhi.

(c) The Satellite was positioned at 55 deg. E location on January 17, 1998 and is functioning satisfactorily. It has been redesigned as INSAT-2DT.

**20 Point Programme**

4236. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the implementation of 20-Point Programme in Uttar Pradesh during 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) whether Union Government have made any evaluation of the said Programme; and

(c) the details of additional financial assistance sought by the Uttar Pradesh Government during 1996-97 and 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):

(a) Details of the progress made in the implementation of 20-Point Programme in Uttar Pradesh during 1996-97 and 1997-98 are in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) 20-Point Programme was initiated in 1975 and has been restructured twice-once in 1982 and thereafter in 1986. It is, however, reviewed as and when necessary.

(c) No Additional Central Assistance was given to the State of Uttar Pradesh during 1996-97. However, Rs. 10.79 crore were given as Additional Central Assistance to the State of Uttar Pradesh during 1997-98.

**Statement**

*Progress of the Implementation of the Twenty Point Programme in Uttar Pradesh during 1996-97 and 1997-98*

Item Code	Item Name	Unit	1996-97			1997-98		
			Target	Achievement	%age Ach.	Target	Achievement	%age Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
01B	Jawahar Rozgar Yojana	No.s	60321000	65818000	109	56171000	59949000	107
05A	distribution of Surplus Land	Acres	5000	4870	97	5000	6233	125
07A	Drinking Water Problem (Vlg./Habitations)	Nos.	20245	20245	101	24272	37288	154

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
08A	Community Health Centres (CHC)	Nos.	27	5	19	27	0	0
08D	Immunisation of Children (DPT, Polio & BCG)	Nos.	5090700	5150000	101	5078400	5447000	107
09C	ICDS Blocks Operational (CUM.)	Nos.	580	580	100	580	580	100
09D	Anganwadis (Cum.)	Nos.	53450	32482	61	53450	34259	64
11A	SC Families Assisted	Nos.	326000	322009	99	326000	283342	87
11B	ST Families Assisted	Nos.	4725	5292	112	4760	4328	91
14C	Indira Awaas Yojana	Nos.	241251	119775	50	136645	121968	89
14D	EWS Houses Provided	Nos.	10200	2076	20	14000	14000	100
14E	LIG House	Nos.	5100	1958	38	1500	1296	88
15	Slum Improvement	Nos.	150000	117288	78	156000	82270	55
16A	Tree Plantation on private Lands	Nos.	220000000	212124000	96	220000000	197770000	90
16B	Area Covered - Public & Forest Lands	Hect.	110000	92790	84	110000	88052	80
19A	Villages Electrified	Nos.	480	1146	239	500	814	163
19B	Pumpsets Energised	Nos.	16500	15271	93	14100	13315	80
19C	Improved Chullahas	Nos.	240000	225789	94	230000	228371	99
19D	BIO-Gas Plants	Nos.	11000	11057	101	12000	12040	100

[English]

**Master Plan for Flood Control**

4237. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISEMUTHIARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to undertake a Master Plan to start multipurpose irrigation projects on several rivers flowing down from Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh along the Assam territory to control both flood and soil erosion and frequently occurring hazardous drought menace in the North-Eastern Region of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the plan is likely to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) Brahmaputra Board has prepared Master Plans for flood management in the Brahmaputra and Barak Valleys which include rivers flowing down from Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh into the territory of Assam. These Master Plans have been sent to the North Eastern States for implementation by the State Governments from the funds allocated under State Flood Control Sector by the Planning Commission. The Master plans also aim at integrated development of Water Resources of the Brahmaputra and Barak basins for which Brahmaputra Board has taken up investigations of several multipurpose projects in the Brahmaputra and Barak valleys.

[Translation]

**Recruitment Rules for Drivers**

4238. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effort has been made by the Government to remove the anomaly arising due to different criteria adopted by different Departments in regard to the existing pay scales and recruitment rules for the drivers of Union Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the policy of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether any efforts have been made by the Government to appoint the drivers, who have become handicapped in accident;

(d) whether any scheme is under consideration regarding "Comprehensive Insurance" of Government vehicles and "Additional Insurance" of drivers;

(e) whether the Government propose to declare drivers as operative staff; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCIAL (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) There is no centralised cadre of drivers/staff car drivers under the Central Government. While this Department has prescribed model Recruitment Rules and a promotion scheme for the staff car drivers working in various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in respect of drivers of other motor-vehicles their Recruitment Rules, pay-scales etc. are job and post specific. No anomaly has come to the notice of the Government in respect of the existing pay-scales and model Recruitment Rules for the staff car drivers.

(c) Relief/benefits (including consideration for appointment to any other suitable post) provided for Central Government employees under the relevant rules/instructions in case of invalidation or disability are equally applicable to the drivers/staff car drivers also.

(d) No, sir.

(e) and (f) In terms of model Recruitment Rules, staff car drivers in the Ministries/Departments have been classified as General Central Service Group-C-Non-Gazetted-Non-Ministerial.

[English]

**Incentives for Fruits and Vegetable Growers**

4239. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA:  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Horticulture Board and Agriculture Produce Export Development Authority have

launched various schemes to give incentives to the fruits and vegetable growers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the procedure being adopted to clear the projects of State Governments under these schemes;

(d) whether due to long procedure there is an inordinate delay in sanctioning the projects;

(e) if so, whether the Maharashtra Government has requested the Union Government to delegate the sanctioning power to the State Government;

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(g) the details of the support being given by National Horticulture Board and APEDA to the Governments of Maharashtra and Goa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are at Annexure.

(c) The proposals of the State Governments as well as other beneficiaries, after examination in the respective organisations are sanctioned by the Executive Director/Managing Committee in respect of NHB and the Chairman/Director/Executive Committee as the case may be in respect of APEDA.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) does not arise.

(g) Goa and Maharashtra along with other States avail of assistance provided under the various schemes listed in the Statement.

#### **Statement**

b(i) Schemes of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

1. Schemes for feasibility Studies, Surveys, Consultancy and Database upgradation.

2. Scheme for assistance to promote quality and quality control.

3. Scheme for packaging development.

4. Schemes for generating relevant research and development by APEDA through research institutions for common benefit of trade and industry.

5. Scheme for development of infrastructure.

6. Scheme for organisation building and HRD.

b(ii) Schemes of National Horticulture Board (NHB)

1. Integrated Project on Management of Post Harvest Infrastructure of Horticultural Crops.

2. Scheme for Development of Marketing of horticultural Produce through participation in soft loan.

3. Introduction of New technologies and concepts in Horticulture.

4. Market Information Service Scheme for Horticultural Produce.

5. Establishment of Nutritional Garden in rural Areas.

6. Grant of Financial Assistance to Professional organisations for the Development of Horticulture.

7. Transfer of Technology through Training and visit of Horticulture Growers.

8. Techno Economic Feasibility Studies/Surveys on various Aspects of Horticulture.

#### **SSC Exams**

4240. SHRI VAIKO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Staff Selection Commission is conducting examinations on Zonal basis;

(b) whether the cut of marks vary from Zone to Zone in such examinations;

(c) whether the cut off marks of Southern Zone is generally higher than other Zones; and

(d) whether the Government propose to prepare the combined merit list for all India in order to select meritorious candidates who are left out in the zones that have higher cut off percentage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (d) SSC was conducting examinations in respect of certain posts on Zonal basis up to 1996. Consequent upon judgement delivered by Supreme Court in CA No. 4190/95-Radhey Shyam and others VS Union of India that selection has to be made on the basis of All India merit, the Commission has stopped recruitment on zonal basis.

[Translation]

#### Release of Fund Under MPLADS

4241. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the actual funds released during 1997-98 under the MPLADS particularly to Nasik, Khed, Pune and Dhuley constituencies;

(b) the fate of the rest of the funds;

(c) whether the amount under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme for 1998-99 has been released to Members of Lok Sabha;

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

(e) whether the amount of the said fund has not been released to some Members of Parliament for want of utilization certificate of fund issued by the District Magistrates concerned;

(f) if so, whether the Government have directed the District Magistrates concerned to complete the utilization certificate of previous fund and other formalities; and

(g) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore each to Nasik and Dhuley constituencies and Rs. 50.00 lakh each to Khed and Pune constituencies have been released for 1997-98. The remaining funds to Khed and Pune constituencies will be released on receipt of expenditure statement from the concerned District Magistrate (DMs) showing an unanctioned balance of less than Rs. 50.00 lakhs.

(c) to (g) The first instalment of Rs. 50 lakhs each has been released in respect of 113 Lok Sabha MPs upto 6.7.1998. A statement showing State-wise release of funds is attached. The funds to remaining MPs could not be released as the expenditure statement showing an unanctioned balance of less than Rs. 50 lakh has not been received for them. All the District Magistrates (DMs) have been requested to furnish the latest expenditure return.

#### Statement

*Summary of Funds Released Under Mplads for 1998-99 as on 06/07/1998*

Sl.No.	State Name	Lok Sabha
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	0
4.	Bihar	9
5.	Goa	0



1	2	3
6.	Gujarat	7
7.	Haryana	2
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0
9.	J & K	1
10.	Karnataka	7
11.	Kerala	8
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14
13.	Maharashtra	10
14.	Manipur	2
15.	Meghalaya	0
16.	Mizoram	1
17.	Nagaland	1
18.	Orissa	2
19.	Punjab	1
20.	Rajasthan	6
21.	Sikkim	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	10
23.	Tripura	0

1	2	3
24.	Uttar Pradesh	15
25.	West Bengal	1
26.	A & N Islands	0
27.	Chandigarh	0
28.	D & N Haveli	1
29.	Daman & Diu	1
30.	Delhi	7
31.	Lakshdweep	0
32.	Pondicherry	0
Total		113

[English]

### Vegetable Food

4242. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal for the Government of Kerala for increasing vegetable production to attain self sufficiency in Kerala in Order to reduce import from other States and to increase the consumption rate; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Kerala submitted a project proposal for increasing vegetable production to attain self sufficiency in the State.

(b) On the suggestion of Govt. of India the State Govt. of Kerala has submitted the revised proposal to National Horticulture Board to avail the assistance for setting up of cold storages and post harvest management facilities at the cost of Rs. 368.50 lakh. National Board has examined the proposal and sought some clarification from State Government. The reply of the State Government is awaited.

#### **Pending Scheme of North-Eastern States**

4243. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects of North-Eastern States and Sikkim which are pending with the Planning Commission for clearance;

(b) since when these are pending; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to expedite the clearance of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) Planning Commission have no projects of North Eastern States & Sikkim pending for clearance.

[Translation]

#### **Repair of Nuclear Reactors**

4244. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether United Kingdom has offered to service the nuclear reactors to improve the power supply system in India;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Sikri Reservoir Scheme**

4245. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Upper Sikri Reservoir Scheme was sent by the Government of Bihar to the Union Government for approval; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The Upper Sakari (not Sikri) Reservoir Scheme was submitted by the Government of Bihar to the Central Water Commission in 1978 for its approval. The project was considered by the Technical Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control and Multi-Purpose Project in its 28th meeting held on 24-9-1984 and was accepted subject to certain observations including obtaining environmental clearance, State Finance Department's concurrence, etc. as well as modification and updation of the project accordingly. Therefore, the State Government was requested to submit the modified and updated project report based on compliance of the Advisory Committee's observations. The State Government submitted such modified project report in January, 1998 and the same is currently under examination in the Central Water Commission.

[English]

#### **Fund to North-Eastern States**

4246. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are providing funds for development of backward areas in North-Eastern States and Sikkim; and

(b) if so, the details of the funds provided to these States during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a)

and (b) Planning and Development of an area and allocation of funds for this purpose is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. However, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the States in this regard through weightage in the formula, as approved by National Development Council (NDC) in 1991, used for distribution of Central Assistance and through Special Area Programmes. Under the distribution formula of Central Assistance, after setting apart funds required for externally aided projects and providing reasonable amounts for Area programmes, 30% is set apart from the balance for distribution to special category states, including North-Eastern States & Sikkim.

Although no area has been declared as backward per se by Planning Commission, Special Central Assistance is given to designated areas in the North-Eastern States and Sikkim under Special Area Programmes namely Hill Area Development Programme, Border Area Development Programme, North-Eastern Council and Tribal Sub-Plan.

#### **Plan Target**

4247. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has expressed serious concern over the failure of the State Governments to raise targeted resources to finance their respective

development programme during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the States which have failed to meet the plan target;

(c) whether the Union Government have directed the State Governments to take steps to meet the said target before finalising the next plan aid of the States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (d) There has been significant shortfall in the resource mobilisation of various States during the Eighth Plan Period. A statement enclosed indicates the projected and actual realisation of States Own Resources for the major States during the Eighth Plan. The Planning Commission, at the official level as well as at the Deputy Chairman - Chief Ministers level meetings has impressed upon the State Governments to take up resource mobilisation efforts to ensure that during the Ninth Plan period such shortfalls are eliminated.

#### **Statement**

*Projection and Realisation of States' Own Resources of major states during the Eighth Five year Plan at 1991-92 prices*

(Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	States	Projection	Realization
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3365.02	2050.82
2.	Bihar	5051.84	-1685.05
3.	Goa	459.80	414.21

1	2	3	4
4.	Gujarat	7650.21	5857.07
5.	Haryana	3780.72	1731.83
6.	Karnataka	8108.51	7671.65
7.	Kerala	1520.03	3015.91
8.	Madhaya Pradesh	5455.38	3744.83
9.	Maharashtra	13251.79	15690.82
10.	Orissa	3881.14	1100.00
11.	Punjab	-3344.57	728.21
12.	Rajasthan	5552.12	2412.17
13.	Tamil Nadu	1653.75	4037.39
14.	Uttar Pradesh	4456.87	2624.26
15.	West Bengal	3071.30	810.03
Total		63913.91	50204.65

### Nuclear Strike

4248. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI:  
SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pakistan planning nuclear strikes against India" appearing in the Statesman dated June 29, 1998;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware of the mass destruction in the event of a nuclear 'first use' strike by Pakistan;

(d) if so, the cities and towns that are likely to be targetted by Pakistan; and

(e) the preventive measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):  
(a) and (b) Government has seen these media reports and noted the many inconsistencies contained in these report. Expectedly, such disclosures appear to serve the interests of those who wish to bring about greater international involvement in South Asian affairs, on one pretext or another. Such reports, proven or otherwise, vindicate steps taken by Government to create a secure

deterrent against the use or threat of use of weapons of mass destruction against India.

(c) to (e) Government has closely monitored the acquisition of clandestine ballistic missile and nuclear weapons capability by Pakistan. It has also noted statements by Pakistani leader in this regard. Government remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interests in accordance with its own threat perceptions.

#### **Minister's Visit to Asian**

4249. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State for External Affairs visited five nation South East Asian countries during the month of June, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names and number of leaders/Ministers/VIPs of the above said countries with whom she met during the visit, country-wise;

(d) the nature of discussion held with each of them;

(e) whether any agreement has been signed; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) As part of the present exercise to explain the rationale underlying India's decision to conduct the nuclear tests and to address concerns expressed in certain countries, Government is actively engaging key inter locutors in various countries in a substantive dialogue. In this context, Smt. Vasundhara Raje, MOS (EA), visited Hanoi, Manila and Singapore from June 16—20, 1998. Smt. Vasundhara Raje called on President Estrada and met Foreign Minister Siazon in Manila, Ambassador Tommy Koh and Foreign Minister Jayakumar in Singapore. In Hanoi, she held a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister (Foreign Minister) Nguyen Manh Cam.

(d) to (f) The visit ensured a greater understanding of India's rationale for undertaking the nuclear tests and presented a valuable opportunity to explain the various initiatives announced by Government in the wake of the tests. No agreement was signed during MOS's visit to these three ASEAN countries.

12.01 hrs.

#### **PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

*Annual Report and Review by the Government on the working of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research Mumbai for the year 1996-97.*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):  
Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, 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. 1059/98]*

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mehta Research Institute of Mathematics and Mathematical Physics, Allahabad, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Mehta research Institute of Mathematics and Mathematical Physics, Allahabad, 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. 1060/98]*

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tata memorial Centre, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the

- working of the Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1061/98]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Atomic Energy Education Society, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Atomic Energy Education Society, Mumbai, 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. 1062/98]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai, for the year 1996-97
- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1063/98]
- (11) (i) A copy of the annual report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, for the year 1996-97) alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Institute of Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, for the year 1996-97.
- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1064/98]
- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.
- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1065/98]
- (15) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Rare Earths Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Rare Earths Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1066/98]
- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Nuclear Power Corporation, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Nuclear Power Corporation, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1067/98]
- (c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Uranium Corporation of India Limited, Jaduguda, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Uranium Corporation of India Limited, Jaduguda, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1068/98]

- (d) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the electronics Corporation of India Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Electronics Corporation of India Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (16) Four statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1069/98]

- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1996-97 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1996-97.

- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1070/98]

**Annual Report and Review on the working of Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Ahmedabad for the year 1992-93.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Ahmedabad, for the year 1992-93.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Ahmedabad, for the year

1992-93 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1071/98]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Tamil Nadu Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chennai, for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Tamil Nadu Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chennai, for the year 1995-96 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1072/98]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Maharashtra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1995-96 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor-General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1073/98]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati for the year 1985-86.

- (ii) Annual report of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1985-86 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1074/98]

- (e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati for the year 1986-87.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1986-87 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1075/98]

- (f) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati for the year 1987-88.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1987-88 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1076/98]
- (g) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the U.P State Agro. Industrial Corporation Limited, Lucknow for the year 1994-95.
- (ii) Annual Report of the U.P. State Agro Industrial Corporation Limited, Lucknow for the year 1994-95 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1077/98]
- (h) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Himachal Pradesh, for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Himachal Pradesh, for the year 1995-96 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1078/98]
- (i) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1988-89, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1079/98]
- (j) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1989-90.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1989-90 alongwith audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1080/98]
- (k) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1990-91.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1990-91 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1081/98]
- (l) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1991-92.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Assam Agro Industries Development. Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1991-92 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Controller and Auditor General thereon.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1082/98](m)
- (m) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Madhya Pradesh State Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Madhya Pradesh State Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and Comments of the Controller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Thirteen Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 1083/98]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Dairy Development Board, Anand, for the year 1996-97 together with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National dairy Development Board, Anand, 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. 1084/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National horticulture Board, Gurgaon, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National horticulture Board, Gurgaon, 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. 1085/98]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, 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 Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, 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. 1086/98]

**Annual Report and Review on the working of Department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Courses Society, New Delhi for the year 1996-97.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Electronics accreditation of Computer Courses (DOEACC) Society, 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 Department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Courses (DOEACC) Society, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1087/98]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the the Society for Electronics Test Engineering, 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 Society for Electronics Test Engineering, New Delhi for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1088/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Centre for Software Technology, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Centre for Software Technology, Mumbai, for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1089/98]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Electronics Design and Technology 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 Centre for Electronics Design and Technology of India, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 1090/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) Pune, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune, for the year 1996-97.
- [Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 1091/98]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research, (SAMEER), Mumbai, 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 Society for Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (SAMEER), Mumbai, for the year 1996-97.
- [Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 1092/98]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Liquid Crystal Research, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Liquid Crystal Research, Bangalore for the year 1996-97.
- [Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 1093/98]
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Software Technology Parks 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 Software Technology Parks of India, New Delhi for the year 1996-97.
- [Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 1094/98]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Materials
- for Electronics Technology, Pune, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology, Pune for the year 1996-97.
- [Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 1095/98]
- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Electronics Research and Development Centre 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 Electronics Research and Development Centre of India, New Delhi. for the year 1996-97.
- [Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 1096/98]
- (11) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):—
- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the CMC Limited and the Department of Electronics for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 1097/98]
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the ET&T Corporation Limited and the Department of Electronics for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library *See* No. LT. 1098/98]

12.03 hrs.

[English]

**RE: REPORT OF JAIN COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

**MR. SPEAKER:** Now, the House will take up Zero Hour.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I have given notice.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will call all the names that are listed in this list. Yes, Shri Shiv Shankar.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER (Tenali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the worst political assassinations of humankind had taken place in the year 1991 where our leader Rajiv Gandhi along with 16 other persons were killed. In the wake thereof, the Jain Commission was appointed which took practically seven years for the purposes of producing a Report.

Sir, the House and the nation is aware that the interim Report of the Jain Commission had a tremendous fallout. Thereafter, while the final Report has been submitted, it is being trickled out in driblet and triplets and is creating a confusion in the minds of the people. It is because the manner in which it is being published in the newspapers, is not only eroding the faith of the people in the judicial system but also creating a tremendous confusion.

Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that this Report be submitted at the earliest and be placed on the Table of the House. We are anguished to note that the Government on the one hand is trying to leak it out and on the other is not taking the House and the nation into confidence by placing it on the Table of the House. Therefore, we demand from the Government that this Report must be placed on the Table of the House with the Action Taken Report at the earliest. We would also like to know by what time the Government is going to place the Report on the Table of the House....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaipal Reddy is also on the same point.

