

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Third Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. V contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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SUBJECT

COLUMNS

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, March 9, 2000/Phalguna 19, 1921 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (SAMBHAL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you fix the date for discussion. This issue should be debated in the House. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Q. No.201: Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (RATNAGIRI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Question Hour should be conducted. They should raise the matter in Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)

The Question Hour is being continuously suspended. The Members should be given opportunity to raise the problems facing the country in the House. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I am appealing to you to please take your seats. I will allow you to raise your point after 'Question Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, after hearing the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, I will allow you after 'Question Hour'. Now please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM) : Sir, we want 'Question Hour' today. ...(Interruptions)

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

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand the situation. For the last 14 days we have not been able to transact any business.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You may also sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am telling you, Ramdas Athawale, to sit down. You can raise any matter after the Question Hour.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, we are losing everyday. It is the property of the House. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please tell me that if you do not want 'Question Hour', I will adjourn the House.

...(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Development of Temples as Tourist Spots

*201. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether on the basis of the recommendations of a committee, the Government has identified certain temples/pilgrim centres for development of infrastructural facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken on those recommendations and funds allocated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) On the recommendations of a Committee constituted in the year 1992 by the Ministry of Tourism, certain pilgrim centres were identified for development of tourist infrastructural facilities.

(b) A list of identified pilgrim centres is given in enclosed statement.

(c) Ministry of Tourism sanctioned projects amounting to Rs. 2407.94 lakhs from 1992 onwards for the development of tourist infrastructure at various pilgrim centres in the country including those mentioned in the statement.

Statement

List of Identified Pilgrim Centres

Nineteen Pilgrim Centres in 12 States and 2 Circuits in UP have been identified for development:

Sl. No.	State	Centre
1	2	3
1.	Assam	Kamakhya
2.	Bihar	Bodhgaya and Patna

1	2	3
3.	Gujarat	Dwarka, Palitana and Odwada (Near Vapi)
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Paonta Saheb and Jawalaji
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	Mata Valshno Devi
6.	Kerala	Guruvayur
7.	Karnataka	Gulbarga and Sringeri
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain
9.	Maharashtra	Shirdi, Nanded Jyotibe (in Kolhapur District)
10.	Orissa	Jagannath Puri
11.	Rajasthan	Ajmer Shareef
12.	Tamil Nadu	Rameshwaram
13.	Uttar Pradesh	(i) Badrinath-Kedamath-Gangotri-Yamunotri (ii) Barsana-Nandgaon-Brindavan-Gowardhan

[English]

Report on Pak Intrusion in Kargil

*202. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of gaps and weakness in India's defence and security system, pointed out by the Subrahmanyam Committee, which led to the large scale Pakistani intrusions in Kargil, last year;

(b) the follow-up action taken to fill up the gap;

(c) whether the Committee has fixed any responsibility for the intelligence failure; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The report of the Kargil Review Committee (Subrahmanyam Committee) has been tabled in the Lok Sabha on 24th February, 2000 along with an Exe-cutive Summary thereof and a Report on action initiated by the Government. A request has also been made to the Hon'ble Speaker to consider the report in the House.

2. This committee, which had been setup to review the events leading up to the Pakistani aggression in

Kargil and to recommend such measures as are considered necessary to safeguard national security against such armed intrusions has given its Findings on Developments leading to the Pakistani aggression, Intelligence, Counter Insurgency operations, Technological dimension and other related matters.

3. The report seeks to bring out certain deficiencies in the security management system in the context of the assessment made by the Committee of the Kargil experience. Most of the gaps/deficiencies in India's defence and security system which have been pointed out by the committee have been identified in the context of its recommendations for preventing future Kargil – like intrusions. The Committee has focussed primarily on systematic deficiencies and its recommendations are, broadly, generic in nature. The Committee has conceded that even if some critical missing inputs had been available, it might not necessarily have led to the forecasting of the type of intrusion that took place. In Kargil, Pakistan achieved surprise by moving into unheld gaps without generating any significant, observable activity during the preceding months of preparation on its own side of the LoC. The Committee has also pointed out that there was perhaps an unarticulated assumption in the military mind that a rational commander would not risk his troops at such avalanche-prone altitudes during winter.

4. While specifically addressing the question - "Could Kargil have been avoided?" – the Committee observed that a Kargil type situation could perhaps have been avoided had the Indian Army followed a policy of Siachinisation to plug the unheld gaps along the 168 km stretch from Kaobalgali to Chorbat La. This would have entailed establishing a series of winter cut-off posts with the communications and other logistic support and specially equipped and trained troops, to hold these positions and undertake winter patrolling despite risk of cold injuries and avalanche casualties which would have had to be accepted. Such a dispersal of forces would have dissipated considerable military strength and effort and would not have been at all cost effective. The Committee has categorised such a posture as 'no more than a temporary expedient'.

5. The following major gaps and weaknesses in India's defence security system have been identified by the Committee :-

- a) Absence of adequate surveillance and intelligence capability including half-meter resolution satellite imagery capability, appropriate Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and better human intelligence. The available satellite imageries are of a poor resolution and UAVs cannot operate satisfactorily at the Kargil heights.
- b) Cross-border human intelligence efforts of all agencies come to a total standstill during winter months.

- c) India's human intelligence, communication intelligence and imagery intelligence in the FCNA region was inadequate.
- d) Winter Air Surveillance Operation flights in Kargil sector were inadequate and ineffective. More sophisticated sensors and better equipment are required.
- e) There is need for greater appreciation of the role of intelligence and who needs it most and also more understanding with regard to who must pursue any given lead.
- f) The various intelligence agencies/organisations i.e., Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW), Intelligence Bureau (IB) and Directorate General of Military Intelligence (DGMI) failed to share relevant information with each other. Inter-agency interaction and coordination has been lacking. Arrangements for coordinated assessments were not satisfactory.
- g) The Indian intelligence structure is flawed since there is little back up or redundancy to rectify failures and short-coming in the intelligence collection and reporting that goes to build up the external threat perception by the one agency namely, R&AW, which has a virtual monopoly in this regard.
- h) The present structure and processes in intelligence gathering and reporting lead to an overload of background and unconfirmed information and inadequately assessed intelligence. There is no institutionalised process for periodic interaction at levels below the JIC.
- i) The army never shared its intelligence with the other agencies or with the JIC. There was no system of army authorities at different levels from DGMI downwards providing feedback to the agencies.
- j) Army's prolonged development in a counter-insurgency role has had an adverse effect on its training programme, fitness and exclusive attention to its primary role of defending the country against external aggression.
- k) The paramilitary and central police forces are not raised, trained and equipped to deal with trans-border terrorism by well trained mercenaries with latest

equipment who continuously infiltrate across the border at LoC.

6. The recommendations made by the Committee have been considered. Those in the category of acquisition of equipment for surveillance and communication interception and encryption and decryption have been accepted, in principle, for implementation. Recommendations that mainly deal with improvement in the areas of intelligence, manpower management and structure and interface between the Ministry of Defence and the Services Hqrs. at the apex level, are by way of general suggestions, which need to be developed into specific actionable policies and programmes. Some recommendations like reduction in the colour service of the Armed forces personnel and their subsequent induction into the Para Military Forces and then on to regular Police Forces, have wide implications and require consultations among various ministries and also with the State Governments. These recommendations along with a thorough review of the national security system in its entirety will be considered by an appropriate body to be appointed by the Government.

7. The Committee's endeavour has been to see what lessons "the country and the guardians of its security" can learn from the Kargil experience. It has not attempted to fix responsibility on particular individuals.

8. While the report clearly concludes that the Kargil conflict resulted in a military and diplomatic victory for the nation, the Government has set into motion steps that will help in plugging the existing loopholes and weaknesses in our security system.

Demolition of Unauthorised Constructions

*203. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI RAMSHAKAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have directed the State Governments to demolish unauthorised constructions including jhuggi clusters, around all the major airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of the State Governments thereto; and

(d) the manner in which the Government propose to rehabilitate the people living in these unauthorised constructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (d) Removal of encroachments at airports is a continuing process. With regard to major airports, the matter has been taken up with the concerned State Governments of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Delhi by the Ministry/ Airports Authority of India (AAI). The State Governments have already initiated necessary action for having the unauthorised encroachment

removed from the AAI's land and their rehabilitation in consultation with AAI.

Hampi in Heritage List

*204. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether UNESCO has decided to remove Hampi from the Heritage list;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the site?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The World Heritage site of Hampi has been declared as an endangered site by the UNESCO in view of certain construction activities at the site.

(c) The Government of Karnataka has set up a high level Task Force to take long-term corrective measures as per Govt. of India's initiative.

Agreement with HUDCO for Development of Railway Land

*205. SHRI G.S. BASAVRAJ:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Housing and Urban Development Corporation to develop railway land in four Metros;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total land proposed to be developed by HUDCO;

(d) whether commercial utilisation of railway land and air space has been identified as a valuable non tariff option available to the Railways for raising the additional resources needed; and

(e) if so, the extent to which Railway have achieved this after signing the MOU?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Railways and Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in

January 2000 for commercial development over railway land and air-space. As per the MOU, HUDCO will act as the co-promoter for certain identified projects. The contribution from the Railways in these projects will essentially be in the form of its land/property and air space above it. In these schemes, Rail India Technical & Economic Services (RITES) and IRCON International, Public Sector Undertakings under this Ministry will represent the Rail-ways.

Detailed financial and feasibility cum-demand assessment studies shall, necessarily, precede the development at each of the identified sites and an agreement covering the detailed modalities of execution will be entered into for each identified project.

To begin with, it is proposed to develop certain identified sites of Railway land and certain major railway stations in collaboration with HUDCO.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Property development schemes normally have a long gestation period due to detailed planning, market studies and approvals needed from several agencies before actual implementation. It would, therefore, take sometime before inflow of funds starts.

Air India Caribjet Wet-Lease Deal

*206 SHRI P.K. BANSAL:

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CVC and CBI have investigated into alleged irregularities committed in the cancellation of an Air India-Caribjet Wet-Lease Deal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had investigated into the allegations of deliberately overlooking better offer and changing of date in one of the notes to cover up the haste in signing the agreement in relation to 1994 lease agreement on source information. CBI also, again on source information, investigated into the allegations of undue favour shown to M/s Caribjet Incorporated in finalising lease agreement in 1995. After the verification, it was intimated by CBI that there was no ground for registration of a regular case.

2. Recently, in the wake of the arbitration tribunal awarding US \$ 23.6 million (Rs. 103 crores approximately) against Air India for having terminated the lease agreement entered into between Air India and M/s Caribjet Incorporated, Ministry of Civil Aviation has asked CBI to investigate into

the whole gamut of allegations of irregularities in the wet lease agreement 1995 including termination and arbitration proceedings in the case of 1995 agreement. Ministry of Civil Aviation has also made a reference to CBI to enquire into some alleged irregularities in the 1994 wet lease deal entered into by Air India with Caribjet Incorporated.

[Translation]

Losses Incurred by FCI

*207 DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India suffered a loss of amount Rs.224 crore as a result of procurement of paddy from the Punjab region during the year 1994-95 because of the nexus between the rice mill owners and Senior Regional Manager;

(b) if so, the details of the cases filed in various courts in this regard;

(c) the additional amount of loss suffered by the F.C.I. on account of stamp duty, travelling allowance and advocates fee;

(d) whether any punitive action has been taken by the Government against the guilty officers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the punitive action, the Government propose to take against the officers responsible for the loss suffered by the F.C.I.?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) Food Corporation of India has begun the proceedings for a claim amounting to Rs. 224 crores for the loss of paddy stored with rice millers during the year 1994-95. So far as nexus between rice millers and the then Senior Regional Manager is concerned, this has yet to be established after due enquiry for which the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) have initiated a preliminary enquiry.

(b) In all, there are 374 rice millers involved in the mis-appropriation of paddy which caused this loss. The arbitration proceedings are in progress against two of the rice millers. In the remaining 372 cases, the proceedings had been filed in the Delhi High Court, which have now delivered judgement.

(c) The Government does not consider the amounts spent on pursuing the legal cases against the rice mills which misappropriated the paddy as a loss.

(d) to (f) The Government will not spare the officers/officials responsible for the above mentioned loss suffered

on account of misappropriation of paddy. Already one Category I officer has been dismissed from service and 13 Category II and III officers/officials have been awarded major/minor penalties on their involvement having been established. More cases are under various stages of enquiry/action.

Employment Opportunities in Tourism Sector

*208 SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the role of the Union Government with regard to the development of tourism in the country in addition to grant of funds to States;

(b) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme to create employment opportunities in the Tourism sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to give tourism full status of Industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Government acts as a facilitator and coordinator in the development of tourism in addition to supplementing the efforts of the State/UT Governments by grant of financial assistance for strengthening tourist infrastructure and by undertaking intensive publicity and use of information technology.

(b) and (c) Tourism Industry generates large scale employment opportunities, both direct and indirect, through multiplier effect by involving almost all the service sectors. Per million rupee investment in the tourism industry, at 1985-86 prices, generated 47.5 jobs, which is higher than other industries. Employment, both direct and indirect, generated by Tourism Industry during 1997-98 is estimated at 32.57 million persons accounting for about 2.4 per cent of the total labour force of the country. All the schemes of Government like creating infrastructure, publicity, marketing and human resource development directly or indirectly constitute towards employment creation.

(d) and (e) On the request of Ministry of Tourism most of the State/UT Administrations have declared Tourism as an Industry.

[English]

Standard of Services of Air India and Indian Airlines

*209. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a general perception that the standard of Air India and Indian Airlines is not upto the mark;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to improve the standard of services of Air India and Indian Airlines;

(c) the number of direct international flights being operated by the Air India and Indian Airlines from Kerala at present;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to start more direct international flights from airport in Kerala; and

(e) if so, the details thereof airport-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) There is scope for improvement. Both the airlines constantly endeavour to bring about improvements in the services rendered to the passengers both on the ground and in the air. Some of the steps being taken are :

Indian Airlines

- (i) Reliability of service.
- (ii) Product upgrades.
- (iii) Improvement in Passenger Amenities.

Air India

- (i) Separate Check-in counters for all class passengers.
- (ii) Facility of Tele check-in for First class passengers.
- (iii) Facility of pre-selecting a seat.
- (iv) Facility of through check-in on code-share flights.
- (v) Facility of worldwide baggage tracing service.
- (vi) Compensation of lost/damaged baggage in line with the leading airlines of the world.
- (vii) Computerised check-in at most Indian Airports.

In addition to above, both the airlines have launched a joint frequent flyer programme called the "Flying Returns" which enables the members to accrue/redeem the mileage points for their travel on both the airlines.

(c) At present, Air India and Indian Airlines are operating 17 and 32 international flights respectively from

Kerala. In addition to above, both the airlines are also operating 12 Joint Venture flights from Kerala.

(d) and (e) Due to capacity constraints, at present, Air India is not in a position to mount any additional international flights from Kerala. However, Indian Airlines has plans to operate the following international flights to/from the airports in Kerala :

Hyderabad-Cochin-Doha.

Trivandrum-Sharjah.

Rebate on Transport of Coal

*210. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of rebate granted by Railways for transportation of imported coal during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 so far;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to withdraw the rebate;

(c) if so, the date from which the rebate is likely to be withdrawn;

(d) whether the Government have made any assessment of impact on domestic market; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) Rebate of Rs. 34.30 Lakh and Rs. 129.55 Lakh on Southern Railway and Rs. 92 Lakh and Rs. 341 Lakh on Western Railways was granted on Imported Coal traffic during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 respectively.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways have already issued instruction to withdraw this concession w.e.f 1.4.2000.

(d) and (e) Strategy was directed towards attracting additional traffic to the rail mode.

[Translation]

Kargil Fund

*211. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of contributions made by different State Governments and Voluntary organisations towards Kargil fund;

(b) whether the Government have received complaints that certain State Governments have spent the funds collected for the above purpose in other heads; and

(c) if so, the names of the State Governments which have diverted the funds and the policy of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Government have no information about funds collected by State Governments and other agencies in the wake of the Kargil conflict.

Government have not received any complaint alleging that the funds collected by State Governments and other agencies for the benefit of casualties in Kargil operations have been used for other purposes. However, a Member of Rajya Sabha had mentioned on 7th December, 1999, by way of Special Mention, that a sum of Rs. 11 crores was collected in the Kargil Mukhyamantri Kosh in Madhya Pradesh, but only a sum of Rs. 1 crore was spent on the welfare of soldiers. The State Government has been requested to send a report in the matter.

Use of I.A.F. Planes by Ministers

*212. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of outstanding dues against former/present Prime Ministers, other Ministers as well as Political Parties as on date on account of using Defence aircraft;

(b) the date since when these dues are outstanding against each of them;

(c) the amount of recoveries made, if any, from any of the Ministers so far during the last three years;

(d) the status of the recent P.I.L. and subsequent High Courts order in the matter of recovery of such dues; and

(e) the follow-up action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) A statement indicating details of aircraft dues against former/present Prime Minister(s), Central Ministries/Departments and Political Parties for use of IAF aircraft together with recoveries effected during the last three years is laid on the Table of the House.

The details of outstanding amounts against Ministries/Departments are inclusive of the air effort provided to Ministers, as Air Hqrs. are not mentioning separate accounts in the name of individual Ministers.

(d) and (e) As per Court's directions, the matter is being pursued with the concerned Political Parties. Further action as per law will be taken, if required, for recovery of the dues.

Statement

S No.	Agency	Amount Outstanding (Rs.)	Period to which Amount Relates	Recoveries Made (Rs.)		
				1996-97**	1997-98***	1998-99****
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Former/Present PM(s) and Political Parties						
1.	Shri Chandra Shekhar	5,91,31,476	1991-92	--	--	--
2.	Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao	5,52,40,647	1995-96 and 1996-97	13,30,64,150	--	--
3.	Shri H.D. Deve Gowda	54,61,497*	1996-97 and 1999-2000	--	--	--
4.	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	Nil				4,55,941
5.	All India Congress Committee	44,73,053	1980-81; 86-87; 90-91 & 95-96	--	--	--
Central Ministries/Departments						
6.	Agriculture	Nil	--	89,94,736	1,15,66,250	31,68,167
7.	Chemical & Fertilizers	Nil	--	--	1,10,000	--
8.	Civil Aviation	20,158	1997-98	12,55,833	--	86,08,500
9.	Communication	44,21,953	1978-79 to 1999-2000	33,204	98,65,306	2,44,902
10.	Culture, Youth Affairs & Sports	2,03,166	1994-95	--	--	--

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Environment & Forests	11,21,192	1995-96 & 1997-98	--	1,73,333	--
12.	External Affairs	12,58,79,077	1973-74 to 1999-2000	8,59,51,174	20,96,34,820	9,47,85,221
13.	Finance	42,80,593	1982-83 to 1999-2000	71,28,334	1,45,98,000	--
14.	Food	21,657	1968-69 to 1986-87	--	--	--
15.	Health & Family Welfare	62,42,542	1994-95	--	--	--
16.	Home Affairs	5,80,65,614	1999-2000	18,60,26,288	71,60,000	51,72,750
17.	Human Resources Development	8,565	1983-84	--	--	--
18.	Industries	Nil	--	2,87,000	--	--
19.	Information & Broadcasting	37,15,874	1974-75 to 1999-2000	55,258	17,92,910,53,91,000	
20.	Labour	Nil	--	35,000	2,50,000	--
21.	Lok Sabha Sectt.	Nil	--	5,62,502	--	--
22.	Parliamentary Affairs	Nil	--	7,12,499	--	13,05,000
23.	Petroleum	Nil	--	--	3,00,00,000	58,15,000
24.	Planning Commission	Nil	--	--	48,98,659	--
25.	Power	2,82,333	1999-2000	36,336	--	6,75,833
26.	Railways	1,02,201	1962-63 to 1981-82	63,07,83	5,04,77,084	1,54,44,538
27.	Rural Development	Nil	--	6,41,667	--	--
28.	Science & Technology	7,98,232	1995-96 & 1998-99	--	--	--
29.	Steel & Mines	Nil	--	--	33,71,250	--
30.	Surface Transport	1,09,327	1968-69 & 1974-75	--	55,26,626	--
31.	Tourism	73,922	1994-95	--	--	34,33,333
32.	Tribal Affairs	19,25,000	1999-2000	--	--	--
33.	Urban Employment	Nil	--	--	7,87,000	--
34.	Water Resources	4,60,336	1994-95	--	6,80,000	92,083
35.	Welfare	Nil	--	19,26,667	--	4,67,500

* Inclusive of Rs. 28,13,333/- in respect of journey undertaken by Shri C.M. Ibrahim, as authorised by the Prime Minister,

** Rs. 1,00,00,000/- realised in 1996-97 from All India Congress Committee on account of airlift facility provided to Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi;

*** Rs. 1,69,021/- realised in 1997-98 from the former Prime Minister Shri I.K. Gujral;

**** Rs. 3,95,984/- realised in 1998-99 from the former Prime Minister Shri I.K. Gujral.

*[English]***Formulation of Freight Policy**

*213. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have constituted any task force to formulate freight policy;
- (b) if so, whether the said task has submitted its report;
- (c) if so, the recommendations of the said task force;
- (d) the details of the recommendations which have been accepted by the Government; and
- (e) the extent to which these are effective in achieving the goal?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Encroachment in Protected Monuments

*214. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Protected monuments in grip of encroachers" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated December 21, 1999;
- (b) if so, whether a large number of monuments in the country are in the grip of encroachers and the concerned local bodies are not at all helping ASI to remove such encroachments;
- (c) if so, the details of such monuments in the grip of encroachers; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to get those monuments free from encroachers?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Of the 3602 monuments and sites protected

and sites protected by the ASI, encroachments have been reported in 187 cases. Invariably the assistance of the State Government and the local authorities is sought to help remove the encroachments. Wherever applicable action under the public premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 has also been invoked.

Revamping of A.I. and I.A.

*215 SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to revamp Air India and Indian Airlines;
- (b) whether the Government had received any request from the Ministry of Tourism to encourage more and more air services from India to foreign countries and vice-versa;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the flights of Air India/Indian Airlines and the number of passengers travelled by Air India and Indian Airlines, the income generated through it in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) Air India and Indian Airlines have taken following steps to revamp their financial performances :-

AIR INDIA

- (i) Marketing efforts have been stepped up to generate additional revenue;
- (ii) Network rationalization and consolidation with emphasis placed on route profitability;
- (iii) Reduction in expenditure on outside repairs of aircraft by undertaking more in-house repairs;
- (iv) Several posts of India based officers abroad have been abolished;
- (v) Rolling back of retirement age from 60 to 58 years.

INDIAN AIRLINES

- (i) increased utilisation of aircraft;
- (ii) Deployment of capacity on the criteria of economic and traffic demand;
- (iii) Marketing initiatives;
- (iv) Improvements in customer services
- (v) Rolling back of retirement age from 60 to 58 years.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tourism have requested for increase of international operations to and from India.

(d) Details of the international flights of passengers carried and the revenue earned by Air India and Indian Airlines during the last three years are as under :-

	Year	No. of Flights	No. of Pax*	Revenue (in crores)
Air India	96-97	6320	2910558	2554.00
	97-98	6188	2933117	2745.06
	98-99	6136	3041201	2907.40
Indian Airlines	96-97	9262	960000	620.27
	97-98	10816	1110000	805.61
	98-99	11821	1160000	880.00

[Translation]

Economic Viability of B.O.T.

*216. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Railways have launched Konkan Railway Corporation (K.R.C.) for the first time under B.O.T. Scheme;

(b) If so, the details of economic viability of this scheme after the completion of one year by Konkan Railway Corporation;

(c) whether as per the original scheme, 40 per cent of the freight of Konkan Railway was to be carried by the Konkan Railway route instead of grand trunk route;

(d) If so, the steps taken so far in this regard;

(e) whether freight transport capacity of the K.R.C. is under-utilised;

(f) whether the Konkan Railway Corporation is incurring heavy loss due to under utilisation of freight transport capacity;

(g) If so, the details thereof; and the reasons therefor; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government for the optimum utilisation of its capacity?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The calculated Rate of Return based on traffic projection in the survey report was 15.58%. However, in the first year of operation i.e. 1997-98, the KRCL incurred a loss of Rs. 153.64 crs.

(c) The RITES report on the traffic potential of the line indicated that 40% of the freight traffic expected to move on Konkan Railway during the first couple of years of operation was to be the diverted traffic from the Indian Railways.

(d) The actual traffic which can be diverted depends on the total offering of traffic on the North South route, the capacity of the alternative Indian Railway section and the destination and originating station etc. Owing to lesser

offering to traffic so far, due to development of new production centers, diversion of the projected level of traffic to Konkan Railway has not materialised.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Yes, Sir. However, while Konkan Railway Corporation is able to meet its operating expenditure from earnings, due to high financing cost on market borrowings, there is an overall loss.

(g) The total loss to the Konkan Railway in the first year of operation has already been indicated in reply to para (b) above. In 1998-99 the total loss was Rs. 340.3 crs.

(h) New concepts in services like Ro-Ro (Roll on, Roll off) for moving loaded trucks on rail and offering station to station rates, wherever possible, to attract traffic have been taken. Aggressive marketing strategy has been launched by contacting local industries on the Konkan Railway route for attracting more traffic on the system.

Unprofitable Rail Routes

*217. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways are operating several trains on loss making routes;

(b) if so, the details of such routes along with the total amount of loss suffered by railway on this account during 1998-99;

(c) whether the Government have received some plans from the experts to make these routes profitable;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard;

(e) whether the Government propose to privatise some railway operations on these routes under contract system to check the losses being suffered on these routes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Details are given in the enclosed statement.
 (c) No, Sir.
 (d) Does not arise.
 (e) No, Sir.
 (f) Does not arise.

Statement

(b) *Names of Unprofitable Railway Lines and the Losses during 1998-99 in Operation of Trains on these Lines.*

Loss in thousands
of Rupees

Central Railway

1	Neral-Matheran (NG-21 Kms.)	54826
2	Karjat-Khopli (BG-15 Kms.)	11609
3	Gwalior-Bhind (NG-84 Kms.)	35120
4	Gwalior-Sheopur-Kalan (NG-200 Kms.)	104969
5	Dholpur-Tantpur-Sirmutra (NG-89 Kms.)	32447
6	Ait-Konch (BG-14 Kms.)	16817
7	Kurduwadi-Miraj-Latur (NG-327 Kms.)	95808
8	Pachora-Jamner (NG-56 Kms.)	13276
9	Majri-Rajpur (BG-21 Kms.)	5206
10	Guna-Maksi (BG-193 Kms.)	43191
11	Daund-Baramati (BG-44 Kms.)	12900
12	Panvel-Uran (BG-27 Kms.)	18935
	Total	445104

Eastern Railway

13	Bhimgarh-Palasthali (BG-27 Kms.)	3204
14	Barasat-Hasnabad (BG-53 Kms.)	28339
15	Santipur-Nabadwipghat (NG-27.5 Kms.)	9653
16	Bardhaman-Katwa (NG-53 Kms.)	27855
17	Bhagalpur-Mandarhill (BG-50 Kms.)	10648
18	Baruipur-Lakshmikanthpur (BG-37 Km)	21534
19	Jamalpur-Monghyr (BG-10 Kms.)	5587

20	Sonarpur-Canning (BG-29 Kms.)	14659
21	Dildamagar-Tarighat (BG-19 Kms.)	2991
22	Kalyani-Kalyani Simanta (BG-4 Kms.)	9063
23	Tinpahar-Rajmahal (BG-12 Kms.)	2332
24	Lakshmikanthpur-Kulpi (BG-10 Kms.)	58183
	Total	194048

Northern Railway

25	Rohtak-Gohana (BG-32 Kms.)	12157
26	Gohana-Panipat (BG-39 Kms.)	12217
27	Rohtak-Bhiwani (BG-49 Kms.)	38217
28	Shamli-Saharanpur (BG-64 Kms.)	44173
29	Delhi-Shahadara-Shamli (BG-87 Kms.)	17393
30	Tugalakabad-Shakurbasti (BG-26.60 Kms.)	29953
31	Kalka-Shimla (NG-97 Kms.)	116132
32	Lalgarh-Srikolayat Jee (BG-46 Kms.)	15500
33	Garhi-Harsaru-Farukhnagar (MG-11 Kms.)	2816
34	Sardar Shahar-Ratangarh (MG-43 Kms.)	9724
35	Dalmau-Daryapur (BG-25 Kms.)	4788
36	Amritsar-Attari (BG- 25 Kms.)	11085
37	Phagwara-Nawan Shahar Doaba (BG-36 Kms.)	31117
38	Batala-Quadian (BG-19 Kms.)	14903
39	Verka-Derababa Nanak (BG-46 Kms.)	73285
40	Amritsar-Khemkaran (BG-77 Kms.)	8082
41	Raj Ka Bagh-Pokhran (BG-192 Kms.)	21996
42	Merta Rd-Merta City (BG-14.5 Kms.)	3278
43	Raniwara-Bhildi (MG-71 Kms.)	51669
44	Samdari-Munabao (MG-248 Kms.)	83242
	Total	601727

North Eastern Railway

45	Banmankhi-Bihariganj (MG-27 Kms.)	19315
46	Sakri-Jayanagar (MG- 70 Kms.)	60078
47	Narkatiaganj-Bhikhnatori (MG-47 Kms.)	15414
48	Salempur-Barhaj Bazar (BG-22 Kms.)	7433

49	Indara-Dohrighat (MG-40 Kms.)	14229	81	Madurai-Bodinayakanur (MG-90 Kms.)	13909
50	Mankapur-Katra (BG-30 Kms.)	19367	82	Nanjangud-Chamraj Nagar (MG-35 Kms.)	19409
51	Anandnagar-Nautanwa (MG-49 Kms.)	18131	83	Tirunelveli-Triuchandur (MG-62 Kms.)	17910
52	Jhanjharpur-Laukaha Bazar (MG-43 Kms.)	29438	84	Sagarajambaguru-Talaguppa (MG-16 Kms.)	8877
53	Mathura-Vrindaban (MG-13 Kms.)	5196	85	Trichur-Guruvayur (BG-24 Kms.)	5657
54	Mandhana-Brahmavarta (MG-9 Kms.)	2965	86	Chitradurg-Rayadurg (BG-99 Kms.)	19050
55	Kashipur-Ramnagar (BG-27 Kms.)	23367		Total	133309
56	Rampur-New Haldwani (BG-89 Kms.)	67596		South Central Railway	
	Total	282529	87	Bhimavaram-Narasapur (BG-29 Kms.)	8716
	Northeast Frontier Railway		88	Gudivada-Machilipatnam (BG-40 Kms.)	12238
57	New Jalpaiguri-Darjeeling (NG-88 Kms.)	43107	89	Jankampet-Bodhan (MG-20 Kms.)	2396
58	Katihar-Maniharghat (MG-36 Kms.)	31599	90	Mudkhed-Adilabad (MG-162 Kms.)	23412
59	Katihar-Jogabani (MG-108 Kms.)	87253	91	Adilabad-Pimpalkutti (BG-20 Kms.)	650
60	Singabad-Old Malda (BG-24 Kms.)	21967		Total	47412
61	Barsol-Radhikapur (MG-53 Kms.)	987		South Eastern Railway	
62	Alipurduar-Bamanhat (MG-71 Kms.)	45269	92	Khurda Road-Puri (BG-43 Kms.)	52798
63	Tezpur-Rangapara North (MG-27 Kms.)	28815	93	Nawapada-Gunupur (NG-90 Kms.)	20356
64	Fakiragram-Dhubri (MG-65 Kms.)	28726	94	Purulia-Kotshila & Ranchi-Lohardaga (NG-104 Kms.)	125334
65	Karimganj-Mahisashan (MG-10 Kms.)	8632	95	Raipur-Dhamtari (NG-89 Kms.)	65722
66	Baraigram-Dullavcherra (MG-28 Kms.)	7528	96	Satpura-Railways (NG-1007 Kms.)	759390
67	Katakhal-Lalabazar (MG-36 Kms.)	8622	97	Rupsa-Talbandh (NG-89 Kms.)	29106
68	Chaparmukh-Silghat (MG-81 Kms.) & Chaparmukh-Halbargan (BG-27 Kms.)	9142	98	Kanhan-Ramtek (BG-24 Kms.)	17455
69	Simulguri-Naginimara (MG-14 Kms.)	739	99	Bondamunda-Nawgaon-Purnapani (BG-29 Kms.)	252
70	Mariani-Jorhat Town (MG-17 Kms.)	10363	100	Jakhapura-Daitari (BG-33 Kms.)	53926
71	Simulguri-Moranhat (MG-54 Kms.)	2047	101	Hatia-Nawgoan (BG-18 Kms.)	39209
72	Makum-Dangari (MG-30 Kms.)	642	102	Bobli-Salur (BG-18 Kms.)	7379
73	Dharamnagar-Pancharthal-Kumathghat (MG-41 Kms.)	97892	103	Tumsar Road-Tirodi (BG-24 Kms.)	20210
74	Lalabazar-Jamira-Bhairabi (MG-45 Kms.)	49181	104	Tata-Badampahar (BG-99.05 Kms.)	17946
75	Silchar-Jiribam (MG-49 Kms.)	38932	105	Santragachi-Baragachia (BG-24 Kms.)	46473
76	Balipara-Gamai-Bhaalukpong (MG-35 Kms.)	38375	106	Tupkadih-Talgaria (BG-35 Kms.)	71647
	Total	559818		Total	1327203
	Southern Railway			Western Railway	
77	Shoranur-Nilambur (BG-66 Kms.)	4071	107	Billimora-Waghai (NG-63 Kms.)	10092
78	Villupuram-Pondicherry (MG-38 Kms.)	12432	108	Chhuchhapura-Tenkhal (NG-38 Kms.)	821
79	Thiruthuraiipoondi-Kodikkarai (MG-46 Kms.)	3151	109	Choranda-Motikoral (NG-19 Kms.)	1792
80	Mettupalayam-Udhagamandalam (MG-46 Kms.)	28843	110	Samni-Dahej (NG-39 Kms.)	2115
			111	Broach-Jambhar-Kavi (NG-76 Kms.)	3562

112	Chota Udaipur-Jambusar (NG-150 Kms.)	7666
113	Chanded-Malsar (NG-87 Kms.)	7533
114	Nadiad-Kapadvanj (NG-45 Kms.)	2971
115	Nadiad-Bhadran (NG-58 Kms.)	1606
116	Gandhidham-New Kandla (MG-12 Kms.)	19281
117	Mawli Jn.-Bari Sadri (MG-82 Kms.)	63512
118	Pranchi Rd.-Kodinar (MG-26 Kms.)	12206
119	Sihor-Palitana (MG-27 Kms.)	7283
120	Rajula Jn.-Rajula City (MG-9 Kms.)	2155
121	Ranuj-Netrana Rd.-Kakosi	5125
122	Mehsana-Tarang Hill (MG-56 Kms.)	8422
123	Himmatnagar-Khedbrahma (MG-55 Kms.)	8698
124	Anand-Cambay (BG-51 Kms.)	13221
125	Boriavi-Vadtal-Swaminarayan (BG-6 Kms.)	2563
	Total	180624
	Grand Total	3771774

Security Standards at Airports

*218. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has got 'D' category for the security of Indian sky and airports;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures being taken to improve the image of the country with regard to the security standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Security arrangements at airports in India are in accordance with the standards and recommended practices laid down in Annex-17 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago) 1944 and the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Security Manual.

The following measures have been taken to further strengthen aviation security :

- i) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel in place of State Police for security duties at all operational domestic airports in the first phase. The CISF has already taken over the security duties at Patna, Jaipur, Guwahati, Vadodara and Port Blair airports.
- ii) Frisking of passengers and hard baggage at the time of entry into sterile area has been tightened. Ladder point secondary frisking has been introduced.

iii) Deployment of Sky Marshals on flights of Indian Airlines and Air India as an added precaution.

iv) Strict control on access to the airports is being ensured by comprehensive review of Photo Identity Cards to restrict the number of pass-holders and banning of entry of the visitors upto 31.3.2000.

v) Raising of the perimeter wall to the prescribed height at all the operational airports.

vi) Replacement of X-Ray machines and installation of new colour X-Ray machines wherever necessary so as to ensure that atleast two X-Ray machines are available at every point.

vii) Modernisation and upgradation of security related technological set up of the airports is being done in a phased manner.

[English]

Participation in Power Generation Projects

*219 SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to State:

- (a) whether the Railways are considering to have equity participation in Power Generation Projects of N.T.P.C;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any committee has been set up to examine the economic and legal viability of the proposal;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) other measures proposed by the Railways to ensure cheaper, reliable and uninterrupted power supply?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) to (d) Railways are exploring the possibility of joint ventures with NTPC and other Public/Private power producers so as to obtain power at reasonable rates. The modalities of such participation have not yet been firmed up.

(e) While Railways have already approached various State Governments requesting them to revise the tariffs to reasonable level, other options being executed/ explored are:

- (i) Availing direct power supply from unallocated 15% central share of central power generating agencies. This, however, is subject to techno-economic feasibility and allocation of power by Ministry of Power. A pilot scheme for obtaining direct power supply from NTPC in Delhi-Kanpur section is presently under execution.
- (ii) Representation to State Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

- (iii) Availing of power supply from Independent Power producers, subject to techno-economic feasibility.
- (iv) Setting up of captive power plants preferably through joint ventures with public/private sector.

Gauge Conversion

*220. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

- (a) whether the Railways have invested huge amount in the Unigauge policy during the last decade;
- (b) if so, the total kilometres which have been brought under Unigauge since 1991;
- (c) the total expenditure incurred thereon;
- (d) whether Railways have derived benefits from the policy; and
- (e) If so, details of additional revenue and operational advantages derived from the implementation of the Unigauge policy?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) and (c) Railways have invested Rs. 7563.95 crores on gauge conversion from 01.04.1989 to 31.03.1999.

(b) 8717 Km. of track has been converted to BG since 01.04.1991.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The advantages derived from execution of gauge conversion projects are in the nature of generation of additional carrying capacity, development of alternative routes and resultant increase in throughput and earnings. This has added to operational flexibility. Some socially desirable but economically non-viable gauge conversion works have been taken up on developmental considerations. However, no separate accounts are maintained for the revenue earned on gauge converted lines.

Compensation to Soldiers Killed in Sri Lanka

2188. SHRI R.S. PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the extent to which the facilities and compensation provided to wards of Kargil Martyrs differs from that of the dependents of Armed personnel who lost their lives during involvement of Indian Peace Keeping Forces in an unofficial war in Sri Lanka against LTTE?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : The benefits extended to the dependents of the Armed forces personnel killed during operation in Sri Lanka and during Kargil conflict are as follows :-

Sri Lanka Operation	Kargil Conflict
Pensionary Officers:	Officers :
Awards	
1. Liberalised Family pension equal to last reckonable emoluments drawn by the deceased in case of widow.	1. Liberalised Family pension equal to last reckonable emoluments drawn by the deceased in case of widow.
2. In case of dependent parents of officers, if the deceased was a bachelor or did not leave behind a widow/child, liberalised family pension at the rate of 75% of last reckonable emoluments drawn by the deceased for both parents and for single parent 75% of the pension admissible for both parents.	2. To the dependent parents of officers, if the deceased was a bachelor or did not leave behind a widow / child, family pension at the rate of 75% of last reckonable emoluments drawn by the deceased for both parents and for single parent 75% of the pension admissible for both parents.
Personnel Below Officers Rank :	Personnel Below Officers Rank :
Liberalised family pension to the nominated heir, equal to the last reckonable emoluments drawn by the deceased.	Liberalised family pension equal to the last reckonable emoluments drawn by the deceased to nominated heir.
Ex-gratia There was no scheme for ex-gratia compensation	Rs. 10.0 lakhs

Kargil conflict was considered as a war like operation, and Armed Forces personnel killed during this operation

have been given a special package of ex-gratia and assistance from National Defence Fund.

National Family Benefit Scheme

2189. SHRI SUBODH ROY : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons covered under the National Family Benefit Scheme in the country during 1997-98 and 1998-99 state-wise; and

(b) the benefits given to the bereaved families under this scheme since 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) The Statement on the number of persons covered under the National Family Benefit Scheme in the country during 1997-98 and 1998-99 State-wise, is enclosed.

(b) Since 1995, benefit is given in the form of a lump sum grant to the bereaved families living below the poverty line on the death of the primary breadwinner in the age group of 19-64 years, under the scheme. Prior to 1-8-98, the amount of the grant was Rs. 5000/- and Rs. 10,000/- in the case of the primary breadwinner due to natural and accidental causes respectively. With effect from 1-8-98, the amount of the grant has been made uniform at the rate of Rs. 10,000/- irrespective of the cause of the death of the primary breadwinner.

Statement

National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

Scheme : National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)

S. No.	States/UTs	No. of Reported Beneficiaries	
		1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36760	38661
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21	41
3.	Assam	3916	5545
4.	Bihar	20654	23184
5.	Goa	123	123
6.	Gujarat	780	2552
7.	Haryana	661	867
8.	Himachal Pradesh	351	289
9.	J & K	586	478
10.	Karnataka	1412	2105
11.	Kerala	5100	6501

1	2	3	4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	47912	54353
13.	Maharashtra	7172	20944
14.	Manipur	39	66
15.	Meghalaya	109	211
16.	Mizoram	14	91
17.	Nagaland	50	NR
18.	Orissa	16605	16328
19.	Punjab	1364	949
20.	Rajasthan	8001	9498
21.	Sikkim	20	13
22.	Tamil Nadu	26455	36184
23.	Tripura	900	788
24.	Uttar Pradesh	31223	35624
25.	West Bengal	7422	10730
26.	A&N Islands	NR	NR
27.	Chandigarh	22	NR
28.	D&N Haveli	NR	NR
29.	Daman & Diu	30	9
30.	NCT Delhi	658	197
31.	Lakshadweep	54	3
32.	Pondicherry	25	24
Total		218439	266358

NR : Not Reported

Review of On-Going Projects

2190. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the on-going Projects and Tourism Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the growth perception of Tourism Industry for the next five years; and

(d) the details of investments being made in on-going and new projects including private sector and FDI Projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The review of on-going projects is a continuous process. Tourism Policy has also been reviewed. The approach to tourism development in the 9th Plan is on coordinated efforts by the public and private sector and the major thrust is on the development of selected centres and circuits and on providing basic infrastructure for all classes of tourists, both domestic and international.