Yes, Shri Jaipal Reddy.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Sir, Congress toppled the United Front Government on the issue of Jain Commissions Report and then you came into Power...(Interruptions) I feel sorry that I had to leave the Defence Minister's Office.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have called the name of Shri Jaipal Reddy. Shri Mulayam Singhji, I will call your name after him.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Sir, the Government should say something on this...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister would be giving the reply.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): Mr. Speaker, Sir. Home Minister was to attend the Rajya Sabha today. I had talked to him in this regard. He has stated that Action Taken Report is being prepared. Officer's meeting in this regard is being held. I would like to state that Jain Commission's Report will be placed in this Session of Lok Sabha.

Secondly, I doing the fact that the report has been leaked out by the Government...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Rajnandgaon): Government is accountable for it.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar): Sir, ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister has already replied to your point.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar): Since you have called my name, let me also make my point.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): This is a very important subject on which a Government had fallen and fresh elections were to be held all over the country. My friends on the BJP are very much obliged to Justice Jain and also to Congress for coming to power. Therefore, it is a matter which cannot just be treated lightly. Everything is being leaked and the Government says that it is not responsible for the leakage. In that case, has the Government inquired as to how the report is coming out? ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Please state whether you inquired the matter as to why the report was leaked out during your tenure.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh): Did you inquire into the matter?

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I do not know why this hon. Member gets up every now and then.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: It is because you are making a wrong statement. Please do not try to mislead the House...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATERJEE: You should know how to behave in the House. You are not super-Speaker!...(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: I am speaking with the permission of the Chair. Shri Somnath Chatterjee is a senior Member. He should know how to speak...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We are not going to accept that somebody else controls us. This is happening every time...(Interruptions) Sir, I am raising a very serious matter, as a result of which the whole political situation in the country changed. We would like to know how this report is being leaked out. I find that this is only an Interim Report and yet it is being leaked out. The Government has not made its position clear. When the matter is being raised in the House, the response of the Government is that the concerned Minister is in the other House. This is not ordinarily taken as a plea in this House. ...(Interruptions) This is a matter on which the Government should have come out *suo motu* and told the House as to what it is going to do about it.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I have already stated that the report will be submitted in this session.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I agree with Shiv Shanker Ji about the urgent need to place the Report on the Table of the house. The hon. Minister is good enough to assure us that this Report will be placed in this Session but he should say as to the exact date on which it will be placed so that the House will have an opportunity to discuss it. There is every possibility of the Report being placed on the Table of the House on the last day, depriving the House of the opportunity to discuss it.

Secondly, I also share the view that the Report is being leaked systematically in driplets and the Government owes an explanation to the nation as to why this Report has got leaked.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL (Jalandhar) : Sir, may I take a minute on this?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Your Government was toppled due to this report please, let me speak.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL (Jalandhar): The last time, when the Interim Report was leaked, I ordered a CBI Inquiry on the leak itself. May I ask the hon. Minister, what is the fate of that Inquiry and who was held responsible for the leakage because the culprit may again be the same. So, the Government may give us a detailed reply as to who has leaked it and what is the finding of the CBI.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): Sir, you may give direction to the Government.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: We all would like to know the person responsible for the leaking. As hon'ble Shri Somnath has just now stated that fresh elections were held and fortunately or unfortunately Shri Khurana's Party came into Power. Please take this issue seriously. It is a fact that Congress is not taking this matter seriously. Congress toppled our Government. I would like to tell the Congress Party to topple the Present Government also on the issue of Jain Commission's Report. We will support them. This Government will fall within a week. It is a fact. I am serious about it. Shri Sharad Pawar, you please commit that you want to topple this Government. If they are ready to do so, we and Swamiji will support them in doing so...(Interruptions) United Front Government was toppled on the basis of Jain Commission's Report. Therefore, it is important to lay this Report on the Table of the House.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are trying to find issues to topple the Government...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: As the hon'ble Member has just now stated that an exact date, on which the report will be placed should be announced. Hon'ble Prime Minister or Home Minister should be called in the House. They should state that the report which is being leaked out is correct or not. It is a conspiracy to tarnish their image in the eyes of the people of the country. It is a conspiracy. Why this report has not been presented in House during all these years.? How these names are

exposed if the report is not leaked out? I would not want to name the person who is involved in this conspiracy. Report has been leaked out...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja): You were instrumental in leaking of the report...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV. You were listening to what hon'ble Shri Gujral was saying just now. He ordered a CBI inquiry in this matter when he was the Prime Minister. Please State, what are the findings of CBI if the report was leaked out by the United Front Government. How it was leaked out? ...*(Interruptions)*

12.12 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is important to place this report in the House many names are being calumniated in this regard which is detrimental to the interest of the country. Whether it is right or wrong? I would like to say to the Congress Party that their leader has been assassinated. We had very good relations with Congress at that time, but the leader of the Congress Party is not taking this matter seriously...*(Interruptions)* Please tell us as to who was right and who was wrong...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a Point of Order...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please tell me under what Rule you are raising your Point of order.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur): Mr. Chairman, sir, I have to say something in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not allowed you. You have not raised the point of order.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us conduct the House in a proper way.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly cooperate with the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not waste the time of the House like this.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, he is not aware of the details. Is he a College Lecturer? Who is he to make the others understand? I object the manner in which he is addressing the prominent leaders. Why he is not addressing the Chair? I would like to know whether they will topple the Government on the basis of numbers or on the basis of the Report? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the delay in presenting the report will destroy the evidence. It is possible that the witnesses may die in some Calamity. People involved in the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi should be exposed. It should be taken in consideration that political murders should not be repeated. There is a possibility of evidence being destroyed. Therefore, I request that the report should be presented as early as possible. I know that they will not present the report of Jain Commission because they are not serious about it. It is a fact...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, Mr. Chairman, Sir, please direct from the Chair to present the Jain Commission's Report on the Table of the House in this Session within two-three days.

[*English*]

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai): Sir, last time when there was a leak and as Shri Gujral just said, a CBI Inquiry...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI AJIT JOGI (Raigarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a very serious matter and it should not be taken lightly...*(Interruptions)* It is linked with the Sentiments of our Congress Party. Our leader has been assassinated. Therefore, we want this report to be presented on the Table of the House very soon.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati): Our sentiments and feelings are involved in this subject. The sentiments and feelings of not only the Congress Party but also lakhs and lakhs of people are involved in this particular issue. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has got every right to say anything but he has no right to say anything about my party. My party is quite serious about that. We are insisting for this Report. The accusation that has been made by Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav is very unfair. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I had given floor to Dr. Subramanian Swamy. Please resume your seat. You will get a chance. Your name is there.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South): Sir, on what basis are you calling a single-member party?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are questioning the right of the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is the discretion of the Chair, Shri Baalu, how to conduct the business of the House.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Democracy is not their strong point *(Interruptions)* Sir, last time, when there was a...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we will also speak on this issue...*(Interruptions)* How any one can speak without giving Notice?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Virendra Singh, Please Cooperate.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, presiding officer should run the House honestly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Virendra Singh, he is already speaking, you please sit down.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am speaking from the back benches. Please give me opportunity to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume the seat.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Please allow me so that I could speak on this serious matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. You can not speak like this.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a record that you have continuously won the elections. You have witnessed the Proceedings of the House for long time. Therefore, you should listen to us. All the members should be given a chance to speak if the matter raised by Shri Mulayam Singh is a very serious one. We were in the last Lok Sabha. You might be knowing that Jain Commission's Report was not discussed in the Last Lok Sabha.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chaubey, Please resume your seat. When your turn comes I will allow you to speak.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY: As you are asking me to sit down, I am doing so.

[English]

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai): Sir, last time when there was a leak, as Shri Gujral just said, a CBI Inquiry was ordered. Thereafter, Justice Jain went on record to say, "I am only producing one copy and I am giving that copy to the Ministry of Home Affairs." Now, the Indian Express and some other magazines produced so-called extracts. Either so-called extracts are bogus or the Ministry of Home has leaked it. There is no other way it can leak. Will the Government order another CBI Inquiry into this leak? The Government should tell that and also what happened to the inquiry of the previous Report.

SHRI C. GOPAL (Arakkonam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, all of us know well that the 17 volume Interim Report of the one-man Panel headed by the hon. Justice M.C. Jain

has led to a major political turmoil in the country with the Congress-I withdrawing support from the United Front Government, which finally led to the mid-term poll. As a result of that we are all there now.

Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government in this regard. We came to know from the newspapers that the Government is in the process of finalising the Action Taken Report on Jain Commission Report, which probed the conspiracy aspect of Rajiv Gandhi assassination. We came to understand this only through newspapers and not from Government sources. The nine-volume Report submitted on March 7th by the Commission to the Home Secretary is likely to be tabled in the current session of Parliament.

It is well known that besides the Union Home Ministry and Law Ministry, central agencies like Intelligence Bureau, Research and Analysis Wing of the Cabinet Secretariat and the Central Bureau of Investigation are involved in the preparation of ATR,' official sources said today.

It is also well known from the leakage of the Jain Commission Report that the Commission in its final report is understood to have suggested further probe into several aspects including the allegations and evidences against controversial persons. It also appeared in the newspapers that Justice Jain recommended action against ...*(Interruptions)* 21 additional suspects including former DMK Minister, Shrimati Subbulakshmi Jagadisan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI C. GOPAL (Arakkonam): The report quotes a letter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up Shri Gopal. This is 'Zero Hour', you cannot make a speech like this.

SHRI C. GOPAL: It is very clear from the Interim Report from where it was found out that it was the former Minister Shrimati Subbulakshmi Jagadisan. As per some of the recommendations of the Jain Commission, the DMK Government had shown favouritism to LTTE, with the result the great leader's assassination had taken place in Tamil Nadu. Therefore, it was due to the activities of the DMK ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Sir, is it proper to make allegations like this? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. GOPAL: The Tamil people feel very ashamed of it. I want to request the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister to submit a report as soon

as possible and take action against the DMK Government which was involved in this assassination.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, thank you for having given me an opportunity to reply to what Thiru Gopal has said just now.

Everyday, we have been going through the newspapers about the Jain Commission's final report which was leaked to the Press. If the Government is not coming forward to table the report in time in this august House, the Fourth Estate has got its responsibility to place it in right time, in the right spirit. It has got the responsibility to prepare us to unearth the truth.

My hon. Friend Thiru Gopal has just now said that we were responsible for helping the LTTE. Here I would like to quote *The Hindu* dated 8-10-1990:

"LTTE is waging a valiant struggle and fighting the Sinhala army heroically. In the last two months, LTTE has not indulged in any activities that would give cause for complaint in Tamil Nadu. Now, LTTE is fighting a war against a Government of a nation and this is a herculean task. We must all bear in mind that if the LTTE is wiped out, the entire Tamil race in Sri Lanka will perish. The victory of LTTE will mean the victory of Sri Lankan Tamils" ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, this is 'Zero Hour'. Please do not make a speech.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, you have allowed Thiru Gopal to speak, I may also be allowed to react on this subject...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, Shri Baalu. We are discussing the question whether the Jain Commission Report is to be placed in the House or not. Please do not make any speech.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: This was the statement made by the then Chief Minister, the leader of the AIADMK...*(Interruptions)* Now the House could understand as to who has involved, aided and encouraged the LTTE and who is shedding crocodile tears. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you standing up?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Muthiah, please sit down. I am asking him to wind up.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has already given a notice.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the then Government had already ordered a CBI inquiry on the leakage of the Interim Report. What happened to that? ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume your seat.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, it is for them to place the report on the floor of the House without any further delay, as demanded by Thiru I.K. Gujral. ...(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have only one submission to make. The hon. Minister, Shri Khurana has assured the House that the Report would be tabled during this Session itself. I would only like to know from him...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please resume your seat? The Government will react. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, we are ready to discuss the Report of the Jain Commission along with the ATR so that the buried facts of the Report would come to light. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also want to speak.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, the hon. Minister, Shri Khurana has assured the House that the Report would be tabled in this House during this Session itself. I would only like to know from him whether he is planning to present it on the last day of this Session. If it is placed tomorrow, the House would get an opportunity to study and discuss it also. What is the difficulty in placing the Report tomorrow itself? If not tomorrow, it should be placed at least on Monday so that we will have an opportunity to study the Report and discuss it in the House.

Secondly, as the former Prime Minister has said, a CBI Inquiry is going on. Let us have the CBI report also. ...(Interruptions) I would like to know the hon. Minister's reaction on both these matters.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (Mumbai North-East): Sir I am trying to draw your attention towards me. Please allow me ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Chairman, Sir, country's...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If I allow you to speak in this way, it will be a wastage of time...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: The important and serious issue is related with the assassination of the former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. This issue has jolted the country again and again. The report of the Commission has not been presented in the House, the report has been leaked. In this process a government had been toppled. Who is the culprit and who is not? I want to draw your attention to 'The Indian Express' published three days back. It again carried the news item about the leakage of the report. Only Cabinet Secretary, I.B. Chief and the Home Secretary had an access to this report. I am not blaming any officer for it. I do not want to go into the details of what had happened, and what had not happened. Here, the hot verbal exchange between DMK and MDMK is going on. But the country wants to know the truth. The culprit, whosoever he may be, whether he is a politician or it is any organisation should be exposed. This is the Supreme House of the country. I would like to ask why do you not want to lay this report in the House? What is the limit for it? Please reply...(Interruptions) How things can go on like this? Why the report is withheld.

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR: All these days, we were awaiting that someone would come forward and say something about the Jain Commission Report. I have given notice to the Secretariat to have discussion under Rule 193 on the Jain Commission Report. There upon, I was informed that the report is being examined. No sooner the Action Taken Report (ATR) is ready, it is likely to be submitted before the House. This is the commitment given in writing which is in my hand. Luckily, after all these days, what happened to the Congress Party? I remember, prior to the dissolution of this House, the Jain Commission Report was taken into account. It is because of the Jain Commission Report alone, the previous Government was collapsed and this House was dissolved. But thereafter, everyone was quiet during the election campaign. Today it has come again. It is a very good reason. But why has it come? It is only because that for the last 3-4 days, *Indian Express* is giving some news about the Jain Commission Report and it is being leaked out. Again, it would be a matter of further inquiry. It is another matter whether we should institute an inquiry against this leakage of the report or not. Everyday, this



has been happening. So, it is necessary on the part of the Government also to declare the date and say that the Action Taken Report of the Jain Commission Report would be tabled on so and so date. That will solve the problem. Thank you.

SHRI CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, do you want to react on this?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a very serious matter. Why you are taking it so lightly?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as has been said by the leader of the opposition...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Khuranaji, please wait for a while. First let us listen to Shri Prabhunath Singh.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj): Mr. Chairman, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had been the Prime Minister of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Prabhunath Singhji, do not give speech. Please tell whether the Jain Commission report should be tabled in the House or not?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I will be able to tell it only when you will provide me an opportunity to speak and will listen to me.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister of India. He had also been the leader of the Congress Party. But this point is being taken very lightly. It is regrettable. I would like to state that there is no need to go into the details whether Congress, BJP or Shri Lalu is responsible for it. The Government is saying that the Commission's report will be tabled, but the government should also give the exact date for it. The real culprit should be exposed.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Chairman, sir, the leader of the opposition and other hon'ble Members have said...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Shri Khuranaji, your statement, has no importance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Laluji, please do not interrupt. First listen to him.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon'ble leader of the opposition and other hon'ble Members have drawn the attention of the House towards this issue. They said that this issue is related with the sentiments of crores of people. This is absolutely right. This is a matter of shameful assassination of the former Prime Minister. The government is taking this issue very seriously. He was assassinated in May, 1991. In 1998, after six and a half years, the report was submitted. At that very time, our government also came to power. The Action Taken Report should also have been submitted alongwith it. Then only, this becomes meaningful. I would like to say that only yesterday I had discussed the issue with the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the hon'ble Home Minister. It is unfair to suspect our intentions in this regard. I would like to inform the House that the Jain Commission's report, alongwith Action taken Report will not be presented on the last day of the session, but it will be presented 2-3 days before the end of the session because Action Taken Report is being prepared. The preparation of Action Taken Report will take sometime. I would like to assure you that on 29th...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL (Kamal): You should tell the date.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I am telling you that only...(Interruptions) I can't tell you the definite date because the report is under preparation. But the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs has told me that this report would be presented 2-3 days before the session ends...(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai): There is no need to present both the reports at the same time...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What are you going to do about the further leakage?

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I would like to say that the government is not involved in the leakage and we will...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati): You should inquire into it...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: You can tell this to the Home Minister, whenever he is present in the House.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) What happened to the inquiry conducted by the CBI...(Interruptions). Has the report been submitted ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: According to Shri Khuranaji the government is not involved in the leakage...(Interruptions) How can he say that? ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJARAL: The CBI Inquiry into the leakage of the Interim Report was ordered in the month of November. Now it is July. More than eight to nine months have passed. Is it a fact, or is it not a fact that the CBI Inquiry report is with the Ministry? Please either deny it or confirm it. If you have not received it, ask them to give it because it was a very limited inquiry. The inquiry was only to the extent to check up who leaked the Interim Report.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I would like to assure you that the CBI inquiry conducted in your tenure...(Interruptions) The orders given by you in this regard...(Interruptions) But I would like to assure on behalf of the government that when this report would be presented...(Interruptions) The matter related to CBI inquiry...(Interruptions) I will provide you full details of it...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: What sort of reply is it...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The Minister is giving half replies. The question is whether what have been published as extracts are correct extracts.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I have not seen the Report...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

I can say...(Interruptions) This report will be presented in the Cabinet first after that it will be presented in the House...(Interruptions) We will table it.

RE: STRIKE BY POSTAL EMPLOYEES

12.39 hrs.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee. You wanted to raise the issue of Postal strike.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA): Yes, and I believe it should be the concern of the whole House and not only of me. Six lakh postal employees are on strike for so many days and the whole postal communication is in disarray. Even then, unfortunately, the Government is standing on a prestige point and not calling the leaders of the employees to discuss and thereby settle the issue. As I understand, if the Government calls then it can be settled. I am charging that by their insistence and arrogance of not calling them the whole country is being held to ransom.

So, it is not a question of some Government bureaucrats calling them. Why should not the Minister call them? Let the Prime Minister intervene. We want the strike to be called off in favour of the employees as quickly as possible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri V.V. Raghavans is the next name.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have also given a notice on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you not want them to be called? All right, you speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Today is the seventh day of the postal employees' strike. More than six lakh postal employees have gone on strike. Postal services in our country have been totally paralysed and the Government is sitting on the matter. They have not taken any action so far.

Yesterday, I met the hon. Prime Minister. The hon. Minister of Finance was also there. I requested the hon. Prime Minister to intervene in the matter. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, this matter has come here time and again. The Government has also replied. What is new matter that you are stressing?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I am coming to the new matter. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Premachandran, do you not want other names to be called? I have called Shri Basu Deb Acharia. Why are you interrupting? He is capable of defending himself.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Justice Talwar Committee was appointed in 1994 and it has given its report in April, 1997. However, no action has been taken by the Government on that. *(Interruptions)*. The extra departmental employees are like bonded labourers. They have no pay scales. They are not getting any pension or gratuity.

The Standing Committee on Communications had also recommended and asked the Government to negotiate with the representatives of the unions and settle the issue.

I urge upon the Government to settle the issue immediately so that the normal situation is created in the country. ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): The hon. Minister should respond. This is a very important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR CHAIRMAN: Will you hear me? Will you resume your seat? I am on my legs. Shri Radhakrishnan, please resume your seat. I am standing. I am on my legs.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume your seat. Shri Swain, please resume your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: My humble submission is that this is not a routine matter. We want the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to respond on this. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called Shri V.V. Raghavan. Shri Raghavan, do you want to say anything?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I am asking you. I had called somebody and you stood up and started saying.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I am asking. What is going on in this House? Nobody is prepared to hear.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are taking such a serious matter lightly.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is the trouble. You do not want to listen. Everybody stand up. Can I handle everybody?

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: We also want to say something in this matter. This is a matter concerning the entire House. Six lakh workers are on strike. All the communication facilities are in doldrums. Therefore, this is an important matter. We also want to express our views. I have only to say why the Government is sticking to prestige. Why do they not directly...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI (Raigarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also want to speak.

*[English]*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: sir, not only this side, that side also should be concerned. It should be the concern of every hon. Member. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will call the Minister. That is all.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Because the communication system is paralysed. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, before the Minister's reply, you have called me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I call the Minister.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Just a minute, Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not a prestige issue...*(Interruptions)*. I am telling you. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: We do not want to hear the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. We want to hear the concerned Minister, ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Trichur): One section of the people are suffering. ...*(Interruptions)* They are deprived of every facility. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is going on in this House? Can anybody stand up and say whatever he feels?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do not. Nobody listens to the Chair. There is no order in this House. I wanted that everyone should give his view point. Shri Basu Deb Acharia just gave a speech and all of you are again standing up together. The Minister wants to react. How could I conduct this House?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): You called his name. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the extra-departmental postal employees are a shame on all of us because they have no facility.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to Government to react?

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Trichur) Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Kurien.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is to complete.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will come back to you.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have told you that you will get an opportunity. You will not get chance in this way. If you behave in this way, I will not give you permission to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Mr. Chairman, has given me permission to speak. Please listen to me. *(Interruptions)* want to say that this is problem which should concern every Member of this House and not only Members on side side. All of us on this side feel and I am sure that they, on the other side, also feel that this problem should be settled immediately. The entire communication system has collapsed. We are sorry that the government takes it is a prestige issue. I would request the Governemnt not to consider it as a prestige issue and start negotiations with the striking employees and try to settle it because this is in the national interest.

Secondly, the demands of the striking employees are genuine. If not all, some of their demands are very genuine, including that of ED workers. ...*(Interruptions)* This House some time back had unanimously recommended that something should be done in the case of...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The Standing Committee also unanimously recommended.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: The Standing Committee also unanimously recommended. So, I request the Government to please leave the prestige and do something. Now, I request the Government to come forward with a solution. The matter should be settled at the earliest.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P.C. Thomas, you speak just one sentence.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will come back to you.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me hear him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government should remember that the strike of the postal employees has hit the postal services in the country very badly. The Government, in its first Budget itself, has increased the postal tariff to a large extent. Now, the people are not getting the postal services for quite a number of days. The students are not getting their interview cards in time and as a result they are not

getting their admissions in time. The postal strike has affected the job seekers also very seriously and it has affected the whole of India.

Sir, the Extra Departmental employees have been praying for their demands for quite a long time now and the Government knows very well that the leaders who are now sitting in the Treasury Benches have been taking up this cause when they were in the Opposition.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Thomas, please wind up. You cannot make a speech.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, I am concluding.

Sir, the Prime Minister should come to the House and assure us that something would be done to settle the matter immediately, so that the strike is called off.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Chairman in this way, there cannot be order in the House. How much time would be given to one subject. We are sitting patiently. We are not getting opportunity. You are giving opportunity to the people, who are creating uproar.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to enforce your judgement on me?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will come back to you.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: The whole Zero hour is exhausted in one subject. The Members, like us, do not get opportunity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Tell me, how I should conduct the House.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have given the floor to him. Please resume your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Laluji you are a senior member, please sit down. You should know that the Point of Order cannot be raised during Zero Hour.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: At least listen to me...(Interruptions) Seven days ago, they said about the employees. ...(Interruptions) Hon'ble Minister has misguided the House...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have given him an opportunity, you may sit down.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: But I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under which rule you are raising this point of order?

SHRI LALU PRASAD: There is no government here. Seven days ago, the discussion on this subject was held...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Lalu Ji, what is your point of order?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are a senior leader. Do not wait the time of the House like this. I am sorry to say this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you resume your seat Shri Gopalan?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR (Dumdum): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I agree that it is an acute problem of the country and there is no doubt about it. But the question is: who has created this problem? (Interruptions) They have made the trade union activities as a business and it is nothing but a profitable business without capital. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Please resume your seat. Shri Virendra Singh ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called Shri Virendra Singh, please resume your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, will you please resume your seat?

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan, please resume your seat. Your name is there in the list.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Asim Bala, Please resume your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House towards a very important issue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Virendra Singhji, do you want to speak on this issue?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on this issue only. If you give so much time to one issue then other important issues will be left off. When will the discussion on such issues take place? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before taking up other issue, the House would like to know the reaction of the Government on this matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: When I am on my legs, you are not supposed to stand up? Many hon'ble Members have given their names to speak on this issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are supposed to sit when I stand here.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, you were the Speaker of the State Assembly. When I am talking to him, you are standing up. This is not the way to deal with the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Virendra Singh, The Government wants to react on this issue. If you want to speak on another issue, you can speak after the Minister's reaction.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, postal employees went on strike and in Bengal...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The question is not only of Bengal, put of entire country. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: let me speak the people who...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak, whatever you want to say but do not complicate the matter.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: They \* are doing. First, they try to provoke the sentiments of the labourers to go on strike and then they try to negotiate. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Expunge the words used by him.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh is the largest Organisation of the country of its kind. In interest of the postal employees in this movement, it demands from the government...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREM CHANDRAN (Quilon): Your Minister has already declared that this is a politically motivated strike. Do you agree with that? ...*(Interruptions)*

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Premchandran, please do not discuss it between you and the other Member.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh demands from the Government that it should pay attention to solve the problems of the postal employees. The issue on which people of Communist Party Union...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Not only Communist, but INTUC is also involved.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: INTUC is not involved ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask, what the Government wants to do in this regard.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, the question is not only of postal employees, but of workers of very field. For example in Varanasi, the weavers are facing problems. I want to speak about the problems faced by the weavers ...(*Interruptions*)

13.00 hrs.

Sir, the problem of the Weavers is that ...(*Interruptions*). In Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh the weavers and the farmers are indebted. ...(*Interruptions*)

Sir, due to this, many farmers are compelled to commit suicide...(*Interruptions*) Through you, I would like to know from the Government, what measures are being taken to solve the problems of the weavers?

[*English*]

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): Sir, the Minister has left the House, and he is trying to divert the issue.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The Minister has left the House without your permission. It is disrespecting the Chair. What is this? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I am not receiving any letter from my constituency. I think, this is the position with everybody. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Virendra Singh, you had your say. Now, let him speak.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: We are not receiving any communication for the last six or seven days. The Government is boasting that they have made some skeletal arrangements. (*Interruptions*) When I am speaking, how can he interrupt?

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West): When the postal employees are on strike, Shri Radhakrishnan says that he is not receiving letters.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him say whatever he wants to say. If it is unparliamentary, I will ask him to withdraw it. Otherwise, let it be there.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR: He is receiving letters from his constituency. I am not interrupting him, but this is a point of information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sirpotdar, let me hear Shri Radhakrishnan. Please be brief, Shri Radhakrishnan.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): It is a false statement. There is no skeletal service or any such arrangement. The entire system is paralysed. We are not receiving any letter at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What do you want the Government to do?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): The Prime Minister should intervene and see that the matters are settled. The extra-departmental staff are being treated as slaves. In India, there is still slavery, though we boast that we have abolished this slavery system. Unfortunately, in India, the system of slavery is maintained in the Postal Department. The Fundamental Rights are denied to them. We are speaking about one-third reservations for women, but the extra-departmental staff are denied even the barest necessities of life. That is the position. So, I request the hon. Prime Minister to intervene immediately and settle the matter. Otherwise, the nation would be paralysed.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN (Thiruvananthapuram): I want to make one suggestion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We had enough discussion on this. Let us hear the Minister now.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN (Thiruvananthapuram): The Government had taken an anti-worker attitude. It is a conservative approach and that attitude should be changed. They should call them and try to settle the issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us hear the Minister now.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Rajnandgaon): The strike is being taken very casually by the Government. For the last six days, we are not getting any letters. What is the Government doing?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Voraji, the Minister has come from the other House and she is making a statement.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mulayam Singhji, you know that this is a very serious matter. Shrimati Sushma Swaraj has arrived, she will inform you about the whole position.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Chairman, Sir, On 9th some of the postal employees unions went on strike...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not like any running commentary. Let us hear the Minister.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Some hon'ble Members had raised this issue on 10th. On that very day at 3 p.m. I made a statement.

I did not give any clarification, because there is no such convention. Private Members Business was to be taken up after that. Otherwise if the hon'ble Speaker had wanted and had clarifications been sought I would have given the reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no such convention here.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Yes, that is why, clarification was not given, I had only given the statement. You are aware of the rule of the Lok Sabha that the issue, which has been once raised in the session can not be raised again in that particular session. Members are rightly agitated. Today is the sixth day of the strike...(Interruptions). This rule applies to Zero Hour only. (Interruptions) There is no rule in the rule book regarding the Zero Hour...(Interruptions). There is a rule named 'Matters of Urgent Public Importance'...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister is speaking and all of you have raised in your seats. That is not fair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Major General Bhuvan Chandra, AVSM Khanduri, please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am persuading you to resume your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Mr. Chairman, the problem is that they want to react before listening to the first sentence. I was saying that though there is a rule that the matter once raised cannot be raised in the same session again, but Members are rightly agitated. Therefore, Without going by the rules, I am standing here to give the reply...(Interruptions). It is not appropriate to react without listening to the whole statement...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Without hearing the reply, how can you judge whether it is right or wrong?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the problems bring faced by the common man due to strike are being mentioned here Strike always causes inconvenience to the people. But I would like to make it clear it in the beginning that strike has not taken place, due to laxity, carelessness and in difference on the part of the Government...(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I took the additional charge of this department on 21 April, 1998. At that time, there was no notice of strike. Immediately after taking the charge. I held a meeting with the officials I asked them about the pending matters, which needs my immediate addressal. I was told about the matter relating to the postman and the E.D. I have also mentioned the issue of postman in my statement. Since the implementation of Second Pay Commission, till now, the time of

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\*Not recorded.



implementation of Fifth Pay Commission the pay scales of Postman, Mail-Guard and C.P.O. constable have been at par. The Fifth Pay Commission has also maintained this parity. But through one of its decisions the United Front Government had disturbed that pay-parity. The Pay Scale of CPO constable has become equivalent to that of Delhi Police constable. This way, CPO constable has got more pay than postman and mail-guard. Therefore, Postman and Mail-guard are demanding from the Government to restore the parity, which has been prevailing from the time of last three pay commissions. The United Front Government had taken this decision. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Interruptions from Ministers are also not allowed!

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: The United Front Government said that after much consideration they had taken a conscious decision not to restore this promotion. Officials told me that one demand of the postmen can be met by restoring this pay-parity which may be beneficial to others also.

When they told me about E.D, I said, I do not need their advice in this regard. I had been involved in the E.D's struggle. I had staged a dhama in this Dak-Tar Bhawan, therefore, I am aware of the plight of E.D. I know the recommendations of Justice Talwar Committee, but much has to be done to work out solution in this direction. I would like to repeat that on 21 April itself, without wasting any time, I had started working towards solving both these matters. Many people present here, have been in the Government and they are aware that sometime is needed to take such matters, particularly inter-Ministerial matters to be taken to the cabinet. Many formalities are to be fulfilled. I got involved in fulfilling these formalities. Meanwhile, the two unions submitted notice for strike. I called both of them on 26th. All people attended that meeting. After discussion I told them that on 21st April that have taken both these matters in hand, but in charter of demands, I feel that the demand related to bonus is justified because to put rinder of 40 days on the bonus of postal employees is not justified. Three demands were directly related to the postal department, where the view of department was required and rest of the seven demands were related to anomalies in the Pay Commission Report. They were related to the anomalies created in different departments after Fifth Pay Commission report. We told them that all seven demands will be laid in front of the Anomaly Committee. The department will give its view in this regard, but I take full responsibility to solve it, do not go on strike, the solution

will be provided for all these problem. They agreed. We took the matter of postman, which was rejected by the previous Government, to the Cabinet. The previous Government had said that it was conscious decision. They were not ready to restore the disturbed parity. But this Government has done it. We have restored the parity, which was disturbed by the previous Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like that you should take note of it. We had taken three tasks in hand and we have accomplished one, which was very difficult one. Probably, for some people it was impossible, but we have done it. Therefore, my credibility has been proved beyond doubt. I told them that we are working on both the issues and we are preparing the draft note to present the same in the cabinet, therefore they should not go on strike. But even after that they went on strike. I asked who will prevail upon these unions and with whom can I discuss it. I was told that if I discussed the matter with the left leaders, the strikes could be presented.

Shri Somnathji was not present here. I would like to tell that the names of Shri Balanandan and Prakash Karath were given to me. I would also like to state the measures I have taken to prevent strike-like situation. I tried to contact Shri Balanandani. He had gone to Mumbai at that time. I was unable to contact him. I talked to Shri Prakash Karath and told him that Shri Balanandani was not in the city, he was not available on his Mumbai telephone number either. I am standing on the verge of providing solution to these two problems. I have solved the matter related to Postman, now I am going to solve these two problems also. Please talk with the Unions and tell them not to go on strike. And he said, I will discuss this matter with them and let you know. But he did not ring me up...*(Interruptions)*. He could have told me that he is not in a position...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is the present position? What is your stand? Please tell us about that...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Somnath Chatterjee, let her finish.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am requesting her to yield for a minute...*(Interruptions)* Sushma Ji, are you not yielding? ...*(Interruptions)* If she is yielding for a minute, how are you objecting to it? There is a procedure

for parliamentary behaviour. I am requesting the Minister to yield for a second. Would you?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Yes, I will.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That is what I am requesting you...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: I can yield...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: She is yielding.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a Parliamentary Convention. She is yielding.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, it is very kind of her that she is yielding...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Shri Somnathji, I ever yield to you. There is no problem.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: But you are not yielding to my reasonable demands. Sir, she is apparently trying to give an impression that she is sympathetic and there is only the procedural delay. According to her, the unions did not wait to give her time to overcome the procedural matter...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Let me complete my statement accordingly.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): You are inferring...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: She is trying to say that the strike is politically motivated. That is what I am trying to say...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: I am telling you. Had you listened to me, you would have got the reply. The statement is made in the chronological order. If you are hungry, you can go to have food. Why have you called me?

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: She is quite capable of defending herself.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI: Now the cat is out of the bag...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Mr. Chairman, at last it appears that...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It appears that everybody is feeling hungry.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: If they are hungry, they would not like to listen.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA: You may continue your submission, we are not hungry.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: If you do not listen to the background, no conclusion can be drawn?

Prof. P.J. Kurien: You should only pay, what you want to do.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No running commentary please. She is coming to the end of her speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: You should at least listen to me. Do not you want to listen to me?

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not a Question Hour. She is making a statement about the present position.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Shall I be guided by any instructions about what I should speak and what not?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please Speak whatever you want to say.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): You are giving history. Please respond to our demands...(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman: Let her speak.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Are you speaking relevant things? You respond to our demands. ...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: The whole history is relevant...(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): I am not saying that it is irrelevant. But please respond to our demands...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: You listen to relevant things...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYAPADHYA (Calcutta-North-West): He is getting angry as the name of Shri Prakash Karat has been mentioned.

...(Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: All those comments will be expunged.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: I am not describing irrelevant history. I am substantiating my first sentence that the reason of strike was not our negligence and apathy. It is my right. I would like to tell you that the strike took place on 9th. I called up the Unions on the same day at 3 O'clock...(Interruptions)

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\*Not recorded.

SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL (Hingoli): You are again coming to the same point.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: No, I did not mention the date earlier. Please listen me if you want to know the facts. If you are feeling hungry, then let the House be adjourned. Both these things can not go side by side. 8-10 members will start speaking at the same time and then call the Minister to give a statement in the House. However, when the Minister will start speaking, they will not listen.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is the problem with this House.

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is not the way to behave with the members.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: She was in the other House. The House wanted her to make a statement. She came. She should be heard.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: she will not yield. That is not fair.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): this shows how arrogant she is! ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No running commentary please.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Is this the way to take to the members of the Parliament...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you not want to hear her?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then why do you object to her speaking?

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon): Sir, how can she say that 'if you want to listen you listen otherwise go out?' ...(Interruptions)

*[Translation]*

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua): Hon'ble Minister should be asked to opologise ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam, please resume your seat. I am on my legs.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN: Sir, we are here to participate in the discussion...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Premchandran, this is not the way. Please be seated.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan, please hear her.

...*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the dispute arose on women's bill, she is giving vent to her anger here...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vaiko, please be seated.

...*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is unfair, that a comment passed from that side is not objectionable...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You all are so impatient...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: You are saying that you are hungry. What is wrong if I said so...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you have the right to speak, she also has got the right to speak as a Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (BARRACKPORE): Sir, the Minister is provoking unlike a Minister...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Geetaji, Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Like every Member, the Minister has also got the right to speak as long as it is not unparliamentary.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Let her confine to the subject...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Let us hear her...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you do not want to listen to her, we will end up the discussion.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, please continue.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was saying that on 9th when the strike started, on that day...*(Interruptions)* If you are not interested to listen, I will again say...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you are not interested, we will adjourn the House and go for lunch.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: All right, please adjourn the House.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. We can do that if they do not want to hear.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): We are hearing her patiently. Please ask them who are listening...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Yes, Madam.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was saying that on 9th, the very first day of the strike, I summoned the Unions at 3 O'clock and told...(Interruptions) Why should I speak. I will speak only if all the members are willing to hear...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

13.25 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.33 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty-Three Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

(SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA in the Chair)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): You are a former Communications Minister, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Just before the recess, the hon. Minister for Communications was making a statement. So far as I have understood it, her statement was not completed. Some questions were

raised. She somewhat expressed her annoyance. But now I do not find her here. What has happened to her statement? Will that remain incomplete? Is it the way to treat the House?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, House has its own dignity. At that time, under what circumstances House was adjourned. The hon'ble Members were not ready to listen the hon'ble Minister during Zero hour, they were interrupting her again and again...(Interruptions) I can call the Minister...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): ... (Interruptions) This is how the house is being treated ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Minister is replying. He should be heard patiently.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Please listen to me...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, no business other than the statement by the hon. Minister of Communications can be taken up now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to hon'ble Minister first...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The statement began by the gracious, charming Sushmaji cannot be continued by Shri Khurana.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Minister is on his legs to give the reply, you should listen to him.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Is this the way the Government should treat this House? She began making her statement and there might have been some interjections. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Chairman, sir, during Zero Hour, Hon'ble Speaker had adjourned the House as members were not ready to listen...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): The House should not be treated like this. You adjourn the House till the Minister of Communications comes here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All the members may please sit down as the Minister has come.

SHRI A.C. JOS (Mukundapuram): We are anxiously waiting for you.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): I am very happy that hon. Members are anxiously waiting for me. It is a privilege for me to speak before you.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Please state the relevant things.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Shri Somnathji, I never speak irrelevant. It is a different thing that you people take it otherwise. I was stating about the circumstances responsible for the strike and that we did not leave any stone unturned to solve this matter and to avoid the strike. We talked to Union leaders and political leaders and try to solve the issue but I am sorry to say that the matter was not solved. I am using the word 'dukh' because our friends from left parties, on behalf of the Polit Bureau supported the strike on 10th instead supporting the Government and tried to give it a political colour...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Please clarify how we gave political colour to the strike by supporting it? Whether supporting a strike amounts to giving it political colour.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: I tell you, how it is giving political colour. When Opposition supports the strike, it gives an indication that Government is not taking steps to call off the strike: It is because of opposition that the Government is pressurised to do so. However, it is not correct. Because everybody knows that Justice Talwar's Committee's report was submitted in April, 1997. United Front Government was in power till November, 1997. The then Communications Minister is presiding officer here today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We had recommended it.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: That is what I am saying that when the Government was on its last legs, it started preparing the draft note. Today it is being stated that why it has not been submitted 100 days ago...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Now, 109 day have passed, not 100.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Let it be 109 or more days. The gap between April and September is more than 100 days.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Ministry is not going to be with you for a long. Please accomplish this task as early as possible for which you will be remembered for long time.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Thanks for the compliments. I am saying that the time gap between April and November is double than that of 100 days. I started it on 21st April itself. By asking me regarding the steps taken, you people are interrupting me. As far as the question of steps taken is concerned, I would like to tell you that the issue is being taken up at Secretary (Posts) level. Contingency plans are also being prepared to avoid inconvenience to the public. However, if all the Members of Parliament from both sides are sincerely in favour of a solution to this strike and especially for the worsening situation of the E.D., I would like that all of us should appeal to the striking employees to withdraw the strike...*(Interruptions)* I am offering you to sit with me...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are presiding the Chair. You are a former Communication Minister. All the Members present in the House have either remained in power or have supported the Governments. They all are familiar with the governance. You have said that a draft Cabinet note was prepared. ...*(Interruptions)* It means that you have gone through all the recommendations of the Talwar Committee...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You might have seen.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: That's why I am saying...*(Interruptions)* I am not refusing...*(Interruptions)* You please decide as to who would sit with me...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Strike was also held during his tenure. An agreement was signed during the course of strike and it was called off...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Shri Basu Deb when I am making an offer, you are not listening...*(Interruptions)* Instead of long and detailed discussion, make an appeal from the House and an immediate solution will merge...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We are appealing you...*(Interruptions)* We are appealing to the Government but you are not listening...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: I am appealing you...*(Interruptions)* It is my offer.

*[English]*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): You are in the Government not we.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We are appealing to the Government...*(Interruptions)* What happened to that Appeal...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: I am just stating that...*(Interruptions)* On your appeal, I am offering you to sit with me to solve the issue...*(Interruptions)* All the members are aware of the contents of the strike and plight of E.D. It was the co-ordination of both the factors. All the Members have remained in the Government, therefore, please sit with me...*(Interruptions)* I am ready to sit to solve the issue. However, you people should appeal for the withdrawal of the strike in light of the inconvenience caused to the people and discuss the matter with the Minister of Communications to find a solution.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, this is nothing but a politically motivated reply by the Minister to a vital issue concerning the entire nation. ...*(Interruptions)* I am sorry to say that the Government's attitude is totally politically motivated. She has declared a war on the workers. We cannot accept this statement. ...*(Interruptions)* We demand that the Government should start the dialogue and find out a solution. ...*(Interruptions)* Her intransigence is politically motivated. We charge that it is a politically motivated reply. ...*(Interruptions)* She found a political motive behind the agitation of the workers. We charge that her statement is politically motivated. We charge that her intransigence is politically motivated. We wish to record our protest and we are walking out of this House. ...*(Interruptions)*

14.43 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other hon. Members left the House.)*

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, the attitude of the Government is very callous. ...*(Interruptions)* The Government's attitude is anti-working class. ...*(Interruptions)* We protest against this and we are also walking out of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

14.43 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri P.J. Kurien and some other hon. Members left the House.)*

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore) (WB): Sir, in protest against the attitude of the Government, we are also walking out of the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

14.44 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri Pramothesh Mukherjee and some other hon. Members left the House.)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deorja): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Government...*(Interruptions)*. Due to inertness of the Government talks could not be held with the postal employees. This Government has failed to accept their justified demands. Even today the Hon'ble Minister in his reply has not given any concrete suggestion as to what will be the points on which the Government will talk to the postal employees...*(Interruptions)*. The Government has deliberately put the country in a difficult situation ...*(Interruptions)* I myself and my party members stage walk-out to protest against the stand of Government.