(d) Foreign Direct Investment has been approved in case of 382 proposals for an amount of Rs. 4249.97 crores, in different states in the country during the period 1.8.91 to 31.10.99.

[Translation]

Expansion of Patna Airport

2191. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any scheme for the improvement and expansion of Patna airport has been started; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India has recently completed the expansion and modification of terminal building at Patna airport at a cost of Rs. 10.30 crores to handle 500 passengers at a time.

Research on Netaji

2192. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have urged Russia to open its archives to assist Indian scholars doing research on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Russia thereto;
- (c) whether the Government are making arrangements to send some scholars to do research on Netaji; and
- (d) if so, the facilities likely to be provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

Water Supply and Sanitation Projects

2193. SHRI SAHIB SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any scheme of "Water Supply and Sanitation Project of World Bank - July, 1998" of a total amount of 1600 million dollar;
- (b) if so, the details of the scheme;
- (c) whether this scheme has already been started;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (e) The Delhi Jal Board had submitted a proposal for project preparation facility for the "Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Management Project" for World Bank funding in September, 1998. The Board is considering to obtain World Bank assistance for the project estimated to cost over Rs. 1600 crores for an overall institutional, Financial and Technical refurbishment of the Board, including the formulation of a Master Plan, rehabilitation/upgradation of the existing infrastructure and services and the establishment of fresh/additional capacities. The Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) recommended the proposal to the World Bank to provide Project Preparation Facility (PPF), amounting to US \$ 2.5 million. An agreement between the Government of India and the World Bank has been signed accordingly.

[Translation]

Backwardness and Unemployment

2194. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any concrete plan to remove the backwardness and solve unemployment problem in rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir and in other backward States; and
- (b) if so, the salient features of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development has formulated self employment, wage employment and infrastructure development programmes such as Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme, Indira Awaas Yojana, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, Central Rural Sanitation Programme, Integrated Wasteland Development Programme, Drought Prone Areas Programme and Desert Development Programme for removing backwardness and creating additional employment opportunities in rural areas all over the country including Jammu and Kashmir.

[English]

Products of AMP Ltd. Company

2195. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the AMP Ltd. Company situated at the Kochi Export processing Zone in Kerala is listed in the Janes International Defence Directory that gives indication that the Company may be manufacturing defence related products;

(b) if so, the details of the activities and production in which the company has been engaged; and

(c) the performance of the company during the last three years in physical and financial terms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (c) AMP tools (India) Pvt. Ltd. has been listed in Jane's International Defence Directory, 1998 as a Company engaged in manufacturing of tools, moulds and dies for connectors. Ministry of Defence do not have any dealing with this firm and as such, has no knowledge of its performance.

[Translation]

Case Against Railway Contractor

2196. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether employees of the Railway Protection Force of Bhusawal Division of Central Railway has arrested and a case registered against a railway contractor;

(b) whether Burhanpur Railway Station witnessed incidents of arson, loot disruption in the rail services after the arrest of the said contractor;

(c) if so, whether the Government have taken any action against the persons involved in the incident of sabotage;

(d) whether the RPF employees arresting the said contractor have been transferred to RPSF thousands of kilometres away from Bhusawal Division;

(e) whether some of the officers have been transferred despite having no relation with the aforesaid arrest; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Preliminary enquiry made in the incident revealed complicity of some RPF staff in commission of

certain act that led to the situation of arson and rampage at Burhanpur on 29.9.1999. Nine RPF staff were found responsible and they were immediately transferred from Central Railway to RPSF to improve the prevailing situation at Burhanpur.

(e) and (f) Although nine RPF staff were transferred immediately after the incident, in the subsequent enquiry it was revealed that three staff out of them were not responsible. Hence, their transfer orders to RPSF were cancelled and they were posted back to Central Railway.

[English]

Completion of Gondia-Ballarsha Rail Line

2197. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of Gondia-Ballarsha railway line has been completed;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether any train has been introduced on above new line;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to extend this line upto Chandrapur as per previous plan;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 237 crore.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 2 pairs of daily Passenger trains, viz 3GC/4GC Chanda Fort-Gondia-Chanda Fort and 1GNB/2GNB Ballarshah-Gondia-Ballarshah Passengers are running at present.

(e) to (g) There was no proposal to extend this line upto Chandrapur because extension of this line upto Chandrapur is neither technically nor operationally feasible due to adverse site conditions and highly-built up surroundings. The New B.G. Chanda Fort station with all the requisite facilities is most ideally located to cater to the requirement of the people of Chandrapur City area. With the municipal limits of the city now being extended, the new Chanda Fort station shall come practically at the centre of the extended city area.

Articles Taken By Britishers

2198. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any inventory of valuable articles taken by the Britishers while leaving India;

(b) if so, whether some of the valuable articles have been put to auction in Britain;

(c) If so, whether the Government have taken up the issue of getting back these articles from Britain; and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b)-As per the information provided by the Indian Mission in London, the Government is not aware of any inventory of valuable articles taken by Britishers while leaving India. Further, it is also not aware of any of the valuable articles available with the British Government or in various museums in Britain, having ever been auctioned.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Lack of Basic Amenities on North East Frontier Railway

2199. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether on most of the way-sides Railway stations on North East Frontier Railway are not provided with electricity and essential public facilities;

(b) if so, the number of railway stations in Assam and other North-Eastern States have not yet been electrified and provided with other essential facilities; and

(c) the steps to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. All Railway stations except five stations have been provided with essential public facilities including electricity as per norms. The norms for electrifying a way-side Station are availability of power supply from State Electricity Board within 1 KM of the Station and regular halt of atleast one passenger train during night. The other public facilities are provided commensurate with volume of traffic handled.

(c) For provision of new amenities and augmenting the existing amenities, Railways undertake works at stations wherever so warranted and adequate funds are provided for this purpose. A sum of Rs. 11.13 cr. is proposed to be spent on Northeast Frontier Railway for this purpose during 2000-01. Work for electrification of two out of the 5 stations eligible for electrification as per norms has already been taken in hand and for the balance 3 stations, the work of electrification is proposed to be sanctioned during 2000-01.

Operation of Indian Airlines and Air India on Profitable Routes

2200. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to operate Indian Airlines and Air India on profitable routes as is done by private airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : As a part of its turn-around strategy, Air India has rationalised its route structure by re-deploying capacity on more remunerative routes. Consistent with the route dispersal guidelines, Indian Airlines also gives due weightage to commercial considerations.

[Translation]

Upkeep of Army Vehicles

2201. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jonga, Nissan and Shaktiman have been declared useless by the Army;

(b) if so, whether their production has since been stopped; and

(c) the scheme formulated by the Army for operation and upkeep of the existing said vehicles in the Army?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The old generation vehicles in the Army are being phased out as per discard policy of the Government. The production of Jonga, Nissan 1 Ton and 3 Ton Shaktiman vehicles has, therefore, been stopped and the new generation vehicles as replacement of the same are procured to meet the deficiency in the Army within the available resources. The balance life of the existing fleet of Jonga, Nissan 1 Ton and 3 Ton Shaktiman vehicles will be utilised in the Army by procuring spares from Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur till these are finally discarded as per the discard policy.

[English]

Proposals for New Railway Lines in Andhra Pradesh

2202. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh and other organisation for laying new railway lines during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 so far;

(b) the details of surveys conducted for laying new railway line during the above period;

(c) the outcome of the surveys and routes identified for new railway lines;

(d) whether Railways have chalked out a plan for the Ninth Five Year Plan period in regard to new rail routes in Andhra Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details and present status of on-going projects including doubling and gauge conversion along with funds allocated therefor and expenditure incurred thereon so far, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Anomalies in Pay-Scales of Armed Forces

2203. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE :

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a panel of group of Ministers set up to look into anomalies in the pay and allowances of Armed Forces following the Fifth Pay Commission has since arrived at any decision;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The Fifth Central Pay Commission (V CPC) had made various recommendations for improving the service conditions including pay and allowances of the Armed Forces personnel. A High Level Committee was, however, constituted specifically to consider the anomalies in the pay and allowances of Armed Forces Personnel, arising out of the implementation of the V CPC recommendations. The recommendations of this Committee were further examined by a group of senior officers headed by Cabinet Secretary. Orders on most of their recommendations relating to pay and allowances have been issued by the Government. There are two issues i.e. pay scales of the Personnel Below Officers, Rank and of Lt. General/ equivalent, which are being looked into by a Group of Ministers in view of their wider implications. The Group of Ministers is likely to consider these issues shortly.

Scams in Super Bazar

2204. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have ordered a CBI probe into the scams that have taken place in the Super Bazar so far;

(b) if so, the details of the scams that are proposed to be probed by the CBI;

(c) the time by which the CBI proposed to complete the probe and submit their report;

(d) whether the elected directors on BOD of Super Bazar have also been removed because of their involvement into large scale irregularities; and

(e) if so, the details of the elected directors who are involved in irregularities, director-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) One case was investigated by CBI earlier. Seven more cases have been referred to CBI recently.

(b) List of cases referred to CBI is given in enclosed statement.

(c) CBI has been asked to complete the investigations early.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

1. Purchase of inferior quality of pulses without the approval of Quality Testing Laboratory of the Super Bazar.
2. Placing of bulk orders of pulses on the eve of reduction in excise duty.
3. Out-to-turn payments to the suppliers by the then Chairman, Super Bazar without any proper procedure.
4. Purchase of inferior quality of potatoes resulting in losses.
5. Allowing a private trader (M/s Bips Systems Ltd.) to open a shop in the Super Bazar, New Delhi.
6. Irregularities in the purchase of spices at higher rates than quoted by the N.C.C.F.
7. Irregularities in the award of contract to M/s V.V. Construction by Super Bazar to construct "Sant Longowal Tower" in Rajender Place.

Cultural Activities

2205. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various activities taking place in the country;

(b) the number of cultural programmes held by the Department during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to maximise the number of these activities alongwith the funds allocated during the last three years and to be allocated during 2000-2001 for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Department of Culture in the Government of India does not compile information regarding the various cultural activities taking place in the country. Nor does it directly organise cultural programmes. The Department however does allocate funds to various attached offices, autonomous bodies and voluntary organisations, under its aegis, to operate schemes for the propagation and promotion of the Performing Arts.

The Department received the following funds under Plan and Non-Plan in the preceding 3 years. Figures shown against the year 2000-2001 are still at the proposal stage.

(Rs. in Crores)

	Plan	Non-Plan
1997-98 (BE)	120.90	127.00
1998-99 (BE)	127.20	174.00
1999-2000 (BE)	147.20	211.21
2000-2001 (BE)	162.25	260.00

State-wise allocations are not made.

[Translation]

Exploitation of NCES

2206. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any plan for the exploitation of non-conventional energy sources in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government intends to provide subsidy to those States who wish to start power generation

in public and private sector through non-conventional energy sources;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have received any proposal from Uttar Pradesh in this regard; and

(f) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) The Ministry has prepared a detailed plan for exploitation of energy from non-conventional energy sources during Ninth Plan period. The details are given in enclose statement-I.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has been providing subsidy/financial assistance to encourage the power generation through various non-conventional energy sources under its programmes i.e., Wind Power, Biomass Power/Co-generation, Biomass Gasifiers, Small Hydro-power, Solar Photovoltaic and Urban & Industrial Wastes to energy, which includes the participation of private and public sector. The details of subsidies provided by the Ministry under these programmes are given in enclosed statement-II.

(e) and (f) A proposal for setting up of 4 MW power generation project utilising Municipal Solid Waste has been received from Uttar Pradesh. Certain clarifications sought are awaited as per guidelines.

Statement-I

Details of Programme-wise Physical Target Planned During 9th Five Year Plan Period.

Sl. No.	Programmes/ Schemes	9th Plan Physical Target
1	2	3
1	Biogas	10 Lakhs
2	Community/Institutional/Night-soil based Biogas Plants	800 Nos.
3	Improved Chulha	150 Lakhs
4	Biomass/Gasifier	40 MW
5	Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP)	660 (Old Blocks) 200 (New Blocks)
6	Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) Demonstration	
	SPV Home Light	2 Lakhs
	SPV Lanterns	3 Lakhs
	SPV Power Plants	1.6 MW

1	2	3
7	SPV Pumps	4000 Nos.
8	Solar Thermal (ST) Energy Solar Water Heating Systems (M.sq. collector area)	1.5 Lakhs
	Solar Cooker	1.5 Lakh Nos.
9	Wind Pumps & Hybrid Systems	1000 Nos. 250 kw
10	Wind power	1000 MW

1	2	3
11	Small Hydro Power (SHP) (Water Mills) (Repair & Maintenance)	130 MW 700 Nos. 65 MW
12	Biomass Power	314 MW
13	Solar Power	141.5 MW
14	Urban & Industrial & National Bio-energy Board	42 MW

MW = Mega Watt; KW = Kilo Watt; M.sq. = Meter Square

Statement-II

Details of subsidies provided by MNES on Power Generation (including public and Private Sector) through various programmes of Non-Conventional Energy Sources

S. No.	Programmes/Sector	Subsidy
1.	Wind Power	For Demonstration Projects upto 60% of the equipment cost subject to certain bench marks.
2.	Biomass Gasifiers	30 to 60% on certain bench marks owned by Cooperative, Panchayat, NGOs, Central/State Agencies, individuals/entrepreneurs etc.
3.	Grid Interactive Solar PV Power	Rs. 2 crores/100 KW (Maximum)
4.	Small Hydro Power Capital subsidy	
	a. Hilly Regions and A & N islands	Rs. 15000 per KW or actual cost of the project whichever is lower.
	b. Project upto 3 MW in NE States	Rs. 3.00 crores per MW or 50% of cost of the project whichever is lower.
	Interest Subsidy	
	a. For projects in hilly, NE region & A&N Islands	5% with maximum Rs. 1.12 crores per MW
	b. For projects in other regions	2.5% with maximum Rs. 38.3 lakhs per MW.
5.	Biomass Power/Co-generation	
	a. Minimum exportable power 45 MW (In Group of Mills through Joint Venture Mode)	Rs. 35 lakhs/MW of surplus power (max. Rs. 31.50 crores/project) to Rs. 45 lakhs/MW of surplus Power (max. Rs. 40.50 crores/project).
	b. Minimum exportable power 9 MW (Single Mill through IPP Mode)	Rs. 35 lakhs/MW of surplus power (max. Rs. 6.30 crores/project) to Rs. 45 lakhs/MW of surplus Power (max. Rs. 8.10 crores/project).
6.	Urban Municipal & industrial Waste	
	a. Capital subsidy	Upto 50% max. 3.00 crores per MW for demonstration projects.
	b. Interest subsidy	To reduce interest rate upto 7.5% to be paid to Financial Institutions.

*[English]***Commissioning of Brahmaputra Warship**

2207. DR. S. VENUGOPAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the time by which Brahmaputra class of warships are likely to be commissioned in the Navy?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : The three Brahmaputra class of ships are proposed to be commissioned in the Navy during the years 2000, 2001, and 2003 respectively.

Embarkation Point for Haj Pilgrimage

2208. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding opening and Embarkation point at Cochin International Airport for Haj Pilgrims; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Haj flights are being operated from Cochin International Airport for Haj-2000 movement.

Completion of Angual-Sukinda Rail Line

2209. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) present status of Angual-Sukinda rail line alongwith its estimated cost;

(b) the amount of allocation made for the purpose so far; and

(c) the target date fixed for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Preliminary survey has been completed. Final Location Survey is in progress. Abstract estimated cost of the project is Rs. 245.58 crore.

(b) Rs. 4 crore. Further, Rs. 23 crs. has been proposed for this project in the Budget 2000-2001.

(c) Firm target date has not yet been fixed.

Smuggling and Arms Piracy at Sea

2210. SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Navy and the Coast Guard have worked out any new strategy to combat piracy, arms smuggling and infiltration of militants and other activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it is likely to prevent such activities at the sea?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The Indian Navy and the Coast Guard continue to maintain regular vigil in the area to prevent violation of our Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), piracy, arms smuggling and such other undesirable activities. In addition to coastal patrolling, joint operations by the Navy and the Coast Guard in the sensitive areas are also carried out to prevent such activities at sea.

Production of Submarines

2211. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY :

SHRI BHIM DAHAL :

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved a long term plan of Navy for production of indigenous submarines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time-bound plan has been prepared therefor; and

(d) if so, the details in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (d) The Government has approved a long term Perspective Plan of the Indian Navy and Department of Defence Production and Supplies for indigenous construction of Submarines. The Plan envisages acquiring of national capabilities in Submarine design, development and construction of a Submarine and all its core systems. The plan will be implemented in two phases viz. 2000-2012 and 2013-2030.

Construction of Fly-Overs in Tamil Nadu

2212. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposed/under construction railway bridges/fly-overs pending in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the reasons for the delay in completion of such bridges; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to complete these bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) At present, in Tamil Nadu 30 works of Road Over/Road Under Bridges sanctioned on cost sharing basis are at different stages of planning and execution. These include 12 such bridges which are also under construction on cost sharing basis as part of Gauge conversion project. In addition, 23 proposals have been included in the Railway's Works Programme of 2000-2001 which will be taken as sanctioned after passing of Railway Budget 2000-2001 by the Parliament.

(b) Works are planned and executed in consultation with the State Govt./Local Authorities. completion of works depends upon execution of approaches by State Govt./Local Authorities.

(c) Allocation of more funds have been proposed during the year 2000-2001 to expedite early completion of the works.

Ammunition Imported under Doubtful Certificate of Inspection

2213. **SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether ammunition worth several crores of rupees imported against doubtful certificate of inspection from Pitcare Ltd. Hong Kong in January, 1993, was subsequently rejected as it failed in a test-check in Central Ammunition Depot, Pulgaon;

(b) whether the C.A.G. has also adversely commented up on this deal in his Seventh Report of 1999 (Defence Services);

(c) if so, the details of the deal and the brief of comments of C.A.G. thereon; and

(d) the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) A contract dated 21-1-1993 was signed with M/s Pitcare Ltd., Hongkong for supply of 10000 rounds of 130mm and 6700 rounds of 122mm illuminating ammunition for an amount of USD 6.12 million. CAD, Pulgaon intimated in September 1993 the receipt of consignment of 10,000 nos. of 130 mm Illuminating Ammunition from Hongkong against contract. Since the consignment was received without technical literature and range tables, the check proof was delayed. The check proof was conducted in August 1995 on receipt of fuze setting key and range tables from the firm. Ten rounds were fired and three recorded defects. The consignment was subjected to reproof by firing 13 rounds in December 1995, wherein 12 failures were recorded out of 23 rounds fired.

In view of the unsatisfactory performance of the ammunition during check proof, the consignment was recommended to be "Not Fit for Use" and quality claim raised.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Comments of C.A.G. are given in the enclosed statement as extracts from Report no.7 of 1999 (Defence Services).

(d) The case will be referred to CBI for independent investigation.

Statement

Report No. 7 of 1999 (Defence Services)

CHAPTER II : MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

12 : Presumptive fraud in import of ammunition

A foreign firm drew payment of Rs. 11.84 crore against a doubtful certificate of inspection of ammunition which was subsequently rejected as it failed in proof.

Test check of records in Central Ammunition Depot, Pulgaon and in the Ministry disclosed a case of import of ammunition through a trading firm, which was declared unfit for use. The circumstances relating to the inspection of the ammunition and release of payment are suggestive of collusion.

Ministry concluded a contract with Pitcare Ltd. Hongkong in January 1993 for supply of 10000 rounds of 130mm and 6700 rounds of 122 mm illuminating ammunition at a total cost of US\$ 6.12 million*, equivalent to Rs. 16.54 crore.

Ammunition was to be inspected within 60 days of receipt at site by the purchaser

As per the amended terms of contract, the ammunition was to be finally inspected by a team appointed by the purchaser and acceptance certificate was to be issued within 60 days of receipt of goods at site. However, there was no evidence to establish that bank was informed of the amendment in the condition for inspection.

The contract stipulated that the cost of ammunition was to be paid through a letter of credit against presentation of sales invoice, bill of lading, packing list and most importantly, inspection and acceptance certificate.

*1US\$ = Rs. 27.0270

Inspection Certificate was issued even before the despatch of ammunition

Scrutiny disclosed that the consignment was despatched on 30 May 1993. While as per this amendment to the contract the inspection was to be carried out by the purchaser within 60 days of receipt of ammunition at site, strangely a certificate dated 30 May 1993 was issued conveying the inspection and acceptance of the ammunition even before the ammunition had left the originating station. The inspection certificate did not carry name and designation of the Chairman and member of so stated inspection team, nor the authority under which they had inspected the consignment.

for issue of suspected inspection certificate, delay in carrying out proof test, besides failure of the Ministry to investigate the matter.

The matter was referred to the Ministry in June 1998; their reply was awaited as of January 1999.

Inspection certificate did not carry name and designation of inspectors

The consignment was received in Central Ammunition Depot in August 1993. The proof test was to be carried out within 60 days of receipt of the ammunition at site. However, Controller of Quality Assurance carried out the proof test in September and December 1995, i.e., more than two years after receipt of the ammunition. The delay in proof test was attributed to non-receipt of technical documents, which were supplied by the firm in October 1994. The delay of one more year even after receipt of technical documents remains unexplained. The entire consignment of 10000 rounds of 130 mm illuminating ammunition for which US\$ 3.76 million equivalent to Rs. 11.84 crore was claimed by the firm through letter of credit with the help of the inspection certificate of suspected genuineness, was rejected after proof test.

Employment Assurance Scheme

2214. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether development blocks in the country entitled for Employment Assurance Scheme are being paid their due share of money on time;

(b) if so, the blocks in Earnakulam District in Kerala have been paid money under EAS during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Employment Assurance Scheme is being implemented in all the blocks in the country; and

(e) if not, the time taken by which it is likely to be implemented in all the development blocks?

Proof test was carried out after two years of receipt of the entire quantity

Ammunition valuing Rs.11.84 crore was rejected in proof test.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) to (e) Employment Assurance Scheme is implemented in all the rural blocks of the country. Till 31.3.99, funds under the programme were released Block-wise. With effect from 1.4.1999, the scheme has been restructured. Funds are now released to the Districts-wise. On receipt of funds, the DRDAs transfer 70% of funds to the Panchayat Samities and 30% to the Zilla Parishad, for use in areas of endemic labour exodus/areas of distress. As regards Ernakulam District, a sum of Rs. 300 lakh was released by this Ministry to 15 Blocks in the year 1998-99. The Central allocation for Ernakulam District in the year 1999-2000 is Rs. 216.28 lakh and the entire amount has been released.

By the time quality claim was lodged, the firm had wound up

When the Ministry made efforts through the Indian High Commission, Singapore to locate the firm, one Mr. Peter Lim who had signed the contract as Managing Director of Pitcare disowned any responsibility stating that Pitcare Hongkong had been wound up and the Singapore office had acted only as a forwarding agent. Despite evidence of suspicious dealings in the matter, Ministry has not conducted any inquiry to fix the accountability in the matter as of December 1998.

Rehabilitation of Four Wheeler units

2215. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Braithwaite, Jessop and Burn Standard are under Rehabilitation in terms of schemes approved by the BIFR through their turnaround scheme projected a total production target of 8857.5 FWUs (Four Wheeler Units);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has been a cut in the orders of these units in the recent past; and

Ministry has not taken effective action to fix responsibility

It is recommended that the matter should be investigated through an independent agency to fix responsibility for not ensuring that the amended inspection clause of contract was got noted by the bank and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to revive these units by awarding sufficient orders of wagons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. These wagons manufacturing units under the administrative control of Ministry of Heavy Industry and Public Enterprises, have been sanctioned rehabilitation scheme by BIFR for production programme for the year 1999-2000 as under :

i)	Burn Standard	-	4437.5	Four Wheeler Units (FWUs)
ii)	Jessops	-	720.0	Four Wheeler Units (FWUs)
iii)	Braithwait	-	<u>3075.0</u>	Four Wheeler Units (FWUs)
			<u>8232.5</u>	Four Wheeler Units (FWUs)

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Wagon orders are placed as per traffic demand and availability of funds. Further, ordering is considered on a. wagon manufacturing units keeping in view procurement norms, past performance and capability of the firm which includes certain purchase preference to PSUs as per Government's policy.

Rate of Advertisement

2216. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN :

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of rates of advertisements in the Rapid Transit System of the Railways in Chennai Trains; and

(b) the income secured during the last year on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) There are no separate rates of advertisement in the rapid Transit System. Outside panels of EMU trains Playing on the Broad Gauge Section i.e. Chennai to Sullurpetta and Chennai to Tiruttani along with Mass Rapid Transit System section are given on contract for display of advertisement at the rate of Rs. 60,000/- per rake per annum.

(b) The revenue under this head during 1998-99 was Rs. 15,20,000/-.

Action Taken Notes on CAG's Observations of Defence Matters

2217. SHRI C.N. SINGH :

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of C.A.G.'s observations/findings on defence matters pending with his Ministry as on date and the date since when these are pending;

(b) the reasons for not submitting the Action Taken Notes so far and the steps taken to submit the same now;

(c) whether a group of officers is proposed to be set up to scrutinise all the pending observations of the C.A.G. and fix responsibility for the lapses; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Actions Taken Notes (ATNs) are to be submitted by the Ministry of Defence in respect of approximately 120 paras of Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India up to their 1998 Report. Out of these, ATNs had been submitted in respect of 88 paras for vetting by the Audit authorities. These ATNs are either pending with the Audit or further information/clarifications have been sought on them. In a few cases, the submission of ATNs is under process as inquiries to ascertain the facts have not been completed or the relevant details have still not been made available by the concerned organisation/Service Hqrs. instructions have been issued to all concerned to expeditiously finalise the ATNs. The year-wise details of pending ATNs are as below :-

Year of Report	No. of Pending Paras
1989	1
1990	2
1991	3
1992	3
1993	10
1994	7
1995	8
1996	12
1997	26
1998	51

(c) and (d) : A special group of officers headed by the Chief Vigilance officer of the Ministry of Defence, who is in the rank of a Joint Secretary to the Government of India, has been constituted to ensure prompt and effective follow up action on all major observations of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India pertaining to procurement of arms, ammunitions, spares, their storage, transfer of technology, indigenisation and other related aspects. This group will identify the important observations/findings of the C&AG in last 15 years for necessary corrective action and to fix responsibility for lapses/delays/corrupt practices, if any for necessary administrative, disciplinary/legal action.

Compensation to Family of Commuter Pushed out at Kalyan Railway Station

2218. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the case in which one commuter was pushed out of running train during recent past by railway officials at Kalyan Railway Station resulting into his death;

(b) whether the Ministry has decided to rehabilitate the family member/members of the deceased; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) It is not a fact that deceased Shri Motilal Mahadeo Mahadik was pushed out of the train by any railway employee. Investigation report of the GRP/Kalyan reveals that he fell down while boarding the local train No,BL-19Dn at Kalyan Railway Station on 14.01.2000.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Abandoned Aerodromes in Andhra Pradesh

2219. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of abandoned aerodromes in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to hand over those aerodromes to the State; and

(c) if so, the details of the terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) No airport belonging to the Airports Authority of India (AAI) is abandoned in Andhra Pradesh. However, the airports at

Donakonda, Cuddapah and Warrangal are non-operational for over a decade due to want of traffic.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The terms and conditions, in brief are – the aerodrome alongwith runway, building etc. will be transferred to the State Government on nominal licence fee of Re. 1/- per annum for a period of 15 years for activities concerning aviation only. The State Government shall maintain the runways, terminal building and provide fire-fighting, security and terminal building facilities and also collect landing, housing, parking charge in the event of its operation. AAI collects Route Navigation Facility Charges etc.

Development of Monuments

2220. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR :

SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the monuments protected by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) as on date State-wise;

(b) the amount of money spent by the Government for the Protection/maintenance of these monuments during the last three years;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to develop these monuments as the places of tourist's interest;

(d) whether some national monuments are on the verge of collapse;

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

(f) the steps being taken by Government to protect these monuments?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) There are 3602 monuments and sites protected by the Archaeological Survey of India. The State-wise details of monuments is available in the Parliament Library.

(b) Expenditure incurred on maintenance of the centrally protected monuments during the last three years are as under :-

1996-97	Rs. 1740.17 Lakh
1997-98	Rs. 2339.30 Lakh
1998-99	Rs. 2437.34 Lakh

(c) Provision of tourist-related facilities in centrally protected monuments is an on-going process. In addition,

flood-lighting and sound & light programmes are mounted by the State Tourism Departments at select monuments, apart from staging annual cultural programmes at various protected sites.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Question does not arise.

Ancient Temples of National Importance

2221. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY :

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of ancient temples under the category of National monuments in the country and the locations thereof, State-wise;

(b) the number out of them declared as Centrally protected monuments;

(c) the number of National monuments and temples given to State Government for maintenance;

(d) the amount spent on the proper preservation of these temples during the last three years (temple-wise); and

(e) the steps taken for the proper maintenance and renovation of these temples and monuments?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Religious edifices form part of many non-religious centrally protected monument complexes, as such, it is not possible to provide specific information about a particular category of monuments.

(c) Monuments declared as centrally protected are maintained and preserved by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(d) Religious places like temples, mosque etc. form part of a protected monuments, complexes as such it is not possible to segregate the expenditure incurred on their maintenance & preservation. Expenditure incurred on maintenance & conservation of centrally protected monuments during the last three years is as under :-

1996-97	Rs. 1740.17 Lakhs
1997-98	Rs. 2339.30 Lakhs
1998-99	Rs. 2437.34 Lakhs

(e) In addition to regular maintenance & upkeep of the monuments, structural repairs, chemical preservation

& environmental development is being carried out to the centrally protected monuments, as per their actual need & depending on availability of resources.

Price of Palm Oil

2222. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH :

DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI :

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

(a) whether there is a downward trend in the price of Palm oil in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the price fixed for oil Palm fresh fruit is remunerative;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the measures taken by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the reasons for cut in import duty on Palm oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Palm oil like all other oils have followed a downward trend, as observed internationally. The main reason for this downwards trend in prices is the satisfactory situation in the availability and prices of edible oils in the international market. Palm oil prices in the country have followed this downward trend.

(c) and (d) Cost of cultivation of oil palm fresh fruit bunches (FFBs) in the country has been estimated at about Rs. 2750 per MT to Rs. 3000 per MT. Taking into account the steep decline in the price of crude palm oil, price of oil palm FFBs has been fixed at Rs. 2300 per MT by Government of Andhra Pradesh and Rs. 2750 per MT by Government of Karnataka.

(e) Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Market intervention Scheme (MIS) in Andhra Pradesh to ensure that oil palm growers are paid reasonable price of oil palm fresh fruit bunches (FFBs). The price being paid for oil palm FFBs under MIS is Rs. 2750 per MT.

(f) There has been no reduction in the effective rate of 16.5% import duty on crude palm oil of edible grade. RBD palm oil of edible grade and its fractions continue to attract the peak rate of customs duty.

Construction of Road Over Bridges

2223. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Road Over Bridges are being constructed at Balugan and Sabulia Railway level crossings on National Highway No.5; and

(b) if so, the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Awarding of Advertisement Rights to Companies

2224. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether her Ministry has written to about 100 companies for awarding advertisement rights on wagons, level crossings, railway stations and sponsoring premium trains;

(b) If so, the response of the companies in this regard;

(c) the criteria adopted in selecting the said companies;

(d) the total income from advertisement and publicity during the last three years;

(e) whether the railways are also providing sites at railway stations for the purpose; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and total income earned therefrom during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) In order to plan flow of investment from non-traditional sources of revenue, a Task Force was set up to undertake an in-depth study of various issues including commercial publicity. Along-with the representatives of Ministry of Railways, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry on India (ASSOCHAM) were also the members of Task Force. The methodology adopted by the Task Force for addressing various issues was by way of detailed deliberations and it was thought that Railways should communicate with various business houses to apprise them about the opportunities for advertising. Accordingly, letters were sent to a number of leading public and private sector undertakings indicating about the advertisement opportunities on Indian Railways. Some of the companies have evinced interest. These companies have not yet been selected for awarding of

advertisement rights and the contracts will be awarded after following the due procedure.

(d) The total income from advertisement and publicity during the last three years is Rs. 89,24,94,042.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Railway sites and other railway premises are provided to different private organisations for advertisements in the form of hoardings, boards, posters, glowsigns, etc. The total income earned during the last three years is Rs. 69,72,89,200.

Gauge Conversion of Lumding-Kumar Ghat Rail Line

2225. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of gauge conversion of Lumding-Silchar-Karimganj-Baraigram-Kumar Ghat metre gauge line, sector-wise;

(b) the present position of Kumar Ghat-Agartala new rail line; and

(c) the time by which the above conversion and new construction works are likely to be completed, Sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) For Lumding-Silchar gauge conversion project, earthwork and bridges are in progress between Badarpur and Silchar (30 Km) where no change in alignment is necessary. On Lumding-Badarpur section (approx. 170 Km), final location survey including survey for diversions in the ghat section to suit the requirement of BG and preparation of land acquisition plan and papers has been taken up. RITES have already completed the paper alignment and staking of the alignment on ground for about 100 Km length. The work on 25 Km length from Lumding to Hathikali has also been commenced.

For conversion of Karimganj-Baraigram and Baraigram-Kumarghat, surveys have been recently completed and results are under finalisation. Further consideration of these projects would be possible once the result of the surveys are finalised.

(b) Work is in good progress in two stretches failing in plain area i.e. 20 Km length from Kumarghat end and 22 Km length from Agartala end. Final location survey work in the remaining 77 km stretch, in hilly terrain, is in progress.

(c) Target date has not yet been fixed.

[Translation]

Computerisation of Block Development Offices

2226. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have demanded funds for computerisation of Block Development offices; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATAWA) : (a) and (b) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh have made a request to the Ministry of Rural Development for sanction of funds for computerisation of 200 Janpad Panchayats (Block Development Offices) in the first phase. The State Government have been requested to furnish a proposal indicating the district-wise details of the Janpad Panchayats.

Construction of Airport at Shirdi

2227. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have accorded approval to construct an airport at Shirdi (Maharashtra);

(b) if so, whether the construction work of the airport has been started; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) On the request of State Government of Maharashtra, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has conducted a feasibility study for construction of an airport at Shirdi in District Ahmednagar. The site identified by the State Government was found suitable for the construction of an airport suitable for operation of 50 seater aircraft. The State Government has to seek the No Objection/approval from all concerned Departments of Government of India before going ahead with the project.

[English]

Development of Trivandrum Airport

2228. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request for construction of a new modern International Terminal at Trivandrum International Airport has been received from the Government of Kerala;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) At the request of the State Government, a Committee under the chairmanship of Member (Planning), Airports Authority of India was set up by the Ministry of Civil Aviation to examine the viability for the additional international terminal. The Committee could not find full justification. However, the State Government has volunteered to construct such a terminal. A formal proposal is awaited from the Government of Kerala.

Extension of Airfields

2229. SHRI KAMAL NATH :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI :

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report captioned "After pumping in crores, Government grounds airfield extension plan" published in the 'Hindustan Times' (New Delhi) dated 21st January, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India has not taken any decision to stop the runway extension works at airports. Upgradation of airport infrastructure is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon the type of aircraft operated by airlines, traffic and availability of resources.

Distribution of Rice to B.P.L. Families

2230. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation of rice to the Government of Gujarat was far below the State Government's requirement for distribution to the families living below poverty line during 1998; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to help Government of Gujarat in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) introduced in June, 1997, foodgrains are allotted to States/Union Territories, including Gujarat State, for issue to the people living below poverty line (BPL) at the rate of 10 kg. per family per month for the number of households worked out on the projected population in 1995. Out of monthly entitlement of 20,000 tonnes of foodgrains on this basis, Government of Gujarat opted for wheat for the entire allocation for BPL families up to march, 1998; 10,000 tonnes rice from April, 1998; and 8,000 tonnes of rice from May, 1999.

Liberalisation of Open Sale of Wheat

2231. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

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

(a) whether the Government have liberalised the open market sales scheme for wheat;

(b) if so, whether this scheme has helped the people and also reduced the food stocks with the FCI; and

(c) the other steps being considered to provide the wheat to the poor and down-trodden people at a cheaper rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The open market sale scheme has been liberalised w.e.f. 1.12.1999 and FCI has been instructed to ensure that purchasers shall not be refused issue of wheat from any godown in case the indented quantities are available. District Manager, FCI will ensure that issue of stocks to the buyers is made on the first-come first served basis. During the period 1.12.1999 to 29.2.2000 a total quantity of 22.72 lakh MTs is reported to have been sold under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic).

(c) It has been decided to increase the allocation of wheat under PDS for BPL families from 10 Kg. per family per month to 20 Kg. per family per month w.e.f. 1.4.2000.

Amount Spent by ITDC in Goa

2232. SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by ITDC on its establishments in Goa during the last three years, till date, location-wise;

(b) the profit earned therefrom during the above period;

(c) whether the ITDC has formulated/propose to formulate any scheme for the development of its units situated in Goa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) ITDC operates duty free shops in Goa. The total amount spent (operating expenditure) in running the duty free shops at Goa during the last 3 years and current year (upto January, 2000) was Rs. 231.24 lakhs and Rs. 87.74 lakhs respectively.

(b) ITDC earned a profit of Rs. 119.50 lakhs and Rs. 64.24 lakhs from operation of duty free shops in Goa during the last three years and current year (upto January, 2000) respectively.

(c) and (d) Presently, there is no proposal under consideration of ITDC to expand its existing establishments in Goa.

Selling of Trees by Railways

2233. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether to fill up its empty coffers, the Railways are planning to sell old trees worth crores of rupees;

(b) if so, whether the Railway Board has given direction to all its zonal Railways to put all trees that have outlived their life for auction; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Railways have a wealth of trees planted on Railway land over the past many decades. Many of these trees have now matured and are ready for harvesting.

With a view to augment internal resource generation, Zonal Railways have been advised to harvest all such trees, as per the rules and procedures framed by the Local Forest Departments.

To ensure renewal of the forest cover, further plantation of trees is undertaken on the land thus vacated.

[Translation]

Direct Flight from Patna and Ranchi

2234. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for direct air services from Patna and Ranchi to Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Airlines are free to operate on any route to any place in their commercial judgement subject to compliance with Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations on specified category of routes.

Waste land

2235. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of districts of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh where the wasteland is available;

(b) the amount provided by the Union Government to Rajasthan and U.P. for the reclamation of wasteland;

(c) whether the Government of these States have not utilised this amount fully; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Wasteland is available in 32 districts of Rajasthan and 83 districts of Uttar Pradesh. The names of the districts are given in enclosed statement-I.

(b) The amount provided by the Ministry of Rural Development for development of wastelands under its programmes during 1999-2000 upto 29.2.2000 is Rs. 103.89 crores to the States of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Programme wise detail is given in enclosed statement-II.

(c) and (d) Projects for development of wastelands under various programmes of the Ministry are sanctioned for implementation over a period of five years and funds are released to the States in instalments. After the release of first instalment, further release depends upon the utilisation of more than 50% amount of the last instalment. Utilisation of released amount fully by State Governments/DRDAs can be known only after the completion of the projects.

Statement - I

Name of the districts in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh where wasteland is available.

Name of the State	Name of District
1	2
Rajasthan	
	1 Ajmer
	2 Alwar
	3 Bikaner

1	2
4	Banswara
5	Barmer
6	Bharatpur
7	Bhilwara
8	Bundi
9	Chittaurgarh
10	Churu
11	Dholpur
12	Dungarpur
13	Hanumangarh
14	Jaipur
15	Dausa
16	Jaisalmer
17	Jalore
18	Jhalawar
19	Jhunjhunu
20	Jodhpur
21	Kota
22	Baran
23	Nagaur
24	Pali
25	Sawai Madhopur
26	Karauli
27	Sikar
28	Sirohi
29	Sriganganagar
30	Tonk
31	Udaipur
32	Rajsamand
Uttar Pradesh	
1	Agra
2	Firozabad

1	2
3	Allgarh
4	Mahamayanagar
5	Allahabad
6	Kosambi
7	Almora
8	Azamgarh
9	Badaun
10	Bageshwar
11	Bahraich
12	Shravasti
13	Ballia
14	Banda
15	Maharainagar
16	Barabanki
17	Bareilly
18	Basti
19	Sant Kabir Nagar
20	Bijnor
21	Bulandshahar
22	Gautam Buddhanagar
23	Chamoli
24	Rudraprayag
25	Champawat
26	Dehradun
27	Deoria
28	Kushinagar
29	Etah
30	Etawah
31	Auraya
32	Falzarabad
33	Ambedkarnagar
34	Farrukhabad

1	2
35	Kannauj
36	Fatehpur
37	Ghaziabad
38	Gorakhpur
39	Maharajganj
40	Ghazipur
41	Gonda
42	Balarampur
43	Hamirpur
44	Mahoba
45	Hardoi
46	Haridwar
47	Jalaun
48	Jaunpur
49	Jhansi
50	Kanpur (R)
51	Kanpur (U)
52	Lakhimpur Kheri
53	Lalitpur
54	Lucknow
55	Mainpuri
56	Mathura
57	Maunath Bhanjan
58	Meerut
59	Bagpat
60	Mirzapur
61	Son Bhadra
62	Moradabad
63	Jyotibarao Phule Nagar
64	Muzaffarnagar
65	Nainital
66	Pauri (Garhwal)

1	2
67	Pilibhit
68	Pithoragarh
69	Pratapgarh
70	Rae Bareilly
71	Rampur
72	Saharanpur
73	Shahjahanpur
74	Siddharthnagar
75	Sitapur
76	Sultanpur
77	Tehri Garhwal
78	Udamsinghnagar
79	Unnao
80	Uttar Kashi
81	Varanasi
82	Chandauli
83	Sant Ravi Das Nagar

Statement-II

Release made during 1999-2000 under Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS).