14.44 hrs

*(At this stage Shri Mohan Singh and some other Hon'ble Members left the House)*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we also stage walk-out against incapability of Government.

14.45 hrs.

*(At this stage Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and some Hon'ble Members left the House.)*

14.45 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

#### (I) **Need to take Steps for All-Round Development of Saranath Pilgrimage and Tourist Centre in U.P.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA (Chandouli): Sir, Sarnath is an important Pilgrimage Centre in my Parliamentary Constituency. Apart from this it is also glorious historical place of the nation. Lakhs of people from within the country and abroad visit this pilgrimage and historical place every year due to which country earns crores of rupees. There may be some projects for the all round development of Sarnath but for the last ten years no development work has taken place. Though it is very big tourist centre but it is being neglected by Government. One example of this negligence is that there is no stoppages of any long distance train at Samath Station. Therefore, I demand from Government that important pilgrimage and historical tourist centre like Sarnath should be developed and all pending projects related with this centre should be sanctioned and stoppage should be provided for all long-distance trains at Saranath Station by developing the same.

*[English]*

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH: Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: what is your point of order? Under what rule?

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH: It is under Rule 376.

Sir, my point of order is very simple. The Zero Hour normally terminates when the House adjourns. Today, the issue raised during the Zero Hour continued even after the re-assembling of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order; you may please sit down.

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH: Sir, we have given notices to raise some other issues. What happened to them?

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: What you have said has been recorded, now you please sit down.

#### (II) **Need to Look into Irregularities in Telecom Bills in Western U.P.**

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this house towards the irregularities to the tune of Rs. 1 crores which are being committed every month in the telecom department in Western Uttar Pradesh. There is possibility that the existing C.G.M. and all telephone General Managers and all members and the Chairman of Telecom Commission who were earlier involved in Telecom Scam, are involved in this irregularity. In my parliamentary constituency Meerut, irregularities in telecom department are so rampant that it is not easy to get single telephone connection. People are in trouble. At the time of 1998 Lok Sabha elections, the General Manager of Telephone Department made a unsuccessful attempt to influence me. While considering the irregularities committed by said General Manager, the Minister of Communications, who is an honest man, has filed transfer order but before it was issued, the General Manager was informed over telephone about his transfer. Therefore, I would like to make these three submissions to Government.

1. The Government should give effect to the transfer order of the General Manager, Telecom of Meerut range immediately which was issued by the Hon'ble Minister of State of Communications.

2. The Government should hold a high level enquiry into the irregularities in the STD, ISD and other telephone bills in which there is apprehension that all high officials are involved.

3. Enquiry should also be conducted by the Chairman telecom Commission into the leakage of confidential orders of transfer that was issued by the Minister of State of Communications.



[English]

14.50 hrs.

(At this state, some slogans from Distinguished visitor's gallery were heard.)

(At this stage, some leaflets were thrown into the House from the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery.)

**(III) Need to Write off Loans Taken from Financial Institutions by Farmers Living Alongside of Narmada River in Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thousands of farmers of the districts falling alongside rivers Narmada in Madhya Pradesh took loans from the nationalised banks so that they could lay pipe lines for arranging irrigation facilities in this fields and tide over the situation caused by regular draughts and inadequate rain. They took loans from Rs. 1 lakh to 10 lakhs for this purpose. The agricultural officers and specialists of the banks did not give them proper advice, as a result of which a pipeline was laid which was of no use. Prices of Chemical fertilizers, seeds, medicine and wages have doubled. Farmers have to suffer loss every year due to unfavourable weather conditions and infectious diseases. Besides this Bank rate has also been increased from 10 to 15%. Due to all these reasons loan amount has doubled. Farmers are not getting the benefit of loan-waving scheme of Madhya Pradesh Government and Central Government.

Today thousands of farmers are on the verge of ruin. Their economic condition has deteriorated. They are not in a position to repay their loans. Farmers have spent as much money as is required to run a small scale industry and they also employ a labourer.

The agriculture of these farmers should be treated as sick on the lines of a sick industry and their loan be written off, the Government will not suffer loss even after waiving of their loans because the irrigated area which they have increased, not half of that area can be irrigated by Government dams, ponds and irrigation projects. The country has been benefitted in this respect. These banks are recovering their loan strictly. The farmers cannot repay their loan even if their entire land is sold. This is the high time to provide relief to the farmers.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR (Dumdum): Sir, stern action should taken against that lady. That lady is the wife of the Member of Parliament who was removed from the House yesterday...(Interruptions) ...Yes, you should take stern action against her.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The report will come very soon. Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JUAL ORAM (Sundargarh): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under what rule do you want to raise your point of order?

SHRI JUAL ORAM: It is under Rule 376. I can quote it, if you permit me. I have got a copy of the rule book with me...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

I simply want to say that the request for visitors pass for the public gallery or V.I.P. Gallery are duly recommended by the members. In that pass there is an undertaking that whosoever go there...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. This is not a point of order. This is not related to Matters under rule 377. Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD: He is an ex M.P.

SHRI JUAL ORAM: Only you can speak. Those who are ex M.Ps...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: This cannot be made the subject of Debate. ...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL (Hingoli): This cannot be the issue of debate. You are insulting the women...(Interruptions) this will amount to insulting the women...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE (Jadavpur): No, you cannot say that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. This is not a point of order. Please sit down. Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU (Mahasamund): This Bill has not been introduced due to only congressmen. What are you talking. All this conspiracy is of congress...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: This cannot be the subject of discussion...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are asking them to provide its information. This is not your point of order.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North-West): You always speak like that. You allow them to have their way. They are encouraged to do so...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only what Shri Suresh Chandel has said will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chavan, please control your Members.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your point of order is out of order.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order. Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Except Shri Suresh Chandel what others said will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ruling has been given by the Chair. You please sit down. Now, Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*...

(iv) **Need for proper Rehabilitation of Evacuees of Bhakra dam in Himachal Pradesh.**

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL (Hamirpur) (H.P.): Himachal Pradesh is a hilly and backward state. Bhakra Dam on rivers Satluj flowing between Bilaspur and Una districts of Himachal Pradesh was completed in 1962. While inaugurating the dam, the then Prime Minister of India Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru had said that the people who have contributed their lands for the dam site and the evacuees have made a resounding contribution in nation building and the grateful nation entered its thanks to them for their obligation and such a respectable and descent arrangements would be made for their rehabilitation that they will forget about their birth land. But even after the passing of 36 years. The evacuees of Bhakra and Pong Dams are running from Pillar to post and are left at the mercy of State Governments, because of the nonfulfilment of the promises made to them. They allowed their lushgreen and bountiful fields to be submerged under water so that the Green and industrial revolution could usher in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi. But the very states whom they obliged, did not

fulfill the promises made to the evacuees and today they are languishing in those states in a pathetic and miserable condition. Through you, I would request the Government of India that each family of evacuees should be given 16 Acres of land, representation in Bhakra-Beas Management Board, Credit facility from Nationalised Banks without demanding guarantee. 10% of the amount recovered from Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi as tariff for supplying electricity and water from Bhakra Dam should be reserved as dividend and spent only for the purpose of providing facilities to the evacuees. The youths of the families of evacuees who have been residing in the Sirsa and Hissar districts of Haryana, should be given employment in military, Para-military, police and other defence services on priority basis. These demands are directly related to the Government of India. Therefore, I urge that the Hon'ble Minister should accept them without delay and do justice to the evacuees of Bhakra and Pong Dams.

15.00 hrs.

- (v) **Need to take Effective Measures to Check Resurgence of Malaria in North Eastern Region.**

[English]

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE (Jorhat): Sir, Malaria has again been a killer disease in the North Eastern region.

It is admitted by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) that the situation due to malaria in the region is grim. According to the ICMR report though the population of the region is 3.7 per cent of the total population of the country, it contributes 8 to 10 per cent of the Malaria positive cases and 10 to 20 per cent of the asmodium Falciparum infection in the country.

Stable malaria with preponderance of plasmodium falciparum infection, about 60 per cent to 80 per cent is the main characteristic of the disease in the region. Another factor which further compounds the problem of malaria resurgence in the region is the development of chloroquine resistance in plasmodium falciparum (PF).

After the introduction of the National Malaria Eradication programme (MNEP) in 1958, a significant reduction in Malaria cases occurred in all the areas of the country, but it was relatively less marked in the region. The high androphilic habits of the strains of mosquito which act as chief vectors of malaria in the region make the transmission of disease possible even in low density.

During 1991-95 the region experienced resurgence of the disease marked by a rapid increase in malaria incidence as well as geographical expansion of the disease. Malaria and PF incidence increased by 42 and 177 per cent respectively.

It is imperative that Government takes up the matter seriously and evolves effective measures to handle the situation on war footing.

- (VI) **Need to take steps to check pollution of Andhawra group of Rivers at Madhubani, Bihar.**

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD (Madhubani): Sir, I represent the Lok Sabha constituency of Madhubani, situated at indo-Nepal Border area of Bihar. There is situated a 'Kool' factory in Janakpur city in Nepal which emits a very toxic substance which is disposed off in the Adhawra group of rivers. It is known that Andhawra group rivers originate from Nepal and flow into India. This poisonous substance also flow into India alongwith river water and hundreds of cattle die every year by drinking that water.

I would like to see that Government of India find a solution to this problem by having a dialogue with Nepal Government in this regard so that the cattle population of the villages situated in the vicinity of Andhawra group of rivers could be saved from the toxic substance emitted out by the Janakpur factory and the cattle breeders of Madhubani and Sitamarhi regions could leave a sigh of relief. I would also like to demand that the Government should pay compensation to the farmers who have lost their cattle.

- (VII) **Need to Give Serious Thought to Environmental Pollution Causing Male Infertility.**

[English]

DR. SAROJA V. (Rasipuram): A study conducted by a scientist of Institute for Research in Reproduction, Mumbai and also confirmed by Mr. Gopalkrishnan, Advisor to the World Health Organisation indicate that sperm count - normal 60-110 million/millilitre, it has come down to 20 million after environmental pollution. The paper was presented at WHO's Geneva conference. Changes in morphology of the sperm brings about genetic mutation altering the D.N.A. Component decrease in the number of sperms and genetic mutation causes male infertility.

We talk about population control on the one side and delimitation of constituencies on the other. Since Tamil Nadu and Kerala have achieved family planning target for the year 2000 A.D. they have to suffer in this regard. Male infertility must be taken as a serious medical problem. Environmental pollution and its effect on male infertility is a grave medical problem.

I request the Government to give a serious thought to this.

- (viii) Need to make closed sugar mills viable in North Bihar and also ensure payment of dues to sugarcane growers.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Sir, there is only sugar-industry in the name of industry in Northern Bihar. For the first time in nation's history, 30-32 sugar mills were established there. When the whole country produced 9 lakh tonnes of sugar, Bihar alone used to produce 3 lakh tonnes of sugar. None, when the country has been producing 164 lakh tonnes of sugar, Bihar is still producing the same quantity of 3 lakh tonnes of sugar.

15 sugar mills under the Bihar Sugar Corporation, are lying closed. An amount of Rs. 22 crores and 70 crores of the farmers and milk-workers respectively, is due against the mills. In this regard Patna High Court has asked either to revive the mills or close down them completely. Sugar owners want to run four of the sugar-mills, presently functioning under sugar corporation of Bihar, with regard to which all the formalities have been completed but they are yet to be handed-over to mill owners for revival.

Recently, sugar technology Minister has come out with a report which envisages the revival of Motipur Mill and conversion of Motipur and Gurol Sugar Mills into Khandasari units with the induction of vacuum-pan-technology but still the proposals related to the implementation of sugar technology Mission Report are eating dust.

Therefore, I demand the revival of sugar mills which are lying closed under sugar mills Corporation, payment of the outstanding dues to the farmers and mill-workers, sanctioning of loans from S.D.F. for implementing the recommendation contained in the report of Sugar Technology Mission and the immediate revival of Motipur and Gurol sugar mills.

- (ix) Need to provide Financial Assistance to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for Modernisation and Expansion of Six Sugar Mills.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Uttar Pradesh Government has decided to sell 22 mills, out of 35 presently functioning under State Sugar Corporation, to the private owners and close down five sugar mills. Similarly, a decision is likely to be taken to sell the Churk Cement factory of the State Cement Corporation to private sector or to close down this factory this move has threatened the future of the thousands of worker's families and large scale discontent is rampant among them. No guarantee has been given regarding the services of employees of these mills in the event of selling them to private sector. I request the Union Government to interfere and stop handing of these mills to the private sector and undertake modernisation and expansion of these mills by providing adequate funds.

- (X) Need to Provide Necessary Facilities to save Circular Railway of Calcutta.**

*[English]*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North-West): Circular Railway operates in the city of Calcutta from North to South. It is not an underground project, as Metro Railway.

Tremendous traffic hazards cause lives miserable and unbearable in the city of Calcutta. In spite of such intolerable conditions, people are reluctant to use Circular Railway facilities in the city of Calcutta due to its total mismanagement. The Circular Railway Stations are not maintained properly, Coaches are dirty, no supervisory staff, untimely arrival-departure, feelings of insecurity in the minds of the passengers inside the compartments; as it passes through a comparatively lonely area of the city and there is no sale of tickets from different circular railway stations.

Circular Railway Project of Calcutta is certainly a viable project and if the Railway Ministry takes appropriate measures, then only it can be saved otherwise it will become inoperative soon.

Due to lack of imagination, far-sightedness and managerial inefficiency, Circular Railway Project is losing its acceptability whereas underground Calcutta Metro

Railways have gained tremendous admiration from all sections of the people. Railway Ministry should immediately intervene and take all possible necessary steps to develop its infrastructure and see that it runs smoothly and people of Calcutta and its surrounding areas are really benefitted and the traffic congestion of Calcutta is reduced.

Immediate intervention of Railway Ministry can only save Circular Railway of Calcutta.

**(ix) Need for A Nation-Wide programme for Proper utilization of water in the country.**

[Translation]

DR. SUSHIL INDORA (Sirsa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on one hand, the efforts are being made to increase the irrigated land area in the country, while owing to the dearth of facilities and lack of resources and other political reasons only 28 percent of the Land area in the country has been brought under irrigation. On the other hand the ill-effects of water-logging and brackish water are increasing at an alarming rate. According to the available information, 30 lakh hectares of land has been rendered useless for cultivation due to water logging and 20 lakh hectares of land due to saline water has been rendered useless for cultivation. The river 'Ghaggar' flowing in this region is a seasonal river which casts doom for the local population by submerging it in flood water when it is under the spell of tide and take the entire-region in the grip of famine in its off-season.

Therefore, I request that in order to make proper management of water available in the country, the Government should formulate a programme at the national level and implement it so that this boon of nature becomes a source of life and not of destruction for the people.

15.10 hrs.

**FINANCE (NO. 2) BILL, 1998**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House will take up the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1998, Nine Hours have been allotted for all the three stages of this Bill. If the House agrees, we may have seven hours for general discussion, one and a half hours for clause-by-clause consideration and half an hour for third reading. Shri Yashwant Sinha.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1998-99, be taken into consideration."

Sir, I am grateful to those who have made constructive suggestions in regard to my budgetary proposals. Differences of opinion, and debates to settle those differences are a part of the democratic process. I have, therefore, carefully studied the critical references to the Budget.

I have received a number of suggestions from the hon. Members of Parliament, the Standing Committee of Parliament, trade associations, various Chambers of Commerce and individual taxpayers, and through the media. The issues relating to the status of 'not ordinarily resident', withholding to tax on external commercial borrowings, taxing of gifts as income, exemption of income of educational and medical institutions, exemption of income of infrastructure capital funds, determination of capital gains on the basis of circle rates for stamp duty, method of valuation of inventory, and many other proposals in the Bill have been the subject matter of intense debate within and outside the country.

I have similarly received representations on many indirect Tax proposals. There is a request, for example, to exempt many processed food items. Hours and hours of my time has been taken to convince me why neither sweets nor salted products could be taxed, similarly, why some products could not be subjected to excise and some others to customs duty. The makers of traditional Indian sweets and *namkeens* have drawn wide support from the hon. Members of the House.

[SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

15.13 hrs.

These and other issues are receiving my keen attention. I look forward to the discussion in the House over the next three days and I will respond to all these issues at the conclusion of the debate.

Today, I wish to deal with a very important theme - the theme of information technology. In the history of civilisation, no work of science has so comprehensively influenced the course of human development as information technology. Information technology has become the chief determinant of the progress of nations,

\*Moved with the recommendations of the President.

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

communities and individuals. For India, the rise of information technology is an opportunity to overcome historical disabilities and become the master of one's own national destiny. We are poised to take a giant leap in this sector.

Recognising the potential of information technology, the hon. Prime Minister constituted the National Task Force. On Information Technology And Software Development under the Chairmanship of Shri Jaswant Singh, Dy. Chairman of the Planning Commission. The Task Force has since submitted its report. This was submitted after the Finance Bill was presented to the House and this being examined by a group of Ministers. The recommendations of the Task Force cover a wide spectrum of issues relating to finance, banking, revenue, commerce etc. I am sure, hon. Members will agree with me that the recommendations regarding tax incentives accepted by the Government should be incorporated in the Budget even at this late stage. I have, therefore, decided to introduce the following amendments on the direct taxes side:

The definition of computer software as appearing in Section 80 HHE of the Income-tax Act is proposed to be widened to include transmission of data pertaining to information technology. This will enable the I.T. sector to avail of the benefits of 100 per cent deduction on their export earnings from this important activity.

The benefits of Section 80HHE are proposed to be extended to supporting developers of computer software.

The exemption of withholding tax on interest on external commercial borrowings is proposed to be extended to the I.T. sector also.

The withholding tax on royalty payable in respect of transmission of I.T. data is also proposed to be exempted.

There will be no Gift Tax on computers.

Depreciation of I.T. Products is proposed to be allowed at the rate of 60 per cent looking to the high rate of obsolescence in such products.

Now, I come to indirect taxes side. Sir, as the House may recall, I had, at the time of presenting the Budget, announced a number of duty concessions on various IT products such as floppy disk drives, hard disk drives and CD-ROM drives, ICs of value exceeding Rs. 1000 per piece, cathode ray tubes and deflection components for colour monitors for computers in order to give a boost

to the spread of information technology. I had also reduced the basic customs duty on telecom software from 40 per cent to 30 per cent and completely exempted all software from the levy of excise duty. Computer software is already fully exempt from both customs and excise duties. In order to further speed up the spread of information technology, I propose to exempt all software used in the IT sector from customs duty. I also propose to exempt computers and computer peripherals imported under 100 per cent EOU/EPZ/STP/EHTP schemes when donated to recognised educational institutions, government organisations and registered charitable hospitals after use for a period of two years from the date of import, from the levy of customs duty. These changes will be given effect to from 16th July, 1998 and the Notifications issued in this regard will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Sir, India is committed to aligning its tariff structure in accordance with the World Trade Organisation Agreement by 2005. However, keeping in view the objective of giving an added thrust to this sector, we proposed to accelerate our tariff structure along with policy two years ahead of the commitment by us.

I am confident these measures will give a major boost to IT sector and provide information technology a pro-people and pro-development thrust. I hope the technology will reach the masses in rural areas and small towns and will give the country a significant place in the emerging knowledge-driven global economy. In the words of the hon. Prime Minister, "India can be fully competitive in this area with tremendous pay-off in terms of wealth creation and generation of high quality employment." Sir, let India swiftly ride on the information super highway.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I now commend the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1998 for the consideration of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1998-99, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad): Mr. Chairman Sir, I stand to oppose the Finance Bill.

The Budget is not merely an annual exercise of presenting a balancesheet for the national economy, but it has to be a statement of economic vision of the Government, which inspires confidence in the Indian economy both here and abroad and exhibits the resolve to overcome the difficulties.

The very words of the Budget Speech itself, the interview that follows, the handling of the inevitable criticism usually talks up or talks down the economy and the markets. Unfortunately, the exercise carried out by hon. Shri Sinha, particularly, the taxation proposals are a great disappointment.

The whole approach to the taxation is timid, directionless, lacks in the long-term grand vision for the Indian economy and lack of political will to take difficult decisions. Policies are inward looking and protectionist and exhibit a clear anti-manufacturing bias and have pro-trader tendency. There is nothing that will boost exports or even spur the industrial growth. The changes in the tax rates are so incoherent that it clearly indicates the influence of certain industrial lobbies. After all, it is the first post-election Budget. I am sure, lot of leaders of BJP had their pre-election commitments which the poor Finance Minister had to accept.