Name of Programme	Release made to Rajasthan during 1999-2000 (upto Feb. 2000) (Rs. in lakhs)	Release made to Uttar Pradesh in 1999-2000 (upto Feb. 2000) (Rs. in lakhs)
IWDP	233.29	1063.43
DPAP	385.75	958.55
DDP	2377.27	***
EAS	3148.43	2222.82
Total	6144.74	4248.80

Total Release = 103.89 crores

*** No district of U.P. is covered under the Desert Development Programme.

[English]

Direct Flights for Haj Pilgrims from Ahmedabad Airport

2236. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government launched direct flights from Ahmedabad to Jeddah for the Haj Pilgrims; and

(b) if so, the details of the flights and the number of Haj Pilgrims availed it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHANAM LAL GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In phase-I of Haj movement from 7th February to 4th March, 2000, 27 flights have been operated from Ahmedabad to Jeddah which carried 7295 Haj pilgrims including 8 infants.

[Translation]

Train Accident in Haryana

2237. SHRI BABUBHAI K. KATARA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether two rail accidents were occurred in Haryana during February, 2000;

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

(c) the loss of life and property therein;

(d) the compensation given or to be given to the deceased and injured persons; and

(e) the steps taken to prevent such type of accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) There were two accidents at unmanned level crossings in February 2000, which occurred primarily due to negligence of road users. In first accident on 07-02-2000 at 14.10 hours, one Jeep HRJ 3695 dashed against train engine of 3LJH passenger at unmanned level crossing in the Barwala-Uklana block section of Ambala division. In this accident 1 occupant of Jeep was killed and 4 occupants were grievously injured.

In the other accident on 19.02.2000 at 11.15 hours, one Matador HR-45-2135 dashed against the train at unmanned level crossing in the Kaithal-Kulait block section of Delhi Division. In this accident 1 occupant of Matador was killed and two occupants were simply injured.

No loss of Railway property was reported.

(d) Since unmanned level crossing accidents are caused due to negligence of road users, as per railway rules no compensation is admissible to them.

(e) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

(e) **Measures for reducing Unmanned Level Crossing accidents**

1. Proper Road Signs have been provided on approaches to level crossings so that road vehicle drivers become aware of the existence of a level crossing gate.
2. Speed breakers/rumble strips have been provided on approaches to level crossing gates so that road vehicle drivers are reminded to reduce their speed.
3. Whistle boards are also provided alongside the rail track on approach to level crossings. Train drivers are required to whistle from the whistle board till such time as the train passes the level crossing gate in order to warn road users about the approaching train. Periodic drivers are launched for checking whether drivers are actually whistling from such whistle boards.
4. Road users have still not got used to the faster speeds of Mail/Express trains. A train travelling at 90 KMPH covers 25m/sec. Thus, although to the road user the train appears to be 150 meters away, in terms of time it is only 6 seconds away. This message is being conveyed to them progressively by various publicity measures.
5. To educate road drivers about safety at unmanned level crossings, publicity campaigns are periodically launched through various media like quickies on TV, cinema slides, posters, talk on radio, newspaper advertisements and street plays.
6. Since accidents at unmanned level crossings take place due to negligence of road users, the State Governments can also help by exercising strict checks while issuing driving licences, specially to drivers of trucks, buses and other heavy vehicles. All Chief Secretaries have been requested to co-operate in educating road users.
7. Joint Ambush Checks with civil authorities are conducted to nab errant road vehicle drivers under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Railways Act, 1989.

8. Involvement of village Panchayats in the railways public awareness programmes is also being done.

9. Permission has been received from some of the State Governments for putting up L-Xing Safety posters at Village Panchayat Offices. These posters are presently under printing and this work will be started in the near future.

10. Permission has also been received from IOC/HPC/BPC for putting up L-Xing Safety posters at retail petrol pumps. These posters are presently under printing and this work will also be started in the near future.

11. An intensive campaign through Public address system has been launched to sensitize the public about the dangers from explosives and need to maintain extreme vigilance regarding unclaimed/unattended objects.

12. Intensive publicity is carried out through television quickies, advertisements in the National and local press to educate the public against the hazards of carrying inflammable material in their luggage.

[English]

Private Air Taxi Services

2238. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to encourage private air taxi services for linking smaller cities is under consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cities have been identified for the running of private air Taxi services; and

(d) if so, the details thereof particularly with reference to West Bengal and North Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) To encourage small aircraft (turbo-prop) operations to connect smaller and non-metro cities, it has been decided to provide ATF to such aircraft at international prices and notify ATF as a "declared good" under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956.

(c) and (d) Operators are free to connect places in their commercial judgement subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations on specified category of routes.

Construction of Bogibeel Road-Cum-Rail-Bridge

2239. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present position/status of the proposed Bogibeel bridge (Road-Cum-Railway) over river Brahmaputra;

(b) the estimated cost of the bridge; and

(c) the time by which the first phase of work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) The work is included in the Budget. Final location survey and detailed investigations have been taken up.

(b) Estimated cost of the work will be known after the Final Location Survey is completed.

(c) The case for obtaining requisite clearances will be processed once the Final Location Survey and detailed investigations are completed, and firm costs is worked out. Work would be taken up immediately after these clearances become available.

[Translation]

Domestic Flights on Delhi-Lucknow-Gorakhpur Sector

2240. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to start a domestic flight on Delhi-Lucknow-Gorakhpur Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Airlines are free to operate on any route in their commercial judgement subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations on specified category of routes.

[English]

Extension of Delhi-Bangalore Flight upto Coimbatore

2241. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to extend Delhi-Bangalore flight upto Coimbatore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) No, Sir. At present Indian Airlines operates a daily service Delhi-Mumbai-Coimbatore-Calicut and return.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Reorientation of T.P.D.S.

2242. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any fresh proposal to reorient Target Public Distribution System (TPDS) with special emphasis to subserve the interests of rural and urban poor;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken to check effectively diversion of food items meant for distribution through PDS to open market, weed out bogus cards/extra non-living members on cards and issue of fresh card through special drive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) Government has decided to restructure Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) with special emphasis on rural and urban poor and to enhance their food security by doubling the quantity of foodgrains from the present 10 kg. per family per month.

(c) Public Distribution System is implemented under the joint responsibility of the Central and State Governments/UT Administrations. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage and transportation of the PDS commodities up to the central godowns and making them available to the States. The responsibility for distribution to the consumers through the Fair Price Shops and administration of the PDS rests with the State Governments and UT Administrations. State Governments have been requested to closely monitor PDS at the Fair Price Shops (FPSs) and other levels to curb diversion and to make arrangement for distribution of PDS commodities in a transparent and accountable manner by involvement of Panchyati Raj Institutions (PRIs) etc. In implementation of PDS. They have been asked to eliminate bogus ration cards and bogus units in the ration cards. The State Governments have been also advised to initiate action against erring FPS owners under Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Identification of Surplus Railway Land for Commercial Use

2243. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :
 DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
 SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :
 SHRI SADA.SHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
 Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway have identified the surplus railway land and air space for commercial utilisation such as construction of budget hotels, commercial complexes and level crossing gates for hoardings and billboards;

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

(c) the amount likely to be generated therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Railways do not have surplus land. However, with a view to augment its resources, Railways have decided to utilise air space over its land/property. The sites identified so far include station buildings at Andheri, Borivili, Kalyan and Thane in Mumbai, Maharashtra, Secunderabad and Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh, Chennai Central in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, Sealdah, Howrah and some metro stations in Calcutta, West Bengal. The vacant plots identified are Salt Gollah in Calcutta, West Bengal and Bandra in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

100 stations of tourist interest on Indian Railways have also been identified for the construction of Budget Hotels/Rail Yatri Niwasas on various zones under Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation through private participation.

It has also been decided to generate resources by using railway stations/sites, level crossings, freight wagons, passenger trains and some other miscellaneous areas for advertisement.

(c) As property development schemes require, detailed planning and design, market studies as well as pre-constructions studies and approvals before actual construction can be taken up, such schemes have a long gestation period. At this stage it is not possible to make an accurate estimate of the amount likely to be generated through this route.

[Translation]

Meeting between Indo-Pak Military Officers

2244. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indo-Pak Military officers held any meeting during the recent past;

(b) if so, the points discussed in the said meeting and the decisions arrived at; and

(c) the follow-up action taken thereon in defusing the tensions on the Indo-Pak borders?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE

FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) There has been no meeting between Indian and Pakistani Military officers since August 1999.

[English]

Fraudulent LTC Claim by C.M.D., Midhani

2245. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the Deccan Chronicle of October 4, 1999 published from Hyderabad under the caption "CBI nails Midhani CMD for bending rules to claim benefits";

(b) if so, the action taken against the concerned official; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to weed out corrupt public servants found guilty of malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In addition to news item, CBI has sent to the Government a self-contained note outlining certain irregularities committed by some officers of Midhani. The self-contained note has been examined and sent to CVC for their advice. Government will take appropriate action as per law against the officers and will not hesitate to take strict action against the culprits if charges alleged against them are proven.

[Translation]

Extension of Raipur Flight

2246. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the time by which the air services of Indian Airlines operated upto Raipur are likely to be extended upto Jabalpur and Chitrukut?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : Operational constraints and shortage of capacity do not permit extension of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air services upto Raipur to Jabalpur and Chitrukut.

[English]

Conservation of C & W Workshop at Purna

2247. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is constant demand for converting the C & W Workshop into Broad Gauge Carriage Wagon Workshop at Purna under South Central Railway because all the infrastructural facilities are available at Purna and are lying idle; and

(b) if so, the reactions of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. A few references have been received from Hon'ble Members of

Parliament. However, there is no C & W workshop at Purna instead there is a C & W Depot.

(b) Railway workshop are set up keeping in view maintenance requirement of different types of Rolling Stock in use in the specific area. The Rolling Stock maintenance facilities available in the region are considered adequate to meet the Railway's requirement and as such there is no proposal, at present, to convert C & W Depot at Purna into a full-fledged BG Carriage and Wagon workshop.

[Translation]

Repairing of Pratapnagar-Chhota Udaipur Rail line

2248. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the repairing work of Partapnagar-Chhota Udaipur narrow gauge line, damaged five year ago, is likely to be completed and train services restores on this line;

(b) whether the Government propose to convert the above line broad gauge line; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Regular train service is already available between Pratapnagar and Bordeli. The tentative target for the completion of restoration work between Bordeli-Chhota Udaipur is September, 2000.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Discharging of Pollution by Diesel Locomotive Workshops

2249. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :

SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

DR. SANJAY PASWAN :

SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Government turns blind eye to Railways' misdeeds" appearing in the *Statesman* dated February 9, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein;

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Railways have taken/propose to take any concrete steps to check pollution discharge by its various diesel locomotive workshops/sheds in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report says that Railway's Diesel Locomotive Workshop in Tughlakabad and other Workshops in Nizamuddin, New Delhi and Old Delhi discharge huge quantities of untreated diesel and used oil and other polluting effluents into the river Jamuna. Facts of the case are that limited quantity of lube oil and HSD escape to the maintenance pits of Diesel Shed.

Tughlakabad connected to the Municipality drain. Effluent sample tested by Pollution Control Board has been found within the safe limits of pollution. From the coach washing cum maintenance facilities at Nizamuddin, New Delhi and Delhi, waste water generated out of washing of coaches is discharged into the Municipal drain. This discharge does not contain any diesel or oil.

(c) to (e) Periodic testing of drain effluents through Pollution Control Board to assess the degree of pollution has been proposed to be carried out for Tughlakabad diesel shed. Action has also been initiated for the commissioning of Effluent Treatment Plant to remove oil from the drains. Similar action is also proposed to be taken in a phased manner for other diesel sheds in the country.

Requirement of Coaches

2250. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of various types of rail coaches required by the Railways yearly;

(b) whether the requirement of these coaches is fulfilled through our own factories or imported from other countries, details thereof;

(c) whether the Government export these coaches; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) During last five years, the Railways have yearly required about 70 types of rail coaches.

(b) The requirement of coaches is being met through indigenous production, through two factories under Ministry of Railways namely Integral Coach Factory, Chennai and Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala, one factory under the Ministry of Defence namely B.E.M.L. and one factory under Ministry of Heavy Industries namely Jessops. In addition, there has been limited import of State of Art coaches along with Transfer of Technology for their subsequent manufacture in India.

(c) and (d) Integral Coach Factory has in the past exported coaches to various countries. The number of coaches exported to various countries so far includes :

Taiwan-113, Phillipines-66, Zambia-6, Tanzania-44, Uganda-20, Vietnam-65; Nigeria-32, Bangladesh-70 and Mozambique-15.

Survey for Doubling of Mangalore-Mysore Rail Line

2251. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been carried out for doubling of Mangalore-Mysore railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Financial Pressure on Hotels and Restaurants

2252. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the ambitious tourism policy is completely silent about continued viability of existing hotels and restaurants; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to reduce the financial pressures on these units?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Tourism has not announced any new tourism policy yet. However, as per the existing policy, Union Government has accorded Export House Status to tourism units including hotels which are entitled to various incentives/benefits. Union Government also provides various incentives and concessional customs duty on imports for approved hotels, restaurants and hotel projects including income tax exemptions, interest subsidy for 1 - 3 star and heritage hotels, duty free import of special items etc. The State Governments also provide support for tourism as per policies in their areas.

The continued viability of the hotels and restaurants is proven by the facts that new hotels and restaurants continue to be set up.

Review of Training Schedule of Pilots

2253. SHRI SURESH KURUP :

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY :

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air Force arm of the Armed Forces is facing problems due to errors by pilots including senior and trained pilots;

(b) if so, whether this has raised serious doubts regarding present day training schedule of the Air Force specially for deep penetration strike aircrafts categories; and

(c) if so, the steps being considered to review the whole training schedule soon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir. However, there have been instances of accidents due to human error, involving younger aircrew who are in the process of building up their flying experience, not senior pilots.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

[Translation]

Operational Cost of Railways

2254. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government through a white paper had expressed the view two years back that there is need to reduce the operational cost of railways;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any measures to reduce it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Operational cost of Railways is being reduced by keeping a tight control on expenditure on fuel and power consumption, maintenance and repair cost, contractual payments and staff allowances. Reduction in staff costs through better manpower planning is also being pursued. Railways are improving their asset utilisation and enforcing strict inventory controls. Austerity and economy measures are also being enforced in the areas of hospitality, publicity, advertisements, seminars and workshops, contingent office expenses, travel etc.

At the same time, to augment resources, increased emphasis is being laid on enhanced revenue generation through better marketing efforts, private sector participation in Railway Projects, and through alternative and innovative avenues of revenue generation like commercial utilisation of railway land and air space, leasing of "right of way" for optic fibre cables, commercial publicity etc.

[English]

Construction of an Airport at Kanyakumari

2255. SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide domestic airport at Kanyakumari which is international tourist spot; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PRO. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Pilferage of Consumer Items from Army Base Jammu and Kashmir

2256. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report appeared in the 'Times of India' dated August 7, 1999 regarding pilferage of petrol, kerosene, rums etc. from the Army base in the State of J & K; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Army Headquarters was asked to investigate the matter and furnish the findings. The Army Headquarters have informed that the matter has been thoroughly investigated by the Headquarters Northern Command. A copy of the Report has not yet been received from the Army Headquarters.

Report of K.P. Singh Deo Committee

2257. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a High Power Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Shri K.P. Singh Deo to review the service conditions of Territorial Army has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the date on which the Report was submitted to the Government;

(c) whether the Report has since been examined;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations accepted and rejected, separately;

(e) the reasons for rejection, recommendation-wise; and

(f) the steps being taken to lay the Report on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The Report of the Committee was submitted to the Government on 6th August, 1996.

(c) to (f) The recommendations made by the Committee cover a wide area of activities having far reaching implications and, therefore, required an in-depth examination in consultation with Service Hqrs. and other organisations concerned. This necessitated a series of consultations over the period. While tentative conclusion have been reached in regard to the recommendations, final decisions thereon are expected to be taken shortly. There is no proposal to lay the report on the Table of the House at this late stage.

[Translation]

Provision of Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed

2258. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the utilisation of resources in providing self employment to the educated unemployed persons of weaker section has been decreased; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATAWA) : (a) and (b) This Ministry does not monitor the figures relating to educated unemployed persons belonging to weaker section. However, the coverage of below poverty line families belonging to Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST), under the main erstwhile self employment programme - Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during the last two years was as follows :-

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	No. of SC/STs Families Covered (Lakh Nos.)	% of SC/STs Total Families Assisted (Lakh Nos.)	Subsidy Disbursed to SC/ST	Credit Disbursed to SC/ST
1997-98	7.92	46.42	431.27	822.33
1998-99	7.76	46.29	442.23	926.76

[English]

Amendment in Consumer Protection Act, 1986

2259. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to amend Consumer Protection Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also considering to set up a National Safety Commission as suggested by various consumer organisations;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the press reports wherein it has been stated that various manufactures of consumer products are not mentioning the name of the company and its address on the pack; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some proposals for amending the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 are under consideration of the Government with a view to make the Act more effective and purposeful.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Packages not bearing the name and address of the company manufacturing the prepacked commodity amounts to violation of the provisions of the Weight and Measures Laws. Inspections are carried out by enforcement officials of States/UTs from time to time and action initiated in such cases as per the provisions of law.

Rural Development Schemes of States

2260. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Governments of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have submitted a number of rural development schemes for approval of the Union Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes/projects submitted by the State Governments during the above period and number out of them sanctioned, year-wise;

(c) whether any action plan for development of rural areas have been drawn up for their completion;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATAWA) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected.

(c) and (e) No special action plan has been formulated for completion of the schemes. However, the progress of the implementation of the schemes is monitored regularly.

Chennai Metro Rapid Transit Railways

2261. SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chennai Metro Rapid Transit Railways are facing stiff competition from Tamil Nadu State operated bus transport; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to meet this unhealthy competition resorted to by the Tamil Nadu State Bus transport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no unhealthy competition from Tamil Nadu State operated bus transport. Tamil Nadu State Government is giving all assistance for development of inter-modal system. Bus terminal has been developed in Chintadripet Station. Further action is on hand to develop bus terminals at Triplicane and Thirumalai after vacating the hutments in this area. In phase II of MRTS, all stations are proposed to be developed with space for bus terminal.

Funds for Poverty Alleviation Programme

2262. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sub-Committee of the National Development Council decided any formula for allocation of funds under the centrally sponsored rural poverty alleviation programmes;

(b) if so, whether the committee has decided to continue the existing formula since funds have been allocated on basis for the first three years of the Ninth Plan period;

(c) if so, the total funds that have been allocated for removal of poverty alleviation programme; and

(d) to what extent State Governments have fully utilised these funds?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATAWA) : (a) and (b) The Committee of the National Development Council (NDC) on the Criterion for

Allocation of funds under major rural poverty alleviation programmes has recommended the continuation of presently used criterion viz. the adjusted shares as approved by the full Planning Commission as the formula to allocate funds. The Committee also recommended that many important suggestions which relate to incentives for better performance in reducing poverty and additional funds for areas with extreme poverty and distress could be taken up when the work starts on the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) An amount of Rs. 8001.36 crore was allocated by way of Central and State share for poverty alleviation programmes during 1999-2000, out of which, an amount of Rs. 3439.30 crore was utilised by the States.

[Translation]

Import of Palm Oil

2263. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the date from which Palm oil has been brought under Open General Licence (O.G.L.) and the reasons therefor;

(b) the quantity of Palm oil imported during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 so far and the countries from which it has been imported along with rate thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase custom duty on import of Palm oil and restrict its import in the interest of the farmers and oil industry of the country;

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the other consumer items which have been brought under the Open General Licence (O.G.L.) and the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) Palm oil has been brought under OGL vide Notification dated 31st March, 1999.

(b) The import of crude palm oil during 1998-99 was negligible. A quantity of 12,136 metric tonne of crude palm oil has been imported during November, 1999 to January 2000. The import of crude palm oil is basically from Malaysia and Indonesia. The rates varied from 320 to 330 US Dollar CIF per metric tonne.

(c) to (e) With effect from 30.12.99, Government has increased custom duty on import of refined oils and had stipulated "actual user" condition for import of crude oils including crude palm oils. The main consideration in restricting the import of edible oils is the interest of the farmers and oil industry of the country.

[English]

Development of Imphal Airport

2264. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed that Imphal Airport be extended and developed as International Airport;

(b) if so, the details of the amount allocated for the purpose under the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) whether the Government have taken up this work during the current financial year; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Cases of Land Disputes Pending with Airports Authority of India

2265. SHRI BHIM DAHAL :

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of cases of land disputes are pending with the Airports Authority of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on January 1, 2000 alongwith the reasons therefor, region-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to settle these cases with the concerned parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) The number of land disputes pending as on 1.1.2000, regionwise, is 137 in Western Region, 23 in Northern Region, 38 in Southern Region, 01 in Eastern Region and 02 in North-East Region.

(c) Apart from pursuing the cases in various Law Courts, Airports Authorities of India (AAI) has appointed Estate Officers to handle these cases at major airports under the Public premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

Expansion of Airports

2266. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to expand Madurai, Tiruchi, Coimbatore, Salem Airports in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry Airports so as to bring them to international standard considering considerable traffic and importance of the cities where the Airports are located;

(b) if so, the plan allocation made alongwith the other details thereof; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plans for the development/ upgradation of Madurai and Trichy airports for operation of AB-320 and Coimbatore Airport for operation of AB-300 class of aircraft. However, AAI has no plans for the upgradation of Salem and Pondicherry Airports as no airlines operators have shown their willingness to operate their flights to Salem and Pondicherry Airports.

(b) and (c) AAI has made budget provision of Rs. 5.10 crores for runway extension and construction of new terminal building at Madurai and Rs. 8 crores for extension of runway and construction of new terminal building at Trichy Airport during 9th plan period (1997-2002).

AAI has placed requisition of 60 acres of land for development of Madurai Airport and 75 acres of land for development of Trichy Airport and 175 acres of land for development of Coimbatore Airport with the State Government of Tamil Nadu.

Construction of Divisional Office at Ahmedabad

2267. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government has allotted land for construction of divisional office at Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the time by which the construction of divisional office is likely to start;

(c) the amount sanctioned for the purpose;

(d) whether the divisional office has started functioning in existing premises; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) It is proposed to set up divisional office at Ahmedabad. State Government has offered land of R.C. Technical Institute in exchange for Railways land equivalent value at Thaltej.

(b) The evaluation of land rates at R.C. Technical Institute and Thaltej is yet to be done by the State Government. After evaluation of land rates, formal exchange of land shall be done. The construction of divisional office shall start thereafter.

(c) An outlay of Rs. 20 lakhs has been provided during 2000-2001.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) At present, the required minimum infrastructure for running of the division is not available.

Sugar Scam

2268. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT :

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Another Sugar Scam in the country" appearing in the Indian Express dated February 2, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts and reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) The Indian Express dated 2nd February, 2000 has published a news item titled "Another sugar-scam in the offing" and not "Another Sugar Scam in the country". The news item mentioned about the additional freesale sugar quota given by the Government over and above the normal freesale quota. Consequent upon the publication of the above news item, the Government have clarified the position as under :-

"Government has done away with ad-hoc allotment of additional quantities to sugar mills, on a purely discretionary basis, over and above the pro-rata allotment to sugar mills out of the monthly releases of sugar in the free-sale. This new policy has come into effect from 1st January, 2000.

However, certain sugar mills have represented to Government that on account of non-sanction of working capital by banks, they are having problems in settling the dues to the farmers especially during the peak crushing season. Farmers in these areas have been agitated over non-payment of their dues while sugar mills have been producing sugar and stocking them. Taking into account these practical problems, Government have decided to make exceptions in a very few cases to make advance additional allotments during the crushing season to such mills within their over-all yearly entitlement for release. Clear guidelines have been laid down to restrict the number to a few mills who have problems of working capital. Also it has been decided to make these advance releases only for a few months during the crushing season and these are spread over both free-sale and levy entitlements. The disbursement of money to the farmers towards cane price dues from the realisation and sale of these additional quantities will also be monitored on month-to-month basis. The advance releases will also be adjusted at the same rate immediately after the crushing season. It is to be noted

that advance allotments are made during the season when price in the open market are under control and the mills do not have any undue advantage over other mills. The actual allotment of sugar will be made by the Department of Sugar & Edible Oils on examination of representations from sugar mills received. Reference to PMO or involvement of PMO in any other way does not arise.

It is therefore, clarified that Government has not restored the system of additional allotments to sugar mills. Only advance allotments are being made in "certain exceptional cases."

[Translation]

Compensation to Wards of Para-Military Soldiers died in Kargil

2269. SHRI SIS RAM OLA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of soldiers of Para-Military Forces killed in Kargil conflict;

(b) whether the jawans of Para-Military Forces killed during the "Kargil Operation Vijay" are being provided the same facilities as are being provided to the jawans of Indian Army who died in action;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the disparity?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) One.

(b) to (d) As per existing rules, the next of kin (NOK) of the Central Para-Military Forces (CPMFs) killed during Kargil conflict are entitled to the same pensionary benefits as NOK of deceased Armed Forces personnel. So far as the ex-gratia lumpsum compensation is concerned, the NOKs of CPMFs are entitled to Rs. 7.5 lakh in case the person dies in enemy action in international war or border skirmishes or during action against militants, terrorists,

extremists etc., whereas the NOK of Armed Forces personnel is entitled to Rs. 10 lakh in case of death during Kargil conflict during the period between 1.5.1999 to 31.10.1999. This is because the Kargil conflict was considered a war/ war like engagement in which normally only Armed Forces personnel participate.

[English]

Financial Assistance to Unemployed Youths

2270. DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to grant financial assistance to the unemployed youths to provide them self-employment opportunities in the rural areas of Rajasthan particularly in the district of Udaipur;

(b) if so, the funds granted to the State during the each of the last three years; and

(c) the effective measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATAWA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Under the Self-employment programme of this Ministry – Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar yojana (SGSY) – assistance is available in the form of bank credit and Government subsidy to the families below poverty line including unemployed youth belonging to such families. This programme is in operation in all the districts including Udaipur district of Rajasthan.

(b) The programme Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) was launched in April, 1999. Assistance to the unemployed youth belonging to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families was earlier available under the programmes – Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) for income generating activities and Training for Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) for training for self/wage employment.

The details of funds given for the last three years are indicated below :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Central Funds granted Under IRDP to State	Funds granted to Udaipur under IRDP	Central funds granted under TRYSEM to State	Funds granted to Udaipur under TRYSEM
1996-97	1814.85	101.81	72.80	4.15
1997-98	1618.16	95.50	154.37	4.14
1998-99	2078.85	175.73	44.73	3.30

(c) Government have restructured the self-employment with effect from 1-4-1999 with a view to increasing its effectiveness. The new programme Swarnjayanti Gram

Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is a holistic programme comprising of all activities necessary for effective self-employment including training as well as provision of financial assistance.

[Translation]

Import of Edible Oil

2271. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :

SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :

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

(a) the extent to which the free import of edible oil affected the prices offered to Indian farmers;

(b) whether the imports of edible oil exceeds 10% during the current year; and

(c) the foreign exchange outflow due to this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) In the current season for some time soyabean prices fell below the Minimum Support Price (MSP) basically because of the low prices of both oil and de-oiled cake in the international market. The ruling market prices of soyabean are however, well above the MSP.

(b) Based on the returns received from the importers, the imports of edible oils in the Oil Year (November-October) 1997-98 and 1998-99 have been 18.93 lakh tonnes and 35.06 lakh tonnes respectively.

(c) Precise figures of foreign exchange Outflow on account of oil imports in the current year are not available. However, according to estimates by the trade, the cost of imports is around Rs. 1500 crores.

[English]

Construction of Roads and Bunkers by China on LAC

2272. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the People Liberation Army (PLA) of China has constructed concrete roads and bunkers from point 5459 to 5495 inside the Line of Actual Control in the Aksai-China area of Indian territory; and

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the follow up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The resolution boundary question between India and China is outstanding. The two sides also have differences in the perception of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the border areas, including in the Ladakh region of J&K (Western Sector). Both sides carry out

patrolling activity as per their respective perception of the LAC. Violations of the LAC are taken up through diplomatic channels and at Border Personnel Meetings/Flag meetings.

2. India and China have been discussing the boundary question in the framework of the India-China Joint Working Group on the Boundary Question. Both sides have reiterated the objective of seeking a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question through dialogue. Both sides have also reiterated their commitment to maintaining peace and tranquillity in the border areas. Such dialogue between the two countries is aimed at resolving all outstanding issues.

3. Government remain vigilant and take all necessary and appropriate measures to safeguard the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of India.

Railway Projects in Orissa

2273. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the action plan to deal with the backwardness of Orissa in the field of Railways and for concerning new areas with it;

(b) the percentage of railway network within Orissa out of the total network in the country;

(c) the percentage of train facilities available in Orissa out of the total trains running throughout the country; and

(d) the details of the new projects under construction in Orissa and the time by when these projects are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Planning for, and the execution of, Railway projects is done in an integrated and need based manner keeping a national perspective in view. Geographical boundaries of a State, per se, do not form a criterion for determining Railway investments, especially in a scenario where many Railway projects span across more than one state.

(b) The percentage of railway network within Orissa out of the total network in the country is approximately 3.67% as on 31.3.1999.

(c) Trains are run by the Railways according to traffic requirements. Geographical boundaries of a state are not taken into consideration while running trains. Therefore, statistics pertaining to the percentage of trains facilities available in a particular state out of the total trains running in the country is not maintained by the Railways.

(d) Details of projects under construction in Orissa with their present status are given in the Appendix.

Target Dates for projects, wherever fixed, are given in the status of each project.

Statement		
S. No.	Project	Remarks
1	2	3
New Line		
1	Angul-Sukinada Road	Final Location Survey has been taken up and has been completed for 30 km; balance is expected to be completed by March 2000. Further action will be taken after completion of FLS and land acquisition. Soil exploration for 8 major bridges has been completed and is in progress for another 3 major bridges.
2.	Daitari-Banspani	Earthwork and bridges are in progress from km 0 to 129 from Banspani end. 190 out of 248 minor bridges have been completed and work on 16 major bridges have been taken up. 1.48 lakhs cum of ballast out of 1.75 lac cum required from km 0 to 58 has so far been collected. From km. 129 to 155, transfer of forest land has been cleared and will be made available after tree felling is completed. The line is targeted for completion by December, 2003 to match the requirement of Steel Plants coming up in the area. The first section from Banspani to Joruri (11 km) is expected to be completed in this financial year.
3.	Haridaspur-Paradeep	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans and papers have been finalised and have been submitted to the State Govt. An amount of Rs. 5 crs. has been paid to the State Govt. for land acquisition. Work would be started as soon as land becomes available.
4.	Khurda Road-Bolangir	The work of final location survey is in progress. Land acquisition papers for 23 km. length has been submitted to State Government. Work would be taken up once land is handed over by State Government.
5.	Koraput-Rayagada	The work has been completed and commissioned.
6.	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh	Land acquisition is completed except for forest land for which stage I approval has been obtained. Earthwork and bridge work has been taken up in the first block section Lanjigarh to Bhavanipatna.
7.	Talcher-Sambalpur	The project has been completed and commissioned.
Gauge Conversion		
8	Naupada-Gunupur	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
9	Rupsa-Bangriposi	Earthwork and bridges are in progress from Km. 0 to 89.
Dcubling		
10	Khurda Road-Puri PH-I (Khurda Road-Delang)	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
11	Nergundi-Cuttack-Raghunathpur	The preparation of plans and estimates and land acquisition plans has been taken up. Final location survey has been completed for Nergundi-Cuttack section, no land is required and is only required on Raghunathpur-Cuttack section. Bridge work and earth work has been taken up in Kendrapara Road yard. Tenders for other sections in under finalisation.

1	2	3
12	Raghunathpur-Rahama	Section from Gorakhnath to Rahama has been completed and from Raghunathpur to Gorakhnath is expected to be completed shortly due to affected by cyclone.
13	Rahama-Paradeep	The preparation of plans and estimates has been taken up. Land acquisition has been processed and for 5 villages land acquisition papers has been submitted to the State Government. Work will be taken up once the land is made available.
14	Rajatgarh-Barang	New work included in Budget 1999-2000, will be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances.
15	Rajatgarh-Nargundi	The section from Rajatgarh to Salegaon has been completed. The remaining section of 4 km has a fly over and would be ready by December 2000 subject to land being made available by the State. Govt.
16	Talchar-Cuttack-Paradeep (2nd Bridges on Mahanadi & Birupa)	Soil investigation and detailed design on Birupa bridge has been completed and drawings are under preparation. Prequalification tender has been called for execution of bridge and M/s IRCON has been prequalified for Birupa bridge and they are under consideration for Mahanadi bridge. For Mahanadi, consultant has been fixed for design and drawings and the detailed design is in progress. Tenders for bridge will be invited once the design is finalised.
17	Titlagarh-Lanjigarh	The preparation of plans and estimates and land acquisition plans has been taken up. Tenders have been finalised for earthwork in three sections and for 1 major bridge.
Electrification		
18	Bhubneshwar-Kottavalasa	Work is in progress and is targetted for completion by March 2002. 179 RKMs since energised upto March, 1999.
19	Bokaro Steel City-Muri Hatia-Bondamunda-Bimlagarh-Kirburu/Barsuan incl. Purulia-Kotshila.	221 RKMs energised till March, 1999. An entire section targeted for completion by March, 2002. The project has been delayed due to bad law and order problem and failure of OHE contractor and delay in release of 132 kv supply by DVC/BSEB.

Staff of Vayudoot Ltd.

2274. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines had issued an appointment letter dated November 11, 1994 to the staff of Vayudoot Limited stating therein among other service conditions that their seniority on their absorption in the Short Haul Operation Department of Indian Airlines w.e.f. December 1, 1994, will be maintained separately from Indian Airlines cadres;

(b) if so, whether now the Indian Airlines are not recognising the said appointment letter;

(c) if so, whether promotions in staff categories of Vayudoot Ltd. which were due from June 30, 1998 have been withheld;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action being taken or proposed to be taken to grant promotions in the staff categories of Vayudoot Ltd. retrospectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Foreign Vessels Apprehended in E.E.Z.

2275. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of cases about violation of our

EEZ in and around A&N Islands detected by Coast Guard and Indian Navy during the last three years;

(b) the details of vessels and crew members apprehended on account of such violations and the status of such cases as on date; and

(c) the details of vessels and their captains/crew who have been captured twice or more number of times and punitive/corrective action taken/proposed to prevent such repetitive violations?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The year-wise details of cases of violation of our EEZ in and around A&N Islands detected by the Coast Guard (CG) and the Indian Navy (IN) during the last three years are as under :-

Year	Indian Navy		Coast Guard	
	Boats	Crew	Boats	Crew
1997	20	28	19	99
1998	23	61	14	133
1999	44	200	8	193

The apprehended vessels and their crew which belonged to Indonesia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand were handed over to the local police authorities for conducting investigations and taking further necessary action as per the Law. As per the available information, there was no occasion when the same vessel or crew was captured more than once.

The Indian Navy and the Coast Guard continue to maintain regular vigil in the area around A&N islands to prevent violation of our Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

[Translation]

Scarcity of Potable Water

2276. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Municipal Committees, Village Panchayats and Member of Parliament of Jamnagar district of Gujarat have made several complaints regarding scarcity of potable water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated by the Union Government for the schemes of the State Government during 1998 and 1999, scheme-wise; and

(d) the time by when the each scheme is likely to be completed?

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

[English]

Crisis of Drinking Water

2277. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have requested the Union Government to sanction more funds for the drinking water crisis for the drought hit districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of efforts being made by both the Union Government and State Government to help the drought hit areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) Assistance is provided to States every year from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. For 1999-2000, Andhra Pradesh has an allocation of Rs. 143.59 crore under CRF which includes Central share of Rs. 107.69 crore. The entire Central share has been released to the State. Further, in addition to CRF, assistance is considered from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) for calamities of rare severity only in accordance with a set procedure. During 1999-2000, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had submitted a Memorandum seeking assistance of Rs. 720.36 crore from the NFCR which, inter-alia, included requirement of Rs. 302.50 crore for drinking water supply. The National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC) under the Chairmanship of Union Agriculture Minister considered the request of the State Government and approved a total assistance of Rs. 75.36 crore from the NFCR in the wake of drought, which includes the requirement for drinking water supply also, for release to the State Government by the Ministry of Finance in due course.

Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State subject. State Governments have been implementing Rural Water Supply programmes under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing Central assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

During the year 1999-2000 and amount of Rs. 125.34 crore has been released to Andhra Pradesh for carrying out activities under the ARWSP. An amount of Rs. 38.05 crore has been released to Andhra Pradesh during 1999-

2000 for implementation of on-going Sub-Mission projects to provide safe drinking water in quality affected habitations.

Details regarding the efforts being made by the Andhra Pradesh Government to help the drought hit areas are being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Villages without Elected Panchayats

2278. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number and percentage of villages in each of the State without elected Panchayats as on January 1, 2000;

(b) whether the Tenth Finance Commission Report envisages that panchayati raj development funds have to be given only to the elected Panchayats; and

(c) if so, the percentage of allocated funds released to Panchayats during 1997-98, 1998-99 and this year so far?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) As on January 1, 2000, the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar and the Union Territory

of Pondicherry had not, so far, held Panchayat elections in accordance with the Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act, 1992. Andhra Pradesh has not yet held Panchayat elections in the Schedule V Areas of the State, which are required to be held in accordance with the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.

(b) The conduct of local body elections is mandatory, following the coming into forces of the Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act, 1992 and the Constitution (Seventy-fourth Amendment) Act, 1992. Keeping in view that the grant recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission is part of a larger Constitutional scheme of devolution of functions and responsibilities from the State of Local Bodies (to enable them to function as effective institutions of local self government), it has been provided in the guidelines, issued to State Governments, that the grant may be given only in respect of elected local bodies.

(c) A Statement indicating the State-wise and year-wise grants recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission during 1996-2000 for Panchayati Raj Institutions, the grants released till date and the grants released, as percentage of grants recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission, is enclosed.

Statement

The State-wise status of release of this grant is as follows (As on 7.3.2000)

State/UT	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000		Total 1996-2000		c.10 as % age of c.9
	Recomm.	Released	Recomm.	Released	Recomm.	Released	Recomm.	Released	Recomm.	Released	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pr.	8775	8775	8775	6581.25	8775	0	8775	17736.03	35,100.00	33,092.28	94.28
Arunachal Pr.	113	113	113	28.25	113	0	112	0	451.00	141.25	31.32
Assam	3,334.00	3,334.00	3,334.00	833.5	3,334.00	0	3,334.00	0	13,336.00	4,167.50	31.25
Bihar	12,680.00	12,680.00	12,680.00	0	12,680.00	0	12,680.00	0	50,720.00	12,680.00	25
Goa	148	148	148	37	148	0	147	73.5	591.00	258.50	43.74
Gujarat	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	1,200.00	4,800.00	0	4,801.00	2,400.50	19,201.00	8,400.50	43.75
Haryana	2,066.00	2,066.00	2,066.00	516.5	2,066.00	0	2,066.00	4,648.50	8,264.00	7,231.00	87.5
H.P.	805	805	805	805	804	0	804	1,206.00	3,218.00	2,816.00	87.51
J&K	940	940	940	235	940	0	939	0	3,759.00	1,175.00	31.26
Karnataka	5,544.00	5,544.00	5,544.00	1,386.00	5,544.00	4,158.00	5,545.00	0	22,177.00	11,088.00	50.00
Kerala	4,470.00	4,470.00	4,470.00	4,470.00	4,470.00	4,470.00	4,471.00	4,471.00	17,881.00	17,881.00	100
M.P.	8,717.00	8,717.00	8,717.00	2,179.25	8,717.00	12,304.25	8,718.00	0	34,869.00	23,200.50	66.54

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Maharashtra	8,675.00	8,675.00	8,675.00	8,675.00	8,675.00	0	8,676.00	4,338.00	34,701.00	21,688.00	62.50
Manipur	233	233	233	58.25	233	0	232	116	931.00	407.25	43.74
Meghalaya	216	216	216	54	217	0	216	108	865.00	378.00	43.70
Mizoram	74	74	74	18.5	73	128.5	73	73	294.00	294.00	100.00
Nagaland	116	116	116	29	116	0	117	58.5	465.00	203.50	43.76
Orissa	5,025.00	5,025.00	5,025.00	2,512.50	5,025.00	0	5,024.00	10,049.50	20,099.00	17,587.00	87.50
Punjab	2,584.00	2,584.00	2,584.00	646	2,584.00	0	2,583.00	1,291.50	10,335.00	4,521.50	43.75
Rajasthan	5,305.00	5,305.00	5,305.00	3,978.00	5,306.00	5,327.00	5,306.00	3,959.00	21,222.00	18,569.00	87.50
Sikkim	48	48	48	12	47	24	47	23.5	190.00	107.50	56.58
Tamil Nadu	7,183.00	7,183.00	7,183.00	7,183.00	7,184.00	7,184.00	7,184.00	3,592.00	28,734.00	25,142.00	87.50
Tripura	348	348	348	348	348	0	349	174.5	1,393.00	870.50	62.49
U.P.	18,988.00	18,988.00	18,988.00	14,241.00	18,988.00	23,735.00	18,988.00	9,494.00	75,952.00	66,458.00	87.50
W.B.	8,336.00	8,336.00	8,336.00	2,084.00	8,336.00	0	8,337.00	16,273.00	33,345.00	26,693.53	80.05
Total :-	109,523.00	109,523.00	109,523.00	58,111.00	109,523.00	57,330.75	109,524.00	80,086.56	438,093.00	305,051.31	69.63

Maintaining of Passenger Trains

2279. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have asked the bodies of industry and commerce of the country to shoulder the responsibility of maintaining some passenger trains;

(b) if so, the response received from the industrial and commercial houses in the matter;

(c) the terms on which the industrial and commercial bodies have agreed to Government's proposal; and

(d) the amount of revenues expected to be granted through such measure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Flights from Patna Airport

2280. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of to and fro flights from Patna;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of flights from Patna;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) Patna is airlinked by the following scheduled air services :-

Indian Airlines	Mumbai-Delhi-Patna-Ranchi & return (daily)
Alliance Air	Delhi-Lucknow-Patna-Calcutta & return (daily)
Sahara Airlines	Mumbai-Lucknow-Patna-Calcutta & return (4 days per week)

(b) to (d) Airlines are free to operate on any route/ connect any place in their commercial judgement subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations on specified category of routes.