Mere tinkering here and there or imposing taxes across the board is not, what I call, grand vision. I am particularly pained to know that a lot of good work done by the two previous Finance Ministers in integrating the Indian economy with the global economy has now been reversed. It has sent wrong signals all around. This can be seen by having a look at the local capital markets, the lowering of credit rating by international agencies and the direction of external flows. Money is going out, both in portfolio investment and by postponement of direct foreign investment proposals. There is a continuous drop in the value of rupee. Foreign Exchange reserves are reducing. It is a clear thumb down signal by all sectors of the Indian economy.

Sir, the handling of the post-Budget situation was even worse. The speed with which certain decisions were backtracked clearly indicate that there was no deep consideration of the likely effects of the Budget proposals nor was there any deep commitment to any economic ideology, whether it was a case of petrol price bungling or whether it was the case of urea price reduction in two stage or whether it was the case of rolling back special additional duty of customs from eight per cent to four per cent. Even on the infrastructure side, there was a lack of will to go through the Power Bill.

Therefore, we have grave doubts whether the proposals regarding revenue, put forward by the Minister, are going to materialise. Even in the last two Budgets, the Finance Minister had set up certain targets of revenue but they were badly missed. This time also the Finance Minister is being very ambitious when he expects the

kind of revenue growth that he has put forward. I do not think that is going to come about.

Now, coming to the in direct tax proposals, I will first highlight the two important areas about which we have serious objections. Then, I propose to go to certain points about revenue administration and also would, in the course of the speech, give a few examples as to how particular sectors of economy have been pandered to and special dispensation has been given.

I will then go to certain specific suggestions that I have.

Sir, now I will take up the two most important areas of our concern. First one is the Special Additional Duty of Customs. The imposition of Special Additional duty of customs (SAD) was initially put at eight per cent and then it was brought down to four per cent. When actually it is taken together, the net effect is not going to be four per cent but, as you all know, it is going to be six or seven per cent. When that is taken together with the depreciation of the rupee over the last one year, the cost of imported materials is going to be at least 20 per cent more than what it was a year ago. This was not the time to put any additional burden on the imported raw materials. Sir, it not only reverses the direction of moving towards a low cost economy in our country but also it reverses the general efforts at integrating with the global trade.

The Acronym 'SAD' aptly describes this effort. The trade barriers have been raised again in the name of level-playing field. Some people call it '*swedeshi* duty'. But, I think, it is a reversal of the direction. This will hurt the competitiveness of the small scale industries and indigenous manufacturers who depend on imported materials.

Obviously, it is inflationary. But, what worries me most is the exclusion of traders from this duty. A lot has been written about this aspect. This single aspect of leaving out trade and only imposing this duty on manufacturing is so anti-manufacturing and so pro-trading that it will introduce a permanent distortion in the Indian industry. People say that the BJP is a party of traders. I do not believe that but I think that this kind duty is totally anti-manufacturing. ...*(Interruptions)* The logic given here is that it a counter-veiling duty to offset against the sales tax. It is not really valid. If you look at the rates of sales tax, it varies from almost nil or two per cent in some States to 16 per cent in some other States. What is it going to do? It is going to force many industries to create

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fictitious trading units in low sales tax areas and then transfer goods without duty to the manufacturing units. It is also going to unleash 'Inspector Raj'. Who is going to decide whether it is import for trade or import for manufacturing. So, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to look at it very seriously.

We have very grave concerns about the mischief that this whole scheme can cause. The Bombay Club has won a resounding victory. But I shudder to think what impact it will have on the national economy. I once again request the Government to remove this distortion and include trade in this duty immediately.

Sir, the second important worry is that, as a revenue collection measure, the Government has gone for a five per cent disallowance of MODVAT credit. The ceiling is going to be at 95 per cent. It is again a retrograde step. It moves away from the direction of universal Value Added Tax. As a matter of fact, I expected that the BJP would talk about removing the sales tax, removing trade barriers and making trade very free and easy but it has not really moved at all. There is no initiative at all in the direction of going towards VAT.

The previous Finance Ministers had gradually moved towards VAT system but now you are going back. The rationale, as stated by the hon. Finance Minister in his Budget speech, is all wrong. He has said that some people are misusing MODVAT credit. If it is so, instead of catching those who are misusing it, he is punishing the whole industry. If the same logic is used by a law enforcement agency, then what will happen? It is like putting everybody in the city in jail for half a day when you cannot catch a murderer.

It is really a strange logic. As I said earlier, this special duty is non-Modvatable which is again going to create a cascading effect. Please make this countervailing duty Modvatable. The special additional duty is non-Modavatable. Both the five per cent disallowance of Modavat credit and making the additional customs duty, non-Modvatable are wrong. They need to be corrected.

I said that I would give some examples of how certain sectors are being given special treatment, not only by this Government but even by the previous Government. I now come to one specific sector of infrastructure. I think the previous Finance Minister and this particular Finance Minister have been very kind to the petroleum refining sector. I would like to ask one question to the Government. How does the Government decide that this particular sector of infrastructure is more important? Why

is petroleum refining sector being singled out for a special treatment? The last Budget introduced a distortion, a new concept of zero per cent project import duty. The last Finance Minister did that. That was wrong. No other sector of infrastructure got this benefit. If you have to promote infrastructure, why not put zero per cent project duty on all infrastructure sector? Why do you single out only one sector namely, petroleum refining sector? Why not oil exploration, power, transmission, roads and airports? You should have corrected it. There was a strong representation from CII, from engineering industry because the local capital goods industry gets affected. Have a uniform treatment. He had not corrected that. But this time, he has given special tax holiday to petroleum refining and also power sectors. But again this sector has been singled out for special treatment.

Also, the imports for petroleum refining sector have been exempted from special additional duty of customs. Why this special treatment for a particular sector of infrastructure? Who decides that that particular sector of infrastructure is more important than others? Please look at it very carefully. There are serious apprehensions that a special favour is being done to a particular industrial house.

Talking of infrastructure, I will just mention in passing that the excellent report produced by the expert group on infrastructure did not talk of railways. Railways are also a very important area of infrastructure and you should look at it. I am not saying what it is to be done but Railways should also be included.

I will take a few minutes to talk on revenue administration, about one particular aspect of excise taxation. The Government sets targets for revenue collection. Those targets are reported every month and every quarter. The whole Department is so obsessed with meeting targets. But what actually happens in the last quarter is that when the revenues do not come up to the expectation, as has been happening in the last two years, the excise authorities are pressurised to collect more revenue at the year end. In the last two years, customs revenue has come down. In the year, 1996-97, customs revenue had come down by Rs. 700 crore. In 1997-98, it came down by Rs. 4500 crore. But still you are very optimistic and you have said that it will go up by 21 per cent. All right. But revenues do not come up to the expectations. What happens? The excise authorities are pressurised to collect more revenue when the year comes to an end. You come to a "special fourth quarter excise harassment" problem. The excise people quite illegally prevent industries from using MODVAT credit which is



due to them in the last quarter but they force them to pay cash excise duties so that the revenue figures can be higher. Of course, this credit is given in the first quarter. In the first quarter, cash collections are low, but in the fourth quarter, they are artificially inflated. Industries are put to great harassment because of this feature. It is nowhere documented. There are cases. Industrialists have complained to us that excise authorities have physically removed the RG-23 registers. They have no business to do it because they do not want the MODVAT credit to be utilized but cash payment so that the revenue targets could be met. Please look at this. It is a very serious complaint. The "fourth quarter excise problem" needs to be sorted out.

On the customs side, in January, 1998, the then Finance Minister had launched a fast track clearance scheme. It is because after all, doing a business speedily is so important today that unless you clear the consignment from customs fast, you shall have no competitive advantage.

But there has not been much emphasis laid on this scheme, it has not been monitored properly and I think it has been given up. The conditionalities are so harsh that lot of people are not using it. The Finance Minister may please look at it.

On the general aspect of revenue administration, I now come to computerisation. I thank the Finance Minister that he has given lot of incentives. He has singled out information technology area for special preference; it is very good. Nobody can deny that as we are entering the 21st Century information technology is going to play an important role. What about the Finance Minister's own Department? The computerisation plans of his Department are progressing so haltingly. Take for example the implementation of the electronic Data Inter Change EDT Scheme. Only Delhi has got some working EDI. But what about other major ports? What about Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai where there is no progress at all? Tomorrow nobody will touch the export and import documentation or international bid documentation unless they are in the EDA format, unless they are on computer on-line. Nobody is going to handle their paper documents. The sooner we go to this system the better; otherwise more confusion will remain and we will be left out of it. But the progress is tardy. Why is it tardy? Because there is opposition within the Department for computerisation. The vested interests, the middle level exclusive of Excise and Customs and

even Income-tax Department are opposing computerisation. The Finance Minister has talked so highly about information technology and rightly so. But what about his own Department? Please speed up computerisation.

In Excise and Customs unless they network their custom entry ports, collection at all the excise collection will be more difficult. Unless they are computerised, unless the data is on-line available to any person anywhere in the country, any day, we cannot really go modern, the industry cannot compete.

Even on the income-tax side, the Finance Minister has introduced the PAN system and I welcome it. This has been the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Finance year after year, Making PAN compulsory and for computerised of unique permanent account number is essential. The Minister has taken some steps for it. It is very good. But the benefits of permanent account number system will not accrue to them unless there is complete computerisation, unless he make indication of the permanent account number on every document that industry or trade generates compulsory. Only then cross-checking will be possible. It will be a tremendous blow to black money if it is really implemented. But only saying that PAN will be required to buy a car or to buy or sell a house, perhaps will lead to some harassment.

The Finance Minister has now extended permanent account number on the special tax base widening schemes to 45 cities. But I want that the spirit behind the scheme of checking the black money is not abused by the authorities when someone goes to buy a house or a sell a house or buy a car. If he does not have PAN, I hope, he is not harassed. I hope that the PAN will be given to him easily. I hope that the whole logic will be explained to everybody. Because already people are saying that if they want to open a bank account they will need a PAN which will be a great harassment. They have to be explained that unless and until there is a complete cross-checking possibly by the Government on all economic activities the scourge of black money will not be lessened.

So much on information technology and computerisation. But the Finance Minister also has a serious problem of shortage of competent officers to handle this technology. Because there is a lot of scope for fraud when we go to paperless trading or terminal base transaction unless we completely computerise. They do not have officers. They have to recruit lot more

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electronic and computer engineers, train them as income-tax officers, as customs officers and excise officers. There is a shortage of officers. They should have special training institutes where they train people in the requirements of the day.

I generally welcome the tax base extension schemes. But I think out of the four conditions, two are good. The other two are not so good. I do not think anybody who is going to become a member of a club and pay Rs. 25,000; he already will have a telephone and a car and probably must have travelled abroad. But the spirit of it is understandable. Now the Finance Minister has extended the scheme to 45 cities but I will give him more statistics. In Ghaziabad, Gurgaon and Faridabad, areas in and around and Delhi there are 40 lakh phones and 30 lakh cars.

But the last year's tax base widening schemes have only generated 33,000 additional assesses. It looks that something is not right. Mumbai also generated only 10,000 additional assesses. However, Shri Chidambaram had said that he expected the number of assesses to go to five crores. I am sure that five crore people can pay taxes. Unless something is done, it is very difficult to reach those kind of figures.

I have a point on the weighted deduction for Research and Development Schemes. Section 35 (2) (AB) has been taken out. I do not understand the rationale for doing it because all of us want to encourage and help the Research and Development in this country. I would request the hon. Minister to look at it again.

Coming to the specific sectors of the taxation proposals, firstly I will come to information technology itself. You have announced a lot of concessions and you have said that you are adhering to the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) of the W.T.O., ahead of time. It is good. But the basic problem faced by the information technology industry today the special additional duty of customs. He has excluded the traders from it. Now, all the components and raw materials will attract the special duty of seven, eight or nine per cent. They are already more expensive because of rupee devaluation. But finished computers, finished printed circuit boards etc. are coming through the trading route free and that has really upset the information technology industry. Everybody is importing finished boards. The technology is changing so fast that it is very difficult for the local people to assimilate it here. I want you to again look at it.

You have said that you will consider about the confusion caused by the brand names. I am not talking of *mithai*. I personally came and explained to you. The definition of word 'branded' says that it can be either registered or unregistered. That is causing a problem. The inspectors are playing havoc. So, you have to exclude *mithaiwalas*. As a matter of fact, you should welcome and encourage people who are going in four branded products and who are going to face international competition *viz.* a small town *halwai* or a *bhujia* seller by becoming a big name and getting into a trade name. It should be welcomed. I think, more people should do it. Then only we will be able to compete with the multinationals. Why are you punishing them?

The problem of brand name will also cause a confusion with the very important sector *viz.* The Dairy sector. Now, you have brought in excise duty, for the first time, on powdered milk, on butter, and on ghee. I do not have any objection if you put tax on table butter which is consumed by richer sections. But when you say butter, and when you mix it with the branded butter, that any small industry which is producing powdered milk and butter, then it will play havoc with those industries. As you very well know how the milk economy operates. During the flush season when there are no takers of milk, in order that the milk prices should not fall, people convert the liquid milk into powdered milk. In the lean season, the powdered milk is remixed and liquid milk is produced. It is an inherent part of making liquid milk available to people at a proper cost and also maintaining the return to the farmers. If you bring the powdered milk in the excise net, then it will play havoc with the Indian dairy industry. You have received their representations. The Indian dairy industry has a potential to be world beater. You must encourage it and not discourage it like this.

Then, I come to the excise duty which has been imposed on milking machines. You have to adopt modern technology in dairy industry. Milking machines are very important equipment which modernises the whole dairy industry. Now, you are putting excise duty on it.

It is, again, not a good step. Please reconsider that. Indian dairy industry cannot yet compete with multinationals. Let them stand on their own feet and when the milk production becomes so much that we start exporting it, and industry become rich, then we can consider it. But do not do it now. Indian dairy industry has a tremendous potential, as I said, of beating multinationals, but let them stand on their own feet. Also, dairies, particularly in my part of the country, that is, Western Maharashtra are such important a source of

regular cash flow to farmers. You cannot imagine what Dairying has done to that part of the country. I wish that dairy industry, dairy culture spreads to other parts of the country also.

Regarding paper, agro-based paper mills have made representations. Their specific demand is about the definition of waste paper. It is being mislabelled and a lot of smuggling potential is there because of lack of a clear-cut definition of waste paper. Also, the duty structure that has been introduced now for paper industry - I would not say anything about newsprint industry as it is an important industry and let them get the paper free of duty - is really killing the small paper plants with an artificial limit of 15,000 tonne per annum. I would not like to take your time by going into the details. He knows that. It is an area of grave concern. Please look at the benefits for paper industry.

Apparently, a small aberration which has come into the Budget, may be for some time, is about aluminum circles. This is about the people who make aluminum pots and pans for the use of people living below the poverty line. Now, the exemption given to small-scale industry has been denied to this particular sector. I do not mind if pressure cooker manufacturers are denied this exemption as they are large manufacturers, but small aluminum circle is an intermediate item and it should continue to get exemption which is given to small-scale industry and which is now being - I do not know inadvertently or otherwise - denied to them.

Another point which has been left out of the purview of the Finance Ministry is regarding hundred per cent export-oriented units. The hundred per cent EOU scheme was launched some time back when the import duty structure in the country was very high and opting for a hundred per cent EOU was a good route. But later on with the overall import duty regime coming down, people were offered an exchange route. The hundred per cent EOUs could get themselves converted into what is known as zero per cent EPCG Scheme. This has been permitted. The trade policy permits it, the Commerce Ministry permits it, but it has not been implemented because there is no Finance Ministry notification. I would request the Finance Minister to issue that notification so that those hundred per cent EOUs who want to go back to the Zero per cent EPCG scheme can take advantage of that scheme.

About these hundred per cent EOUs I have a request about furnace oil. Some time back, the Government had decided in consultation with the Ministry of Petroleum, that furnace oil will become available to hundred per cent EOUs at international rates. Now, the Administrative

Price Mechanism has been dismantled, but hundred per cent EOUs are not getting furnace oil without paying customs duty. There seems to be some confusion. I think that this confusion needs to be sorted out and hundred per cent EOUs should be given furnace oil at the rate they were getting it before 1.4.98.

Sir, steel sector, particularly the hot-rolled steel sheet and cold-rolled steel sheet manufacturers have also approached the hon. Finance Minister. Their demand is that the customs duty rate difference between the two sectors, the hot-rolled steel sheets and the cold-rolled steel sheets, must remain at ten per cent. The present difference is five per cent and it is creating havoc with the local industry. We need to protect the local industry. So, he may increase the duty on the CR coils from 25 to 30 per cent, but the differential should be maintained at ten per cent.

Sir, I have some points on the direct taxes. The intangible asset depreciation is a good innovation. But, I think, on the gift tax, the burden from donor to donee is being debated. I am sure, the hon. Finance Minister will address this point when he replies to the Finance Bill.

Sir, the concessions announced by the hon. Minister, particularly on urea and the rolling down of duty from eight to four per cent, are going to create a big hole in the revenue. The fiscal deficit which has been projected at 5.6 per cent, actually if you take pensions into account, it was really 5.9 per cent. The rolling back of the urea price and the customs duty is going to add to the fiscal deficit by at least another two decimal points. So, the position is back to 6.1 per cent of the GDP as earlier and with the overall slowing down of the economy, I think, we have a serious problem of not being able to control the fiscal deficit. With the slow down in the industrial growth - I do not think there are any positive signals in that direction - the revenue figures are going to be low the entire revenue administration needs to be tightened.

Sir, on the overall taxation policies, I feel strongly that Pokhran-II had offered a good opportunity. The Government could have taken some unpopular, tough, but necessary decisions. The country would have supported them. But the Government, in order to justify the nuclear adventurism, played down the effects of economic sanctions and have lost a great opportunity. The indecisiveness, the backtracking and the knee-jerk reactions have sent signals that the Government is unsure of itself, is not capable of a clear vision and it will take only populist and easy decisions, while the economy suffers.

[Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan]

Sir, the Finance Minister had set out 10 objectives in his Budget speech, all very high-sounding and noble intentions. But the scheme that has been unfolded by him will not - to use the Finance Minister's exact words restore the momentum to industrial growth, will not revive exports and will not control inflation, because inflation is already touching eight per cent. It will only increase bureaucratic hassles. The entire scheme of excise taxation has become more complicated with the five per cent disallowance, special duties etc., and it is going to make paper work more difficult. The rates of duties, instead of coming down, are going up. Many new schemes that have been introduced are increasing bureaucratic hassles. Therefore, the Budget will neither strengthen the foundations of the economy as he said, nor ensure macro economic stability, and definitely will not expand jobs.

Sir, the BJP had promised an overall rate of growth of seven to eight per cent in their National Agenda. When our Government was in power, in the last three years of the Eighth Plan we achieved a growth rate of 7.5 per cent. But unfortunately, the GDP growth rate during the last two years is declining. It is almost five per cent now. I am afraid that this first *Hindutva* Budget of the Government is going to take the country back to the Hindu rate of growth. So, I cannot support this Budget.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKER RAWAT (Agra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now my colleague opposed the Finance Bill...*(Interruptions)* I rise to support this Bill...*(Interruptions)* I am supporting it as it has some plus points. I am not opposing it for the sake of opposing only. Just now my friend stated that..

[English]

No deep consideration has been done about the Budget proposals.

[Translation]

He noticed a risk of ideological commitment and also raised an objection for reducing duty. I do not understand why such dual approach is being adopted? Prices of urea were rolled back. Members of ruling party as well as others were unanimous on this issue that prices of fertilizers should not be raised. They should say clearly that prices of urea should be raised. Custom duty has been rolled back to four percent from eight percent proposed earlier. They are not opposing it openly but say that it will increase the budget deficit. I would like to

say that targets fixed in the budget would be achieved. In this budget, efforts have been made to improve the economic condition created in the country. He has accepted and fact that during the period of last two budgets the targets fixed in the field of direct taxes could not be achieved.

He also stated that growth of GDP also declined but perhaps he has forgotten that at that time their party was in power and this, can be attributed to them. What can we say about the earlier period, what happened after 1947 in this country. The economic progress upto Eighth five Year Plan can be considered as a matter of past. But economic development which has taken place during last two years is still relevant as has been accepted by the hon. Members. Today, the situation is that taxes worth Rs. 40,000 crores are involved in five lakh litigation cases. He has raised a complaint against inspector raj here but an amount of Rs. 12,000 crores is involved in litigation cases of excise and customs and another Rs. 12,000 crores are locked up in the cases which have been filed by the Government owned Public undertakings against the government during the regime of previous Government. Had the administration been efficient and there had been no inspector raj, such a situation would not have arisen.

I, therefore, congratulate the Minister of Finance and hon'ble Prime Minister for presenting a budget with a new direction. It has been stated in this budget that in place of jugglery of paper work we should find the solution to problems and abolish inspector raj. The proposed 'Samadhan' scheme will improve the position of tax-collection. He has suggested for simplification of the procedure which is a good step. It should not be a liars paradise and the tax payers should be relieved from inspector raj. I am yet to know the details of the plan for giving due regard to tax payers. But one should take a look at the sample of the policies dished out by the Government. 'Saral' and 'Samadhan' schemes proposed in this budget have raised hope that now onwards tax payers should not be considered as an evader of taxes and should be given due regard.

They have called it 'budget of Hindusim' but it is not so. I would like to draw your attention towards economics of Kautilya wherein taxpayers are given regard and are saved from inspector-raj. If they feel that giving due regard to tax payers is an act of Hinduism than it can be called as a budget of Hinduism otherwise this budget is in the

interest of humanity. It is basic tenet of Hinduism to give the regard to all. This is also ancestral legacy of this country that taxpayers should not be considered as tax evaders and we are moving towards this direction.

16.00 hrs.

I would like to say that this budget has given thrust to six objectives namely, employment generation, improvement of environment, upliftment of women, road safety, encouragement to cooperatives and medical expenses for well being of handicapped. There is a provision for social generosity in this budget and these objectives are taking us towards that direction. It has been stated in the matters of employment generation that factories and companies will generate 30 per cent more opportunities in their institutions and they will be provided a rebate of 30 percent for it. This will generate more opportunities of employment, reduce unemployment and create prosperity. It is really praiseworthy that through this budget efforts have been made to generate employment opportunities in private sector. Unemployed youth are looking towards the Finance Bill with hope. All unemployed youth whether they are technical, non-technical, educated or uneducated unemployed labourers or employees have now a ray of hope for better employment opportunities. I feel that employment opportunities could be generated if serious efforts are made in this regard.

Small scale entrepreneurs and traders have also been provided some relief. Some people say that BJP is a party of traders.

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai): Sir, I am on point of order. He should speak on merits of the proposals related to taxes included in Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1998, whereas he is discussing the budget.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: I am not speaking on budget. I am speaking on the Finance Bill. You may try to understand.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your permission I would like to abstain from the proceedings of the House for just five minutes. I have to cast my vote. My colleague the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance is present here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is all right.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: I felt that you were giving ruling on point of order. Mr. Chairman, Sir,

small scale entrepreneurs and traders have been provided relief through this Finance Bill. Earlier there was a provision that accounts books are essential for small scale entrepreneurs whose turn-over is between Rs. 40 thousand and Rs. 5 lakh. Now the rules have been made generous and keeping of account books is not essential for small scale entrepreneurs who have a turn over between Rs. 1 lakh 20 thousand and Rs. 10 lakh. Now inspectors will not be able to harass and thereby, honesty and rights of people would be respected and a person will be able to work freely.

Sir, through this Finance Bill small scale entrepreneurs have been encouraged. The limit of small scale units has been raised to Rs. 50 lakh? Rs. 30 lakh. The Marginal units with a Capital of Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 1 crore have to?

16.04 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Pay flat nominal excise duty of 5 percent only. Now people will be relieved from the harassment of inspector raj. Uptil now they used to exploit entrepreneurs. This rebate is a welcome step.

Now I would like to say something about direct taxes. Income tax payers have been given an annual relief of Rs. 1000 by way of raising the income tax limit from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000 as now taxable income has been made Rs. 50 thousand. The hon'ble Minister of Finance is not present in the House so I would like to tell the hon. Minister of State that it would have been better if the limit was raised to Rs. 60 thousand instead of Rs. 50 thousand. This would have given some relief to the salarised class. I hope that the Government would consider this matter and raise the income tax limit to Rs. 60 thousand.

Government have done a commendable job by abolishing the gift tax. Earlier tax evasion was used to take place in the name of gift tax. There was a conspiracy in the division of management. Earlier income of the minor children as gifts was added in the income of the guardian. Now there will be more transparency and effectiveness in the process and there will be lesser chance of generation of black-money. NRIs will be benefitted by it. Earlier, NRIs who came back to India after residing in foreign countries for a long time and made investments in India for 9 years used to get the benefit. Actually, a person should get the profit or loss at the place where he resides.

[Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat]

As far as standard deduction is concerned, an exemption of 33.3% up to the income of one lakh or 25 thousand instead of 20 thousand whichever is less will be given. Salaried people will get relief. Exemption on medical treatment has been increased from Rs. 10 to 15 thousand. The medical treatment is becoming costlier day by day. This step will also provide relief to the family members of tax payer. Tax exemption has been provided on income from immovable property. Shri Jethamalani is present here. He has announced to construct 20 lakh dwelling units every year. This step is an effort to fulfil that commitment. 1/4 of the annual value of the house will be given for the repairing instead of 1/5 as given earlier. It will be an incentive for the people to construct the houses. It will give boost to House building and help in solving the housing problem in the country.

An announcement has been made to provide relief to the handicapped. Earlier two types of provisions were there—one for their treatment and other to protect their lives. But now a provision has been made which has been kept free from the Inspector jugglery. Schemes of LIC and UTI are steps in the right direction for their livelihood and up-bringing. Under these schemes they will get an amount of Rs. 40 thousand per annum. Such schemes should involve the Government contribution to provide an umbrella of social security to handicapped persons. Due to the policies of last 50 years, Hindu undivided family system is in shambles. It is a right step to provide protection to this system.

I welcome the provisions made for universities, hospitals and educational institutions. This step would provide relief to the institutes which are run by the Government or by the registered institutions. Before concluding, I will give my suggestions in this regard.

I would like to submit one more thing. Many cases are pending in High Courts. Some of them have been mentioned here. Substantial amount of money is involved in such cases. The changes made in this regard are also in the right direction. Now hearing in the tribunal courts will be based on facts. Appeal in High Court will be made on legal grounds and it will help in early disposal of the cases. A time limit has been fixed for reviewing the decision. The money which was earlier blocked due to the nexus between Income Tax Authority and the tax payer will now be saved.

Sir, as I have earlier stated that, the 'Samadhan' scheme will prove a boon in regard to direct and indirect taxes. It will help to recover the money blocked in income tax cases and then the Budget targets will be achieved.

The manner in which the procedure of tax return has been simplified is a commendable step. Though some of my friends and intellectuals are of the opinion that it may lead to tax evasion. However, I feel that it will facilitate the small tax payers. Though the small tax payer do not come under the income tax limit even then he has to file the return for which he takes the help of lawyer and Chartered Accountant. After all this, many faults are found out when he visits the Income tax officer. Now with the simplified tax return system, they will definitely get the benefit and their exploitation will be stopped.

Sir, efforts have been made in the Budget as to how the areas of the tax collection can be recovered and tax base could be enlarged. Even then, if any attempt is made to evade the tax, it should be enforced rigorously. All these steps have been taken to promote the new economic policy formulated after 1991. No such drastic change has been brought out on the basis of which it could be stated that there is no difference of opinion on the consensus formed on Liberalised economic policy. Efforts have been made in the Budget to solve all the problems. All the four things necessary for tax structure, term stability, increased productivity, voluntary compliance of the people and enhancement of tax network have been taken into consideration in the Budget. Chelliah Committee has recommended to increase the tax net. A scheme of 1/6 has been formulated under their recommendation. I commend the special thrust given to agricultural rural development infrastructure in the Budget. My colleague was saying that much emphasis has been given to refineries but some emphasis has also been given to power sector. The problem of petroleum products is the main hinderance in the development of infrastructure. We have to import a large quantity of petroleum products which is affecting our foreign exchange. At present it is a challenge before us as to how we could generate the power in our country. Therefore, whether it may be refining or power sector, emphasis should be given to all these sectors, otherwise we would not be able to achieve the desired results in the coming century. I think that the efforts being made to generate the electricity are not sufficient to meet the increasing demand of electricity in our country. A big gap will be left between demand and supply and a big crisis will emerge before the country.

Sir, there is no bad intention behind the statement of hon'ble Finance Minister whether he belongs to this Government or the previous Government. However, we should certainly give more emphasis to power and petroleum sector. The drilling work in this regard should

be expedited. We have good sources of power in our country. We should provide facilities for tapping these sources. One of my friend from Rajya Sabha has once stated that electricity can be generated from ocean waves and it will cost cheaper than other sources.

However, the then Government did not pay much emphasis on it. I would say that this should be done to generate energy at low price. Government should provide relief to power sector through its tax structure or by any other medium.

I will conclude my speech with two-three more points. One of the issue is regarding the section 80 deemed export. Under Section 80h(s), income tax exemption is not given to the artisans who sell their goods to tourists at tourist centres and receive the payment in Foreign exchange. But if the payment is made in the Hotel in dollar or in any other foreign exchange, tax rebate is given on it. This contradiction should be removed. The workers, artisans and artists will not have to incur losses due to this and it will encourage the cottage industries.

The second point which I would like to mention is regarding Bikaneri Bhujia, Namkeen and 'Petha'. The Bhujia seller says that the excise rate is increasing and the inspector is harrasing. The 'Petha' manufactured in Agra is famous all over the world. However, the Petha seller says that the sweetness of the petha is becoming bitter due to the schemes of bureurcracy. Therefore, such small units in small scale industries should be kept out of the net of excise tax.

The products of the small scale industries which are manufactured by poor Craftman whether it be 'Bhujia', Namkeen or sweets, these must be freed from the network of excise duty.

As regards, information technology. I would like to say and I had also given a memorandum to the Hon'ble Minister in this regard saying that the import of whole software kit is cheaper as compared to the import of the spare parts in the country and then assembling them here. The value addition surely provides employment to the persons but overall this process proves to be costlier than the import of software in whole. I want that government should look into this matter that though the value-addition system provides employment to the workers of the country, but it is costlier than the import of whole software kit and will prove against the provisions of the industrial policy.

The same controversy is going on over the excise duties levied marble products. This too is a labour intensive and artistic job. Supportors create god within the stone and we find a chance to look at the most beautiful specimens of sculpture, and it looks as if the stone has been will prove against the provisions of the industrial policy.

The same controversy is going on our the excise duties levied on marble products. This too is a labour-intensive and artistic job. Sculptors create God within the stone and the find a chance to look at the most beautiful specimens of sculpture, and it looks as if the stone has been enlived. Marble goods industry too should be excluded from excise net and should be relieved of this burden.

Recently a chartered accountant conference was held. The job of Chartered accountants and the lawyers is almost similar. Both the chartered accountants and lawyers plead the cases of income-tax but the chartered accountants have been brought under the purview of service tax. They should be excluded from the purview of service tax as it is a profession which is very much similar to advocacy.

The shoe industry in the small scale sector has many such units which have come to my knowledge. They plead that they supply the shoes to major companies with famous brand names and the rates of excise duty which is imposed on them is not according to the small sector industries rates but the one which is applicable to the big companies. If their produce is within the range fixed for small scale industrial units, then they should get relaxation in excise, duty rates. I insert that no additional penalty should be imposed on them for supplying the shoes with brand names.

Relief should also be provided to the Charitable and religious or educational institutions which have been running hospitals or other useful welfare activities for the society. I had also met hon'ble Finance Minister in this regard. Social, religious and social service institution like Dayal Bagh which has been running a hospital, deemed universities and colleges have been facing some difficulties due to this network. There is a proposal to impose tax on their income. This anomaly should be removed. Though the Finance Minister had given his consent that the government does not intend to being such Charitable institutions under tax purview but the fact is, as our friend Mr. Chavan was saying, that in inspector-raj. The powers enjoyed by a Minister are much less than those wielded by an inspector of the concerned area. Therefore very clean arrangements should be made in this regard. Sanctions have been imposed on the country and yet it is being said that revenue will increase. The Finance Minister has made the tax-proposals keeping in view the challenges being fixed by the country in the direction of achieving self-respect, self-reliance and growth of 'Swadeshi media'. These tax proposals would carry the Country in that direction. It will give a boost to the emergence of a self respecting, Swedeshi and self-reliant India. I see the countervailing duty of 4 per cent in the same light. I support the Budget which has been prepared to provide protection to the Indian industries. I am sure that the economic crises which has been created in the country by foreign countries will be trackled by this Finance Bill. I conclude my speech by congratulating the Finance Minister and supporting the provisions of the Finance Bill.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while opposing the Budget, we have described it as pro-rich and anti-poor. It has a lot of deficiencies. The country in its present position will never be benefited from the Budget proposals made by Shri Yashwant Sinha on the 1st June, 1998. I am not going to repeat the points I had already made on that day. I shall only confine myself to some of the important provisions in the Finance Bill as some of my colleagues will further add to the points made by me.

Firstly, there has been national consensus that we need a radical restructuring in the tax structure both Direct tax and Indirect tax in our country. Restructuring does not only mean simplifying the tax structure; bringing down the number of concessions and rates and all these things but also having a fresh look at the tax structure prevailing in our country for the last several years.

Sir, it is very unfortunate that hardly one per cent of the Indian population does pay income tax, may be currently it is a little more than one per cent.

So many foreigners are coming to India. Because of constraint of time, I would not illustrate many examples. When famous Noam Chomsky had come to Delhi, he had made a very remarkable comment that 'the Indian rich, Indian elite are fabulously rich in their spending capacity far more than I have seen it in the United States'. It is a telling commentary. Noam Chomsky said this. I am not going to quantify the neo-rich because there is a dispute about it. In the earlier days of reforms, the MNCs had quantified them to the extent of 20 crores or something like that.

Ultimately they burnt their fingers following overestimation of the consumers market and they are relearning. Whatever it may be, whether it is 15 crore or 20 crore or 25 crore, a large chunk, about one-fifth of the Indian population is rich enough to pay income tax. I congratulate the Minister because this present criterion of 'One-in-Six' will help to some extent to widen tax net. But there are many more areas, many more parameters and many more yardsticks that could be used to widen the net.

I was reading one book where the Indian economic situation has been analysed. It says that the rural rich, the rural kulaks, have accumulated more money, the mercantile capital, in some areas is surpassing the industrial capital, though not in all parts of the country.

This rural wealth does not come within the tax net. Some measures should be taken to see that at least those rich people who have cellphones, maruti gypsies, tractors and a very wide influence on the rural economy are brought into the income tax net. So, restructuring does not mean just simplification of a form and giving it a new name called *Sara!* or for that matter bringing down the number of concessions and reductions. There must be some sincere attempt to widen the tax net also.

In our country black-money generation, in spite of so many amnesty schemes, has never stopped operating and growing. It has been growing and growing in spite of several concessions given and several amnesty schemes offered. We have the experience of the latest VDIS where the honest tax-payers were made to suffer for rewarding the dishonest people. What happened ultimately? The honest tax-payers had also to resort to a particular path to have greater concessions. This is reflected in the compliance.

Earlier it was said that the lower the rate the better is the compliance. But if you take into account the psyche of the Indian rich, it is never true. It is because wherever there is a loophole, the psyche of the Indian rich is to avail of that loophole and they are doing it. I am saying this because another amnesty scheme with a different name has been proposed. The name is called Kar Vivad Samadhan. Now Rs. 40,000 crore has been locked in litigation in respect of direct tax and perhaps another Rs. 12,000 crore pertaining to indirect to indirect tax. There is a proposal for one-time settlement. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister as to how much does this Government expect to get after this settlement. It is more of a settlement clearing the slate or an instrument to mobilise the resources that these dishonest people had evaded and to get back what was due to the Government?

I do not know how the disputed income will be described or defined under the Kar Vivadh Samadhan scheme. Will a person who is involved in a litigation but has paid the full amount get any concession? Or, will a person who has not at all paid anything but is involved in a litigation be rewarded? The Minister, I hope, will explain this when he replies.

Under the One-by-Six' scheme, the hon. Minister has added two criteria to the existing four criteria that make filing of tax returns obligatory. The details of club memberships can be collected from the clubs also but that need not be mentioned in the from itself.



We have received some representations from elderly people including freedom fighters who have got telephone connections. I would like the hon. Minister of Finance to clarify whether they will also come under the purview of this 'One-by-Six' scheme. These elderly people have either been given telephone connections free or at a concessional rate. I would like the hon. Minister to clarify this.

We were given the assurance that the distortion that has been caused in the tax structure with over-emphasis on the indirect taxes would be rectified on the basis of the recommendations of important committees, that the indirect taxes would be brought down and more emphasis would be placed on the direct taxes. But this year in the *swadeshi* Budget, we find that innumerable items of mass consumption beginning with butter, ghee and branded edibles have been imposed an eight per cent excise duty across the board. We had warned this Government that such increase in the excise duty on the essential commodities will have a cascading effect, will cause inflation and price rise. It has happened and prices have increased awfully during the last six to seven weeks.

My next point relates to clause 114 of the Finance Bill which deals with motor spirit. When the prices of petrol are coming down internationally and when we propose integration with the global economy and many more things, we find here that an additional duty of Re. 1 is being proposed on petrol. I am not questioning the bungling in calculation and the roll-back that happened later. I am not going into those details. I would like to say that petrol is not used only by luxury cars and imported cars, but it is used by three-wheelers also. As a result of this, common middle-class and lower-middle class people will be affected. So, my demand is that this levy should be reversed. We have the experience of road fund and other cess funds. I have great doubt how much of this will go for the development of roads.

Apart from this excise duty increase as proposed in clause 114, in clause 115 all important essential commodities used by the common people, including edible and dairy products have been brought in.

The price of tea has gone up. Even before the presentation of Budget, the price of tea had gone up. It is seriously affecting the common people of this country. So, I demand that it should be withdrawn.

As regards the MODVAT, I agree that there has been some misuse. Just because some unscrupulous people are misusing this provision, others should not be punished. In order to avoid misuse, better network should

be built for better information and better feedback. The inclusion of five per cent limit in the MODVAT scheme is affecting many units. I would request the hon. Minister to reconsider it.

As far as Service Tax is concerned, the Standing Committee had suggested inclusion of medical and teaching profession also.

Here, I cannot avoid mentioning about one point regarding the hidden agenda of this BJP Govt. I would like to read out from the Finance Bill. It says:

"Service Tax will be imposed for service to any person, by a mechanised slaughter house in relation to the slaughtering of bovins animals". I am not elaborating it. Please delete it.

We know the whole story about the customs duty. Rolling back is the unique feature of the present Government. I am not further commenting on it. It is lobby-based and selective. Some lobbies have been very successful in influencing this Government and some others are not. There should be some sort of uniformity in respect of duties on several items.

If you have a little bit of *swadeshi* feeling, you please think about the small industries which are importing raw materials for manufacturing purposes. Neither the *swadeshi* entrepreneurs nor the small industry are benefited by the customs duty proposed by you.

Sir, I do not take much of your time. With these few words I oppose the Finance Bill. I have proposed some amendments also and I will move them later on.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTILAL CHAPLOT (Udaipur): Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my gratitude to you for having given me an opportunity to speak. The budget which hon'ble Finance Minister has presented in this House, this kind of budget has never been presented earlier. Agriculturists have been given several concessions. For sprinkler system the amount provided is more than one and a half times than the last time. Similarly, for irrigation also enough amount has been provided keeping in view the farmers. Much debate has been given in case of tractors also. In this budget provision has been made for all-round development — Sarva Bhawantu Sukihna, Sarva Santu Niramaya, Sarve Bhadrani

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

Pashyantu, Makshchit Dukhna Bhagh Bhawaita. It means all people should be happy, healthy and good. This budget has been presented for the welfare of all. I would like to congratulate Hon'ble Finance Minister for this. After all we have to see as to what was the condition of this country 5000 years ago, what was its condition 2500 years ago? There was a man called Mahapadmanand in this country. He was named mahapadmanand because he had billions of rupees. Today if we distribute that much amount in India then every person will get Rs. 20 lakh. Today, what is the condition of the country after independence? When the first five year plan was launched, we became indebted. We again became indebted when record five year Plan was launched and today in 1998, the domestic and foreign debt on the country is around Rs. 10 lakh crores. It means that every person in the country is indebted to the tune of minimum of Rs. 12,000. To provide relief from this indebtedness our Finance Minister has made provision for creating employment in rural areas. He has said that employment will be provided to rural people. 400 years ago, 35% people were engaged in agriculture sector but today more than 70% people are dependent on agriculture. The Finance Minister deserves congratulation because in this budget he has made full arrangement to provide employment to rural people so that burden on agriculture sector could be reduced.

Similarly, Jhuggi Jhonpris are developing in cities and considering this fact the Hon'ble Finance Minister has made provision for construction of 20 lakh houses in cities and 20 lakh houses in villages for the poor people under Indira Awas Yojana. I would like to congratulate him for this.