[English]

Gauge Conversion of Fakiragram Jn.-Zolakganj Rail Line

2281. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for conversion of Fakiragram Junction Zolakganj rail line (Dhubri District) in Assam under the Unigauge plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the length and estimated cost of conversion; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the same and the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Conversion of Fakiragram Junction-Golakganj rail line is a part of new Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon gauge conversion project (280 km.) for which CCEA clearances have been received. The latest anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 435.88 cr. Work on earth work and bridges has been started for the main line. Work on branch lines will be started after work on main line picks up.

Rural Sanitation Programme

2282. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the proposals relating to Rural Sanitation Programme submitted by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the proposals out of them approved for the year 1999-2000; and

(c) the details regarding such proposals being implemented in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Allotment of Rice to Kerala

2283. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from Kerala Government for allotment of rice from Andhra Pradesh instead of Punjab for distribution through P.D.S.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) A request was received from Government of Kerala in March, 1999 for providing Andhra variety rice under Targeted Public Distribution

System (TPDS) instead of rice procured under relaxed specification (URS).

The Food Corporation of India (FCI) issues rice to the States/their nominees against allocations for TPDS from its nearest godowns/depots as per availability. Instructions were, however, issued to FCI for providing rice from Andhra Pradesh to Kerala to the maximum extent possible and to ensure that rice supplied under TPDS to the State fully conforms to the prescribed quality specifications. The State Government was also apprised of the position accordingly.

[Translation]

Setting up of an Ordnance Factory in Nalanda

2284. SHRIMATI JAYSHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an ordnance factory proposed to be set up in Nalanda; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to start production and the items of defence requirement proposed to be produced there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The factory is likely to start production from 2004-2005. It will manufacture propellant charges.

[English]

Monthly Demand of Levy Sugar

2285. SHRI KONDIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have assessed the monthly requirement of levy sugar on the basis of present population.

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

(c) the quantity of levy sugar required for festival quota, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Union Government have assessed the monthly requirement of levy sugar on the basis of projected population as on 1.3.1999. The State/UT-wise details together with annual festival quota is given in statement.

Statement

State/UT-wise Requirement of Levy Sugar Under PDS with Projected Population of 1999.

Sl. No.	State/UT	Monthly Quota (for the State) In M/Ts	Annual Festival Quota in M/Ts
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	31712	7614
2	Andaman & Nicobar	377	74
3	Arunachal Pradesh	809	94
4	Assam	18114	2896
5	Bihar	41707	10078
6	Chandigarh	525	112
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	78	14
8	Delhi	17054	2316
9	Goa	671	150
10	Daman & Diu	59	12
11	Gujarat	20212	4878
12	Haryana	8307	1924
13	Himachal Pradesh	4582	608
14	Jammu & Kashmir	6796	868
15	Karnataka	21860	5350
16	Kerala	13592	3600
17	Lakshadweep	112	22
18	Madhya Pradesh	33294	7536
19	Maharashtra	38301	9014
20	Manipur	1709	208
21	Meghalaya	1651	200
22	Mizoram	645	78
23	Nagaland	1140	128
24	Orissa	15102	3730
25	Pondicherry	627	88
26	Punjab	9896	2392

1	2	3	4
27	Rajasthan	22372	5092
28	Sikkim	379	50
29	Tamil Nadu	26033	6790
30	Tripura	2566	302
31	Uttar Pradesh	70722	15936
32	West Bengal	33138	7796
Total		444142	99950

Introduction of Freight Information System

2286. PROF. UMMAREADDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways have introduced a freight information system called "Freight Operation Information System" (FOIS);

(b) if so, the manner in which this system is to operate;

(c) the number of railway stations in the country has this system been extended to;

(d) whether busy stations like Tenali and Guntur are part of this system;

(e) whether this system would help customer to locate their freight; and

(f) the other steps are proposed to implement speedy loading and un-loading of wagons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The two core modules of Freight Operation Information System (FOIS) are Rake Management System (RMS) and Terminal Management System (TMS). The RMS provides on-line tracking of rakes and consignment. The data regarding running of goods trains are entered in the computer terminals provided at major goods handling terminals, yards and control offices. The TMS module will cover booking of consignment, generation of Railway Receipt and revenue accounting. RMS has been implemented at 23 locations on Northern Railway. Guntur, as a major terminal, is part of the system. Connectivity to Tenali is not contemplated as of now. The computer terminals connected to the system will provide to customers information about the location and status of rakes and consignment.

(f) To speed up loading and unloading of wagons, Indian Railways propose to adopt Engine On

Load Scheme (in which engine remains attached to the rake during loading/unloading operation) at selected sidings. Indian Railways are also encouraging use of bottom discharge wagons for quicker unloading of consignment e.g. Coal etc. The free time for removal of consignments from Railway premises has also been reduced to 12 working hours to ensure quick availability of space for unloading of incoming rakes.

Upgradation of Airports

2287. SHRI R.L. BHATIA :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL) :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

DR. ASHOK PATEL :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to refer the issue of converting some airports to International airports to the high power task force on infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted for upgrading an airport as an international airport; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Task Force has been requested to examine the possibility of declaring as international some more airports which have facilities for operation of Medium Capacity Long Range (MCLR) and Small Capacity Long Range (SCLR) aircraft, customs and immigration facilities. The Task Force is expected to send its recommendations at an early date.

Working of Indian Troops under Stress and Strain in Kashmir

2288. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "How Stress taken its toll in the Valley" appeared in Indian Express dated January 21, 2000;

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

(c) the effective measures proposed to be taken to remedy the situation and to minimise the increasing complaints of jawans about their tension and fatigue?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Some stress related incidents have occurred in Jammu and Kashmir where country insurgency operations are going on. To reduce the number of such incidents greater emphasis is being given to stress management. Continuous efforts are made like planning proper relief programme, constant education and close interaction between commanders and the troops to keep the combat stress level to the minimum.

Irregularities in Super Bazar

2289. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI :

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

(a) whether in view of serious irregularities in the functioning of the Capital's Super Bazar, the Government have decided to probe the irregularities through CBI;

(b) if so, the details of financial and other irregularities of Super Bazar came to the notice of the Government during the last three years;

(c) the details of the officials of Super Bazar involved in such irregularities;

(d) whether the Government have directed CBI to probe the irregularities within a stipulated period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (e) The details of financial and other irregularities which came to notice during the last three years alongwith officials involved therein are given in enclosed statement. In the case of M/s Mahamaya Foods Listed at Sl. No. 36, CBI has already completed investigation and recommended Regular Departmental Action which is being taken. In addition, seven more cases listed from Sl. No. 38 to 44 in the statement, have now been referred to the CBI for investigation. However, no period has been stipulated for completion of the investigation.

Statement

*Details of Financial and Other Irregularities and Officials involved therein
from 1st January, 1997 to 31st December, 1999.*

Sl. No.	Detail of Irregularity	Sl. No.	Name of Officials involved
1	2	3	4
1.	Misappropriation of Super Bazar Funds.	1.	Sh. Shyam Shankar, SA
2.	Fraud while making Cashmemo.	2.	Sh. Narender Kaushik, SA
		3.	Sh. Ram Sagar, Packer
3.	Misappropriation of Super Bazar Funds.	4.	Smt. Sunanda Chatterjee, Br. Incharge
		5.	Sh. Kuldeep Jain, SA
		6.	Sh. P. Prasad, SA
		7.	Sh. Dhirender, Helper
4.	Misappropriation of Super Bazar Funds.	8.	Sh. A.P. Maniktala, SA
5.	Misappropriation of Provident Fund Account.	9.	Sh. Amarjeet, Sr. Accountant
6.	Purchase of sub-standard Surge.	10.	Sh. Anand Mohan, Manager
7.	Misappropriation of Sales proceed.	11.	Sh. Dashrath Sharma, Sa
		12.	Sh. Khilari Singh, SA
8.	Misappropriation of Sales proceed.	13.	Sh. H.C. Raj, Sr. Supervisor
9.	Misappropriation of Super Bazar Funds.	14.	Sh. Hukan Chand, Helper
10.	Misappropriation of Super Bazar Funds.	15.	Sh. Jitender Kumar, Helper
		16.	Sh. Brahm pal Sharma, SA
11.	During surprise check 24 bags atta were found short.	17.	Sh. Panni Ram, SA
12.	Goods taken without cashmemo.	18.	Sh. S.P. Jaggi, SA
13.	Misbehaved with the customer.	19.	Sh. S.P. Jaggi, SA
14.	Not provide the proper documents to Vigilance Department of Bardana.	20.	Sh. B.R. Sethi, SA
15.	Supplied sub-standard steel trunks.	21.	Sh. Vinit Sareen, AGM
16.	Misappropriation of Super Bazar Funds.	22.	Sh. K.G. Gulati, SA
		23.	Sh. V.P. Singh, SA
		24.	Sh. K.B. Singh, SA
		25.	Sh. Kiran Pal Singh
17.	Submitted forged Medical Certificates.	26.	Sh. Kuldeep Jain, SA
18.	Good taken without cashmemo.	27.	Sh. Jagat Singh, SA
19.	Manipulated in a Credit Bill.	28.	Sh. Shashi Kant, SA
		29.	Sh. Sehdev, Packer
		30.	Sh. Gopal Kishan, Jr. SA

1	2	3	4
		31.	Sh. Suresh, Helper
20.	Misappropriation of Super Bazar Funds	32.	Sh. Ram Niwas, SA
		33.	Sh. Prem Chand, SA
		34.	Sh. Arjun Parshad, Helper
21.	Excess rate charged	35.	Sh. R.N. Jha, SA
22.	Misappropriation of sale proceeds	36.	Sh. Suresh Malik, Jr. SA
23.	Misappropriation of Super Bazar Funds	37.	Smt. Anita Rawat, SA
		38.	Sh. R.S. Rana, SA
		39.	Sh. R.P. Pandey Accountant Assistant
24.	Deliberately changed the rate in inventory sheet	40.	Late Sh. R.C. Sharma, Asstt. Manager
		41.	Sh. D.P. Sharma, SA
25.	Not followed the procedure of store while receiving the goods	42.	Sh. Satpal Mann, SA
26.	Misappropriation in purchase	43.	Sh. R.C. Ohri, SA
27.	Misappropriation in purchase	44.	Sh. Vijay Kumar, AGM
28.	Fail to maintain sales tax record	45.	Sh. H.S. Ray, Manager
		46.	Sh. Naval Kishore Malhotra, SA
		47.	Sh. Raj Pal Singh, Accounts Asstt.
29.	Misappropriation of Super Bazar Funds	48.	Sh. Ashok Arora Accounts Asstt.
30.	Excess Rate Charged	49.	Sh. Bhagwan Dass, SA
31.	By introduction of Tata Brand Salt favour was extended to the party	50.	Smt. Pushpa Nagpal, Offg. Manager
32.	Award of contract to M/s. Etawah Flour Mill	51.	Sh Rama Kant, Ex-MD
33.	Award of contract to M/s Etawah Flour Mill	52.	Sh. Vijay Kumar, DGM
		53.	Sh. Vinit Sarin, AGM
		54.	Sh Shyam Sunder, Manager
		55.	Smt. Promila Mehra, Asst. Manager
34.	Irregular Promotion	56.	Sh. Vijay Kumar, DGM
35.	Irregular Sale of Onion	57.	Sh. C.K. Bhasin, Manager
		58.	Sh. V.K. Malhotra, Jr. Supervisor
		59.	Sh. Kuljeet Singh, Executive Asstt. to MD
		60.	Smt. Veera Rajpal, Steno to MD
36.	Award of Contract to M/s. Mahamaya Foods.	61.	Sh. Sujit Banerjee, Ex-GM
		62.	Sh. R.D. Shrivastava, Ex-DGM presently Director NDMC
		63.	Sh. T.N. Bajaj, Managar
		64.	Sh. Vinit Sarin, AGM

1	2	3	4
		65.	Sh. Ravi Bali, Sr. Supervisor
		66.	Sh. I.K. Garg, Assistant Accountant
		67.	Sh. Mukesh Kashyap, Jr. SA
		68.	Sh. Gopal Kishan, Account Assistant
37.	Misappropriation of Super Bazar Funds.	69.	Mrs. Saroj Awashi, SA Incharge
		70.	Sh. Dharam Pal, Jr. Sales Assistant
		71.	Sh. Om Prakash, Packer
		72.	Sh. Prem Chand, Helper
38.	Purchase of inferior quality of pulses without the approval of the Quality Testing Laboratory of the Super Bazar.		Under investigation.
39.	Placing of bulk orders of pulses on the eve of reduction in excise duty.		Under investigation.
40.	Out-of-turn payments to the suppliers by the then Chairman, Super Bazar without any proper procedure.		Under investigation.
41.	Purchase of inferior quality of potatoes resulting in losses.		Under investigation.
42.	Allowing a private trader (M/s Bips System Ltd.) to open shop in the Super Bazar, New Delhi.		Under investigation.
43.	Irregularities in the purchase of spices at higher rates than quoted by the NCCF.		Under investigation.
44.	Irregularities in the award of contract to M/s. V.V Construction by Super Bazar to construct "Sant Longwal Tower" in Rajendra Place.		Under investigation.

[Translation]

Provision of flight Training with Cessna Aircraft

2290. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether flight training can be provided with Cessna-152 aircraft from Ujjain airstrip built by the Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the formalities required for the trainees and its utility; and

(c) the expenditure being incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Flying Training is being provided with Cessna-152 aircraft at Ujjain airstrip.

(c) Since Ujjain Flying Club is a private institution, no subvention is being provided by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

[English]

Power from Other Resources

2291. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan to give preference to solar energy as compared to hydro and thermal power;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any studies have been conducted by the Government to tap more power from other resources except thermal, hydro and solar energy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) Considerable progress has already been made in harnessing non-conventional energy,

sources, including solar energy. About 1600 MW of grid quality power is being generated in the country by solar, wind, biomass and small hydro resources. In addition, decentralised energy is also being generated in different parts of the country by 30 million improved chulhas; 2.9 million biogas plants; and 675,000 solar photovoltaic systems. A Draft Renewable Energy policy Statement, which has been submitted for further approvals, seeks to further enhance the contribution from non-conventional energy sources, including solar energy.

(c) and (d) Surveys and studies have been carried out to assess the potential for energy generation from non-conventional energy sources such as solar, wind, biomass and small hydro. This information is used in planning and implementation of projects based on these resources.

[Translation]

Menace of Touts

2292. SHRI RAM SHAKAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the menace created by touts and unauthorised travel agents in getting railway tickets and reservation in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the railway employees are in connivance and complicity with these touts to get undue benefits;

(d) If so, the number of raids conducted in each zone so far, during the last two years and current year and the action taken against the guilty officers in this regard;

(e) whether the Government are aware that existing provisions are not adequate to check the illegal reservation;

(f) if so, whether the Government propose to revive the existing provisions to make these laws more effective; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Regular checks are conducted by Commercial department, vigilance department and Government Railway Police against touts and other anti-social elements in reservation offices and in trains against reservation on fake names. Railway Protection Force has been activated to ensure that such elements are driven away from the railway premises including reservation offices. Checks are also conducted on the premises of authorised Rail Travel Agents

to see if any irregularities are being committed by them. Campaigns are launched from time to time through various media for educating the general public to desist from purchasing tickets from unauthorised persons. Augmentation of trains/coaches and increase in frequency of trains during peak period is done to increase availability of accommodation.

(c) A few cases of railway employees conniving with the touts have come to notice.

(d) The number of raids zone-wise for the last two years i.e. 1997-98, 1998-99 and the current year 1999-2000 (upto December 1999) are shown in statement and various action like prosecution, fines against touts and DAR action against officials found conniving is taken.

(e) to (g) Review of adequacy of the existing provisions of the Railways' Act/Rules is a continuous process and necessary action as warranted is taken as and when required.

Statement

Menace of Touts

Railways	No. of Raids Conducted Against Touts and Anti-Social Elements	
	Last two years 1997-98 and 1998-99	Current year April to December 1999
Central	6512	2780
Eastern	9955	1693
Northern	5714	1000
North Eastern	4955	2208
Northeast Frontier	2609	712
Southern	17076	7013
South Central	10016	3465
South Eastern	5963	1203
Western	12011	4728
Total	74811	24802

[English]

Subsidy on Food

2293. SHRI NAMDEO HARBARI DIWATE : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the subsidy on food is ballooning over recent year mainly due to higher administrative and operating cost of Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce food subsidy-operating administrative cost of FCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) Food subsidy is increasing mainly due to non-neutralisation of increase in MSP by corresponding increase in the CIP since February, 1994 except a marginal adjustment in prices when TPDS was introduced since 1st June, 1997. Though the CIP in respect of rice and wheat has been increased w.e.f. 29.01.1999 for APL families only, a further upward revision of CIP on wheat for APL population was made effective from 01.04.1999. Other reasons for increase in subsidy are:-

- (i) Higher level of buffer-stocks due to higher level of procurement and relatively lower offtake;
- (ii) Increase in freight rates;
- (iii) Progressive departmentalisation of labour;
- (iv) Progressive switching over to 50 Kg. packing;
- (v) Statutory charges around 10% levied by State Governments payable ad-valorem on increased MSP.

(c) Following important steps have been/are being taken by FCI to reduce Subsidy operating administrative cost :-

- (i) Making efforts to achieve average capacity utilisation of 75% to reduce storage cost even though the procurement of grain is seasonal,
- (ii) Making efforts to adhere to procurement and movement ratio norm of 1:1.35 as fixed by the Government of India to reduce the expenditure on freight,
- (iii) Making continuous efforts to reduce shortage in handling of foodgrains,
- (iv) Making efforts to reduce the incurrence of Railway demurrage charges,
- (v) Releasing stocks in the open market at prices above the CIP,
- (vi) Controlling the administrative cost by following minimum recruitment of resultant entry level posts irrespective of the increased volume of operations,
- (vii) Trying to have a look at the economic cost,
- (viii) Efforts to reduce damages,
- (ix) Efforts to find ways for focusing PDS on poorest of the poor.

Level Crossings in the Country

2294. SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA :
 SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :
 SHRI V. VETRISELVAN :
 SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
 SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
 SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA :
 SHRI VAIKO :
 SHRI RAMANAND SINGH :
 SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
 SHRI R.L. BHATIA :
 SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :
 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
 SHRI MOINUL HASSAN :
 SHRI M.K. SUBBA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of manned and unmanned railway crossings in the country, separately, State-wise and zone-wise;
- (b) the number of railway accidents that have occurred during the last three years at such level crossings, State-wise;
- (c) whether many of these accidents that have occurred due to the unmanned level crossings;
- (d) if so, the steps being taken to prevent the recurrence of such accidents and to convert unmanned level crossings to manned level crossings;
- (e) whether it is proposed to entrust the unmanned level crossings to private sector;
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith terms and reference thereof;
- (g) whether the Government propose to setup/construct any more manned and unmanned railway crossings in the country; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) At present, there are 16280 manned and 24049 are unmanned level

crossings in the country, Statistics of level crossings state-wise and Railway Zone-wise are given below :-

State-wise Details		
State	Manned	Unmanned
1	2	3
Assam	431	908
Andhra Pradesh	1209	1537
Bihar	1365	1898
Delhi	55	2
Gujarat	1469	2927
Haryana	517	523
Himachal Pradesh	38	304
Jammu & Kashmir	17	33
Karnataka	657	1044
Kerala	413	219
Madhya Pradesh	1316	1693
Maharashtra	1138	1504
Manipur	1	1
Mizoram	—	1
Orissa	283	1179
Punjab	766	1092
Rajasthan	1416	2223
Tamil Nadu	1256	1565

1	2	3
Tripura	-	22
Uttar Pradesh	2820	3736
West Bengal	1083	1625
Chandigarh	6	1
Pondicherry	9	9
Goa	14	2
Nagaland	1	1

Zone wise Details		
Railways	Manned	Unmanned
Central	1831	1610
Eastern	1285	1041
Northern	3224	4407
North-Eastern	1471	3205
Northeast Frontier	694	1534
Southern	2189	2544
South Central	1501	1956
South Eastern	1115	3624
Western	2970	4128

(b) Accidents statistics on Indian Railway are maintained Railway Zone-wise and not State-wise. The Zone-wise statistics of accidents that have occurred at manned and unmanned level crossings during the last 3 years in the country are as under :-

Railway	1996-97			1997-98			1998-99			1999-2000 upto Feb. 2000		
	M	UM	Total	M	UM	Total	M	UM	Total	M	UM	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Central	4	2	6	0	1	1	3	3	6	5	7	12
Eastern	4	1	5	1	0	1	1	1	2	2	0	2
Northern	4	6	10	3	10	13	3	9	12	3	13	16
North Eastern	1	11	12	2	8	10	0	4	4	0	13	13
Northeast Frontier	0	0	0	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	3	5
Southern	1	10	11	1	9	10	3	4	7	2	8	10
South Central	2	8	10	1	6	7	1	10	11	2	11	13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
South Eastern	2	3	5	4	5	9	4	9	13	4	5	9
Western	2	4	6	2	9	11	2	6	8	3	2	5
Metro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Konkan Rly. Corp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20	45	65	16	50	66	19	48	67	23	62	85

M = Manned

UM = Unmanned

(c) Accidents at unmanned level crossings mainly occurred due to negligence of the road users who failed to observe the road sign available at these gates and also the stipulations contained in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(d) The following steps have been taken by the Ministry to prevent accidents at unmanned level crossings.

1. Proper Road signs have been provided on approaches to level crossings so that road vehicle drivers become aware of the existence of a level crossing gate.

2. Speed breakers/rumble strips have been provided on approaches to level crossing gates so that road vehicle drivers are reminded to reduce their speed.

3. Whistle boards are also provided alongside the rail track on approach to level crossings. Train drivers are required to whistle from the whistle board till such time as the train passes the level crossing gate in order to warn road users about the approaching train. Periodic drivers are launched for checking whether drivers are actually whistling from such whistle boards.

4. Road users have still not got used to the faster speeds of Mail/Express trains. A train travelling at 90 KMPH covers 25m/sec. Thus, although to the road user the train appears to be 150 meters away, in terms of time it is only 6 seconds away. This message is being conveyed to them progressively by various publicity measures.

5. To educate road drivers about safety at unmanned level crossings, publicity campaigns are periodically launched through various media like quickies on TV, cinema slides, posters, talks on radio, newspaper advertisements and street plays.

6. Since accidents at unmanned level crossings take place due to negligence of road users, the State Governments can also help by exercising strict checks while issuing driving licences, specially to drivers of trucks, buses and other heavy vehicles. All Chief Secretaries have been requested to co-operate in educating road users.

7. Joint Ambush Checks with civil authorities are conducted to nab errant road vehicle drivers under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Railways Act, 1989.

8. Involvement of village Panchayats in the railways public awareness programmes is also being done.

9. Permission has been received from some of the State Governments for putting up level-crossing Safety posters at Village Panchayat Offices. These posters are presently under printing and this work will be started in the near future.

10. Permission has also been received from IOC/HPC/BPC for putting up level-crossing Safety posters at retail petrol pumps. These posters are presently under printing and this work will also be started in the near future.

11. An intensive campaign through public address system has been launched to sensitize the public about the dangers from explosives and need to maintain extreme vigilance regarding/unattended objects.

12. Intensive publicity is carried out through televisions quickies, advertisements in the National and local press to educate the public against the hazards of carrying inflammable material in their luggage.

686 level crossings have been sanctioned for manning during the Budget in 1999-2000 and 602 level crossings have been included in Railway budget 2000-2001.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. However, a task force set-up by the Ministry of Railways has recommended participation of private sector for manning of the unmanned level crossing by giving them advertisement rights. Under this scheme, the capital cost varying from Rs. 8-10 lakhs of providing initial infrastructure like staff quarters, duty hut, road service, telephone etc. will be borne by the private sector and recurring maintenance and operational cost varying from Rs. 2-2.5 lakhs will be borne by the Railways. Maintenance operation will continue with the Railways.

(g) and (h) No new unmanned level crossing is being

set-up. As regards provision of new manned level crossings, railways provide the same as per the requirement on deposit terms for which proposals are sponsored by the State Govt./Local authorities. Also Railways provide level crossings at their own cost while laying new Railway lines and upto 10 years after opening of Railway lines, if need arises.

Development of Trishul

2295. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the 'Trishul', surface to air missile, has since been developed and launched successfully;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with its specifications;
- (c) whether it has been inducted in to the Army and Navy;
- (d) if not, the time schedule for its induction; and
- (e) the details of other missiles inducted into Army so far and the projects at hand alongwith their status and time-frame fixed for their launch?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) 'Trishul' quick reaction surface-to-air and anti-sea skimmer missile is being developed for the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. The missile is in final stages of evaluation with user participation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) On completion of guided flight trials by mid 2000, the phases of user trials, production and induction will follow.

(e) Prithvi surface-to-surface missile for the Army has been inducted. Other missiles namely Akash and Nag are in final stages of development.

Awarding of Underground Cable Contract

2296. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI C.N. SINGH :

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news item captioned "Govt. contract for firm under lockout" appearing in the Indian Express dated February 13, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein;

(c) whether the Government have conducted an enquiry to find out the officials responsible for awarding said contract to such company;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action being taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is reported in the newspaper that award of contract on M/s. Victor Cable was arbitrary when the firm was under lock out and this did not deter Railway Board from placing yet another order for Rs. 7.6 crs.

(c) to (e) Does not arise, as newspaper report is not factually correct. M/s Victor Cables was an R.D.S.O. approved source for supply of signalling cables and the firm has successfully supplied signalling cables in the past. The tender of signalling cable was considered and settled as per the existing norms and contracts for supply of cables against this tender were placed on several RDSO approved firms. There was no intimation regarding lock out of the firm at the time of tender consideration. Subsequently after ascertaining the facts, the order on M/s. Victor Cables has been cancelled following due procedure.

US Military Commander's Visit to India

2297. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US Military Commander visited India for the first time in the month of January, 2000;

(b) if so, whether he met Defence Minister and discuss the possibilities of reviving the Indo-US military steering group that was formed in 1990;

(c) the extent to which India has been assured of US defence arms and ammunition;

(d) whether any agreement in this regard was signed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Admiral Dennis C Blair, US Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Command, visited India from January 9-12, 2000. During his meetings with the Raksha

Mantri and the three Service Chiefs, matters concerning the lifting of sanctions imposed by the US Government, reconvening of the meetings of the Indo-US Defence Policy Group and Services Executive Steering Groups, which were suspended consequent upon the Nuclear Tests undertaken by India in May, 1998, Defence related aspects of Indo-US relations and a number of international security issues were discussed.

- (d) No, Sir.
(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Irregularities in F.C.I. Punjab

2298. DR. BALIRAM :

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH :

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

(a) whether sub-standard quality of wheat and other foodgrains have been sold in the open market by the Senior Regional Manager of Food Corporation of India, Punjab during 1996 to 1998;

(b) if so, the losses suffered by the Food Corporation of India due to the said sale;

(c) whether any action has been taken against the guilty officers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Opening of Sales and Procurement Centers by the Super Bazar

2299. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Super Bazar has formulated any scheme to expand its network in various parts of the country by opening of new sales centers and procurement centers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Super Bazar, Delhi has informed that, at present, they do not have any scheme to expand its network in various parts of the country by opening of new sales centers and procurement centres. However, the Super Bazar had made efforts to locate suitable places for opening of their branches in the past. The Super Bazar had also approached certain State Govts. for allotment of space by them for this purpose. The efforts in this regard have not been successful.

Opening of Foreign Exchange Counter at New Delhi Railway Station

2300. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Railways has opened a foreign exchange counter at New Delhi railway station;

(b) if so, the facilities are being provided at this counter;

(c) whether the Government propose to open such counters at more railway stations in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A Foreign Exchange Counter has been introduced at New Delhi railway station as a pilot project. It provides round the clock facility of foreign exchange, traveller's cheque and other travel related services. The scheme will be extended at other stations if found useful to the passengers.

Loan Taken by Railways from ADB

2301. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways have taken or propose to take loan from Asian Development Bank (ADB);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of projects for which the Railways has taken loan; and

(d) the terms and conditions laid down for refunding the loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has extended two loans, namely Loan No.857-IND and Loan No. 1140-IND, to finance specific Railway Projects. An amount of US

Dollar 175 million has been drawn from ADB Loan No. 857-IND and an amount of US Dollar 104 million has been drawn from ADB Loan No. 1140-IND.

The following projects are being funded by these two loans :-

Loan No. 857-IND

1. Supply of 20 Nos. 3 phase high horse power freight locos from M/s ABB with transfer of technology for manufacturing at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW).
2. Mobile train radio-communication.
3. Installation of traction sub stations between Ghaziabad and Gomoh section of Northern and Eastern Railway.
4. Installation of loco simulators at Kanpur and Tughlakabad on Northern Railway.

Loan No. 1140-IND

1. Construction of 3rd line between Sonnagar-Mughal Sarai.
2. Electrification of Patratu-Sonnagar section of Eastern Railway.
3. BOXN Wagon Components.
4. Proucurement of equipments :-
 - i) Dynamic Track Sabillzers.
 - ii) Points and Crossing Tempers.
 - iii) Points and Crossing Changing Machines.
 - iv) Static Converter.
 - v) OHE Inspection Car.
 - vi) 8 Wheeler Tower Wagon.

Discussion are underway for a new loan from ADB for improvement in the Rail Sector.

(d) Both the loans carry a variable interest rate linked to the Asian Development Bank's Cost of Qualified Borrowings plus a spread (totalling 5.72% per annum at present) and commitment charge on undrawn loan balance at the rate of 0.75% per annum. The loans are repayable semi-annually over a period of 20 years commencing after an initial grace period of 5 years. The Government of India is the Borrower of these loans, the proceeds of which are passed on to Railways as additional budgetary support.

[Translation]

Tourism Projects

2302. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
 SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :
 SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :
 SHRI A. NARENDRA :
 SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :
 SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :
 SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM :
 SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :
 SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
 SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
 SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :
 SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL) :

- SHRI MANSINH PATEL :
 SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :
 SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
 SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :
 SHRI R.S. PATIL :
 SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) the tourism projects sent by the State Governments for approval during 1998 and 1999, State-wise;
- (b) the details of each of the projects approved alongwith the financial assistance provided;
- (c) the reasons for not approving the remaining projects; and
- (d) the time by which the remaining projects are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Number of projects/schemes for development of tourist infrastructure in the State/UTs approved for Central financial assistance by the Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the respective States Governments/UTs are listed in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Project proposals are sanctioned after fulfillment of all the codal formalities by the State/UT Administrations.

Statement

List of tourism projects received, sanctioned and financial assistance sanctioned to various States during the year 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 is as under

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State	1998-99			1999-2000 (as on 29.2.2000)		
		No. of projects received	No. of projects sancd.	Amount Sancd.	No. of projects received	No. of projects sancd.	Amount Sancd.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	10	244.08	16	4	126.00
2.	Assam	13	9	348.10	18	11	274.95
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	4	178.30	5	3	56.27
4.	Bihar	8	8	183.31	14	3	71.65
5.	Goa	17	14	328.98	12	8	167.00
6.	Gujarat	18	15	449.57	27	—	—
7.	Haryana	9	9	277.08	7	3	92.91
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6	6	295.00	19	11	465.50
9.	J & K	4	4	139.85	18	12	195.78
10.	Karnataka	16	12	399.82	21	9	288.52
11.	Kerala	17	13	653.05	17	3	200.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	18	18	441.39	6	2	40.00
13.	Maharashtra	19	17	483.77	30	16	458.98
14.	Manipur	9	9	99.48	11	9	249.44
15.	Meghalaya	13	8	200.00	9	1	12.97
16.	Mizoram	8	8	175.16	12	11	259.13
17.	Nagaland	8	7	223.64	12	7	160.25
18.	Orissa	4	4	170.60	21	15	196.76
19.	Punjab	1	1	97.64	7	1	40.00
20.	Rajasthan	19	19	376.47	17	7	54.49
21.	Sikkim	22	19	238.58	13	5	47.53
22.	Tamil Nadu	22	17	316.20	19	8	123.75
23.	Tripura	9	8	81.25	7	4	202.10
24.	Uttar Pradesh	31	31	876.96	47	18	476.70

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25.	West Bengal	10	10	201.13	13	1	20.00
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	5	4	462.50	1	1	32.37
27.	Chandigarh	2	2	47.91	4	1	40.00
28.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	5	2	20.00	4	—	—
29.	Delhi	7	7	132.70	1	1	4.50
30.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	2	—	—
31.	Lakshadweep	3	1	29.50	6	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	4	2	15.00	9	7	166.89
Total		354	298	7887.02	425	182	4524.44

Implementation of Panchayati Raj System*[English]*

2303. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the States where the Panchayati Raj System has been implemented till 1999;

(b) the action taken by the Government against the States which have not implemented the Panchayati Raj System;

(c) whether Government have pressed for the audit report of the amount earmarked to each States/UTs for this scheme in Particular; and

(d) If so, the details of the defaulter States/UTs?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) The Panchayati Raj System is being implemented by all the States/Union Territories to whom the Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act, 1992 is applicable, except the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar and the Union Territory of Pondicherry, in that they have not so far held Panchayati elections in consonance with the Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act, 1992.

(b) It has been decided to release 20% of wage employment funds, as an incentive, to those States/Union Territories which have elected and empowered Panchayats in position; such release is not to be made to those States/Union Territories which do not have elected/empowered Panchayats in position. Arunachal Pradesh, which has not been able to hold Panchayat elections, in view of a Constitution Amendment Bill, has been exempted from the above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Shortage of Wagons

2304. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether acute shortage of railway wagons in Rajahmundry for transporting rice from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns had resulted in piling up of stocks at different rice mills in East Godavary District in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide more rakes for transporting of rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no shortage of wagons for transport of rice of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) from Rajahmundry. From April' 1999 to February' 2000, the demands was for 75 rakes at Rajahmundry for transporting rice. The required number of rakes were supplied. As on 1st March, 2000, there was no demand pending for Railway wagons for transportation of rice of the Food Corporation of India from Rajahmundry.

Racket in Fake Railway Tickets

2305. SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

DR. SANJAY PASWAN :

SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a major racket in fake railway tickets was busted in Delhi recently;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) No case of fake railway tickets has been detected by the Railways recently in Delhi. However, it has been reported in the Press that a major racket of selling fake tickets has been detected by the Delhi Police in which two persons have been arrested and nearly 400 fake tickets recovered from them.

(c) Regular and surprise checks are conducted by the Commercial and the Vigilance departments of Railways in association with various agencies like Central Bureau of Investigation and Police. Persons found indulging in such activities are apprehended and handed over to the Police for prosecution. Wide campaign is launched through various media advising public to desist from purchasing tickets from unauthorised sources.

Allocation of Foodgrains to Tamil Nadu

2306. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received any request from the Tamil Nadu Government for the allocation of more sugar, paddy, wheat etc;
 (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) to (c) Sugar :

The Government of Tamil Nadu requested in November-December, 1999, for increasing their monthly levy sugar allocation from 23,741 tonnes to 31,000 tonnes to meet the requirement for distribution of sugar to all family card holders numbering about 156 lakhs @ 500 gm. per capita per month, subject to a maximum of 2 Kg. per card as against the norm of 425 gm. per capita per month adopted by Government of India. The request of the State Government could not be acceded to on account of less availability of levy sugar.

Paddy and Wheat :

Rice is allotted to the States for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) from Central Pool. A request received from the Government of Tamil Nadu for enhancement of monthly rice allocation to the tune of 56,000 tonnes was accepted and the State was given a further additional allocation of 56,000 tonnes of rice per month from July, 1999 to April, 2000.

No request has been received from Government of Tamil Nadu for allocation of more wheat.

Monopoly in Procurement of Rice

2307. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

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

- (a) whether the Government have allowed the Tamil Nadu Government to carry out monopoly procurement of rice in the State;
 (b) whether according to this order, the farmers are banned to move rice from any district to another within the State;
 (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
 (d) the impact on other States as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) Central Government have allowed the Tamil Nadu Government to carry out monopoly procurement of paddy and rice for Samba 2000 in the Cauvery Delta areas only.

(b) Yes, Sir, there is movement restriction on paddy/rice outside the 8 districts in the Cauvery Delta area. There is free movement in the rest of the Taluks in the remaining districts.

(c) Tamil Nadu is deficit in foodgrain production. By Monopoly Procurement System, Tamil Nadu Government procures paddy by giving incentive of Rs. 50/- per quintal over the Minimum Support Price to the farmers, and supplies rice to the weaker sections and people below poverty line.

(d) Paddy/rice from the 8 districts in the Cauvery Delta cannot be moved to other States also. However, being a deficit State, the impact on other States is marginal.

Additional Flight on New Delhi-Coimbatore Sector

2308. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal to introduce one more flight on New Delhi-Coimbatore sector during the evening hours;
 (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

On-going Railway Projects

2309. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU :

SHRI RAJO SINGH :

SHRI SHANKERSINGH VAGHELA :

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT :

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of on-going railway projects along with their estimated cost, project-wise;

(b) the progress achieved so far on each project after the publication of White Paper along with expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the funds required for completion of these projects and allocated during 2000-01 project-wise; and

(d) the details of those projects which are lagging behind their original schedule along with the reasons for delay; and

(e) the cost over run thereby project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Details of on-going railway projects along with their estimated cost, project-wise, the progress of each projects, funds allocated during 2000-2001, project-wise and funds required for completion of these project is at statement.

(d) and (e) Targets for completion of rail projects are fixed on an annual basis based on availability of resources. Details of the projects targeted for completion in the current year (1999-2000), which had a time over run, along with the reasons for delay are as follows :-

Name of Project	Present Status
New Line Projects	
Kashinagar-Kakdwep New Line	Likely to be completed only by June, 2000 due to delay in land acquisition.
Jaruri-Banspani New Line	Likely to be completed only by June, 2000 due to delay in land acquisition.
Kapadvanj-Modasa New Line	Will be completed by June 2000 due to non availability of rails.
Gauge Conversion Projects	
Kashipur-Lalkuan	Expected to be completed by 31-5-2000 due to law and order problem.
Mudkhed-Adilabad	This project has been delayed. The work is being done under BOLT and is now expected to be completed only by March 2001 due to problems of finance which have now been settled.
Lakshmantirtha bridge diversion on Mysore-Hassan line	This project has been delayed due to contractual problems and is now expected to be completed after about one year.
Dharangdhara-Kuda	This project has been delayed due to non availability of funds from the co-sharers. Now expected to be completed by Dec. 2000.
Gandhidham-Bhuj	This project has been delayed due to non availability of rails. This is now expected to be completed by June 2000.

All these projects were slated for completion by March 2000 but they have been delayed by a few months. Since all

the material had been arranged and contracts were already in force, these will be no cost overrun on this account.

Statement*Details of Railways Ongoing Projects*

S. No.	Project	Cost as per Rly. Budget 2000-01	Budget Outlay for 2000-01	Throw forward as on 1.4.2001	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
New Line					
1	Hubli-Ankola	991.91	6.00	979.49	Final location survey has been completed for 152 Km and balance will be completed June 2000. Land acquisition plans for 86 Km length have been submitted to the State Government. Work would be started as soon as land becomes available. Tenders invited for 1.8 km, where Railway land is available. Earthwork and minor bridges is in progress in 1.8 km. length where no land acquisition is involved.
2	Nangal Dam-Talwara & Taking over siding of Mukerian Talwara	210.00	8.00	162.61	The first phase from Nangal Dam to Una has been commissioned. Work on the remaining portion is planned in phases and una-Churaru Takrala (26 km.) has now been taken up on the Govt. land (26 hectares) made available. Balance 300 hectares of project land is likely to become available in 6 months time. The work is at present in progress on 2 major bridges.
3	Puntamba-Shirdi	30.22	1.00	29.22	Necessary clearance has been received. Final location survey is being taken up.
4	Baramati-Lonad	75.00	0.10	74.80	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey is being taken up.
5	Panvel-Karjat	106.89	14.00	74.86	Earth work in 7 sections out of 9 and work on all bridges and the 27 km. long tunnel is in good progress.
6	Gadwal-Raichur	100.41	5.00	91.19	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey, land acquisition are being taken up. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.
7	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath	353.08	3.00	349.60	Final location survey has been completed for 15 km. from Ahmed-nagar end. Land acquisition plans & papers have been submitted to the State. Govt. for 15 km. from Ahmed-nagar end. The work would be progressed once the land available. Station building at Beed is under progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6
8	Kuttipuram-Guruvayoor	90.00	0.10	89.44	Work transferred from Doubling Plan Head to New Line Plan Head. Work will be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances as new line work.
9	Kottayam-Erumeli	200.00	0.10	199.89	Work will be taken up once necessary clearances have been obtained.
10	Angamali-Sabarimala	550.00	1.00	544.00	Clearances have been obtained. FLS have been taken up and will be completed by April 2000.
11	Agra-Etawah via Fatehabad and Bah	108.00	10.00	97.81	FLS for 49 km from Bhandai end has been completed. Preparation of Plans and estimate has been taken up.
12	Dallirajahara-Jagdalpur	369.00	1.00	126.86	This work is included in the railway budget since 95-96. However, this line is to be taken up on a cost sharing basis with Ministry of Steel & MP Govt. the cost of the first phase work from Dallirajahara to Rowghat being borne entirely by the Ministry of steel. For the rest of the line SAIL is providing finance to the tune of Rs. 75 crs. at 7% interest to be adjusted through freight concessions. M.P. Govt. will be providing land free of cost worth Rs. 25 cr. and rest of the money is to be given by the Railway. An MOU has been signed and estimate sanctioned. SAIL has been requested to deposit Rs. 50 crore with Railways for taking the work on Dallirajahara-Rowghat section. Final location survey for Jagdalpur to Rowghat, 130 km. out of 140 km. has been completed.
13	Etawah-Mainpuri	120.00	0.10	119.90	The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
14	Lalitpur-Satna & Rewa-Singrauli	925.00	5.00	919.48	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey for 70 km. from Lalitpur end and 45 km. from Mahoba end has been completed and FLS for balance section is in progress.
15	Karur-Salem	225.51	10.00	180.33	30% of land has been taken over and work is in progress over 45 km.
16	Bangalore-Satyamanglam	225.00	0.10	222.90	The necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey would be completed by June, 2000. Land acquisition plans can be prepared once FLS is over and alignment has been firmed up.