In this country number of unemployed person is increasing. Today there are atleast ten crore people in the country who are unemployed. Provision has been made in this budget to give concession to all those who are working in factories or small scale industries. Hon'ble Finance Minister deserves congratulation for this also.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to waste much time of this House. There are 1.25 crore handicapped people in the country, for them provision has been made separately in the budget. Finance Minister deserves congratulation for this also. Similarly there are 1.25 crore blind people in the country, Hon'ble Finance Minister has made provision for them also. I congratulate him for this also. In this country 15 person in every hundred are suffering from T.B. They are poor and are suffering from malnutritions. They are not getting nutritive value good. Hence the Finance Minister has made provision for

providing nutritive value food in villages for which I would like to congratulate him.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in our country there was one Muni called Charwak. He had said;

Yawaith jeevaith sukham jeevaith,

Renam krithwa ghritam peevaith,

Bhasmlbhatasya dehasya, punaragaman kutaha,

Meaning thereby that as long as there is life one should live happily because we do not get human birth again and again and man is mortal. Our Finance Minister has proposal that we will not make India indebted, we will make India self-reliant, and self-respecting country. This is BJP's resolution regarding the Budget. I would like to give heartiest congratulation to the Finance Minister for this. We have decided that we will not accept subordination or we shall not bow before any country even if that country impress any kind of ban whether it relate to CTBT or any other ban or economic restrictions upon us. We will prefer to die instead of accepting subordination. There is no need to bow before any country whether it is U.S.A., England or any other country which imposes sanctions. Through this budget hon'ble Finance Minister has attempted to present this kind of resolution. I would like to congratulate him for this...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJO SINGH: You please speak about increasing the salaries of M.Ps. You are not mentioning this instead you are talking about something else.

SHRI SHANTILAL CHAPLOT: Why should I make such a demand...(Interruptions)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajanpur): You should speak over Finance Bill and not over the Salary Increase Bill? ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTILAL CHAPLOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Hon'ble Finance Minister because he has made provision in the budget for construction of 20 lakh houses. The position of Rajasthan is very special. Rajasthan Constitutes 1/10th of total area of India with an area of 3.5 lakh square kms. Half of the area of Rajasthan is considered as desert land. In Rajasthan, one project called Indira Gandhi Canal Project was launched but the work of that project has not been completed yet. Through you, I request the Government to complete that project so that the whole Rajasthan can see green revolution. Entire desert area will become

prosperous. In Rajasthan economic resources are very scarce, but even then the Central Government is not providing sufficient funds for that area.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the last 10-12 years there has been no investment in Rajasthan. I had asked a Question as to how much investment the Central Government has made in Rajasthan during the last 3 years. I received its reply only day-before-yesterday and it says that in other states Rs. 20,000 crore has been invested but in Rajasthan investment is less than even Rs. 10 crore. It is all due to the policies of previous governments and their in different attitude. If we see the population of Rajasthan in the perspective of population of India then Rajasthan constitutes 1/20th population of India and area-wise it constitutes 1/10th of the total area of the country. The central government is not providing sufficient funds to Rajasthan in proportion to its population or area due to which development of Rajasthan has been affected.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I don't want to make a long speech. I will conclude shortly. In Rajasthan granite unit is treated as SSI unit and there is no tax on it. In 1994 excise duty of Rs. 10 per square metre was leveled and afterwards it was increased to Rs. 20 per square metre but last year Chidambaram Saheb's Ministry imposed tax of Rs. 30 per square metre. I request the Government to reduce it. Though it may be a mistake but this year also, it has been increased to Rs. 40 from Rs. 30. I would like to submit that in Rajasthan the excise duty on marble is Rs. 4.50 per sq. foot and other taxes are Rs. 2.50 per sq. foot. Thus total taxation comes to Rs. 7.00 per sq. foot and the marble is being sold at Rs. 12 per sq. foot. It is selling at a rate cheaper than even kota stone.

15 lakh families i.e. one crore people are engaged in this trade. 95 percent of the marble produced in India comes from Udaipur, Rajsamund, Dungarpur, Bansbara, Alwar, Sirohi, Makrana to Nagaur and Aandhi and Sirohi of Jaipur district. The marble of Makrana is famous all over the world. One crore people are engaged in this work.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI SHANTI LAL CHAPLOT: Mr. Speaker, I will not speak much. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Finance to reduce the excise duty on marble. It should be treated as S.S.I. unit. The excise duty on it should be reduced in whatever way possible. Otherwise it will shatter the entire economy of Rajasthan. There are many mineral and marble mines in Rajasthan. The Forest

Conservation Act was implemented in 1980 in Rajasthan, due to which mining is not allowed over there.

I would like to request that a provision should be made under which a person will be rewarded with mines if he plants 20 trees or he should do forestation in double the area than the area of mines provided to him.

Secondly, as said by Shri Bhagwan Shanker Rawat, Bhujjiya is prepared by women, especially widows in Rajasthan. I request you to withdraw the excise and other taxes imposed on Bikaneri Bhujjiya I thank you for giving me the time to speak.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am here to express the views of my party on Financial Bill No. 2. I strongly condemn and criticise this bill because the excise duty and custom duty have not been collected according to the proportion laid in supplementary Demands for Grant, presented in the House before the presentation of this year's budget by the hon'ble Minister. There are apprehension in my mind that the tax proposals of this year will make the conditions worse than the last year. These tax proposals will led to inflation and price rise. The tax evaders will get encouragement and the factories of the people, who honestly pay taxes will either run in loss or get shut down. This is my apprehension. Therefore I would like to state that when petroleum companies have increased the price of petrol by Rs. 4 per litre, the Parliament had pressurised hon'ble Minister to give orders to reduce the price of petrol by Rs. 3 per litre. Now Re 1 is collected in the name of road tax. In this way they have tried to create the feeling in the country that the Government has not increased the prices of petrol on its own will. But if you carefully study the tax proposals, you will find that the excise duty on motor spirit has been increased. The increase in the price of petrol has been deferred till the session ends. The day this session ends, the oil companies will not be having any option, but to increase the price of petrol. If attention is not paid to this matter by the hon'ble minister, it will a big fraud on the country.

The Hon'ble Minister has made no provision of subsidy to fulfill the loss generated to oil pool by the imposition of excise duty on motor spirit. If this is not done, then how will this loss be met. The only option available to them is to increase the price of petrol. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has increased the sales tax and in the neighborhood of Delhi, in Noida and Ghaziabad district of Uttar Pradesh Scooter-owners are paying Rs. 28 per litre for petrol. Due to 10% increase

[Shri Mohan Singh]

in excise duty, the prices of motor spirit will be increased by Rs. 3. The hon'ble Minister should give clarification in this regard. The price rise has been deferred temporarily, under severe pressure from the hon. Members. We want clarification in this regard.

I would also like to state that you have mentioned about setting up of a Settlement Commission in the case of excise duty. Excise Duty is not income tax. This is not an indirect tax, but a direct tax. This tax is immediately imposed on production. What do you mean by settlement? Does settlement mean that you should not pay tax on production, and after that on the name of abolishing Inspector Raj, negotiate with the Department or come to the Settlement Commission and pay one fourth, half, or some portion of the tax and settle the issue. What are the objectives of this Settlement Commission? This is being done for the first time in the area of Excise duty...*(Interruptions)* You are just granting employment to the retired officers of Excise Department. I do not see any other advantage of it. Therefore, this idea should be dropped.

In India, there was no taxation on food processing we had deliberately kept this industry outside the tax net because of common man's involvement in this industry. As we exempted agriculture from the income-tax, similarly we had exempted food processing from excise-duty to encourage the common investor. So that common villagers of remote areas could get employment through food processing. With this intention, we had exempted it. But gradually you are trying to impose tax on this industry. Initially, you have imposed tax on dairy industry you have imposed tax on dairy, ghee, butter chocolate, and sweets which are also a part of food processing. It means you have tried to bring new ideological change through these provisions.

16.57 hrs.

[SHRI V. SATYAMURTI *in the Chair*]

I would like to know clearly whether in future you are going to do same with the friculture and floriculture because it is being exported in the abundant quantity. I have also given some amendments from my party's and we demand that the decision to impose new taxes on items related to dairy industry should be withdrawn. We have repeated it many times that tea is a common man's drink. We say that due to drinking of tea bone marrow and chromosomes are increased in body but doctors say, tea curbs it. You have imposed tax on tea, this has increased the price of tea. You have increased 80 paise

on Rs. 10, but the traders have increased Rs. 3 on Rs. 10. Due to imposition of tax on items of daily use, the overall inflation rate is increased. In today's date, the inflation rate is more than 7%. You should give attention in this regard. On this basis, people have started predicting that by the end of this year, the inflation rate will cross two digit figure. In these tax provisions you have reimposed taxes, which were withdrawn under the economic policy five years ago. I demand that you should withdraw these taxes.

We say that pollution is increasing due to smoke, and the manufacturers of the motor-car battery were trying to conduct an experiment to check the pollution but the battery manufacturing has been taken into the purview of taxation. Tax has been increased on it. Similarly the taxes have also been increased on the lenses of spectacles.

The taxes have also increased in case of pollution checking equipment.

The taxes on life saving things which prevent the environment from being further polluted have been increased under the proposals of your Budget inspite of the fact that a great stress is laid by the government to check the pollution and Supreme Court and High Courts have been issuing orders every other day in this regard.

17.00 hrs.

We would like to request you to reduce the taxes on all those above mentioned items.

One more thing which I like to say is that the taxes on ghee have been imposed to such an extent that one cannot eat ghee even after taking loan. We would like to say it in very clear terms that when sanctions from the whole world are being imposed on us, the only way to complete our development works and combat this situation is that we must proceed on the path of austerity.

You have accepted the recommendation of the Pay Commission to increase the retirement age upto 60 years but besides this, another recommendation which was related to downsizeing of class-I officers and IAS officers staff to one-third of the present strength was not accepted by you. Pay Commission also laid stress on reducing the number of IPS officers to one third. But you accepted only those recommendations which were concerned with pay hike and involving expenditure. You increased their salaries upto Rs. 35 thousand and 40 thousands. Their plea was that multinational companies have arrived in India which are paying salaries upto Rs. One lakh per month and the most brilliant brains in the country belongs

to IAS and IPS officers. They cannot survive on this meagre amount of Rs. 15 thousand per month and if this anomaly continues, brain-drain will take place. The best brain of the country will be hired by the multinational companies. Therefore our salaries should be hiked. You gave them the salary of Rs. 35000 to Rs. 40000 per month and thus accepted the recommendations of pay commission. You have increased the retirement age to 60 years, that is also good thing. 37 lakh persons who used to be provided employment by the government every year, all those 37 lakh persons will have to wait for two years on road with 'katta' in their hands. They will resort to killing people and unemployment will increase. But along with these, the recommendation of reducing the number of officers by one third was not accepted by you. Why did not you accepted?

I would like to say that Rs. 125 crores of our Budget is being spent on the personal safety especially on S.P.G. cover provided to the leaders. Rs. 18 crore is being spent on the security of each of the leaders and among them two have been saying that we do not need such security because we feel that as if we are in prison. I would like to say that if these persons are very important persons of Indian society. Then the solution of their security is that construct a jail like Tihar, and shift all these persons in that jail. They can communicate with the people of India through television from the jail. What is the need to spend Rs. 115 crores on their security? There are people even among them who have been saying that they feel uneasy under this security cover, and so it should be removed. Cannot you think over these issues? When we have started laying stress on personal security in preference to public security, the thing like public security has been vanishing from the society, unabated expenditure is taking place over it also. All these solutions can be achieved if we take initiative in direction of simplicity. Why don't we give a thought to it. I would like to say that we should ponder over these Budget proposals. Those people who have been provided such security, they can also contribute in this kind of security arrangement. If this system continues in which I do not consider it a good sign that the political parties cannot protect their leaders and look towards government to protect their leaders. There is an urgent need to consider this issue by all political parties and leaders.

It is a good thing that you are providing facilities to the states but a competition is going on amongst the state government in taking overdraft. They are earning popularity by giving relaxation in taxes to their people. A consensus among all the states to have uniform system of taxes should be evolved. There are different rates of trade tax for a commodity in Bihar, Maharashtra and

Delhi and Hon'ble Minister should think over the internal smuggling which takes place due to these varying tax-rates. This is a very big problem of our country. A general consensus should be evolved for having uniform tax structure in all the states. There should be a co-ordination and balance among the taxes of various states.

I would like to suggest that government of India should try to achieve consensus in this regard by holding a meeting of all states.

I have various suggestions for amendment of various tax proposals of this Finance Bill. I would like to lay stress tomorrow. But now I would like to say something about Banking system. You have made a provision that in all the transactions involving sum of rupees 25000 and more, the concerned person has to show his income tax number to the bank authorities if a buyer wants to purchase a property worth five lakhs or ten lakhs, he should seek income-tax clearance I would like to say that while you want to abolish 'Inspector-Raj', these kinds of arrangements are only going to strengthen Inspector Raj.

FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to inform hon'ble Members that no where in my provisions it is stipulated that first you bring this clearance' then only you make a transaction. This type of false propaganda has been going in the country and it is absolutely necessary to clarify it and that is why I have rose to oppose it. If you are an income-tax assessee and you have got permanent account number or GIR number, then you can quote it, if you do not have them, even then you can buy and sell property.

SHRI MOHAN SIGH (Deoria): The Hon'ble Minister is absolutely right but in practical it is just opposite. The issue of income tax clearance is being raised. In order to get income tax clearance certificate, a common man is forced to bribe Rs. 5000 to an income tax inspector for the property of one lakh. But the thing you have told today in the House, if you communicate it to the public through circulars and newspapers, perhaps then it can clear the picture. But the general perception prevalent in the minds of people is not such. You have imposed house tax, a retired government employee lives in a small house which he builds by taking loans while in jobs his age has crossed 65 years and in terms of income tax he is considered a senior citizen but when you have included the house in the purview of taxes then a definite logic from your side should be reflected in your reply regarding this issue.

[Shri Mohan Singh]

With these words, I would like to say that tomorrow when we would bring our cut-motions on the tax proposals of the Finance Bill, then I will express my views while presenting my cut motion. With these words, I conclude my speech and extend my thanks to Mr. Chairman, for giving me the chance to speak and I would also like to urge the Hon'ble Minister to reconsider my suggestion and make comments while giving reply.

\*SHRI RAMARAJAN (Tiruchendur): Hon'ble Chairman, at the outset I would like to heartily thank the General Secretary of our All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and our beloved Puratchi thalaivi (Revolutionary Leader) for having enabled me to emerge a victorious candidate for the first time from Tiruchendur constituency in the recently concluded XII Lok Sabha elections. I come from the film industry and now I am a representative of the people thanks to her.

I would also like to thank the electorate of my constituency who have sent me to this august House. I deem it a great privilege to render my maiden speech in this House today. The day also assumes importance because it happens to be the birthday of Thiru K. Kamaraj, one of the greatest leaders that Tamil Nadu gave to India. On a historical day when his statue was unveiled in the precincts of Parliament I have got this memorable opportunity to speak on the floor of this House. I would like to reiterate again my heartfelt gratitude to our beloved leader Dr. Puratchi Thelaivi (Revolutionary Leader) for this wonderful opportunity.

Amidst those who were making fun of the artists from the one-field and expressing doubts over their capabilities to rule this country, our founder leader Puratchi Thelaivar (Revolutionary Leader) MGR emerged strong with mass appeal and ruled Tamil Nadu for three terms. He gave an able and efficient Administration. As his right heir came our beloved Puratchi Thelaivi to provide a dynamic administration following the footsteps of our founder leader. Her five-year rule as Chief Minister was ushering in a golden era.

But what we see today in Tamil Nadu is DMK rule. The people of Tamil Nadu are being swayed by several hardships and innumerable sufferings. I would like to bring to light certain problems more particularly the problems faced by the people of our Tiruchendur constituency.

Fishermen community forms a major chunk of population in my constituency. For several years, hundreds of these fishermen were getting kerosene at subsidised rates. Kerosene so supplied was used by them in their fisheries occupation. The fuel was intended for application in various machines related to fishing industry. Subsidy was taken off later and they have to pay heavily now. This affects the lives and the occupation of the fishermen over there. My humble request to our Hon'ble Finance Minister at this juncture would be to reintroduce the subsidy on kerosene and enable the fishermen to get 100 litres per month to carry on their fishing activities in the high seas with their small boats. You may allocate necessary funds for this social measure. Several fishermen living along the coastal line are still living in huts and they are not having secured houses which could protect them properly. Many of them are poor and live well below the property line. You may earmark adequate funds for providing them with housing facilities.

Tamil Nadu Mercantile Bank founded by a certain community has now changed hands and it has to be restored back to those who have founded them. The need for this restoration was rightly understood by our beloved Puratchi Thalavi and she came along with a delegation and presented their case before the Hon'ble Prime Minister and it has been brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Finance Minister too. Hon'ble Prime Minister has given an assurance in this regard to restore the bank back to the founders of the bank. I would again impress upon the Finance Minister the need to intervene and fulfil the rightful demands of the founders of Tamil Nadu Mercantile Bank.

We say, India is one from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. We also know that Kanyakumari is an important tourist and pilgrim centre. Not only in India it is widely known all over the world. In order to operate flight service we need to have an airstrip there. At the same time an airstrip established at a cost of about Rs. 100 crores at Tuticorin is still not operational. So necessary steps must be speeded up to make Tuticorin airstrip operational. If it is not found viable to do so immediately an airstrip for Kanyakumari should be set up at the earliest.

My constituency is abound in small industries particularly cottage industries. Many a poor beedi workers are among the labour class of these small industrial units. I am to plead for these poor beedi workers to release liberal loans through the nationalised banks to carry out their occupation without any hitch. I urge upon the Union Government to be responsive to these demands.

I welcome the announcement made by the Union Government to take special care and provide adequate

\*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

assistance to backward areas identified in the north-eastern region. Apart from backward areas like that of ours you may also pay adequate attention to the plight of cinema industry.

The movies that are made in Bombay have got a wide market. Apart from major part of the country they are released in several parts of the world. Half of the Indian States produce films in other regional languages. But Tamil film industry alone faces a problem of not being able to release it in any other State other than Tamil Nadu except for one or two neighbouring States occasionally. Already Union Government has decided to consider film industry as an industrial sector. So it is imposing upon the Government to provide needed financial assistance to producers who make films. So, I request the Finance Minister to ensure arranging liberal loan facilities to the film industry especially the Tamil film industry. Already it has been stated that financial assistance would be forthcoming. So I would like to impress upon that you may keep your word to be liberal in providing loans to film producers and more liberally to the Tamil film producers. With this I conclude expressing my support to this Finance Bill. Thank you.

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Madhepura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Finance Bill introduced by the Hon'ble Minister of Finance has been supported by the ruling members and criticised by the opposition members. I do not want to deliver a long speech or make any criticisms.

The Government that came to power after 50 years of independence formulated the Budgets in their own way and presented them in the House. The views of the member supporting or opposing the budgets are kept in the Library in the book form. Today the country is isolated and imposition of Economic sanctions against us is also being discussed. But the hon'ble Minister has stated that it will not affect the country.

The country is afflicted with the problems of poverty, unemployment and hunger but I do not say that these problems have sprung up with the coming into power of the present Government. However, my submission is that what are the measures which can eradicate these problems. Hon'ble Minister would agree with the fact that the per capital income of backward states like Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and the whole of north-eastern states, is less as compared to the per capita income of other States. The schemes formulated by the Planning commission after independence are not adequate for these states. Efforts should have been made to bring those

states at par with the other developed States which as the former are lagging behind due to wrong policies of the Government. As the present Government is a coalition Government, it will be pressurised by its allies for tax proposals made in the Budget. Resources should be divided on the basis of Gadgil Formula. Neither the Minister, nor the Prime Minister or Shri Jaswant Singh can do anything in regard to population and backwardness. It is doubtful whether the targets set in the Budget will be achieved through the tax proposals and arrangements made for it on the basis of Gadgil Formula. I do not know whether deficit will increase or not. I do not know what will be the fate of the Government. Just see the present condition of the country. You have been the Finance Minister twice. Hon'ble Shri Manmohan Singh, Shri Chidambaram and other Finance Ministers have been criticised on one issue or the other.

Sir, I would like to know the total amount of debt on the country. The foreign debt including debt of the World Bank as each individual is increasing day by day. It has become difficult to repay the interest, leave alone the Principal. The income generated by the Government is consumed by the society. What are the provisions made by the Government for the welfare of the poor common man? This country is heavily under debt. The report of Finance Commission accepted by the Government also states that the share given to states out of the income generated through Central tax Collection should be increased from 27% to 30%.

Budgets are to be formulated in many states for which sittings of the Assemblies are taking place. Planning Commission is shortly going to finalise its plans. I would like to know from Shri Yashwant Babu regarding the constitutional limitations in increasing the due share of Bihar State from 27% to Rs. 450 crores? What are the steps being taken to overcome the limitations, if any? Do you propose to make necessary constitutional amendments for this purpose?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the necessary amendment bill was introduced yesterday. Since there is a consensus in both the Houses over the bill, it will be passed comfortably during this session.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: That is good, the bill should be passed in this very session. The second issue is regarding the Gadgil formula. Just consider the condition of Bihar, U.P., Orissa and the entire north-east. This issue has also been raised during the meetings of the Development Council in the presence of Chief Ministers and the Prime Minister. Today the country is under debt and it does not have the capacity to repay it as a result

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

of which our plans go away. The hon. Minister of the Parliament will have to find an answer to it. States like Orissa, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra are coal producing States but the revenue from coal goes to the Centre. The areas of northern-Bihar and Chhota Nagpur are rich in natural resources in the form of mines and minerals but their respective revenue goes to the Centre. It is said about Bihar.

[English]

"Bihar is rich in mines and minerals but the people of Bihar are poor."