1	2	3	4	5	6
17	Rampur-Lalkuan-Kathgodam ROB on NH	10.77	1.00	9.72	The revised plan has been sent to MOST for approval. Railways portion of work will start as soon as State Govt. start their portion.
18	Bagaha-Chhitauni-MG lines	93.56	0.10	0.00	Work of GC has been completed and commissioned. Work of Rail-cum-Road Bridge across river Gandak (14 spans of 200 ft) has been entrusted to M/s IRCON which is in progress. The work will be completed in about 2 years time.
19	Hassan-Bangalore	408.56	9.00	354.09	Land is available between Hassan and Shrawanbelgola and Bangalore to Neelamangala. Earthwork and bridges are in progress.
20	Kadur-chikmangalur-Saklesphur	157.00	2.90	144.40	80 hectares of land has been acquired. Work is in progress in 2 reaches and 80% work has been completed.
21	Kottur-Harihar	120.29	1.00	119.12	Final location survey has been completed and preparation of land acquisition plans & papers has been taken up.
22	Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramula	3230.00	100.00	2914.91	This important National Project is to be funded outside the Railways plan. Land papers have been submitted to the State Govt. for Udhampur-Katra section. From km. 0 to 9, out of 847 Kanals, 755 Kanals have been received and from km. 9 to 25 full land measuring 4013 Kanals have been acquired. The work has been taken up wherever the land is made available by the State Govt. The earthwork contracts have been awarded in all the 7 sections between km. 0 to 25 and earthwork progress so far is 30%. The work is in progress on 6 out of 8 major bridges and 4 out of 22 minor bridges. There are 7 tunnels out of which tenders for tunnel no. 4 and 5 have been awarded. Final location survey for Qazigund-Baramulla section has been completed. Land has already been acquired for Srinagar station and the work has been entrusted to IRCON. Land has also been acquired for Pampore and Kakapore stations.

1	2	3	4	5	6
23	Jammu Tawi-Udhampur	407.74	30.00	72.53	Earthwork of 78 lac cum out of 85 lac cum completed. 23 out of 30 major bridges completed. Work is in progress on 5 major bridges and tender for another one major bridge has been awarded. 106 minor bridges out of 122 have been completed and work is in progress in balance 6 bridges. The procurement of ballast is being arranged and tenders have been invited for 75000 cum out of total requirement of 90,000 cum. For the balance tendering is in progress. The work is making good progress. Target date for completion is Dec., 2001.
24	Kalka-Parvanoo	23.00	4.00	17.00	The requisite clearances have been obtained. FLS and preparation of plans and papers for land acquisition has been taken up.
25	Amravati-Narkher	175.30	6.00	135.02	70% of the land has been acquired. Earthwork and bridges for 18 section out of 27 has been taken up and work is in progress. Work is being progressed as per availability of resources.
26.	Angul-Sukinda Road	144.00	23.00	81.57	FLS has been taken up and has been completed for 30 km. balance is expected to be completed by March 2000. Further action will be taken after completion of FLS and land acquisition. Soil exploration for 8 major bridges has been completed and is in progress for another 3 major bridges.
27	Katra-Faizabad	71.53	10.00	34.94	116 acres of land, out of total 142.49 acres has been acquired. Earth work 6.64 lakh cum has been completed out of 7.06 lakh cum. The work on the Suryu bridge has been taken up and will be completed in the coming year as per availability of resources.
28	Peddapally-Karimnagar-Nizamabad	264.14	20.00	204.90	The work is being done in two phases. In the first phase Peddapally to Karimnagar has been taken up. Earthwork and Bridges are in progress. Work on phase-I is making good progress and would be completed in 1999-2000. Final location survey for second phase between Karimnagar & Nizamabad has been completed. The work on this phase will be taken up after completion of 1st phase.

1	2	3	4	5	6
29	Dausa-Gangapur	217.93	0.10	217.61	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition papers for first block section covering 34 hectares for first section Dausa-Bamaniya submitted to State Govt.
30	Beas to Dera Baba Jaimal Singh	4.78	0.10	3.10	The work would be taken up after the agreement is signed and land is made available by the Dera authorities.
31	Abohar-Fazilka	72.00	0.10	71.90	The proposal has been sent to Planning Commission. The work can be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
32	Chandigarh-Ludhiana	248.40	30.00	208.23	Necessary clearances have been obtained from CCEA on 9-9-98. Final Location Survey has been completed for the first phase between Chandigarh to Morinda. Land acquisition has been taken up. Work will be taken up once land becomes available. The land for first 7 kms. falling in the Chandigarh Union Territory has already been earmarked for this line and is expected to be transferred to the Railways shortly. Rs. 1.14 Crores has been deposited with State Government for land acquisition in U.T.
33	Howrah-Amta	120.00	17.00	65.57	After completing the work from Howrah to Bargachia (24 km.) the work was frozen. Owing to strong demands from Hon'ble Members, the work was defrozen in 95-96 for the segment from Bargachia to Munshihat (8 km.). The work on this 8 km. long section is in good progress and expected to be completed by June, 2000.
34	Eklakhi-Balurghat	128.00	50.00	31.10	Earthwork and bridge work are nearing completion on the first block section from Eklakhi to Gazol (14 km.) and from formation and bridges on this section are ready. Land for 11 km. from Gazol to Buniadpur (km 14 to 28) has been received on patches and the rest of the land is expected to receive soon. Earthwork and bridge work in progress. Proposals for land acquisition from Kms. 28 to 45 have been submitted. Railway has requested to State Govt. to process land acquisition from Kms. 45 onwards.

1	2	3	4	5	6
35	Tamluk-Digha	225.00	100.00	74.02	Earthwork and minor bridges are in progress. Land acquisition is yet to be done by the State Govt. from km. 37.5 to 47.7 and km. 50.9 to 77.9. Substructure of Haldi bridge has been completed. The work is targeted to be completed during 2000-2001.
36	Laxmikantpur-Namkhana	105.92	15.00	34.70	The work is in Progress in phases, first phase being Laxmikantpur to Kakdweep. The section from Laxmikantpur to Kashinagar (31 Km.) has already been opened to traffic. The work is in progress between Kashinagar and Kakdweep (3.16 km.). However land in 2 kms length is yet to be handed over by the State Government. The phase-I work will be completed by June, 2000. The land acquisition for phase-II from Kakdweep to Namkhana is being taken up.
37	Guna-Etawah	337.32	25.00	65.74	Guna-Gwalior and Gwalior Nonera sections have already been completed. The next phase work of Gauge conversion between Nonera and Bhind is in progress & Nonera-Soni (27 Km.) would be commissioned in 1999-2000 and Soni-Bhind (23 km) in 2000-2001. The last phase of this project from Bhind to Etawah involves construction of 3 major bridges on the river Chamba, Kunwari & Yamuna. The work on Yamuna bridge has already been taken up. The work will be completed in the coming years as per the availability of resources.
38	Taran Taran-Goindwal	37.15	1.30	31.10	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey and other Preliminary works have been completed. Land plans are under submission to State Govt.
39	Deogarh-Dumka	180.00	1.00	176.99	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey has been completed. Proposal of land acquisition plans and papers have been taken up.
40	Haridaspur-Paradeep	301.63	1.00	248.12	Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans and papers have been finalised and are with the State Govt. An amount of Rs. 5 crs. has been paid to the State Govt. for land acquisition. Work would be started as soon as land become available.

1	2	3	4	5	6
41	Khurda Road-Bolangir	700.00	14.50	675.22	The work of final location survey is in progress. Land acquisition papers for 23 km. length has been submitted to State Government. Work would be taken up once land is handed over by State Government.
42	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh	105.08	2.00	89.69	Land acquisition is completed except for forest land for which stage i approval has been obtained. Earthwork and bridge work has been taken up in the first block section Lanjigarh to Bhavanipatna.
43	Daitari-Banspani	587.12	39.50	329.22	This is an important ongoing project. Earthwork and bridges is in progress from km. 0 to 129 from Banspani end. In this stretch about 106 km. of the formation is ready in patches. 190 out of 248 minor bridges have been completed and work on 16 major bridges have been taken up. 1.48 lakhs cum of ballast out of 1.75 lac cum required from km. 0 to 58 has so far been collected. From km. 129 to 155, transfer of forest land has been cleared and will be made available after tree felling is completed. The line is targeted for completion by Dec.'2003 to match the requirement of Steel Plants coming up in the area. The first section from Banspani to Joruri (11 km.) is expected to be completed in this financial year.
44	Talcher-Sambalpur	443.93	8.00	9.08	The project has been completed and commissioned.
45	Bishrampur-Ambikapur	58.30	5.00	47.89	Necessary clearances have been obtained. The final location survey and land acquisition has been completed. Work is being taken up.
46	Godhra-Indore Dewas-Maksi	597.00	10.00	565.90	This work is being executed in phases. The first phase work between Dewas & Maksi is now in progress. Work is in progress on all 8 major bridges. Work on all 49 minor bridges have been completed. The other items like earthwork and ballast supply are also in progress. This section is expected to be completed in IX Plan period, subject to availability of resources.
47	Fatua-Islampur Restoration	49.50	12.10	22.40	Earthwork and bridges have been taken up between Islampur and Hilsa. For the rest of the section land acquisition is in progress and work would be taken up as soon as the land becomes available.

1	2	3	4	5	6
48	Rajgir-Hisua-Tilaya	49.50	2.00	33.33	Final Location survey has been completed and land acquisition papers for 20 kms. stretch covering 70 hectares of land have been submitted to State Govt. Work will be done by IRCON. The alignment in Rajgir area is under re-construction due to restriction around archaeological monuments.
49	Koderma-Ranchi	491.20	25.00	452.19	The requisite clearances has since been obtained. Final location survey has been taken up and will be followed by land acquisition. Work will be taken up once land is made available by the State Government.
50	Bongaon-Petrapole	6.70	1.00	2.00	The work has been completed
51	Kakinada-Kotapalli	50.89	1.00	49.90	Necessary clearances are yet to be obtained. State Govt. has to handover the land free of cost in lieu of the land released by dismantled line which has been heavily built upon by them.
52	Mandarhill-Rampurhat via Dumka	170.47	4.00	162.00	Final location survey has been completed. Preparation of land acquisition plan & papers is in progress. Land acquisition papers for 20 km. stretch from Mandarhill side have been submitted to State Government. The work would be started once the land is made available by the State Government.
53	Tarkeshwar-Bishnupur	260.00	22.00	238.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
54	Bogibeel bridge	1000.00	5.00	990.00	The detailed investigation & final location survey has been taken up by RITES. CCEA's clearance in principle has also been obtained. As it is a rail-cum-road bridge, sharing of cost is to be tied up. RITES have completed the field survey, geological-technical investigations, seismic studies etc. studies in respect of hydraulic model, traffic, design of bridge, protection works etc. are in progress. The report is expected later this year. Work will be started once the survey including model studies is completed and alignment is fixed and land becomes available and final clearances of CCEA is obtained.

1	2	3	4	5	6
55	Munirabad-Mehboobnagar	438.96	4.00	430.60	Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans for 26 km have been submitted to State Govt. Work will be taken up once the land becomes available.
56	Deogarh-Sultanganj	282.00	6.00	276.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
57	Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi	100.00	0.10	98.79	Final Location Survey for 32 km has been completed and preparation of land plans & papers & other preliminary works are in progress. Earthwork in Sitamarhi Yard for one km. length has been completed. The work would be taken up once the land is made available by the State Government. Papers for acquisition of 67.55 acres of land have been submitted to State Government.
58	Giridih-Koderma	145.00	5.00	135.99	The requisite clearances has since been obtained. Final Location Survey has been taken up. This will be followed by land acquisition. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.
59	Ara-Sasaram	120.00	6.00	101.45	Final Location Survey has been completed for 20 km. length and land acquisition papers for this stretch between Sasaram and Nokha covering 206 acre of land have been submitted to State Government. In the remaining portion, final location survey is in progress. Work has been started at both ends wherever land is available.
60	Kotapalli-Narsapur	330.00	1.00	329.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
61	Khagaria-Kusheshwarsthan	78.00	0.10	76.79	Final Location Survey has been completed & preparation of land acquisition plan and papers has been taken up. The land acquisition pro-posals for 18.5 km. length have been submitted to State Govt. Earthwork in Khagaria yard has been taken up. The work would be taken up once the land is made available by the State Government.
62	Macheria-Nalgonda	125.09	0.10	123.29	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final Location Survey and land acquisition are being taken up. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.

1	2	3	4	5	6
63	Gandhinagar-Adrej Moti-Kaloi	52.00	2.00	50.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
64	Sakri-Hassanpur	89.70	0.10	71.54	Land acquisition papers have been submitted to the State Govt. for the entire length and 667 acre land had been acquired. Tenders for Earthwork from 7 km. from Sakri end have been invited.
65	Gulbarga-Bidar	242.42	2.10	238.62	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Final location survey, land acquisition has been taken up. Work will be taken up once land becomes available.
66	Jogighopa-Guwahati	937.00	15.00	13.37	The Brahmaputra bridge and line from Jogighopa to Krishnai completed and commissioned. The work is progressing well from Krishnai to Kamakhya and is likely to be completed by March, 2000.
67	Harmuti-Itanagar	156.00	10.00	135.97	Final location survey has been completed and preparation of land acquisition plans and papers is in progress. The estimate and other works are in progress. Work will be started once land becomes available.
68	Diphu-Karong Ph I	1600.00	15.00	1574.71	The CCEA has since cleared this work in their meeting held on 09.09.98. The tender for final location survey is in progress. Once FLS is completed it will be followed by land acquisition. Work will be started once the land becomes available by the State Government.
69	Dudhnoi-Dopa	22.33	0.10	18.53	This work was sanctioned in 1992-93. However, Meghalaya Govt. has not made available the land so far for this project due to resistance from local people. There is no problem in acquiring the land for the portion of the line falling in Assam and land acquisition will be pursued after land in Meghalaya is handed over. The work on this project would be taken up only after the land becomes available and will be completed within 2 years of land being made available.
70	Kumarghat-Agartala	825.00	40.00	721.29	Land acquisition is in progress. Land acquisition papers for 929 acres of land has been submitted to the State Govt. out of which 560 acres has been handed over so far. The work for cons-

1	2	3	4	5	6
					truction of staff quarters at Agartala is in progress earthwork and minor bridges in a stretch of 22 kms. from Agartala and 5 kms. from Kumarghat is in progress. Contract for another 15 kms. have been awarded. Since the line has now to be constructed as BG, a fresh final location survey has been taken up by RITES in the ghat sections and the report is expected by June, 2000. Work will be started on the rest of the section after the alignment is finalised and land becomes available.
71	Patna-Ganga bridge	600.00	5.00	593.99	The detailed investigation & final location survey has been taken up by RITES. CCEA clearance is yet to be obtained. Model studies are being done by Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Research Institute, Roorkee and are likely to be completed by June 2000 after which the alignment and configuration of the bridge will get finalised. Once the design and alignment of the bridge is finalised, the cost estimate shall be firmed up and the proposal will be processed for clearances.
72	Koraput-Rayagada	475.00	8.00	0.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
73	Ramganjmandi-Bhopal	425.00	1.00	424.00	New work included in the Budget. Final Location Survey is being taken up.
74	New Maynaguri-Jogigopa	733.00	6.00	727.00	New work included in the Budget. Final Location Survey is being taken up.
75	Kakinada-Pithapuram	41.66	0.10	41.56	New project included in the Budget of 1999-2000. The work will be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances.
76	Kapadvanj-Modasa	62.74	10.00	2.73	This work though sanctioned in 78-79 remained frozen for several years. The Gauge conversion work between Nadiad & Kapadvanj which was a part of the sanctioned project was completed in 92-93. The new line portion was defrozen in 94-95. Work is now in progress and is expected to be completed by June, 2000.
77	Dharmavaram-Penukonda via Puttaparthi	124.22	20.00	89.02	Work is in good progress on Phase - I from Penukonda to Puttaparthi which is targetted for completion by March, 2000. work in Phase - II is also being progressed.

1	2	3	4	5	6
78	Duraunda-Maharajganj	3.57	0.10	3.13	The work will be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
79	Nandyal-Yerraguntla	164.36	2.00	159.49	Final location survey has been completed & preparation of land acquisition plans and papers for first 23 km has been submitted to State Govt. The work would be started once the land becomes available. Soil investigations of Pennar Bridge (38x18.3m) have been completed and tenders for construction of bridges are being invited.
80	Ajmer-Pushker	67.00	1.00	66.00	New work included in the Budget. Final Location Survey is being taken up.
81	Monghyr-Rail Bridge on Ganga	600.00	2.00	597.49	The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained. Surveys and detailed investigations are being taken up.
Gauge Conversion					
1	Villupuram-Pondicherry	30.00	1.00	28.99	The necessary clearances have been obtained. Preliminary arrangements are being made for starting the work.
2	Tiruchchirappalli-Nagore-Karaikal	138.11	3.00	53.96	The section from Trichy to Thanjavur has been completed and commissioned. Work on rest of the section is in progress. No target date has been fixed.
3	Guntur-Guntakal & Guntakal-Kalluru	460.97	10.50	11.13	Guntur to Guntakal completed. Guntakal-Kalluru is yet to be taken up. Now with the sanction of Dharmavaram-Pakala, for which CCEA clearance is yet to be obtained, gauge conversion of Guntakal - Pakala would be done in one Phase. Work is in good progress on new line portion from Pendekallu-Gooty and work will be completed subject to availability of resources.
4	Madurai-Rameshwaram	240.00	5.00	229.99	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Earthwork and bridges has been taken up. No target date has been fixed.
5	Dharmavaram-Pakala	251.22	0.10	251.12	The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
6	Dindigul-Trichy	132.13	5.50	16.58	The work has been completed and commissioned.

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	Rupsa-Bangariposi	80.00	1.00	63.12	Earthwork and bridges are in progress from km. 0 to 89.
8	Chennai-Beach-Tiruchchirappali	722.99	35.50	80.28	Work completed on Madras-Trichy section, Residual works are in progress. Work on Arakkonam-Chengalpattu section has also been completed
9	Naupada-Gunupur	66.35	5.10	61.20	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
10	Secunderabad-Dronachellam	343.73	5.00	4.28	The GC work has been completed. Financial adjustment are being made.
11	Katpadi-Pakala-Tirupati	173.50	12.00	136.36	Out of 19 major bridges, 15 have been completed and 4 are in progress. Earthwork and ballast supply is also in progress in the entire section. Work is proceeding well and will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
12	Sriganganagar-Sarupsar	68.71	0.10	68.62	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
13	Luni-Barmer-Munabao	240.00	25.00	178.59	The work is in progress on earthwork and bridges on the entire section and will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
14	Ajmer-Udaipur-Chittaurgarh	445.38	10.00	425.91	The work is in progress between Udaipur and Chittourgarh in first phase. No target date has yet been fixed.
15	Luni-Marwar & Jodhpur-Luni	111.13	0.10	0.89	The work has been completed. Financial adjustment is being made.
16	Phulera-Marwar-Ahmedabad	668.14	15.00	37.00	The line has been commissioned on 14.3.97. Yard remodelling at Sabarmati and Ahmedabad is in progress. GC of Rewari-Delhi II line forms part of FL-ADI GC Work as a Material Modification.
17	Viramgam-Jodhpur, Bhildi-Samdri	185.00	5.50	175.14	This work was sanctioned as a part of Kandla-Bhatinda rail link in 90-91. Thereafter when Delhi-Ahmedabad route was taken up in 92-93, the need for conversion of this route receded. In view of this, the project was frozen. The work has now been defrozen and is being taken up, so that the section is completed alongwith Gandhidham-Palanpur section thereby opening an alternative route from Kandla to Bhatinda.

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18	Villupuram-Katpadi	175.00	5.00	170.00	New work included in the Budget. final location survey is being taken up.
19	Arsikere-Hassan-Mangalore	217.82	26.00	62.02	Arsikere-Hassan-Sakleshpur has been completed & commissioned. Earthwork bridges, ballast collection between Kankanady and Kabakaputtur are in progress.
20	Surendernagar-Bhavnagar	536.11	53.00	468.09	The CCEA clearance has been received. Papers for land acquisition for new line portion from Rajula to Pipavav have been submitted to state govt. The modalities of partial private funding for the project are being explored. The work of OHE crossings has been taken up.
21	Dharangadhara-Kuda Siding	13.27	0.10	0.00	The work is being done on 1/3 cost sharing basis with the Gujarat Government and the Ministry of Industry. The work is in progress and will be completed in 2000-2001.
22	Rewari-Sadulpur	197.76	0.10	197.66	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
23	Gandhidham-Bhuj	52.00	20.00	23.70	The work is in good progress and is targeted for completion in 2000-2001.
24	Rajkot-Veraval	153.36	10.00	125.16	Earthwork, minor bridges and strengthening of major bridges have been taken up and are in progress. The work is expected to be completed during the coming years depending upon availability of resources.
25	Bhildi-Viramgam	64.88	6.90	46.55	Work is in progress between Viramgam and Meshana and is being progressed as per availability of resources. The target for completion of this work has not yet been fixed.
26	Katihar-Jogbani (Including Katihar-Radhikapur)	257.00	10.00	247.00	The work will be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
27	Samastipur-Khagaria	70.00	0.10	69.90	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained
28	Jayanagar-Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj	233.00	8.00	221.45	Necessary clearances have been obtained. Earthwork for 3 km completed. Tenders for Jayanagar-Darbangha invited.

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29	Ranchi-Lohardaga with extension to Tori	193.19	3.00	170.73	The earthwork and minor bridges have been taken up on the phase -I Ranchi-Lohardaga section. Final location survey on Lohardaga-Tori (Ph-II) is in progress and will be completed by June 2000.
30	Mansi-Saharsa-Forbesganj PH-I	64.50	3.00	40.99	Work is in progress. Earthwork has been completed in 23 km. 9 out of 13 minor bridges completed. 1 major bridges out of 10 completed. 2 bridges on Bagmati river are in progress. Tenders for 3 major bridges are under finalisation. Completion of these bridges would take 2-3 years period.
31	Hajipur-Bachwara	72.46	3.00	0.00	Work completed and commissioned.
32	Narkatiaganj-Valmikinagar	59.00	3.00	0.16	The work has been completed and commissioned. The residual works are in progress.
33	New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri	535.88	80.00	407.87	Requisite clearances have since been received. Contract for earthwork and bridge over 150 kms. has been awarded and work is in progress. The tenders for another 120 km. stretch are under finalisation.
34	Mudkhed-Adilabad	117.96	2.00	108.39	The work is in progress under BOLT. The requisite concessions in contract term have been given and funds are being tied up by him. The work is expected to be completed in the year 2000-2001.
35	Neemuch-Ratlam	116.74	5.00	102.71	Work on long lead items has been taken up. The work will be programmed and completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
36	Lumding-Dibrugarh linked figures	634.83	10.00	64.10	The work on main line from Lumding to Dibrugarh, Tinsukhia-Lekhapani and branch lines from Furkating to Mariani and Simalguri-Moranhat has been completed. Gauge conversion work on Makum-Dangari and Amguri-Tuli sections is in progress and will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
37	Lumding-Silchar	648.00	40.00	562.24	Final location survey for diversions in the Ghat section to suit the requirement of BG and preparation of land acquisition plan and papers has been taken up. RITES have already completed the paper alignment for entire length and

1	2	3	4	5	6
					staking of the alignment has been taken up. Earthwork and bridges are in progress between Badarpur and Silchar (30 km.) where no change in alignment is necessary. The work on 25 km. length from Lum-ding to Hathi-kadi has also been commenced.
38	Katakhal-Bairabhi	200.00	0.10	197.10	Requisite clearances have since been received. Preliminary arrangements are being made for starting the work.
39	Wankaner-Malia Miyana	82.48	30.00	33.06	The work is in good progress. The first phase from Morbi to Maliya Miyana and Dahinsara-Navlakhi has been completed. The rest of the section is targeted for completion in 2000-2001 subject to availability of resources.
40	Hospet-Hubli-Goa	569.46	1.00	36.50	The work has been completed.
41	Secunderabad-Mudkhed & Jankhampet-Bodhan	287.83	20.00	250.30	The work has been taken up in first phase from Mudkhed-Nizamabad (96 km.). Earthwork, ballast procurement and minor bridges are in progress. This phase will be completed in coming years subject to availability of resources.
42	Bangalore-Hubli-Birur-Shimoga	450.90	2.00	51.62	The work on the line from Bangalore-Hubli & between Birur & Shimoga has been completed. Work is in progress on Shimoga-Talguppa & would be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
43	Miraj-Latur	314.02	15.00	205.02	The work is being progressed in phases. In the first phase, work from Kuruduwadi to Pandharpur has been taken up and is targeted for completion during 1999-2000. On Latur Road-Latur (42 km.) earthwork and bridges are nearing completion.
44	Gondia-Chandafort	234.23	1.26	0.00	The work has been completed. Financial adjustments are being made.
45	Quilon-Tirunelveli-Trichendur & Tenkasi-virudhnagar	280.00	15.00	255.00	The necessary clearances have been obtained. FLS has been taken up on the Ghat section between Tenkasi and Punatur.
46	Mysore-Chamarajanagar	175.00	0.10	174.89	The work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.

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47	Mysore-Hassan	212.11	10.00	8.39	The work has been completed except on Lakshman Tirtha bridge, which is being built on a diversion. The bridge will be completed by March, 2001.
48	Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat-Katangi	391.28	16.80	369.42	Final location survey from Gondia to Balaghat including Balaghat-Katangi has been completed including geo-technical investigations of major bridges. The survey between-Balaghat-Jabalpur is in progress. Formation work, bridge work and ballast supply are in progress between Gondia and Balaghat.
49	Solapur-Gadag	265.77	10.00	133.82	The work is being done in phases. The work Solapur-Hotgi and Hotgi to Bijapur has been completed. Work is in progress on rest of section which will be completed in the coming years depending upon availability of resources.
50	Mathura-Achnera	33.67	1.00	32.57	It is planned to do this work alongwith Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura & complete in coming years.
51	Yashwantpur-Salem	183.38	0.10	7.50	Work has been completed and commissioned for Salem to Byapanhally.
52	Thanjavur-Villupuram main line	223.00	10.00	202.99	The work would be taken up after obtaining requisite clearances.
53	New Guwahati-Lumding	194.00	0.20	0.13	Work has been completed and commissioned.
54	Muzaffarpur-Raxaul	96.71	2.00	0.00	The work has been completed and commissioned. The work for Birgunj to Raxaul which is sanctioned as a material modification is in progress and will be completed in 2000-2001.
55	Mau Shahganj	56.00	0.10	0.00	The work has been completed and commissioned. Financial adjustments are being made.
56	Chhapra-Aunrihar	167.79	0.10	0.00	Work completed and commissioned. Financial adjustments are being made.
57	Phulera-Jodhpur-Pipar Road-Bilara	45.66	0.10	44.71	The work from Phulera-Jodhpur has been completed and commissioned. The rest of section from Pipar Road to Bilara has been sanctioned as a Material Modification. Due to low operational priority in view of the very light traffic on the section work will be progressed as per availability of reso-

1	2	3	4	5	6
58	Sagauli-Narkatiaganj	64.22	0.10	7.69	Work is completed. Financial adjustment is to be done for closure of work.
59	Cuddalore-Salem via Vriddhachalam	198.68	1.00	98.33	New work included in Budget 1999-2000 and would be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances.
60	Yelahanka-Chickballapur and Kolar-Bangarpet	64.69	0.10	5.93	The work as sanctioned has been completed and commissioned.
61	Bankura-Damodar River Project	100.00	40.00	56.99	The work has been cleared by CCEA. Preliminary arrangement are being made for taking up the work. Final location survey for one block section has been completed.
62	Gandhidham-Palanpur	337.79	3.00	324.79	New work included in Budget 1998-99. Work would be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances.
63	Agra-Bandikui	169.30	9.00	155.42	The work is being progressed as per availability of resources. No TD has yet been fixed.
64	Trichy-Manmadurai	175.00	7.00	168.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
65	Akola-Purna	228.00	10.00	218.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
66	Khadda-Gorakhpur	91.30	1.00	9.32	The work has been completed. The residual works are in progress.
67	Kashipur-Lalkuan	51.88	9.98	0.00	Work is in good progress and will be completed by March, 2000.
68	Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura	514.04	26.00	449.89	8.99 lac out of 12.2 lac of earthwork completed. 106 minor bridges out of 460 completed. The work will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
69	Gonda-Bahraich-Sitapur-Lucknow PH-I	48.00	0.10	47.90	The work will be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
70	Indara-Phephana	35.00	0.10	0.94	The work has been completed and commissioned. Residual works are nearing completion.
71	Kaptanganj-Thawe-Sivan-Chhapra	268.00	0.10	267.90	New work of 1999-2000. The work will be taken up after necessary clearances have been obtained.
72	Samastipur-Darbahgha	41.54	0.10	5.88	Work is completed. Financial adjustment is to be done for closure of work.

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73	Gonda-Gorakhpur Loop with Anand nagar Nautanwa	250.00	0.10	249.90	The work would be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.
Doubling					
1	Dayabasti-Grade separator	25.48	5.00	19.98	New work of 1999-2000. Detailed planning has been taken up.
2	Diva Kalyan doubling of 5-6 line	47.70	13.00	34.20	This is a new work of 1999-2000. Earthwork and Bridges in Diva-Dombivali and Dombivali-Kalyan will be taken up during 2000-01.
3	Punpun-Taregna (Patna-Gaya, Phase-III)	42.53	1.00	36.53	New work included in the budget 1999-2000. Preliminary arrangements are being made for taking up the work.
4	Amroha-Moradabad	49.00	5.00	43.00	New work of 1999-2000. Preparation of Plans and estimates is in progress.
5	Chhapra-Hajipur	49.64	0.10	48.54	New work of 1999-2000 and will be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances.
6	Bangalore-Kengeri with Elect.	20.72	0.10	19.93	Due to low operational priority, the work is frozen for the present.
7	Sewagram Chitoda	12.60	1.20	0.00	Earthwork and minor bridges has been completed. Ballast supply, building work and track linking is in progress. Work will be completed by 31.3.2000.
8	Mathura-Bhuteshwar	4.25	3.50	0.25	This is a new work of 1999-2000. The detailed estimate has been sanctioned. Tenders invited for earthwork. The work will be completed in 2000-2001.
9	Attipattu-Korukkupettai	40.00	10.00	29.50	Work included in the Budget 1999-2000. Preparation of Plans and estimates is in progress.
10	Kengeri-Ramnagaram	45.00	0.10	44.82	Due to low operational priority, the work is frozen for the present.
11	Kota-Gurla Chambal bridge	11.70	0.10	0.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
12	Bangalore City-Krishnarajpuram	85.00	0.10	84.89	Work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.
13	Whitefield-Kuppam	104.39	4.00	25.77	The work is in progress & the first phase from Whitefield to Bangarapet has been completed and commissioned. From Bangarapet to Kuppam work has been frozen temporarily.

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14	New Delhi-Tilak Bridge 5th and 6th line	36.00	10.00	24.00	Preparatory works have been taken up.
15	Nishatpura A&D Cabin	3.97	0.10	0.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
16	Bolpur-Ahmedpur	49.00	1.80	47.20	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
17	Manikpur-Cheonki PH-I Doubling of Manikpur-Katayadandi	48.00	1.00	47.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
18	Amroha-Kankather	48.00	1.00	47.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
19	Surat-Kosamba Ph-I of 3rd line between Vadodara and Virar	49.00	1.00	48.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
20	Vijaywada-Krishna Canal 3rd line	44.31	14.00	12.84	The estimate has been sanctioned. The third line is proposed between Krishna Canal and Vijaywada by providing a second track on the substructure over Krishna for which superstructure tender are under finalisation. Tenders for earthwork and other major bridges are under finalisation.
21	Vikarabad-Tandur (Wadi Secunderabad Section)	90.56	1.00	7.38	The work has been completed and commissioned.
22	Gudur-Renigunta	142.55	17.00	109.96	Tenders for earthwork, minor bridges for 4 block sections, two from Gudur and two from Renigunta end are under finalisation. Work will be taken up shortly. 25 km. are expected to be completed in 2000-2001.
23	Gajapatnagaram-Vijaynagaram	41.92	1.00	0.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
24	Gooty-Renigunta Sec. Doubling of Balapalle-Pullampet sec.	48.00	1.00	47.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
25	Penvel-Jasai-JNPT	48.00	1.00	47.00	This is a new work of 2000-01. Detailed planning has been taken up.
26	Zafraabad-Utretia PH-II (Zafraabad-Srikrishnanagar)	48.00	1.00	47.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
27	Jarwal Road-Burhwal (Patch Doubling)	23.80	1.00	22.80	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
28	Sonenagar-Mugalsarai	241.00	38.00	1.00	This project is partially funded out of ADB loan. Work is progressing well. Out of 16 block sections, 8 have been commissioned covering 46 kms. The entire work will be completed by June, 2000.

1	2	3	4	5	6
29	Kalinarayanpur-Krishnanagar	40.00	5.00	35.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
30	Karpurigram-Siho	32.67	0.10	31.14	New work of 1999-2000. Preliminary arrangements are being made for starting the work.
31	Khurda Road-Puri PH-I (Khurda Road Delang)	48.00	5.00	43.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
32	Panskura-Haldia PH-I (Panskura-Rajgoda)	48.00	2.00	46.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
33	Trakeshwar-Sheoraphulli PH-I (Sheoraphulli-Nalikul)	41.00	2.00	39.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
34	Baruipur-Lakshmikantpur PH-I (Baruipur-Dakshni Barasat)	49.00	5.00	44.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
35	Sonarpur canning PH-I (Sonarpur-Ghutiari Sharif)	36.00	6.00	30.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
36	Rajatgarh-Barang	166.16	0.10	166.05	New work included in Budget 1999-2000, will be taken up after obtaining necessary clearances.
37	Hospet-Guntakal (Gauge-Conv.)	154.14	1.00	135.56	Final location survey has been completed & estimate has been sanctioned. Tenders for earthwork, minor bridges and ballast are under finalisation. Work will be taken up shortly. Target date not yet fixed.
38	Eamakulam-Ernakulam maryard	3.16	2.66	0.00	The work included in the Budget 1999-2000. Preparation of Plans and estimate has been taken up.
39	Calicut-Mangalore	454.95	97.10	144.10	Doubling of the section from Mangalore to Kuttipuram is a sanctioned project. It has also been decided to extend the doubling from Kuttipuram to Shoranur, based on the representations received. Work is in good progress. 8 block sections (77 km.) have been completed. Another 65 km. will be completed in 2000-2001. The work is expected to be completed in 3-4 yrs. time subject to availability of resources.
40	Patna-Parsa Bazar (Patna-Gaya, Phase-I)	9.97	2.00	0.00	Earth work is nearing completion and bridge works are in progress. The work is expected to be completed during this financial year.

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41	Parsa Bazar-Punpuri (Patna-Gaya, Phase-II)	7.00	2.80	3.60	Plans and estimate have been prepared. The work is being taken up.
42	Goelkera-Manoharpur 3rd line (Chakradharpur-Bondamunda Section)	186.91	10.00	174.23	Final location survey and preparation of land acquisition plan and papers has been taken up. Work in railway land at Manoharpur has been taken up. Work on other sections will be taken up when once the land is made available by State Govt.
43	Barasat-Hasanabad doubling with electrification PH-I (Barasat-Sondalia)	27.00	5.00	22.00	New work included in the Budget. Final location survey is being taken up.
44	Talcher-Cuttack-Paradeep (2nd Bridges on Mahanadi & Birupa)	104.15	10.00	81.87	Soil investigation and detailed design on Birupa bridge has been completed and drawings are under preparation. Prequalification tender has been called for execution of bridge and M/s IRCON has been prequalified for Birupa bridge and they are under consideration for Mahanadi bridge. For Mahanadi, consultant has been fixed for design and drawings and the detailed design is in progress. Tenders for bridge will be invited once the design is finalised.
45	Bilaspur-Urkura	151.52	14.00	132.30	Preliminary arrangements for starting the work are being made.
46	Sarona-Bhillai 3rd line	47.68	10.00	24.17	Earthwork and minor bridges are in progress. Site investigation for important major bridge Kharum has been taken up.
47	Kalappal-Phanda/Maksi-Bhopal	53.00	0.10	52.89	This work has been temporarily frozen owing to low operational priority and constraint of resources.
48	Bolai-Kalisindh-Kisoni-Bercha	49.28	16.00	5.00	The work is in progress on 4 block sections and is being regulated as per availability of resources. Maksi - Pirumrod and Bolai - Kalisindh completed.
49	Chandanpur-Gurup 3rd line	23.82	10.00	0.00	Work is in progress and Cheragram - Gurup (5 km.) will be completed by March, 2000. The work is targeted for completion in 2000-2001, subject to availability of resources.
50	Gurup-Shaktigarh 3rd line	41.53	10.00	27.42	The plans have been finalised. This work has relatively lower operational priority and will be progressed as per availability of resources.
51	Kuttipuram-Calicut	63.28	25.00	5.02	Remarks same as given for Calicut-Mangalore below.

1	2	3	4	5	6
52	Budge Budge-Akra PH-I	10.37	5.00	0.00	Akra-Nungi and Nungi-Budge section will be completed in this financial year.
53	Yeshwantpur-Tumkur	80.00	5.00	73.00	The necessary clearances have been obtained. Preliminary arrangements are being made for taking up the work including acquisition of land.
54	Jhapatardal-Guskara PH-I	11.46	0.33	0.67	Two block sections from Jhapatardal-Bonpass (5.4 km.) and Bonpass-Naodhandal (5 km.) have been completed. The work on the remaining section would be completed by March, 2000.
55	Rajatgarh-Nargundi	72.67	1.00	3.38	The section from Rajatgarh to Salegaon has been completed. The remaining section of 4 km. has a fly over and would be ready by Dec., 2000 subject to land being made available by the State Govt.
56	Khana-Santhia PH-I	12.07	1.00	0.00	This work was earlier held up first due to court case and contractual problems and then due to release of excess water by DVC leading to flooding of area. The work is now expected to be completed by Dec., 2000 including the fly over at Khana.
57	Korba-Saragbundia	32.13	1.00	2.20	Korba-Urga (6.5 km.) has been completed. The work on balance portion is in progress and will be completed by March 2000.
58	Raghnathpur-Rahama	72.93	9.00	8.13	Section: from Gorakhnath to Rahama has been completed and from Raghnathpur to Gorakhnath is expected to be completed shortly due to affected by cyclone.
59	New Alipur-Akra PH-I	16.17	10.00	4.17	The plans have been finalised. This work has relatively lower operational priority and will be progressed as per availability of resources. Tender papers are under preparation.
60	Titlagarh-Lanjigarh	112.65	15.00	80.48	The preparation of plans and estimates and land acquisition plans has been taken up. Tenders have been finalised for earthwork in three sections and for 1 major bridge.
61	Rahama-Paradeep	41.84	24.00	0.68	The preparation of plans and estimates has been taken up. Land acquisition has been processed and for 5 villages land acquisition papers has been submitted to the State Government. Work will be taken up once the land is made available.

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62	Nergundi-Cuttack-Raghnathpur	119.83	30.00	49.55	The preparation of plans and estimates and land acquisition plans has been taken up. Final location survey has been completed for Nergundi-Cuttack section, no land is required and is only required on Raghnathpur-Cuttack section. Bridge work and earth work has been taken up in Kendrapara Road yard. Tenders for other sections is under finalisation.
63	Sahibganj-New Farakka-Malda	62.35	1.00	0.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
64	Jalandhar-Pathankot-Jammu Tawi	486.00	5.10	475.90	The work would be taken up after requisite clearances have been obtained.
65	Gorakhpur-Sahajanva	61.51	0.10	61.39	Work has been temporarily frozen.
66	Gonda-Jarwal Road	60.69	15.00	26.12	The work is in progress. 85% earthwork and 31 minor bridges out of 33 have been completed and 2 are in progress. Work on all 8 major bridges is in progress. 27 km. section from Maijapur to Jarwal Road is expected to be completed in 2000-2001.
67	Ghaziabad-(Hapur) Moradabad PH-I	69.66	18.00	19.31	The first block section Ghaziabad-Mehrauli (7 km.) has been completed and commissioned. The work is in progress on the entire section. Mehrauli-Dasana (8 km.) is expected to be completed by March, 2000 and rest of the section by March, 2001.
68	Muradnagar-Meerut	62.48	15.00	16.48	Earthwork and minor bridges have been completed. Major bridges are in progress. The 18 km. portion from Muradnagar to Partapur is expected to be completed in 2000-2001.
69	Kanpur-Panki 3rd line	34.03	10.00	8.18	Earthwork is in progress. 76.2 m. girders for flyover are being manufactured at Manmad Workshop. The work is expected to be completed by Dec, 2000 subject to availability of resources.
70	Tundla-Yamuna Br.	35.95	7.00	5.24	The work on Tundla-Etmadpur and on the flyover is in progress. The earthwork and minor bridges have been completed. The work of Tundla-Etmadpur including flyover will be completed by Dec, 2000 subject to availability of resources.

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71	Irugur-Coimbatore	25.10	1.00	22.49	Land acquisition for the project has been taken up. The detailed planning of the facilities to be provided is also on hand. The work as required would be taken up and completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.
72	Champa-Saragbundia	56.55	3.00	21.79	Work is in progress and three block sections covering 15 km. section from Sarabgundia-Kathari road-Bolpur (15 km.) will be completed during 1999-2000.
73	Daund-Bigwan	40.00	5.00	5.00	The work is in good progress and will be completed by March' 2000.
74	Akaltara-Champa	53.60	1.00	1.40	Akaltara-Naila (16 km.) completed. Naila-Hasdeo (7 km.) completed, except the Hasdeo bridge which will be completed by June, 2001. Commissioning is awaiting CRS's sanction which will be after condonation of grade infringement from Board.
75	Guskara-Bolpur PH-III	28.02	7.00	0.77	The work is in progress. The section from Guskara to Pitchkuridhal (5.5 km.) has been completed & rest of the section will be completed in 2000-2001.
76	Diva-Panvel	63.00	3.40	0.00	Work has been completed.
77	Panvel-Roha-Land acquisition	4.10	1.41	0.00	Land acquisition is expected to be completed in 1999-2000.
78	Korba-Gevra Road	29.39	10.00	15.35	Work of bridges and formation has commenced.
79	Urkura-Raipur-Sarona	31.05	5.00	0.00	Work completed and commissioned.
80	Hatempur-Gher-single line	44.00	1.00	0.00	Work completed.
81	Utralia Chandraulii and Sultanpur-Bandhua Kalan	47.12	10.00	32.03	Final location survey has been completed and detailed estimate prepared. Plans are under finalisation. Work is being taken up.
82	Kishanganj-Dalkolha	43.73	15.00	0.00	Two block sections from Kisanganj-Hatwar-Kanki (14 kms.) have been commissioned and rest will be completed by Dec., 2000
83	Aluabari Road-Kishanganj	49.30	5.00	0.00	The work has been completed and commissioned.
84	Quilon-Trivandrum	145.17	12.00	14.09	This work is progressing well and will be completed on 31.03.2000.

1	2	3	4	5	6
85	Diva-Vassi	133.99	20.00	13.29	In phase-I, 11 km. from Vasai Rd. to Kaman has been completed and 17 km. Kaman to Bhivandi is targeted by March 2000. Bhiwandi for Diva is targeted for March, 2001 subject to removal of encroachments and availability of resources.
Metropolitan Transport Projects					
1	Virar Dahanu Road-Development of facilities for introduction of EMUs and terminal facilities	25.82	0.10	25.81	
2	Ranaghat-Gede Electrification	32.35	15.00	1.05	Detailed estimate has been sanctioned. OHE work in Ranaghat-Bagula section completed except wiring work, Civil Engg. and S&T portion of works are in progress.
3	Chennai Beach-Chengalpattu Gauge Conversion	455.22	20.00	196.82	Part detailed estimate has been submitted by the Railway for processing in the Board for sanction.
4.	Electrification-Hasanabad to Barasat	37.70	25.00	8.20	Detailed estimate has been sanctioned in Aug. 99. Tenders for OHE and sub-station works are under finalisation.
5	Belapur-panvel Doubling	280.31	7.00	8.45	Physical progress is 42%. CIDCO lagging behind the schedule in the works to be executed by it due to financial crunch faced by it. Project can be commissioned within target with curtailed station facilities.
6	Chennai Beach-Luz (now Thirumall) PH-I Rapid Transit System	288.87	5.00	4.05	Commissioned.
7	Autoblock signalling of Virar-Dahanu Road	27.19	6.99	8.14	Detailed estimate has been sanctioned in Sept., 1998. Work is progressing as per schedule.
8	Quadrupling between Borivali and Virar	401.66	30.00	328.62	Work originally proposed under BOLT scheme was debolted in 1998. Earthwork and construction of minor and major bridges and quarters in progress. Tenders for consultancy works for important bridge No. 73 & 75 have been awarded and for execution of work, tenders are under process of finalisation.
9	Santacruz-Borivali 5th line	82.42	12.00	8.96	Physically progress is 75%. Progress of work affected by delay in eviction of unauthorised encroachments. Revised estimate of Rs. 82.42 cr. inclusive of proposed material modification of separate line of FCI siding has been approved. First block section from Santacruz to Andheri is expected to be commissioned by 31.3.2000.

1	2	3	4	5	6
10	Thane-Mumbai : 5th and 6th line	49.34	0.10	49.24	Progress of works is 42%. Progress of work hampered due to heavy encroachment of Railway land and due to delay in acquisition of built up structures.
11	Kurla-Thane 5th and 6th line PH-I	97.39	14.00	29.20	Progress of work is 42%. Progress of work hampered due to heavy encroachment of Railway land and due to delay in acquisition of built up structures.
12	Seawood Uran electrified line	495.44	12.00	141.99	Due to financial crunch faced by CIDCO, work has been split in two phases. First phase, with construction of single line is Belapur-Seawood-Uran section, is targeted to be completed by March, 2003 subject to availability of funds from CIDCO.
13	Thane Turbhe Nerul/Vashi part of corridor no.2 in Navi Mumbai	403.39	7.90	40.40	Physical progress is 36%. CIDCO lagging behind the schedule in the works to be executed by it due to financial crunch faced by it. Project can be commissioned within target with curtailed satation facilities but for delay in acquisition of land at Thane (East) which is likely to delay the project.
14	MRTS PH-II from Thirumali to Valacherry	705.50	35.00	108.11	Detailed estimate is under sanction. Three part estimates amounting to Rs. 177.6 cr. already sanctioned. More than 85% substructure work completed. For superstructure work, contracts awarded for more than 50% work. For balance work tenders are under finalisation. Progress is satisfactory.
15	Circular Railway including Dum-Dum-Tala electrification	192.90	45.00	98.96	Line upto Princepghat opened on 17.6.1990. Extension from Princepghat to Majerhat has been taken up as a material modification of the ongoing project. Detailed Engg. survey work already commenced. Formal response of Military authorities to the issue of acquisition of land near the site of proposed hasting station is awaited though agreed in the meeting.
16	Kurla-Thane 5th and 6th line (Bhandup to Thane PH-II)	58.30	10.00	32.80	Estimate sanctioned. Work in progress is likely to be delayed due to delay in R & R of 450 hutments and shops from Railway land. Progress of work is 13.5%.

1	2	3	4	5	6
17	Dum-Dum-Garia Design and construction of Rapid Transit System	2401.69	150.00	470.79	Dum-Dum to Tollygunge commissioned on 27.9.1995. Extension of metro railway from Tollygunge to Garia has been taken up as a material modification of ongoing project. Action has already been initiated for Engg. Survey including soil investigation, structural Design etc. Soil investigation work in first stretch of 3.2 km completed. Shortlisting of contractors has been completed for foundation/structure works. Tender notice has already been sent to the pre-qualified contractors for construction of foundation and sub structure for the viaduct of first block section ex. Tollygunge to Chanditala (825 m).
Railway Electrification					
1	Renigunta-Guntakal-Hospet	291.90	20.34	267.30	This work frozen earlier has been defrozen in Nov. 1998. Preliminary works have been taken upto Mar., 2004.
2	Bhubneshwar-Kottavalasa	292.87	40.89	104.58	Work in progress and target for completion by March 2002. 179 RKMs since energised upto Mar., 1999.
3	Bandel-Katwa	48.54	2.54	1.57	Work has been completed. Residual jobs in hand.
4	Delhi-Ambalacantt-Ludhiana	291.47	20.20	32.19	Main line work from Delhi to Ludhiana has been completed. Branch lines Ambala-Kalka and Sirhind-Nagaldam work in hand, targeted for March, 2001.
5	Krishnanagar-Lalgola	72.12	7.20	64.92	New work included in the Budget.
6	Ludhiana-Amritsar	93.06	10.25	81.02	The detailed estimate has since been sanctioned. Target for completion is Dec., 2002.
7	Sitarampur-Danapur-Mugalsarai	400.00	40.20	30.82	286 RKMs since energised till Mar' 99. The progress has been slow due to law and order problem and failure of contractor. Work is now targeted for completion by Dec., 2000.
8	Chandil-Muri-Barkakana	45.06	8.03	0.00	work has been completed.
9	Erode-Palghat-Ermakulam	224.17	18.00	6.42	Erode-Walayar-Shoranur-Chovvar section 294 RKMs had since been completed. The work on the remaining part of the project is in progress which is in Kerala State. An entire section will be completed by Mar, 2000.

1	2	3	4	5	6
10	Kusunda-Katrasgarh-Jamuniatanda	16.42	2.00	10.42	Target date for completion of this work is March, 2001.
11	Ranaghat-Bangaon Electrification	14.78	5.00	0.77	Detailed estimate has been sanctioned. Work is under progress. Contracts for OHE works, Civil Engg. works and signal portion already awarded and work is in progress. Contracts for switching posts and telecommunication works are under finalisation.
12	Adra-Midnapur	84.41	10.00	4.17	An entire section targeted for completion by Mar, 2000. 125 RKMs have since been energised upto Mar., 1999.
13	Tambaram-Chengalpattu-Vilupuram & Chengalpattu-Arakonam	34.20	15.00	19.10	Estimate has been sanctioned. Work in progress as per schedule.
14	Ambala-Moradabad	152.21	15.05	53.86	The work from Ambala to Sharanpur has been completed. Section from Saharanpur to Moradabad which was frozen earlier has since been defrozen in Nov. 1998 and entire section targeted by Mar, 2003.
15	Khurja-Meerut-Saharanpur	89.21	0.00	89.21	The work has been pending for the present due to lower operational priority.
16	Kanpur-Lucknow	47.87	10.30	5.57	Section targeted for completion by Mar' 2000.
17	Ernakulam-Trivandrum	147.87	10.00	137.72	This work has been included in the Railway Budget, 1999-2000 subject to requisite clearances. Appraisal Note from Planning Commission has been received in September 1999. The project is to be submitted to Expanded Board for approval.
18	Patna-Gaya	41.23	0.10	4.03	Project report is being re-examined in CORE. ROR is negative.
19	Udhna-Jalgaon	138.12	25.20	97.9	Target is March, 2002. Preliminary works taken up. The work is progressing as per schedule.
20	Kharagpur-Bhubaneswar incl. Talcher-Paradeep	310.19	40.05	154.69	This work was earlier planned under BOLT. However, owing to high rates and unacceptable conditions, it has been decided in Feb., 97 to take up the work with railway funds, 56 RKMs energised upto 31.3.99. This work is now targeted for completion by March.
21	Mugalsarai-Zafrabad	49.07	5.05	43.91	Project report is under Board's appraisal.

1	2	3	4	5	6
22	Bokaro Steel City-Muri-Hatia-Bondamunda- Bimlagarh-Kiriburu/ Barsuan incl. Purulia-Kotshila	269.40	25.00	41.81	221 RKMs energised till Mar, 1999. An entire section targeted for completion by Mar, 2002. The project has been delayed due to bad law and order problem and failure of OHE contractor and delay in release of 132 kv. supply by DVC/BSEB.

[English]

Import of Wheat

2310. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :
SHRI C.N. SINGH :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

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

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation and the Food Corporation of India imported wheat from Australia and Canada;

(b) if so, the quantity of wheat imported by each of these Organisations from each of the country during the last three years alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the F.C.I. now wants to sell this imported wheat by floating open tender;

(d) if so, the details of profit/loss as a result thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to get this matter probed by CBI and if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the quantity of wheat which has deteriorated due to lax storage by Food Corporation of India;

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(h) whether wheat imported under D.G.L. is cheaper; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) The details of wheat imported by the State Trading Corporation of India on Government account during the last three years are as under :-

Years	Country	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)
1	2	3
1996-97	Australia	13.90
	Canada	2.66
	Argentina	0.95
	Total	17.51

1	2	3
1997-98	Australia	10.18
1998-99	Australia	14.15
1999-2000	Nil	Nil

The import of wheat was made to augment its availability in the country. The Food Corporation of India has not imported any quantity of wheat during this period.

(c) In view of the availability of substantial stocks of wheat in the Central Pool, it has been decided to dispose of 1.00 lakh tonnes of imported wheat through tender.

(d) Profit or loss will be known only after the tender rates are finalized.

(e) Government has asked the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on 20.7.1998 to look into the wheat imports on Government account made during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99. CBI has registered a preliminary Enquiry to look into the wheat imports from Canada during 1996-97 and from Australia during 1998-99.

(f) No case of major deterioration in quality due to storage by the Food Corporation of India has been reported.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) and (i) Government has imposed 50% duty on all wheat imports w.e.f 1.12.1999. Therefore, imports of wheat under O.G.L. is no longer cheaper than domestic wheat.

Construction of RUBs

2311. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway have specific guidelines for construction of Road-Over-Bridges (ROBs)/Road-Under-Bridges (RUBs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of pending proposals of Andhra Pradesh for construction of ROBs/RUBs; and

- (d) the steps taken on each proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Railways construct Road Over/Under Bridges at their own cost at the time of laying new Railway lines and upto 10 years after opening of the Railway line if need arises, in consultation with the State Government(s). Thereafter, Road Over/Under Bridges are provided as per the following criteria.

- (i) On Cost Sharing Basis :

Railways share cost of Road Over/Under Bridges provided in lieu of the existing busy Level crossings where traffic density is 1 lakh or more Train Vehicle Units (Train Vehicle Unit is a unit obtained by multiplying the number of trains with the number of Road vehicles passing over the Level crossing within 24 hours). This criteria of traffic density can be relaxed in case of busy yards, where there is heavy detention to the road/rail traffic.

- (ii) On Deposit terms :

Railways also provide Road Over/Under Bridges at the request of the State Government(s)/Local Authorities if they want any crossing facility due to construction of new roads, on 'Deposit terms' i.e., the entire cost of construction and maintenance is borne by the Sponsoring Authority. If State Government(s)/Local Authorities want construction of the Road Over/Under Bridges in lieu of Level Crossing having traffic density of less than 1 lakh, the work is taken up by the Railways on 'Deposit terms'.

- (iii) On Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis :

On Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis, the entire cost of providing Road Over/Under Bridge is borne by the Private Entrepreneur, who is compensated through levy of toll tax or commercial exploitation of the land below the approaches for a fixed period. In this case, initiative has to be taken by the State Government/Ministry of Surface Transport.

Proposals for all the above cases (i) to (iii) are sponsored by the State Government/Local Authority.

(c) No firm sponsored by the State Government/Local Authorities, qualifying on "Cost sharing" basis is pending.

- (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Condition of Airports

2312. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "hawai addon ki dasha sudhame ki yojana par sarkar mein hi adchannein" appearing in the New Delhi Edition of "Jansatta" dated January 24, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to restructure the airports of Airports Authority of India as and when found suitable through long-term lease to bring the standards of services/facilities at par with the international standards. At present, the existing airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta are being taken up for this exercise. The process is likely to take approximately one year.

[English]

Purchasing of Power

2313. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has approached to the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions for reduction in the high electric traction tariffs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Electricity Boards are opposing the reduction in tariff rates;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the railways are considering to enter long-term contract for purchase of power from independent power producers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Railways have filed persons to the electricity Regulatory Commissions in the State of Orissa, Maharashtra & Gujarat for reasonable traction tariffs.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Some Electricity Boards, where proceedings have started in the Regulatory Commission have opposed the reduction in tariffs on the plea of financial burden of subsidies given to some sectors.

(e) and (f) Railways are exploring the possibility of obtaining power from public/private power companies subject to techno-economic friendly.

**Implementation of Rural Development
Programmes in Assam**

2314. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether rural development programme including poverty alleviation programmes are not properly implemented in Assam as there exists no elected Panchayats for more than two years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Union Government have been urging the State Government to hold elections and it is understood that the State Government proposes holding election to Panchayats in September, 2000.

Export of Wheat

2315. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of substantial increase in foodgrains the Government propose to export wheat; and

(b) if so, the details of countries to whom the Government propose to export alongwith the terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) The stocks of wheat in the Central Pool are much in excess of the buffer stock norms. In view of the normal wheat crop, liquidation of excess wheat stocks has become necessary. Export of wheat can be one way of liquidating the stocks. Enquiries regarding import of wheat have been received from Iraq, Russia, Nepal and Mauritius.

Government had, in 1999, decided to supply 50,000 MTs. of wheat from the Central Pool to His Majesty's Government of Nepal on Government to Government basis, at rates not lower than the Food Corporation of India's (FCI's) Open Market Sales Scheme (OMSS) rates. However, they have lifted only 906 tonnes of wheat so far. Ruling prices of wheat in India being very high, compared to the international prices, the export potential of Indian wheat is extremely bleak. As a result, export deal with no other country could so far be clinched.

[Translation]

Constitution of Railway Recruitment Control Board

2316. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reconstituted Railway Recruitment Control Board; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Bilateral discussion with the Government
for Tapping of Market**

2317. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken up with the UK Government to allow Air India to Pick up passengers from London to the US;

(b) if so, whether bilateral landing rights have been discussed in a meeting;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is a potential market of London based passengers for USA, but Air India is not allowed to tap this market;

(e) if so, whether the traffic on the India-UK Sector has been increasing over the years but number of airline seats have not kept the similar pace; and

(f) if so, the extent to which the Government have been able to succeed in tapping this traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (d) During the last round of bilateral negotiations with the Government of UK held on 1-2 February, 2000, an agreement was reached that Air India could exercise traffic right beyond London to USA on 16 services per week instead of 10 earlier.

(e) and (f) The traffic on India-UK sector has been showing a rising trend. The UK market is served directly as well as over Europe. Overall capacity is regularly monitored. Recently, Air India has also contracted a Code-share/Block space Arrangement agreement with Virgin Atlantic Airlines of UK for three unutilised frequencies per week between Delhi and London. This will increase Air India's exploitation of this market.

Investment in Railways

2318. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the total central investment for Railways during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : Railways investments are made on the grounds of operational necessity, strategic consideration and social desirability, keeping a national perspective in mind. State/Regional boundaries are not a criterion while deciding Railway investments, especially in a scenario where many Railway projects span across more than one state. Hence, State-wise details of Railway investments are not maintained.

However, as far as total central investment in Ninth five year plan is concerned, Railways had proposed a Plan size of Rs. 65,000 crores with a budgetary support of Rs. 19,500 crores and a subsidy for Social Service obligation of Rs. 9,750 crores. The investment in the first three years of the plan at 1996-97 prices are as under :-

Year	Outlay	Expenditure	Budgetary Support	
			Outlay	Expenditure
1997-98	7850	7792	1732	1884
1998-99	8420	7850	1950	1937
1999-2000(RE)	7496		2124	

(Rupees in crores)

The Plan size for 2000-01 at 1996-97 prices has been fixed at Rs. 8713 crores (Rs. 11000 crores at current prices) with a budgetary support of Rs. 2606 crores (Rs. 3291 crores at current prices). The clear picture of investment during IX Plan will only emerge on completion of the plan period in 2002.

[Translation]

Expenditure Incurred On Advertisements

2319. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have spent amounts on advertisements released to various newspapers regarding laying of foundation stone and inauguration of various railway projects during the year 1996 and 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to ban such advertisements; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Publicity through advertisements in the media to launch new services and projects etc. serves the purpose of informing the public of additional facilities and amenities being provided in different zones of Indian Railway system. However, steps have been taken to restrict scope and number of insertions of these advertisements to effect economy.

Statement

Details are given below :

Zonal Railway	1996-97 (In Rupees)	1997-98 (In Rupees)
Central	7,26,388	9,03,068
Eastern	35,38,789	9,11,158
Northern	42,07,420	46,45,253
North Eastern	1,37,58,532	33,00,980
Northeast Frontier	6,90,246	3,02,922
Southern	98,28,284	34,49,387
South Central	27,00,000	7,00,000
South Eastern	19,62,351	21,31,370
Western	12,77,993	16,48,633
Total for All Zonal Railways	3,86,90,003	1,79,92,771

[English]

Installation of Solar Energy Plants

2320. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) number of solar energy plants being installed in Rajasthan;

(b) total expenditure incurred thereon so far;

(c) the time by which each of such plant is likely to be commissioned;

(d) whether the Government propose to install such solar energy plants in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan during the next financial year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The Government of India has approved establishment of a 140 MW Integrated Solar Combined

Cycle (ISCC) Power Project at village Mathania, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, as a centrally-assisted project, to be implemented by Rajasthan State Poser corporation Ltd. (RSPCL). The project will comprise a 35 MW solar thermal power plant based on parabolic trough collectors, integrated with combined cycle power plant of 105 MW capacity.

(b) The completed cost of the power plant has been estimated as Rs. 872 crore.

(c) The power plant is expected to be completed in three years after financial closure and award of the contract.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

Provision of Water for Cultivation

2321. SHRI A, KRISNASWAMY : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any project under way to provide water to farmers for cultivation under any method of Non-Conventional Energies/Solar System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide water to villagers under solar energy system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing schemes relating to Solar Photovoltaic water pumping systems, water pumping windmills and bio-mass based gasifier water pump-sets to provide water to farmers and other beneficiaries for irrigation and meeting other requirements.

Under the scheme of the Ministry, solar photovoltaic water pumping system are available with a combination of subsidy and soft loan. All categories of users are eligible to purchase solar photovoltaic water pumping systems. The scheme is being implemented through the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and the State Nodal agencies. The manufacturers and suppliers of solar photovoltaic pumps, who are empanelled with IREDA, are eligible to supply pumping systems under the scheme. The Ministry is providing a subsidy of Rs. 125 per watt of PV array used with the water pumping system, subject to a maximum of Rs. 2,50,000 per pumping system. In addition to subsidy provided by the Ministry, a user can avail soft loan from IREDA at 5% annual interest rate on the 90% amount of the remaining unsubsidised portion of the pumping system's cost. The Ministry provides interest subsidy to IREDA. Water pumping systems with PV array

capacity of 200 Watts to 3000 Watts are covered under the scheme. So far a total number of 3164 pumping systems have been installed under the scheme.

The scheme on water pumping windmills is implemented through the state nodal agencies. The manufacturers of windmills are also eligible to directly market their systems to the users. Water pumping windmills suitable for pumping water from shallow as well as deep wells are covered under the scheme. The Ministry is providing financial assistance of Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 45,000 for installation of a windmill depending on its model. A total of 618 water pumping windmills have been installed under the scheme.

The Ministry is implementing another scheme on the use of biomass gasifiers for water pumping implemented through state nodal agencies. The Ministry provides financial assistance of 25% of the cost of pump-sets or Rs. 1500 per hp for pump-sets above 25 hp rating and Rs. 1200 per hp for pump-sets up to 25 hp rating, whichever is less. An additional 10% financial assistance is available for beneficiaries belonging to islands, North-Eastern states and Ladakh and to the weaker sections of the society such as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

Development of Surat and Ahmedabad Airports

2322. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to develop Surat and Ahmedabad airport as an alternate airport to reduce the burden of air traffic at Mumbai Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Ahmedabad Airport is being upgraded and developed for operation of B-747 class of aircraft. Runway is being extended and strengthened from 9000' to 11500' alongwith apron strengthening and expansion. The work is likely to be completed by December, 2000.

Surat Airport belongs to the State Government of Gujarat. State Government is planning to make this airport operational for 50 seater aircraft.

[Translation]

Status to Soldiers died by Snake Bite in Kargil

2323. SHRI SIS RAM OLA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a soldier who was posted at Kargil died of snake bite while taking a part in the "Operation Vijay" is to be treated as a martyr;

(b) if so, whether all the financial helps extended to the dependents of a martyr soldier are also proposed to be given to the family of such soldiers; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No death due to snake bite has been reported during "Operation Vijay" (Kargil).

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Condition of Centaur Hotel, New Delhi

2324. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT :

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government have been drawn to the news-item captioned "Believe it or not, rats roaches and monkey drove A-1 out of Centaur" appearing in Indian Express dated February 20, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to improve the condition of the hotel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The news-item is not factual in its entirety. Although the B-747 sets of Air India's crew had moved out of Centaur Hotel Delhi in 1993 due to deteriorating conditions, the Airbus sets have been staying there. Presently, one set of Airbus 310 crew is staying four days a week based on the pattern of the crew layover. With the initiation of several steps to improve the infrastructure and facilities at Centaur Hotel, Delhi, HCI is in dialogue with Air India to shift the crew back to Centaur Hotel, Delhi. The following steps have been initiated for improvement of the Centaur Hotel, Delhi:-

(i) The complete renovation of 100 guest rooms which is expected to be completed by march, 2000.

(ii) New telephone exchange was installed in December, 1998.

(iii) New TV sets in 150 rooms were installed in March/April, 1999.

(iv) Service floor pipings have been replaced to improve the quality of water supply to the rooms/AC plants.

(v) Overhauling of the 2 AC Plants is in progress to avoid complaints in summer months.

(vi) All staff have been instructed to ensure that there is no laxity in maintaining the service standards and to provide all assistance to meet guests comfort levels.

Indian Share in World Tourism

2325. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Action Plan for tourism formulated few years ago, have contemplated to increase the Indian share of world tourism from 0.4% to 1%;

(b) if so, whether the Government have achieved the target; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the efforts being made to increase indian share in world tourism?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTHA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The inadequacies in the general level of infrastructure like transport including air-transport and accommodation in the country are some of the reasons for not achieving the target. Various efforts to increase the share of India in the world tourist arrivals include improvement of infrastructure facilities, diversification of tourism products and strengthening institutions of human resources development, vigorous promotional and publicity efforts etc.

Shifting of Goods Yard in Solapur

2326. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a public demand for shifting the goods yard from the heart of the city in Solapur to its outskirts, has been repeatedly voiced by its public representatives including Members of Parliament; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in this regard;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to shift the present Goods

yard to the released abandoned land of MG station after yard remodelling.

Gauge Conversion of Coochbehar-Lumding Rail Line

2327. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a project for conversion of railway line from Coochbehar to Lumding in Assam into broad gauge, under the unigauge programme;

(b) if so, its length and estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the above conversion project and the expenditure incurred thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Gauge conversion of Alipurduar-Gitalda is sanctioned as part of New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon gauge conversion project. When this project is completed in the coming year, Coochbehar station will get direct broad gauge link to Lumding.

[Translation]

Expenditure on Storage And Transportation of Foodgrains

2328. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will

the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred on the purchase, storage and transportation of foodgrains per quintal by the Food Corporation of India during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Food Corporation of India increased the overhead charges fixed for rice and wheat during the above period;

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

(d) whether huge amount is being spent for preservation of foodgrains in comparison to the actual cost of foodgrains;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by Food Corporation of India for reducing the said cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) The expenditure incurred by the Food Corporation of India on the purchase, storage and transportation of foodgrains during the last three years and the current year is as follows :

(Rs./Qtl.)

	1996-97 (Prov.)	1997-98 (Prov.)	1998-99 (Prov.)	1999-2000 (RE)
WHEAT				
(i) Pooled cost of grains	390.73	484.34	507.12	550.00
(ii) Procurement incidentals and carry over charges to state agencies.	134.37	122.67	126.95	132.12
(iii) Distribution (inclusive of storage) cost.	115.06	179.34	163.09	137.73
Total :	640.16	786.35	797.16	819.85
RICE				
(i) Pooled cost of grains	627.99	695.66	787.70	829.37
(ii) Procurement incidentals	61.41	55.21	65.50	75.20
(iii) Distribution (inclusive of storage) cost.	158.29	188.46	173.47	170.88
Total :	847.69	939.33	1026.67	1075.45

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The increase in the over-head charges during the last three years and decrease in the current year as under :-

(Rate : Rs./Qtl.)

Commodity	1996-97 (Prov.)	1997-98 (Prov.)	1998-99 (Prov.)	1999-2000 (RE)
Wheat	115.06	179.34	163.09	137.73
Rice	158.29	188.46	173.47	170.88

The increase is attributable to the increases in railway freight, storage charges by CWC and other agencies and normal escalation.

(d) and (e) The amount spent on buffer carrying cost per qtl. during the last three years is as follows :

(Rate : Rs./Qtl.)

Year	Carrying Cost
1996-97	158.26
1997-98	172.89
1998-99	171.09
1999-2000 (RE)	172.02

(f) The steps taken by the FCI for reducing the said cost are :-

- (i) Achieving the average capacity utilisation of 75% to reduce the storage cost even though the procurement of grain is seasonal,
- (ii) Releasing the stock in the open markets at the price above Central Issue Price,
- (iii) Ensuring strict quality control measures during procurement/storage,
- (iv) Issuing of old stocks, disposing off C&D category, and
- (v) Controlling the administrative cost by following minimum recruitment of resultant entry level posts irrespective of the increased volume of operations.

[English]

Funds for Golden Jubilee Celebrations

2329. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state the details of funds spent for the celebration of 50th Year of Republic of India by the Union Government, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : information is being collected from all the Ministries/Departments of Government of India and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Resettlement of Retiring Defence Personnel

2330. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the average anticipated number of officers, Junior Commissioned officers and other ranks likely to be retired during each of the next five years;

(b) the details of schemes launched for providing alternate jobs to this trained and disciplined manpower;

(c) the number of retired soldiers below fifty years registered on the rolls of respective Dte. General of Resettlements who have not found any alternate job as on date; and

(d) the details of long-term plan for resettlement of retired soldiers including resettlement on Government land, particularly in J & K and Eastern Sector?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The total average number of retirees from the three Wings of the Armed Forces was about 56,000 during the period 1991 to 1998. The approximate Service-wise break up is as under :-

Army	49,000
Navy	2,500
Air Force	4,500

During the last two years there was a decline in the number of retirees due to the freeze in normal retirement on account of the increase in the retirement age as a result of the acceptance of Vth Central Pay Commission's recommendations by the Government. However, during the next five years, the average number of retirees would be more or less on the earlier pattern.

2. Efforts are constantly on to explore various avenues for employment of ex-servicemen. The Central Government is providing the following avenues for resettlement/re-employment of ex-servicemen :-

(i) Training programmes to re-orient retiring defence personnel towards civil employment;

(ii) Reservation of post to provide re-employment opportunities in Government/Semi-Government/ Public Sector Organisations; and

(iii) Schemes for self-employment.

3. The Kendriya Sainik Board (KSB) under the chairmanship of Raksha Mantri has been established for laying down the general policy on the welfare of ex-Servicemen and their dependants; for the administration of welfare funds and also the coordination of the work of the

Rajya Sainik Boards (RSBs) and Zila Sainik Boards (ZSBs). Applications for sanction of loans are submitted by ex-Servicemen directly to the concerned Zila Sainik Boards in their respective States. The applications are scrutinised and those who satisfy eligibility criteria as well as other terms and conditions are recommended for sanction of loans through State Financial Corporations aided by small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Scheduled Commercial Banks, District Central Cooperative Banks, State Land Development Banks and Regional Rural Banks aided by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), and the State KVIB/Banks aided by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). A total of 3,01,685 ex-servicemen were on the Live Register of various Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards as on December 31, 1998.

4. The following schemes for self employment are available to ex-Servicemen :-

- (i) As it is not feasible to provide government jobs to all ex-Servicemen after their retirement from the Armed Forces, Government have formulated several schemes for encouraging ex-Servicemen entrepreneurs interested in setting up small and medium industries, including providing financial support by way of loans through important Self-Employment Schemes for ex-Servicemen.
- (ii) Ex-Servicemen Coal Transport companies.
- (iii) Attachment of tipper trucks of widows to ex-Servicemen Coal Transportation companies functioning in Coal Subsidiaries of Coal India Limited.
- (iv) Allotment of oil product agencies to ex-Servicemen/ widows/dependants under the defence quota.
- (v) Allotment of army surplus disposable class VB vehicles.
- (vi) Reservation of CSD and low technology items manufactured by the ex-Servicemen entrepreneurs.
- (vii) Grant of price subsidy to ex-Servicemen's small scale industrial units.
- (viii) Allotment of parking lot sites in New Delhi.
- (ix) Allotment of typewriters/duplicators.
- (x) Allotment of Mother Dairy/DMS milk booths and fruit & vegetable outlets.
- (xi) Out of turn allotment of PCO/STD booths to war widows/dependants and war disabled ex-Servicemen.

Inadequate Storage Facility

2331. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of the losses of foodgrains due to inadequate storage facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any plan to reduce wastage of foodgrains due to lack of storages;

(d) whether the Union Government have a plan to extend 25% subsidy for construction of new godowns; and

(e) if so, the details of this proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) No, Sir. Adequate storage capacity exists with the Food Corporation of India (FCI), the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), the State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs) and other State agencies for storage of foodgrains. Besides, the field officers of FCI have been delegated full powers to hire additional storage capacity as and when necessary.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government is in the process of formulating a National Policy on Handling, Storage and Transportation of Foodgrains in bulk which would reduce storage and transit losses of foodgrains.

(d) and (e) There is a continuing centrally sponsored scheme for construction of small godowns upto the capacity of 2000 MT to strengthen the PDS. Under the scheme, financial assistance to the States and UTs is provided for creation of storage capacity especially in the remote, inaccessible, hilly and disadvantaged areas. The pattern of assistance is 50% loan and 50% subsidy to meet the cost of construction on project basis. However in case of UTs without legislature, the entire amount of assistance is in the form of subsidy.

Rail-Van Accident at Level Crossing

2332. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an accident of a school van and Bhatinda-Sriganganagar passenger train was occurred at a level crossing on January 29, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to avoid such type of incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This accident at an unmanned level crossing occurred due to failure on the part of driver of school van to take precaution as laid down under section 131 of the Motor Vehicle Act before negotiating the level crossing.

(c) Measures for reducing Unmanned Level Crossing accidents

1. Proper Road Signs have been provided on approaches to level crossings so that road vehicle drivers become aware of the existence of a level crossing gate.
2. Speed breakers/rumble strips have been provided on approaches to level crossing gates so that road vehicle drivers are reminded to reduce their speed.
3. Whistle boards are also provided alongside the rail track on approach to level crossings. Train drivers are required to whistle from the whistle board till such time as the train passes the level crossing gate in order to warn road users about the approaching train. Periodic drives are launched for checking whether drivers are actually whistling from such whistle boards.
4. Road users have still not got used to the faster speeds of Mail/Express trains. A train travelling at 90 KMPH covers 25m/sec. Thus, although to the road users the train appears to be 150 meters away, in terms of time of time it is only 6 seconds away. This message is being conveyed to them progressively by various publicity measures.
5. To educate road drivers about safety at unmanned level crossings, publicity campaigns are periodically launched through various media like quickies on TV, cinema slides, posters, talks on radio, newspaper advertisements and street plays.
6. Since accidents at unmanned level crossings take place due to negligence of road users, the State Governments can also help by exercising strict checks while issuing driving licences, specially to drivers of trucks, buses and other heavy vehicles. All Chief Secretaries have been requested to co-operate in educating road users.
7. Joint Ambush Checks with civil authorities are conducted to nab errant road vehicles drivers under the provision of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 and the Railways Act, 1989.
8. Involvement of village Panchayats in the railways public awareness programmes is also being done.
9. Permission has been received from some of the State Governments for putting up L-Xing Safety at Village Panchayat Offices. These posters are presently under printing and this work will be started in the near future.
10. Permission has also been received from IOC/HPC/BPC for putting up L-Xing Safety posters at retail petrol pumps. These posters are presently under printing and this work will also be started in the near future.
11. An intensive campaign through public address system has been launched to sensitize the public about the dangers from explosives and need to maintain extreme vigilance regarding/unattended objects.
12. Intensive publicity is carried out through television quickies, advertisements in the National and local press to educate the public against the hazards of carrying inflammable material in their luggage.

Astro Palmists in Hotels

2333. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of persons officiating as Astro Palmists in various 5 star hotels run by ITDC with special mention to Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi and the service regulations that are monitoring their functioning;

(b) the functional impact towards development of tourism industry commercially as they being supposed to entertain highly influential sections of society;

(c) whether there is any restriction on their code of conduct not to allow them to use the hotel premises virtually as their private chamber for personal income at the cost of Government exchequer;

(d) if so, whether there are any checks on these Astro Palmists so that they may not exploit the distinguished guests visiting these hotels tarnishing the image of the traditional old value of their professions; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) There is only one regular official in ITDC working as Astro Palmist since 1987 and presently deployed in Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi. The incumbent is governed by the service rules and regulations of ITDC.

(b) Such facilities are a value addition for hotels as Astrology is a part of India's rich heritage.

(c) All employees of the corporation are governed by the Conduct Rules of the organisation.

(d) and (e) The consultation fee is paid by the customers directly to the hotel.

[Translation]

Sugar Consultative Committees

2334. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether various advisory committees at Central level/State level have been lying dissolved since long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these committees are proposed to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

Statement

S. No.	Recommendations	Action Taken by Government
1	2	3
1.	At least one-third of women be the members of Watershed committee and there should at least be a woman member in the Watershed Development Team (WDT).	Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects under Integrated Wasteland Development Scheme (IWDP), Drought Prone Area Programme Scheme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) have been amended suitably so as to have one-third women members to represent different user groups, self-help groups and women groups and to have a woman member in the WDT.
2.	The period of implementation of the project may be increased from 4 to 5 years.	The Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects amended suitably to provide for raising the duration of the project from four to five years.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) There is an Advisory Council on Foodgrain Management and Public Distribution. The advisory council has been re-constituted after the constitution of 13th Lok Sabha vide order dated 11.01.2000. So far as sugar is concerned, there is a Development Council for Sugar Industry which has been established under Section 6 of Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951. The development council is constituted for a period of 2 years at a time. It was last constituted on 11th November, 1998.

[English]

Constitution of Committee for Training in Watershed

2335. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee to identify the needs for training in watershed programme;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Committee on Training under the chairmanship of Shri V.B. Eswaran was constituted in february 1997, which had submitted its report in December 1997.

(b) and (c) The Recommendations of the Committee were accepted by the Government. A statement showing the major recommendations and the action taken thereon is enclosed.

S. No.	Recommendations	Action Taken by Government
1	2	3
3.	<p>An institutional mechanism be developed for providing training to different levels of functionaries at the micro-watershed level such as members of Gram Panchayat, Village level Government functionaries, self help groups, women, watershed associations, members of watershed committees, watershed secretary who may be provided training for a few hours to a week's duration. In addition, Project Implementing Agencies, Watershed Development Team, Block and District level Officers, Members of Block Panchayat and Zilla Parishad should also be provided training. For State level functionaries, workshop/training-cum-awareness generation programmes should be organised. The SIRDs or other institutions nominated as nodal agency should coordinate the training activities. A massive trainer's training programme to train faculty members be organised by National level training institutions such as NIRD, MANAGE etc.</p>	<p>The State were requested to identify suitable institutions preferably SIRDs for imparting training to watershed functionaries and requested to launch massive trainer's programme to train the faculty members of State level institutions at the National level institutions such as NIRD, MANAGE, CSWCRTI, Dehradun etc.</p>
4.	<p>SIRDs/ETCs be provided financial assistance for developing training aids, training materials, preparation of case studies etc.</p>	<p>Guidelines have been formulated by the Government to provide financial assistance to State Institute of Rural Development or nodal agencies for imparting training to different watershed functionaries and for acquiring teaching aid equipments.</p>
5.	<p>A National Standing Committee for Watershed Development be set up to review the programmes and analyse the experience in the field with the view to make suggestions on the various aspects of the programme including training.</p>	<p>A National Standing Committee for Watershed Development headed by Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission with Ministers of Rural Development, Agriculture, Environment & Forest and Member (Agriculture), Planning Commission and nine officials of different Ministries connected with Watershed Development projects has been constituted on 9.8.1999 to review the progress of Watershed Development Schemes.</p>
6.	<p>Each State Government should prepare State Action Plan for Watershed Development incorporating a component for training activities.</p>	<p>States were requested to formulate a State Action Plan for Watershed Development including training to be imparted to various categories of functionaries involved in the Watershed Development Programmes.</p>

[Translation]

Charging of Freight

2336. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether freight is charged forty per cent more than the cost and sufficient subsidy is given in the rail fares; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) During the year 1998-99, the average earning per net tonne kilometre was 26.25% higher than the average cost per net tonne kilometre. In passenger services, however, the average earning per passenger per kilometre was 38.33% less than the average cost per passenger per kilometre.

Funds Allocated Under RDP

2337. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI :

SHRI RADHAMOHAN SINGH :

DR. GIRIJA VYAS :

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :

SHRI JARBOM GAMLIN :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of amount allocated and released for rural development programmes during the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth Plan and 1999-2000, State-wise;

(b) the amount utilised by the States;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government against those States which have not utilised the sanctioned amount;

(d) the policy of the Government for providing benefits to rural people directly through rural development programmes; and

(e) the targets set and achievement made under these programmes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected.

(c) If the opening balance with the State is more than 20% of the allocation, a cut is imposed on their fund allocation.

(d) The Government have formulated the following rural development programmes for providing benefits to the rural people directly :

- (i) Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY),
- (ii) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY),
- (iii) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS),
- (iv) National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS)
- (v) National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)
- (vi) National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS)
- (vii) Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY); and
- (viii) Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP)

(e) The targets and achievement under these programmes in the year 1999-2000 is indicated at the statement.