[Translation]

It is an insult to the State. Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra cannot use their natural resources at their own will. The schemes have been formulated by the bureaucrats in Delhi in such a cunning way that the revenue from these States goes to centre due to Mines and Minerals Regulation Act. What do they get out of their wealth or from the centre as grant? Earlier cess was imposed by the states but it has now been abolished. Companies appealed before the courts that States have no right to impose cess. Who will do justice to the States and how poverty will be removed from there. How the people of Bihar will come into the national stream? Coal companies are the owner of coal. Dispute was there on this issue. Now they pay royalty to the State Government. But the rate is very low. Moreover, in case of strike or fall in production, only the State has to suffer. Therefore, coal producing States have been advised to keep on increasing the prices on the basis of its value. Cycle, cloth, medicine and lantern are consumed in Bihar but the rate-equalisation policy has eroded the revenue from these items. Bihar is exporting steel and iron but even then, it is stated that the state is unsafe for women due to its deteriorating law and order situation. My suggestion is that the royalty of coal should be advalrem. Why this matter is being pending in the Cabinet? Central Government is selling our coal due to which our income is going down. I hope that the Finance Minister would exert pressure in this matter. The Committee has also given its recommendations in this regard. It was said that steps would be taken to uplift the backward states. What steps have been taken in this regard so far? I have suggestion to make but I do not want to deliver a long speech. On what basis an amount of Rs. 50,000 is being given to M.Ps for car purchase as this is a very meager amount. 15% interest is also levied on this amount. Government should give full cost of the car at an interest of 2-4%. Who constituted the Brain of

the Society? Poor man has given this country its IAS and IPS. It was poor man's money which helped build schools. As the salaries of top bureaucrats i.e. I.A.S. and I.P.S. have been increased to Rs. 40 thousand. Members should also get interest free loan for purchase of car. As and when required the Central Government can get the top bureaucrats from Bihar on deputation. If Prime Minister of Finance Minister wish to become persons of historical fame, they must do something constructive to uplift the country. Central Government as well as 'Jansangh' has stated that every person will get the work and every field will get the water for irrigation. The Members belonging to CPI and CPM have left the House. Their slogan was hardworker will get his share, corrupt will be punished and a new era will dawn. They had given a slogan "land to tiller". Big landlords in Begu Sarai have put up red flags before there bungalows. Please look into it. Please consider two things and our country will be a prosperous one. Our Government should not be afraid of U.S.A. or depend upon any other State. During the tenure of Shri Morarji Bhai, there was a proposal to delete 'right to Property' from fundamental rights. But the ceiling of property is yet to be fixed. There was a proposal about land ceiling but no action has been taken. People are making money by all possible means and there is no limit to it. That is why corruption is rampant in the country. If you really want to create history, then implement land ceiling Act, 'Land to tiller' and remove 'Right to Property' from the fundamental rights. Prime Minister and other members should take a bold step to announce these measures and make law in this regard. Government should acquire all arable land in the country and redistribute it. The person who does hard work in agriculture, whether he is from Punjab or Bihar, should be given facilities like tractor, plough etc. Only then the country will be self-reliant.

If you wish to fulfil your promises to set up a society based on equality and to bring 'Ram Rajya' in the country, you have to take appropriate measures. There are many people who have land are also holding jobs in the Government. Sir, Members from CPI, CPM, and BJP should unitedly pass a law that the person who actually tills the land, sows the seeds etc. will be the owner of the land. It will help in abolishing castism. I have been the Chief Minister of Bihar and my brother used to work in fields. I was retaining my share in the land, not as the Chief Minister of Bihar but because my brother was actually working in the fields. It will also help in removing classism but the Congress party did not pass this law. Erstwhile kings, princes and big landlords were in that party previously. But now they have shifted to BJP and are present in the House. They will not let this legislation



be passed. They will pressurise Shri Yashwant Babu to remove the tax on sweets and marble. They will pressurise him not to frame the law.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, various Central Government undertakings have to pay an outstanding amount of Rs. 1722 crores to Bihar Government. Why these dues are not being paid? An amount of Rs. 87 crores from Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation, Barauni, Rs. 148 crores from H.E.C., Ranchi, Rs. 87 lakh from Mokama Rs. 7 lakh from T.P.C., Rs. 124 lakh from K.M.P.C.L. Dhanbad, Rs. 2.49 crores from I.D.P.L., Mujaffarpur, Rs. 164 crores from C.C.F.L. Rs. 1092.67 crore from Bharat Coking Coal and Rs. 201 crore from Eastern Coalfield Ltd. has been outstanding. The amount of Central assistance due to Electricity Board should be cleared. Necessary changes should be brought in Gadgil formula and arrangements should be made for the development of backward areas of Bihar. These state should be brought at par with other states. It seems that tax have been raised only for the name sake. The prices of urea and petrol were hiked but then the prices were rolled back. Now you are going to take decision outside the Parliament, so there should not be any discrimination in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Bihar is a backward State. The royalty earned through Coal should be given to it. The slogan of "Land to tiller" should be put into practice. Take over the arable land. Land ceiling should be implemented and land lord should not be given the right to writ in the courts. Otherwise, terrorism will increase and mass destruction will take place. The present Government will be responsible for it. The hon. Minister had pressurised me in Bihar Assembly but here he himself is under pressure and have to reply to these points. It was stated regarding both these issues that we all will fight together in Delhi. Now, he is the Finance Minister he has become the goddess Lakshmi to India ...*(Interruptions)* No, not 'Munim'. Finance Minister is like goddess Lakshmi and Members sitting on the Opposition benches are asking for the accounts. The matter should be decided at the earliest. But the present Government is unable to do so.

With these words, I oppose the Finance bill...*(Interruptions)* Raise the salary of M.Ps., otherwise, the Budget would not be passed in future...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH (Narasaraopet): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance at the time of introduction of the Finance Bill, in this concluding remarks, had said and I quote:

"The stars of the dark night are fading. The whole sky belongs to you."

He gave this quotation from one famous writer. If anybody looks into the budget proposals, there is nothing to feel happy. A number of Members, who have spoken earlier, have touched various issues belonging to the proposals placed before this House by the hon. Minister of Finance. So, I would not repeat or try to repeat them once again. But I would like to mention a few important points with a request to the hon. Minister of Finance and the Government of India also to apply their mind to these serious problems. I do not say that these problems have cropped up during the last one or two months. These problems are there quite for some time. But one day or the other, we have to find proper solutions for these knotty problems. Otherwise, the country will not improve and the lot of the people will not improve.

Sir, as the hon. Minister of Finance and all of us are aware, the trend today in the Centre as well as in the States is deficit financing. This has become the order of the day. States are looking to the Centre to put an end to this deficit financing. The Centre, in turn looks to the States and tries to throw the responsibility on the States. This has become a very serious problem.

According to the proposals of the hon. Minister of Finance, the fiscal deficit during this year would be Rs. 91,825 crore. I am sure it will not stop at this point. Now, there are various problems faced by this Government and by this country. For instance, the postal employees' strike is going on. To resolve it, we require money and without money there is no solution for this knotty problem. Like this, there are various other issues which were not thought over during the time of preparation of these budget proposals, these problems did not exist also. Deficit financing is an indication for additional taxes.

The Finance Minister has not spared any section of the society without levying a tax. As my colleagues have mentioned earlier, he has levied taxes on packed tea, branded butter, cheese, ghee, sewing machines, spices, skimmed milk powder and so on. He has not left out anything without levying tax.

The cost of living is increasing. I am sure that you are also aware that, if not in Delhi, in some of the States, the cost of any vegetable today is around Rs. 60 per kilogram. So, the price line is on the increase. This is because of inflation and deficit financing. A number of

[Shri Konijeti Rosaiah]

States are looking to Delhi, that is, the Government of India for necessary financial help in order to bail them out of their problems.

In the Budget of 1998-99, the assumption of the Finance Minister from States is something like Rs. 28,000 and odd crores. You know pretty well that States have to repay their loan alongwith interest also. So, the assumption of the Government of India this year from States, that is inflow to Delhi, is of Rs. 28,000 and odd crores. The outflow from Delhi is not more than that. As a matter of fact, if you look at the exact figures, the inflow to Delhi from States is more by Rs. 112 crore than the outflow from Delhi to the States. How do we expect development in the States? The Centre has got a lot of powers for levying taxes. The disbursement of tax revenue also is very funny. The formula is age old. They are not trying to revise it. So, today the States are suffering a lot for want of funds. There is deficit financing in almost all the States. I do not think that there is an exception. About 25 or 30 years back, there used to be some States where deficit financing was not there. But in the recent items, if you look at the Budgets of the various States, you will find that they are also groaning under heavy burden and suffering from want of funds.

You are aware that the Government of India will be helping the States for implementing Annual Plans under Gadgil Formula. I submit that this formula has become outdated. This Gadgil Formula has outlived in this country. Now, the Government of India has to evolve a new method. They may appoint a commission or something like that. That is a matter of detail. I do not want to go into details. But my submission is that the Centre has to make up its mind to help the States a little more for implementation of the Annual Plans, otherwise, it will be very difficult for them.

As you are aware, the Government of India is depending on external aid and loans to a great extent. Similarly, States are also running for loan assistance, may be from World Bank, IMF, Japanese agencies or other institutions. There is almost a running race amongst the States for getting external assistance. We know - the Finance Minister may not admit it on the floor of the Lok Sabha but he knows - how much worried he was when sanctions were said to be imposed because of the Pokhran experiment. He must have had a number of sleepless nights. The States today are also depending to a great extent on borrowings for the developmental works. The outstanding debt of Andhra Pradesh from where I hail is Rs. 20,430 crore.

In the year 1998-99 the State of Andhra Pradesh is expecting another Rs. 10,000 crore of World Bank aid for various programmes. Very recently, the State of Andhra Pradesh has got Rs. 2,200 crore of World Bank assistance. His friends, not only in Andhra Pradesh, here also already started hailing the Government for getting Rs. 2,000 crore of World Bank aid. I do not think that getting external aid is a very great thing. Anyway, it is the pleasure of some of his friends here to speak very high about this achievement.

Sir, in the year 1998-99, the State of Andhra Pradesh has provided Rs. 2,722 crore for debt servicing. With this additional loan of Rs. 10,000 crore, debt servicing will touch roughly about Rs. 4,000 crore. I know the details of my State and so, I am trying to quote the figures. The situation is, more or less, similar in other States and even in Delhi. If the rate of debt servicing goes up like this, where is the scope for development? Where is the money for spending on developmental activities?

Sir, very recently, in reply to my supplementary question the Minister of State for Finance or some other Minister, I do not remember, was telling that there are guidelines for States to take loan assistance from other countries and the Government of India are strictly implementing them. The guidelines may be there, but, as far as my knowledge goes, they are not adhered to. If the borrowings exceed like this, what will happen ultimately? So, I would like to make a positive suggestion to the Finance Minister that he should kindly think about unearthing black money that is in circulation in this country. A number of estimates and surveys have been conducted and they are giving staggering figures of black money in this country. How to get this black money into circulation is the problem of the Finance Minister and the Government of India. The Government should find a way out to get this money into circulation and if this is done, we can put this money to proper use, for developmental works and for the betterment of the country. Otherwise, the people with black money are running a parallel economy in this country. So, the Finance Minister should kindly ponder over it.

Sir, I want to highlight one more aspect here. When the B.J.P. came to power with the help of 18 or 19 parties put together, I thought they are big party will provide a stable Government. I fail to understand whether there is any stability, not only for me who is sitting in the Opposition, but also for the Members sitting on the Treasury Benches. There is no stable Government and in the absence of a stable Government in Delhi for such a big country with a population of 100 crores, how do we expect inflow of foreign investment of major sectors?

Sir, for instance, take the power sector. We are facing a lot of power shortage. Many States are now faced with power shortage and that is resulting in lack of industrialisation and lack of providing employment for the youngsters. We have enough of water, river water, in this country. I am indulging in a loud thinking and earlier also there were some arguments to this effect that river has to be treated as a national asset and the Government of India can think of constructing not only irrigation projects, but hydel projects also. For example, in Himachal Pradesh we have got enough water; water is flowing down there and, so, there is scope for generation of hydel power. Himachal Pradesh is a small State. It is incapable of making enough investment to generate additional power.

As a matter of fact, they do not even need it. They are self-sufficient. They are having surplus power. But the Centre can think of making investment in this sector for generating power where there is a possibility and such powers can be distributed amongst the other States which are faced with shortages. This is only a loud thinking. Kindly think about it.

Sir, the Finance Minister mentioned in his speech that the tax base has been widened. I do not think it is a healthy affair at all. Just widening of the tax base cannot be treated as a very healthy step.

Lastly, I would like to submit that I expected a lot from this Government. But I am sorry to say that they are taking us back to stone-age. We have heard the reply of the Minister for Railways. In this reply, he mentioned that he will provide mud pots for tea, milk and curd. Is it an innovation? Is it a step to take this country forward? I am afraid this Government will take us back to stone-age. So, I oppose the Finance Bill.

17.52 hrs.

MOTION RE: CONTEMPT OF THE HOUSE BY  
A PERSON FROM THE DISTINGUISHED  
VISITORS' GALLERY

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: As the House is aware, at about 14.45 hours today, a visitor calling herself Lovely Ananda, wife of Shri Anand Mohan, shouted slogans and threw some pamphlets from the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery. The Security Officers took her into custody immediately and interrogated her. The visitor has made a statement but has not expressed regrets for her action.

I bring it to the notice of the House for such action as the House may deem fit.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS  
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL  
KHURANA): I beg to move:

"That this House resolves that the person calling herself Lovely Anand, wife of Shri Anand Mohan who shouted slogans and also threw some pamphlets from the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery, at about 14.45 hours today, and whom the Security Officers took into custody immediately, has committed a grave offence and is guilty of the contempt of the House.

That this House further resolves that considering the fact that she is a former Member of Parliament she be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House today."

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: You can let her off with a stern warning. Security arrangements in the gallery should be made more tight.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: That is the distinguished Visitors Gallery. Ex-M.Ps and ex-Chief Ministers sit there. It is not possible to tighten the security there. They are ex-M.Ps.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: You can let off her after six p.m.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: All right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House resolves that the person calling herself Lovely Anand, wife of Shri Anand Mohan, who shouted slogans and also threw some pamphlets from the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery, at about 14.45 hours today, and whom the Security Officers took into custody immediately, has committed a grave offence and is guilty of the contempt of the House.

That this House further resolves that considering the fact that she is a former Member of Parliament, she be let off on the rising of the House today."

*The motion was adopted.*

## FINANCE (NO. 2) BILL, 1998-CONTD.

18.00 hrs.

*[Translation]*

PROF. PREM SINGH CHAMDUMAJRA (Patiala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill presented in the House by the Finance Minister. I think that the Hon'ble Finance Minister has presented some proposals in the Budget which were not there during the last fifty years. This should be appreciated. This is for the first time in the last 50 years that 58 percent of the expenditure is to be earmarked for agriculture. No special attention was paid to agriculture as a result of which farmers started committing suicides for the first time, the hon. Minister has paid attention to it. Therefore I praise him.

He is the first Finance Minister who withdrew hundred per cent increase in the prices of fertilizers. Though prices used to be increased earlier also and prices were rolled back also but it never happened that hundred per cent increase was rolled back. I thank him for this.

It is good that funds have been earmarked for rural employment and social amenities in rural areas. Before this no one cared for villagers. Drinking water is not available in village. Schools, hospitals are not there in rural areas. There is wide spread unemployment. This is good that he has kept some fund especially for the villages. Same provision is there for people living in slum clusters for construction of houses. After fifty years they will feel for the first time that they are living in independent India. But I think that whatever has been done is not sufficient. There is lot to be done in order to improve things. I feel that the Finance Minister has inherited an economic policy which is rotten. During the last fifty years many diseases have afflicted this country, such as poverty, unemployment, illiteracy. Therefore to eradicate these diseases, a lot has to be done in this regard. Even though everything is there in this country yet the country is poor. Earlier the country was very prosperous and it was called 'Golden Sparrow' but today 40 percent of the people live below poverty line. They do not have food to eat, houses to live and clothes to wear. Poor people became poorer and rich became richer. Reason for this was that those who were in power cared for themselves only and not the poor. The reason, I think, was that our planning was unplanned and no one checked the unproductive expenditure.

One instance of unplanned things relates to Himachal Pradesh. Himachal Pradesh is in our neighbourhood. Hydrel Projects could have been set up there and power generated therefrom. But funds were not allocated for setting up Hydrel Projects in Himachal Pradesh. Instead thermal Plants were set up. Coal used to come from Bihar and West Bengal. Due to non availability of bogies supply of coal did not reach thermal power plants which resulted in their closure. This in turn resulted in power cuts. Such was the unplanned economy and this was how unproductive expenditure was incurred.

F.C.I. has procured about 12 million tonnes of foodgrains this year and there is surplus of about 5-6 million tonnes of foodgrains of last year. As the figures show the P.D.S. needed seven million tonnes and five million tonnes are needed for buffer stock. Yet wheat was imported and for this a higher price was paid. This was not necessary. Our Godowns are still full. In Punjab all Godowns are full of wheat and paddy and these foodgrains are being damaged. The damaged rice and wheat are being sold in auction at low prices. Such types of unproductive and unplanned expenditure continued to be incurred. Therefore even though the country was rich in resources, it became poor.

Similarly, there was no control over funds provided under Indira Awas Yojana and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. There was no one to monitor the funds. Similarly the subsidy was shown in the name of farmers but its benefit went to the industrialists. Likewise some traders got the benefit of the subsidy given in the name of consumers. Therefore, subsidy should be given directly. Intended beneficiary could not get the benefit of subsidy. Therefore, I want to say that due to unplanned system, the country became poor and was afflicted with dangerous diseases like poverty, unemployment, and illiteracy.

I want to give some suggestions to improve the rotten economy. I think the most important thing to improve the economy of this country is to review Centre-State relations. Until Centre-State relations are reviewed and the real federal structure which our constitution makers envisaged is not implemented this country cannot move forward. I want to say with regret that our party Shiromani Akali Dal gave one document about Anand Pur..Resolution to the people of this country 27 years back. In this document, it was said that if we have to take our country and economy forward then we have to review the Centre-State relations, but Centre-State relations were not reviewed and we were defamed. It resulted in a lot of

things but that is a different story, I do not want to go into that. But I want to say that we took a principled stand and fought for that. Then an accord was signed which is called Rajiv-Longowal Accord. In that Sarkaria Commission...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam). Everyday we cannot go on sitting up to 8 o'clock. Or 10 o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY): BAC has decided to conduct the House every day till 8.00 p.m. up to 17th.

SHRI K. BAPIRAJU (Narsapur): You have already said that the House will sit up to 6.00 p.m. today. You cannot change decision every minute. You are making

us sit late everyday. This is not proper. BAC cannot make us sit late everyday up to 8.00 p.m. this is something unprecedented...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the House is not ready to accept the decision of the BAC, I will adjourn the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI R.S. GAVAI (Amravati): We are not ready to accept the decision of the BAC.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow the 16th July, 1998 at 11.00 a.m.

10.05 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, July 16, 1998/Asadha 25, 1920 (Saka).*

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**CORRIGENDA TO LOK SABHA DEBATES**  
(English Version)

Wednesday, July 15, 1998/Asadha 24, 1920 (Saka)

Col. line	For	Read
109	Unstirred	Unstirred
37/14	SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH	SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH
38/9	DR. SANJAY SINGH	DR. SANJAY SINH
43/last	1996-77	1976-77
54/7 (from below)	SHRI D. S. ABIRE	SHRI D. S. AHIRE
63 & 64/3 (from below)	8 340	8 470
85 & 86/6 (from below)	0 000	0 030
97 & 98/2 (from below)	72 75 69	7275 69
101/14	(a) and (d)	(a) to (d)
111/10	(Jhanabad)	(Jahanabad)
136/15	SHRI RAMESH THAKUR	SHRI RAMSHETHY THAKUR
158/2	SHRI MADHAV RAO PTAIL	SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL
160/14	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL)	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL)
165/12	(c) and (e)	(c) to (e)
186/10 (from below)	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUDHARA RAJE)	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE)
223/2	SHRIMATI JASYANTI PATNAIK	SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK
223/19	DR. T. SUBBARMAI REDDY	DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY
225/21	SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATIL	SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL
271/3	4119	4194
265 & 266/14	13836 B4	13835 B4
285/2	SHRI NIPEN GOSWAMI	SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI
294/24	AFTER "Slaughter", ADD THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL.) (a) The amount spent by the Central Government on schemes for improving/promoting cows during the last three years is given in the attached statement  (b) The Government has no proposal to ban cow slaughter	
299/10	93	83
308/4	AFTER "FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)" ADD "(SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANANI)"	
310/6 (from below)	SHRI PRITHAVIRAJ D. CHAVAN	SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN
321/3	SHRI MAHESH MANODIA	SHRI MAHESH KANODIA
335/11 (from below)	(b) and (d)	(b) to (d)
337/15, 16	(a) to (b)	(a) and (b)
348/10	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCIAL (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANANI)	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANANI)
414/22	(Deona)	(Deona)
473/9	DELETE "(SHRI V. SATHIMOORTHY)"	