Statement

Target and Achievement under Rural Development Programme during 1999-2000

(reported upto 3-3-2000)

S. No	Name of States/UTs	JGSY (Lakh Mandays)		IAY (Dwelling units) (Nos.)		EAS (Lakh Mandays)		SGSY (Self help Groups assisted) (Nos.)	
		Target*	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target*	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh		35	88288	45035	302	112		11125
2	Arunachal Pradesh		2	5667	655	7	19		81
3	Assam		55	121765	18927	135	97		5979
4	Bihar		309	308784	97027	645	260		54948
5	Goa		1	544	210	0	1		302

*Target not fixed

1	2	3*	4	5	6	7	8	9*	10
6.	Gujarat		10	25944	12458	60	33		566
7	Haryana		12	9368	4234	33	7		4342
8	Himachal Pradesh		94	3870	1433	16	16		4606
9	Jammu & Kashmir		3	4644	3685	26	7		1746
10	Karnataka		115	47184	24127	195	114		4889
11	Kerala		18	28416	12557	67	31		4116
12	Madhya Pradesh		166	73464	48969	419	145		7036
13	Maharashtra		155	84680	29240	572	115		61331
14	Manipur		1	5208	0	8	4		NR
15	Meghalaya		3	7944	356	10	6		741
16	Mizoram		1	1954	503	2	2		NR
17	Nagaland		2	4907	5097	9	NR		NR
18	Orissa		125	73232	34654	335	142		6235
19	Punjab		5	5960	2343	14	13		2632
20	Rajasthan		4	25864	16814	178	60		7722
21	Sikkim		1	917	103	2	2		11
22	Tamil Nadu		88	46768	33331	227	84		19507
23	Tripura		12	10769	0	17	13		2444
24	Uttar Pradesh		155	187629	39594	593	168		48004
25	West Bengal		60	96127	28339	215	64		53767
26	A & N Islands		19	727	6	1	0		541
27	D & N Haveli		0	414	32	1	NR		NR
28	Daman & Diu		0	162	3	0	0		6
29	Lakshadweep		0	17	6	0	0		NR
30	Pondicherry		0	402	118	1	0		0
31	Chandigarh								
32	Delhi								
Total			1450	1271624	459856	4092	1515		302677

*Target not fixed.
NR – Not reported

Target and Achievement under Rural Development Programme during 1999-2000

(reported upto 3-3-2000)

S. No	Names of States/UTs	NOAPS (Persons assisted) (Nos.)		NFBS (Families assisted) (Nos.)		NMBS (Persons assisted) (Nos.)		CRSP (Sanitary latrine constructed) (Nos.)	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	Andhra Pradesh	894400	466000	29141	21105	305316	221758	300000	295088
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6102	142	220	26	3713	244	2400	0
3	Assam	88353	67607	6205	3317	56129	22605	63426	406
4	Bihar	734748	690826	16320	13160	158129	80725	126870	612
5	Goa	2200	2195	117	256	495	68	5000	5659
6	Gujarat	160100	8860	1524	529	19968	5654	20000	1652
7	Haryana	37700	19838	520	522	12420	8049	14323	2780
8	Himachal Pradesh	25272.44	11440	295	281	3669	2076	11290	9128
9	Jammu & Kashmir	33895	17474	551	204	9460	3125	7029	0
10	Karnataka	316200	173238	6233	3882	77311	33244	154500	73011
11	Kerala	149178	116999	3668	4190	26223	16269	23862	17678
12	Madhya Pradesh	489900	584095	37992	23806	173710	46065	70096	30814
13	Maharashtra	444285	82894	9857	10709	87070	73174	150000	137932
14	Manipur	11011	4665	275	84	7788	1403	4237	667
15	Meghalaya	11873	9019	329	117	7548	2054	2250	437
16	Mizoram	4000	3440	110	73	3055	1316	1184	0
17	Nagaland	8623	1232	165	56	5332	2566	3187	0
18	Orissa	333400	325876	12928	13300	119854	65126	42238	5395
19	Punjab	41324	15023	1288	407	9020	1215	12410	0
20	Rajasthan	157536	454543	4494	3677	62465	10281	38258	0
21	Sikkim	3184	0	55	0	1148	0	1176	450
22	Tamil Nadu	350000	3347604	18286	14314	174021	17179	136444	46443
23	Tripura	19037	14598	696	363	15575	5662	7434	289
24	Uttar Pradesh	882995	855458	29010	18505	329073	135741	103297	351
25	West Bengal	353900	352480	9367	7402	103905	57181	435000	70765
26	A & N Islands	1857	0	27	0	209	0	400	35
27	D & N Haveli	1260	0	27	0	90	0	400	3

1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
28	Daman & Diu	265	262	27	1	60	0	400	0
29	Lakshadweep	199	0	27	0	31	0	142	51
30	Pondicherry	5240	1500	27	10	1008	506	400	210
31	Chandigarh	1459	1763	27	20	509	0	400	0
32	Delhi	26665	0	302	0	7098	0	400	0
Total		5596161	7629071	190111	140316	1781404	813286	1738453	734642

(English)

Survey for Broad Gauge Line up to Rozi Peak

2338. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the preliminary survey report of broad gauge line upto Rozi Peak and New Bunder (Bedi Bunder) near Jamnagar railway station under Rajkot Division of Western Railway has been completed and submitted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Gujarat Maritime Board has already paid necessary charges before a year ago for final survey; and

(d) if so, the details of the charges paid and the time by which the final survey will be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. The survey has not yet been taken up.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Rs. 2,94,645/- was deposited by Gujarat Maritime Board. However, as Western Railway was not in a position to carry out the survey due to urgent surveys on hand, Gujarat Maritime Board were advised to get the survey done from M/s RITES or any of the consultants approved by Western Railway. But no response has been received till date from Gujarat Maritime Board. The amount deposited by them will be adjusted towards amount payable to the Railway for approval of survey plans and estimate to be prepared by the approved consultant who carries out the survey or will be refunded, if so desired.

Anti Hijacking Programme

2339. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to seek technical know-how from foreign countries to develop a comprehensive Anti-Hijacking Programme; and

(b) if so, the details of the talks held with the foreign countries including Israel in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Implementation of NCES Projects

2340. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of NCES projects implemented and the funds allocated during the last three years, State-wise and project-wise;

(b) the details of the foreign companies, public sector and private sector participated in developing Non-Conventional Energy Source alongwith the foreign collaboration, State-wise;

(c) whether any special schemes proposed to be introduced to enhance the solar energy, and bio-degradable material sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) The details of various non-conventional energy systems/devices installed and State-wise and project-wise funds allocated during the last three years under major programmes of non-conventional energy sources are given in statement-I and II.

(b) State-wise details of public sector and private sector participation in developing major non-conventional energy sources for power generation are given in statement-III. Foreign collaborations have been made in some major non-conventional energy sectors such as Wind, Solar, Photovoltaic, Biomass / Cogeneration and Waste to

Energy areas, particularly for manufacturing of equipments & systems. The State-wise details of foreign collaborations in developing non-conventional energy are given in statement-IV.

(c) and (d) The Ministry is already implementing national level Schemes for energy generation from Solar and Urban & Industrial Wastes.

Statement-I

Details of Various Non-Conventional Energy System/Devices installed during last three years i.e. 1996-97, 1997-98 & 1998-99 in the country.

	Units	Physical Achievements 1996-97	Physical Achievements 1997-98	Physical Achievements 1998-99
Family Size Biogas Plants	Nos. in Lakhs	1.7	1.74	1.5
Community/Institutional/Night Soil biogas plants	Nos.	351	263	314
Improved Chulha	Nos. in Lakhs	29.6	27.98	16.8
Biomass/Gasifier	MW	5	2.5	5.77
Integrated Rural Energy Programme	Blocks Nos.	-	200	0
Special Area Demonstration Programme (Energy Parks)	Nos.	8	54	14
Solar Photovoltaic Demonstration				
Solar Home Lighting System	Nos.	14971	17814	21315
Solar Lanterns	Nos.	50131	46808	43573
Street Lighting Systems	Nos.	528	1669	2137
Solar Photovoltaic Power Plants	kWp	84	6	57
Solar Photovoltaic Power Pumps	Nos.	610	528	338
Solar Thermal Energy				
Solar Water Heating Systems	sq.m. collector area	40000	40000	40000
Solar Cooker	Nos.	26000	21000	20000
Wind Pumps	Nos.	98	208	64
Small Aerogenerator & Hybrid Systems	kW	10	24	8
Wind Power	MW	169.03	67	56
Small Hydro Power	MW	11	11.38	28
Biomass Power	MW	58	41.5	43.5
Solar Power	KW	0.3	0.3	275
Urban & Industrial Wastes	MW	-	1	2
Battery Operated Vehicles	Nos. BOVs	-	-	10

kW = Kilo watt; MW = Mega watt; kWp = Kilo watt peak

Statement-II

Details of State-wise and Programme-wise Funds Allocated and Released during last three years i.e. 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 under Biogas, Improved Chulha, Solar Power, Small Hydro Power and Biomass Power of the Ministry.

Sl. No.	States /UT	(Rs. in Crores)															
		Biogas			Improved Chulha			Solar Power			Small Hydro Power			Biomass Power			
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
1	Andhra Pradesh	3.08	5.52	6.13	1.15	1.44	0.93	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.70	0.00	0.00
2	Arunchal Pradesh	0.01	0.07	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.20	6.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Assam	1.18	0.27	0.15	0.00	0.40	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Goa	0.03	0.03	0.20	0.39	0.14	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Gujarat	5.11	5.19	3.88	0.05	0.05	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Haryana	0.40	0.62	0.45	0.28	0.26	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Himachal Pradesh	0.43	1.11	0.30	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.72	1.83	4.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.28	0.43	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Karnataka	3.95	5.12	3.50	0.47	0.00	0.25	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.76	4.99
11	Kerala	0.08	0.23	0.30	0.58	0.36	0.45	0.00	0.09	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Madhya Pradesh	5.83	4.23	3.74	1.23	1.10	0.82	0.64	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.45	1.75	0.95	0.10	0.00
13	Maharashtra	4.69	4.93	4.63	0.76	0.85	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14	Manipur	0.07	0.13	0.24	0.05	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15	Meghalaya	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Mizoram	0.02	0.22	0.14	0.02	0.03	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.60	9.11	2.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Nagaland	0.08	0.03	0.18	0.00	0.09	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	Orissa	1.49	1.56	3.08	0.53	1.12	1.13	0.00	0.19	0.07	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19	Punjab	0.96	0.98	2.40	0.31	0.58	0.52	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.69	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	Rajasthan	0.34	0.37	0.25	0.89	0.00	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21	Sikkim	0.17	0.15	0.17	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.26	1.36	3.75	0.00	0.00	0.00
22	Tamil Nadu	0.74	0.20	0.31	0.85	0.28	0.53	0.25	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.50	1.36	0.00
23	Tripura	0.02	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.13	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	Uttar Pradesh	3.08	1.00	4.61	1.16	0.83	0.60	0.00	0.65	0.21	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.53	0.00
25	West Bengal	2.11	1.50	3.23	1.06	2.02	1.16	0.13	0.33	0.05	0.18	0.00	1.52	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.45	6.05	5.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Details of State-wise and Programme-wise Funds Allocated and Released during last three years i.e. 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 under Biomass Gasifier, Energy from Waste, Solar Cooker & Solar Photovoltaic Programmes of the Ministry.

Sl. No.	States/UT	Biomass Gasifier						Energy from Waste						Solar Cooker						Solar Photovoltaic (SPV)					
		1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
		3	4	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.42	0.75	0.29	0.16	0.11	0.44	0.06	0.03	0.02	0.54	0.00	1.65												
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.31											
3	Assam	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.21	0.70											

(Rs. in Crores)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
29	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.00	0.00
31	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04
32	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.02
33	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00

Details of State-wise and Programme-wise Funds Allocated and Released during last three years i.e. 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 under Wind Pumping and Aero-generators, Wind Power, IREP & SADP Programmes of the Ministry.

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Wind Pumping & Aero-generators			Wind Power			IREP*			SADP**		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.16	0.20	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03
2	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.00	0.01	0.03
3	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.00	0.01	0.07
4	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.07
5	Gujarat	0.18	0.00	0.10	0.67	0.48	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.01
6	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.29	0.23	0.28	0.00	0.05	0.01
8	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.34	0.45	0.80	0.00	0.01	0.00
9	Karnataka	0.03	0.05	0.00	0.01	0.08	0.00	0.04	0.15	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Kerala	0.00	0.01	0.06	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.16	0.28	0.40	0.08	0.03	0.05
11	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.45	0.33	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Maharashtra	0.02	0.03	0.16	1.22	0.07	1.79	0.72	0.68	1.08	0.02	0.06	0.09
13								0.29	0.37	0.48	0.02	0.05	0.06

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14 Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.10	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.05
15 Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.11	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.00
16 Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.08	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.01
17 Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00
18 Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	0.12	0.12	0.01	0.00	0.00
19 Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.29	0.51	0.51	0.00	0.13	0.03
20 Rajasthan	0.00	0.19	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.18	0.20	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.01
21 Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.31	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00
22 Tamil Nadu	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.55	0.89	0.62	0.18	0.14	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.08
23 Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.01	0.01
24 Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.40	1.14	0.51	0.02	0.02	0.01
25 West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.48	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.31
26 Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02
27 Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.01
28 Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
29 Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
30 Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.06	0.07	0.00	0.01	0.01
31 Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
32 Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.06	0.05	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.01
33 Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.00

(* IPEP = Integrated Rural Energy Programme; ** SADP = Special Area Demonstration Programme)

Statement-III

State-wise details of major projects for power generation implemented with public and private sectors participation

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Wind Power	Small Hydro Power	Biomass Power/ Co-generation	Power from Urban & Industrial Waste	Solar Photovoltaic Power
		MW	MW	MW	MW	KWP
1.	Andhra Pradesh	64.74	8.3	12	7.7	20.6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	7.9
3.	Assam	-	-	-	-	3.0
4.	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Delhi	-	-	-	-	5
6.	Goa	-	-	-	-	1.7
7.	Gujarat	149.56	-	-	2.0	14
8.	Haryana	-	-	4	-	24.2
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-
10.	J & K	-	-	-	-	-
11.	Karnataka	25.05	21.65	27	1.0	3
12.	Kerala	-	-	-	-	4.7
13.	Madhya Pradesh	20.85	-	5	2.7	22.6
14.	Maharashtra	26.58	-	-	-	5.6
15.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	11
16.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	31.5
17.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	6
19.	Orissa	-	-	-	25*	33.5
20.	Punjab	-	-	10	0.75	41
21.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-
22.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-
23.	Tripura	-	-	-	-	24.6
24.	Tamil Nadu	739.08	-	89	0.03	21
25.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	50.5	1.0	178.9
26.	West Bengal	-	-	-	-	190.9
27.	A&N Island	-	-	-	-	149.1
28.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	85

*cubic meter of biogas generation per day

kWp = kilo watt peak; MW = Mega watt.

Statement-IV**State-wise Details of the Foreign Collaborations in Developing Non-conventional Energy Systems**

Programme/Sector	Collaboration		States	Remarks
	Indian	Foreign		
1	2	3	4	5
1. WIND POWER				
(i)	LM Glass Fiber (I) Ltd.	LM Glass Fiber Denmark	Karnataka	Wind blade manufacturing
(ii)	Aban Loyd Chiles Offshore Ltd. Chennai	Subsidiary of Kenetech., USA.	Tamil Nadu	Wind turbine manufacturing
(iii)	Enercon (India Ltd.)	Enercon GMBH Germany	Daman & Diu	- do -
(iv)	M/s Asian Wind Turbine, Chennai	M/s NEG Micon, Denmark	Tamil Nadu	- do -
(v)	Arul Mariamman Textiles Ltd., Pollachi	Wind World, Denmark	Tamil Nadu	- do -
(vi)	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., Ranipet	Nordex, Denmark	Andhra Pradesh	- do -
(vii)	Das Lagerwey Wind Turbines Ltd., Chennai	Lagerwey, Netherlands	Tamil Nadu	- do -
(viii)	Elecon Engineering Company Ltd. Gujarat	Turbowinds n.v., Belgium	Gujarat	- do -
(ix)	Kirloskar Electric Co. Ltd., Mumbai	Wind Energy Group, U.K.	Maharashtra	- do -
(x)	Pioneer Wincon Ltd., Chennai	Wincon, Denmark	Tamil Nadu	- do -
(xi)	REPL Engineering Ltd., Mumbai	Bonus, Denmark	Maharashtra	- do -
(xii)	Suzlon Energy Ltd., Ahmedabad	Sudwind Energie Systeme, Germany	Uttar Pradesh	- do -
(xiii)	Tacke Wind Energy India (Pvt.) Ltd., Noida	Tacke Windenergie, Germany	Uttar Pradesh	- do -
(xiv)	TTG Industries Ltd., Chennai	Husumer Schiffswerft, Germany	Tamil Nadu	- do -
(xv)	Vestas RRB India Ltd, Chennai	Vestas, Denmark	Tamil Nadu	- do -
(xvi)	Windia Power Ltd., Mumbai	Nedwind, Netherlands	Maharashtra	- do -
2. SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC				
(i)	Solar Tech. India Ltd.	Hileos Italy	Rajasthan	Solar cells manufacturing
(ii)	Eco Solar Systems India Pvt., Pune	Mr. Conard Jauslin etl., Switzerland	Maharashtra	- do -
(iii)	Arvind Micro Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	Sun Power Technik Gmbh, Germany	Andhra Pradesh	- do -
(iv)	M/s Global Energy Enterprises India Pvt. Ltd.	M/s Plum Street Enterprises Inc. USA	-	- do -
(v)	Solar Electric Power Company Ltd.	Solar Electric Light Fund & M/s E&Co.	Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh	- do -
(vi)	Mahrishi Solar Technology	Mahrishi Technology CorpnBV Netherland	West Bengal	- do -

1	2	3	4	5
(vii)	Tata BP Solar, Bangalore	BP Solar, UK	Karnataka	- do-
(viii)	E.HT Ltd., Nasik	Siemens, USA	Maharashtra	- do-
(ix)	Webel-SL Energy, Calcutta	Helios, Italy	West Bengal	- do-
(x)	Pentafour EHTP Unit	Solec Int., USA	—	- do-
(xi)	Polyplex, N. Delhi	NRIs	Delhi	- do-

3. BIOMASS POWER/COGENERATION :

M/s Desi Power Orchha Pvt. Ltd.	M.s. FRIEND, Switzerland	Madhya Pradesh	Decentralised co-generation power plant
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4. MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE TO ENERGY :

(i)	M/s Future Fuels Engg. India Pvt. Ltd., Kalyan	M/s Eco Technology JVVOY, Finland	Maharashtra	Municipal solid waste treatment plant
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Mixing of Cheaper and High Quality Rice

2341. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have increased the quantity of cheaper variety of rice to be mixed with high quality rice being sold as Superfine;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether according to the existing norms only 10% cheaper quality of rice can be mixed with the high quality rice for sale;

(d) if so, whether despite opposition he has allowed the millers of Andhra Pradesh to mix the lower quality upto 13%; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) As per uniform specification for rice for Kharif Marketing Season 1999-2000, admixture of lower class grains in Grade 'A' rice has been allowed upto a maximum limit of 10%. However, considering the requests of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Government has allowed procurement of Grade 'A' rice with admixture of lower class (common grains) upto a maximum limit of 13%. This is applicable upto 31.3.2000.

[Translation]

Staff Strength of I.A. and A.I.

2342. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees working in Indian Airlines and Air India at the end of December, 1999;

(b) the number of employees engaged in administrative, technical, operational and maintenance work separately;

(c) the number of aircraft being operated by both these airlines; and

(d) the total capacity for carrying the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) The total number of employees working in Indian Airlines and Air India as on December, 1999 are 22023 and 18063 respectively.

(b) Details are as under :-

	Air India	Indian Airlines
Administrative	8571	13686
Technical & Maintenance	3974	6809
Operational	5518	1528
Total	18063	22023

(c) The number of aircraft being operated by Air India and Indian Airlines are 26 and 56 respectively.

(d) The total seats offered by Air India and Indian Airlines in the winter 99/00 schedule are approximately 29000 and 240000 seats respectively per week in each direction.

[English]

Overhauling of Coaches

2343. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a mandatory period within which the overhauled coaches are to be inspected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether large number of coaches are found sick during inspections;

(d) if so, the details of the coaches that underwent overhauling and were found sick in each of the last three years; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken to improve the workmanship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) All the overhauled coaches are pressed into service only after thorough inspection. Coaches are also subjected to preventive maintenance schedules between two overhauls as per laid down norms. The following preventive maintenance schedules are carried out after detaching the coaches from the rake :

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| a) Schedule 'C'/Intermediate Overhaul | 6 Monthly |
| b) Intermediate overhaul of Rajdhani/Shatabdi Coaches | 2 lakhs Kms or 9 Months whichever is earlier. |

In addition, the following minor schedule attentions are given 'in situ' without detaching the coaches from the rake.

Type of Schedule	Periodicity
1. Trip Schedule	At the end of each trip as prescribed
2. Schedule 'A'	Monthly
3. Schedule 'B'	3 Monthly

(c) and (d) All maintenance and overhaul schedule are aimed at ensuring that the passengers can be assured of a safe and uninterrupted journey. Due to more intensive utilisation of coaches over the years, the maintenance checks have been intensified to avoid any en route coach detachment during running. A concept of "coaches marked sick within 100 days of overhauling" has also been introduced as an effective aid for feedback and improvement.

These steps have ensured that, in spite of the increase in utilisation, the availability of coaches has been maintained according to targets and reliability in terms of coaches detached en route has been drastically reduced by nearly 50% since 1996-97.

Steady improvement has also been noticed in coaches marked sick within 100 days of POH. It is clarified that the detachment are for preventive repairs at terminals to avoid any inconvenience to passengers during the journey. The details for the last 3 years are given below :

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Average no of coaches marked sick with in 100 days of POH	311	309	300
Average workshop outturn in 100 days	4830	5050	5297
Percentage sick to workshop outturn	6.4%	6.1%	50.7%

(e) The parameter is monitored and reviewed regularly. Action is also taken to improve the area of weakness revealed in the analysis at repair facilities. Some of the Salient measures which have been taken by the Railways for improvement in workmanship are as under :-

- i ISO Certification for important Periodic overhauling workshops.
- ii Quality audits of Periodic Overhauling workshops and maintenance depots.
- iii Strict control on the quality of output from coach POH workshops through system of Neutral Examiners.
- iv Training of artisans in basic Training centres attached to the major coach Periodic Overhauling workshops.

In addition to the above improvements, the Railways are also in the midst of Coach Technology Upgradation through induction of State-of-Art coaches and transfer of technology for their design and manufacture.

[Translation]

2344. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :
 SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA :
 SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :
 SHRI BASANGOURA R. (YATNAL) PATIL :
 SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :
 SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
 SHRI R.S. PATIL :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign tourists visited various States in the country during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the amount of revenue/foreign exchange earned by the Government from these tourists, separately, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the tourism industry is being affected due to terrorism in some parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost the tourism industry and earn more foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The number of foreign tourists who visited various States in the country during the year 1998 and 1999 were 2.36 million and 2.48 million respectively. Figures of foreign tourist arrivals are collected at the port of entry of tourist.

(b) The estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism during the years 1998 and 1999 were Rs. 11540.25 crores and Rs. 12498.93 crores respectively for the country as a whole. State-wise foreign exchange earnings are not maintained.

(c) and (d) There is a positive growth in the number of foreign and domestic tourists during the year 1999 as compared to 1998 in the country as a whole. To give boost to the tourism industry, Government has been giving fiscal incentives and interest subsidy. Government has also given export house status to tourism industry and is emphasising the use of information technology, development of tourist infrastructure, safety, security and facilitation of tourists.

[English]

Revival of Sick Wagons PSUs

2345. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any plan for revival of three ailing wagon manufacturing PSUs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Three units i.e. Burn Standards, Jessops and Braithwaite under administrative control of Ministry of Heavy Industry and Public Enterprises, have been sanctioned rehabilitation scheme by BIFR for production programme for the year 1999-2000 as under :-

(i) Burn Standard	-	4437.5	Four Wheeler Units (FWUs)
(ii) Jessops	-	720.0	Four Wheeler Units (FWUs)
(iii) Braithwaite	-	3075.0	Four Wheeler Units (FWUs)
		8232.5	Four Wheeler Units (FWUs)

[Translation]

Vacant Posts

2346. SHRI RAMSHAKAL :

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes/handicapped and OBCs appointed in the Ministry of Railways and its undertakings during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 so far, category-wise.

(b) the number of posts for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes/handicapped and OBCs lying vacant at present in various departments/undertakings under her Ministry, category-wise;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to fill up these reserved posts; and

(d) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up and reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Boost of Helicopter Industry

2347. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Chief of Army Staff has called for an Integrated Aeronautical Policy to encourage the helicopter industry in India;

(b) whether it has been pointed out that civil and military market in India is likely to absorb 50 to 60 helicopters over the next five years;

(c) if so, whether any concrete proposal in this regard have been worked out; and

(d) if so, the broad details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

High Level Probe into Sugar Import Scandal

2348. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Public Accounts Committee had recommended to have a high level probe into 89 sugar imports scandal in April, 1993;

(b) whether the PAC dissatisfied with the action taken and reiterated its earlier recommendation later also;

(c) if so, whether the said probe has since been completed and report received;

(d) if so, the follow-up action taken thereon; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay and the steps taken to fix the responsibility in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The recommendations of the PAC are under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Gauge Conversion of Surendernagar-Bhavnagar Rail Line

2349. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the conversion work of Surendernagar-Bhavnagar rail line has been undertaken;

(b) if so, the time by which the conversion work is likely to be completed;

(c) the total expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the funds allocated for the purpose during 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present target date for Surendernagar-Dhola part of this line and Dhola-Pipavav is December 2001. For Dhola-Bhavnagar, target date has not yet been fixed.

(c) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 356 cr.

(d) Rs. 53 cr. proposed in Budget 2000-2001.

Expansion of Jabalpur Airport

2350. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Boeing Airlines facility proposed to be provided at Jabalpur during the current year;

(b) If not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the expansion work and night landing and taking off facilities proposed to be completed there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Runway of Jabalpur airport is suitable for operation of Boeing 737 class of aircraft under visual flight rules. VOR (Very High Frequency Omni Range) is under installation which would permit the operation of Jet aircraft to/from this airport. Owing to proximity of airport to the Defence Ordnance Depot, it is not possible to provide night landing facilities.

[English]

Additional Track between Mumbai and Ahmedabad

2351. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the existing broad gauge tracks between Ahmedabad and Mumbai have been over utilised;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide additional track between Ahmedabad and Mumbai; and

(c) if so, the time by which the work on the project is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Line capacity utilisation on Ahmedabad-Mumbai route has reached saturation level. A survey for laying an additional line on this route has been conducted. Survey report is being studied.

However, keeping in view the immediate requirements of the commuter and freight traffic, following works covering parts of the Ahmedabad-Mumbai route have already been sanctioned.

1. Santacruz-Borivali - 5th line
2. Borivali-Virar - 3rd and 4th line
3. Surat-Kosamba - 3rd line

[Translation]

Monitoring Committee

2352. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued

directions to State Governments to constitute Monitoring Committees at State level, division level, district level, thesil level and block level to monitor the development works in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these committees are likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) All the State Govts. were advised to form Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at State, district and block levels to supervise, exercise vigilance and monitor the various programmes implemented by the Ministry.

(b) State-wise status of constitution of Vigilance and Monitoring Committees shown in enclosed statement. The Ministry has been regularly taking up with the State/UT Governments the issue of setting up and proper functioning of these Committees.

Statement

State-wise status of constitution of Vigilance & Monitoring Committees.

Sl No.	State	Level at which Vig. & Mon. Committee constituted		
		State	District	Blocks
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	Assam	Yes	Yes	Yes
4	Bihar	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	Goa	Yes	Yes	Yes
6	Gujarat	Yes	Yes	Yes
7	Haryana	Yes	Yes	Yes
8	Himachal Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes
9	Jammu & Kashmir	#	#	#
10	Karnataka	Yes	@	@
11	Kerala	Yes	Yes	Yes
12	Madhya Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes
13	Maharashtra	Yes	Yes	Yes
14	Manipur	Yes	Yes	Yes
15	Meghalaya	Yes	Yes	Yes

1	2	3	4	5
16	Mizoram	Yes	Yes	Yes
17	Nagaland	Yes	Yes	Yes
18	Orissa	Yes	Yes	Yes
19	Punjab	Not Available	Yes	Yes
20	Rajasthan	Yes	Yes	Yes
21	Sikkim	Yes	Yes	Yes
22	Tamil Nadu	Yes	Yes	Yes
23	Tripura	Yes	Yes	Yes
24	Uttar Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes
25	West Bengal	Yes	Yes	Yes
26	Andaman & Nicobar	Yes	Yes	Yes
27	D & N Haveli	Yes	Yes	Yes
28	Daman & Diu	Yes	Yes Same as Dist.	
29	Lakshadweep	Yes	Yes	Yes
30	Pondicherry	Yes	Yes Same as State	Yes

* @ In Karnataka, Karnataka Development Programme Review Committee has been formed at the State, District and taluk levels, which perform similar function as that of Vigilance & Monitoring Committee.

In Jammu & Kashmir there is a system of District Development Board, which reviews the Rural Development Schemes. State Govt. is of the view that setting up of another district level committee will lead to duplication.

[English]

Cases Pending in Consumer Courts

2353. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

SHRI VAIKO :

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

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

(a) whether Consumer Protection Act, 1986 lays down that the matter should be disposed off within 90 days;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that not a single case in the country has been settled within this time frame;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) further steps, the Government propose to take to make the consumer courts effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREEVINASA PRASAD) : (a) According to the provisions of the Rules framed under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 the National Commission, State Commissions and District Fora set up under the Act are required to dispose off cases, as far as possible, within 90 days from the date of receipt of the Notice by the opposite party and within 150 days if it requires analysis or testing of the commodity in question.

(b) to (d) As per the report made available by the National Commission, 1933 cases in National Commission, 20159 cases in State Commissions and 272808 cases in District Forums have been decided within 90 days. The disposal of cases by the consumer courts in the country is affected by the inadequate infrastructure, frequent adjournments, non-filling of posts of the Presidents/Members in the consumer courts. To remove these obstacles, some of the important steps taken by the Central Government are as follows :

- (i) Strengthening of the infrastructure of the consumer courts for which Central Government has provided one-time grant of Rs. 61.8 crores to supplement the efforts of the State/ Union Territories (UTS).
- (ii) State/UT Governments have been requested to fill up the vacancies of Presidents/Members in the consumer courts in time.
- (iii) Central Government has written to the State/ UT Governments to hold periodical meetings with the presidents of the Consumer Courts to monitor and expedite the disposal of the cases.
- (iv) Central Government and the National Commission are regularly monitoring the working of the Consumer Courts.
- (v) Central Government conducts training courses for the Members of the Consumer Courts to acquaint them with the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and Rules and other relevant legislations.

- (vi) Amendment of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 as considered necessary.

[Translation]

Operational Cost of Planes of I.A and A.I.

2354. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether the operational cost of the planes under Indian Airlines and Air India is higher than that of other airlines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Government to reduce the operational cost; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the annual reduction in the operational cost is proposed to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (d) Air India's operating costs compare favourably with airlines elsewhere in the world. Indian Airlines and other domestic carriers have some disadvantage because of high price of ATF with the proposed removal of ATF from administered price mechanism, domestic carriers will get some relief.

Progress Made Under Major Programmes of NCES

2355. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state the progress made under major programmes of non-conventional energy sources in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPAN) : The State-wise details of progress made under major programmes of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in the country are given in enclosed statement.

Statement

Statewise details of Progress made under Major Programmes of Non-Conventional Energy as on 31.10.1999

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Biogas (Nos)	Improved Chulha (Nos.)	SHP (MW)	Wind (MW)	Biomass Power (MW)	Biomass Gasifiers (in KW)	U&I (MW)	Solar Photovoltaic		
									SLS (Nos.)	HLS (Nos.)	SL (Nos.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Andhra Pradesh	264520	33.58	26.51	67.79	12	12384	2.75	3078	1058	13309
2	Arunachal Pradesh	501	0.34	21.05	0	0	180	0	738	650	4437
3	Assam	36350	5.34	2.2	0	0	23	0	96	1666	475

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4	Bihar	112265	11.41	0.04	0	0	20	0	623	256	34499
5	Goa	3060	1.41	0	0	0	22	0	30	31	45
6	Gujraat	325776	12.75	2	166.91	0.5	3921	2	1564	570	12977
7	Haryana	38305	9.44	0.2	0	4	964	0	1025	1422	20160
8	Himachal Pradesh	41876	6.55	11.66	0	0	7	0	573	4393	13021
9	Jammu & Kashmir	1782	3.92	8.37	0	0	120	0	389	9669	4975
10	Karnataka	258968	14.49	25.85	27.625	27	3699	0	516	28	898
11	Kerala	57186	8.49	5.52	2.025	0	615	0	675	2450	30925
12	Madhya Pradesh	164684	28.76	5.66	19.825	5	4429	2.7	5554	149	7601
13	Maharashtra	634081	22.21	7.03	32.185	9	3323	0	3005	169	4820
14	Manipur	1681	0.64	4.1	0	0	0	0	370	50	3400
15	Meghalaya	1042	0.18	1.51	0	0	0	0	593	270	2705
16	Mizoram	1749	0.41	8.77	0	0	0	0	266	1525	2362
17	Nagaland	1037	0.19	3.17	0	0	0	0	271	8	0
18	Orissa	153469	17.1	1.26	1.1	0	1672	0	5467	951	4930
19	Punjab	52358	10.72	6.9	0	10	660	0	911	2200	8500
20	Rajaasthan	64227	24.92	4.32	2	0	218	0	6512	10808	4604
21	Sikkim	2304	0.64	9.25	0	0	0	0	127	110	270
22	Tamil Nadu	195762	25.76	4.75	757.46	98	853	0	1987	17	4/78
23	Tripura	953	0.47	1.01	0	0	0	0	340	1438	3830
24	Uttar Pradesh	328638	35.4	33.26	0	46.5	511	1	708	50929	48525
25	West Bengal	153552	27.45	7.98	0	0	530	0	1227	7627	3225
26	Andaman & Nicobar	137	0.3	0	0	0	167	0	315	390	433
27	Chandigarh	97	0.19	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	775
28	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1680.13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
29	Daman & Diu	0	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Delhi	671	2.66	0	0	0	74	0	301	0	4753
31	Lakshadweep	0	0.05	0	0	0	0	0	701	0	5060
32	Pondicherry	539	0.32	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	531
33	Others	0	0	0	0.465	0	318	0	0	0	0

SHP = Small Hydro Power

MW = Mega Watt; kW = Kilo Watt

U&I = Urban & Industrial Waste Energy

HLS = Home Lighting System SL = Solar Lanterns

SLS = Street Lighting System

*[English]***Gulbarga - Raichur Train Service**

2356. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Gulbarga-Raichur (Inter-city) train service has commenced;
- (b) if so, the date from which it has commenced;
- (c) the estimated number of commuters being benefited; and
- (d) the domestic and technical viability thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) 331/332 Raichur-Gulbarga Passenger has been introduced w.e.f. 1.2.2000.

(c) and (d) On average, 744 tickets in DN direction and 525 tickets in UP direction are being issued per day for travel by Gulbarga-Raichur Passenger train. Besides, 1416 Monthly Season Tickets and 87 Quarterly Season Tickets have been issued in a month.

The train service has been introduced after confirming technical/operational feasibility. The patronisation of this service has been satisfactory.

*[Translation]***Import of Edible Oils**

2357. SHRI RAMSHAKAL :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI ANANTH NAYAK :

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

- (a) the demand of the edible oils in the country during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;
- (b) whether the Government are capable of meeting the demand through domestic production;
- (c) if not, whether the Government are contemplating to import the edible oils to meet its demand during the current financial year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the import of edible oils has become costlier due to imposition of additional custom duty; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to minimise the import of edible oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) Demand for edible oils in the country during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are estimated at 96.43 lakh metric tonnes and 100.96 lakh metric tonnes respectively.

(b) to (d) As per the oilseed production projection of the Agriculture Ministry, there would continue to be gap between demand and supply of edible oils. As a supplemental measure, to meet the gap between demand and supply of edible oils, Government has allowed import of edible oils. The import of edible oils during the current financial year (April, 1999 to January, 2000) is estimated at 42.18 lakh tonnes.

(e) The prices of imported edible oils before and after the Union Budget 2000-2001 are recorded below :-

Name of Oil	CIF prices per MT in US \$	
	28.2.2000	6.3.2000
RBD Palmolein	340	347
Soyabean	373	383
Sunflower	375	388
Rapeseed	N.A.	404

(f) Some of the important steps recently taken by the Government to minimise import of edible oils are :-

- (i) hike in the import duty on refined edible oils from 16.5% to 27.5%.
- (ii) stipulation of "actual user" condition for import of crude oils.
- (iii) Higher custom duty at 38.5% for crude oils as also other refined oils imported by other than actual users.
- (iv) Imposition of SAD @ 4% for import of edible oils not fulfilling the requirement of actual user condition.

*[English]***Bogus Booking By Air India**

2358. SHRI UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

SHRI RAMSETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Air India has been the victim of a bogus booking controversy;
- (b) if so, the details of the losses suffered by the Air India;
- (c) the date on which this illegal booking activities were detected;
- (d) the extent to which Air India has made its reservation system more user friendly;
- (e) whether Air India will initiate steps to address concerns for poor sales to reservation management; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (c) The phenomenon of block bookings, especially on the Gulf route during the peak seasons, has come to light. This problem is being faced by most carriers operating on the Gulf routes. As and when block bookings are detected, they are cancelled by Air India, the seats are recycled and, therefore, there is no loss involved.

(d) to (f) Various measures are being carried out with regard to reservation management. Some are :-

- (i) A special Monitoring Unit has been set up to scan flights especially during the peak period and weed out block bookings.
- (ii) Similar activities are being carried out by Air India field stations.
- (iii) More emphasis has been laid on strict pre and post flight checks by stations to ensure that all passengers are ticketed and multiple bookings and onward/return reservations of 'no show' passengers are cancelled.
- (iv) A new software ARMS is being installed.

Army's Contract with ULFA

2359. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Army has established contacts with senior leaders of ULFA and is pursuing them to open a political level dialogue with the Union Government;
- (b) whether the ULFA is reported to have developed love for Pakistan and its spy agencies;
- (c) whether the Army is also aware that ULFA is getting training from ISI in Afghanistan;
- (d) if so, the details of the documents obtained by the Army in this regard;

- (e) whether ULFA has been creating terror for the last several months with the help of the ISI agents; and
- (f) the concrete measures taken to check the activities of ULFA in league with the ISI?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Reports appearing in media point to an ULFA-ISI nexus. During the Kargil conflict, the ULFA had issued anti army statements calling upon the Assamese people not to contribute towards National Defence Fund. The outfit criticised the Government of India for, what it felt, suppressing the right of self-determination of Kashmiris and exhorted the Assamese troops not to fight in Kargil and return to Assam.

(c) and (d) There is no conclusive evidence.

(e) ULFA militancy in Assam is well under control although the outfit is still capable of carrying out random acts of violence/terrorism.

(f) Various measures like gearing up the intelligence machinery, coordinated action by security forces, modernisation and upgradation of police and intensification of patrolling on the border etc. are being taken for the purpose.

[Translation]

Loading of Parcel

2360. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the fraudulent practices prevalent in over loading parcel and loading charges;
- (b) if so, the details of measures taken to check such activities in all railway divisions, particularly in Eastern Railway during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether any complaints have been received regarding the over loading in railway wagon at Pakud Station; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to check over loading of parcels, Zonal Railways conduct periodical as well as surprise checks. Whenever any over loading is detected, penal freight is realised as per rules.

In Eastern Railways, during the last three years i.e.

1997, 1998, 1999, no case of over loading was detected. However, during the current year, two cases of over loading were detected in 2842 Coromandal Exp. and 2382 Poorva Exp. on 7.2.2000 and 9.2.2000 respectively and penalty charges amounting to Rs. 15641/- and Rs. 2276/- respectively were realised for excess weight.

- (c) No, Sir.
(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Setting up of National Multi Commodity Exchange

2361. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

DR. V. SAROJA :

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

- (a) whether there is a proposal to set up a National Multi Commodities Exchange;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the time by which the exchange is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) A decision to set up a National Multi Commodity Exchange has been taken in principle. Accordingly a three member Core-Group presided by the Chairman, Forward Markets Commission has been constituted to examine the details relating to setting up the National Multi Commodity Exchange. No time frame for setting up the National Multi Commodities Exchange can be specified as of now.

Selling of Items at Higher Rates by NCCF

2362. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2380 on December 15, 1999 and state :

- (a) whether the NCCF has been selling Paper Punch Single Hole, Stapler No. 10 Heavy Duty Stapler on higher rates than Kendriya Bhandar;
(b) if so, the reasons for selling the same/similar brand of items at such higher rates along with the names of the suppliers and their status;
(c) the action taken against the officials accepting higher priced items and the suppliers for charging more prices;
(d) whether there are more such items that are also being sold at higher rates than Kendriya Bhandar;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to direct NCCF to make the purchase rates public supplier-wise, item-wise, brand-wise; and

(g) if not, the justification for the Vigilance Department of NCCF of seeking information about suppliers of Kendriya Bhandar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) The NCCF has reported that supply of stationery items to Government Departments are being made by them on competitive rates. The rates of papers punch and staplers depend upon the quality specifications and items of supplies. The same may be different in respect of items supplied by NCCF and Kendriya Bhandar.

(d) and (e) The NCCF supplies various stationery items at competitive rates. The rates of an organisation depends upon various factors and, therefore, the rates of an organisation may vary with those of another organisation.

(f) and (g) The NCCF has reported that their records are open for audit and inspection.

Quality of Items Purchased by N.C.C.F.

2363. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be please to state :

- (a) whether the Department of Personnel & Training have asked the Ministry of Consumer Affairs to direct NCCF to make purchases in bulk from the manufacturers;
(b) if so, the reasons for issuing such a direction and whether NCCF has complied with the same;
(c) if so, the details of items NCCF purchased during 1999 and so far along with the brand name, specifications, rates and status of suppliers in respect of staplers, staple pins, battery cells, slip pads, ruled registers, heat convectors, pedestal fans, etc.;
(d) whether the suppliers of NCCF are making supplies of items direct to the Government Departments;
(e) if so, the manner in which the quality and quantity of the items ensured;
(f) whether any steps have been taken to put a stop to this practice; and
(g) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI

V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) On the advice of the Department of personnel and Training, the Department of Consumer Affairs have advised NCCF to make bulk purchase of goods from the manufacturers where these are not already being procured from them.

(b) The Department of Personnel and Training have been receiving complaints regarding quality and prices of goods supplied to the Government Departments. In view of this, they suggested bulk purchase of goods from manufacturers. However, since NCCF ensures supply of quality goods at competitive prices and the manufacturers/distribution/suppliers are willing to supply the goods on credit, the NCCF clarified that it was not necessary to buy bulk quantity of goods for the purpose of buffer stocking in anticipation of supply orders from the Government Departments. However, NCCF would exercise this option when such a need arises.

(c) NCCF supplies a large number of stationery and other office use articles to Government Departments. In view of very high volume of transactions, it is practically impossible to compile the required information.

(d) Suppliers of NCCF are required to make supply of goods to the destinations as per the agreements with them.

(e) The officials of NCCF take necessary steps to ensure the supply of quality and quantity of goods.

(f) and (g) Does not arise in view of (d) and (e) above.

Distribution of Imported Sugar through PDS

2364. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the imported sugar is distributed through fair price shops under public distribution system; and

(b) if so, to what extent of the total imported sugar distributed through PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Government has issued necessary orders dated 17.02.2000 enabling the Government to impose 30% levy obligation on importers of sugar. Orders to requisition levy sugar from importers of sugar have not been issued, as yet.

[Translation]

Living Standard of Rural Poor

2365. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to estimate the number of rural poor and their standard of living;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware of the problems of rural poor; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the condition of the rural poor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government conduct the Below Poverty Line (BPL) Census at the behest of Ministry of Rural Development at the beginning of each Five Year Plan period. The Census covers all the families in the villages, and the objective is to be identified the families below the poverty line. State-wise results of BPL census for 9th Plan is shown in enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the following major programmes to improve the condition of the rural poor :

1. Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY),
2. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS),
3. Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), and
4. National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

Statement

State-wise Results of BPL Census for 9th Plan

(Provisional)

State/UT	Total No. of families	No. of Rural families below poverty line	%age of families below poverty line
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	10484028	4184628	39.91
2. Arunachal Pradesh	102852	80627	78.39
3. Assam	3412506	2028058	59.43
4. Bihar	18933813	9399281	49.64
5. Goa	135816	23101	17.01
6. Gujarat	5587768	1960879	35.45
7. Haryana	2074615	503019	24.23

1	2	3	4
8. Himachal Pradesh	1036996	286112	27.59
9. J & K @	1175860	297125	25.27
10. Karnataka	6479832	2202756	33.99
11. Kerala	NR	NR	
12. Madhya Pradesh \$	9129655	5096757	55.83
13. Maharashtra	11010022	3860675	35.07
14. Manipur	365670	246980	67.54
15. Meghalaya	282362	156646	55.48
16. Mizoram	NR	NR	
17. Nagaland	NR	NR	
18. Orissa \$\$	6790202	4445736	65.47
19. Punjab	NR	NR	
20. Rajasthan	6768541	2097560	30.99
21. Sikkim	NR	NR	
22. Tamil Nadu @	7356271	4874114	66.26
23. Tripura	NR	NR	
24. Uttar Pradesh	20430204	7541494	36.91
25. West Bengal	11070535	4915295	44.40
26. A&N Island	NR	6421	
27. D&N Haveli	26237	17231	65.67
28. Daman & Diu	10735	395	3.68
29. Lakshadweep	8625	885	10.26
30. Pondicherry	133555	63262	47.37
All India	122806700	54309037	44.22

NR - Not Reported

\$\$ - Rural Household

\$ - Total No. of rural families reported for 35 districts only

@ - Number of rural families in Col. 2 derived from the Census of India-1991 (Taken as five members in a family)

Demand and Supply of Sugar

2366. DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

DR. SANJAY PASWAN :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

SHRI R.S. PATIL :

SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL) :

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

(a) whether India is self-reliant in sugar production;

(b) if so, details of demand and supply of sugar during the last three years;

(c) whether the installed capacity of sugar in the country is more than the requirement;

(d) whether there is adequate coordination between the sugarcane producers and sugar factories; and

(e) if not, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREEVINASA PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of demand and supply (carry over stock, production and internal consumption) of sugar during the last 3 sugar seasons (October-September) are as follows :

(Figure in Lakh tonnes)

Particulars	Sugar	Sugar	Sugar
	Season 1996-97	Season 1997-98	Season 1998-99 (Provisional)
1. Carry over stocks	79.07	66.01	53.70
2. Production	129.05	128.44	155.20
3. Total availability	208.12	194.45	208.90
4. Internal Consumption	136.75	139.78	141.45

(c) The installed capacity of sugar industry is about 154 lakh tonnes as on 31.1.2000 and meets the consumption requirements of the country. Due to enlarged duration of sugar season in some States, the sugar production in the country is higher than the installed capacity of the industry. There are a number of new and expansion projects still under implementation. With the implementation of these projects, the installed capacity of the industry is likely to go up further.

(d) and (e) Each sugar factory is ear-marked a specific cane area by the respective State Governments from where they can source their raw material i.e. sugarcane. Sugar factories are having either direct contract with the sugarcane

growers of their areas or through the cane cooperative societies wherever existing. Coordination of sugarcane production by the farmers in their areas of operation is one of the key functions of the sugar mill management.

[English]

Activities of Vigilance Department of NCCF

2367. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the vigilance department of NCCF has sought some information in respect of some suppliers of the Kendriya Bhandar;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for seeking such information by the vigilance department of NCCF;

(d) whether the vigilance department is to keep watchful eyes on the staff working in the organisation or to keep watch of the suppliers; and

(e) the reaction of the Government to such sort of activities of the vigilance department.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) With a view to completing the investigation in certain cases of supplies of goods by certain suppliers, NCCF has requested the Kendriya Bhandar to supply some information in respect of these suppliers, the details of which cannot be disclosed in public interest.

(d) Apart from keeping watchful eyes on NCCF Staff, the Vigilance Department may also keep watch on the activities/performance of the suppliers.

(e) In the interest of the organisation, the Vigilance Department of NCCF can interact with other organisation to obtain information for cross checking/verification.

Mis-Match between Supply and Demand of Foodgrains

2368. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a mis-match between supply and demand of foodgrains including sugar in the country for the last three years; and

(b) If so, the reasons for this alarming scenario and the steps taken by the Government to deal with this mis-match?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b)

FOODGRAINS

Except in the case of pulses India has attained near self-sufficiency in the production of foodgrains (Wheat and Rice). Centrally sponsored schemes of Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) in Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System Areas are being implemented for increasing the productivity and production of foodgrains in the country.

As regards pulses, Government is also implementing National Pulses Development Project. Under These programmes, incentives are provided to the farmers on distribution of seeds, improved farm implements and sprinkler sets etc. Incentives on Power Tillers are also provided, under the scheme of ICDP - Rice. The latest production technologies are also propagated among the farmers by field demonstrations and training.

SUGAR

The availability of sugar during the last three years (October-September) i.e. 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 in the country, has been more than the requirement and there has been no shortage of sugar.

Recommendations of Annual Convention of I.A.T.O.

2369. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether 15th Annual convention of the Indian Association of Tour Operators was held in 1999;

(b) if so, whether the Government have seen the recommendations of the aforesaid convention;

(c) whether the Government would like to implement some of the recommendations in the tourism sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Tourism has not received any detailed recommendation of the 15th Annual Convention of Indian Association of Tour Operators held in 1999 at Jaipur.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet at 12.00 noon.

11.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.

12.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Twelve of the Clock

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (SAMBHAL) : The RSS matter should be debated in the House. The issue of RSS is not limited to Gujarat only.. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Right now. Papers are being laid. You can make your point afterwards.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Utkal Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited, Puri, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) Annual Report of the Utkal Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited, Puri, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1427/2000]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Madhya Pradesh Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) Annual Report of the Madhya Pradesh Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1428/2000]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Donyi Polo Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited, Itanagar, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) Annual Report of the Donyi Polo Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited, Itanagar, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Three Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1429/2000]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

(1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1123(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 1999 making certain addition and alteration of the Calcutta Metro Railways alignment as specified in the Schedule appended therewith, under sub-section (2) of section 32 of the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1430/2000]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Ircon International Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) Annual Report of the Ircon International Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1431/2000]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report, of the Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Two Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1432/2000]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FER-NANDES) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1433/2000]

- (2) A copy of the Defence Services Estimates for the year 2000-2001 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1434/2000]

- (3) A copy of the Naval Ceremonial, Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous (Amendment) Regulations, 1999 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.R.O. 1 in Gazette of India dated the 24th December, 1999 under section 185 of the Navy Act, 1957.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1435/2000]

- (4) A copy of the Coast Guard (General) (Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.R.O. 76 in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1999 under sub-section 2 of Section 123 of the Coast Guard Act, 1978, together with a Corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. S.R.O. 183 dated the 11th October, 1999.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1436/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Sundar Lal Patwa, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Rural Development for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1437/2000]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy each of the following notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of the Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 :-

- (i) The Levy Sugar Supply (Control) Amendment Order, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 135(E) Ess. Com./Sugar in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2000.

- (ii) G.S.R. 136(E) Ess. Com./Sugar published in the Gazette of India dated 17th February, 2000 directing that the controlled price of sugar shall be Rs. 1050.99 per quintal for the sugar season 1999-2000.

- (iii) G.S.R. 137(E) Ess. Com./Sugar published in the Gazette of India dated 17th February, 2000 directing that every importer of sugar shall sell thirty percent of the imported sugar under the Levy Sugar Supply (Control) Order, 1979.

- (iv) The Imported Sugar (Price Fixation) Order, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 138(E) Ess. Com./Sugar in Gazette of India dated 17th February, 2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1438/2000]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Sriram Chauhan, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Food Corporations Amendment Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 108(E) in Gazette of India dated 11th February, 2000, under sub-section (3) of Section 44 of the Food Corporation Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1439/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1440/2000]

12.03 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

National Welfare Board for Seafarers

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

"That in pursuance of Rule 4(i) of the National Welfare Board for Seafarers Rules, 1963, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as member of the National Welfare Board for seafarers subject to the other provisions of the said Rule."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

That in pursuance of Rule 4(i) of the National Welfare Board for Seafarers Rules, 1963, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as member of the National Welfare Board for seafarers subject to the other provisions of the said Rule."

The motion was adopted.

RESIGNATION BY MEMBERS

12.03½ hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that I have received a letter dated the 4th March, 2000 from Shri Naveen Patnaik, an elected Member from Aska Parliamentary Constituency of Orissa, resigning from membership of Lok Sabha. I have accepted the resignation with effect from the 8th March, 2000.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What happened to Nitish Kumar?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, I have requested you...

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (RAILWAYS)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA

BANERJEE) : Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1441/2000]

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, please let me express my views.

MR. SPEAKER : First, let the papers be laid, you may speak afterwards.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, you should fix the date, this is our demand.

MR. SPEAKER : We will definitely listen to you afterwards.

12.04½ hrs.

RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Recovery of Debts Due to banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I introduce the Bill.**

12.05 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE—LAID

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions (Amendment) Ordinance, 2000.

12.05½ hrs.

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : On behalf of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, I beg to move for leave to introduce a

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 9.3.2000

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

Bill amend the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR : I introduce the Bill.**

12.06 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE -LAID

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : On behalf of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 2000.

12.06½ hrs.

INDIAN COMPANIES (FOREIGN INTERESTS) AND THE COMPANIES (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS ON DIVIDENDS) REPEAL BILL - CONTD.

MR. SPEAKER : The motion for introduction of this Bill was moved yesterday. Now, I will put it to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to repeal the Indian Companies (Foreign Interests) Act, 1918 and the Companies (Temporary Restrictions on Dividends) Act, 1974."

The motion was adopted.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : I introduce the Bill.

*[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the business would be transacted then what will happen to our notice. We have given notice under rule 193 to speak on Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh. The discussion would be held on it and there is also a reason or discussion. It is not only limited to Gujarat. In Uttar Pradesh also, on the directions of Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh the legislation is being enacted to take permission for the setting up of religious places... (Interruptions) This is our fundamental right which has been given to us by our constitution. We are free to express our views.... Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter of RSS is not only limited to Gujarat, but has its ramifications in the entire country. Today, these activities are going on in Gujarat.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 9.3.2000

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

MR. SPEAKER : First, let this subject be completed. After that there is one more subject, let that also be completed, you should speak afterwards.

12.07½ hrs.

CONSTITUTION (EIGHTY-NINTH AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of article 269, Substitution of new article for article 270, Omission of article 272)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I introduce the Bill**

12.08 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The item "Matter Under Rule 377" is treated as laid on the Table of the House.

- (i) **Need to ensure payment of dues to sugarcane growers of Sugar Mills in Eastern U.P.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI (BANSGAON) : Sir, there is a Suraiya Sugar Mill under my parliamentary constituency, Banskagan, district Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh) which has got three partners. This mill owes around Rs. 23 crore to the farmers, and this Sugar Mill has been closed. The farmers to whom this sugar mill owes money have taken loan from Government or semi Government financial institutions. They are being pressurised to repay the loan and on the other hand, Government is not taking any action to recover money of the farmers from the said mill, due to which there is a resentment among the farmers of my parliamentary constituency.

It is well known that sugar mills are the main industry in Poorvanchal and sugar mills owe about Rs. 80 crore to the farmers of Gorakhpur and Basti divisions.

When any part of the country is affected by natural calamity, the Centre Government grants money from Calamity Relief Fund. I understand that right now if farmers of Poorvanchal are not getting their dues on time, it is also a

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 9.3.2000

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

+ Treated as laid on the table of the House.

calamity, because due to non-payment of dues to the sugarcane farmers they have reached the verge of starvation and are unable to get their children married.

Therefore, I request the Central Government that non-payment of dues to sugarcane farmers of Gorakhpur and Basti, should be treated as natural calamity, and they should be provided assistance from Calamity Relief Fund and should be saved from starvation. Payment of their dues should be made from the Calamity Fund.

I would also request you in this regard that Sugar Mill should be run under Government control.

- (ii) **Need to release funds for early completion of Lift Canal System of the Upper Indravati Irrigation Project in Kalahandi district of Orissa.**

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI) : The Upper Indravati Project which is a multiple-purpose irrigation cum hydro-power project is on the verge of completion, with a power generation capacity of 600 MW and irrigation to 1.2 lakh hectares through its three canal system of the Upper Indravati project namely the Lift canal system or third canal has not been taken up though the State Government had recommended for the same when a Central team had visited Kalahandi district to assess the starvation death and backwardness of the area. Therefore, I demand in this August House that funds may be provided for completion of the Lift Canal System in order to mitigate the suffering of the farmers of Kalahandi district.

- (iii) **Need to Ban Lottery in the Country**

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (CHANDNI CHOWK) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, lakhs of people are being ruined due to lottery system they have been wasting their hard earned money in lotteries.

The Union Government have already imposed a ban on the single digit lottery but even now multi digit lotteries is going on in the country.

The House had unanimously supported the issue of putting a ban on the lotteries of all kinds. The Union Government have introduced a Bill in Rajya Sabha seeking to put a ban on all kinds of lotteries.

The lottery mafia are arguing that the ban on lottery would render thousands of people unemployed. What will the Government prefer the unemployment of thousands or the ruining of the lives of lakhs of people.

Everybody is aware of the devastating effects of lottery.

Therefore, I submit to the Government to pass this Bill at

the earliest and take stringent measures till the passage of this Bill to check the ill-effects of lottery.

- (iv) **Need to release adequate funds for early execution of Kanpur Irrigation Project in Keonjhar district of Orissa.**

[English]

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (KEONJHAR) : The people of Keonjhar, a tribal district in Orissa are very much agitated due to the inordinate delay in the execution of Kanpur Irrigation Project. Once the project is completed, it will cater to need of entire Champua sub-division and a part of Sadar sub-division in that predominantly tribal inhabited backward and drought-prone district. The name of a district will be permanently removed from the list of country's drought-prone districts. The people of tribal belt who have no other vocation will get their permanent source of income, that is, from agriculture.

In view of this, I demand that adequate fund provision may be made during the current financial year to execute Kanpur Irrigation Project in Keonjhar district of Orissa.

- (v) **Need to provide adequate funds to State Governments of U.P. and Madhya Pradesh for Providing relief to the people affected by drought particularly in Bundelkhand Region.**

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (KHAJURAHO) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a severe famine like situation has arisen in Chhatarpur, Teekamgarh, Datia, Sagar, Damoh, Panna, Jhansi, Banda and Lalitpur districts of the Bundelkhand Anchal of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh due to incessant heavy rainfall, drought and hailstorm during the last three years. Bundelkhand district is totally based on agriculture and is devoid of any industry. This year also, lakhs of farmers, workers and craftsman are migrating to Delhi, Haryana, Punjab and other parts of the country. The State Governments are unable to solve the problem as they are themselves in the grip of financial problems. Taking the advantage of the prevailing situation, anti-social elements are trying to provoke the local people to indulge in criminal activities. A feeling of great resentment and anger is prevailing in the masses. I submit to the Union Government to take immediate steps for providing sufficient funds to the State Government for relief measures.

- (vi) **Need to take steps to write off the loan taken by Coffee Cultivators in Wayanad district of Kerala and Neighbouring districts of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu**

[English]

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (CALICUT) : I bring to your kinds notice the sad plight of the small and marginal coffee growers in Wayanad district, Kerala and the neighbouring

districts of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. During late 1970s and early 1980s, the coffee-growing farmers in this area found it extremely difficult to have market for their product, due to the alarmingly low price of coffee on the one hand and the spiral cost of production on the other. As a result of this, the farmers had to take loans from the Coffee Board from 1980 onwards. Due to the successive large scale failure of crop during the years that followed, the farmers could not repay their loans nor did the Board take any steps to realise the debts. It was during this period that some of the farmers switched over to other crops, abandoning the coffee cultivation. The Government of India in 1987 came with A.R.D.R. (Debt Relief) Scheme to cover the loans up to Rs. 10,000/-. It was not made available to the coffee growers. Now that loan of four crores of rupees availed by nearly 8,000 farmers in the eighties even after repayment made by some of the farmers has swelled up to Rs. 16 crore (including penal interest) and the farmers are being subjected to unhold hardship as the Board is bent on initiating legal measures to squeeze out money from the debt-laden farmers. I request the Government of India to take steps to enable the Coffee Board to write off the debts incurred by small and marginal coffee cultivators.

- (vii) **Need to Ensure Smooth Functioning of Telephones in Jalaun Parliamentary Constituency, U.P.**

[Translation]

SHRIBRIJLAL KHABRI (JALAUN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the telephone consumers in my constituency Jalaun Garotha (U.P.) are facing a lot of difficulties due to the improper telecommunication system. Besides, all the telephones installed under M.C.R.R. scheme in the area are usually out of order due to which telecommunication system has become defunct and the people are facing a lot of problem in setting up contact with each other and they are being deprived of telephone facility.

Hence, through you, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Communication to issue order to the officers of the telephone department of the area to improve the telecommunication system.

- (viii) **Need for construction of Flyover at Mangammappettai on Arakkonam-Tiruttani route and at EWS Railway Guard Gate on Arakkonam-Sholingar Road in Tamil Nadu**

[English]

DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN (ARAKKONAM) : In my constituency Arakkonam in Tamil Nadu, there is a busy intersection near railway gate at Mangammappettai on Arakkonam-Tiruttani route. It has become an accident-prone site and more than 100 people have already died on the spot so far. Recently, a tragic accident with a school bus took place at this place killing five children on the spot. Hence, there is an urgent need for a flyover bridge at this crossing.

Similarly, on the Arakkonam-Sholingar Road at EWS Railway Guard Gate, due to heavy traffic, one flyover bridge is required, because one of the railway gate is closed, lot of vehicles are held up for a considerable period.

I would therefore request the Government of India to conduct a survey, prepare feasibility report and to make available necessary funds for the construction of flyover bridges at these two places.

- (ix) **Need to accord early approval for setting up a medical college at Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu**

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (TIRUNELVELI) : Tuticorin, an Assembly segment of my parliamentary constituency, Tirunelveli is a Pearl City. It is the birthplace of the great freedom fighter Shri V.O. Chidambaram who sacrificed his entire life for the freedom of the nation. There is a port in this city which is famous for export and import at the international level. Lot of business community from all over the country is settled in this city. The Tamil Nadu Government made an announcement in the Budget of 1997-98, that a Medical College would be opened at Tuticorin. Necessary proposal has already been sent to the Medical Council of India for their approval. A building is also hired by the State Government to house this Medical College. An amount of Rs. 20 lakh has already been sanctioned by the State Government to improve the quality of the rented building. 87 acres of municipality land have already been acquired by the State Government for construction of college building and Rs. 5 crore have already been allotted for the construction. Professors and staff have been appointed. Students have already been selected through entrance examination for the year 1998 and 1999. A team from the Medical Council of India have already inspected the place and submitted a report. But the Medical Council of India has not yet approved the proposal of the medical college. Students are facing many problems for their admission. I request the Union Government to persuade the Medical Council of India for its early approval in order to save the students from impending problems.

- (x) **Need to bear the entire cost of construction and maintenance of the road between Jagatpur and Chandbali in Orissa, by the Union Government.**

SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY (KENDRAPARA) : The 99 km. Long State Road between Jagatpur and Chandbali is an important road in the coastal areas in Orissa. The State Road originates from the National Highway No.5 and goes via Jagatpur, Salepur, Kendrapara, Patamundai and Aul Assembly constituencies and ends at Chandbali. This road will link newly put up Dhamara Port at Chandbali. People of some other Assembly Constituencies of Orissa like Rajnagar, Paridherabishi and Patkura also depend on this important State Road.

Thousands of vehicles ply on that road every day. There

is no other alternative road to connect Cuttack and Bhubaneswar. But the condition of the road has become worse. The work pertaining to widening of the road was taken up a decade ago, but the completion of widening work has not made much progress. The quality of work is also not satisfactory particularly work from Jagatpur to Chandbali. It is very difficult to ply vehicle on that portion particularly during rainy season. Due to dilapidated condition of the road the accidents are taking place on that road very frequently.

In view of the importance of the road, I demand that the Central Government should bear the entire cost of the construction, maintenance and widening of the road from Jagatpur to Chandbali and complete the entire work during the year 2000.

(xi) **Need to transfer of Pune-Miraj-Kolhapur section from South Central to Central Railway**

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK (KOLHAPUR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the House that at present the section between Kolhapur to Pune is in Hubli Division (Karnataka) and Zonal Head Quarter is at Secunderabad, Andhra Pradesh. Sir, it has become very difficult for the people of Maharashtra in view of the fact that the distance to Secunderabad is much more as compared to Mumbai. In addition the language problem is also there. They are required to converse either in Telugu or Kannada, which is very difficult task. The people in my area have been demanding to attach this section to Mumbai (Central Railway) instead of with South Central Railway. This demand has been pending since 1971, the year in which meter gauge was converted into broad gauge. It is understood, that the decision to bring Pune-Miraj-Kolhapur under the jurisdiction of Pune Division was taken long back. But actual implementation of the decision has not started yet. I have been pursuing the matter from the very day since I entered the Parliament during the 12th Lok Sabha. The people in the area have welcomed the decision wholeheartedly but they are feeling the delay caused in the process of implementation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the situation warrants immediate action and I demand from the Union Government that Pune-Miraj-Kolhapur section be transferred from South Central to Central Railway without any further delay.

(xii) **Need to extend financial package to J&K as provided to North East Region**

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN (BARAMULLA) : I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government towards the fact that for the last ten years J&K State, especially the border of Jammu & Kashmir Valley have suffered heavy jolt. The sources of income in Kashmir Valley have almost dried up. Tourist trade has come to an absolute grinding halt. Almost all the schools in border areas have been destroyed during militants, violence. Bridges, roads and important Government buildings have also been damages. National

Conference Government had to start afresh to restore the destroyed infrastructure. The double-pronged thrust of facing militancy on one hand and to restore the process of development and rebuilding of infrastructure on the other hand is an onerous job.

Under such circumstances, J&K State needs full-fledged help from the Central Government. It is heartening to note that hon. Prime Minister has announced the financial package to North-Eastern States. We stress the need for extending the similar financial package to J&K State, so that hope and strength would be generated again in the peace-loving masses and their strength for restoring normalcy from the terrorist violence will come to forefront.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, do not compel us. We want the House to run smoothly. But if our rights are snatched, then we will be compelled to protest against it. It is my submission to you to have a debate over it.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : We will participate in the debate and will expose them....(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH KUMAR SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire country is terrified due to the activities of R.S.S.

12.09 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : APPROVAL OF
NOTIFICATION TO AMEND FIRST SCHEDULE
OF CUSTOMS TARIFF ACT

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : I beg to move the following Resolution :

"In pursuance of sub-section (2) of Section 8A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, read with sub-section (3) of Section 7 of the said Act, this House hereby approves of Notification No. 12/2000-Customs dated 9.2.2000 [G.S.R. 101 (E) dated 9.2.2000] which seeks to amend the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 so as to enhance the rate of customs duty applicable to goods under sub-heading Nos. 1701.11, 1701.12, 1701.91 and 1701.99 from "40%" to "60%."

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"In pursuance of sub-section (2) of Section 8A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, read with sub-section (3) of Section 7 of the said Act, this House hereby approves of Notification No. 12/2000-Customs dated 9.2.2000 [G.S.R. 101 (E) dated 9.2.2000] which seeks to amend the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 so as to enhance the rate of customs duty applicable to goods under sub-heading Nos. 1701.11, 1701.12, 1701.91 and 1701.99 from "40%" to "60%."

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir,

there is a pending motion under Rule 193 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, regarding the RSS activities. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : What is all this?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, we find in the newspapers, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee, on Item No. 19, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi wants to intervene. I will call you after he speaks

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I have given the Notice under rule 193 ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mulayam Singhji. I will call you later on.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I want to know only the time and date on which the debate will be held. The Government was prepared to hold a debate under rule 193 from the very beginning and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs had also said....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, some of the leaders of the opposition, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and Shri Somnath Chatterjee, have moved certain Motions before you. You have to hear them. I hope to join them later. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, Item No. 19, viz. Statutory Resolution, pertaining to increase in customs tariff on sugar, is very very important. On this matter the Government owes an explanation to the entire House. It is true that increasing the customs tariff will provide relief to the kisans. So, we are in agreement with the Government on the Resolution. But why has the Government delayed imposing this duty which caused disaste to the nation and the farmers? No less a person than Shri Kalyan Singh, the then Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, during the Kargil operation, submitted a Memorandum to the Prime Minister that because of this sugar import under OGL in a clandestine fashion from Pakistan – even from companies which are reported to have been backed by ISI – sugar is coming in abundance to India and that there was no check nor was there any monitoring measure.

I would like to submit through you, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. Minister after having moved this Resolution must clarify as to why the Government kept quiet, and as to why there was an ominous silence on the issue of farmers and allowed these things to continue, when the Government had every authority to impose the import duty in time. Why did the Government delay? ...*(Interruptions)*

I am not debating about the amount involved in the scam and about the sugar scandal. We would take it up at the appropriate time. I only demand, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that the Minister of Finance should give an explanation as to why there was a delay in imposing the import duty in this fashion after having allowed the import under OGL at zero duty to a certain level which destroyed the prospects of the kisans. Why was the complaint lodged by the then Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Kalyan Singh's Memorandum not replied to? At that time

he was very much the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. The kisans of Uttar Pradesh made this demand through their Chief Minister. This is the bone of contention. I think the Minister owes an explanation to the entire House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, the import of sugar was placed. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL) : I have also given a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Your objection is time-barred. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : No objection is time-barred. ...*(Interruptions)* I have submitted it before time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No. Your objection is time-barred. Please cooperate.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I am really sorry. It cannot be time-barred. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you may speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the import of sugar was placed under OGL. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : It cannot be time-barred. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Do not challenge the decision of the Speaker. you have been a speaker yourself. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Radhakrishnan, once you were also the Speaker.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Radhakrishnan, you are a senior Member. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the import of sugar was placed on Open General Licence in March 1994. I do not have to remind this country as to who was in power in March 1994 when it was put on OGL.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : It is not correct. Do not try to avoid the real issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the activities of Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh are going on in the entire country, it is not a question of Gujarat alone...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is not good.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Except the Finance Minister's speech, nothing should go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, once a commodity is placed on Open General Licence, it becomes fully importable by anyone in this country including the private sector. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed you.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you should not be angry, we have complied your order. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Let me explain, Sir, that the Government has not imported any quantity of sugar. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, please understand. I have called the Finance Minister and he is giving a reply. Why are you interrupting the Minister?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The Finance Minister is replying but do not any have right to ask any question, I was fighting over it from the beginning. ...(Interruptions) When I said it in the Mumbai Meeting, no body had countered.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : As a result of the fact that it was placed on OGL, all the import that has taken place by the private sector and not by the Government. The Government has no role to play as far as import of sugar is concerned except to regulate tariff. We have not, therefore, imported an ounce of sugar on Government account. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I do not want to listen to the reply of the Finance Minister. Both of them are in collusion with each other. Sometimes he says it happened in 1994. ...(Interruptions) It is our fight. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not keep quiet till the activities of Sangha Pariwar are discussed. I do not want to disturb the House. I want the House to function smoothly. The House has not been functioning properly for the past few days. Who is not allowing it to run.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given Notice under rule 193. If the House has not been allowed to run, it is due to the activities of Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh.

[English]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Let me also make it clear that this Government under Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, came to office first time in March, 1998. At that time, let me remind the House, it was not only placed on OGL but also the tariff on import of sugar continued to be zero. It was allowed to be imported on zero tariffs for all these years and it was only in April. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : What was the total import?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I have all the figures here. It was only in April, 1998 that we were in Office, for the first time we imposed import duty of 5 per cent on sugar which accounted for....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is

not an issue of Gujarat alone but is related to the entire country. hence a debate should be held over it. The entire minority community of the Muslims is also being harassed by them. Lakhs of muslims are holding processions and are organising meetings over it. Religious freedom is one of the fundamental rights in our Constitution. We are free to construct a temple, mosque, gurdwara or a church to propagate our religion. But the Government of Uttar Pradesh is creating hurdles in this regard. Hence a large number of persons have circumcised the Rajbhavan. The problem of Bihar has arisen due to Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh as the Governor has committed an unconstitutional act there. RSS is inciting violence, and is involved in terrorist activities. Hence I want that a debate under Rule 193 should be held and a definite date and time should be fixed for it. This is what I want to say.

[English]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Then in January 1999, we raised the duty to 20 per cent plus Rs. 850 MT. From 1st March, 1999 it was raised to 25 per cent. In December 1999, it was raised to 40 per cent. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have called the Minister and he is replying.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Finally, Sir, in February, 2000, it was raised to 60 per cent plus 850 per MT as counter-vail duty. This is our record in the last two years. Whenever we have felt the need to control the import of sugar, we have been raising the duty. Why is it that I am coming to Parliament? I am coming to the Parliament because ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We do not want a debate on this...(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : A point has been raised and I am replying to that. ...(Interruptions) The point I am making is, taking into account all these factors, domestic, import of sugar, interests of the *kisans*, interests of the consumers, sugar mills, we have calibrated duty whenever it has become necessary and we have raised it to 60 per cent. I repeat, we have raised it to 60 per cent and, therefore, to blame us for this entirely uncalled for and there is no basis to it.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Congress has itself been entrapped in the web of its question, Munsiji has got Congress in a fix.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The House could not function all these days because of a very vital matter which was agitating the minds of the people. The entire opposition was together in opposing the anti-people and anti-secular action of the Gujarat Government. The discussion under Rule 193 should be allowed to continue.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Sir, you may hold discussion on the issues of R.S.S. after having taken up item no. 19 listed in today's agenda, and not now as that issue has been relegated to the background now. I would like to urge upon Mulayam Singhji to allow the House to function. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We have heard it on the radio and television. But this Government has not yet

announced anything on the floor of the House....(Interruptions)
Yes, it is a victory of the secular forces of this country.

MR. SPEAKER : We are on item No. 19.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Therefore, we want the discussion under Rule 193 to continue.

What has happened in Bihar? The Governor must resign. The Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar must also resign. ..(Interruptions) The Speaker has been elected there from the Opposition. The Government did not put up their candidate. They could not even contest the election for the post of Speaker. They have no right to continue. This is not the right practice in a parliamentary democracy.

MR. SPEAKER : Item No.19 should be completed first.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Sir, they do not want to let the House function on this pretext ..(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, first of all you should fix the date to discuss the R.S.S. issue in the House ..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now the House is on item No. 19.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, we will not allow the House to function till a date is fixed to discuss the R.S.S. issue in the House. We are not saying that you should not take up the item No. 19. You must take it up but first of all you should fix the date to have a discussion on the issue of R.S.S. ..(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please first let us complete the discussion on item. Shri Mulayam Singhji you are a senior Member. I will listen to you after discussion on item No.19 is over.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, please decide as to when you would like to have discussion on that issue.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mulayam Singhji, let the discussion on item No. 19 be over. I will definitely listen to you. You are obeying the order given by the Chair. I am requesting you to let the discussion on item No. 19 be over. I will definitely listen to you.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We have not completed item No. 19. We are in the middle of it. Please understand the position.

...(Interruptions)

12.24 hrs.

(At this stage Sarv Raj Singh and some other hon'ble Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : How we can take it in the middle. First you allow us to complete the discussion on item No. 19.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"In pursuance of sub-section (2) of Section 8A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, read with sub-section (3) of Section 7 of the said Act, this House hereby approves of Notification No. 12/2000-Customs dated 9.2.2000 [G.S.R. 101 (E) dated 9.2.2000] which seeks to amend the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 so as to enhance the rate of customs duty applicable to goods under sub-heading Nos. 1701.11, 1701.12, 1701.91 and 1701.99 from "40%" to "60%."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your submission, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am calling Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav to speak.

...(Interruptions)

12.25 hrs.

(At this stage Kunwar Sarv Raj Singh and some other hon'ble Members went back to their seats.)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, they will allow the House to function only when you allow them to speak and if you do not allow them to speak they will not allow the House to function (Interruptions). They have adopted this new method. ..(Interruptions) Sir, why do not you suspend those who are not allowing the House to function for the last ten days. ..(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, you have already called me to speak...(Interruptions) You please let me allow to speak first...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (DELHI SADAR) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, the House will function only when they are allowed to speak (Interruptions). This is strange ..(Interruptions) If they are not allowed to speak they will not allow the House to function....(Interruptions) We also have a right to speak. ..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to the hon'ble Members of both sides to maintain peace in the House.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA (GHAZIPUR) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, today it should be decided as to how the House should be conducted...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You please sit down.

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(Interruptions)

SHRI MANOJ SINHA : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, they will allow the House to function only when you will allow them to speak otherwise they will not allow the House to function. ..(Interruptions) The House should not be allowed to go on like this ..(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If the House is disturbed like this from both the sides, how the business of the House will be conducted.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANOJ SINHA : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, we want a ruling from the Chair whether the House will be conducted as per rules or under the pressure of these people....(Interruptions) This should be decided....(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, why are they annoyed with me ? (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think this is a very sad situation.

[Translation]

It is very difficult to conduct the business of the House under these circumstances.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

12.30 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at one minute
past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU in the Chair)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon'ble Members, please take your seats. I will call you one by one.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, please sit down. Please occupy your seats first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will call you one by one. I cannot call everybody at a time. Now, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will take a minute. Shri Pandiyan, please sit down.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (TRIUNELVELI) : Sir, please allow us to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, I will call you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Madan Lal Khurana. I will call you later.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : No, no please listen to us first....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will hear him first. I will call you later.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I will speak first. ..(Interruptions) They have adopted the method that only they will speak and they will not allow others to speak ..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. I will call you later. I have already called Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav to speak. Shri Khurana, after Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, I will call you to speak. Please hear me. I will not go into the subject. I will call you later.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will call you later, Shri Madan Lal Khurana.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : Why you will not allow him to speak....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called him first. I will call you later.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Shri Mulayam Singhji will speak first ..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav first. Then, I will call you. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Both sides are disturbing the proceedings. How can I call you?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : First, I will hear Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, later I will call you.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : He will speak first and thereafter he will not allow anybody to speak. They will create

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disturbance and pendemonium in the House ...*(Interruptions)*
 We have been witnessing this for the last ten days. Sorry.
 ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Allow the House to run. I will call you later.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (DHANDHUKA) : We are ready to discuss the Railway Budget and not any other thing.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav is on his legs. I will call Shri Madan Lal Khurana later. Please sit down. This is not the proper way.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now I have called him. Later, I will call you. Please hear him first.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : He will speak first and after him Sh. Scindia, Shri Raghuvansh will speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : First hear what he is going to say. I have given chance to him. Shri khurana, please obey the Chair's direction. I will call you later.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Why we have taken this step. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : We are interested in discussing the Railway Budget. Whole country is interested in the Railway Budget. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (CHHAPRA) : Whenever we want to speak, they come into the Well of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please hear me first. I have already called Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Sir, though you would allow me to speak but they will not allow me to speak and they will not listen to me. These people are doing like this for the last ten days ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, you will allow me to speak but they will not listen. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Khurana, I will call you later. Then, whatever you want to say, you say so.

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...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Chairman, kindly listen to me for five minutes and then allow him. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Normally, Opposition gets the first chance, I will give you a chance later. This is not proper. I will call you later.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Khurana. I will call you later. Please obey the direction of the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Khurana please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I know how democratic they are....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Khurana, I have given an assurance to you that I would call you. This is not proper.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : We are ready to listen to the debate on Railway Budget, not on Bihar alone. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please hear him.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : They are holding the House to ransom for the last ten days. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Madan Lal Khurana, he has not yet started making his submission. If anything is objectionable, I will control. I will give you chance later. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am on my legs. Please take your seats.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Hon'ble Chairman Sir, it was only when the Telugu Desham Party and Shri Chandra Babu Naidu put pressure on the Government that the Government withdrew it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please obey the Chair first. This is not proper. I have called Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. I will call Shri Madan Lal Khurana later. Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Madan Lal Khurana. I will give you chance later. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Sir, why did they not allow the Question Hour.

[English]

We are listening to the Opposition for the past seven days. Why are they not ready to listen to Shri Madan Lal Khurana now? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : As per the democratic norms, I have given chance to the Opposition first. I will give you chance later. Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please co-operate with the Chair. Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MANI CHAUBEY (BUXAR) : Those who are making hue and cry in the name of democracy. Where were they, when the House was not being allowed to function for the last eight days continuously?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I know everything. Please co-operate with the Chair. I will call Shri Madan Lal Khurana later. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Kharabela Swain, I will call Shri Madan Lal Khurana later. We are wasting the time of the House unnecessarily. I have already said that I would call Shri Madan Lal Khurana after Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav completes his submission. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will take care. Please obey the Chair's direction first. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Madan Lal Khurana, I will give you chance later. I will take care. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not know what he will say. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the point is, we are trying to help the Chair today. For the past 10 days, they are rushing to the Well of the House and they are disrupting the proceedings. Do you expect us to hear him?

We have been hearing them. ...*(Interruptions)* We have been hearing the entire House. ...*(Interruptions)* Under what Rule, do they want to speak? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : When the hon. Speaker was occupying the Chair, all the papers, including some Bills, had been laid on the Table of the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please co-operate. I have called Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. Then, I will call you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : They disturbed the Minister of Home Affairs. ...*(Interruptions)* They disturbed the Minister of Finance. Now, we will disturb Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Let me speak first. ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Mulayam Singh has said that he should be allowed to speak first only then the House will be allowed to function. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the proper way.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why is there an unnecessary cross-talk?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : please allow Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. Then, I will call you.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Then, they will disturb Shri Madan Lal Khurana.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, they should give a commitment to the House that they will not disturb the House.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Are they giving a commitment that they will allow the House to function there after? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Khurana, you believe in what the Chair says. First, I have given a chance to Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : This is democracy...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : At that time you did not remember democracy? you did not allow the House to function for the last eight days and when we mention about democracy even once you make mockery of us....*(Interruptions)* Your number would reduce to Zero ...*(Interruptions)* You have not only betrayed the country but you have also looted the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : If everybody is interested, I will run the House. Otherwise I will adjourn the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not proper way. I will give a

chance to Shri Madan Lal Khurana. I have already called Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. Then, I will call Shri Khurana.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wait for five minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA : Please start the discussion on the Rail Budget....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am requesting all the hon. Members to please cooperate with the Chair. I will call Shri Madan Lal Khurana. This is not proper way to behave in the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please hear me first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : After Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and Madan Lal Khurana speak, we will have a discussion on the Railway Budget.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please cooperate with the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am giving you an assurance.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, they have always disturbed the House. They have disturbed the Chair and have disturbed every Minister....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Chair will take care. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, we want a commitment from them. We want a commitment from Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and Shri Rajesh Pilot that they will not disturb the House....(Interruptions) Otherwise, this is not going to last. They disturb everyone. For the last 14 days this country has been seeing shameful incidences.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will take care. Please, believe the Chair, After Shri Madan Lal Khurana, we will take Railway Budget.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Why do they not get up and say that?(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I am ready to listen to them but they should also promise that they will listen to me

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...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Chair will take care.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, they are only interrupting the House....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please hear me first. The Chair will take care. I am requesting all the Members to take their seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE) : Sir, he was not there for so many days, he has come now and want to speak.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wait and listen.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am on my legs. Please sit down.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, what happened yesterday when the Bill was being introduced....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, not like this. Please respect the Chair. I have given chance to Shri Mulayam Singh. I will call you next.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO (SIVAKASI) : They will not allow the House to function after that. That is the problem....(Interruptions) We are prepared to listen Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, but they should listen to us also....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Chair will decide that.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : They should allow us to make our submission....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Chair will take care of that.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for maintaining the dignity of the House.(Interruptions) Sir, I have given notice under Rule 193 to have the discussion on this. We want that there should be discussion on this issue all over the country. Why such suspicions are being raised against them?

Why the needle of suspicion points towards them in the assassination of Gandhi ji? Why needle of suspicion points towards them in the demolition of the mosque?(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please hear him first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 10th March, 2000, at 11 a.m.

14.25 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, March 10, 2000/Phalgun 20, 1921 (Saka).

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

Thursday, March 9, 2000/Phalguna 19, 1921 (Saka)

...

Col./line	For	Read
(ii)/6 (from below)	(ix)	(xi)
13 & 14/3 (from below)	33,204	2,33,204
40/7 110/4 (from below) 198/4 (from below) 199/24 222/32 250/29	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN)	THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN)
60/8 (from below)	2334	2234
80/6	(c) and (e)	(c) to (e)
127 & 128/3	462.50	162.50
151 & 152/14	937.00	637.00
169 & 170/5 (from below)	104.39	104.93
249 & 250/last	96	98
251&252/26 (col.3)	1680.13	168
251&252/26 (col.4)	0	0.13

In Q.Nos. 2194, 2214, 2226, 2258, 2260, 2262, 2270, 2278, 2314, 2352 and 2365 FOR "THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR PATWA)" READ "THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA)"